

Sundings update

Journey of the Heart

by Denise Edinger, CSJA

Delightful and insightful was the recent afternoon shared by sisters and associates at Saint Joseph Hall, Framingham. The November gathering was hosted by the sisters who provide a warm and welcoming environment where friendships are renewed and all are warmly embraced.

Following informal greetings and lunch, all gathered to listen to the program presenters who had recently returned from the CSSJ Heritage Pilgrimage. What transpired was more than retelling shared events, but rather a reflection and personal sharing of inner transformative moments experienced while on the journey. Joanne Gallagher, CSJ, shared her gift of weaving a concept that reached out and embraced all in the wider meaning of one's life journey. A prayerful challenge to connect our story with the six founding women and Jeanne Fontbonne framed our attentive listening.

Reflective vignettes were shared by each associate who traveled the pilgrimage. CSJAs Joanne Fantini, Joanne Murphy, Joanne Mauldin, Margaret Lelakes and Mary Rita Weschler offered a brief sharing of their personal stories. Each was deeply moved by simply being in the ancient 'kitchen', the central gathering space for the first sisters. Others spoke of personal spiritual deepening and inner pilgrimage. One associate shared her reflection on the courage of Mother Saint John Fontbonne and how she faced obstacles that confronted her with perseverance and valor. Sandra Selvarajah, CSJA, shared her experience of participating in a Mission Effectiveness program at the CSSJ International Center in Le Puy earlier in October.

Through the simple stories of those who traveled, a predominant theme of inclusiveness emanated. We are all journeying together and were carried in the heart of each during the Heritage Pilgrimage. Time was allotted for reflection followed by small and large group sharing. As a symbol of this connectedness, Joanne Fantini presented identical plaques of a Le Puy Lace Maker for the Boston and New Mexico Associates. Words sometimes are inadequate to express and embrace the full meaning of an experience, but Saturday's presentation offered a wonderful gateway to explore our own personal journey. "We had thought that we were human beings making a spiritual journey; it may be truer to say that we are spiritual beings making a human journey" — *Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ* ✕

PICTURED ABOVE: Associates and sisters during the November Associate gathering at St. Joseph Hall, Framingham.



Dear Neighbor Gifts
Christmas Sale Days!
at Bethany & Motherhouse

BETHANY HEALTH CARE CENTER, FRAMINGHAM
Wednesday, December 3, 2014
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

MOTHERHOUSE DINING ROOM, BRIGHTON
Wednesday, December 11, 2014
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM & 4:00-5:15pm
Saturday, December 13, 2014
1:30 – 3:30PM

ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF THE LONG ISLAND BRIDGE CLOSURE

CSJs Participate in Rally for Rebuilding Hope

Sisters of St. Joseph were among approximately 150 concerned citizens who gathered at Boston's City Hall Plaza and marched to the State House in an effort to highlight the need for communication between the City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The march was in response to the closing of the Long Island Shelter Bridge giving the staff an approximate four-hour notice to find replacement programs and beds. It displaced 700 men and women in a state already severely short of treatment beds and shelters. Many are still in need of replacement beds. Some are unable to retrieve personal belongings, medications, or medical records.

A number of participants approached us and commented on their appreciation for our presence and the impact of the Sisters of St. Joseph in their lives. One Mount St. Joseph Academy alumna remarked that the values she learned at The Mount will remain with her for life. An alumna of St. Mary's in Charlestown said she follows Sr. Rose de Lourdes example every day of her life. A few legislators joined the group; among them was State Senator Mike Rush who spoke of his lifelong association with the Sisters of St. Joseph.

The message of the Homeless Rally for Rebuilding Hope was that unbroken, transparent communication, planning, funding and accountability is absolutely necessary and must start now in order to increase the number of treatment facilities and shelters as winter approaches.



PICTURED AT RIGHT TOP TO BOTTOM: Lois Connors, CSJ, Debbie Chausse, Anna Edge, CSJ, Helen Sullivan, CSJ, and Joanne Gallagher, CSJ, during the Rally for Rebuilding Hope; sign summarizing the message of the rally; State Senator Mike Rush with Lois Connors, CSJ.



Stay Tuned...Springfield Catholic TV to Feature CSSJs

On Monday, November 17, the production crew of Springfield's Catholic TV show, Real to Reel, visited Bethany Health Care Center, St. Joseph Hall, and Fontbonne Convent. Real to Reel features engaging segments about topics and trends of interest to New England viewers. The people of the Springfield area are interested in what's happening with the SSJs who moved to the Boston area. This segment will feature that transition. We will keep you posted on when it will air and how to view this show. Stay tuned!



PICTURED ABOVE: Sisters at Fontbonne Convent during filming; **AT RIGHT:** At St. Joseph Hall, Imelda Fallon, SSJ, is filmed as she leads a group of eager and engaged Boston CSJ artists.

Remembering the Churchwomen of El Salvador

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014, 7:00PM

our second annual service to remember the martyred Churchwomen and the people of El Salvador will take place at the Motherhouse. If you are able to participate and/or if you are bringing others please RSVP to

helen.sullivan@csjboston.org or 617.746.2102

with your name and the number attending.

A free will offering for the

SHARE El Salvador Foundation will be welcome.

For more information see:

<http://www.csjboston.org/news-and-events/events/122-el-salvador-martyrs-remembered/>



Dates to Remember...

- NOV. 30, SUN., 9:30 AM— SUNDAY LITURGY, Fontbonne Convent, Milton
- NOV. 30, SUN., 10:00 AM— SUNDAY LITURGY, Motherhouse — all welcome
- DEC. 2, TUES. 7:00PM — Prayer Service Commemorating the Women Martyrs of El Salvador — see details in ad above
- DEC. 3, WED., 5:30PM — Motherhouse Liturgy — all welcome
- DEC. 11, THURS., 5:30PM — Motherhouse Liturgy — all welcome
- DEC. 17, WED., 5:30PM — Motherhouse Liturgy — all welcome
- DEC. 18, THURS., 7:00PM —TAIZÉ PRAYER — Motherhouse — all welcome

"Keep an ever free heart..."

SISTER STEPHANOS BADESSA, CSJ
Baptized: Catherine S. Badessa
Date of Birth: January 17, 1911
Date of Death: November 7, 2014
In the 82nd year of her Religious Life.
MEMBERSHIP: 320