

Spring 2003

Center for Catholic Education Newsletter, Spring 2003

University of Dayton

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Recommended Citation

University of Dayton, "Center for Catholic Education Newsletter, Spring 2003" (2003). *Center for Catholic Education Newsletters*. 4. http://ecommons.udayton.edu/cce_newsletters/4

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CENTER FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

VOL. 2 NO. 1

MAKING A DIFFERENCE:

Intervention Specialist

Lauren Sylvester is making a difference. Lauren, a 2002 graduate of the University of Dayton, is a Lalanne teacher and the first Intervention Specialist in the program which places teachers in urban Catholic schools for a two year commitment.

“This program has had such a positive impact on my life!” Lauren said. And Lauren is making a difference in the lives of her students and their parents.

“She has set the whole program up” said Matt Wolf, principal of Metro Catholic School in Cleveland where Lauren is serving. “Our mission is to educate and meet the needs of families and children in Cleveland.”



Front row L to R (Lauren Sylvester, Erin Wysocki, Megan MacDougal) Back row L to R (Dan Sheppard, Mark Yeuzell, Pete Hoying, Anne Furey)

By Lauren “being here we are able to accommodate students with developmental disabilities. Without this program, they might not have been

able to attend a Catholic school.” He cites the example of a fourth grade student who wasn’t able to read. “Because of Lauren’s work, he is now reading short sentences.”

In addition to her teaching duties, Lauren coached a fourth grade girl’s basketball team and this spring is assistant coach for the softball team. She lives in community with six other Lalanne teachers and shares meals and prayer with them on a weekly basis. This summer, Lauren will begin work on a masters degree in education at the University of Dayton. Of her experience so far, Lauren said “I feel so fulfilled—mentally, emotionally and spiritually—more so than I have ever felt in my life”. ✦

Intervention Counselor

The Urban Child Development Resource Center (UCDRC) started providing much needed services to Dayton Catholic, Holy Family, and Resurrection Elementary Schools during the fall of 2002. The Director of the UCDRC is Sandy Szczygiel and the Site-Supervisor of the UCDRC is Linda Russell.

Both Sandy and Linda are Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCC’s) and are endorsed to be Supervising Counselors. They both have numerous years of experience in the mental health/drug and alcohol treatment fields as direct providers and as supervisors.



Linda Russell at
Dayton Catholic in Dayton, OH.

Their passion is working with youth and their families. “It is a joy to prevent serious problems from developing rather than treating the problems after they are chronic, which has been the focus of most of my career. The students have enthusiastically embraced the skills I have taught them and are motivated to have a positive impact upon the future. Despite many obstacles in their way, they want to succeed,” reported Szczygiel.

Contact Sr. Angela Lydon at the Center for Catholic Education for more information about the program and how you can help intervene on behalf of students at risk in Catholic schools. ✦

-Reported by Sandy Szczygiel

EMPOWERING LIFE-LONG LEARNING

PASSING ON TRADITION & CATHOLIC IDENTITY *Mentoring in Parishes and Schools*

The Center for Catholic Education at the University of Dayton
with Creative Media for Learning
introduces 2 multimedia kits.

Kit 1- Passing on the Tradition: Why I Teach in a Catholic School

- WHO:** Catholic parishes and schools
WHAT: Calls all persons to ministry, service and discipleship
WHY: Inspires, informs, and educates through story and witness
WHEN: Days of reflection, parent groups, open houses

Materials

- * Prayer services
- * Videos
- * Manuals for presenters
- * Complete lesson plans
- * Evaluations
- * Activities that support the content

For more information CONTACT
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E-Mail: barbara.miller@notes.udayton.edu

Features

- * Easy to use
- * Integrates the elements of Catholic Identity into all activities
- * Provides background information for presenters thus enriching content
- * Tested in a variety of settings and audiences
- * Experiential, spiritual, and practical activities
- * Developed and used by educators

Kit 2- Passing on the Tradition: Mentoring in Catholic Schools

- WHO:** Catholic school administrators, principals and teachers
WHAT: Teaches how to mentor beginning and experienced teachers
WHY: Provides a holistic approach to mentoring by infusing and integrating the principles of Catholic identity
WHEN: Staff development, in-service programs, retreats



THROUGH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CELEBRATE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OF THE FUTURE



Dr. Mary C. McDonald

Enthusiasm was high; expectations soared as approximately 200 persons interested in Catholic education welcomed Dr. Mary C. McDonald, Secretary of Education and Superintendent of Schools in the Diocese of Memphis to the University of Dayton as the guest lecturer for the annual Joseph F. Rogus lecture on April 7, 2003.

Dr. McDonald did not disappoint the attendees. In her speech, entitled "Roll Back the Stone: Reclaiming the Heritage of Catholic

"Two weeks after the talk I am still hearing about it from people who were inspired."

-Bro. Ed Brink, S.M.



Educators from UD and Dayton Catholic Schools

"It was wonderful and encouraging to hear that, with clear vision and willing hearts, people can work together to bring about such positive change within the inner city Catholic schools."

--Barb Miller

Education," Dr. McDonald addressed the potentials for a new vision of Catholic education where *unity* and *diversity* are honored and *hope* is restored. Miracles do occur when Catholic schools refocus on ministry and Catholic Identity." The Diocese of Memphis is an example of such a miracle.

In the year 2000, the Diocese of Memphis reopened six urban schools thanks to an anonymous donation of several million dollars and the committed leadership of Bishop J. Terry Steib, SVD and Dr. Mary McDonald. Bishop Steib's dream of opening schools in areas of the city with the greatest need, not just in neighborhoods where parishes could support them, thus became a reality.

The reopening of the urban schools has changed the landscape of education in the diocese and has augmented its commitment to provide K-12 education to ALL students. In its diversity—religious, economic, ethnic, and social—the Catholic school system in Memphis recognizes not only who they are but also recognizes and incorporates who everyone is.

"Dr. McDonald clearly documented that Catholic education is not only important in urban contexts, but it also needs to be expanded. Young people in places like Dayton need to be spiritually and intellectually challenged. One certain way of assuring such a circumstance is to create new opportunities for Catholic education that ensure that even more young people's lives are touched."

-Dr. Thomas J. Lasley, II



Bishop Steib with students from Memphis Diocese Catholic schools

Through scholarship funds and the MOST Foundation, the Diocese of Memphis is responding to the call To Teach as Jesus Did with Equity and Justice for ALL of God's children, not just a select few. If a person desires a Catholic education for a child, the money is available through scholarship assistance. All one has to do is apply. Truly, this plan can serve as both an inspiration and model for other Catholic school systems.

Dr. Mary McDonalds says, "We are in a new era that is calling us to make a difference for the sake of the children. We are in a new era, one which challenges us to be the best we can be for the sake of the future." *

-Reported by Sister Angela Lydon



Debra Johnson's prayer at Rogus Lecture



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How you can help the **CENTER FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION**



- * Pray for the work of the Center for Catholic Education and Catholic schools.
- * Tell your friends and associates about the work of the Center for Catholic Education.
- * Contribute to our work financially through the Office of University Advancement, St. Mary's Hall Rm. 405, 300 College Park, Dayton, OH 45469-1667-(937) 229-2912
- * Contact us directly with your ideas-(937) 229-3778

How to contact the **CENTER FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION**
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