

July 2018

History highlights – Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth

Fall 1858	Bishop John Baptist Miege invites Mother Xavier Ross and the Sisters of Charity to “Come North” from Nashville to the pioneer territory for which he was responsible.
Nov. 11, 1858	First Sisters of Charity arrive in Leavenworth, Kan.
March 8, 1859	Sisters open St. Mary’s Academy for Young Ladies, Leavenworth.
March 15, 1864	Sisters open St. John’s Hospital, Leavenworth, the first civilian hospital in the territory of Kansas.
1869	The first group of Sisters respond to the call to serve in Helena, Mont. In subsequent years, the SCLs establish ministries or serve in California, Colorado, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Wisconsin and Wyoming.
1870	St. Mary’s Academy opens at new site in Leavenworth (location of current University of Saint Mary); operates as a high school until 1950.
Jan. 6, 1916	The SCLs dedicate Annunciation Chapel in Leavenworth.
Sept. 10, 1923	SCLs open St. Mary’s Junior College in Leavenworth.
1930	St. Mary’s expands to a four-year college
Nov. 11, 1940	Community dedicates new Mother House.
Nov. 8, 1963	SCLs establish their first Latin American mission in Peru. In subsequent years, SCLs serve in Bolivia, Ecuador and Guatemala.
1965	Community dedicates Ross Hall as retirement center at the Mother House for SCLs.
Dec. 12, 1972	Hospitals formerly operated by the Sisters organize into a separately incorporated health system.
1981	First Peruvian young woman enters the South American novitiate.
1988	SCLs begin Associate program.
1995	SCL Community joins Federation of Congregations of Charity, network of other Sisters of Charity with Vincentian roots (today’s Charity Federation).
2003	New Marillac Retreat Center opens on Mother House campus.
March 2005	Hermana Susana Córdova becomes the first Peruvian Director of the Latin American Missions.

2006	Cristo Rey Kansas City High School begins as newest SCL sponsored ministry.
May 4, 2006	SCLs and Hermanas dedicate Centro San Vicente de Paul in Piura, Peru.
2011	SCLs name Terri Butel first lay director of SCL Associates.
2011	First SCL responds to call for mission service in South Sudan.
May 2011	Hermanas in Chuschi, Peru, begin serving a noon-day meal for older adults.
Sept. 25, 2011	SCLs transfer sponsorship of Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System to Leaven Ministries, new public juridic person.
2014	The new San Vicente de Paul Dining Room opens in Chuschi, Peru, to serve noon-day meals to the elderly, particularly those living in extreme poverty.
Sept. 30, 2015	New Ross Hall opens.
November 2016	First SCL missioned to work with refugees arrives in Sicily, Italy.
2017	SCL Community participates in international observance of 400 th anniversary of Vincentian charism.
Aug. 21, 2017	SCLs host eclipse watch in Leavenworth.
September 2017	Charity Heritage Formation Program launches for colleges sponsored by member congregations of the Charity Federation.
Jan. 22, 2018	Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope – in which SCLs have been instrumental since its beginning – opens new facility that provides a clearing house, day center and overnight shelter.
April 22, 2018	Care of Creation Committee hosts Earth Fest in association with Earth Day.
Aug. 1, 2018	Sisters and Associates gather in Leavenworth for observance of 160 th Anniversary under the theme: “Grace has its moments.”