

Update Sundings

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Invocation at Mayor Walsh's State of the City of Boston Address

Mayor Marty Walsh gave his first State of the City Address on January 13, 2015, at Symphony Hall. Pat Andrews, CSJ, director of The Literacy Connection, was invited to offer the Invocation. Current and former students from our Literacy Connection Citizenship class were invited to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. The text of Pat's invocation is printed below. Let us reflect on this prayer as we pray in the days ahead.

God of universal love, Your Spirit unites our city. As we face challenges, tragedies, and complex decisions, it is your Spirit that transforms us to become the name which our nation has given us: "Boston Strong."

God of inclusive love, your Spirit brings us together as a city of neighborhoods; a city where people of many cultures, races, religions, and lifestyles find a home.

God of enduring love, your Spirit flows through the rich history of our city. Those who have brought us to where we are today inspire us with the vision for a strong, viable and welcoming city.

God of outpouring love, your Spirit brings us to this moment, Now is *our* moment to move forward with wisdom, courage, and hope. Ours is a city full of possibility. Now is *our* moment to move forward with the vision to make this possibility a reality.

May we recognize that our past and our future are integrally woven together. May our time here this evening be blessed with insight and guided by an understanding heart. May our personal faiths give us strength to witness with courage to the challenges before us. May we recognize who and what we can become when we work together for the rights and needs of both individuals and the community. And may the Spirit that unites our city, set our hearts on fire with wisdom to be told.

Loving God, bless our efforts as we work to have the neighborhood of our sacred universe carried and treasured and embraced inside of all of us...so that **all may be one** for a future yet to come.* Amen ❄

*Paraphrased from the song, "May the Greatest Love", by Kathy Sherman, CSJ



CSJ Planning Committee Information Meetings



All sisters and associates are invited to participate in an information meeting in preparation for our Congregation Gathering on 2/28/15. See email from Margaret L. Sullivan, 1/9/2015 for details.

JAN. 27, TUES., 6:30 – 8:00 PM — Motherhouse

JAN. 29, THURS., 1:30-3:00 PM — St. Joseph Hall, Framingham

JAN. 31, SAT., 10:00-11:30AM — Fontbonne Convent, Milton

To register, you are asked to call or email Leanne Nassise at 617-746-2029 or leanne.nassise@csjboston.org by 1/23/15

Dates to Remember

JAN. 22, THURS., 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — all welcome

JAN. 25, SUN., 9:30 AM — SUNDAY LITURGY, Fontbonne Convent, Milton — all welcome

JAN. 25, SUN., 10:00 AM — SUNDAY LITURGY, Motherhouse — all welcome

JAN. 31, SAT., 4:00PM — SUNDAY VIGIL LITURGY, Fontbonne Convent, Milton — all welcome

FEB. 3, TUES., 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — all welcome

FEB. 7, SAT., 12:30PM — ASSOCIATE GATHERING, Fontbonne Convent, Milton

— call 617.746.1670 to participate

FEB. 7, SAT., 4:00PM — SUNDAY VIGIL LITURGY, Fontbonne Convent, Milton — all welcome

FEB. 12, THURS., 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — all welcome

FEB. 19, THURS., 7:00PM — TAIZÉ PRAYER — Motherhouse — all welcome

FEB. 26, THURS., 5:30PM — MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY — all welcome

FEB. 28, SAT. — CONGREGATION GATHERING — details to follow.

"Keep an ever free heart..."
Maxims of the Little Institute #53

SISTER MARIE MCCANN, CSJ
Sister Laurian, CSJ

Date of Birth: January 28, 1921
Date of Death: December 20, 2014
In the 76th year of her Religious Life.

SISTER JOAN R. MCCARTHY, CSJ
Sister M. St. Magdalen
Date of Birth: September 10, 1932
Date of Death: December 21, 2014
In the 66th year of her Religious Life.

SISTER STELLA SABINI, CSJ
Date of Birth: January 3, 1919
Date of Death: December 20, 2014
In the 77th year of her Religious Life.

MEMBERSHIP: 316

Living out of the Charism by Joanne Fantini, CSJA

God, trustworthy to this promise spoken through Isaiah, revealed many new things during our sacred time together as we entered into communal discernment in choosing an associate to become part of the CSJA leadership team. Our meeting began with our CSJ communities' commitment to contemplative listening as four associates: Ann Fletcher, Joyce Barney, Mary Rita Weschler, and Nan Bouche and one sister: Kathy Short, shared personal reflections on what it means to live out of our CSJ charism. All present felt the deepening bond of relationship stretching the ever-widening circle as each story was received with reverence and open hearts. Oh, what God reveals when we are open to receiving one another!

"Prefer always the will and contentment of others to your own will and contentment and do so even with a happy and joyful heart, provided, of course, as has been said, that God is not offended nor less honored."

Maxim 50

After the sharing, Joan Duffy, CSJ, guided us through prayerful reflection and process for entering into communal discernment. Joan impelled us to enter into this present moment with open hearts, open minds, and an open will. She called us to be attentive to the signs of the times, the call of the Gospel, and our own CSJ charism while remaining deeply attentive to the charism of the community and our own personal prayer. We were invited to reflect on Maxim 50 and ponder the question: "What will God be content with when we gather?"

Joan fully captured the spirit of this new moment in which we find ourselves as a community awaiting and living into God's contentment and revelation. ❁

***'Now I am revealing new things to you
Things hidden and unknown to you
Created, just now this very moment.
Of these things you have heard nothing until now.
So that you cannot say, Oh, yes, I knew this.
(Isaiah 48:6-7)***



Boston Area Catholic Sisters Host Prayer Vigil for National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

For the eighth consecutive year, local Catholic Sisters representing sixteen congregations in the Greater Boston Area gathered with over 150 sisters, associates, and many friends on January 11, 2015, to mark National Human Trafficking Awareness Day and pray for an end to human trafficking.

Participants were reminded of Pope Francis' 2015 New Year's World Day of Peace Message in which he calls on all nations to fight "modern forms of enslavement" and human trafficking. Francis continues, "...millions of people today are deprived of freedom and are forced to live in conditions akin to slavery."

Those who gathered know that they do not stand alone. In cities all across the country, similar groups gathered in solidarity, in prayer, in vigil-keeping throughout the country. The group is also heartened by the words and efforts of many civic and church leaders across the commonwealth, the country, and the world who realize that the \$150 billion dollar worldwide 'industry' of trafficking of more than 21 million persons runs counter to basic tenets regarding the dignity and value of each person.

In prayer and silent vigil they stand with and for those children, women, and men who are exploited for labor and for sex through the evil of human trafficking, modern day slavery. They also pray for the conversion of traffickers themselves. As Pope Francis' 2015 World Day of Peace Message reminds us, all peoples are our family, and together, we need to cry out and act to end the human trafficking of our brothers and sisters. ❁



Visit our website: www.csjboston.org for additional updates, news releases, dates, videos, stories about our sisters and associates, [in Memoriam](#) and more.