



Sponsored Ministries of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Boston

The Bridge

BETHANY HEALTH CARE CENTER ♦ BETHANY HILL SCHOOL ♦ FONTBONNE ACADEMY
JACKSON SCHOOL ♦ REGIS COLLEGE ♦ SAINT JOSEPH PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL ♦ WALNUT PARK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

It's All in a Smile

by Marilyn McGoldrick, CSJ, Mission Effectiveness Coordinator



Unity in diversity or unity amidst diversity is a challenge that is put forth each day as we struggle as a global community to accept, understand and live with difference. People are labeled, judged and sometimes misunderstood because of looks, speech or customs. What seems to be missing is the belief that it is the Holy Spirit who transforms hearts and creates the communion of all created things. We live and work to bring all people into union with God and with one another is a core belief of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. It is the lens which underlines who we are and what we do. It is the lens through which the mission of our Sponsored Ministries reaches out to the Dear Neighbor without distinction.

There are numerous ways at Saint Joseph Prep that unity and harmony are nurtured and fostered within the school community, on the

athletic fields, in the classroom, walking down the stairs, sharing lunch, working on projects together is to name a few. Above all it is getting to know the other that opens each one to the variety of cultures and gifts that allows transformation to happen. While there are many opportunities at the Prep that provide the possibility for students to share gifts, resources and talents, it seems that it is within the Senior Service Program, which affords an extended period of time for students to meet the other, that hearts are touched and differences begin to disappear. Students step out of their comfort zone and meet the dear neighbor in a wheel chair, a lunch line, a classroom, a hospital bed and discover the person behind the disability, the adversity, the learning challenge or the illness. One of the seniors who will be pursuing International Studies in college next year realized that what was just an intellectual understanding touched her heart when the children at the Franciscan Hospital became known by name. Her desire for advocacy will now include speaking for people with disabilities. This one example repeats itself as the dear neighbor moves from Haiti, Camden, New Jersey, the Dominican Republic, China, South Korea, Vietnam or more local communities to being one with all people and all creation.

It is the Jesus of the Gospel that proclaims the dream of God for all people... "that you may be one as the Father and I are One." As students completed their Senior Service Program some were asked: What was the greatest gift you received from your service time? And what was the greatest gift you gave during your time of service? Their answers usually had something to do with the intangible...that which can only be measured by effect. But they also showed the depth of their entrance into the lives of the dear neighbor and their smile witnessed that they had not only proclaimed but experienced the Joy of Living the Gospel.

PICTURED: SAINT JOSEPH PREP STUDENTS UNDERTAKE THEIR SENIOR SERVICE PROGRAM.



A Rich Variety of Gifts

by Mary Nagle, CSJ, Mission Effectiveness Facilitator

PSALM 2013

The Bethany Psalm of Praise

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in the rooms and corridors of Bethany;

Praise Him in those who keep them clean!

Praise God for His healing powers;

Praise God for the faith-filled hearts of the residents!

Praise Him for His compassion and all inclusive love!

Praise God in food carts and laundry wagons;

Praise Him in those who keep them full!

Praise God in walkers and wheelchairs;

Praise Him in those who keep their riders mobile!

Praise God in doctors, nurses, and aides;

Praise God in those who check our pressure and test our blood!

Praise Him in volunteers and friends!

Praise God in all who share in this healing ministry!

Praise God in Chapel, patio, and activity rooms;

**Praise Him in those who provide recreation to stimulate our minds
and keep our bodies active!**

**Praise Him in the therapists who stretch and pull our weakened
muscles to strengthen them!**

Praise God in CSJ's, family, friends, and benefactors!

Praise God in His infinite love and generosity!

Praise Him, all at Bethany, who continue to receive

His abundant blessings!

Let all at Bethany now praise God!

Praise the Lord! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Amen

Sister Marie Cicchese, CSJ (2013)

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Mission Statement:

The Bridge is the official communication of the Office of Sponsored Ministries to inform, educate and inspire the community linked to CSJ Sponsored Ministries.

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The Holy Spirit does indeed transform our hearts and enable us to bring forth a rich variety of gifts. The gifts we receive are meant to be shared with all those we come in contact with...those we know and those we don't know.

Marie Cicchese CSJ, a resident at Bethany, captured these gifts in a unique way when she composed Psalm 2013. This psalm encompasses the Mission of Bethany Health Care Center and articulates all that the residents and staff do day in and day out as they live out the charism of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

Appreciation of Our Diversity of Gifts

by Katy Denning, Director of Mission and Ministry and Mission Effectiveness Facilitator



Despite the lengthening days that beckon us to the warm respite of the annual summer vacation, Fontbonne Academy continues to hum with learning and growth as the school year winds down! And all of this activity calls to mind the many and diverse ways that Fontbonne students, faculty, staff and administration continue to demonstrate the Love of God that is simultaneously inclusive, outpouring and animating in order to ensure that “all things find their unity.” (*Evangelii Gaudium, 117*)

The Lenten season came to a close and the long, seemingly never-ending, winter began to give way to spring. The senior class hosted the 8th Annual Social Justice Fair. Many agreed that an amazing showcase of the hard work, dedication and commitment to justice highlighted a diverse range of social injustices – environmental issues, racial inequality, the challenge of mass incarceration, and the use of drones, to name just a few. The projects touched the hearts of our students and called the broader community to recognize the unifying value of our Catholic Social Teaching heritage. Each project identified how the inclusive love of God could bring about change and the outpouring love of their own direct service and advocacy helped to open their eyes to the possibilities of justice.

During a senior morning of reflection on Monday, May 18, the class recalled how as 9th graders, they entered Fontbonne and their much beloved Sister Maryann Enright, CSJ who prayed for their class and gifted them with a class word: “friends.” They were able to look back on their four years and see how this word and their own sense of unity in their diversity had been one of the greatest gifts of their Fontbonne education. At the graduation ceremony, Class of 2015 honor speaker Victoria Crowley urged her fellow graduates to make a difference in the world and reminded them that their high school community has gifted them with skills and abilities to fulfill their lofty goals.

In early May, more than 450 guests attended the Fontbonne 60th Anniversary Gala and celebrated 60 years of excellence in academic, arts, athletics and service. Former teacher, Principal and President of Fontbonne, Sister Marilyn McGoldrick was honored for her many years of service to Fontbonne as well as alumna Jean Porter Falvey '58 whose work with an all-girls secondary school in Tanzania has helped to bring a global perspective on women's education to the Fontbonne community.

Fontbonne students engage in community service projects and volunteer hours throughout the year with local non-profit organizations. Each student must demonstrate the completion of a minimum of 25 hours of service for each year. Late May is a fantastic time to learn about the amazing work that the students have been doing to help bring about unity in their local communities. It is a fantastic way to see how students have stepped up to help out organizations in need. Four freshmen stepped out of their own comfort zones and volunteered diligently throughout the month of May and June with Casserly House. Victoria Lee, '18 reflects that “What I like about Casserly House is the sense of community. Everyone was so welcoming and nice and I felt very comfortable the minute I walked through the door.”

The rising Junior and Senior students are stepping up to fill many leadership roles for the next school year. With great visions for the 2015-2016 year, students have been elected to leadership roles in Student Council, National Honor Society, extracurricular clubs, and many leadership roles within the Office of Mission & Ministry. In applying to be a Retreat Leader for next year, Ruth Vigue '17, noted that “I want the students to leave the retreat knowing something new and amazing about themselves... [to] be the person that makes them happy and to have more confidence in themselves and others.”

The Joy of the Gospel is alive and well at Fontbonne Academy as we celebrate the diversity of gifts that keep us unified in our mission to promote the “growth of young women in spirituality, scholarship, and leadership in the changing world.” (*Fontbonne Academy Mission Statement*)

ABOVE: HEAD OF SCHOOL SUSAN DEGNAN '78 PRESENTS JACQUELINE MONTMINY '15 WITH THE FONTBONNE AWARD

A Walk in the Park

by Trish Appert, Executive Director

Bethany Hill School residents and staff were recently treated to a walking tour of Framingham's Cushing Memorial Park. The park sits on 57 acres of land used for passive recreation – a place to observe and enjoy nature with minimal impact on the environment. Our guides were Bethany Hill residents Alan and Tom. Tom described the park's previous use as a World War II Army Hospital. At the height of its use the hospital had the capacity to care for 1,800 patients, with over 50 buildings, including a chapel, barbershop, tennis courts, and movie theatre, and its own train stop to create a 'town within a town'.

Only the Chapel and a few one story buildings used by the Town remain today. Tom led our group past the Chapel through the old streets which now serve as extra wide walking paths. As the discussion about WWII paused, Alan indicated the species of trees we were encountering – which ones are invasive, which are native, and a nod to the unusually wide trunk of a white birch flourishing away from traffic and noise. We became aware of the serenity emanating from this 'reclaimed' greenspace.

We arrived at the pergola where maps and photos from the Cushing Hospital's heyday are displayed. Tom talked about his father, who worked at the Hospital doing both physical and occupational rehabilitation with the soldiers. Like his father, Tom did similar work at the VA in Boston.



The park's earliest colonial landowner was Thomas Danforth, (for whom the Danforth Art Museum is named). Mary remarked that some of Bethany Hill's former residents can trace their ancestry back to Thomas Danforth. This trip surfaced connections to our local community, through work, family, distant ancestors, and appreciation of this peaceful community resource. I felt particularly grateful to share an hour away enjoying the history and personal stories of our residents in a place memorialized for its care of the dear neighbor (veterans) and care of the earth.

Spring at Walnut Park

by Jeffrey Fidler, Primary Guide and Mission Effectiveness Facilitator

The warm spring weather has given children and teachers a chance to tend Mr. Mike's Garden. Every class pitched in to remove pebbles from the plots, turn over the soil, plant vegetable and sunflower seeds, and water. The most fascinating part of Gardening Week is the tiny stones! The children loved collecting the miniature rocks and showing them to friends. Maria Montessori saw all children as scientists with their observations and ambition for learning about and from the world around them. She said: "a scientist...possesses a 'spirit' that surpasses any mechanical skills."

On the beautiful front lawn of our campus, Eagle Bear returned to Walnut Park and shared stories, dances, and other Native American traditions. He encouraged the children and faculty to dance along him and his daughter as we explored the wonders of Native American folklore, gaining a greater affinity of the Earth and all its inhabitants. Afterwards, the classrooms lined up to get an up-close look and feel of the animals skins Eagle Bear has collected over the years.

Room 3 put on a Solar System play in late May. Every child was involved. Children made paper maché planets, asteroids, comets, and moons of various planets. Then they read library books to research their topic and wrote a few interesting facts. For the play, the children sang planet and space songs and stood before an audience of friends and family to recite their information.

On the second to last day of school, Room 2 had a sing-along for the entire student body, faculty, and parents. They even performed a funny rendition of *The Three Little Pigs*.

It's hard to imagine another school year is in the books at Walnut Park Montessori School. Thank you to all the children, faculty, parents, families, and Sisters of Saint Joseph who make Walnut Park Montessori School such a special place. It's a truly remarkable school for the Children's House and Toddlers.

Catching the Spirit

by Mary Rita Grady, CSJ, Mission Effectiveness Facilitator



The liturgical season of Pentecost, as well as the spring and summer seasons in nature, offer a ready catalyst to consider the charisma with which Regis is gifted in her students and alums, as well as in college personnel—the relationship with the dear neighbor. Attracted to the institution for many reasons, people develop.

In 1937, Matthia Marley from Ashland, with a freshly issued Regis bachelor's degree in hand, wrote in her yearbook essay that an unanticipated joy of her four-year career at Regis was "the company of friends." She had majored Biology, with Chemistry and German as related fields. After her first job as hostess at the Country Fare restaurant in Hingham, she found her stride as chemist at Eastern Gas and Fuel Company and was the first woman elected president of District I of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) United Gas, Coke and

Chemical Workers' Union in 1951. Inspired by this experience to study labor law as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Leeds, England, she observed the implementation of the British health services program, then went to Geneva with the International Labor Organization (ILO) and observed the plight of refugees. This prompted her next to ally herself with the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the National Catholic Welfare Conference (NCWC) where she found herself working in such overseas spots as Yemen with relief, food and development services.

In 2007, seventy years later, James Guaragna from Brighton entered Regis in the first class admitting men as first-year students. He came on the recommendation of one of his high school teachers. As a student, James had the opportunity of working with his peers as a member of the orientation team and as resident assistant. Now doubly a Regis graduate, with both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in fields related to communications and organization, he is Director of Orientation and Communication Management in the Admissions Department at Regis. He views his experience at Regis as giving him opportunities to continue his relationship with his Brighton classmates, who had also entered the same class. At Regis he developed the gifts he possesses, and had the opportunity to cultivate them. He nurtures his skill in supervision and training, both in his office position, and in working with the volleyball team. His work with Regis tour guides helps introduce new people to the possibilities of becoming part of the neighborhood of Regis.

Though many years apart, these two alums both brought and caught the spirit of the college by responding to the calls and the challenges of calling the neighbor "dear."

LEFT: MATTHIA MARLEY '37; RIGHT: JAMES GUARAGNA '11



Walnut Park Montessori Students welcome spring.

Celebrating the Diversity of Gifts at Jackson School

by Kathleen Berube, CSJ and Jean Behenna, Mission Effectiveness Facilitators

Springtime! Growth! New Life! At Jackson School the fruits and flowers of the year's work are in full bloom. The events and activities of the past couple months have been filled with many moments of joy and laughter and signs of wonderful accomplishments. On May 15 the entire Jackson School Community, past and present, celebrated Mrs. Susan Niden's 25 years as Jackson School Principal at an evening reception held at the school. It was a fabulous reunion and a well-deserved tribute to Mrs. Niden for her years of service and dedication to the Jackson School.

During the month of May culminating lessons and projects took shape. Jackson fourth grade students under the guidance of Jen Dowty entered the Choate Bridge STEM Language Lesson Poetry Contest. Maille Hickey won the contest and attended the celebration held in Ipswich, MA. Honorable mention awards went to Matthew O'Connor, Eden Welch, Emma Nero, Julia Chase, Anna Halfman and Natalie Moran. Grade 4 hosted a Poetry Café as a culmination of their poetry unit. Students shared their original poems with family and friends and all enjoyed delightful refreshments to end the celebration.

Sixth graders engaged in a project-based unit with an ocean theme. With input from experts from the New England Aquarium, NOAA, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and under the guidance of the sixth grade teachers, students used their skills as team members, further developed their skills to work independently and reflected on the entire experience. Not only did they explore about the treasures of the ocean but also acquired new methods of learning.

On Wednesday, June 3rd, the fifth graders led the entire school in the annual Growth and Learning celebration. At the end of each year the students celebrate the completion of their current grade while looking forward to moving on to the next one. Representatives from each grade level shared their favorite memory of the year and the most fascinating thing they learned and then presented a balloon to the new teacher they will be with next year. The celebration ended with congratulations to the sixth graders and students enjoying popsicles together. This year there was a "twist" to the celebration. The students surprised and celebrated their Principal Mrs. Susan Niden on the occasion of her 25 years as principal of Jackson School. All the students wore t-shirts saying, "Thank you Mrs. Niden" and the fifth graders sang a song thanking her for her kindness and hard work over the past 25 years. She was presented with a book containing pages with pictures and messages designed by every student.



Each year Mr. Jim Littleton, a JWP Board member, sponsors an essay contest entitled: "What My Faith Means to Me." These awards were presented at Grade Six Family Class Night on May 27. The three winners read their essays followed by a slideshow presentation on the sixth grade project based learning experience. To end the evening, the parents had the opportunity to view the students' final projects.

For Grade 6 their year and time at Jackson School culminated on June 4 at their graduation ceremony within the context of a Eucharistic liturgy celebrated by Father John Sassani. In song the graduates gave tribute to their parents and teachers for all their love and support. Malissa Beckles shared her reflections on her six years at Jackson School. Thirty-one certificates of completion were awarded and three special awards were presented to the following students: The Greatorex Scholarship to Sarah Duffy and Nicholas Maggio; and Joseph Terrey received the Sister Diane Book Award.

Students enjoyed a day of fun and games on June 11 under the direction of physical education teacher, Samantha Tavantzis, assisted by teachers and this year's graduates who returned to help with supervising the games.

The spirit is alive and well at Jackson School. Truly, "The same Spirit"...brings forth the rich variety of gifts, while at the same time creating unity."

ABOVE: TEGAN GREENE SHARING HER THOUGHTS ABOUT MRS. NIDEN AT HER 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Transforming Hearts and Lives

by Ann Marie Ghiloni, CSJ, Director of Mission Effectiveness



We have all experienced how weather can transform our lives. January and February were perfect examples of how snow with all its beauty gave us the opportunity to adapt to finding a place to put the shoveled snow; changing modes of transportation; being patient while waiting for hours in gridlock; rearranging appointments and meetings, and so many other events we had scheduled and rescheduled. Spring did come and did lift our spirits as the snow began to melt and crocuses, snowdrops, daffodils and flowering trees burst forth. Now the days grow longer and announce the coming of summer. The natural elements transform our lives as we are one with them.

In your ministries you are instruments chosen to transform lives. Each day you serve the needs of the children and the young adults you teach, the undergraduate and graduate students you encounter, the residents and patients you tend to, and all who cross your path that have varied needs. In

turn, they have an influence in transforming your heart with the loving care and compassion of the God of Great Love.

Whatever role you have in serving the Sponsored Ministries of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, you carry the mission of unity and reconciliation into the world. You are one with the Sisters and live the Core Values of gracious hospitality, love and service to the Dear Neighbor without distinction, peaceful resolution of conflict and care for all creation. You embrace the zeal of Jesus, the fidelity of Mary and the cordial charity of Joseph. In his writings to the early Sisters Jean-Pierre Medaillé, SJ instructs them to be consecrated to the Uncreated Trinity - God of Inclusive Love, Son of Outpouring Love and Spirit of Animating Love - in union with the Created Trinity of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

This year in our three issues of *The Bridge* we have reflected on passages from Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium*, *The Joy of the Gospel* and Our Responsibility to Be Proclaimers. In this issue we focused on paragraph 117:

The Holy Spirit transforms our hearts and enables us to enter into the perfect communion of the Uncreated Trinity, where all things find their unity...the same Spirit...brings forth the rich variety of gifts, while at the same time creating unity.

Thank you for being one with the members of the Joseph Family and sharing the diversity of your gifts with the Sponsored Ministries of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

*God of Glorious Summer,
We praise you with gratitude and joy for exuberant, living, pulsing summer about to burst on us.
Open our eyes to the miracles of life that surround us.
Ripen us with your breath of life.
Call us ever deeper into lush green forests of love.
Amen.*

Graduation at the Ministries

Congratulations to the Class of 2015!



Saint Joseph Prep



Fontbonne Academy



Regis College