



*Antonine  
Village*



# Antonine Village News

*"We care for your loved ones"*

## *Mission Statement*

*Issue 44 – Winter 2025*

The mission of the Antonine Sisters in the USA is inspired by Christian principles. We provide compassionate care for older and disabled adults promoting their independence and dignity in a home-like environment.

## *Welcome Winter 2025!*

Welcome to our Winter edition! As we step into the new year, we reflect on the joy, accomplishments, and the cherished moments we've shared in 2024. We look back on the milestones we've achieved together and celebrate the growth we've experienced.

We're thrilled to share with you everything we've accomplished in the last six months. We couldn't have done it without the support of our amazing community: sisters, staff, volunteers, residents and their families, and our Antonine Sisters' benefactors. We appreciate all the efforts that were exhibited and the love and care given and received.



We are also delighted to announce that our new addition is fully operational, and we're excited to share that all of the rooms are almost filled with residents! This expansion has allowed us to welcome more members of the community, and we couldn't be happier to see so many new faces. Alongside this, our brand new, spacious activity room is now open and thriving. It's been hosting a variety of exciting events for both residents and their families, providing a wonderful space for everyone to come together. Whether it's a feast gathering, a family celebration, or an engaging activity, this new space is fostering connection and creating memorable experiences for all.

At Antonine Village, we take great pride in creating a warm and inviting environment where every corner is thoughtfully decorated to feel like home. From festive holiday displays to creative seasonal themes, our décor is designed to bring joy and a sense of belonging. Together, our decorations and fun activities enhance the vibrant and welcoming atmosphere that makes our community truly special. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Mayada Iskandar whose dedication and creativity have truly brightened our place.

Pope Francis has declared the Jubilee Year 2025 as a "year of hope". The theme for the holy year is "Pilgrims of Hope". May we all strengthen our own sense of hope and be tangible signs of hope for others. We are excited to begin 2025 with renewed hope and a commitment to making this year even brighter for our wonderful residents and their families. Join us in welcoming 2025 with optimism, innovation, and a commitment to continuing our journey together!



*Mahoning Valley Flutes in new activity room*



## *Adult Day Care Activities*



Participants busy at work on a project



Bingo fun at the Adult Day Care



Donnie Abraham always brings smiles



Creative costumes brightened the Halloween party



Participants & families enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving luncheon



Steel Valley Ukers entertained participants with their festive performance



The Mennonite Youth Choir enchanted participants with their beautiful singing



Austintown Fitch High School choir amazed participants with an extraordinary performance



## *Adult Day Care Activities*



Flautist Laura Volenik (Left) and guitarist Diane Drapcho (Right) provided delightful music to all



Jackson Milton Elementary students helped Adult Day Care Participants and Residents with a Christmas craft



Pastor Dan Tayman always brings fun with his visits



Santa & Mrs. Claus brought gifts and joy to all in the Adult Day Care



The Immaculate Heart of Mary Garden Club provided an adorable Christmas craft for ADC participants to complete





## *Antonine Village Activities*



Pop-Up Library of Youngstown



Bingo with Jack Banks



Afternoon treat for residents



Craft with Dawn Kurelko



Fun activities in Memory Care



Residents with Jay Eastman from Fellowship of Christ



End of Summer Party 2024



Craft with Dianne Householder



# Antonine Village Activities



Labor Day celebration with Reese Trio



Residents loved the therapy dogs from Furever Friends



Activity with Dara McIntosh from Patriot



The Nurse Honor Guard honored retired nurses



Shopping at Dollar Tree



Participants from the Senior Showcase put on an outstanding performance



Thank you to  
Mr. Robert Klein  
who provided  
delicious treats  
with an ice  
cream  
party for  
residents





## *Antonine Village Activities*



Fall trip to Mill Creek Park



Art therapy with Professor Rosalie Politsky



Crossroads Hospice honored veterans

### *Thanksgiving*

Our Thanksgiving event, whether for Day Care participants or Antonine Village residents and their respective families, is very special. Two family members of each resident and/or participant are invited to join in the festivities, creating a sense of community and shared joy.

For Day Care Participants and their families as well as residents of Antonine Village and their families, a feeling of relaxation and comfort arises as people sit in the decorated activity room to enjoy the entertainment which was presented by Pastor Dan Tayman for Day Care guests and the “Reese Trio” for the Village guests. Then everyone sits around the tables for a delightful Thanksgiving meal, where opportunities for socializing and connecting with each other abound.

Overall, the Thanksgiving event is not just a meal, but a heartfelt celebration that fosters a sense of connection, warmth, and community among participants, residents, their respective families and staff.





## *Antonine Village Activities*



The Girl Scouts brought joy with their caroling



Opal's Spirit of Giving gift bags



Christmas cards with Margie Miller



Debra & Charles Rheault brought Christmas cheer to all as Mr. & Mrs. Claus



Karen Higgins with donated gifts for residents



New Year's Dinner

### *Welcome Sisters!*

We are excited to extend a warm welcome to three new team members who have recently joined us at Antonine Village! These are Sr. Bindu, Sr. Jeesa, and Sr. Jijy.

Originally from India, the three sisters are Sisters of Saint Joseph of Saint Marc and had worked as Nurses (2 of them) and as a Nurse's Aide (1) for many years at St. Joseph Senior Living in Louisville, Ohio. With their background in healthcare and commitment to excellence, we are thrilled to have them as part of our dedicated team. Sisters, we're happy to have you with us!





## Pastoral Ministry

As we embark on this new year, our pastoral services continue to foster a vibrant community of faith and spiritual growth. We are blessed to have a dedicated team of individuals who lead Bible study and prayer sessions: Sr. Samia Abou-Shakra, AS, Sr. Marie Maravola, US, Chaplain Matt Doerle (Patriot), Jay Eastman, and Pastor Sam Murray.

Our Bible study sessions have been a source of spiritual enrichment for many. These sessions provide a space for reflection, discussion, and deeper understanding of God's word. The different leaders bring their unique insights and perspectives, ensuring that each study session is dynamic and accessible to all.

We are also blessed to have Father Naji Kiwan, who has recently joined our Antonine Village. Father Naji is now celebrating daily Mass, offering the opportunity for residents and sisters to gather for worship, prayer, and reflection. Chorbishop Anthony Spinosa and Fathers Tony Massad and Youssef Barakat continue to be of great help whenever we need. Together, we continue to build a community grounded in faith, love, and support.



### Thank You To Our Kitchen Staff

On behalf of all residents, sisters, and staff, we extend a heartfelt thanks to our kitchen team for their dedication and hard work. They work tirelessly behind the scenes, and their efforts are what make each dining experience special. We are truly grateful for each of you and for everything you do!



### Happy 100th Birthday Peppy Laakso!



Mr. David Ditzler honored the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Peppy Laakso on behalf of the Board of Mahoning County Commissioners. Previously,

Laakso received

a Certificate of Accomplishment from the Nurse Honor Guard of Eastern Ohio in appreciation for her tireless efforts in the Nursing Profession.



### Birthdays



Happy  
99th  
Birthday  
Margie  
Green!

Happy  
101st  
Birthday  
Mildred  
Politsky!





*We thank all the benefactors whose generous contributions were received during the period of July 16, 2024 - January 14, 2025. Your support is deeply appreciated.*

***In Memory of ...  
Gift From ...***

**Deceased Beshara Family**  
Ms. Marion Mike

**Sandra Bishop**  
Mr. Kenneth Bishop

**Aleda Bukovinsky**  
Ms. Helen Beshara  
Dr. Antoine & Sahar El-Hayek

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Ms. Barbara J. Timcisko  
Mr. Scott B. Tofil  
Ms. Amelia M. Yazbek  
Mrs. Linda Yazbek

***In Memory of ...  
Gift From ...***

**Deceased Dohar Family**  
Ms. Marion Mike

**Wilma Drake**  
Brenda & Lucille McDougal

**James D. & Mary K. Essad**  
Dr. James M. & Paula Essad

**Nicholas Sr., Nimnoom, &  
Wadad Ghaphery**  
Mr. Nicholas A. Ghaphery, Jr.

**Deceased Ghossain Family**  
Bernard & Nouhad R. Pavlock

**Joseph A. Giampietro**  
Mr. Joseph Giampietro (bench)

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Dr. Benjamin Hayek  
K. Anthony & Patricia Hayek

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Mr. Harold A. Boyer

**Adele Hutchison**  
Mrs. Irene Hustic

**Theresa Jordan**  
Mrs. Yvone J. Marzano

**Tony Khazzaka**  
Dr. Antoine & Sahar El-Hayek

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Builders Association of Eastern  
Ohio & W. PA  
Bill & Deb Becherer  
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Jack & Nancy Cramb  
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(DeSalvo Construction)  
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Linda & Greg Krieger  
The Mowry Family  
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***In Memory of ...  
Gift From ...***

**Roger Kreps (Continued)**  
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Ms. Marion Mike

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Sandra A. & Phil Chasko

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**Adwane Warchol**  
Dr. Antoine & Sahar El-Hayek  
Marion Mike-Coury



## *Many gifts...Many blessings...*

### *In Memory of ... Gift From ...*

**Lloyd Yazbek**  
Charles & Linda Bishara  
Phil & Sandra Chasko  
Dr. Antoine & Sahar El-Hayek  
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Dr. Benjamin Hayek  
K. Anthony & Patricia Hayek  
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### *In Honor of ... Gift From ...*

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Fr. Paul E. Damien  
George & Mariana Jabbour  
Cheri & John Jowdy  
Most Reverend Bishop Gregory Mansour  
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Dianne E. & Bob Yamin

**Peppy Laakso**  
Dr. Keith & Amy Nichols

**Doris Sole**  
Ms. Elsie Whetzel Fowler

### *In-Kind Donations*

Ms. Janice Bates  
Mrs. Bonnie Baynes



### *In-Kind Donations*

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Ms. Catherine Breneman  
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Opal's Spirit of Giving

### *In-Kind Donations*

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Ms. Susan Stancher  
Al & Patsy Stroney  
Mark & Lisa Thomas  
Mr. Bren Thompson (Sabatino Cabinet)  
Howard & Shirley Wolf

### *Monthly Donations*

Karol A. Haller  
Simon Roofing  
Sam Solomon  
Amelia Yazbek

In 2023, William G. (Willie) Michael from the Parish of Saint Maron, Youngstown, Ohio, had remembered the Antonine Sisters in his will. Recently, Mr. John Schiavone, also from Saint Maron, Youngstown, Ohio, allocated an amount of money from his will to the Antonine Sisters.

Have you ever considered a charitable bequest to help the Antonine Sisters in their ministries to the elderly people? When you do so, your names will be always remembered in our prayers and masses. Together we can continue making a lasting impact for years to come.

## *Antonine Therapy Center*

At Antonine Therapy Center, we are dedicated to helping you return to your best self. Whether you're recovering from an injury, managing a chronic condition, or looking to improve your physical health, our expert team is here to support you every step of the way: Sr. Kawsar Choufani, DPT, in charge of the center; along with her Licensed Physical Therapy Assistant, Rainie Frame, Occupational Therapist, Keri Overly-Wear, and Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, Heather Lichty. Our Center is well-equipped to ensure that you receive the most effective care. We believe in treating the whole person, not just the injury. Our highly-trained therapists work with you to build strength, flexibility, and mobility.

Take the first step toward feeling better with Antonine Therapy Center. We're here to help you recover, rebuild, and thrive!



**Bella Herubin  
Joseph A. Giampietro  
Rita Klingensmith  
Jane Moore  
Madeline Hoffman**

*Always Loved... Never Forgotten... Always Missed...*

**Amelia Sposato  
Patricia TenPas  
Helen Yurchison  
Dorothy Schultz  
Delbert Mix**

Have mercy, O Lord, on the souls of our departed. Grant them Your mercy so that they praise and glorify You with all the righteous and the just!







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E-mail: anto9srs@aol.com  
anto9srsadc@gmail.com  
www.antoninevillage.org

### *Support Group Offered at Antonine Village*

Meeting on the third Monday of every month at 2:00 pm, an Alzheimer's support group is offered to the public at Antonine Village. Our Alzheimer's support group provides a consistent, caring place for discussion of the challenges of caregiving. Caregivers come to share experiences, tips, and information, as well as to offer support in a setting facilitated by our staff. Most of all, caregivers can develop relationships and friendships with all those who attend. This is free of charge and open to the public.

### *Support & Referrals*

**The work of the Antonine Sisters Adult Day Care and Antonine Village is made possible in part through referrals and support from the following:**

- Referrals from Direction Home of Eastern Ohio, The Alzheimer's Association, geriatric doctors and social workers, families of previous Adult Day Care participants, as well as families of the Village residents
- Trumbull County Senior Levy: Day Care and Transportation Services to Trumbull County Residents
- Mahoning County Senior Levy: Day Care and Transportation Services to Mahoning County Residents
- The Youngstown Foundation
- National Religious Retirement Office

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