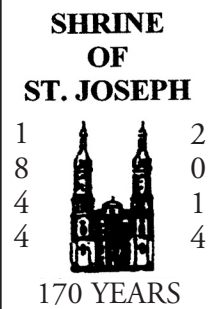




The Shrine of Saint Joseph's Friends, Inc.
1220 North 11th Street • St. Louis, MO 63106-4614

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The Shrine of Saint Joseph's Friends, Inc.

NEWSLETTER

1220 N. 11th Street • St. Louis, Missouri 63106-4614 • Rectory Telephone (314) 231-9407

SUMMER-FALL ISSUE 2014

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Check if appropriate:
 My name is misspelled.
 My address is incorrect.
 I received more than one copy.
 I no longer wish to receive the Newsletter.
 Please clip this address panel and mail it to us noting your request.

Religious Services

Sunday Mass--11 a.m.

First Friday of each month--
Mass at 12 Noon

Veneration of St. Peter Claver
or St. Padre Pio Relic after
Mass

Fr. Dale Wunderlich, rector,
and recipient of an Aquinas
Institute "Great Preacher"
award.

Supporting the Shrine with Your Membership



Doris Kannady

The restoration and on-going maintenance of the Shrine is accomplished strictly through private contributions. Annual membership dues is only \$10 (\$20 for husband and wife). All donations are tax deductible. If you are already a member, we **GRATEFULLY THANK YOU** and ask for your continued support. If you are not a member, please consider joining. **Your financial support is needed** to help in preserving this irreplaceable historic and religious landmark for future generations. If you have any questions, please contact Doris Kannady, your Membership Committee Chairperson, at (314) 231-9407.

Air & Steam Club

Members of the Air and Steam Club have, since the beginning, helped to cover utility costs. We need your continued support for the Shrine. Your donations last year contributed about 60% toward the Shrine's heating, air conditioning, gas, and water bills.

Thank you! Thank you! Please continue your level of support for the Shrine. If you are not currently participating, please join now. Your help is needed! Drawings are monthly for prizes totaling \$200. Tickets are \$12 each yearly with no limit to the number you may purchase.

Mail the form below along with your check made out to: "Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc." and mail to 1220 N. 11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63105-4614. If you need more information, please contact Donna Milligan or Dianne Raney who serve as co-chairpersons. Phone: (314) 231-9407.

Rectory Porch Work

Supporting timbers holding up the 3-story rectory porch were in various stages of deterioration. Workers from Rallo Co. removed these rotted timbers including a main vertical post as well as a number of ceiling joists and replaced with new treated wood.



Rotting support timbers replaced with treated wood.

This structure had not been substantially worked on since 1981. Our thanks to all of you who took part in the spring fund raiser, the proceeds of which was used toward accomplishing this much-needed work.

Memorable Shrine Events

On the week of July 14-18, the National Association of Pastoral Musicians held four Masses and two evening events. At the evening events, as the buses rolled in from downtown hotels, they delivered nearly 300 participants to the Shrine from all over the country. Words cannot describe what an uplifting experience to hear this many voices singing sometimes in 4-part harmony. With this remarkable sound along with the early evening visual beauty of our Shrine, it was heaven on earth.

On July 30, the Ancient Order of Hibernians held their national convention in St. Louis. The Shrine was the site of their opening Mass. Over 400 participants far and wide filled the church that evening for a joyous and inspiring Mass with traditional religious Irish music and Archbishop Robert Carlson as celebrant.

his computer knowledge, recently he has been instrumental in enhancing and maintaining the Shrine's website as well as developing its Facebook page.

He is the third generation in his family to volunteer at the Shrine. Before him came his grandmother, Rose Barranco, deceased, who was a part of the original group that began the thrift shop and then his mother, Geraldine Allen, also currently a thrift shop volunteer.

Allen is a native of St. Louis, graduating from DeSmet Jesuit in 1977, served in the US Navy, is a graduate of Maryville University and Fontbonne University. Jim is employed by SSM Health Care. His job offers him the benefits of telecommuting and he often works from the Shrine on Friday. Jim and Denise are very proud of their three adult children and three grandchildren.

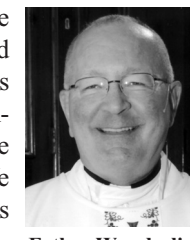
Jim's goals are to build on the legacy of the founding members of the Friends organization, ensuring that the Shrine is self-sufficient financially, but also to open the Shrine to more visitors and special events. Jim would like to encourage anyone interested in giving more of their treasure of time to the Shrine, to contact him directly.



Jim Allen

Father Dale Wunderlich in his 40th year of ordination

On August 3rd, Fr. Wunderlich, the Shrine's rector this past four years, celebrated his 40th year of ordination as a priest. From his thoughtful homilies to his warm and welcoming spirit, Father Dale has had a strong, positive impact on us and has endeared us to him. We are greatly appreciative of him--may God bless Father Wunderlich abundantly.



Father Wunderlich

Weddings - 2014

With the scaffolding occupying the front half of the center ceiling just a memory, we now have a stunning and newly repainted center ceiling area with refurbished richly-decorated ornamentations--the Shrine is truly eye-poppingly gorgeous. The 2014 wedding season began after the scaffolding was removed in mid-April. Jo Ann Geisz and Kathie Schmidt, our volunteer wedding coordinators, are reporting so far there are 65 weddings scheduled this year with weddings for 2015 swiftly coming in. Please call Jo Ann or Kathie at our wedding office (231-0869) on Tues or Thurs. for any inquiries you have about Shrine weddings--they can also arrange for a visit if you wish.

Octoberfest - Sunday Oct. 12

Let's all celebrate this magnificently-restored Shrine.
Please join us after 11 am Mass for food, fellowship, and music.

Please Remember the Shrine in your Will or Trust.

Application for Membership
Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc.
Dues are \$10 per person per year

Mr. _____
 Mrs. _____
 Ms. _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____
 Phone _____
 Check \$ _____ Check No. _____
 Date _____ Cash \$ _____

Make checks payable to:
Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc.
1220 N. 11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63106-4614

Visit our website: www.shrineofstjoseph.org

Air and Steam Club
Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc.
1220 N 11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63106-4614

1st prize \$100
 2nd prize \$50
 3rd prize \$50

3 winning tickets every month! \$12 per ticket

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____
 Phone _____

Memoirs from Sister Frances Eveler

the last living nun of the School Sisters of Notre Dame to have taught at St. Joseph's School

Among the nearly 600 worshippers at the commemoration Mass of the 150th anniversary of the Shrine miracle last March 16th was Sister Frances of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Sister Frances's first year of teaching at St. Joseph's was the school's last year of existence in the school year of 1949-1950. At age 84, she is the only remaining living nun who was part of its teaching staff. The school was located two blocks up from the church at 1425 11th Street. It opened in 1857 and developed a great reputation.



Sr. Frances in 1950 at age 20 in her 1st year of teaching as a postulant at St. Joseph's

With a high school education and only one year of college including a course or two in classroom management and the teaching of reading, Sister Frances came to St. Joseph's at the age of 19 and began her career. She was assigned the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades all together in one room. Since the school had dwindled to only 68 students, there were just two other Sisters remaining on the staff along with her.

"We would take the children up the two blocks to church every single morning. They came into church in straight lines, and my class always led the procession" said Sister Frances, adding that "in the winter we used the basement chapel (now the thrift shop) because it was warmer. There was an old pump organ down there which I played for Mass."

Sister re-called that every single Saturday morning on hands and knees she would scrub the front steps of their convent facing 11th Street. The children were responsible for cleaning the school rooms with buckets of water and rags. "The floors were made of rough wood and they would splinter if you weren't careful," she said, "and there was only one inside toilet."

Up the street was the Ellerbrock Bakery (their son, Ralph, was the Shrine's organist for 66 years, who died three years ago) "We would send a student with some change for a loaf of bread. And we would always get back additional free bakery items-the Ellerbrocks were so good to us," Sister commented.

Sister remembered that the church had a lot of chipping paint. It had a grimy appearance inside and very cold in the winter. "I still remember that beautiful Blessed Mother statue enclosed behind glass," she said. Father Corey was the pastor. She estimated there were still about 200 people attending the two Sunday morning Masses. She noted that there was a very small number of folks who called themselves "friends of St. Joseph's" headed up by Al Baldes that were trying to save the church from closing. At the end of the school year, the group would have a festival or homecoming that raised much needed revenue. "We, the Sisters, were in charge of praying for good weather. With some of the money received, Mr. Baldes and his small group began to go through our entire convent and re-paint every room for us. They also replaced some of the worn-out flooring," she said.

In the summer of 1950 after school was out for summer vacation, it was abruptly closed. We sisters were gone on retreat, she re-called, adding that "other Sisters were brought in to pack up the contents of the convent, and, in a short time, all was gone. It was done in a hush hush manner without any announcement. Not even Fr. Corey knew," said Sister. "I felt so sorry for the 'Friends group' who had worked so hard. There were a lot of hurt feelings. It happened so fast."

Sister Frances went on to receive her 1st vows in 1951 and her final vows in 1957. After her brief initial one-year teaching assignment at St. Joe's ended, she taught 25 more years in small schools in Missouri and Illinois. "Then I really wanted to travel." And travel she did- "I taught 11 more years in Sierra Leone in west Africa," she remarked.

Today, Sister Francis is retired from teaching--but not really retired. In the SSND Motherhouse in South St. Louis she does beautiful sewing of vestments, altar cloths, quilts and banners in the liturgical fabric arts department which is in a large area containing exquisite work in progress. She said, "recently we had an order for over 100 vestments which kept us busy for awhile."

At the motherhouse is a large photo on its walls of the old St. Joseph's School here on 11th Street because it was the SSND's very first teaching assignment in St. Louis. Their commitment at the parish school spread over 93 years from 1857 to 1950. In 2008, the SSND returned to its roots and held its 150th anniversary Mass here at the Shrine, which was a gala religious event. Through all these years, the many Notre Dame School Sisters who taught here were no doubt one of the key reasons St. Joseph's as a parish flourished to become one of the largest German immigrant parishes in America. As the school's great reputation became known, it quickly grew to over 1000 students. But, as the exodus of families out of this area gradually increased, it brought the superb era of St. Joseph's School to an end.



Today, Sr. Eveler is still very active at the SSND

We Thank You, Ralph



Ralph Kannady

A number of volunteers have dedicated many years of service to the Shrine. One of these--Ralph Kannady-- has stepped aside as Board's president after having served in that capacity for 11 years. However, having been president has been just one small segment of his service here.

It seems as though Ralph is always here--Tuesdays, Thursdays, First Fridays, funerals, Sundays. Like clockwork, he opens the church at exactly an hour before Mass. Many years ago Ralph and Doris, his wife, were part of a small group who helped with all weddings nearly every week-end before more volunteers came along. Kannady also has overseen and organized all of the Shrine's outdoor events.

Additionally, he and Doris took over running the Shrine's membership in 1999--which still occupies a considerable amount of their time on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In 1996, he was elected to the Board of Directors and became its secretary, a position he held until he was elected president in 2003.

Ralph said, "the 15 or so current volunteers who have dedicated 20+ years--there is no way we could have done all of this without them. But, sooner or later, we will need to get others into leadership positions." Ralph added, "Jim Allen, our new president, has great organizational and management skills and he comes out of our newer members on the Board."

Ralph himself has dedicated 26 years of time and energy to the Shrine. At age 87, he--plus the other long-time volunteers--have elevated the act of volunteering to a very high level and have made a lasting, herculean contribution. We thank you, Ralph!

Parquet Floor Restoration Receives High Praise

by Ted Wafford, Shrine's Architect

In the 1970's, frozen pipes caused flooding of the priest's sacristy which damaged the unique wood parquet floor in place from the 1860's. After that, it remained under carpet until the right craftsman and enough money came along. Recently, we had the funds and a superb wood-worker-Brian Perkins-who was willing to tackle both the known and the unknown problems encountered.

In the 19th century an ingenious system of parquet flooring was developed known as "wood carpet" that was used on this room; however, those who installed it are long gone and since the system is no longer produced, procedures for repair had to be reinvented by Perkins.

First, the various wood species had to be identified and the designs documented. The floor has red and white oak, walnut, maple, ash, mahogany, and fir. Intricately cut, 1/4 inch thick boards are assembled on canvas backing in tiles and borders that can be mixed and matched to create complex patterns. Brett Miller, of the National Flooring Institute was brought in for his expertise and was able to locate a 1904 Rogers flooring catalog still containing several of the patterns on the floor. Because we were solving many problems relating to this rare type of flooring, the national institute has followed this project closely with great interest.

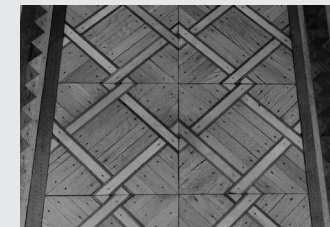
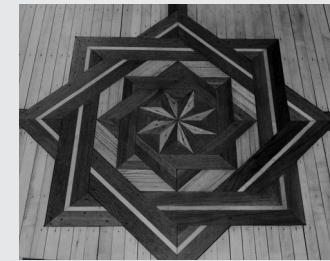
To recreate the elements that were deteriorated, Brian duplicated the method of adhering individual strips of hardwood to a 7 ounce canvas using "period" lumber from sources that specialize in vintage wood. These were assembled at Brian's shop and fabricated in an upside down orientation for absolute match when installed.

Another problem discovered was that the subfloor was as much a factor as the flooding from the 1970's was because these tongue and groove boards were not kiln dried when originally put down in the 1860's. This allowed shrinkage that in some cases opened the joints; thus, gaps in the floor patterns also opened up. All of these conditions had to be corrected.

After all repairs were completed, the entire floor was sanded so that the level of the replacement wood pieces were on the same level as the original existing wood. Then the new pieces were blended or darkened in order to match the original flooring pieces. This was a board-by-board chore required in order to make all replacement wood inconspicuous. The new wood pieces that replaced the wood that was too deteriorated was about 25% of the total floor. Final finishing involved catalyzed water based urethane and then 3 layers of low luster clear finish.

At the walls the border is made up of alternating walnut and oak strips. Then a walnut band separates the panels as the design progresses to the center. A walnut, ash, and mahogany strip frames the central design. Then 12 inch square tiles of walnut and oak create a latticed geometric pattern which surrounds a very impressive 8-pointed medallion in the center of the room.

The work has received accolades from the National Flooring Institute and we look forward to their visit to the Shrine in the near future to examine the superb workmanship.



Top Left: Center Medallion
Middle Left: 12" walnut & oak squares
Bottom Left: Brian showing Ralph Kannady & Conrad Phillip pieces made in his shop
Top Right: Entire completed floor
Bottom Right: Brian working on medallion

Annual Board of Directors Election Results

At the March 30th Board meeting, the following four incumbents were re-elected to another 3-year term:

Pauline Frost, the organization's treasurer since 1988, and fulfills many other duties as well; **Donna Milligan**, co-chair person of the air and steam club and a very long-time knowledgeable volunteer; **Joe Finazzo**, co-ordinates exterior maintenance, landscaping, and has been responsible for completing two much-needed projects in the Shrine; **Ralph Kannady**, (photo on p. 2) who will continue to



Pauline Frost



Donna Milligan



Joe Finazzo



Jim Fuller

work with his wife, Doris, on membership and other tasks. Ralph possesses a wealth of experience and knowledge which will be indispensable in assisting our new president.

Elected to the Board for the first time is **Jim Fuller**. A decorated and heroic Viet Nam veteran, Jim is the recipient of two purple hearts. He has been devoted to St. Joseph since childhood and has carried a St. Joseph prayer with him at all times. He believes it saved him from dying in Vietnam. Said Jim, "Back in 2004, I saw the Shrine video on EWTN and decided to come to the Shrine. The head usher welcomed me... I then came the next week and five more people knew my name, came up to me, and talked with me. From then on I felt like this was where I belonged." Since then, Jim has been a regular weekly usher and has helped out at all special events. And, for several years, Jim and Gene Wetzel teamed up to accomplish needed carpentry projects.