



THE BOARD OF SAINT FRANCIS

Silver Bells

Gala

2018





*Great Women
Great Leaders
Great Mission*



Congratulations to all the
Board of Saint Francis Honorees.

With a special thanks to our great Mom!

Deirdre M. Burke
& Grace T. Duffy

Welcome

Dear Friends,

The Board of Saint Francis welcomes you to our Silver Bells Gala honoring six of our past presidents—**Erin Bradley, Gail Connor, Karen Duffy, Agnes Gayhardt, Margaret Heldring** and **Kathleen Murphy**. This is our opportunity to honor these remarkable women who have worked tirelessly to support the elderly poor in Philadelphia. It is an exciting time for us as we continue to grow and work together to raise funds to assist the **Little Sisters of the Poor Holy Family Home**.



We are most grateful for your support of this evening's event. We extend a very special thank you to all of our gala sponsors and all those who donated to our silent auction, purchased raffle tickets, and advertised in this year's program. Your contributions are invaluable to our organization's mission and will be used to directly benefit the lives of the residents within the Little Sisters of the Poor Holy Family Home.

We hope you enjoy browsing and bidding on the decorated trees and the many silent auction baskets found in the hallway and the cocktail room. There is also an opportunity to take home an excellent bottle of wine from our 'wine grab' table. Plus, if you have not yet purchased a raffle ticket be sure to flag down one of our young volunteers to enter our drawing for a trip for two to Ireland. Most of all, we hope you enjoy celebrating with us tonight and enjoy a wonderful evening with many of our cherished friends and family.

In closing, it is through your generous support that we are able to continue our mission of enhancing the social, financial, and spiritual lives of worthy Catholic communities in the Philadelphia area, like Holy Family Home.

Have a delightful evening and Merry Christmas!

Kay Gould, Theresa Murtagh and Pat Younce, Co-Chairs
& The Board of Saint Francis

Gala Committee



Gala Co-Chairs

Kay Gould, Theresa Murtagh & Patricia Younce

Gala Committee

**Carol Appino, Kerry Boyle, Kate Corr, Trish Doran, Karen Duffy,
Kathy Gibbons, Agnes Gayhardt, Kitty Hasson, Peg Heldring, Maureen Rennie,
Colleen Robinson, Jane Somers, Patty Szipszky & Meme Wiber**

Decoration Committee

Carol Appino, Meme Wiber & Patricia Younce

Entertainment

Karen Duffy

Program Book

Kerry Boyle & Maureen Rennie

Raffle

Maureen Rennie

Invitation Committee

**Kerry Boyle, Kay Gould, Maureen Rennie,
Patty Szipszky & Patricia Younce**

Silent Auction Committee

Kathy Gibbons, Kay Gould & Patricia Younce

Sponsorships

Theresa Murtagh

Video

Kerry Boyle & Maureen Ward-Rennie

*Narrators: Colleen Robinson, Bev Carroll, Peg Murphy,
Anita Kelly, Geri Heldring & Carol Appino*

Wine Grab

Colleen Robinson



Cliffs of Moher



Congratulations
to all the Honorees—
Erin, Gail, Karen, Agnes,
Peg & Kathy!



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Erin Bradley



Erin grew up in the Washington, D.C. area, and she met her husband, Gerry, at the University of Notre Dame. She continued her education afterward, graduating from George Washington Law School. Erin and Gerry live in Springfield, and they have four children—Conor, Ryan, Maura and Charlotte, all of whom followed in the family's tradition of attending the University of Notre Dame.

Family is paramount in Erin's life, as well as her love of the Catholic faith. During their twenty years as members of St. Mary Magdalen Parish and School, Erin assisted in

various volunteer roles. She also served as president for the Parent's Association Board at the Academy of Notre Dame from 2014 to 2017 where she co-chaired the Parent Social and the Father/Daughter Dinner.

Erin joined our board in 2007 and served as president of St. Francis Country House from 2012 through 2015. During Erin's presidency, St. Francis Country House was sold by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Erin's leadership skills help to direct our board through the many challenges and uncertain future of our organization. Her personal strengths and her expertise as a lawyer were great assets in guiding us to our new beginnings as an organization.

Throughout her tenure on the Board of Saint Francis, Erin has worked diligently to serve the needs of the elderly. One of her favorite volunteer activities is hosting, as well as attending the luncheons at board members' homes, where she has the opportunity to spend time with the residents while working alongside others with a common purpose. Erin states, "meeting the residents and those who work at the home is always a delight." 🍷



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Erin Bradley

and all this year's Honorees &

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Gail Connor



Gail grew up in Bridgewater, NJ where she was the youngest of four children of Vickie and Jim Watson. Early on, she established a successful career at Johnson & Johnson Company. In 1988, Gail met her husband, Kevin, on Christmas night. That was the occasion, said Kevin of that fateful meeting when, "Gail received her 'Christmas Miracle' and the answer to her Christmas Prayers."

Over the years, Gail has undertaken many volunteer activities, including those for her childrens' schools. She was the Malvern Prep Crew's 'Team Mom' for the four years her son, Jackson, rowed.

Gail also volunteered at Merion Mercy Academy while her daughter, Madison, attended. Currently, she is serving in her ninth year on *Merion Mercy's Board of Trustees*. Gail is part of *St. Katherine's HOPE Network* and is also an *ANGEL of Cristo Rey*. She is strongly committed to developing educational opportunities for children. Yet with all of Gail's volunteer activities, she is still able to find time to play golf and is on the *Overbrook Gap Golf Team* which consistently ranks among the best in the region.

Gail joined our board in 2002 after Peg Murphy invited her to our Golden Ball. After attending Gail stated, "I knew this was an organization I wished to be involved. To me, the commitment and purpose of the St. Francis' women was, and still is, selfless dedication for the betterment of those who struggle to maintain dignity, independence and simple happiness in their 'golden years'. I am humbled to be counted among such a talented, spirited and overwhelmingly generous group of women."

Gail served as president from 2010 to 2012, working with John Chapman from St. Francis Country House on the renovations of the dementia unit, one of the most significant undertakings of the board. From the very outset, Gail has supported our mission. 🏰



*To all the remarkable women
being honored tonight...*

Congratulations!



*Together, you've built a legacy of leadership, dedication
and service that continues to improve the lives of so many
and inspire others to follow in your footsteps.
Your impact will be felt for years to come!*

*And to our dear friend and hostess for this very special event,
we are thankful for you every day and so happy to have
this opportunity to celebrate you this evening!*

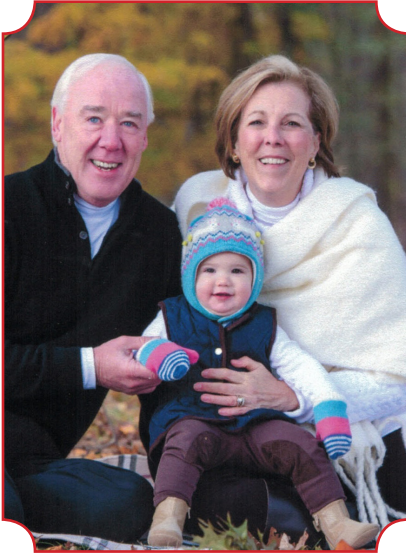
*Your warmth and friendship have led
us all to "find our tribe".
We are so proud of you, forever indebted to you
and blessed to call you—friend!*

(and sometimes MacGyver...but mostly friend!)

Honoree



Karen Duffy



Karen has a longstanding history of community service, both in the Catholic Church as well as in the inner city. Volunteering with the **Interfaith Hospitality Network** has allowed her to provide support for homeless families working to re-establish their lives. Karen is also involved with **Family Centered Efforts** which enables her to help those families in need with meals and support.

Karen and husband Pat volunteer as altar servers for baptisms in their parish, St. Thomas of Villanova. They also participate in various Augustinian support activities throughout the year. One of Karen's favorite volunteer

activities is singing, as an alto, in the St. Thomas of Villanova choir.

Karen and Pat have two daughters, Grace and Deirdre. When the girls attended the Academy of Notre Dame, Karen was a well-known presence on the hockey field, volunteering her time to coach her daughters' teams and referee games. Time has passed in the blink of an eye, and not too long ago Deirdre and her husband Ryan gave Karen and Pat a most joyous gift—their first grandchild, Evie.

Karen joined the Board of Saint Francis in 1999 and co-chaired many of our events. After changes to our organization, she diligently worked to make sure we would be able to continue with our mission. She was our first vice president for our Board and then became president from 2017 to 2018. Karen will always have a deep love in her heart for our organization. She says, "The Board of Saint Francis provides the joy of shared chosen work. It creates the broadening view of life as seen through others' needs rather than your own. It provides new challenges and the continual striving to make a small difference. The Board gives me the treasured gift of ever deepening friendships created through caring efforts and giving spirits." ✨



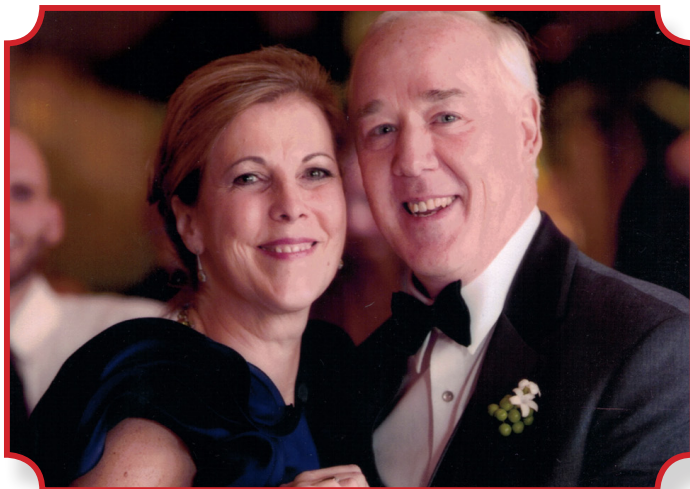


Congratulations

Whitestone Properties sends congratulations and warm acknowledgment to all of the 2018 Honorees of the Board of Saint Francis, but especially to our sister, Karen Tully Duffy.



Continue the admirable volunteering efforts you undertake for the Little Sisters of the Poor and the elderly.





Agnes Gayhardt



After Agnes graduated from Boston College, she began an impressive communications and marketing career that included work with the Philadelphia Phillies and several radio stations. Having learned the importance of volunteering from her mother's example and guidance, Agnes also reached out to serve others in the community around her.

Currently, she shares her knowledge and expertise as an active member on several boards, including *The Bryn Mawr Hospital Foundation*, *Rosemont School of the Holy Child*, the *Catholic Leadership Institute* and *Friends in Action*. Agnes is also an *Academy of Notre Dame* trustee and campaign committee member.

Agnes and husband, Don, have been married for 25 years and have four children—Kevin, Pete, Mary Margaret and Donny. Agnes can always be found supporting her children by volunteering at one of their schools or watching them compete in one of their sporting events. Their daughter, Mary Margaret, followed in Agne's footsteps by attending the Academy of Notre Dame and Boston College.

Agnes joined our board in 1998 and served as president from 2002 until 2004. Her passion and commitment, then as now, has had a profoundly positive effect on our volunteers and the community at large. For example, Agnes' personal touch with the Halloween luncheons have always been a favorite of the residents. She has undertaken these luncheons for eighteen straight years, bringing great joy to the residents. Agnes has always been a leader who has dedicated her time and talents to our board. She was honored by the board with the "Mundy Award" for her outstanding service in 2011. 🏆



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Honoree



Margaret Heldring



Peg and her husband, Martin, have been married for 27 years, following an almost twenty year friendship and a whirlwind courtship which sounds like something from a romantic comedy. In 1991 after their wedding, they lived in Korea and Chicago before moving to Wayne in 2007 where they are members of St. Thomas of Villanova Parish.

Peg and Martin have three children—Balthazar, Anna Colette and Alexander. Their love of family is paramount, and for Peg, we see it with the unconditional support, affection and kindness she demonstrates every day. She is a dedicated mother, wonderful wife, great sister and a true loyal friend to all she encounters.

Peg serves as the Executive Director of *Mindfulness Through Movement*, a school-based mindfulness yoga program taught to urban youth in the inner city of Philadelphia. She has taught yoga and mindfulness to 3rd, 4th and 5th graders at St. Martin de Porres for four years and plans to continue doing so. She says, "I am so grateful, it's the most amazing experience teaching there."

Peg joined our board in 2010 with the encouragement of her mother-in-law, Colette Heldring, a devoted, long-serving board member. Over the years, Peg has taught yoga to the residents. Afterward she took on a leadership position, becoming the first president for the Board of Saint Francis, Inc. from 2015 through 2017. With Peg's knowledge and experience as a lawyer, she was able to navigate all of the necessary processes and procedures needed to ensure the continued mission of our Board. Peg currently enjoys running our new gift shop at the Holy Family Home and serves on the *Advisory Council and Development Committee*. Peg states, "it's a wonderful place and it's always fun to spend an afternoon chatting with Sister Veronica!" 🙏





*Congratulations
Peg Heldring!*

(Our Mom and Maggie)

You bring joy into our lives and we are all better for it.

*With all of our love,
Martin, Balt, Anna Colette, and Alexander*

*P.S. Grandee would be so proud and pleased!
Hip, hip, hooray!!!*

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Kathleen Murphy



Kathy became interested in the **St. Francis Country House** at a very young age. While attending Holy Child Academy in Sharon Hill, she would volunteer her time by visiting the residents at the home. Kathy would arrive during the residents' meal time so she could spend time and assist with their meal service. Kathy continued to volunteer even as an adult.

In 1986 while her eldest son Joe was attending preschool, Kathy met Irene Horstmann Hannan and Alyse Colen. Both women were members of the St. Francis Women's Auxiliary. Irene and Alyse asked Kathy if she would be interested in joining when they

learned about her childhood history of volunteering at the St. Francis Country House. They were certain she would bring her commitment and love for the elderly to our mission.

Kathy was our president from 1996 to 1998. Soft spoken and quiet, she nonetheless marshalled the troops for two very full calendar years of St. Francis' charitable activities. She also volunteered for the **Academy Ball** and **Calcutta House** which provides housing and support services to patients living with AIDS in the Philadelphia and Delaware Valley region.

Kathy has lived in the Philadelphia area all of her life. She is a graduate of Rosemont College. Kathy and her husband, Bob, have two sons—Joseph and Robert. Previously, Kathy worked at her husband's practice Murphy, Murphy & Murphy.

For over thirty years, Kathy has been an inspiration to our organization. Her love and dedication to assist the quality of life for the elderly is an inspiration to all. 🎁



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The Society has always been non-denominational, welcoming male and female members from all religious backgrounds. Citizens of the United States of Irish lineage, over eighteen years of age and of good moral character are eligible for membership.

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The Board of Saint Francis, Inc.

Thanks You

for your commitment to support and serve others.

Please visit us online at boardofstfrancis.org for more news and events.

God bless you and we wish you and yours a very

Merry Christmas



We are proud to support the Board of Saint Francis and its mission of enhancing the social, financial, and spiritual lives of a worthy Catholic communities.



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Congratulations

GAIL

*We are so proud of
your accomplishments.*

*We are sending you our
love and warm wishes.*

The GoGo's

*Ellen, Diane, Joan,
Chere, Maggie,
Denise, Priscilla
and Jeannie*

*Proud to support the
giving mission of the*

*Board of
Saint Francis*

*and congratulations to these
wonderful & inspiring women:*

*Erin, Gail,
Karen, Agnes,
Peg & Kathy*

Love—Karen Lucey

Best Wishes to the
Board of Saint Francis
as you celebrate your
annual Silver Bells Gala!



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