



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT Sheila King Public Relations, info@skpr.net, 312.622.3999

Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament announce plan to proceed with due diligence by Aquinas Realty Partners for their Motherhouse property

(Bensalem, Penn.—Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018) The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament have entered into an agreement regarding the sale of the religious order’s Motherhouse property to Aquinas Realty Partners. This agreement makes it possible for Aquinas Realty to explore the feasibility of acquiring the Sisters’ Motherhouse property in Bensalem, Penn., northeast of Philadelphia along I-95.

“It is with confidence we chose Aquinas Realty Partners from the field of interested candidates. Effective immediately, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament have authorized Leonard Poncia and his team at Aquinas Realty to proceed with its due diligence,” stated Sister Donna Breslin, SBS, president of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament.

“We regard the opportunity to develop a new and respectful use of this historic property as a great honor,” said Poncia, president and managing partner of Aquinas Realty Partners, a privately held full-service real estate development company based in Philadelphia. “We envision building a residential community designed for people over the age of 55. We believe our due diligence process will affirm this is a best and appropriate use.”

Initial period of due diligence

The first step of this agreement is the due diligence period. It is a necessary one to ensure the prospective owner of this historic property can conduct critical due diligence to determine the feasibility of its plan for the property.

“In May of 2016, we announced our intention to sell our most treasured asset directly tied to Saint Katharine Drexel, who purchased the land and oversaw the building of the structures. We did so with a heavy heart and a clear assessment of our community’s situation,” stated Sister Donna. Saint Katharine founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in 1891 and immediately established her new religious order’s Motherhouse in Bensalem. more ▼

“As the number of our Sisters continues to decrease, we remain determined to preserve the spirit of Saint Katharine’s legacy by finding the right buyer. Plante Moran REIA has helped

us identify and evaluate a field of candidates interested in purchasing our Motherhouse property,” Sister Donna explained. Plante Moran REIA, the Sisters’ exclusive real estate asset investment advisor for the disposition of the Motherhouse, used a request-for-proposal process.

“By selling our Motherhouse, we carry forward the vision and spirit of St. Katharine Drexel. We continue to direct the resources of our Catholic religious order to our mission by serving some of the most vulnerable people in the United States, Haiti and Jamaica. Our Sisters continue to challenge, in new ways, all forms of racism as well as other deeply rooted injustices in the world. A portion of the proceeds from this sale also will support the care of our older Sisters,” stated Sister Donna.

To learn more about the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, please visit <http://www.katharinedrexel.org>.