



### Join us at the 2009 SOAR! Benefit Dinners

October 6 honoring the Rambusch Family at Tavern on the Green, NYC

November 7 honoring Cokie & Steve Roberts, Washington, DC

Thank you for the gala events in 2008 and looking forward to seeing you in 2009!

In 2008, 270 supporters of SOAR! supported the gala dinner held at Tavern on the Green in New York City. **Edward Cardinal Egan**, honored guest, gave the invocation. **Kathy DiFiore**, Founder of Several Sources Shelters for mothers and their babies in Ramsey, New Jersey, received SOAR!'s highest honor, the Saint Elizabeth Seton Award. Two unrelated Dominican sisters, **Sisters Jeanne and Dorothy Burns**, received the Father Victor Yanitelli Award for their devoted services to the elderly. The Sisters of St Joseph of Brentwood, New York received a \$25,000 grant to purchase a handicapped accessible van.

Almost 400 friends of SOAR! enjoyed honoring Mother Mary Berchmans, Visitation Sister, at the gala dinner held at the Mayflower Renaissance Hotel, Washington, DC. Auxiliary **Bishop Holly** gave the invocation, the Visitation Madrigals and St. John's Band provided great entertainment. The Visitation Sisters received a \$25,000 grant to repair the porch.

2008 SOAR! Gala Dinners  
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton  
Award presented  
with gratitude to  
**Kathy DiFiore** founder  
of Several Sources Shelters  
helping unwed mothers and  
their babies in New Jersey

**Mother Mary Berchmans**  
Hannan Sister of the Visitation  
spiritual leader, educator  
and administrator  
Washington, DC



*Wally Probst, dinner committee, Kathy DiFiore, dinner honoree, stand proudly with child of a teen mother*



*Cardinal Egan and Kathy Murnion, committee member, pose with the recipients of the Father Victor Yanitelli Awards: Sister Jeanne Burns, OP (front) and Sister Dorothy Burns, OP*



*On behalf of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Libby Ramirez, national regent, presented SOAR! with a \$10,000 check*

*Mother Mary Berchmans graciously accepts the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Award*



*The harmony of the Visitation Madrigals charmed the dinner guests*



*Auxiliary Bishop Martin Holley in lively conversation with Sister Joan Cook, SC and board member John Fialka*



## SOAR! Grant Awards FY 2008-2009

*Support Our Aging Religious is happy to announce the 2009 Grant Awards totaling \$1 million that will benefit 58 religious congregations across 24 states and Puerto Rico. These grants will improve the living conditions and ensure the safety of almost 2,000 elderly and infirm religious men and women whose median age is 78.*

State	City	Organization	Purpose
Alabama	Cullman	Benedictine Society of Alabama - St. Bernard Abbey	Elevator Upgrade/Modernization
California	Thousand Oaks	Sisters of Notre Dame	HC Accessible Renovations
	Bellflower	St. John Bosco High School Salesian Community	Addition for HC Accessibility
Connecticut	Wilton	Atlantic Midwest Province of the School Sisters of Notre	New Walk-in Refrigerator/Freezer
District of Columbia	Washington	Religious of Jesus and Mary	Zoning System for New Boiler
Delaware	Washington	Visitation Sisters	New Porch
Illinois	Wilmington	Oblates of St. Francis de Sales	Water Treatment System
	Chicago	Resurrection Life Center, Sisters of the Resurrection	Hospital Beds
	Alton	Ursuline Queen of Peace Infirmary	Hospital Beds and Lifter
	Chicago	Benedictine Sisters of Chicago	Lift for HC Accessibility
	Wilmette	Society of the Sisters of Christian Charity	Fire Alarm System Upgrade
Indiana	Kankakee	Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary	Walk-in tub
	Mt. St. Francis	Province of Our Lady of Consolation, Inc	Generator
	Oldenburg	Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg	Tub Lift Replacement Seat
Kansas	Concordia	Sisters of St. Joseph	Window Replacement
Kentucky	St. Catharine	Literary Society of St. Catharine of Siena	Hospital Beds
	Covington	Sisters of Notre Dame of Covington, KY Inc.	HC Accessible Van - Conversion
Massachusetts	Brockton	Sisters of Jesus Crucified and the Sorrowful Mother	Bedroom Upgrades for Safety
	Hingham	Benedictine Monks, Glastonbury Abbey	Boiler Replacement
	Jamaica Plain	Daughters of St. Paul	HC Accessible Renovations
	Wrentham	Cistercians of the Strict Observance	Whirlpool Replacement
	Petersham	St. Scholastica Priory	Elder-friendly Beds
	Holyoke	Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield	Elevator Upgrade
Maryland	Baltimore	Institute of Mission Helpers of Baltimore City, Inc	Fire Alarm System Upgrade
Minnesota	Little Falls	Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls	HC Accessibility
	Collegeville	Order of St. Benedict	Emergency Call System
	Onamia	Crosier Community of Onamia	Automatic Doors
Missouri	High Ridge	Society of Our Mother of Peace	Basement Renovation
	St. Louis	Adorers of the Blood of Christ, US Region	Whirlpool Replacement
Nebraska	Omaha	Servants of Mary	Roof Replacement
North Dakota	Richardton	Assumption Abbey	New Treadmill
New Hampshire	Pittsfield	Sisters of the Holy Cross	HC Accessible Renovations
New Jersey	Haledon	Missionary Society of Salesian Sisters	Hot Water Tank
	Caldwell	Sisters of St. Dominic of Caldwell	Automatic Door
	Bayone	Marist Brothers	New Furnace
New York	Rochester	Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester	Medical Equipment
	Garrison	Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement	Patient Lifter
	Buffalo	Felician Franciscan Sisters	2 Assisted Bathing Areas
	New Windsor	Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Furniture
	Peekskill	Sisters of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Order of St. Francis MSH	Walk-in Tubs
	Ronkonkoma	The Cenacle Sisters	HC Accessible Renovations

*Ayer te serví, hoy te necesito.*  
 “Yesterday I served you, today I need you.”

Sister Selina, Superior  
 Hermanas Dominicas de la Cruz



*Sister Myra, age 87, helps with laundry*

State	City	Organization	Purpose
Ohio	Tiffin	Sisters of St. Francis	Hospital Beds
	Hubbard	Oblate Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus	HC Accessible Renovations
	Sylvania	Sisters of St. Francis, Congregation of Our Lady of Lourdes	Medical Equipment
	Canfield	Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown	Dining Room Upgrade
	Toledo	Ursuline Convent of the Sacred Heart	HC Accessible Renovations
Oklahoma	Piedmont	Red Plains Monastery, Sisters of Benedict	Window Replacement
Pennsylvania	Center Valley	Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, Sacred Heart Villa	Automatic Doors
	Scranton	Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary	Elevator Replacement
	Erie	Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania	Personal GPS System
	Erie	Benedictine Sisters of Erie	Health Care Renovations
Puerto Rico	Bayamon	Hermanas Dominicas de la Santa Cruz	Medical Bills, Food Expenses
Texas	San Antonio	Missionaries of the Sacred Heart	Wheelchairs & HC Accessible Updates
	Dallas	School Sisters of Notre Dame	Medical Alert/Call Bell System
	New Caney	Discalced Carmelite Sisters	Adjustable Bed
	San Antonio	Society of St. Teresa of Jesus	Pantry and Structural Repairs
Washington	Lacey	Sisters of St. Benedict	Security System
Wisconsin	Milwaukee	School Sisters of St. Francis	HC Accessible Renovations



## 2009 Monthly Prayer Partners

*“More things are wrought by prayer than the world dreams of.”*

Alfred Lord Tennyson

The grant recipients pray daily for their benefactors. They partner with SOAR! to pray in gratitude for the donors and their special intentions. SOAR! offers an opportunity for our friends to request prayers for special intentions. Please contact us at: [info@soar-usa.org](mailto:info@soar-usa.org)

*January ~ Oblates of St Francis de Sales*

*February ~ Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth*

*March ~ Sisters of Charity*

*April ~ School Sisters of St. Francis*

*May ~ Benedictine Sisters*

*June ~ Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Brooklyn*

*July ~ Benedictine Sisters of Florida*

*August ~ Sisters of St. Francis of Savannah MO*

*September ~ Sisters of St Mary of Namur, Buffalo*

*October ~ Sisters of Notre Dame, Toledo*

*November ~ Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh*

*December ~ Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes*

## Remember SOAR! In Your Will

By making a bequest to SOAR! in your will, you can continue to help us assist religious communities in caring for their elderly and infirm members even after you are gone. Your lasting commitment will make a profound difference in the lives of so many. Here are a few different ways of phrasing a bequest:

### Bequest for a designated sum:

"I give and bequeath to SOAR! (Support Our Aging Religious), 900 Varnum Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for its general uses and purposes."

### Bequest for the residue of the estate:

"I give and bequeath to SOAR! (Support Our Aging Religious), 900 Varnum Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017, the rest and residue of my estate for its general uses and purposes."

### Bequest for a percentage of the estate:

"I give and bequeath to SOAR! (Support Our Aging Religious), 900 Varnum Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017 \_\_\_\_\_ % of the rest, remainder and residue of my estate for its general uses and purposes."

### About Wills

If you are planning to make or update your will soon and would like additional information from SOAR!, please check the box below to request a free brochure.

☐ Please send me, free and without obligation, your brochure on wills.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail to: SOAR!, 900 Varnum Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017*

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*For more information, please visit our website ~[www.soar-usa.org](http://www.soar-usa.org)*

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*Photos: Staff of Georgetown Visitation, Several Sources Shelters, and Washington Theological Union*

*Spring Blessings*



**Support Our Aging Religious, Inc.**  
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**Washington, DC 20017**

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