

ANNUAL REPORT

2011-2012



*Benedictine Sisters of
St. Scholastica Monastery
Office of Development
Duluth, MN*

Sisters arriving on the St. Scholastica Monastery
(Villa Sancta Scholastica) grounds in 1910 in a carriage
pulled by Paddy and Tommy

A CENTURY OF COMMUNITY MINISTRY AT THE COLLEGE OF ST. SCHOLASTICA

By Sister Margaret Clarke

Photo Captions by Sister Margaret James Laughlin

The College of St. Scholastica has been a major ministry of the Duluth Benedictine Community for a hundred years. In its early days, most of the posts at the College were filled by Sisters, with lay employees being only a small fraction of the faculty. Today, nine Sisters are on contract to the College. According to the records kept in the College Business Office (beginning in 1925), a total of 161 Sisters have been faculty members, administrators, or academic staff. Space limitations being what they are, we have chosen sixteen of these to represent the thousands of years of dedicated service that have been given out of love of God and love of learning by the whole group. Our criteria for choice were rather arbitrary: number of years at the College, likelihood that our readership would remember these Sisters, and yes, the ol' close-your-eyes-and-point-at-the-list method. We hope that you will also remember the other 145, a number of whom are still living! We have included only the bare bones of their College



Before construction began on the Kenwood site, Duluth Benedictine Sisters enjoyed outings to the farm. 1905

associations. If you wish to comment on any of these Sisters or any of the others not featured here, you can send us an email at monastery@duluthosb.org. Perhaps we will have enough responses to publish on our web site!

Photos from Monastery Archives

**Sister Alice Lamb
(1896—1983)**
(at CSS 1919-1970)

Biology. Registrar. Dean. Sister Alice taught biological science, specializing in botany, and served as Dean from 1929 to 1943. She then served as chair of the Department of Biology from 1943 to 1961 and continued teaching in the department until her retirement in 1970.



Sister Scholastica Bush (1889-1947)
(at CSS 1920-1947)

English
Sister Scholastica Bush taught English at CSS for twenty-five years. One of her students said, "A lesson in Shakespeare, 20th Century Literature, Short Story Writing, became not only a brilliant lecture, but a lesson in life. As we sat listening to the tremendous workings of a great mind, the analytical reasoning of an orderly intellect, we experienced the first glimpses of real education."



Sister Martina Hughes (1902-1992)
(at CSS 1930-1966)



Music. President 1954-1958
Renowned musician and composer, who chaired the music department from 1931 until she was elected prioress in 1954. She separated the offices of College president and Benedictine prioress in 1958 and appointed the first president who was not also prioress.

Sister Athanasius Braegelman (1895-1989)
(at CSS 1920-1968)

History, Latin. President 1942-1954
Sister Athanasius, "a wise, valiant woman who was esteemed by many in and outside of the religious



community," served CSS as a teacher for 15 years, dean of students for six years, and president for 12 years. Under her administration Somers Hall was built, the College library enlarged, and a grant was obtained to build the Science Center.

Sister Patricia Thibadeau (1885-1948)
(Administrator of St. Mary's Hospital 1918-1948)



Sister Loretta Sheehan (1905-1965)
(at CSS 1956-1965)



Both Sisters Patricia and Loretta were primarily occupied as hospital administrators, but they jointly developed the Medical Record Librarian program at CSS—the first in the nation, and both were active in the professional organizations of that field.

Sister Rose O'Donnell (1893-1982)
(at CSS 1929-1968)

Teacher Education. Dean 1942-1952

Twenty years chair of CSS department of education.



She fashioned not only the growth and development of CSS as an institution of higher learning but fostered as well the growth and development in the lives of hundreds of young women who graduated from the College.

Sister Kathleen O'Brien (1903-1996)
(at CSS 1930-1977)

Dietetics, Home Economics

Sister Kathleen O'Brien taught foods and nutrition to aspiring dietitians from 1932 through 1977, after which she continued to serve as needed in the Home Economics Department until 1990.



Sister Alcuin Arens (1900-1954)
(at CSS 1930-1954)

Medical Technology

Sister Alcuin Arens, a research scholar in medical technology, promoted the profession of medical technologist as an educator, a speaker, and a writer.



Sister Digna Birmingham (1894-1984)
(at CSS 1931-1968)

Psychology

Founder and 25-year advisor of the *Scriptorium*, pioneered personal counseling, was a prolific researcher, writer, and public speaker in educational psychology. Wrote a study, "The First Fifteen Years," of graduates of the four-year College of St. Scholastica.



Sister Bernice Braegelman (1897-1987)
(at CSS 1939-1972)

English, German,
Scripture.
Chair, Theology
Department
Sister Bernice, who
introduced Bible study
into the CSS religion
curriculum, said that "it
took me 25 years to
work at the course the
way I wanted to teach
it. I would always find
something new that
was interesting."



Sister Elaine Loubert
(1901-1986)
(at CSS 1933-1973)

French, Department Chair
Sister Elaine taught French
and served as floor prefect
1935-1973 while con-
currently holding admin-
istrative positions in the
Benedictine Community.



Sister Ann Edward Scanlon (1909-2005)
(at CSS 1931-1981)

History 1938-1960;
President 1960-1967;
History 1968-1973;
Alumni Director
Sister Ann Edward,
a 1932 graduate of
CSS, served the Col-
lege for fifty years as
professor of history,
department chair,
floor prefect, person-
nel director, dean of women, academic dean, president,
alumni director, and foreign student advisor.



St. Scholastica Monastery

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Mission

We, the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery, Duluth, Minnesota, are monastic women who seek God in community through a life of prayer and work. Living in accordance with the Gospel and the *Rule of St. Benedict*, we respond to the needs of the Church and the world through our ministries.

During the past year Sisters have served in the following ministries:

Architectural Services, Duluth/Regional
Benedictine Center of Spirituality, Duluth, MN
Benedictine Health Center, Duluth, MN
Benedictine Health System, Duluth, MN
Cathedral School, Superior, WI
Chandler Regional Medical Center & Mercy
 Gilbert Medical Center, Chandler, AZ
CHUM (Churches United in Ministry), Duluth, MN
College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, MN
Essentia Health System, Duluth, MN
Home Care, Tacoma, WA
McCabe Renewal Center, Duluth, MN
Most Holy Trinity Parish, Phoenix, AZ
Music Ministry, Local Churches
Parochial and Public Schools, Duluth, MN

Pastoral Ministry, Phoenix, Scottsdale, and
 Anthem, AZ
Saint Luke Institute, Silver Spring, MD
St. Ann's Residence, Duluth, MN
St. Lawrence and St. Joseph Parishes, Duluth, MN
St. Mary of the Lake School, Chicago, IL
St. Mary's/Duluth Clinic Health System,
 Duluth, MN
St. Scholastica Monastery, Duluth, MN
St. Thomas the Apostle School, Phoenix, AZ
Spiritual Direction Training/Formation,
 St. Scholastica Monastery, Duluth, MN
Transcultural Nursing Society, Livonia, MI
Westwood Senior Living, Duluth, MN