

# MISSION

as a sacred trust



#### **Mission Statement**

Urged by the love of Christ, and in the spirit of our founder, Elizabeth Ann Seton, we Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati strive to live Gospel values.

We choose to act justly, to build loving relationships, to share our resources with those in need, and to care for all creation.

### Sisters of Charity Sponsored Ministries

**Bayley** – a continuing care retirement community that offers a full spectrum of health and wellness lifestyle options.

**College of Mount St. Joseph** – a coeducational, Catholic liberal arts college.

## **DePaul Cristo Rey High School** – a Catholic, college preparatory high school for young adults with economic need.

**Light of Hearts Villa** – an assisted living facility for senior adults.

**Seton Family Center** – a counseling center servicing children and adults.

**Seton High School** – a comprehensive, Catholic high school for girls.

**St. Joseph Home of Cincinnati** – a residential facility for children and adults with severe mental and multiple physical handicaps.

## Act Justly

By S. Judith Metz

t a recent meeting, CEOs of the Sisters of Charity sponsored ministries and members of the Corporation Board for Sponsored Ministries discussed a desire to identify a common theme from the Sisters of Charity Mission Statement on which these ministries could jointly focus in a purposeful way over an extended period of time. The theme chosen was "Act Justly." While recognizing that each sponsored ministry might highlight different aspects of this principle, they also agreed that all could benefit by articulating and sharing how it was being addressed in their workplace.

This principle, to *Act Justly*, is rooted in biblical, theological and philosophical teachings of the Church and is the cornerstone of Catholic Social Teaching. In recent times it has been articulated in Church documents, in social action and social service ministries of the Church, and in the Sisters of Charity Mission Statement. A belief in the sacredness or dignity of the human person is the bedrock upon which acting justly is based.

According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the major themes flowing from the belief in the dignity of each person are:

- responsibility to participate in community in all its forms, with an emphasis on the common good;
- recognition of the rights and responsibilities of each person in society;
- option for the poor and vulnerable;
- respect for the dignity of work and the rights of workers;
- acknowledgement that we are one human family. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers whatever our racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences;
- protection of people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all God's creation.

The joint focus of our sponsored ministries on acting justly will be elaborated upon in future issues of the CBSM *Mission* newsletter, and by the agendas of subsequent All-Boards retreats. In addition, each ministry will address how they are spotlighting justice when they submit their annual report to the Sisters of Charity. The hope is that this will assist all of us in living our faith and our connection with the Sisters of Charity more purposefully.







#### News 'N Notes



In January S. Sandy Howe traveled with a group from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, including current Seton students, alumnae and Spanish teacher Mary Beth Corey, to Tegucigalpa, Honduras. To learn more, visit our website by clicking here.

#### **Seton Students Exemplify the Mission**

In its spring 2013 issue, *Seton Magazine* highlighted eight students who exemplify the mission of the school in their daily lives. Several of these young women commented on how important the environment of Seton was to their own development. Erika LaRosa noted, "Seton really has a lot of things to help in faith formation." Phuong Phan commented, "I love being around people of faith." One student remarked on how her feeling of community grew as she became more active; another appreciated the opportunities to lead by faith at Seton. Participation of Seton students in service activities, both close to home and far afield, is a constant at the school. Recently students and faculty have taken trips to Honduras; Liberty, Ky.; and New Orleans, La.



Nick Longo was the featured speaker for the College of Mount St. Joseph's Discussion of Leadership series in March.

#### College Calls for Comprehensive Immigration Reform

The College of Mount St. Joseph recently joined a number of other religious organizations in supporting a Cincinnati City Council resolution calling on Congress to pass and enact

comprehensive immigration reform this year, supporting a plan with a pathway to citizenship. Earlier in the year, the College sponsored a "MSJ 26 Acts of Kindness" in response to the shootings in Newtown, Conn., while the Discussion of Leadership series hosted Nick Longo, who is recognized for his work in connecting leadership development with civic life. In addition to a public lecture, Longo met with high school teachers to discuss using curriculum to support student involvement.



*Mission* is the electronic newsletter of the Corporation Board of Sponsored Ministries of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati. To unsubscribe <u>click here</u>.



A group of Sisters of Charity attended the dedication of the College of Mount St. Joseph's Heritage Wall on March 19. S. Rita Hawk (front, left) and S. Nancy Bramlage (front, right), director of Mission and Ministry, led the ceremony to bless and dedicate the wall.



(From left) Mary Jean Waldbillig, Carl and S. Mary Patricia Wagner participated in the celebrations surrounding the feast day at St. Joseph Home.

## Celebrations of St. Joseph's Feast Day, March 19, 2013

Both St. Joseph Home and the College of Mount St. Joseph celebrated the feast day of their patron saint with special prayer and social gatherings.

At the College: After a prayer service in the chapel attended by faculty, staff, students and friends, the group adjourned to the nearby hall to celebrate the dedication of the new Heritage Wall that highlights how the College has lived out its mission through the nearly 100 years of its existence.

At St. Joseph Home: Sisters Roslyn Hafertepe and Maureen Heverin helped plan a Mass of celebration in the St. Joseph Home Chapel. A light lunch followed in Seton Hall along with tours of the Home's History Hall, which documents St. Joseph Home's founding in 1873 by S. Anthony O'Connell.