



# MOTHER SETON ACADEMY

A Holistic Approach to Catholic Middle School Education

*Special Edition: 2001-2002 Annual Report*

Summer, 2002

## A CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

*On Friday, May 31, 2002, 21 members of Mother Seton Academy's Class of 2002 participated in the graduation ceremony. These students, and all who attended, had the great pleasure of listening to commencement speaker Angie Patterson-Handy, their former seventh grade teacher. Ms. P-H, as the students know her, painted a vivid picture of a Mother Seton Academy education and captured the essence of the school's spirit and its mission. An excerpt of her speech follows.*

Good evening family and friends and most importantly, Mother Seton Academy's Class of 2002!...It is with great pride that I address our graduates and families tonight....

Tonight, as we are looking forward to high school and college careers, let's begin by looking fondly back at the many happy memories and challenges of a demanding and rewarding three years at Mother Seton Academy (MSA).

Among many of the enrichment activities provided by MSA faculty, staff, and volunteers over the past three years have been:

- Two overnight class retreats to Cape May
- A trip to the Shakespeare Theatre to see

Romeo and Juliet

- A Civil War unit trip to Gettysburg

-A trip to the Native American Museum

-A visit to the MD Science Center

-Two trips to the Baltimore Museum of Art and one to the Walters

-Trips to the Toby Theater to see Number the Stars and to hear Dr. Ben Carson speak

-A field trip to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC

-An important visit to the Islamic Center in Catonsville

-A trip to NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

-A trip to the Shrine in Emmitsburg

-A visit to the Public Works Museum and the Baltimore Water Filtration Plant

You have been involved in numerous service experiences, such as...

-Volunteering at My Brother's Keeper, The

Caroline Center, and Beans and Bread

-Helping out at three Santa's Workshops

-Volunteering at three Open Houses

-Collecting Thanksgiving food items and pennies for El Salvadoran earthquake victims

In addition, you have heard the following speakers in your classrooms:

-A Baltimore City police officer

-A Holocaust survivor

-The Johns Hopkins

School of Nursing

-Steve Bisciotti, part owner of the Ravens

-Adrienne Morse, who taught us etiquette and table manners

-Mrs. Duffy who taught us hygiene and gardening

-Mr. Keane, who talked about his missionary

work in El Salvador and showed us powerful pictures of the devastation wrought there not only by earthquakes but by famine and disease.



You have been mentored, tutored and inspired in your homework by Archbishop Curley, Mt. St. Joseph,

Maryvale, and Loyola College students....

Over the years....

-You have been in band or choir

-You have participated in three Christmas plays and concerts

-You have entertained us at three Academic Challenges and Spring concerts

-You have stayed up all night, talking, laughing, playing games, and watching made to order fireworks at three Lock-Ins.

Over the past three years, you have spent 4,207½ hours in our building, on our school bus, or in the play yard. If you are a regular breakfast eater, you have broken bread in our cafeteria 990 times. You have memorized every state in the union and every capital of every state. You know the names of every American President because Bro. Charles thought you needed to. If you studied with Miss Yeftich, you know the entire poem *The Raven* by Edgar Allen Poe by heart...If you studied the Holocaust and Native American history

(See Graduation p. 3)



Ms. P-H congratulates valedictorian Ryan Gatson



SR. MARY BADER, DC

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

*Often I hear the familiar quote which tells us that individuals come into our lives, and we are forever changed by their presence. At Mother Seton Academy, we experience the gift of others daily.*

*Surely our most recent graduates, the Class of 2002, have been forever changed by the countless special people they have encountered during their three years at our school. Meek and fearful sixth graders have been transformed into confident, well-educated students who are now bound for competitive high schools. Boys and girls have matured into fine young men and women who have realized their potential to foster good in our world. Self-esteem has been enhanced; talents have been recognized. The Mother Seton Academy community of staff members, volunteers, benefactors, and board members has left an imprint on our children that will continue to guide and mold them in the future.*

*The lives of all of us associated with Mother Seton Academy have been particularly touched by two of our long-time staff members, 8th grade teacher Bro. Charles Johnson, SM and Director of Development Shannon Clancy.*

*During his seven years as a teacher at our school, Bro. Charles has become something of a legend. Known for his dynamic lectures and hands on lessons, Bro. Charles has been called "the best teacher that I ever had" by dozens of students. Among a sea of female staff members, he has been and continues to be a father figure for our students, placing high expectations on them and challenging them to reach their potential. Our students' lives have been altered by Bro. Charles presence in our school. As he moves to St. Louis to assume a vocations director position with his Marianist order, he will be missed.*

*Likewise, for six years Shannon Clancy has given graciously and lovingly to our school as our development director. Her passion for the school's mission has strengthened our program, thus ensuring our financial viability. But our lives have been changed not merely because Shannon has proven to be successful in her position. We are changed because we have witnessed someone giving wholeheartedly to our school in that role. We are changed by Shannon's willingness to contribute to our school's mission in ways that never appear on the conventional development director job description. She's served as guest speaker, chaperone and driver, cleaner, plumber, painter, substitute teacher, and much more! We wish her well as she moves to Arizona to be closer to her family.*

*The love, passion, and commitment demonstrated by Bro. Charles and Shannon have forever changed us, and we are, indeed, better for it.*

## MOTHER SETON ACADEMY CELEBRATES OUR 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

*Please join us in a special program  
to begin our 10th year*

*Sunday, September 22, 2002*

*2-5pm*

*Program begins at 2pm in church hall.  
Reception to follow in school courtyard.*

All alumni, school families, former staff, benefactors,  
volunteers, and friends are invited.

*Please call 410-563-2833 if you plan to attend.*

## AWARDS SPOTLIGHT ACADEMY ACHIEVEMENTS

A major Baltimore educational institution and a national education organization have individually presented top annual awards to Mother Seton Academy.

**Loyola College** presented its *Milch Award for Excellence in Accomplishment* for the Academy's commitment to "helping Baltimore's most under served youth break the cycle of poverty through academic preparedness and for its devotion to upholding the highest ideals of Catholic education." Principal Sr. Mary Bader accepted the award on the school's behalf at the college's graduation ceremony in May.

The **National Catholic Education Association (NCEA)** chose **Sister Mary Bader** for its *Distinguished Principal Award*. Sister Mary was one of twelve principals in the country to receive the award. She received the award at a special banquet during the NCEA conference which was held in Atlantic City in April.

"Everyone who has contributed to Mother Seton Academy deserves to stand in the spotlight— from founders and families to teachers, staff, volunteers and benefactors," said Sister Mary. "With humility, we are grateful for the recognition. With conviction, we reflect daily on our continuing responsibilities to care for, support, and educate Baltimore's children."

The message of Loyola's Milch Award also gives deserving credit to Academy students: *Inspired to raise the level of expectations for themselves and others, Academy students thrive in this learning environment and have realized the determination, skills and confidence for success.*"



## THE CLASS OF 2002 GOES TO HIGH SCHOOL

Torreika Anderson  
Julie Benner  
Jeremy Campbell

*Our Lady of the Rosary  
Patterson  
Mount St. Joseph*

Chamere Carney  
Shane Claudio  
Anthony Cook  
Sierra Epps  
Tierra Epps  
Daniel Evans  
Scott Foster  
Ryan Gatson  
Keosha Gorham  
David Hamlet  
Alphonso Jones  
Brisselli Rojas  
Joshua Sawyer  
Tiffany Simms  
Brandon Snyder  
Lakita Thomas  
Faith Wiggins  
Robert Williams

*Western  
Mount St. Joseph  
Mount St. Joseph  
Carver  
Catholic High  
Mount St. Joseph  
Mount St. Joseph  
Loyola Blakefield  
St. Frances Academy  
Mount St. Joseph  
Mount St. Joseph  
Catholic High  
Chesapeake  
Seton Keough  
Calvert Hall  
Dunbar  
City College  
Mount St. Joseph*

## Congratulations We are proud of you!



## GRADUATION, 2002 (continued from pg. 1)

with Sr. Bernadette, you know more about both subjects than most college majors...

You have been stumped and challenged, frustrated and overjoyed. In short, my friends, you have been educated. But more important than all the facts you have learned, you have seen the important role you play in the community, you have felt your individuality and unique gifts appreciated and rewarded by people who really know you, and you have enjoyed the rewards of setting and reaching your goals... You know that you can make a difference, and that you are not alone.

So many important opportunities to experience life beyond this campus have been offered to our young men and women by dedicated faculty, staff and volunteers at MSA over the years. To quote a graduating eighth grader, "MSA has helped me to see the world beyond my neighborhood."...

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, who gave her life to the education of children, put our mission into words just as simple and beautiful as my student's. She said, "I would wish to prepare you for the world in which you will live." And that, my friends, is the endeavor we have been about for the past three years. You have been our partners in this challenging work, but we are not finished yet....

My students know among my many aphorisms is one we at MSA all believe firmly: NEVER DO THE MINIMUM. Be the sort of student who becomes a scholar. Ask questions, question the obvious, work five minutes more than you think you can stand to. Raise your hand in class. Come early. Stay late.... Work hard, and then work harder.

And always remember that "To whom much is given, much is expected." You have been blessed by your experience at MSA, and God surely had a hand in your coming. Good men and women know that they repay with their honest labor the gift of their lives and the opportunities with which God blesses them and which they earn. The labor of a student is scholarship. That is your job above any other for the next four years in high school and for the four years beyond that in college.

Labor and be humble in your learning. The greatest sin of all in this wonderful, painful, complex, frightening, beautiful world is boredom. Seek the challenge and you will find it...

We, the administration, faculty, staff, volunteers, and benefactors of Mother Seton Academy thank you families for the bounteous gift of your trust and your children. For three long, seemingly endless, but overwhelmingly happy, years we have pushed the Class of 2002 through the sieves of our collective educations, life experiences, and consciousness. We represent more than 300 years of teaching experience. We come from all over the state and the country. We are religious and lay people. We are married and single. We are young and not-so-young, and we all love our jobs and the opportunity we have every day to make a difference...

To both our beloved students and parents, with love and best wishes, we commend you to the challenges and responsibilities that lay beyond Ann and Aliceanna, Fells Point, Baltimore, Maryland, the U.S.A. and the world.

Be a sister and brother to your community. Remember the big picture and the Golden Rule. Measure twice and cut once. Trust in God, but tie your camel. And finally, remember, you'll always have a home on Ann Street.



Angie Patterson-Handy



Faith Wiggins '02 and brother Mahatma Jackson '97

## ALUMNI UPDATE

- **Tanesha Smith '99**, a senior at **Polytechnic** this fall, works on the school newspaper and is a cheerleader. In her spare time, she works at a movie theater.
- **Ricardo Johnson '99**, a senior at **Mount St. Joseph** this fall, has made such a splash that he has been chosen to participate in commercials for the school! Ricardo has set his sites on the legal profession as a future career.
- **Krystal Braun '97** completed her freshman year at the University of Portland. This fall, she will be studying abroad in London.
- **Serena Flood '98** graduated from the **Severn School** in May. She will be studying pre-med at **Howard University** in the fall.
- Congratulations to **Raynor Wiggins '98** on his recent graduation from **Calvert Hall**. Raynor will be attending **West Virginia University** in the fall along with his brother **Mahatma Jackson '97**.
- Thank you to **Tonet McDowell '00**, **Torreika Anderson '02**, **Brisselli Rojas '02**, and **CharShay Smith '01** who volunteered at the Academy this summer.
- **Kerby Harrod '98**, a recent **St. Frances Academy** graduate, plans to study criminal justice at **Morgan State University** this fall.
- **Amanda Mack '01** received an honor roll award for Excellence in Academics at **St. Frances Academy**. Congrats Amanda!
- Congratulations to **Eddie Hoyle '98**, a recent **Mount St. Joseph** grad, who will be attending **Mount Aloysius** in Pennsylvania where he hopes to major in criminology. He completed his Senior Project (50 hours of service) at Mother Seton Academy in May. Thank you Eddie!

## ACADEMY BEGINS NEW GRADUATE SUPPORT PROGRAM

With the help of grants from the **Cassin Educational Initiative Foundation** and the Baltimore Direct Services Grants Program of the **Annie E. Casey Foundation**, Mother Seton Academy has launched a new *Graduate Support Program*. The program will provide the additional support and services to Academy eighth graders and graduates as they advance into high school, college, and the work force.

**Nicole Yeftich**, a long-time Mother Seton Academy staff member, has accepted the new position as Graduate Support Coordinator at the school. "We are thrilled to have Ms. Yeftich to coordinate this new program at our school," said Sr. Mary Bader. "She has been an asset to Mother Seton Academy since she first stepped through our doors six years ago as a Notre Dame AmeriCorps member. She knows and loves all of our graduates and is the perfect person to provide them with the additional support that they need when they graduate from our school."

As Graduate Support Coordinator, Ms. Yeftich has begun to establish resources for students, graduates, and their families to help them succeed in high school and college as well as in the working world. This year, she will work with eighth grade students and their families to assist them with the high school application process, including the coordination of student visits to high schools and the completion of application forms. She is also in the process of developing a comprehensive program for Academy graduates, including monthly support meetings, tutoring as needed, help in identifying employment opportunities, and assistance with the college application process including general information, application and financial aid assistance, and SAT preparation.

Ms. Yeftich hopes to be able to provide the additional support, information, and assistance that will allow Academy eighth graders to make smooth transitions to high school and to enable graduates to remain connected to the school as well as to find the help, advice, and guidance that they need in order to enjoy life and to find success in whatever pathway they choose to embark.

*Please keep the family of Erica Vidal '96 in your prayers.  
Erica passed away in March. May she rest in peace.*



Eneyda '00 and Leonardo Pena '00 attend the graduation ceremony

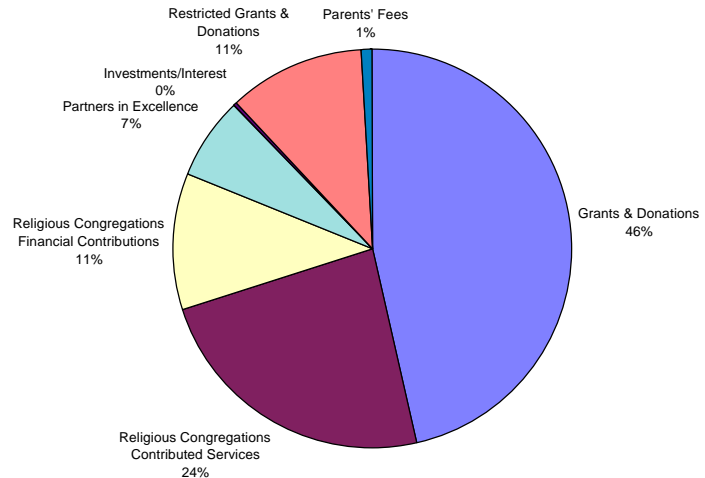
## ACADEMY SUPPORT

- Our thanks go to the **Allegis Group Foundation** for their gift of \$25,000 this year to support five scholarships at Mother Seton Academy.
- Thank you to **Louis Scotto** and the **Tullett & Tokyo Liberty Investment Corporation** for their generous gift of \$10,000 to support two scholarships in memory of Louis Scotto's father **Francis A. Scotto**, a man devoted to education.
- The **Marianist Sharing Fund** gave us a grant of \$6,310 to support our science and technology programs. Thank you!
- Our thanks to the **Thomas Wilson Sanitarium for Children of Baltimore City** for their operating grant of \$15,000.
- Thank you to the **Wiessner Foundation for Children** for their recent grant of \$2,000 to support our summer programs.
- Thank you to the **Our Lady of the Angels Parish** community at Charlestown which has provided high school scholarship support in the amount of \$2,000 per year for the past seven years. Our graduates are truly grateful for this support which has enabled them to continue their Catholic education.
- Our gratitude to the **H.V. Robertson Family Memorial Education Foundation** which pledged \$3,500 in college tuition assistance to each member of the Class of 2002 who enters college or a vocational program in Fall, 2006. We are thankful for this assistance to our graduates and this strong demonstration of faith in their abilities and potential.
- The **8th Annual Cardinal Cup 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Walk** was held on April 27, 2002. The event raised over \$10,000 for our school! Thank you to race sponsors: *Mudd, Harrison & Burch, the Murphy family, Orthopaedic Specialists of Maryland, the Stromberg family, T. Rowe Price, Union Memorial Sports Medicine, Graul's Market, Joan & Gary's Original Bagel Co., and FILA*. Special thanks to Race Co-Chairs **Ellie Murphy** and **Lisa Stromberg** and to the **Cathedral School** for their continued support throughout the year. We are truly grateful for the many ways that the Cathedral community continues to support our program.

## 2001-2002 FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

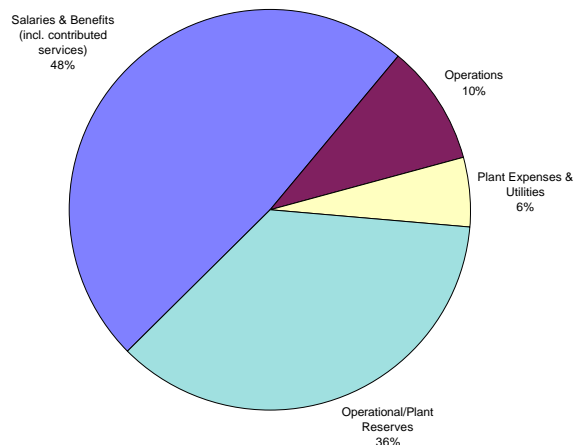
### REVENUE



TOTAL REVENUE

\$914,151

### EXPENDITURES



TOTAL EXPENDITURES

\$914,151

(unaudited figures)

## SPONSORING CONGREGATIONS

Daughters of Charity  
Marianist Society  
School Sisters of Notre Dame  
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia  
Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of  
Mary (Scranton)  
Xaverian Brothers

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## MSA WISH LIST

school supplies  
packaged snacks and juices  
postage stamps  
new library books  
art & office supplies  
Kleenex & napkins  
rolls of 35mm color print film  
printing & copying services  
bookstore gift certificates  
Home Depot gift certificates  
cleaning supplies  
white or colored copier paper  
arts & crafts kits  
dry erase markers  
volleyballs & basketballs  
Office Depot gift certificates  
upright vacuum  
batteries, AA or AAA

MOTHER SETON ACADEMY  
CELEBRATES  
10 YEARS!

*Please join us for a  
kick-off to our 10th year  
on Sunday, September 22nd.*

*Program begins at 2pm.*

*Reception to follow.*

Please RSVP to school at 410-563-2833.



MOTHER SETON ACADEMY  
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