



# ACS

## Assumption's Current Sharings



Assumption College for Sisters ❖ December 2013

### Merry Christmas from around the World

Dear Friends of ACS,

As I write this message to you, Christmas is just around the corner. Here at Assumption College for Sisters in the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Christian Charity, we are striving to make this Advent a time of quiet waiting for the celebration of Christ's birth in our hearts and in the world. During this time we pray for all of you who have helped make the mission of ACS possible.

Reminders of the many nations of the world are all around us here, as you can see. As you continue to "friend" us, you can be sure that your generosity and prayers truly reach the ends of the earth.

From all of us to all of you...Christmas Blessings of love, joy and peace.

With love and prayer,

*Sister Joseph Spring, SCC*

Sister Joseph Spring, SCC



### Students from Around the World Attend Assumption College for Sisters

Assumption College for Sisters (ACS), Mendham, founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Christian Charity, opened the 2013-14 academic year with the Mass of the Holy Spirit on August 27, celebrated by Rev. Anthony Sargent, OSB of St. Mary's Abbey, Morristown.

Highlighting the international character of the student body, students from Africa, dressed in traditional garb, led the Entrance Procession singing "Nitume Mimi Bwana" (Lord, send me, I will go and proclaim your Word) in their native Swahili. At the Offertory of the Mass, students from Vietnam sang, "Holy Offering" while presenting gifts flowers and schoolbooks. All joined in singing "Gift of Love" in both Vietnamese and English while the Mass concluded with the hymn to the Holy Spirit, "Send Us Your Spirit".

Provincial councilor, Sister Mary Irene Sorber, SCC, greeted faculty, staff and students. Sister Joseph Spring, SCC, College President, shared some of the history and heritage of the college as well as expanding upon the year's theme: "Stir Into Flame the Gift of God". This was followed by student orientation conducted by Dean Registrar Sister Gerardine Tantsits, SCC, and Academic Dean Sister Mary Catherine Slattery, SCC.

This year's student body is comprised of 21 Sister students from the developing nations, 5 young women in formation as Sisters of Christian Charity, 8 Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (Salesians), 1 Vocationist Sister and 8 laity. The population encompasses students from 15 different religious congregations: Sisters of Christian Charity, Missionary Sisters of the Precious



## Students *(continued from page 1)*

Blood, Sisters of Divine Vocation, Daughters of Mary Help of Christian, Lovers of the Holy Cross (2 diocesan congregations), Daughters of Mary, Benedictine Sisters of St. Agnes, Benedictine Sisters of Our Lady Help of Christians, Franciscan Sisters of St. Bernadette, Oblates of Mother of Orphans, Daughters of Our Lady of the Visitation, Daughters of the Holy Rosary, Maryknoll Sisters and Bene Maria Sisters. These religious women along with members of the laity represent origins from 12 nations: United States, Vietnam, Uruguay, Tanzania, South Korea, Poland, the Philippines, Kenya, Haiti, El Salvador, Canada and Burundi.



Special welcome was given to new members of administration and faculty:

- **Sister Mary Catherine Slattery, SCC, Academic Dean**
- **Sister Marie Russo, SC, ESL Instructor**
- **Alyssa Thorley, SCC, Basic Mathematics Instructor**

The Orientation Day highlighted the mission of Assumption College for Sisters which was licensed in 1953: "Assumption College for Sisters exists primarily to educate women called to a life of consecration to God and of service in the Roman Catholic Church." The college also welcomes lay persons to earn credits in theology and philosophy courses and to pursue the Certificate in Theological Studies.

### Office of African American, African and Caribbean Apostolate Gives Award to ACS

On October 12, Franciscan Sister of St. Bernadette Sister Florentina Mapambano attended the Sixth Annual Awards Luncheon at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, Newark, where she accepted a donation on behalf of Assumption College for Sisters, Mendham.

Sister Patricia Lucas, DHM, director of the African American, African, and Caribbean Apostolate, chose as the theme of the awards ceremony, "Making a Difference Against the Odds." It is her stated belief that when we educate a woman, we educate a nation. She has chosen to give the Bishop Joseph A. Francis Award to Assumption College for Sisters for their continued effort to educate African Sisters for the sole purpose of taking back to Africa the education they received in America.

The program featured a liturgical dance performed by Reverend Eyesha K. Marable, foundress of the National Liturgical Dance Network as well as a guest speaker, Janice Curtis Green (the Griot) who shared stories of evangelization.



*Pictured here are Sister Patricia Lucas, DHM, and Sister Florentina Mapambano, FSSB.*

## "Sister to Sister" Program begins Third Year

On September 20, Assumption College for Sisters welcomed members of the Women's Cornerstone Group from St. Joseph Church, Mendham, who initiated the "Sister to Sister" program. This program, in its third year, brings together two communities of women to meet and connect. The "Cornerstone Sisters" are each paired with an international Sister student at Assumption College for Sisters.



Over the past two years friendships have been formed between the two groups. The women from St. Joseph's have reached out to these Sisters so far from home and have invited them into their homes, have surprised them with flowers or cake on their birthday, have provided shopping trips and trips to and from the airport. More importantly, they have shared customs, cultures, and love which has forged the friendships.

*Pictured here are some of the women and Sister students enjoying time together: Sister Antonia, OSB; Jean White; Sister Yovina, OSB; Peggy DeLuca, and Sister Theresia, MM.*

## SCCs Travel to Germany for General Chapter of the Congregation

Sisters of Christian Charity Alumnae participate in 23<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter of the Congregation from July 2-27 held in the founding city of Paderborn, Germany. Every six years, representatives from the three provinces and two regions of the Congregation meet together to study its spirit and ministries. This year's theme was: "I will give you a future and a hope." Sisters representing the North American Eastern Province are all alumnae of Assumption College for Sisters:

**Sister Joan Daniel Healy, SCC (ACS '58)**

**Sister Mary Edward Spohrer, SCC (ACS '63)**

**Sister Diane Moughan, SCC (ACS '69)**

**Sister Mary Joseph Schultz, SCC (ACS '74)**

Serving as secretary to the General Chapter was alumna

**Sister Mary Dominic Kopitar (ACS '82)**

Serving in the capacity of translators were alumnae

**Sister Mary Perpetua Rehle, SCC (ACS '63)**

**Sister Mary Elizabeth Robbins, SCC (ACS '90)**

Alumnae presently serving as part of the General Council in Rome are:

**General Treasurer and Councilor for the past twelve years,**

**Sister DeSales Tonero, SCC (ACS '66)**

**Newly elected General Councilor,**

**General Councilor Sister Joanne Bednar, SCC (ACS '65)**

At the outset of the Chapter, the Delegates have received a message from Pope Francis:

"HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS cordially greets the Sisters of Christian Charity, Daughters of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Immaculate Conception, who are gathered in General Chapter at the Motherhouse in Paderborn. He asks the Holy Spirit to assist and illuminate you, so that, faithful to your founding charism, you will find adequate ways to live your religious consecration and your generous service to the Church with great commitment today.

At the same time the Holy Father exhorts you to remain with Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament, to learn the ineffable beauty of God's Love, and so be able to reflect this love among the brothers and sisters in such a way that all have the joy of knowing that they are infinitely loved by Him.

With these wishes and asking the protection of Our Lady and the intercession of blessed Pauline von Mallinckrodt, Holy Father bestows on all the Capitulars the requested Apostolic Blessing, which he extends with joy to all the Sisters of this Institute who are in different parts of the world.

Vatican, June 20, 2013

++ Angelo Becciu

Substitute (Secretary of State)



# Irish Tenor Ronan Tynan Performed Benefit Concert

The classical Irish tenor Ronan Tynan performed a benefit concert at Assumption College for Sisters (ACS) on Friday, November 1 to provide scholarships for Sisters attending ACS from developing countries. Tynan invited Sister students from the various countries represented at the college to join him in performing to a capacity audience.

The evening reflected Tynan's eclectic taste in music: Broadway hits, religious songs, traditional ballads, and of course, a mix of popular Irish favorites.

Tynan's life didn't start off on a high note. He was born with bilateral focamilia which prevented the full development of his lower legs and feet. When he was 20, complications from an automobile accident forced the amputation of both of Tynan's lower legs. The tragedy in no way dimmed his enthusiasm for life. Within a couple of weeks he was walking on prosthetic limbs and in about a year's time became an accomplished athlete. Between 1981 and 1984, he set 14 world records in Paralympic field and track events, winning 18 gold medals.

A career in medicine was always in the back of his mind, however, and so he earned a medical degree at Trinity College, Dublin, specializing in orthopedic sports injuries.



Despite this accomplishment, Tynan's father was convinced that singing could offer his son a promising future suggested that he give it a try. He did at age 33, first going the amateur route. After winning a BBC talent show and Dublin's prestigious Feis Carroll singing festival, he studied at England's Royal Opera School, initially concentrating on classic works of Puccini, Verdi, Rossini, and Handel.

In 1998, Tynan's life took another fortuitous turn. He joined two other famed Irish concert singers, Anthony Kearns and John McDermott, who was

later replaced by Finbar Wright and formed the "Irish Tenors", a trio that quickly gained international recognition. Six years later Tynan decided to go solo. He has since sung all over the United States in such diverse venues as the old and new Yankee Stadiums, the Red Sox's Fenway Park, President Reagan's state funeral in Washington, DC, and the installation of Archbishop Timothy Dolan at New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Under the leadership of Finn Wentworth of Normandy Realtors and Attorney Michael Critchley of the firm Critchley, Kinum & Vazquez, LLC, this event marks Tynan's second performance at Assumption College for Sisters.

**We witness today in the age of globalization a growing sense of disorientation and isolation... It is therefore important to know how to dialogue and use modern technologies and social networks to reveal a presence that listens, converses, and encourages." — Pope Francis**



## Students of Assumption College for Sisters Celebrate the International Day of Peace

On September 21, 11:45 AM, students of Assumption College for Sisters, gathered in the Chapel of Mary Immaculate, to join with the Sisters of Christian Charity in prayer commemorating the International Day of Peace.

The International Day of Peace was created in 1981 when the United Nations resolved to observe September 21 each year for the purpose of fostering peace throughout the world through focusing on common goals, alleviating tensions and recognizing causes of conflict. The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has used the International Day of Peace to call for a nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. UN member states have also been urged to commemorate the International Day of Peace with a global ceasefire in any sort of warfare in which they are engaged. By creating the International Day of Peace, the UN devoted itself to worldwide peace and encouraged all of humankind to work in

cooperation for this goal.

To inaugurate the day, the "Peace Bell" is rung at UN Headquarters. The bell is cast from coins donated by children from all continents. It was given as a gift by the Diet of Japan, and is referred to as "a reminder of the human cost of war." The inscription on its side reads: "Long live absolute world peace."

Students of Assumption College for Sisters carried in flags representing their native countries: El Salvador, Kenya, the Philippines, Poland, South Korea, Tanzania, Uruguay, Vietnam, the United States of America, Canada, Burundi and Haiti.

Students read brief reflections of "heroes and heroines" of peace: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Mahatma Ghandi, Dorothy Day, Albert Einstein, Mother Theresa, and Pope Francis. They tolled a bell after each reflection and invited the congregation to respond, "Long Live Absolute World Peace" after proclaiming it in the

languages represented in the College: Tagalog, Swahili, Vietnamese, Korean, Spanish, and French.

The service concluded with a blessing, a communal recitation of the Lord's Prayer and extending to one another the Sign of Peace.



# STAY CONNECTED WITH ACS!



ACS has a new website, blog, facebook, twitter and YouTube! Visit [acs350.org](http://acs350.org) to view all of our social media links. We would also like to invite you to provide us with your email address, so that we can update our records and send occasional news happenings. Please send an email to [secretary@acs350.org](mailto:secretary@acs350.org) with the subject Add Email and we will add you to our list. Thanks for helping us go green!



**ASSUMPTION COLLEGE**  
*for Sisters*

350 BERNARDSVILLE ROAD  
MENDHAM, NJ 07945

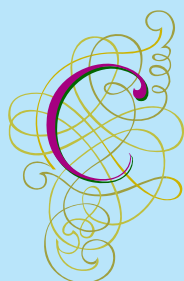
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## Save the Date! The Thirteenth Annual Caring Basket Gala April 3, 2014

### *Spirit of the Heart Award:*



Jim and Barbara Salerno

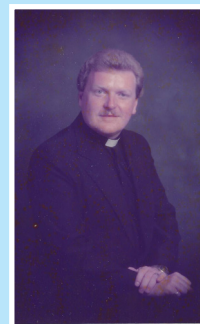


### *Family Life Award:*



Ken and Kris Donovan

### *Servant Leader Award:*



Father Michael Drury

*In support of*  
**Assumption College  
for Sisters**

April 3, 2014 at 6:30 pm  
The Hanover Marriott,  
Whippany, NJ

**Teach a Sister...  
Touch the World!**