

THE SACRED HEART BEAT

OF SACRED HEART CHURCH, MASSENA, NY

January 2009

REFLECTIONS

YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Ordinary people living everyday lives in family and work world have been the spark setting fire to our world. Wonderful projects lasting in time give new life to people and direction to the world. These examples give us encouragement in our own call to service at the start of 2009.

Frederick Ozanam, a University of Paris law student, instructed fellow students in the faith. He discovered the best way to demonstrate Catholic commitment was through works of charity. Thus in 1833 the St. Vincent de Paul Society was born. A boon to our town.

Dorothy Day, after a bohemian life as a journalist and conversion to the Catholic faith, in 1932 found peace and joy in joining faith and service to the needy. With Peter Maurin, she began the Catholic Worker newspaper and Catholic Worker hospitality houses for homeless. These are still alive and well in blighted urban areas.

In 1928 the Catholic Medical Mission Board was founded by Catholic medical and other laity concerned about poor health service throughout the world. Today it is the leading faith based charitable organization focused exclusively on global health care.

Pax Christi was begun in 1945 by laity in France and Germany to promote reconciliation after WWII. Today it continues to promote peaceful solutions to conflicts. It has representatives at the U.N., UNESCO and the Council

of Europe.

Oh, and all of these are funded by charitable donations! Are you surprised?

FOCUS ON TRINITY

Mark your calendar for ...



Speaking at the Opening Liturgy at St. Mary's Church last year were Trinity teacher Mrs. Ann Borsellino and student Tiffany Alderson.

Catholic Schools' Week Feb. 7-13. Trinity Catholic School has a lot planned to celebrate its 25th anniversary. On **Saturday February 7th**, Bishop Cunningham has been invited to celebrate its opening mass with a reception to follow. You are invited to attend along with Trinity alumni, past Trinity Catholic Educational Council members, and past faculty and staff members. Also planning to attend are past principals and Sisters of St. Joseph: Sister Shirley Anne Brown, Sister Eamon Lyng, and Sister Bernadette Collins. Trinity Catholic School has achieved many successes and established several new programs thanks to the out-

standing leadership of these principals.



Trinity Principal Mrs. Joan Rufa presented Pastor and Priest of the Week awards for 2008 to Father Don, Father Mike, and Father Bernie with student Stephanie McKeel looking on in the background.

Sunday February 8th, 8am until 12:00 noon, will be the annual pancake breakfast in Trinity cafeteria.



The Perry enjoyed the annual Trinity Pancake Breakfast; Dad Chris with sons Cameron and Spencer.

On **Monday February 9th** the school week will begin with a prayer service and alumni are invited to be available to talk about their memories of attending Trinity Catholic. The students and faculty will don their school colors of blue and white. **Tuesday February 10th** is Teacher Appreciation Day and the Trinity parent group will be providing a luncheon for the faculty. "Catholic Schools Celebrate Service" is this year's theme and on **Wednesday 11th** the students will be serving the elderly and sick of our par-

ishes. Some classes will be bringing Valentines and visiting the shut-Ins of Sacred Heart, St. Mary's, and St. Joseph's parishes. Other classes will be visiting the St. Regis Nursing Home, the Highland Nursing Home, and Laurel and Grassmere Terrace. Students will be making Valentines for the residents and preparing a choral performance; all activities that impress upon the importance of serving others.



Trinity teacher Mrs. Barb Tredo posed for a picture on pajama day with students Willow Countryman, Jillian LaBrake, and Alyssa Fay.

On **Thursday, February 12**, the students will be allowed to wear their pajamas in school, and that evening the community is invited to a spaghetti supper which will be served from 5:00-6:30. Following the dinner (a traditional Trinity favorite) prepared by cafeteria manager Valery Terry, and her staff of Joanne Lawrence, Heather Underwood, and Caroline Spinner you will all be entertained by Trinity's version of "Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?" Have you seen this television show yet? This promises to be great fun for all participating and observing. Two of our contestants will be Fr. Don Manfred and Fr. Mike Gaffney. Trinity is looking for a third contestant....Are you interested? The winning contestant will get to choose the charity of their choice to donate the evening's proceeds.

The week always ends with Student Appreciation Day and on **Friday February 13th** students will be performing in the afternoon in the "Trinity's Got Talent Show". The students absolutely love this event. It is a chance for many of them to show off their special talents: singing, dancing, playing an instrument, juggling, magic acts and more. Everyone

gathers in the cafeteria with popcorn and soda. Everyone has the opportunity to celebrate all the gifts God has given and it is a wonderful way to close the week.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Archives Yield Statues' Background

The original plan for our church inspired, planned and directed by Msgr. Timothy P. Holland included the present main altar set-up, side altars and a rood beam. Woodwork and other details throughout the church were made and installed by William J. Wornner & Sons of Rochester, NY. Herman Butler was the designer. The final work wasn't done until 1949 because of wartime limitations on materials available.

Altar designer Herman Butler wrote the following to Fr. Holland in a letter October 20, 1943:

"We have been very fortunate in one detail. The Hackner Company had three figures of Mary, John and the Christ that they carved for the exhibition in Chicago. These figures are the size we want and are carved in oak, extremely well done. Don has purchased them and we have them at the shop. I am sure you will like them very much (even though you may not say so.)"

MCS STUDENT TACKLES CHALLENGES

Through the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, Lindsey Haggett has been able to participate in many interesting activities. This year she got a chance to do that in a way she never anticipated.

This is her story

My classmates and I were introduced to a program called "Learn to Lead." Each student who participated was partnered with either a Special Education student or a student who was considered at risk of dropping out of school. Though it sounded simple, it was a daunting proposition; I.B. students often have classes only with each other and don't see anyone else during school. We were assured that no one would be forced to participate. I was wary of taking on such a responsibility and also a little afraid, but I didn't let my misgivings speak for me and I agreed to



take part.

We took a three-day trip to Raquette Lake in the Adirondacks to stay at Camp Huntington. The camp is an historical site, owned and operated by SUNY Cortland, but it was made clear that we, the students, were in charge. We planned the itinerary, scheduled Kitchen Patrol, and thought up ice-breaking activities. I was paired with Nick, a Special Education student with Down syndrome. Nick is high-functioning, and I had little difficulty communicating with him. Twenty-three students and six adult supervisors took the four-hour bus ride to Raquette Lake. Camp Huntington is situated in the middle of the lake, accessible only by boat. Surrounded by nature and isolated from the outside world, I got to know

my partner as we hiked through the woods and ate together in the dining hall. At night, everyone sat around the bonfire and made s'mores. We did team-building activities and carved out time to help each other with homework at night – a definite highlight for me. Though I have often helped classmates with assignments, I have never been in such a role. Nick depended on me and trusted me to help him – he couldn't complete his work without my assistance. We made spelling flashcards together and reviewed vocabulary. My favorite part was when he read a story to me for his homework. If he encountered a word or phrase that he didn't recognize, I encouraged him to sound it out. I was so proud when he was able to finish the entire story.

Of course, there were lows to accompany the highs, but they were trivial; minor set backs compared with all that we accomplished during our days at Camp Huntington.

After the first day, I realized that all of my fears had evaporated; I was completely comfortable and ready to tackle the challenges we faced. This trip gave me the chance to prove to my peers, my teachers, and above all myself that I could adjust to the situation and deal with whatever it brought. I would do it again in a heartbeat and wouldn't give up the experience for anything.

PASTORAL MINISTERS SERVE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Over 30 Eucharistic Ministers plus a number of others take time each week to provide a parish connection to our sick and homebound.

Why? In the Church's Rites: Pastoral Care of the Sick we read: "The concern that Christ showed for the bodily and spiritual welfare of those who are ill is continued by the Church in the ministry to the sick. This ministry is the common responsibility of all Christians, who should visit the sick, remember them in prayer, and celebrate the Sacraments with them."

Our Parish Start - Begun many years ago when Servite Sr. Rosemary Mulcahey served here; it has continued along several avenues.

Homebound Visited - On average 50 men and women receive visits that engage the time, prayer and concern of 25 Eucharistic Ministers at least once a month.

MMH Served - Six others, including priests, sisters and EME ministers bring communion to the hospital each week Sunday through Wednesday. St. Mary/St. Joseph Parish do this the other days.

SRNH & HNH Receive Service. - A team of about 20 volunteers work on the weekly Wednesday 2:30 PM Mass at St. Regis Nursing Home. They bring residents to Mass, take Communion to those unable to leave their rooms and visit with them. Two S.H. parishioners assist at Highland Nursing Home each Friday at 2 PM.

Laurel & Grasmere Terraces Not Left Out - Two staunch ministers visit Catholic residents at the Towers checking on their situation. We provide Mass at Laurel Terrace once a month, except during July & August.

Massena is very blessed to have such ready and compassionate people to care for those among us who are in confined circumstances.

Contributors:

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