

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Assumption
College
for Sisters



Mission Statement

Impelled by Christ's love. Assumption College for Sisters,
through education and community, forms servant leaders who transforms lives.

Teach a Sister ... Touch the world.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends of Assumption College for Sisters,

Blessings to you during this 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope! We are reminded that this is “a time marked by a lively experience of grace and an opportunity to be renewed in a hope that does not fade.” Indeed, this year at ACS was filled with many opportunities for hope.

In August, 2024, ACS welcomed twenty international resident students: nine first-year, five second-year, and six third-year students; three Salesian novices of St. John Bosco, four Franciscan Sisters of St. Elizabeth, and several lay auditors, enriching our campus with vibrant diversity and commitment.

ACS also welcomed Sr. Geralyn Schmidt, SCC, to the staff as my Assistant and Director of Student Services. Her presence and dedication have already made an impact on the lives of our Sister students.

A major focus of the year was preparing for our re-accreditation visit from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), which took place February 23-26, 2025. The five-person Evaluation Team visit went very well, and, as of June 26, we received re-accreditation!

We were blessed with visits of Superiors from some of our international congregations: Sr. Therese, Lovers of the Holy Cross, Thu Thiem; Sr. Emmanuel Phan, FMSR, Provincial of the Daughters of the Holy Rosary, '07; Sr. Dativa Mukebita, FSSB, General Superior of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Bernadette, '03, and Sr. Beatrice Kapinga, OSB, General Superior of the Benedictine Sisters of St. Agnes, Chipole.

Commencement has come and gone, and we proudly sent our graduates on to new academic journeys. We're also hearing inspiring updates from alumnae who have completed their bachelor's degrees with excellence.

I have been in the process of securing seven new international Sisters—4 from Vietnam and 3 from Africa for 2025-2026. At this time, I have 4 international students: 2 from Vietnam and 1 from Namibia and 1 from Tanzania (living in Minnesota). It is becoming difficult to obtain visas for Sisters from Asia or Africa. I am asking communities who have international Sisters here in the USA. Please pray!

Our 24th Annual Caring Basket Gala was once again a rousing success! Held at a new venue—the Sheraton Parsippany—over 370 guests attended and enjoyed a first-rate evening. ACS honored caring supporters and benefactors this year who truly embrace our mission.

How could I possibly capture every blessing of this past year in just one page? It has truly been a year filled with grace, growth, and gratitude. Your prayers, verbal support, generosity and encouragement makes all of this possible—and more. Thank you and may God bless you and your loved ones abundantly.

With grateful prayers,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sister Marie Pauline".

Sister Marie Pauline Demek, SCC
President

FINANCIALS

INCOME:

61% Fundraising	4% Tuition	9% Grants	4% Scholarship Donations	8% Legacy	14% Investment Income
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EXPENSES:

49% Salaries & Related Esp.	10% Advancement	5% Technology	4% Instructional Materials	23% Facilities Occupancy Ins.	9% Administrative Expenses
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WE ARE GRATEFUL TO DEBORAH KUZMA, FOR HER LEGACY GIFT. MAY SHE REST IN PEACE.

WE ALSO RECEIVED AND ARE GRATEFUL FOR A FEDERAL FACILITES GRANT FOR SECURITY PROJECTS-NEW WINDOWS ON THE 1ST floor/basement.

Communities Served in 2024-2025

Bene Maria + Benedictine Sisters, Monastery of Our Lady of the Desert + Daughters of Our Lady of the Rosary + Franciscan Sisters of St. Elizabeth + Franciscan Sisters of St. Bernadette + Holy Spirit Sisters + Immaculate Heart Sisters of Africa + Lovers of the Holy Cross – Vinh + Lovers of the Holy Cross – Go Vap + Lovers of the Holy Cross of Thu Thiem + Missionary Benedictine Sisters + Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco + Sisters of Providence of Portieux + Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus of Buea + The Congregation of Mary, Queen of Peace

10 Countries National Origin

Burundi
Cameroon
Indonesia

Kenya
Tanzania
Vietnam

United States
of America
Zambia

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GOVERNANCE

ACS Board of Trustees

ACS is GRATEFUL to:

Sister Joann Marie Aumand, SCC
Sister Marie Pauline Demek, SCC

Rev. Christopher Ciccarino
Christopher Draeger
Fr. Martin Glynn
Joseph Gonnella
Kristy Goulart
Ellen Sandman
Angelo Sansano
Louis Scarpa
Timothy Shea
Anthony Sturla
Lorine Takaruza
Elaine Thornberry

Thank You, 2024 GALA Honorees



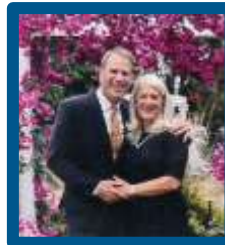
The Education Award

Rev. Msgr. Eugene
Sylva, STD
(Geno)



The Spirit of the Heart Award

Rod Donnelly
Chris Powers



The Family Life Award

Steve and Kristy
Goulart

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO:

- + The administration, staff, faculty and nurses of ACS
who have generously shared their time, talents, and treasures with ACS.
- + The ACS Board of Trustees with its Committees and our sponsors
the Sisters of Christian Charity, for both guiding and supporting the College.
- + Our ACS International resident students, Salesian Novices of St. John Bosco
Franciscan Sisters of St. Elizabeth, Postulants of the SCCs, and auditors
whose enthusiasm and energy for learning are a blessing to the College.
- + ACS' many knowledgeable volunteer tutors
who assist and befriend both our resident and commuter students.
- + ACS' volunteer drivers who are ready to take the resident students
to doctor and dentist appointments; to the airport, train or bus station -- anytime.
- + The many loyal friends and benefactors of ACS
who so lovingly and generously, "Teach a Sister" and, as a result, "Touch the World!"

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Let's take a pictorial look at Assumption College for Sisters' Mission Statement

Impelled by CHRIST'S LOVE. . .

***Celebration of Lunar New Year. . .Opening of Jubilee Year
2025 at ACS. . .Celebrating International Peace Day – 2025***



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Assumption College for Sisters . . .

Denville Celebrates ACS . . .2025 Graduates. . .

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE FOR SISTERS . . .

New Sisters come to ACS August 2024. . .Graduation 2025



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Through EDUCATION . . . Teaching about Lunar New Year at Divine Mercy Academy. . . Visiting Miracles Display and Carlo Acutis' relic; How-to class; Guest lecturer; Middle States visit; Marching for LIFE; our newest Ph.D. instructor, Dr. Mara Marino! Board Retreat Day!



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And through COMMUNITY . . . many interesting activities



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forms SERVANT LEADERS . . .



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who TRANSFORM LIVES . . .



SCC Alumnae of ACS



Sr. Guerline Joseph, FMA
'11 at Graduation '25



Sr. Fides Nijimbere '16 teaching English in Burundi



Sr. Geralyn Schmidt, SCC speaking at Villa Pauline



Sr. John Paul Thorley, SCC in
Argentina

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Touch the World...

**WE THANK
GOD AND
BLESSED
PAULINE FOR:**

***Middle States
Commission on
Higher Education
(MSCHE)
Evaluation Team
from February
23-26, 2025
with ACS students.***



Assumption College for Sisters owes a debt of gratitude to the members of the Steering Committee who, beginning in Fall 2022, discussed, organized, coordinated, collaborated, and composed both the Self-Study Design and the Self-Study Document. The Team Oral Report cited two recommendations and ten commendations. ACS commends the following administrators, staff and faculty for their expertise, efforts, and time as members of the Middle States Steering Committee:

Sister Teresa Bruno, SC and JoAnne Sylva, Ph.D. – Co-Chairs

Sister Joseph Spring, SCC (until July 2023)

Patricia McGready

Jean Wedemeier

(a yeoman's job on the Evidence Inventory)

Barbara Kelly-Vergona

Mara Marino, Ph.D.

Henry Crouse, Ph.D.

Sister Marie Pauline Demek, SCC (since July 2023)

Sister Geralyn Schmidt, SCC (since June 2024)

ALL, contributed in ways that added up to SUCCESS!

ACCREDITATION REAFFIRMED OFFICIALLY -- JUNE 26, 2025 for 7 years

Next Middle States Visit: 2032!



Faculty Info. . .

A special thank you to **Henry Crouse, Ph.D.** for his successful years of teaching *World Civilizations* at ACS. Teacher Henry (as the students called him), will not return next year. We will miss him and wish him well!



Thank you to **Sister Carol Makravitz, SCC, Ph.D.**, for teaching our students *Biology* this past year. The Sisters enjoyed the course with her and she with them. ACS is sorry she is not returning and wishes her well! A search is in process for an instructor.

Congratulations to **Mara Marino, Ph.D.** for receiving her doctorate from St. John's University! Teacher Mara instructs ACS students in *Public Speaking*, *Women in Literature* and *Research*. We are so happy to have her teaching at ACS!



ACS welcomes **Clio Isaacson** to its faculty for the 2025-2026 school year, teaching *World Civilizations*. Ms. Isaacson is in the process of receiving her Ph.D. from Rutgers University. Welcome to ACS, Teacher Clio!



Spring 2025 semester, ACS welcomed **James Puckett, Ph.D.** - ESL Reading Instructor. Dr. Puckett is a TESOL-certified ESL Instructor Uceda International, Morristown, NJ.

*Blessed
Pauline,
Pray for us!*



ACS Outcomes for 2024-2025

***+ 20 international Sister Students offered full scholarships to ACS
including room and board***

***+ 6 graduates received academic scholarships, room and board
to various colleges in the U.S:***

St. Elizabeth University, Morristown, NJ

Belmont Abbey College, Belmont, NC

St. Vincent College, Latrobe, PA

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

Divine Word College, Epworth, IA

Kings College, Wilkes-Barre, PA

***+ 2 new commercial ovens and 1 commercial refrigerator
from "Giving Tuesday", November 2024***

***+ Federal Facilities Grant to obtain security windows
for 1st floor and basement areas; installed June 2025***

+2 new whiteboards installed in college classroom

+Painting of bedrooms, basement floor completed July 2025; paint donated

***+ Sr. Geralyn, Assistant to the President, undertakes role of
Director of Student Services***