



# Villa Vocabulary

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**St. Marguerite Bourgeoys** founded the Congregation of Notre Dame in 1698 as an uncloistered religious order. She is renowned for her work, her spirituality, and her impact on society, education and the Church in North America.

**Congregation de Notre Dame (CND)** is a Congregation of Religious Women inspired to mission seeking to proclaim the good news of a God of Love numbering 2,600 Sisters in North America, Japan, Latin America, and the Cameroons in service to the people of God in the spirit of the Visitation. The CND own and operate the Villa Maria Academy.

**Liberating Education** develops the full potential of students, supporting them in becoming responsible citizens of the world, concerned and involved in the transformation of society and the care of our planet. This is mission of the Villa Maria Academy.

**Visitation Spirituality** describes the joy and recognition of St. Elizabeth's child at the visit of the Blessed Mother. St Marguerite wanted her congregation to imitate Mary in this mystery of the Visitation, teaching her sisters to see Christ in one another and in those they served. Visitation Spirituality imbues the pedagogy and community at the Villa Maria Academy.

**Daisies** are a symbol of St. Marguerite. Two daisies adorn the crest of the school.

**The Ellis Estate** was purchased in 1928 to house the Villa Maria Academy after increased enrollment necessitated a move from the Upper East Side of Manhattan.

**Hall Marguerite** is the most recent addition to the campus, built to house the middle school. It includes the school cafeteria and peace mural and opens onto the playground.

**Mary's Walk** is a tranquil pathway separating the middle and lower schools on the park-like campus. Lined with memorial bricks and benches, it offers a space of reflection remembering generations of Villa alumni. It is the perfect place for school pick up or play dates.

**Visitation Center** offers a state of the art space for physical education with a full sized basketball court and a fully functioning theater. It opens onto an outdoor track, playground and waterfront lawn.

A **Peace Pole** is a physical expression of the Villa Maria Academy community's prayers for peace in our world. One of only a small number in North America, the peace pole expresses our prayer in four languages that are meaningful to our community: English, Italian, French and Chinese.