

Trinity Enjoying the New Location

After years of planning, many months of construction and multiple moves, Saint Joseph's Trinity Child Care Center is finally in its new home. The big move took place in early November. The thirty-one children, their families and the Trinity staff are all well settled in and ready to welcome more children who have been waiting for a place in the program.

Trinity is a Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Center, licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health to offer day time nursing services to the medically fragile children of working parents. In addition to nursing care, there are educational supports and the opportunity for prescribed therapy services. The program began five years ago in response to a community need. There was no similar service in Lackawanna County. Parents who wanted to work were unable to find a day care program that could accommodate their child's medical conditions.

In the years since Trinity opened the enrollment continued to increase. Families and medical professionals shared their positive impressions and soon it became obvious that the rental property would be unable to keep up with the need. The search began in earnest for a larger facility but everything takes time. Soon the program was at capacity with a wait list when renovations at a new site began. Construction delays and a subsidence at the original site forced the program to find two temporary homes but the

wait has ended. There is still plenty of organizing to do but everyone is happy in the new space.

These beautiful children are well monitored for their medical needs but this program also provides an opportunity for the social and emotional development children find in the company of one another. Those in attendance are grouped to maximize this side benefit. Friendships develop naturally and are fostered by staff interactions. Playtimes are incorporated seamlessly with personal care, therapy sessions, educational experiences

and medical monitoring. Mealtimes appear a bit wild but are carefully supervised. Nap times and cuddle times can be scheduled or impromptu depending on the child and the day. All plans are subject to change depending on the needs of the children.

The new facility has lovely rooms that are equipped for the specific children's group who will be occupying the space. There are areas for therapists to provide treatment and a conference room for meetings. There is also a large community room that can amply accommodate any group that likes running

or scooting or crawling and climbing. Everyone can also be together for special events. It will be ready for this year's visit from Santa.

The children, their families, the staff and everyone involved with Saint Joseph's is so grateful to all who helped make this dream a reality.



Michael, like all of his program mates, is happy with his favorite toys and very comfortable in the new surroundings.



Carl Jones Memorial Golf Tournament

In 1988, as a means of celebrating Saint Joseph's "Century of Loving Care", Carl Jones organized a benefit golf tournament. This tournament, now called the Carl Jones Memorial, has been carried on by his family and friends. The annual event, one of the area's premier golf events, just marked its thirtieth anniversary. Many of the 30 year participants were acknowledged at the dinner following a wonderful day of golf at the Glen Oak Country Club.



Carl's wife Libby and their daughter Eleanor who have also participated every year in carrying on this tradition are joined by Tracy Bannon and Jo Ann Verduce from Saint Joseph's.



Matthew Goes to NYC

Matthew, a longtime fan of Kelly Ripa, made a special trip to New York City to see the show "Live with Kelly and Ryan". Matthew had front row seats and almost popped out of his chair

with excitement when his favorite television personality came on to the stage. Matthew was accompanied by Ben Stegbauer, a member of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps who is serving as a Direct Support Professional at Saint Joseph's and Cathy Giumento, a Center Nurse, who took the picture of the guys on the set. After the show the trio took in the sights and sounds of New York. It was a wonderful day.

Every year, Saint Joseph's Center is the honored beneficiary of bequests made by friends of the Center. Each bequest, whether large or small, has an impact on Saint Joseph's well beyond the time the gift is made. For more information please visit the website at www.stjosephscenter.org or call 570-963-1260 to request a Planned Giving brochure.

Thank you and may God continue to bless you for your goodness to Saint Joseph's!

Young Families Celebrate Mother and Infant Anniversary

Although it seems like just yesterday, it was fifteen very busy years ago that Saint Joseph's welcomed five brand new families into the security and non-judgmental support of the Center's Mother and Infant Program. Designed for new mothers with their babies who were displaced and alone, this service includes shelter, counseling and a variety of parenting and life-skills classes. Absent the fear of homelessness, these young families have the opportunity to grow in strength and confidence.



At the anniversary celebration, more than a dozen families turned out to mark the milestone and reunite with the people who have been important to them.

In addition to the mandatory classes at the residence, mothers are also required to be employed or in school/job training and follow all house rules. In this safe and supervised home, babies receive the medical attention, the infant stimulation and the healthy routines that prepare them for a brighter future.

These first fifteen years of full occupancy and subsequent contact demonstrates the ongoing need and effectiveness of this type of transitional housing and professional support. The Mother and Infant Program continues to offer many little families both physical and emotional encouragement. This often proves to be the key for better choices down the road. Having trusted supporters even after moving out and beyond the program, has enabled these mothers and babies to feel rooted, valued and able to succeed.

Volume 40, No. 3 Fall 2019
A publication of Saint Joseph's Center
Scranton, Pennsylvania

Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, IHM
President/CEO

Patricia Tetreault
President/Board of Directors

Kathleen Norton
Director of Public Relations,
Editor

Meaghan Stevens
Marketing Coordinator, Photographer

www.stjosephscenter.org



Graced By the Lives We Touch

In the moments when we least expect it, a sound, a phrase or even a simple touch can be a reminder of someone who is or has been an integral part of our lives. As we allow it, we are warmed, treated to a smile, comforted or inspired. The people with whom we are sincerely engaged grace our hearts and our minds as we interact and again as we remember. Over the past several years every program at Saint Joseph's has been touched by the loss of loved ones and blessed by the arrival of wonderful new additions. Some have been people who receive services, staff who are caregivers and co-workers, long-time volunteers and supporters, family and friends, they have added a sense of fullness to individual lives and pages to Saint Joseph's rich history of interconnectedness.

The beauty of this mission is that the cycle carries on and those who are emotionally invested reap lasting rewards. Through the years surely the individual stories have changed and the struggles and triumphs continue to be unique, yet the outcome of this shared experience remains a timeless treasure. Givers and receivers, long term and short term, each have life experiences they are willing to relate. Having an interest, taking the time and approaching every person with an inquiring mind are all that it takes to find evidence of the power of the human spirit and God's hand in bringing people together. It is here that the blessings are exchanged.

The mission of Saint Joseph's Center is a welcoming stage that is always ready to invite others to join, those in need of help and those extending support. The strength of people who live joyfully with profound intellectual, physical and medical issues and others who willingly humble themselves in seeking assistance personally or for family members is inspirational. This courageous example invites the dignified response and sacrifice of those who are hoping to share kindness.

Fostering this relationship has enabled Saint Joseph's to continue to serve individuals and families who have a special need for over one hundred and thirty years. Thousands have been blessed by the hope and respect they have received and thousands more find peace in the prayers, the connections and the commitments they have offered. Everyone recognizing they have been gifted. May these relationships continue to flourish for years to come.

Catholic Women's Club Supports Mother and Infant Program



At a recent gathering, the Catholic Women's Club made a donation to Saint Joseph's Mother and Infant Program. Stephanie Nichols, Program Specialist for Maternity Services thanked the group and gave the members a better understanding of how this transitional living program provides a sense of security,

guidance, optimism and realistic planning for women who are hoping to create a happy and healthy family.

The \$2,400 donation was raised through various events conducted by the Club throughout the year. Taking part in the presentation were (from left) Catholic Women's Club members Karen Davis, Corresponding Secretary; Stefanie Sinkaus, President and Stephanie Nichols from Saint Joseph's Center.

Representative Bridget Kosierowski Serves as DSP for A Day



Saint Joseph's Adult Day Services recently welcomed State Representative, Bridget Kosierowski as a Direct Support Professional for a day. Members of the Pennsylvania Legislature have been invited to spend time in various agencies throughout the Commonwealth serving in the DSP role, in order to provide them firsthand knowledge of the breadth and critical nature of the position. There is a shortage

of people serving in these caregiving roles in Pennsylvania and across the country. Representative Kosierowski had the opportunity to interact with several of the women and men who are participants in the Center's program, to witness the level of care required and to discuss the rewards and challenges with Saint Joseph's DSPs and Administrators. Tim, who receives Adult Day Services at the Dunmore campus, showed off the lovely outdoor programming spaces to Representative Kosierowski and her District Director, Drew Popish.



Dear Friends of Saint Joseph's Center,

Likely, you are receiving the fall edition of our Concern newsletter as you are preparing your hearts and homes for Christmas. As I write, memories of Thanksgiving and its important message to be grateful for God's abundant blessings are fresh in my mind. As we transition from fall to winter, let us also be aware that we are also transitioning from the season of gratitude to the season of light, Advent, in anticipation of Christmas.

I'm confident that you always enjoy receiving Concern and catching up on some of the happenings occurring daily at Saint Joseph's Center. Please take time especially to read the feature entitled "Graced by the Lives We Touch." It truly captures in words the felt experience of Saint Joseph's Center. When you think of Saint Joseph's Center, you may think of buildings and programs, services and fundraisers. Chances are you also will recall someone. We are truly blessed by the interconnectedness of the relationships formed within and around Saint Joseph's Center.

No one can reflect this important gift as well as Kathy Norton, Saint Joseph's Center Director of Volunteers for more than 40 years also contributing writer and editor of Concern. For many of us, she has been our introduction to the people and mission which comprise the unique spirit that is Saint Joseph's Center. She embodies it so well. After these years of dedicated commitment, Kathy will retire in a few weeks. While we will all miss her very much, it has been a blessing to be graced by her presence as she witnesses to God's unconditional love for all.

Whether you call this unique Saint Joe's spirit, a grace, gift or blessing, if you have experienced it, you know that the potential is released when you share it. How often others are introduced to Saint Joseph's because a friend or family member encouraged them to apply for a job, inquire about services for a loved one, come along to a special event, take a tour, follow on Facebook, volunteer at the Summer Festival or watch the Telethon. Whatever way you became part of the ever-expanding Saint Joseph's Center family, we are grateful for you and strengthened by your care.

May the blessings of Christmas, the true gifts of peace, love, hope and joy, be abundant in your heart and home, within communities and spilling out to the whole world as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Know of our gratitude for your love and support and count on our prayers for you and your family.

Merry Christmas,

Sister Maryalice Jacquinet, IHM

Sister Maryalice Jacquinet, IHM
President/CEO



Address Service Requested

Saint Joseph's Center
2010 Adams Avenue
Scranton, PA 18509

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 231
Scranton, PA