



Assumption College for Sisters Current Sharings

Assumption College for Sisters † June 2010

Congratulations to the Class of 2010

Commencement exercises took place on Saturday, May 15 at the Chapel of Mary Immaculate, Mallinckrodt Convent, Mendham, NJ. The Rev. Joseph T. Anginoli, pastor, St. Joseph Church, Mendham, offered the invocation and benediction.



Salesian novices receiving the Certificate in Theological Studies. From left to right: Sister Jaden Tran, Sister Josiane Phanard, and Sister Linda Gonzales.



Sister Maria Sang Trinh, LC (Vietnam), Sister Lea Tilisbo, CPS (Tanzania), Sister M. Yovitha Haule, OSB (Tanzania), Sister M. Therese Vu, FMV (Vietnam), Sister M. Petra Mkongwa, OSB (Tanzania), Sister M. Anna Nguyen, FMV (Vietnam), Sister Symphorosa Imbori, DM (Tanzania), Sister Jacinta Kioko, CPS (Kenya), Sister M. Fabiola Mkenda, DM (Tanzania)



Receiving the Alumna of the Year Award was Sister Joan DiRienzo, M.P.F., ACS Class of 1974. Sister received a BA in Education at Felician College, an MA in Religious Studies

at St. Charles Seminary, Philadelphia, and an MS in Education at Fordham University.

She has served as elementary and high school teacher in schools staffed by the Religious Teachers

Filippini and for the past 12 years has served as elementary school principal, 10 of which were in her current school, St. Bernadette in Brooklyn, NY and it is there that she received the 2009 NCEA Distinguished Principal Award. Under her leadership, St. Bernadette School was recognized as a 2008 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School, the only non-public school to receive the honor that year in the State of NY. This award indicates not only the academic excellence found in the school, but also its strong Catholic identity. In Sister's own words: "There is nothing in life that I am more passionate about than Catholic education! I believe strongly that Catholic education is the surest way of ensuring future leadership for our Church and country. Catholic education lays the groundwork for children to excel academically, grow spiritually, mature socially."



Dr. Linda Stamato, a trustee of Assumption College for Sisters, delivered the commencement address. Dr. Stamato earned degrees at

Seton Hall University and Rutgers University and completed doctoral studies at New York University. She has served as Dean of her alma mater, Douglas College, Rutgers; as chair of the Board of Governors of Rutgers, and as a member of the Middle States Association's Higher Education Commission. A prolific writer, she has published numerous articles in scholarly journals and has mediated cases involving education policy as well as a variety of land-use issues, notably violations of clean air and clean water acts and other site-specific matters.

Sisters and Students Visit Liberty Science Center



It was a day of interactive learning and cultural experience for the Sisters and students of the college on their visit to the Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ this past April 29. Mrs. Anne Ricculli, ACS professor of Biology and trip coordinator, recognized the value of this world-class science center located within 50 miles of the college.



Sister Aurelia Kabere, BM; Sister Oliveta Mwanawima, ISRA, Sister Justina Ekibenda, FSSB at Liberty Science Center.

In Memoriam

On May 11th, Mr. Owen Michael O'Sullivan, founder of the College's Caring Basket Gala, passed away peacefully at home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at the Chapel of Mary Immaculate, Mallinckrodt Convent, Mendham, NJ, with Bishop Frank Rodimer presiding. The Sisters and the friends of the College offer their prayers and condolences to his wife, Geannine and family. A loving husband, father and grandfather, Owen will be dearly missed. ACS is grateful for his leadership in their fund-raising event.



Sister Joseph Spring, SCC, presenting a statue of Blessed Pauline Von Mallinckrodt to Mr. Owen O'Sullivan in appreciation for his past work with the Caring Basket Gala.

From the President...

Dear Friends of ACS,
Each year at the time of graduation, many memories are evoked. This year, in particular, my first graduating class here at ACS, I am overwhelmed with admiration at the accomplishments of these religious women. They came to ACS three years ago with limited English proficiency and now continue their studies or engage in congregational ministries with greatly enhanced

and newly acquired knowledge and skills. They have not only successfully completed courses in theology, philosophy, psychology, history, science, mathematics, English, art, music, and dance, but they have excelled. What a lesson in perseverance and courage they have taught me!

And as I reflect on their accomplishments, I am vividly reminded of all who have made this possible: the Sisters of

Christian Charity and you, the Friends of ACS. You have all supported us with your prayers, your encouragement, your time, talent and treasure. For all I am deeply grateful.

God bless each of you as you enjoy the summer months. Please keep all of us at ACS in your thoughts and prayers.

Sister Joseph Spring, S.C.C.

Sister Joseph Spring, SCC

"Together, we can make a difference!"



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Sister Theresa Bower, SCC *Librarian*

Sister Ida Heinzmann, SCC *Dean of Students*

2010 Caring Basket

Over 425 Friends of the College Celebra



The Gala ballroom was filled with joy, laughter and warmth as over 425 guests turned out on March 25, 2010 to support the mission of Assumption College for Sisters at the Ninth Annual Caring Basket Gala. The College honored Mr. Frank Petruccelli, retired Paterson Diocesan Superintendent of Schools, with the Servant Leader Award; Sister Doris Lavinthal, M.P.F., of Villa Walsh Academy, Morristown, received the Education Award and Damon and Melanie Owens of the Archdiocese



Bishop Rodimer shares a good word with the Religious Teachers Filippini.



Sister Students join in song at the Gala.

Gala Photo Journal

the Ninth Annual Caring Basket Gala

of Newark were the recipients of the Family Life Award. Co-chaired by Mr. Louis Scarpa and Msgr. Christopher Hynes, the Gala netted \$86,000.00 which will directly support the education of our Sisters. Sister Joseph Spring, ACS president, acknowledged the Gala as a major source of funding for the College as well as a joyful venue to bring the ACS community together. THANK YOU to all who supported this worthwhile event! Visit www.acs350.org to view additional event photos.



Sister Frances Renn and Bishop Serratelli



Sister Joseph Spring, SCC, Archbishop John J. Myers, Sister Mary Edward Sphorer, SCC



Sisters' Roles Remain Vital in Catholic Hospitals

Sister Martin Haubrich, SCC, Assumption College for Sisters, Class of 1967, experienced an easy transition to Marillac College in St. Louis, MO where she received her Bachelors in Nursing because of the study and critical thinking skills that were developed at ACS. Sister remembers one professor remarking that the SCCs were true scholars because of their intense educational preparation. Sister has been the Nurse Manager of the Emergency Department at Holy Spirit Hospital (HSH) in Camp Hill, PA since 1994. In her leadership role, Sister serves as a mentor to the staff as she encourages, inspires, and challenges the ED nursing staff to participate in the mission and vision of the Hospital.

She is responsible for the quality of patient care, as well as staff recruitment and retention success. Through the values and knowledge learned at ACS, she has learnt there is also a delicate subtle art to being a Nurse Manager... to balancing the tensions between quality and cost... to dealing with stress and pressure every day... to

implementing processes needed to ensure that individualized compassionate care is provided consistently in the most efficient and effective manner possible without losing sight of Holy Spirit Hospital's healing mission.

It has always been Sister's greatest grace and a privilege to be able to share in the most intimate moments of a patient's encounter and create a connection with the patients and their family.

Sister Elizabeth Kovacs, SCC, ACS Class of 2006, is a new RN in the Emergency Department of Holy Spirit Hospital. She just graduated from Pennsylvania College of Technology (PCT) in Williamsport, PA with her BSN in May 2009 and is thrilled with her new role as an ER nurse.

"It's a pleasure having Sister Elizabeth in the Emergency Department. Her youthful enthusiasm is infectious. It is heartening to see the tradition of Mother Pauline's caring for the sick and the strong educational preparation from ACS continue to

flower in the mission setting." Sister Martin remarks.

Sister Elizabeth feels that her ACS education has helped her to integrate her spiritual life with her ministry. "The Theology and Philosophy courses I took at ACS deeply enriched my prayer life," she affirms. Also, the credits she received at ACS transferred easily to PCT and enabled her to enter directly into the nursing program without having to repeat any prerequisite courses.

Both Sister Martin and Sister Elizabeth are deeply grateful for the educational foundation they received at ACS.

"Sister Martin is such a hard worker and extremely sensitive to the needs of her staff. She's a great role model for me, and I admire her very much," says Sister Elizabeth.

Assumption College for Sisters continues to provide Sisters with a foundation in professional skills and the spiritual formation necessary in serving in various ministries throughout the world.

Answering God's Call to Serve in Uruguay

Caring for God's children remains at the heart of a Sister of Christian Charity's call. Sister Marisol, SCC is currently missioned in St. Lucia, Uruguay, teaching and sharing in pastoral roles in an underserved community. While happily teaching at St. Nicholas School, Jersey City, NJ, Sister says she "heard God's call and I had to answer, " which led her to Uruguay. Sister is grateful to the SCCs and all of the benefactors for their love and support of the Uruguayan people.



The College Bids Farewell

Mrs. Maria LaSalvia-Seliga, teacher of English and Computer since 2004, will be leaving the ACS faculty to relocate in Delaware. Sister Ida Heinzmann, Dean of Students since 2008 will be using her technology skills in the Sisters of Christian Charity Development Office. Both have contributed their gifts of mind and heart to ACS and they will be greatly missed.

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Your donation will directly support the education of our Sisters.

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The Ninth Annual Caring Basket Gala



The Ninth Annual Caring Basket Gala Honorees. L to R: Servant Leader Award Honoree: Mr. Frank Petrucelli with wife, Ginger; Education Award Honoree: Sister Doris Lavintbal, M.P.F.; Family Life Award Honorees: Melanie and Damon Owens; Sister Joseph Spring, SCC, President, Assumption College for Sisters. See pages 3 and 4 for more Gala pictures.

Sisters Visit St. Luke's Parish, Long Valley, sharing their joyful music and presence

Thank you to Father Michael Drury and the people of St. Luke's Parish for the April 18 invitation to participate in their 11:15 a.m. liturgy. Sisters from Kenya and Tanzania participated in the Entrance Procession; Sisters from South Africa presented the gifts at the Offertory; Sisters from Vietnam sang the Communion meditation and all processed out while singing.

The parish's financial contribution will help defray the cost of a Sister's tuition. If you would like the Sisters to speak and participate at your parish or event, please contact Sister Joseph Spring at **973-543-6528 x 230**.

The Owen Michael O'Sullivan Memorial Scholarship

For the past 8 years, Mr. O'Sullivan helped raise funds for the Sisters' education as the Chair of the college's Caring Basket Gala. Mr. O'Sullivan believed strongly in the work of the college – providing Sisters a sound education and strong spiritual formation. The O'Sullivan Family has established this scholarship to insure that future generations of Sisters will also be afforded a high quality education at Assumption College for Sisters. Please send your check payable to Assumption College for Sisters or call Sister Joseph Spring at **973-543-6528 x 230** to make a donation by credit card. You may also donate quickly and safely online at the college's website, **www.acs350.org**. Your gift will continue Owen's good work!