

Our *Ministries*

Relying on the Spirit who works in us, we respond to our call as Franciscan women in prayer and service.

The church is called to a deeper concern for the whole world. We respond in fields of health, education, social service and other spheres of ministry where we can serve in the spirit of St. Francis, St. Clare, and Mother Magdalen. (GC #20)

- **Sponsored Ministries**

Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart
Center of Renewal– hospitality center
Stella Niagara Education Park
Francis Center– afterschool program
Women’s Respite Program

- **Other areas of ministry include:**

Dining room ministry, food pantry, parish ministry, pastoral care, rural ministry, and social work.

- **International Missions**

Our sisters are active in our international missions located in Chiapas, Mexico and Tanzania.



The Sisters of St. Francis
of Penance and Christian Charity

Our *Mission*

We are women choosing to live the gospel of Jesus Christ as Sisters of St. Francis in the spirit of our foundress, Magdalen Damen.

Our diversity of gifts is a power we choose to use for and with others because we are sisters to all. Conscious of our personal, communal, and national experience of history, sin, and grace, we, as people of God, commit ourselves to human rights, ecological harmony, and global peace.

Wherever we live and serve, we contemplate the Word of God and call one another to conversion of heart in order to transform unjust structures and to hear the cry of the poor. Trusting in God and open to risk, we walk with courage.

You are invited to join us
in our desire to respond to
the Franciscan call to a
deeper Gospel life.

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“Called by God’s goodness, we profess the Gospel life in the Spirit of Francis and Mother Magdalen.”

T The Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity

The Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity is an international congregation founded in 1835 in the Netherlands by Mother Magdalen Damen.

Mother Magdalen Damen carried the Franciscan charism of simplicity and service into the world of her day. Her unshakeable trust in God led to a unity in her life of prayer and service.

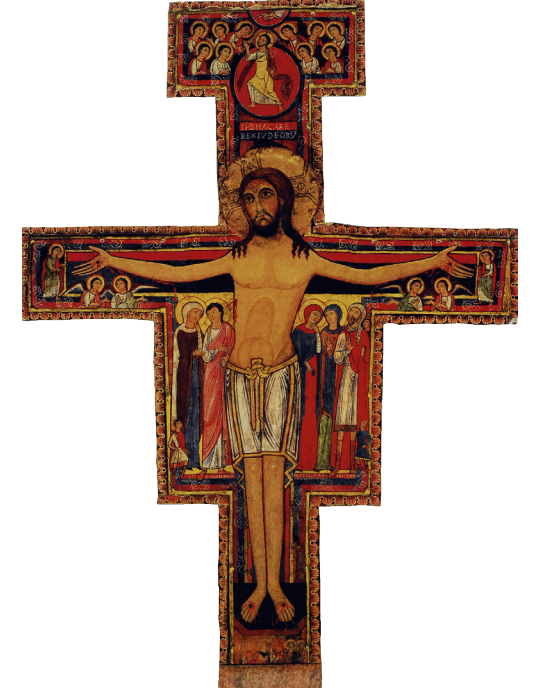


Called by God’s goodness, the **Sisters of St. Francis** profess to live the gospel life, following the teachings of Jesus Christ vowing obedience, poverty, and chastity.

- Like Francis of Assisi and Magdalen Damen, we trust God’s goodness, living the gospel in our time with gentle courtesy toward all creation.
- In 1874, the first missionary sisters arrived in Buffalo, New York. They brought the Franciscan charism of simplicity and service to the United States. The sisters continue to spread the good news ~ striving to become a sign of hope to a struggling world.

Associates are men and women, married or single, from different backgrounds and walks of life. They believe that through a non-vowed relationship with the sisters, they can live a deeper response to the gospel way of life.

- Associates serve in a variety of ministries sharing the spirit of Francis of Assisi, St. Clare and Mother Magdalen with their families, co-workers, neighbors and friends.
- The enthusiasm and dedication of the Associates promise that the charism of St. Francis, St. Clare and Mother Magdalen will continue into the 21st century.



Contemplating the crucified Christ, Francis of Assisi responded to a call from God to a radical following of the gospel within the church of his day. Francis became a prophet in the marketplace, a servant of God who saw all of creation transformed by God’s unconditional love.

We invite you to join us in responding to our Franciscan call.

Contact our Office of Associates and New Members for more information about the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity and/or the Associate program.

*Stella Niagara, NY
The motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis of
Penance and Christian Charity*

