



**MISSION ADVANCEMENT  
SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME**

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***For immediate release***

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**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE TO BE CELEBRATED on 9/21**

**Global Justice & Peace Commission of the School Sisters of Notre Dame:** “International Day of Peace Prayer Service” on Monday, September 21, 2009, 1:30 p.m. at Notre Dame of Elm Grove, 13150 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, Wis. (outside at the peace pole on the front grounds / north side of the campus). All are welcome to join sisters, associates, friends and area students. If weather is inclement, the service will be held indoors. For more information call 262-787-1023 or see “calendar of events” at [www.ssnd-milw.org](http://www.ssnd-milw.org).

*\*Note: In 1981, the United Nations established the International Day of Peace to be observed as a day of global ceasefire and nonviolence, devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples.*

**About the Milwaukee Province of the School Sisters of Notre Dame:**

The Milwaukee Province, with nearly 400 professed sisters and 75 associates, is part of the International Congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, headquartered in Rome. Worldwide, approximately 3,600 sisters live and minister in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and Oceania – a total of 35 countries. Following much political and social strife, the congregation was founded in 1833 to address educational needs in Bavaria. Caroline Gerhardinger, whose religious name was Mary Theresa of Jesus, believed that the renewal of society depended on the Christian family and that the mother had a key role as the first educator. Thus, the Christian education of girls was chosen as the religious community’s focus. In 1847, Mother Theresa brought sisters to the United States to meet the educational needs of the children of German immigrants. Today’s School Sisters of Notre Dame educate through a variety of ministries, spreading Jesus’ message of love and unity throughout the world. They serve as facilitators of change and personal transformation, especially to those who are poor.

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