

A Foundation Day Prayer *October 1st*



Gracious God, on this special day of remembrance, we give you thanks that the foundation of the Coesfeld Sisters of Notre Dame created so many years ago by Hilligonde and Elizabeth holds strong and firm.

We celebrate with joy the sisters who have followed in their footsteps and spread the message of your grace from Germany to the United States, to India, Africa, Brazil and borders well beyond.

They have transformed the lives of multitudes by serving you with humility, sacrifice and love. We pray that the charism of the Sisters of Notre Dame will be cherished and embraced by new women who say “yes” to your calling and join in the rich heritage of the Sisters of Notre Dame.

We lift up all of the sisters and lay colleagues who currently educate, minister and support global missions across this wondrous earth. We ask that they be safe, steadfast and joyful in their work. That they unite, encourage and transform the lives of students, individuals, families, caretakers and communities. Holy Spirit, shine a light on their paths and bestow upon them your gifts of wisdom, counsel and fortitude so that they may be unwavering in their pursuit of the mission of Jesus Christ, witnessing your goodness and provident care to others.



Heavenly Father, open the hearts and minds of students - to accept your Son’s yoke when they feel burdened or afraid, to live lives of virtue in the face of pressure, to see a future filled with wondrous possibilities when they study hard, choose wisely, live their faith. We rejoice in the gift we have been given by their families to share in their nurturing and growth.



We pray that on this day of commemoration, the rapture of St. Julie Billiart in acknowledging your spirit and goodness be felt by all who are a part of the Sisters of Notre Dame community. Bond us together “in one heart, one hope, and one mission”.

We ask these things through your Son, Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Pictures:

SND Toledo Provincial Center Friendship Wall - artist Suzanne Young

St. Peter’s Basilica window of the Holy Spirit designed by Gian Lorenzo Bernini

Rapture in Action, bronze sculpture by Sr. Megan Dull, SND; photo by Norm Trepal