



ACS

Assumption's Current Sharings

Assumption College for Sisters ♣ February 2023

New President for ACS

Sister Joseph Spring, SCC has served as President of ACS for the past 14 years: the second longest-serving president in the history of the College. As part of the long-range planning between the SCC leadership team and the ACS Board of Trustees, succession planning has been a priority. Sister Joseph has met with Provincial Leadership and has indicated her desire and willingness to move on at the conclusion of the 2022-23 academic year into a new phase of her life's journey. When Sister Joseph began as President in 2009, she often said, "If the College does well, it is because we stand on the shoulders of giants." Now, as Sister Joseph gets ready to step down as President, the College would like to say to her, "Thank you Sister, for filling their shoes!" The entire ACS community is grateful to Sister Joseph for navigating the College's move out of the Motherhouse and providing the leadership needed to move toward financial independence. Under Sister Joseph's tenure a fiscally responsible Board of Trustees, as well as dedicated committees and an army of volunteers, were formed to effectively and efficiently oversee the needs of the College. Sister Joseph also guided us successfully through our last Middle States accreditation, and is currently acting as both our liaison and organizational mentor as we begin the College's seventh Middle States accreditation. ACS will be forever grateful to Sister Joseph for her leadership, stewardship, and tireless example of faith in action.

"I am very grateful to Sister Marie Luu for accepting the invitation to lead ACS into the future. I am confident that she will lead with courage, wisdom, and love. She will be in my prayers," Sister Joseph Spring, SCC.

Below is a message from President-elect, Sr. Marie Luu, SCC.

My name is Sister Marie Luu. I have been a Sister of Christian Charity since 1988. I earned my Associate of Arts degree from ACS in 1993, and a Bachelor of Arts in Education and History from St. Elizabeth University in 1994. From 1996-2018, I served as a certified elementary school teacher, and as an elementary school principal

from 2006-2009 at Sacred Heart School, Lewistown, PA. In May 2023, I will complete my Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from St. Elizabeth University. Before coming to ACS, I was a Director of Religious Education at St. Magdalen Church, Flemington, and St. James Church, Basking Ridge.

Mother Pauline Von Mallinckrodt, the Foundress of the Sisters of Christian Charity, continues to be my role model and inspiration in this broken world. Her unconditional love for the blind and poor children inspires me to commit enthusiastically to Catholic education, to serve all people exclusively, and to touch all with the gentle healing of Christ's Eucharistic love. Assumption College for Sisters has a beautiful slogan: "Teach a Sister, Touch The World." As President of the College, I know I will have more opportunities to touch the world through our international Sisters.

I want to thank Sister Joseph Spring for serving ACS for fourteen years with love, generosity, kindness, and dedication. She certainly has touched the world in many ways!

As I prepare to take on this new ministry as President of Assumption College for Sisters, I know deep in my heart that God is with me all the way and that nothing is impossible with God.

Please pray for me.

The entire ACS community would like to extend a very warm welcome to Sister Marie Luu, SCC, our new president.



Sister Marie Luu, SCC and Sister Joseph Spring, SCC

ACS Begins MSCHE Self-Study Process

Assumption College for Sisters has begun the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Self-Study, a two-and-a-half-year process that will provide an opportunity to engage in an in-depth, comprehensive, and reflective assessment of ACS. In addition to demonstrating compliance with the MSCHE standards and requirements, the self-study process will also identify opportunities for improvement and innovation.

The self-study Steering Committee is co-chaired by Sister Teresa Bruno, SC, and Dr. Jo Ann Sylva. Other members of the Steering Committee include Patricia McGrady, Treasurer, Jean Wedemeier, Information Technology Administrator, and Barbara Kelly-Vergona, Registrar. Faculty members Henry Crouse and Mara Marino are co-members of the Steering Committee and Sister Joseph Spring, SCC is the Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO). The Steering Committee completed several professional development plenary sessions with MSCHE and is preparing for a visit from our VP Liaison, Dr. Paul Starkey, on March 14th, 2023. A draft of the Self-Study design will detail the self-study report, working group structure, timeline, communication plan, team profile evaluation, and strategy for evidence inventory. Working groups will include representation from the faculty, Board of Trustees, committee members, students, and alumni.

Many ACS stakeholders will be invited to become involved in the self-study process over the next two and a half years. Please keep us in prayer as we continue this important endeavor with the expected outcomes of re-accreditation and continuous improvement.



Honorary Doctoral Degrees Awarded

In November, Sister Joseph Spring, SCC, and Sister Teresa A. Bruno, SC, received honorary doctorates from Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA, in recognition of outstanding professional and ministerial service to the Church and the greater community. Rt. Rev. Augustine Curley, Abbot of Newark Abbey, was also honored by Saint Vincent's College. Sisters Joseph and



Above pictured left to right:

Dr. John Delaney, Vice President of Academic Affairs, St. Vincent College; Rt. Rev. Augustine Curley, Abbot of Newark Abbey; Sister Joseph Spring, SCC, President of Assumption College for Sisters; Sister Teresa Bruno, SC, Academic Dean of Assumption College for Sisters; Rev. Paul Taylor, O.S.B., President of St. Vincent College, Latrobe, PA



Pictured left to right:

Seated: Sister Joseph Spring, SCC, Sister Teresa Apondi Obonyo, SSJ (ACS 2022), Sister Teresa Bruno, SCC; Standing: Sister Donatha Gerard, FSSB (ACS 2021), Sister Martha Vi Nguyen, LHC-NT (ACS 2021), Sister Maria Yen Cao, SPP, (ACS 2021), Sister Maria Hoa Bui, SPP (ACS 2021)

Teresa expressed sincere gratitude to St. Vincent College and accepted this award on behalf of the Faculty, Staff, students, and Board of Trustees of ACS.

ACS and Saint Vincent College share a strong bond as some Sisters who graduate from ACS go on to further studies at Saint Vincent College. We are grateful to St. Vincent's College for welcoming six of ACS' sister alumna to continue advanced studies and we are proud of all ACS alumna who make a difference in the lives of many throughout the world. As our alumna continue their studies at Saint Vincent College, they also enrich the student community through their involvement in the campus ministry program.

**NO MORE HATS!...
NO MORE GLOVES!...**

Our Hats Off to YOU!



YOU DID IT!

Gratitude for Giving Tuesday Donations!

A warm thank you goes out to all who contributed to our Giving Tuesday campaign to raise funds for a new HVAC system along with a new door to keep the sisters at comfortable temperature. As usual, our staff Louis Scarpa, Patricia McGrady, and Jean Wedemeier took a humorous approach to the campaign and the fundraising goal was exceeded with \$14,720 being raised. Giving Tuesday is an annual campaign created in response to Black Friday, one of the busiest shopping days in the country. Thank you to all of the Giving Tuesday Donors!

Student Life at ACS



*Fall
Fun*

*In the
Classroom*



*Garden
Time*

Welcome New Faculty

Dr. Alan Kelsey,
Introduction to Biology

Ms. Moira Phelan-Dziomba,
Mystery of God



Great Denville Duck Race

On September 17, 2022, several ACS residential students attended the Sunrise Rotary Club of Denville sponsored "The Great Denville Duck Race" at Gardner Field. Proceeds were donated to local and global charitable projects.



New Laptops

Thanks to the support of our generous benefactors, new Lenovo laptops were purchased for ACS first year students.

Field Trip to the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island

ACS residential students enjoyed a field trip to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island on October 29, 2022



Silver Jubilee

On December 8, 2022, second-year student, Sister Savior Mkulia, of the Benedictine Sisters of Our Lady Help of Christians congregation celebrated her Silver Jubilee with a Mass of Thanksgiving concelebrated with Fr. Martin Glynn and Fr. Rick Hardy followed by a reception at ACS. Congratulations to Sister Savior!



Healthy Nutrition Presentation

On January 7, 2023, the residential students at ACS learned about healthy nutrition from Registered Dietician, Cathy Gruenfelder. Ms. Gruenfelder has worked at Saint Clare's Health for seven years providing nutrition services including inpatient care, nutrition classes, and individual counseling.



Vietnamese Martyr Celebration

The Feast of the Vietnamese Martyrs was celebrated at Saint Cecilia Church, Rockaway on November 20, 2022. ACS students joined the parish community for a special liturgy and reception where Vietnamese students performed a dance reenacting the martyrdom of St. Cecilia, patroness of Saint Cecilia Church.

Vow Renewal

On November 5, 2022, Sister Stephen Phiri of the Benedictine Sisters, Monastery of Our Lady of the Desert congregation renewed her vows at a liturgy celebrated by Fr. Rick Hardy. Congratulations Sister Stephen!



ACS Students Participate in 40 Days for Life

Each Friday several students accompany faculty member, Jean Wedemeier, to peacefully pray the rosary in front of Planned Parenthood in Morristown during this time of "40 Days for Life" praying for God's intercession and healing. Pictured here from left to right are Jean Capone, Sister Maxmillian Jeremia, IHSA; Sister Nelcida Macuacua, CPS; Sister Marietha Kimaro, OSS; Sister Savior, OSB; Sister Theresa Nhung, OP.



The Annual Fund: Teach a Sister Touch the World!

Thank you to all of our supporters who have generously contributed to the Annual Fund!

The Annual Fund seeks to enhance the educational and spiritual formation programs offered at the college.

All contributions to the Annual Fund assist the college and its students in achieving measurable success as they prepare for a life of service.

Donations may be made by check, payable to Assumption College for Sisters; credit card by calling the college at 973-957-0188 x 101; or online giving at acs350.org.

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE *for Sisters*

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Teach a Sister...
Touch the World!

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

**Thursday,
March 30, 2023**

Invitations to follow

Please join us to support the work of Assumption College for Sisters and congratulate our honorees.

Twenty-Second Annual Caring Basket Gala



Most Rev. Kevin Sweeney
The Servant Leader Award



Andrew & Sole Anselmi
The Family Life Award



Peter & Janet Simon
The Education Award

Date: Thursday, March 30, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: *The Hanover Marriott*
1401 Route 10 East
Whippany, NJ 07981

For More Information Contact:

Phone: 973-957-0188 x 101

Email: gala@acs350.org

Web: acs350.org

Register for the Gala at: acs350.cbo.io