

Circular 59/95
Rome, Italy
May 31, 1995

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

School Sisters of Notre Dame
Dear Sisters,

The process leading to the selection of two coordinators for SHALOM: the International Network for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation has concluded. Thank you for your interest and your prayerful support of all of the sisters involved.

I am pleased to announce that the two coordinators for SHALOM are
Sister Krisztina Vargacz (MG)
and
Sister Margaret Mattare (BA)

The general council made these appointments following a discernment process involving Sisters Krisztina and Margaret together with Sisters Genevieve Cassani (SL), Johanne Maria Kokubun (NI), Patricia Murphy (BA) and Eileen Reilly (WI), the other sisters who expressed a willingness to serve in this capacity. We are grateful to all of these sisters for their openness and commitment to the goals of SHALOM.

In announcing SHALOM to the congregation in circular 54, I indicated that we hoped to find coordinators from different cultures who had an enthusiasm for and a strong belief in SHALOM and the ability to work collaboratively as part of a team. I believe that Sisters Margaret and Krisztina meet these criteria and bring many other gifts to this ministry.

Sister Krisztina has ministered in formal education as a teacher and administrator. Since 1992, she has been principal in Szeged where a new school is being established in part of the former motherhouse of the Hungarian province.

Sister Margaret has been a teacher at the elementary and secondary levels and, for the past twelve years, a physician's assistant. In 1993 she began ministry among our sisters in Romania assessing and finding ways to meet their health needs.

Sisters Margaret and Krisztina have been appointed for four-year terms. Both sisters will return to Rome in September for intensive language study and to continue planning for SHALOM. Their responsibilities include determining where SHALOM will be centered and designing ways to work with the general, provincial and regional councils to organize the branches of the network.

While Sisters Krisztina and Margaret have accepted positions as coordinators of SHALOM, each of us, through our commitment to YOU ARE SENT and the

MANDATE FOR ACTION, has committed herself to the goals of SHALOM as stated in the proposal approved by the general council in July of 1994:

. . .to take actions which lead to reconciliation, solidarity with the oppressed, the promotion of human dignity, collaboration with ecological movements to safeguard the earth. In other words, we commit ourselves to promote the culture of life.

We also commit ourselves to work against violence, manipulation of the truth, attacks on the family, dehumanization of women and the abandonment of children, what John Paul II refers to as the culture of death.

The success of this network depends upon each School Sisters of Notre Dame working for justice on a personal, communal, national and international level. I ask your prayers for blessing on SHALOM, your support for the newly appointed coordinators and, most importantly, your dynamic involvement in the work of SHALOM.

Gratefully, prayerfully,

Patricia (signature)
Sister Patricia Flynn, SSND
General Superior