



The Catholic Advocate ONLINE

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Feature film sheds light on homeless teens

By Melissa McNally
Editor

The new film “Gimme Shelter” sheds light on a topic close to the heart of the Archdiocese of Newark. The movie, in theatres January 24, follows the plight of a homeless teen mother who finds solace at Several Sources Shelters. The picture was filmed at a shelter in Ramsey and features a cameo from the organization’s founder Kathy DiFiore. Many of the real life mothers and their children make guest appearances in the film.

When Ron Krauss, director and writer of “Gimme Shelter,” first met DiFiore, he felt “the hand of God” put them together. “My films are all driven by the human spirit. When I first visited the shel-

ter, I saw a world I have never seen before. I felt like more people should be aware of this place,” Krauss explained.

He stayed in the shelter for about a year, recording 200 hours of interviews and learning about the girls and their backgrounds. Krauss came to the realization that a feature film would be the result of all his research. The young mothers had input on the script and the main character “Apple” (portrayed by Vanessa Hudgens) was inspired by a real person.

“When I brought the script back to Los Angeles, people were enamored with it. It surprised me how much people responded to a script about a young, homeless teenage mother. I mean, we make ‘Transformers’ here.”

Although Several Sources is a Catholic organization, the

appeal of “Gimme Shelter” is universal. “This is definitely a Catholic movie but it is a film for everyone. This is a movie for anyone who understands hope and compassion. It’s also about family,” Krauss said.

As a filmmaker, he explained, he is an observer and being truthful to the story is of the utmost importance. “When I started working with Several Sources Shelters four years ago, I didn’t expect there to be a film. All of the girls have diverse backgrounds but they are all a bit wounded and broken. Kathy helps put them back together again and restores their dignity.”

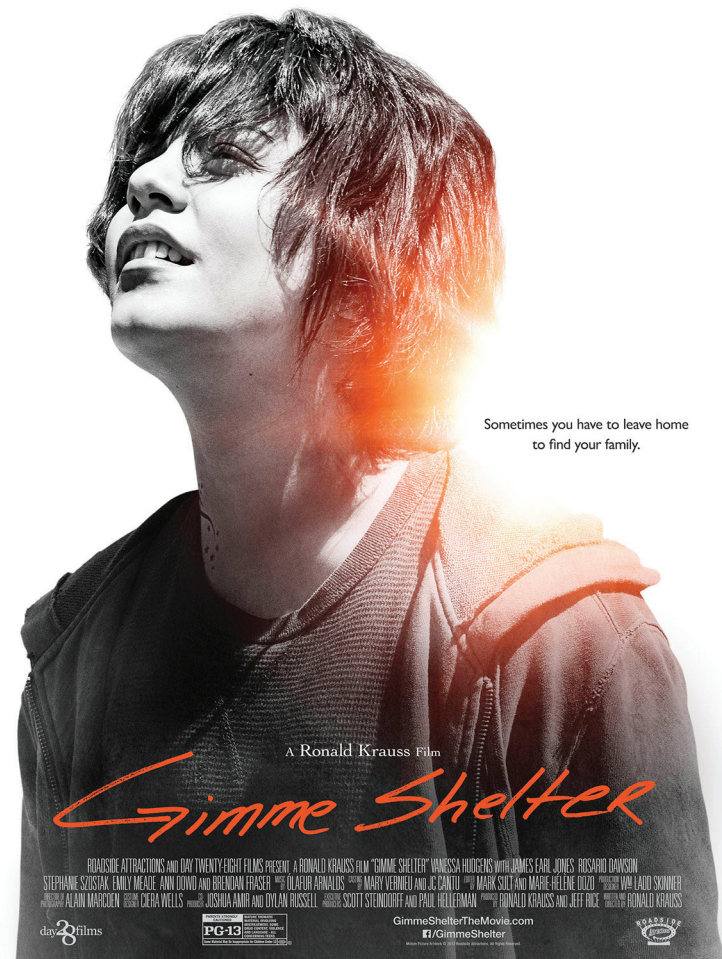
The script’s pro-life message and positive depictions of Catholic priests encouraged the Archdiocese to make an exception to its policy of not

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BASED ON THE INSPIRING TRUE STORY

VANESSA HUDGENS JAMES EARL JONES ROSARIO DAWSON AND BRENDAN FRASER

“VANESSA HUDGENS IS A COMPLETE REVELATION.” -PETER HARRINGTON, FOXMOVIE



Local high schools expand global view



Theresa Young, left, moderator of the Academy of Holy Angel’s model UN team, is pictured with Junior Alexandra Alfonso, center, and Senior Lily Cuniff, right. The girls received an Honorable Mention Award for their work representing Lebanon at last year’s Harvard Model United Nations Conference.

Submitted photo

By Melissa McNally
Editor

AREA—To compete in an increasingly global economy, two archdiocesan high schools are expanding their international reach.

Lily Cuniff and Alexandra Alfonso, students at the Academy of Holy Angels, Demarest, visited China last summer to participate in the WEMUN Expo, a model United Nations conference. The conference featured the best teenage delegates from all over the globe.

At Queen of Peace High School, North Arlington, there are currently 17 students from mainland China enrolled at the school as part of an exchange program. Enrollments are to swell as 25 more students from China attend Queen of Peace in

each of the next three years under an agreement with China-based UC Education.

Queen of Peace Principal John Bellocchio believes that globalization is the future of education. “China will be at the forefront of our new economy,” Bellocchio explained. “As the world becomes more global, Queen of Peace students will have an advantage after four years of exposition to Chinese culture.”

The Chinese students already at the school have acclimated “extremely well” according to the principal, and one has even joined the football team. There was a learning curve, however, “Our native students were very welcoming but Chinese culture is extremely reserved. Some of the students from China would

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Feature film

Continued from page 1

permitting commercial filming on its properties and scenes were shot at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in South Orange, said James Goodness, communications director.

The young mothers are viewed as outcasts and while living at the shelter, they find a safe haven. "The outside world tells these girls that they don't belong. At the shelter, they have a resting place to breathe and think. They believe they can succeed and are accepted with open arms. Kathy becomes like a mother to them," Krauss said.

Although he is not Catholic, the filmmaker believes people everywhere understand compassion. "The world needs something like this movie. We need more kindness in this

world. The film is a slice of life that says 'don't give up.' I'm very moved and enthusiastic about this project and I am honored to be a part of it."

Krauss describes DiFiore as a "tough" defender of life who genuinely loves her work. "Kathy is an inspiration. She shows people how to serve others and is so selfless. I don't know many people like her. You can't question her faith. She does all of her work for God. She has one of the closest relationships to God I have ever seen," he said. "She's working for God; that touches me every day."

Over 20,000 babies have been saved through the efforts of the Several Sources Shelters since DiFiore took the first pregnant teenager into her own home in 1981. According to the Several Sources Web site, the organization's mission is "to save babies' lives and shelter their young mothers" while

providing education and ongoing support services.

In June of 1999, Several Sources Shelters became a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) of the United Nations with Special Status. In partnership with the United Nations Women's Guild, Several Sources has helped needy children throughout the world.

Several Sources currently operates four residential shelters in New Jersey; a 24-hour national hotline for pregnant women and five informative Web sites. Several Sources opened a fifth shelter, Ladies and Babies Rest, in Newark for inner city poor women who are homeless and in need of special, daytime help to get back on their feet.

Although DiFiore typically forgoes publicity, she believed the story of "Apple" and other young pregnant girls needed to be told. "Society doesn't realize what these young ladies go



Writer/Director Ron Krauss

through. It's a different culture now than when I first started (Several Sources) 30 years ago," she explained.

DiFiore took pains to ensure that the young women did not feel exploited or felt forced to discuss their experiences. "Ron was exceptional. He has such a caring, gentle and loving humanitarian nature. When he first visited the girls, they knew he was going to be their champion. He became a member of the family instantaneously. The girls really opened up to him," she said.

Although "Gimme Shelter" is geared to a wide audience, DiFiore believes the Catholic message is still being heard. "I think the film is a multifaceted, multi-layered movie that gives

hope to pregnant teens. It's not only a pro-choice movie; it is a pro-love and pro-family movie. The message is that God has love for all of us, both the sinner and the saint. People want to go to a movie and feel good."

DiFiore also hopes the movie inspires people to be more involved and volunteer at crisis pregnancy shelters. "We need more shelters. I hope people start pantries for young mothers at their churches. We send care packages throughout the country for moms. It takes little effort to save a baby's life. Some girls are getting into tough situations and don't know where to find help. Hopefully, the film lets these young women know we are here for them."

For more information about Several Sources Shelters, visit <http://www.severalsourcesfd.org/>.

For more information about the feature film, visit <http://gimmeshelterthemovie.com>.



Submitted photo

Several Sources founder Kathy DiFiore has helped thousands of children and their mothers through her crisis pregnancy shelters.

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FREQUENCY FOR 2014: February 19, March 12, April 16, May 14, June 20, July 16, August 20, September 10, October 8, November 12 and December 17 2014.

Super Bowl sparks human trafficking awareness

AREA—New Jersey is only weeks away from hosting Super Bowl XLVIII Feb. 2 at MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford. This incredible opportunity also brings many challenges. While the state welcomes people from around the world, not all of them come with good intentions.

Past Super Bowls have shown that human trafficking activity will be on the rise during the weeks surrounding the event. Law enforcement from Indianapolis, IN, and New Orleans, LA, the two most recent Super Bowl hosts, say that not only will there be a rise in prostitution, both underage and otherwise, but there will be a significant increase in recruitment of teenage boys and girls as well.

It is estimated that, some 21 million people throughout the world—including children as young as age five—are trafficked for commercial sex or forced labor. Large sporting events such as the Super Bowl are known to provide a lucrative market for human traffickers. This year is the first time that January has been designated as Human Trafficking Prevention Month by the state.

During the days leading up to the Super Bowl, federal, state and local law enforcement authorities will be conducting surveillance operations in an attempt to prevent human traffickers from conducting business, and to assist the victims of trafficking.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark served for many years as part of the NJ Anti-Trafficking Initiative to rescue victims seeking to flee their captors. The New Jersey Catholic Conference and the Archdiocese of Newark's Human Concerns Office have been involved with the NJ Coalition against Human Trafficking. Faithful from across the area must continue to be vigilant in identifying and saving victims of trafficking.

The coalition is organizing a number of mobilization programs to raise awareness and provide support to victims of human trafficking. The NJ Human Trafficking Awareness Day Program will take place Jan. 15 at the Bergen Performing Arts Center, 30 North Van Brunt St., Englewood, at 7 p.m.

Governor Chris Christie and Acting Attorney General John J. Hoffman have made anti-trafficking preparations a priority on every level. The state has secured the services of the Say Something School Assembly Program. The program will help raise awareness about human trafficking among children in grades 6 through 12.

Say Something is a fast-paced, interactive program designed to inform students, and prepare them to take action. Say Something has tools and opportunities to help students get involved. Students are challenged to empower, protect and encourage one another.

The NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking is partnering with S.O.A.P (Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution) to help provide support to victims of human trafficking who may be in

New Jersey during the upcoming Super Bowl 2014. The coalition will work with volunteers to approach motels before the Super Bowl and offer them free bars of soap with the National Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-373-7888). Motel staff will be given posters with photos of missing children for the front desk and brochures for maid's carts.

The S.O.A.P. project is carried out by local volunteers during a one-day training and mobilization effort. Two trainings will be held Jan. 25 at North Jersey Vineyard Church, 370 North St., Teterboro, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Jan. 26 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey, 50 Eisenhower Dr., Paramus. To register, visit www.soapnj.eventbrite.com.

For more information, visit www.njhumantrafficking.org.

NJ Catholic Young Adult Conference

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, in partnership with the Dioceses of Metuchen, Trenton and Camden, will be hosting the first NJ Catholic Young Adult Conference—"Courageous: Do not Conform to the Standards of this Age"—on Saturday, Jan. 25 at Saint John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway.

The conference is designed to provide young adults with an opportunity to experience the presence of God, grow in their knowledge of the faith, take ownership of the Gospel message, and celebrate their Catholic identity; with the intent to spark the flame that they can take back to their local parish and work with other young adults.

Similar to World Youth Day, the conference will feature a special Catechetical Hour given by various bishops from throughout our state for young adults to learn, dialogue and pray with local Church leaders. Workshop topics include: "Single? No Problem!"; "Be Courageous"; "Be a Good Builder"; "Faith is Sweaty"; and "¿Ahora Qué?" (Spanish workshop).

Visit <http://www.diometuchen.org/yaconference> for more information.



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Kathy DiFiore-Founder

Several Sources Shelters

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Visit our websites:

www.severalsources.net • www.chastitycall.org

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FEBRUARY 2, 2014

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USCCB Bishop to visit the Middle East, support continued peace talks

WASHINGTON D.C.—Bishop Richard E. Pates of Des Moines, Iowa, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on International Justice and Peace, will visit the Middle East Jan. 6-17 in support of the local Church and peace talks in the region.

Expressing solidarity with those countries seeking peace in many areas of the world, Bishop Pates echoed the words of Pope Francis in his *Urbi et Orbi* message, particularly addressing the violence faced in Syria, the Central African Republic, South Sudan and the Holy Land.

"Too many lives have been shattered in recent times by the conflict in Syria, fueling hatred and vengeance," Pope Francis said. "Let us never lose the courage of prayer! The courage to say: Lord, grant your peace to Syria and to the whole world. And I also invite non-believers to desire peace with that yearning that makes the heart grow: all united, either by prayer or by desire. But all of us, for peace."

"As I prepare to make a solidarity visit to the Middle East in support of the local Church caught in the midst of regional conflicts, I recall in a special way our Holy Father's *Urbi et Orbi* Christmas message in which he invoked the 'Prince of Peace' to lead people to give up their arms and 'undertake the path of dialogue,'" Bishop Pates said. "In addition to a special concern for the Church and People of Syria, Egypt, Israel and Palestine, we remain deeply concerned for South Sudan, the Central African Republic and all places that do not know God's peace."

In Israel and Palestine, he will attend a meeting of the Coordination of Episcopal Conferences in Support of the Church in the Holy Land. The Holy Land Coordination consists of representatives of Catholic bishops' conferences of Europe, North America, and South Africa. The group will hold sessions and make visits: to understand the social, political and ecclesial realities of the Holy Land; to advocate more effectively for justice and peace; to support the efforts of the local Church especially through the work of Catholic agencies; and to support the mission of the Apostolic Nuncio especially regarding fundamental and basic agreements.

More information on the work of the Committee on International Justice and Peace can be found at: www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/global-issues/middle-east/israel-palestine/index.cfm.

National Migration Week 2014

WASHINGTON D.C.—National Migration Week will be observed in dioceses around the country Jan. 5-11. The theme is "Out of the Darkness," and echoes the figurative darkness undocumented immigrants, children, refugees and victims of human trafficking must face when their ability to live out their lives is severely restricted, often due to violence and exploitation.

During the week, Catholics are called to participate through prayer and action to try and ease the struggles of immigrants, migrants and vulnerable populations and to reflect on the Church's obligation to welcome the stranger.

"It is our call as the Church to bring the light of Christ to these populations, banish the darkness, and help to bring them from the margins of society to its center," said Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S., auxiliary bishop of Seattle and chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Committee on Migration. "During National Migration Week, we should not only pray for those who are marginalized but also advocate that protections are provided to them, for they need them most."

Bishop Elizondo cited immigration reform legislation, currently pending in Congress, as an example of how the Church and advocates can assist vulnerable migrants and their families.

"Congress must act on reforming our

broken immigration system in 2014," he said. "The passage of immigration reform would protect millions of immigrants who otherwise face deportation, detention, and family separation. Catholics across the nation can play an instrumental role in achieving this important goal."

Information on how Catholics can join Migration and Refugee Services' efforts to call on Congress to pass fair and comprehensive immigration reform can be found at www.justiceforimmigrants.org.

Goals of the campaign are to provide a path to citizenship for undocumented persons in the country; preserve family unity as a cornerstone of our national immigration system; provide legal paths for low-skilled immigrant workers to come and work in the United States; restore due process protections to immigration enforcement policies; and address the root causes of migration caused by persecution and economic disparity.

The observance of National Migration Week was launched over a quarter century ago by the U.S. bishops to give Catholics an opportunity to see the wide diversity of peoples in the Church and the ministries serving them.

Educational materials and other resources for National Migration Week can be found at www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week.

Art exhibit remembers Haiti earthquake

CALDWELL—The Visceglia Gallery at Caldwell College will present "Haiti 01-12-2010 We Remember," an art exhibition commemorating the four-year anniversary of the devastating earthquake that shook the island nation. The exhibit is curated by West Orange-based artist Jean Claude Dominique, a member of Haitian-born artist group "Aytistik."

The gallery will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 2-5 p.m. and by appointment. An opening reception will be held Jan. 12 from 3-7 p.m. For all appointments, call Dominique at (862) 250-4393.

According to Catholic News Service, the earthquake claimed 316,000 lives while displacing an estimated 1.5 million people. "Haiti 01-12-2010 We Remember" honors a country hit by a catastrophe and is a reminder of how much needs to be done to prevent such a disaster from occurring at such a magnitude in the future.

Dominique's work is featured along with "Aytistik" art-



"Mother and Child" by Jean P. Blaise

ists; Jerry M.C. Georges, Jean P. Blaise, Mona Coichy Haigler, Jean Richard Coachy, Francisco Gervais and Joseph Thony Moise. Their powerful art-

works confront hardships and the unsettled aftermath of the event. Consisting of more than 30 works, including painting, mixed-media, collage and met-

al sculptures, the exhibition offers an honest and compelling response to Haiti's ongoing predicament.

The Visceglia Art Gallery is

the centerpiece of visual culture for faculty, staff and students at Caldwell College and the surrounding community. It is also the proving grounds for students earning a bachelor's degree and bachelor of fine arts degree in the art department. Three to four exhibitions per year presenting a wide variety of works in all media from both nationally and regionally recognized artists are offered.

The primary goal of exhibition content is education. Work by contemporary artists as well as historical and cultural art and artifacts are featured together with panel discussions to examine the exhibition's purpose. Frequently featured subjects engage discussion on current issues in the arts or address key aspects of the art department's curriculum. This format not only highlights the concerns presented in the artwork, but broadens individual viewpoints by emphasizing the relevancy of visual art to both students and the community. In this way the gallery offers a wide range of visual media and exhibitions that serve a broad audience.



Special to **The Catholic Advocate**
ONLINE

January 2014

Catholic Schools Week

January 26th - February 1st, 2014

Local high schools

Continued from page 1

not speak when spoken to. All the students eventually learned about each other's culture."

The high school has been asked to prepare to send administrators to China early next fall to assist in the recruitment, and Seton Hall University's School of Diplomacy has an interest in the program. The Chinese students live with host families in the area and international co-operation seminars are being planned to help the Chinese students acclimate to American youth culture.

During their 14-day trip to the Far East, Holy Angels students Lily and Alexandra went on a sight-seeing tour of Beijing prior to the competition. "China was beautiful," Alexandra explained. "I was completely taken aback by the food, scenery and culture. We visited the Great Wall of China, went to the silk market and witnessed a traditional tea ceremony."

Lily had preconceived notions of China before her journey. "I flew into China with about 10 surgical face masks because everyone told me about the smog," she recalled. "I also heard that there are several things you cannot say in public while in the country. However, I never thought I was in danger while there. I didn't even wear a face mask. We toured the old city in Beijing which is persevered in antiquity and has no skyscrapers. Our group had bright red shirts on with a sign that said 'All-American.' We felt like celebrities; everyone wanted to take a picture with us."

Lily did break one rule while in China. "I was told not to eat food from street vendors but I ate deep fried cicadas on a stick. I'm still here so I guess it was OK."

The duo was awarded Honorable Mention for their work representing Lebanon in the Disarmament and International Security Committee at this year's Harvard Model United Nations Conference held in Boston, MA. In recognition of their achievement, Alexandra and Lily applied and were accepted to College Apprentice's All-American model United Nations team and traveled to Beijing this past August.

Holy Angels' model UN travels every year to compete in Harvard's conference. Both Lily and Alexandra were both "shocked" that they were accepted on the All-American team.

"Harvard was my first model UN conference," Alexandra recalled. "I was lucky to have someone as experienced as Lily as my partner. After the conference, I realized that I was really dedicated to model UN and helping other countries in the future. We were very excited that we made the All-American team and got to visit China."

The All-American team is comprised of students recognized as the best model UN delegates in the United States. The American team took eight out of 13 gavels and Lily and Alex shared the award for best delegate.

Lily's appearance at the Harvard conference was only her third time in competition. "I felt so inadequate," she recalled. "There were other kids that have competed before and received so many awards."

Although the prospect of facing a room full of people may be daunting to some, Lily has always loved "arguing with people," public speaking and engaging in political debate.

"Model UN is an incredible outlet for me. It gives me such a teenage rush to solve world hunger in three days just by typing



Submitted photo

Margaret Farrell, International Program director at Queen of Peace High School, helps Chinese students acclimate to American culture during their stay.

and talking. It acknowledges this teenage sense of invincibility. It never gets boring. The real United Nations wishes it could work like model UN," Lily exclaimed.

During the WEMUN Expo, Alexandra represented Kuwait in a developmental committee that was tasked with finding solutions for natural disasters. "I had to take Kuwait's stance on issues and had to ally myself with countries that are allies with Kuwait in real life. You really learn a lot about your country," she said.

Lily, who was the only American delegate in her committee, had to tackle the military use of children. During the Expo, there was ongoing civil unrest in Syria. At the model UN conference, delegates representing Syria had "armed" guards with faux rifles

present for realistic effect. "It was terrifying but fun," she recalled.

Although the conference was "intense" according to Lily, the students bonded with groups from all over the world, including Denmark, India, Korea and Japan.

"I made friends with a lot of the different teams," Alexandra said. "It was interesting to see that we are all so similar despite our different cultures. We exchanged numbers and Facebook pages, even though Facebook is blocked in certain countries. I still communicate with some of them and it's nice to see how everyone is doing. Even though model UN is not real, you still work together and try to solve problems. You learn to come to-

gether for what matters most in the world."

Like Alexandra, Lily would like to pursue a career in international relations. Since her trip to China, Lily participated in Yale Model Government Europe and flew to Budapest, Hungary, to compete in their conference last November.

"Model UN has enhanced the weapons I have at my disposal and I feel more mature," Lily said. "I definitely want to pursue foreign business or foreign policy. I want to travel everywhere. Model UN prepares you for the future."

Engaging in dialogue with other cultures is essential for the future, according to Bellocchio. "Whether you agree with globalization or not—it is here."



Submitted photo

The second grade classes of Saint John the Apostle School, Clark, recently participated in an outreach program that provided toys for children of their food pantry families. The school was named a National Blue Ribbon School in 2011 and is accredited by the Middle States Association. Sister Donna Marie O'Brien, O.P., is principal of Saint John the Apostle School. For more information, visit www.sjanj.org.

DEANERY THREE CELEBRATES CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



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Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy celebrates Catholic Schools Week

ELIZABETH—Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy joins with schools in the Archdiocese of Newark and across the country to celebrate Catholic Schools Week Jan. 26–Feb. 1.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the annual event with the theme “Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.” It reminds us that schools are communities, small families in their own right, which are also members of the larger community of home, Church, city and nation. Faith, knowledge and service are three measures by which any Catholic school can and should be judged.

Activities for Catholic Schools Week at the Academy will begin Jan. 25 with an annual Family Pasta Night in the school cafeteria. This year will also include a karaoke night. The school will revisit last year’s activity of a real-life wax museum. Students from grades 6 through 8 will portray someone they admire in the Bible throughout history. While in costume, the youngsters prepare dialogue to tell visitors who they are, what they have done and other interesting facts.

Several new activities will be featured during Catholic Schools Week. “Broadway at Our Lady of Guadalupe” will include one-act plays written by students based on novels the students have read. “Famous Character Day” will permit students at all levels to highlight favorite characters from their readings. Also, students will be given the opportunity to perform in a school talent show followed by an ice-cream social. Throughout the week, the Early Act Club, sponsored for the school by the Elizabeth Rotary, will have a pretzel sale with proceeds benefiting the school fund.

Catholic Schools Week will conclude with a Mass on Friday, Jan. 31. The date coincides with the Feast of Saint John Bosco, founder of the Salesian order. Salesian priests staff Saint Anthony Parish in which Our Lady of Guadalupe is located.



Submitted photo

Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy will portray noted historical figures such as Julius Caesar, right, at a “wax museum” during Catholic Schools Week.

Caldwell College accepting applications for pre-college summer experience

CALDWELL—Caldwell College is currently accepting applications for its Summer College at Caldwell (SCAC) program. The college is recruiting high school students who are interested in math, science, technology and medicine and are entering their senior year of high school in the fall of 2014. SCAC is designed for first generation college students and will be held on the campus from July 13 through Aug. 1, 2014.

Information sessions about SCAC will be held on March 5, 2014 at 7 p.m. and March 15, 2014 at 11 a.m. on Caldwell's campus.

This pre-college program gives eligible students the chance to earn three college credits while studying biology, chemistry, physics, statistics, environmental science, green reactions, medicine and vectors. Students will utilize state-of-the-art technology for project based learning. Small groups will participate within collaborative units to work on 3-D printing to design and produce an object for their final project.

SCAC also includes programs on SAT test taking strategies, scholarship exploration, college search, financial aid, careers and more.

Students will experience campus life while living in the residence hall. They will go on field trips to area sites, including the Liberty Science Center, where they will participate in an Interactive Theater and attend the "Live From..." program, which offers an opportunity to watch live surgical proce-

dures in the operating room while conversing with doctors, nurses and technicians. Students visit the Essex County Environmental Center and Genesis Farms in Blairstown where they will learn about global environmental challenges.

SCAC students will have the opportunity to become certified in hands-on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training and to learn the proper use of an automated external defibrillator, a portable electronic device that allows the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm.

Interested students must meet the following criteria: Must be a U.S. citizen or legal resident; must be a New Jersey resident high school senior in fall 2014; must be the first generation college student (neither parent has earned a four-year college degree); must have a 3.0 or better high school GPA; Must have 3 years of high school science, including biology and chemistry and 3 years of high school math including algebra and geometry.

There is no cost to the student. Funding is provided from the U.S. Department of Education College Access Challenge Grant through the NJ Commission on Higher Education.

Applications will be taken until April 5, 2014. Program admission is determined through review of completed applications, essay, transcript and a letter of recommendation from a science or math teacher or school counselor. To find out more, visit www.caldwell.edu/scac or call (973) 618-3385.

SDA senior honored

JERSEY CITY—Saint Dominic Academy Head of School Barbara Griffin has announced that Enakshi Das of Jersey City has been named a Commended Student in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program, has been presented by Griffin to Das, a scholastically talented senior.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although she will not continue in the 2014 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Das, a Commended Student, placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2014 competition by taking the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

"The young men and women being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," said a spokesperson for Merit Scholarship. "These students represent a valuable national resource;

recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success.



Enakshi Das



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STEM program introduced at IHA

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP—Immaculate Heart Academy (IHA) is introducing an accelerated STEM program for academically qualified students for the 2014-15 school year.

STEM is an acronym for the fields of study in the disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. STEM@theheart will include more than those disciplines; the program's core focuses on the four C's: communication, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking.

With IHA's liberal arts education and commitment to Christian values, STEM students will use world language, social studies, language arts and science to understand the world they live in; math and technology to harness, chronicle, and make sense of that information; and critical thinking skills to engineer solutions for the betterment of the human experience.

The program will offer challenging courses with the flexibility to focus on a particular interest, an alumnae partnership program that links STEM students with mentors in their fields of interest, an all-female environment, a special cohort project and outside competitions to encourage student-centered learning and additional after-school extracurricular offerings.

A potential STEM course sequence and the application are available at www.ihahs.com/STEM. For more information or questions about the application process, call Kelly Tweed at (201) 445-6800, ext. 112 or e-mail knotweed@ihahs.com.

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Cold night, warm hearts: SJR students sleep out for Covenant House

MONTVALE—It is one thing to read about homelessness, but quite another to actually sleep on the streets—if only for a single night—especially in the middle of the winter.

On Nov. 25, 53 Saint Joseph Regional High School students did just that. Working in conjunction with Covenant House, they slept outside on the lawn in front of the school building in temperatures that hovered below freezing in a symbolic show of solidarity with the homeless who sleep outside every night. In the process, through friends and family members who pledged to support their efforts, Saint Joseph students raised \$20,000 to benefit Covenant House and its programs to help homeless teens and young adults. The effort was coordinated by Deacon Joe Sisco, director of campus ministry,

and John Asselta, director of the performing arts program.

“It was a great learning experience,” said Principal Barry Donnelly, “but also a very difficult one. It’s important for all of us to remember that there are people, especially children, who through no fault of their own, are forced to live on the streets. It was very gratifying to see so many of our students sacrifice their own comfort for the benefit of others no older than themselves.”

The evening began with a Mass in the school chapel, celebrated by Father Bob Stagg of the Church of the Presentation, Upper Saddle River. Following Mass, students heard from two Covenant House residents about their lives and the impact the organization has had on them in fulfilling its mission to serve “...all God’s children with ab-



Submitted photo

Over 50 Saint Joseph Regional High School students slept outside in the cold to raise money for Covenant House. In 1989, Covenant House began its work in New Jersey by providing basic services to homeless youth on the streets of Newark and Atlantic City.

solute respect and unconditional love, to help suffering homeless kids, and to protect and safeguard all children in need.”

Students and residents met in small groups to share their concerns and experiences in a less formal setting. And around 11:30 p.m., everyone was given a cardboard box, grabbed

their sleeping bags, and made their way outside for a long night in the cold. By 6:30 a.m. the next morning, everyone was more than ready to return to the warmth of the school building after experiencing, first hand, the challenges of being out in the cold all night.

“The stories we heard from the Covenant House residents were painful to hear, yet they put things in perspective regarding our own lives,” Asselta said. “Their stories stayed in our minds throughout the night when we felt cold from the chill-

ing wind or uncomfortable from the hard ground. For this night, our little inconveniences didn’t seem as bad as they would have normally felt, knowing that, but for the grace of God, our lives could have been just like theirs.”

Sophomores Nick Caramico and Jeff Chimenti described the night as “cold but meaningful. We learned what it was truly like to be less fortunate, and that will help us to appreciate our lives that much more.” Classmate Chris Cheeseman agreed: “This night has helped me realize how truly lucky I am.”

Immaculate Conception High School honors Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick



Submitted photo

Standing, left to right, Sal Davino, ICHS seniors Taryn Waynick and Madrid Smith, Principal Jo Ann Degnan, Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda and David Mandelbaum. Seated are John Swift, ICHS Class of 1953, Anne Estabrook, Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, Sister Thomas Mary Salerno S.C., and Rev. Msgr. Richard F. Groncki.

On Dec. 11, Immaculate Conception High School, Montclair, celebrated the leadership and vision of Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington D.C., at The Grove in Cedar Grove. Cardinal McCarrick was Archbishop of Newark from 1986-2000. The event was attended by the cardinal’s friends and prominent supporters of his work as well as Immaculate Conception High School board members, faculty, students, parents and alumni. Cardinal McCarrick was given the Moriah Award for “...his exemplary leadership in Catholic education and for his constant belief in and support of those of us in the schools.” Roughly translated, the Hebrew word “moriah” means

“God is my teacher.” In accepting the award the cardinal said, “It’s a great honor, I wish I deserved it.” He then thanked all present for their commitment to education, especially Principal Jo Ann Degnan and her faculty for the accomplishments reflected in the student speeches and video shared throughout the evening. The Cardinal discussed his recent trip to the Philippines with Catholic Relief Services. He described the devastation and asked the audience to remember the island people in their prayers. One of the student speakers, junior Zedric Pastelero, mentioned his Filipino heritage during his talk and expressed his gratitude for the safety of members of his family.

Benedictine Academy hosts basketball tournament

ELIZABETH—Benedictine Academy, along with the Benedictine Academy Parents Association, hosted the “Dr. Rose Marie Battaglia Christmas Basketball Tournament” Dec. 26-29. Girls’ varsity and junior varsity basketball teams from 12 New Jersey high schools, competed for championship titles at the event.

The Tournament is named for Dr. Rose Marie Battaglia, who coached at Benedictine Academy team from 1954-58. Her record during her tenure at the all-female Catholic college prep high school was 36-4. The 1954-55 varsity basketball team was undefeated, with a 12-0 record.

James Madison High School of Madison, won the first place Varsity Tournament Green Division championship title on December 29, defeating David Brearley High School, Kenilworth (second place - Green Division), 37-15. Saint Vincent Academy, Newark, placed third in the Green Division, beating Mary Help of Christians Academy (fourth place) of North Haledon, 40-31. Snyder High School from Jersey City won fifth place in the Green Division, beating North 13th Street High School, Newark, 44-13.

The White Division tournament games on Dec. 29 saw East Side High School, Newark, squeak by Benedictine Academy in an exciting contest with a score of 28-27, earning that Division’s Championship Title. East Side and Benedictine Academy earned first and second place respectively in the White Division.

Elizabeth High School’s Junior Varsity team placed first during the JV Championship game portion of the tournament, defeating Benedictine Academy 40-28. JV teams from David Brearley and North 13th Street High Schools also competed in the JV Tournament.

Transfiguration Academy, Bergenfield, will once again compete in National Engineers Week Foundation's Future City competition January 18. The academy has participated in the competition for the past seven years. At last year's regional competition at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, the Transfiguration team was awarded eighth place. It was the Academy's third consecutive year in the top ten. Pictured are Sal Tralongo, principal, and Betsy Walker, computer science and engineering & technology teacher, with last year's winning team of, left to right, Yashaar Hifizka, Dustin Aujero and Rueben Mejia. Students from grades six through eight participate in the national, project-based learning experience to imagine, design and build cities of the future. For more information about the competition, visit <http://futurecity.org>. "The competition brings together all the disciplines we teach during classes: math, science, art, language-arts; it is a cross-curricular challenge. The project integrates all disciplines into a hands-on presentation," Tralongo said. Transfiguration Academy elementary school is fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Schools. For more information, visit <http://www.transfigurationacademy.org>.



Oratory Preparatory School, Summit, once again participated in the "Light the Night Walk" to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) Oct. 19 at Verona Park in Verona. The school's team, "Marzella's Members" had over 70 walkers who participated in raising funds for the LLS. The team raised \$18,300 which was the third highest total in New Jersey in the Friends and Family Division. Two years ago Brandon and Tyler Bongo, Class of 2013, were co-captains and formed the Oratory Team, "Marzella's Members" in honor of Joseph Marzella, Class of 2014, who was diagnosed with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia in May 2011. This year, Joseph, left, was the captain of the Oratory Prep team, and several students led grade-specific teams. LLS is the world's largest voluntary health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research, education and patient services. The LLS "Light the Night Walk" funds lifesaving research in pursuit of its mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma.



Submitted photo



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Seniors Sabrina Paula, left, and Taylor Siebel, right, from Saint Dominic Academy in Jersey City have been named to the prestigious All-State Team by the New Jersey Cheerleading and Dance Coaches Association. Sabrina and Taylor were selected out of 44 candidates from across the state. The application included a cheering/dance biography and a three-minute video. They were honored Dec. 15 at a brunch at the Princeton Marriott at Forrestal, East Princeton, and will be formally presented at the New Jersey Cheer and Dance State Championships at Sun National Bank Center, Trenton, on March 2. The New Jersey Cheerleading and Dance Coaches Association (NJCDCA) Inc., formally known as NJCCA, is a 501C-3 non-profit organization, founded in 1991, to foster safety, sportsmanship, education and support to all who are involved in cheerleading and dance in the state.

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Official Appointments



Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

ARCHDIOCESAN AGENCY MINISTRY

Reverend Monsignor Edward G. Bradley, Director of Ministry to Retired Priests, has also been appointed Acting Executive Director of Clergy Personnel for the Archdiocese of Newark for an interim period, effective immediately.

DEANS

Very Reverend Joseph D. Girone, V.F., Pastor of Holy Cross Parish, Harrison, and Pastor of St. Anthony Parish, East Newark, has also been appointed Dean of the Hudson West Deanery, Deanery 14, for a term of five years, ending Dec. 26, 2018.

PASTORS

Reverend James Ferry, Campus Minister at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, and New Jersey City University, Jersey City, has been appointed Pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Orange, effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Reverend Eric W. Fuchs, Administrator of the St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed Pastor effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Reverend Gerardo D. Gallo, Administrator of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Elizabeth, has been appointed Pastor effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Reverend Victor P. Kennedy, Pastor of Resurrection Parish, Jersey City, has been appointed Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Secaucus, effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Reverend Christopher R. Panlilio, Administrator of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Hoboken, has been appointed Pastor effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Reverend Jose Helber Victoria, Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Verona, has been appointed Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Jersey City, effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Reverend James A. Worth, Parochial Vicar of St. James Parish, Springfield, has been appointed Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Maplewood, effective Feb. 1, 2014.

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Reverend Wilson Bello, Parochial Vicar of St. Paul of the Cross Parish, Jersey City, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Transfiguration Parish, Newark, effective Jan. 15, 2014.

Reverend Eustace Edomobi, Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Maplewood, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Mary Parish, Jersey City, effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Reverend Jose C. Garzon, Parochial Vicar of St. Helen Parish, Westfield, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Columba Parish, Newark, effective Jan. 15, 2014.

Reverend Paul Houlis has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Mary, Star of the Sea and St. Andrew Parishes, Bayonne, effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Reverend Edward George Klybus, Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Divine Providence R.C. Mission, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Helen Parish, Westfield,

effective Jan. 15, 2014.

Reverend Ireneusz Pierzchala, Parochial Vicar of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Linden, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Lyndhurst, effective Jan. 15, 2014.

Reverend John J. Prada, Parochial Vicar of St. Mary, Star of the Sea and St. Andrew Parishes, Bayonne, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Vincent de Paul, Bayonne, effective Jan. 15, 2014.

Reverend Roy B. Regaspi, Parochial Vicar of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph Parish, New Milford, effective Jan. 15, 2014.

Reverend Bruno S. Sammarco, Parochial Vicar of St. Columba Parish, Newark, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Divine Providence R.C. Mission, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies, effective Jan. 15, 2014.

Reverend Robert E. Tooman, Parochial Vicar of Resurrection Parish, Jersey City, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Paul of the Cross Parish, Jersey City, effective Jan. 15, 2014.

RETIREMENT

Reverend Joseph P. Pietropinto, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Secaucus, has been granted retirement, effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Reverend Eugene P. Squeo, Administrator of St. Patrick & Assumption/All Saints Parish, Jersey City, has been granted retirement, effective Feb. 1, 2014.

Obituaries

Sister Ruth Phillips, S.S.N.D.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 4 in, Wilton, CT, for Sister Ruth Phillips, S.S.N.D., 82, who died Dec. 28.

Born in Bedford, MA, Sr. Ruth entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame in 1955. As a novice she was given the name Mary Ruth. She professed her first vows in 1957 and her final vows in 1963.

Sr. Ruth is a 1965 graduate of what is today Notre Dame of Maryland University in Baltimore, where she earned a bachelor's degree in education. She taught in Catholic schools in five different states for nearly over 40 years.

Sr. served in education ministry throughout Maryland, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New York. She served as principal at Immaculate Conception School, Secaucus.



Sister Regina Martin, S.C.

A Mass of Christina Burial was celebrated Dec. 28 at Saint Helen Parish, Rahway, for Sister Regina Martin, S.C., 74, principal of Mother Seton Regional High School, who died Christmas Day.

Sr. Regina, was born in County Roscommon, Ireland. She entered the Sisters of Charity Aug. 20, 1957 and was a member for 56 years. She graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, with a bachelor's degree in mathematics, from the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN, with a master's degree in mathematics and from Rutgers University, New Brunswick, with a master's degree in administration.

Sr. Regina served as a teacher at Saint Paul School, Clifton and at Mother Seton High School, Clark. She became principal of Mother Seton in 1975.



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How to report abuse

The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all credible complaints of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform the archdiocese immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256.

Very Reverend
Peter Byrth,
O.Carm.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 28 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Tenafly, for Very Reverend Peter Byrth, O.Carm., 80, who died Dec. 19.



Born in in Maitland, South Australia, Fr. Byrth professed first vows March 10, 1953, taking the religious name of Fabian. Three years later, he made his solemn profession with the Carmelite Province of Australia, and began studies at the University of Melbourne, earning a bachelor's degree in education. He was ordained a Carmelite priest Jan. 21, 1959. He also earned a master's in divinity degree in pastoral theology from Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington.

Following work in Australia, Fr. Byrth took a sabbatical from 1978 to 1982 while studying for his master's in divinity degree and lived at Saint Anastasia Parish, Teaneck. He returned to Australia in 1982. He returned to the United States two years later and joined the Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary. He served at Saint Anastasia Parish for the following three years, and then became pastor at Saint John Parish in Leonia, serving in that capacity for six years.

In 1993, Father Byrth was elected Eastern Commissary Provincial and served in that office for three years. During that time he also served at Saint Joseph Parish, Bogota. In 1999, he was appointed parochial vicar at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Tenafly. He retired in 2008.



Rev. Walter V.
French

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 23 at Saint Therese Parish, Succasunna, for Father Walter V. French, 86, who died Dec. 20.



Born and raised in Elizabeth, Fr. French earned his bachelor's degree from Seton Hall University, South Orange, and was ordained May 29, 1965. He

served as parochial vicar at All Saints Parish, Jersey City, and Saint Catherine Parish, Hillside. He was chaplain at Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, Elizabeth, and was named director of pastoral care there in 1985.

Fr. French was appointed parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Parish, Bloomfield, in 1990. He retired Nov. 1, 1994 and then served as a part time associate at Saint Therese Parish.



Rev. Msgr. Joseph
A. Petrillo

A Mass of Christian Burial celebrated Dec. 24 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Orange, following the death of Pastor Rev. Msgr. Joseph A. Petrillo, 65, who died Dec. 20.



Born in Jersey City, Msgr. Petrillo also served the Archdiocese of Newark as executive director of clergy personnel since 2005 and was spiritual director for the Essex-West Hudson Federation of Holy Name since 2012.

He graduated from Saint Michael High School, Union City, and completed undergraduate studies at Jersey City State College, graduating with a bachelor's degree. He attained his Master of Divinity degree from Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington School of Theology. He earned a master's degree in education from Boston College in 1989.

Prior to entering the seminary, he was a teacher at Saint Anthony School, Union City, and Saint Peter Academy, River Edge.

Msgr. Petrillo's diaconate year was spent at Saint Mary Parish in Nutley. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 28, 1977, by Most Rev. Peter L. Gerety. He was parochial vicar at Assumption Parish, Roselle Park (1977 -1983), chaplain at Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark (1987-1989), and on the Presbyteral Council for the Archdiocese of Newark (1988- 1991).

Msgr. Petrillo was the director and parochial vicar of Saint Joseph of the Palisades High School, West New York, from 1989 to 1998. He was on staff at Oratory Catholic Preparatory School in Summit, from 1998 to 2001.

Msgr. Petrillo was appointed

pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Orange, in 2001. On June 5, 2009, he was given the honor of Chaplain of His Holiness.

He had a special devotion to the many religious Sisters he called his friends. He frequently visited to The Sisters of Charity in Convent Station, the Dominican Nuns in Summit, and the Filippini Sisters in Morristown.



Sister Dolores
Vitale, M.P.F.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 23 at Villa Walsh, Morristown, for Sister Dolores Vitale, M.P.F., 85, who died Dec. 19.



Born in Cleveland, OH, Sr. Dolores entered the Religious Teachers Filippini June 22, 1949. She received the religious habit at Villa Walsh on Sept. 3, 1950, and her religious profession three years later.

Sr. Dolores was awarded a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Notre Dame College, Cleveland, OH. She taught the first grade for more

than thirty years in elementary schools in the Archdioceses of Newark, Philadelphia, and New York, and in the Dioceses of Hartford, Brooklyn, Ohio and Scranton.

For ten years, Sr. Dolores was the caregiver for her mother. During this time she continued to teach religion classes and earned a certificate in Pastoral Care Ministry also from Notre Dame College.

After her mother's passing, Sr. Dolores became involved in Pastoral Care at Assumption Parish, Bayonne. She became a resident of Saint Joseph Hall Infirmary, Villa Walsh, Morristown, in 2008.



Rev. Joseph P. Rice

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 10 at Saint Mary Parish, Rutherford, for Father Joseph P. Rice, 73, who died Jan. 2.



A Newark native, Rice graduated from Saint Charles Bor-

romeo High School in 1958. He worked for WJRZ radio as head record librarian and at WNTA Channel 13 as a production assistant for the TV show, "Day-watch." After WNTA TV moved to California, Fr. Rice worked for the New Departure Hyatt, a division of General Motors, working as a processor inspector in Clark.

At 30 years of age, Fr. Rice entered Seton Hall University, South Orange, and in three years received a bachelor's degree in communication arts, with interests in the theatre. He then entered Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington, and in three years graduated with a master's degree in divinity.

While at the seminary as a first-year theologian, Fr. Rice became director of the Darlington Dramatic Society, where he designed and directed "Hadrian VII," "Arsenic and Old Lace," and "The Fantasticks." He was also a member of the Schola.

Fr. Rice was ordained to the priesthood May 28, 1977. He completed two semesters of American Sign Language at Union County College. It was his great joy to celebrate Sunday Mass in ASL, teaching the choir to sing hymns in sign.



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