

Assumption College for Sisters Current Sharings

Assumption College for Sisters † December 2010

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



MERRY CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD!

Ukhisimusi Omuhle

ZULU

Chúc Mừng Giáng Sinh

VIETNAMESE

Bob Fet Nwel

CREOLE



Heri ya sikukuu ya Christmas

SWAHILI

성탄 축하드립니다!

KOREAN

Selamat Hari Raya Natal

INDONESIAN

Feliz Navidad

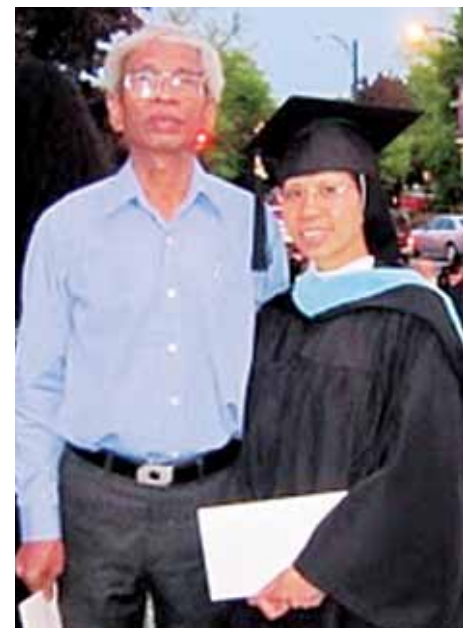
SPANISH

Sister Alumna Completes MA Degree, Returns to Vietnam to Teach

Upon arriving in Mendham in 2004 from Vietnam, Sister Emmanuel Phan, FMSR, began her studies with great enthusiasm. Sister completed the AA degree in Mendham (2007), then, went on to D'Youville College to complete a BA degree in English Literature. Thanks to her dedication to return home to her community to begin serving, one year later she completed the MA degree in Education. Sister is now teaching 139 students in Vietnam – 15 professed Sisters at the Motherhouse, 80 students at Ho Chi Minh City University of Foreign Languages – Information Technology and 44 students at University Economic Financial.

Sister writes to us: "I have been enjoying my mission, serving my

Congregation and people after studying abroad in the U.S. almost 6 years. While I am teaching English, I often thank God for what I received from Assumption College for Sisters and D'Youville. I also comprehend that there were a lot of benefactors who kindly supported me during those years. What can I do except hold all in my prayers. I believe that they pray for me, too." Sister Emmanuel's successful studies in the US and her productive mission in Vietnam demonstrate that all those who support Assumption College for Sisters through generous contributions can make a real difference in the lives of many by educating one Sister. Teach a Sister... Touch the World!



Sister Emmanuel Phan pictured with her father at the time of her graduation from D'Youville.

Alumnae Spotlight Sister Mary Ann Jacobs, SCC



“Let us recall that we are in the holy presence of God...” This is the prayer that opens each gathering here at Manhattan College – meetings as well as classes. It is a powerful reminder that God is present in all our ministries as we make his presence known to those to whom we minister.

Teaching is not a new ministry for me and Manhattan College is not a new place. The “newness” of this ministry is in the full time teaching of “teachers-to-be.” Although I have been associated with Manhattan College and the LaSallian mission since my graduate studies in 1989, ministering here full

time and to undergraduates is new. We have about 400 students who are studying to be teachers. I work with the student group preparing to teach adolescents. My courses include the basic course of Principles and Practices as well as English related courses of literacy. This semester I even have the privilege of working with the student teachers and visiting them in their schools. I am the advisor for 40 students – helping them to select the courses that will help them become qualified, competent, and caring teachers.

In between teaching and advisements, I am already serving on committees – one of them being Middle States. (Somehow as a teacher you never get away from Middle States!) I do not need to tell any of you who have been through this process the involvement needed in this project. But it is also a good way for me to learn about many facets of Manhattan College.

I continue my ministry in the School Leadership Program also. This program prepares future leaders for the schools and it is the program from which I graduated.

I am happy to be a full time member of the LaSallian community that is focused on excellence in teaching, respect for individual dignity, and commitment to social justice. Somehow I believe that John Baptist de La Salle and Pauline von Mallinckrodt had the same ideas – the importance of providing a quality education for all God's children.

Love for the children is the best teacher...

Sr. Mary Ann Jacobs, SCC has taught students in Grades 1 - 8 in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She has served as a principal in New York and New Jersey, and she was an Associate Superintendent of Schools in the Diocese of Metuchen.

Sister Mary Ann received her AA degree at Assumption College for Sisters, her BA degree in elementary education from Felician College, her Masters degree in Administration and Supervision from Manhattan College, and her Doctorate in Education from St. Mary's University in Minnesota. Sister's dissertation describes effective mathematics strategies used by middle school mathematics teachers.

From the President...

Dear Friend of ACS,

Our prayers and best wishes are with you at this time of year when we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Prince of Peace. It has been several months since we began our 2010 - 2011 academic year with a record 54 students! Our theme for this year is “Call us to hear the voices that challenge” which

reminds faculty and students that we are called to be both mystics (people who hear) and prophets (people who challenge).

As our students pray and study they gain the confidence and skills to serve God's people with love and compassion. It is you, our faithful friends of ACS, that help make this possible.

May the JOY of Mary
the GRATITUDE of Joseph
and the BLESSING
of the Christ Child
be with you now and forever.

Sister Joseph

“Call us to hear the voices that challenge”



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Sister Theresa Bower, SCC *Librarian*

THE ASSUMPTION COLLEGE FOR SISTERS ANNUAL FUND

This Fall, Assumption College for Sisters inaugurated the Annual Fund which aims to increase Sister students' access to higher education and enhance the teaching, learning, research and spiritual growth provided at the college. The Annual Fund, which replaces the Fall 50/50, will be an ongoing lifeline to the Sisters and those they educate because it will build a community of benefactors like you, who understand the College's mission and are committed to seeing it extended to Sisters and the needy in all parts of the world.

THANK YOU to the many who have responded with a pledge to the fund. If you have not had the opportunity to pledge, we have included a pledge envelope with this newsletter.

Remember, THERE IS A GIFT FOR EVERYONE, but only you can decide what gift is right for you in the light of the abilities God has given you.

Please consider a pledge to the Annual Fund as 2010 draws to a close.

Teach a Sister... Touch the World!

Women Shaping Society through Justice and Peace

International students had the privilege of meeting two women from their African continent who have made significant contributions to society. On September 7, two students from South Africa had the chance to meet personally Rev. Mpho Tutu, daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. The book she and her father co-authored, *Made for Goodness*, was purchased for the library and autographed for the students pictured here.



Left to right: Sister Ezekiel Ncongo, FSF, Rev. Mpho Tutu, Sister Martha-Anne Mabutana, FSF

Parish Visits & Fall Pastimes



liturgies at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Maywood, NJ and at Sts. Peter and Paul, Hoboken, NJ. They were also treated by some of our volunteers to go pumpkin picking and apple picking, truly an American fall "sport".

Sister Justina Ekibenda, FSSB, Maureen McGrady (student), Patricia McGrady (Secretary Treasurer), Makaya McGrady, Sister Ezekiel Ngcongco, FSF, Sister Aurelia Kabere, BM, and Caitlin McGrady.

Much about keeping the ACS mission alive and well is about fundraising, but it is also about "friend raising." In the fall semester, students accepted invitations to sing and dance in procession for parish



Smash Success

Irish Tenor Ronan Tynan Sings to a Full House at Assumption College for Sisters.

The concert performed by Ronan Tynan on October 22, 2010 drew a crowd of over 500 people, filling the great nave and choir loft of the chapel. The benefit concert, chaired by Michael Critchley, Esq, member of the college's Board of Trustees, drew an audience from across New Jersey and New York. Ronan's rich voice, warm, personal style and the fine accompanying by pianist Bill Lewis, created smiles

on faces and caused hands to clap as great music was performed. The audience was welcomed by Mr. Finn Wentworth of Mendham, a member of the concert committee. Sister Joseph Spring, SCC, President, announced that the

proceeds from the concert "will greatly underwrite the education for many of the students studying at the college, including those from developing nations, among them Vietnam, Kenya, Tanzania, and South Africa." God bless the entire concert committee, the generous benefactors and all who made this concert a smash success. To view more pictures from the event, please visit www.acs350.org.



Ronan Tynan and Bill Lewis, pianist, share a moment



Ronan Tynan with "fans"

Left to right: Concert Committee Chair, Michael Critchley, Esq., welcomes Bob Torre of Hackensack University Medical Center



Students offer Marian hymn at the concert



Sister Joseph Spring and Finn Wentworth welcome guests



Left to right: Sean Gormley, Jonathan Goldberg, Senator Bill Gormley, Roy Goldberg



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Sisters Meet Genocide Survivor

Another opportunity provided for the students was a testimony offered by Immaculee Ilibagiza, the Rwandan genocide survivor on October 7. The story of her harrowing escape, *Left to Tell*, is one of the texts used in the Th 203 Moral Theology course. Immaculee also autographed a volume for our library.



Immaculee Ilibagiza

Book Signing

at Assumption College for Sisters

Dr. Jo Anne Sylva, Assumption College for Sisters ESL instructor and member of the Board of Trustees, spoke about her new book, *How Italy and Her People Shaped Cardinal Newman*, at St. Joseph's Hall on October 12, 2010.



Left to right: S.Mary Thuy Do, FMSR; S.Joyce Muanyalila, OSB; JoAnne Sylva, S.Anna Thoi Nguyen, LHC; S.Anna Thuy Duong, LHC.

Ellis Island Exhibit Catholic Sisters Recognized

Through the generosity of Msgr. Robert Meyer, pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Hoboken, faculty and students of ACS traveled to Ellis Island Immigration Museum on October 22. The focus of the trip was to view the traveling exhibit, "Women and Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America". The exhibit chronicles how a small group of innovative American women helped shape the nation's social and cultural landscape. It portrays the Sisters' quiet courage during many dramatic moments in United States history, including the Civil War, the Gold Rush, the San Francisco earthquake, the influenza epidemic, the Civil Rights Movement, and Hurricane Katrina.

In preparing the exhibit, religious congregations were asked to contribute artifacts. A prominent item on display is a burlap covered wicker steamer trunk used by a Sister of Christian Charity emigrating from Germany in 1938.



Sister Anna Thoi Nguyen, LHC is jubilant to see the Statue of Liberty!

Assumption College for Sisters Assembles for Peace

Students from Assumption College for Sisters, many from war-torn countries, assembled at the Chapel of Mary Immaculate at noon on September 21 to celebrate the International Day of Peace sponsored by the United Nations. They were joined by the college's faculty, administration, friends and the Sisters of Christian Charity Motherhouse community.

Sister Joseph Spring, SCC, president of the college, noted that ACS's mission reflects the spirit of the two

UN initiatives: "To send women into the world bearing gifts of love and peace as well as a commitment of goodness – a vision destined to carry them far beyond the hills of Mendham into schools, hospitals, orphanages and social agencies, here and abroad – everywhere there is a need for service."

Many Sister students of ACS will be working among people affected by violence. They will be there to offer professional skills and to bear gifts of love and peace.



Pictured left to right: Elizabeth Tartaglia, SCC; Abidee Peralta, SCC; Sister Guerline Joseph, FMA; Sister Meltiana, SDV; Sister Maria Tien Pham, FMV; Sister Mary Sabina Nduge, CPS; Sister Emiliana Ntanguye, BM; Sister Martha-Anne Mabuntiana, FSF

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Giving to Assumption College for Sisters is convenient and secure.

Simply go to www.acs350.org.

Your donation will directly support the education of our Sisters.

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Irish Tenor Ronan Tynan Sings to a Full House



Irish Tenor Ronan Tynan entertained in a benefit concert for Assumption College for Sisters. See page 4 for more Concert pictures.

S A V E T H E D A T E !

Tenth Annual
**Caring
Basket
Gala**

With gratitude to God, Assumption College for Sisters and the Sisters of Christian Charity cordially invite you to save this date...

March 24, 2011, 6:30 p.m.
The Tenth Annual Caring Basket Gala
The Hanover Marriott, Whippany, NJ

Please join us to support the important work of Assumption College for Sisters!