Dear Friends,

St. Vincent de Paul counseled that “Charity is the cement which binds communities to God and persons to one another”. In the Gospel of Matthew Jesus urged the Apostles not to send the hungry away but to...“give them some food yourselves”.

Being there for each other to make life more human is what we are called to do: binding people, those with resources and those most in need; binding those with physical energy and creativity with those who are vulnerable, and binding the young in need of education and youth in search of values and service with those sharing their time and expertise with others.

In this issue of NEW Dimensions we find the stories of sisters, Seton Associates, teachers, volunteers, donors, interfaith members of local civic communities and others who work daily to bind people to each other and to our loving God. The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth have always worked in partnership locally, nationally and globally with those who seek to make life more human for others. These partnerships, our partners in ministry, make this Mission possible.

In spite of the widespread chaos, confusion and natural disasters of our age, it is important to take the time to recognize the vital efforts to make life more human that are evolving here at home and throughout our world....that the Spirit of God is active among us...that we are a part of a vision to bring about a world in which every human life is valued, and health, hope and human dignity are shared by all.

Many blessings,

Sister Rosemary Moynihan - General Superior
“We’re not just a Catholic school,” says Sister Johanna Quinto, Vice-Principal/Development Director, of St. Augustine School, Union City, N.J., “We’re also a STEM and follow multiple intelligences, the theory of Howard Gardner.”

The excitement of Sister Johanna, nicknamed Sister Jo, is palpable as soon as you meet her. Her enthusiasm is infectious. Not only that, but it’s clear that St Augustine is on the cutting edge of education. During our recent visit to the school in Union City, we got caught up with the latest.

St. Augustine School was founded in 1891 and the Sisters of Charity were invited to staff the school, and the presence of the sisters continue today. Currently the school has students in grades Pre-K through 8. Ten full-time teachers work under the guidance of three Sisters of Charity: Sister Lillian Sharrock, Principal; Sister Jo, and Sister Joan Walters, Academic Director.

The school prides itself on being STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The teachers take classes given by engineers at the Stevens Institute of Technology; the engineers then return with the teachers to develop lessons in their classrooms. Recently Sister Jo secured a large grant for new science books and kits. STEM fairs are also a regular experience for the students at St Augustine.

St. Augustine’s identifying as a STEM school goes hand-in-hand with its recognizing multiple intelligences. Howard Gardner’s theory proposes, in short, that there are many kinds of “smart.” Sister Lillian—nicknamed Sister Lil—explained why this theory is important: “Students take a diagnostic test to determine their kind of ‘smart.’ Word smart, math smart, nature smart, and body smart are just some of the examples.” Knowing each student’s kind of ‘smart’ optimizes their education; students are given a chance to succeed according to how they learn.

St. Augustine is a family of teachers, students and staff. Rosa Apablaza, an administrative assistant, who worked at the school since 1990, describes it as “a small school with a big heart.”

We couldn’t agree more. The personal attention and concern for every student is something that’s hard to find. And yet it is this tradition of St. Augustine School that keeps it going strong!
The summer of 1969...Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid...Chappaquiddick...Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In..."one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind"...and Sister Margaret Killough joined the faculty of Saint Vincent Academy in Newark, N.J.

Just as she had followed her older sister Maureen through St. Joseph Elementary School and the Academy of Saint Aloysius in Jersey City, Peggy followed Maureen to Convent Station, entering the Sisters of Charity in 1954. She began her teaching ministry in elementary schools and, upon earning her master's degree in Business Education and Psychology from Catholic University, she served as a business teacher in several high schools before coming to SVA. Sister Peggy always made learning fun, as her students learned to type to the beat of "I Heard It through the Grapevine." As chairperson of the Business Department, Sister Peggy implemented the COOP Program that placed seniors in positions in nearby businesses as a substitute to their afternoon classes. She supervised those students and developed lifelong relationships with many of them.

Sister Peggy sits with the students on the lawn at Saint Vincent Academy

"I have no choice but to smile when I see you."

by Sister Noreen Neary
In 1975 Sister Peggy was named SVA's Vice Principal and, when the Administrative Team was instituted in 1978, she joined Sister Eileen Bradshaw and Sister June Favata, serving as the Organizational Director. Upon Sister Eileen's move to a leadership position in the Sisters of Charity, Mary F. Nolan joined the 'A Team' and Sister Peggy's responsibilities as the Financial Director were to oversee finance and budgeting. Her concern was focused in two apparently conflicting directions: to secure SVA's financial base, while being sensitive to the financial struggles of families hoping to keep their daughters enrolled in school. Believing that every child deserves a superior education, Sister Peggy often was able to cobble together at least a partial scholarship with foundation money and the gifts of generous donors to enable a mother's dream for her child to come true.

Even after she left the classroom she continued to mentor students and is dearly loved by the SVA students. A few years ago, a member of the Class of 2015 celebrated Sister Peggy. "Your presence brings happiness to us...You are so jolly and kindhearted that I have no choice but to smile when I see you. You inspire us to stay positive and to find what truly makes us happy in our lives."

Last November at the rededication ceremony in honor of Saint Vincent Academy's 150th anniversary, Sister Peggy and Jo-Ann Caporaso were recognized for their 50 years of service to the school community. The main entrance was named in Sister Peggy's honor. "At the beginning of every school year Sister Peggy is at the door greeting the students," Sister June explained. "This is a threshold of welcome and possibility dedicated to her." Sister Peggy added with a laugh, "I need to remind the girls that I haven't been here for all 150 years!"
Students of the College of Saint Elizabeth and Sisters of Charity have joined in the Multi-Campus March for Peace organized by The Beloved Community.

The Beloved Community effort in Madison began a few years ago in the mind and heart of Rev. Craig Dunn, the new young pastor of the First Baptist Church. On his arrival he was deeply touched by the racial tensions between youth and the police and polarizing social and political issues in general. He had a dream, based on Dr. Martin Luther King’s work on the Beloved Community, which integrated relationship, reconciliation and a realistic acceptance of the human condition.

I met Rev. Dunn at an interfaith breakfast two years ago. He was seeking a venue for a prayer service to celebrate Rev. Martin Luther King Day and asked if the Sisters of Charity would be interested in partnering with the Baptists. Shortly after, a wonderful prayer service was held at Holy Family Chapel by clergy and faithful from the Baptist, AME, Catholic, Episcopal, Methodist, and Presbyterian Churches as well as the YMCA. Each speaker focused remarks on one of King’s talks. Afterward, people, including many of our Sisters, shared thoughts and faith over coffee. It was a significant beginning.

Over the past two years the Beloved Community effort has moved forward organically, gathering diverse groups of interest like municipal leaders, health care, fire and police departments, mental health resource groups, educators, women religious, neighborhood groups, parishes and local churches, RAMP (Refugee Assistance Morris Partners), immigrant support groups, and leaders from the three local colleges and universities. Activities have included in-depth open community discussions on social issues, joint religious services with immigrant advocacy groups, educational sessions on Islam with Iftar meals, annual joint peace marches by the College of Saint Elizabeth, Drew University and Fairleigh Dickinson University into Madison, and multiple “Coffee with a Cop” programs, to name a few. The Sisters of Charity continue to host the MLK Interfaith service, participate in discussion groups, attend religious services and dialogues, and support the College of Saint Elizabeth’s growing role in this effort.

“The Beloved Community effort calls us to consciously choose to love, and to look to our right and to our left to see the face of God.
It is a blessing.”

(Originally published in JustLove, March 2019)
Our General Superior, Sister Rosemary Moynihan, SC, welcomed 12 new Seton Associates and two new Lifetime Seton Associates at the Commitment Ceremony during the Feast of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Mass in Holy Family Chapel on Saturday, January 5, 2019. One candidate, Kristina Lukenda Junkroft, who could not be with us then, will make her commitment at a private ceremony to be arranged. Our membership now totals 309.

**Candidate**
Valerie Arrabito of Totowa  
Lois Bass of Linden  
Bernadette Caponegro of East Hanover  
Mary Boland Dougard of Lakewood  
Mary Fierro of Paterson  
Kristina Lukenda Junkroft of Rahway  
Elizabeth Lejeune of Parsippany  
Elaine Lukenda of Clark  
Maryann Lynch of Florham Park  
Jennifer Mendrzyczki of Chatham  
Arthur Minch of Clark  
Michele Neves of Paterson

**Sponsor**
Sister Patricia Mennor & Sister Maryanne Campeotto  
Karen Lukenda  
Sister Patricia Mennor  
JoLynn Krempecki  
Sister Maryanne Campeotto & Sister Eileen Clifford  
Karen Lukenda  
Sister Patricia Mennor  
Sister Michelle Lukenda  
Sister Julie Scanlan & Sister Maeve McDermott  
Sister Patricia Mennor  
Sister Michelle Lukenda  
Eylynn Jarzabek

**Candidates for Lifetime Seton Associate**
Susan Matlosz of Cranford  
Joyce McManus of Livingston  
Sister Marion Scranton  
Sister Margaret Tierney

New Seton Associates Gather for Commitment Ceremony

by Rosemary Carroll
I visited New Orleans for the third time in four years with Stephanie Dempsey and Katie Sclafani, students from the College of Saint Elizabeth, as part of a service project. We stayed at the House of Charity that was specifically built for volunteers by the Sisters of Charity Federation for various groups that come to work on service projects. It is a wonderful opportunity for young women from the different branches of the Federation to come together and share prayer, community, fun, and service. Here is a reflection written by Katie Sclafani about her experience in New Orleans.

Sister Maryanne Tracey

In anticipation of my trip to New Orleans, there were several things I looked forward to: service and fellowship, as well as the discovery of local history and culture. After I flew in from New Jersey, I was welcomed with the Sisters’ southern hospitality, which put my nerves at ease. During this trip, 20 strangers quickly became a family that worked, laughed, and prayed together.

The Sisters taught us about the New Orleans community that we were about to serve. I learned that a majority of the local residents have been forgotten and are still suffering from natural disasters, in particular Hurricane Katrina. It came to my attention that approximately three to four weeks after any natural disaster, the news media refrain from publicizing the needs of the suffering. As a result, donations and necessary resources from the rest of the country significantly diminish. It surprised me that nearly 14 years
after Katrina had occurred, there were still individuals and families hungry, homeless, and in financial hardship due to the storm.

With our big group we were able to tackle large projects of cleaning and organizing in homes and apartments. From moving furniture to organizing clothes and playrooms, we did it all. We began receiving praise for a job well done from our project coordinators. It became overwhelming and inspiring that we were making such a difference in the lives of those in New Orleans. I was particularly inspired when we helped a woman clean up her home from a recent flood. As she saw our progress, she was motivated to clean as well. She began guiding us in what she would like to keep and what she could dispose. She expressed her hope that 2019 would be a better year; in witnessing our efforts, we had sparked the flame to start anew. Seeing how she appreciated our service also brought me great joy.

Throughout the trip I often wondered about my fellow Americans. Where were they to help our brothers and sisters experiencing such hardship? I now realize that it’s up to individuals like me to step up to the plate. It takes selfless individuals to put their best foot forward to rebuild and restore a city. It is through honest and dedicated people who care about their neighbor and desire for them to succeed. Whether living next door or 1,000 miles apart, we are all neighbors. This experience challenged me to be more available to the needs of others, and to invite friends and family to serve so that we may all achieve our dreams.

Katie Sclafani
Congratulations to the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth who have celebrated milestones in their religious life. We celebrate these 51 faithful women for continuing the mission of Christ in the world for 3,190 cumulative years.

If you recognize one of the Sisters and would like to send a correspondence to her, please mail it to the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Communications Office, P.O. Box 476, Convent Station, NJ 07961-0476 or e-mail it to escharity@scnj.org. If you would like to make a donation in her honor, contact the Development Office at srcharity@scnj.org or 973-290-5480.

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<th>80 YEARS</th>
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<td>Sister Emily Marie Walsh</td>
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<td>Sister Mary Elizabeth Davey</td>
<td>Sister Mary Bernadette Murphy</td>
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<td>Sister Constance Teski</td>
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Our interns and volunteers often comment on how quickly the Sisters start to feel like family. In the case of two of our favorite faces, volunteers Dennis Cupido and Joe Canavan, they really are family. Read on to learn more about how Dennis (Sister Noreen Neary’s brother-in-law) and Joe (nephew of Sister Mary Canavan) started volunteering at the Motherhouse and how they spend their time.

I know you recently retired. What kind of work did you do?

Dennis: I worked at Blue Cross & Blue Shield for over 35 years, in various roles. I retired as a Senior Vice President and Senior Account Executive.

Joe: I was an Operations VP for CBS Sports. Overall I worked at CBS for 42 years.

Why did you choose to volunteer with the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth?

Dennis: I knew of the Sisters of Charity through my sister – in-law. I have always admired their dedication to provide help, support and guidance to those in need.

Joe: Since my aunt is a member of the congregation, I’ve known about the community my whole life. When I retired she knew I wanted to volunteer and made the suggestion.

What kind of work do you do at the Motherhouse?

Dennis: I am based in The Office of Interns and Volunteers and work on a variety of projects with students and on behalf of the department. This year that includes chairing our first 5K, to benefit the internship program. I am also on the Development Committee and the Food Committee, and just try and help out wherever I’m needed.

Joe: I help out in transportation, driving Sisters to appointments. I also work with The Office of Interns and Volunteers on the 5K race committee, helping to secure donors and also coordinating logistics for the event.

What is something that you think people would be surprised to know about volunteering at the Motherhouse/with the Sisters?

Dennis: I think that they would be surprised at how well educated and knowledgeable the sisters are and how extensive their backgrounds are in unique areas. They might also be surprised at their knowledge of current events and sports!

Joe: It’s a wonderful and welcoming group of people.

What is your favorite thing about volunteering with us so far?

Dennis: Bridging the relationship between the college interns and the sisters has been my favorite thing so far. They learn so much from each other and both are willing to share their experiences. I especially like the feedback from the interns once they complete their internships. I also must add that the sisters brighten my day; they are so appreciative of even the minor things I can do to assist them.

Joe: I most enjoy getting to know the Sisters and the people who work for the community. Particularly when I’m driving the Sisters where they need to go I get to spend one-on-one time with so many interesting, experienced, well-educated and kind people. I’m sure I get much more out of the experience than I put into it.

Volunteering at the Motherhouse: A Family Affair

by Sheila Tracy, Director of Office of Interns and Volunteers
ACADEMY OF SAINT ALOYSIUS:

The Spirit is Alive and Well

A Song of Praise We Sing to thee, and stand to pledge our loyalty Sing ASA...Sing ASA

The Academy of Saint Aloysius, Jersey City, NJ was founded in 1863 by the New York Sisters of Charity and then transferred to the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth in 1865, six years after the founding in 1859. The school expanded by leaps in bounds till in the 1920's it occupied three separate sites in Jersey City: Elementary Level on Grand Street; Commercial HS on Summit Avenue; College Prep on Bergen Avenue.

In 1929, the Academy that most people remember was built on Kennedy Boulevard adjacent to Lincoln Park. It continued at this site until 2007 when it was merged with the Academy of the Sacred Heart, Hoboken and was called Caritas Academy. This continued until 2011 when it closed due to decreasing enrollment and financial challenges.

The good news...The ASA spirit is alive and well. The alumnae of the school are rebuilding on the tradition of the all school reunion that was held at the school the Saturday after Christmas; subsequently, it transitioned to a summer event held in the area of Spring Lake or Belmar as many alumnae lived in the shore area. When the formal Alumnae Council disbanded a few years ago, Anne O’Neill Kellers ’58 took up the charge to keep the all school reunion a reality.

This year the reunion will be held on Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at the Spring Lake Manor, Spring Lake, NJ. Class agents have been identified and are diligently working on encouraging as many of their classmates as possible to attend. Former Principals, Mary Morley, SC and Joan Repka, SC are rearranging their schedule in order to attend.

The place may be different, the physical school may no longer exist but the Spirit of ASA lives on in the memories and hearts of its beloved alumnae.
Change in Leadership for the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth

The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth joyfully announce the election of our new Leadership who will serve from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023

Sister Maureen Shaughnessy  
General Superior
Sister Cecilia McManus  
Assistant General Superior
Sister Ellen Farrell  
Councilor

Sister Maryanne Campeotto  
Councilor
Sister Elizabeth Kremp  
Councilor
Sister Judith Mertz  
Councilor

We acknowledge with deep gratitude the women who have served in Leadership from 2015-19

Sister Rosemary Moynihan  
General Superior
Sister Marilyn Thie  
Assistant General Superior
Sister Joan Repka  
Councilor

Sister Deborah Humphreys  
Councilor
Sister Maureen Dunne  
Councilor
Sister Elise Gittrich  
Councilor
Awards & Recognitions

On Saturday, November 10th, alums gathered to celebrate the season, and honor Sister Francis Raftery - 6th President of the College of St. Elizabeth, at the Annual Alumnae/i Association Holiday Boutique!

Sister Judy Mertz was one of four women honored at the 5th annual Portuguese Friends Club. The event was held on Women’s Day in March in recognition of Woman’s History Month. The proceeds from the event were donated to Josephine’s Place.

Congratulations to Sister Mary Pauline Hogan, Chaplain, St. Joseph’s University Medical Center. She was chosen as one of the finalists for the 2019 St. Joseph’s Health Employee of the Year.

Patricia Codey, SC, Esq., President, Catholic HealthCare Partnership of New Jersey received the Community Award from the College of Saint Elizabeth on April 23, 2019. The Scholarship Celebration honorees celebrate the mission of the college through their careers, leadership and efforts in communities where they have influence.

From our Archives


This article, Women Among Women, was published two days before 911 (September 11th 2001). It was photographed in the Greek Theater on the campus of the College of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, N.J. Pictured - Back row from left: Sister Anita Constance, Sister Patricia Mennor, Sister Ellen Dauwer, Sister Mary Morley. From the steps, back to front: Sister Elizabeth Holler, Sister Roberta Rooney, Sister Maureen Dunne, Sister Anne Haarer, Sister Rosemary Moynihan, and Sister Mary Anne Rattigan.
Please visit “Remember Our Deceased Sisters in Your Prayers” at www.SCNJ.org for reflections on the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth who died between September 16, 2018 and April 30, 2019. May our sisters enjoy the fruits of their labor as well as peace with their God.

SETON ASSOCIATES: Mary Michele Marizio - Summer, 2018
Dorothy Greer - February 18, 2019 • Catherine M. King - April 25, 2019
More than 60 years after his school days at Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament in East Orange, real estate developer and restaurant owner Jimmy Cavanaugh was thrilled to be reunited with his third-grade teacher, Sister Gabriel Mary Donahue. The reunion took place in the Sisters of Charity Motherhouse, where Sister Gabriel lives and continues to work as a Volunteer Health Insurance Manager.

Much to Jimmy’s surprise and amazement, Sister Gabriel Mary has a clear memory of Jimmy as the tall third grader whose desk was near the back of the room. For his part, Jimmy remembers Sister Gabriel as one of the two prettiest nuns at the school. He says that Sister Gabriel was both an excellent teacher and a surrogate mother to Jimmy and his buddies who admitted weren’t always the best behaved.

Jimmy and Sister Gabriel reminisced about their days as student and teacher, recalling the reading groups, Christmas plays with homemade costumes, and the unforgettable smell of the “green stuff” that was sprinkled on the floor when an unfortunate child got sick in the classroom.

Through the years, Jimmy has always been grateful to the Sisters who gave him the gift of a wonderful education. He says, “I think about them often and I remember every single one of the Sisters who gave me and so many others such a great start.”
Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth

Development Office Financial Report
July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Sources of Funds Raised
Total: $1,927,106

Use of Funds Raised
Total: $1,927,106
Pumpkins on the tables surrounded by glowing candles, Tim McLoone and his music makers waiting in the wings and staff at the Madison Hotel making last minute checks on the tables set the scene for the Sisters of Charity Annual Harvest Festival of 2018. Our honorees -- Betty Dangler, recipient of the Mehegan Award, and Dr. Mary Meehan, the Caritas Award -- were happily greeting family members and friends as they sipped cocktails and enjoyed a variety of delicious hors d’oeuvres. All this was a prelude to a delicious dinner followed by dancing.

Once again, the highlight of the Autumn Season was underway. An added attraction this year was the introduction of kazoos, a traditional part of Dangler family celebrations. The ballroom was rocking with the sounds of the kazoos as the guests blew hard, some with great success and others with disappointing failure. Their spirits were not dimmed as they enthusiastically paraded around the dance floor in conga style.

It was truly a worthy celebration of two incredible honorees and a fun-filled evening that will long be remembered by all. The introduction of the kazoos may begin a lasting tradition. Come and see in 2019!
Upcoming Events

12th Annual Golf Outing
Echo Lake Country Club, Westfield, N.J.
Monday, June 17, 2019

Harvest Festival
The Madison Hotel
Thursday, October 24, 2019