



Meg Florentine, provincial assistant for secondary education for the New England Province, with keynote speaker, Fr. Timothy Kesicki, SJ, provincial of the Detroit Province.

Celebrating Jesuit Secondary Education

Under the banner, *For the Greater Glory of God*, over 300 faculty, staff, and administrators at New England Province Jesuit secondary schools gathered in October 2008 to share the successes, best practices, and challenges of their ministry at the daylong Secondary School Colloquium held at the Hogan Center, College of the Holy Cross. The fall event is held every two years.

The conference organizers, Brian Maher, BC High, Colleen Keltos, Fairfield Prep, and Bill Burke, Cheverus High School, chaired by Meg Florentine, provincial assistant for the New England Province of Jesuits, planned the day around opportunities for prayer, sharing best practices in pedagogy and spirituality and the use of technology.

The day began with an enthusiastic keynote address by Fr. Timothy P.

Kesicki, SJ, provincial of the Detroit Province. Fr. Kesicki reflected on the mission of Jesuit education in light of the recent 35th General Congregation. Drawing on his experiences of working with the Jesuit Refugee Service in Uganda and as president of St. Ignatius High School in Cleveland, Ohio, Fr. Kesicki noted the importance of prayerful reflection as the educators strive in these challenging times to educate young



Science teacher Mark Smith, Cheverus and Bret Stockdale, SJ, regent at Fairfield Prep.



Margaret Bohan and Collene Keltos, teachers at Fairfield Prep, presented the Tablet PC and its applications for both students and faculty.



BC High student Joe Gustin, and teachers Jen Sturges, Fairfield Prep, and Brian Maher, BC High, presented Communicating through Podcasting.



Mrs. Grace Baston, principal, Campion College, and Mrs. Margaret Campbell, principal, St. George's College, traveled from Jamaica.



Nativity School of Worcester Finds a New Home



BC High faculty celebrate their videoconferencing successes!



The Cheverus High School Faculty Schola provided music at the closing liturgy.

people of competence, commitment, and compassion.

In workshops, participants were able to experience Ignatian contemplation, discuss Catholic-Jewish relations, and learn more about immersion programs, Nativity model schools, adolescent development, and incorporating Jesuit ideals into athletics. Faculty demonstrated use of tablet PCs, podcasting and videoconferencing to enhance their students' learning.

Fr. Provincial Thomas J. Regan, SJ, closed the day with liturgy in St. Mary's chapel celebrating the feast of St. Francis Borgia and thanked the educators for their dedication and service to educating young men and women.



Matthew Brunell, Esq, president, Nativity School of Worcester, Fr. Michael McFarland, SJ, president, College of the Holy Cross, Charles "Chick" Weiss, Ph.D, board chair, Nativity School of Worcester, Fr. Thomas Regan, SJ, provincial, New England Province of Jesuits.

for each grade; there is a space for Nativity graduates to receive academic tutoring, summer job search assistance, and college application guidance. Of course, there's the cafeteria and science laboratory as well as faculty and administration offices.

The students' favorite spot is an impressive gymnasium, with a full-size basketball court, bleachers for spectators, and two locker room facilities. The bottom floor houses our library and computer center, as well as expansion space for possible future renovations. During his first visit to the new school, one sixth grader vocalized what all of us at Nativity School of Worcester have been thinking: "I love this place!"

Seventh grader Jonzel combines his excitement with a little more reflection: "It is big and the classrooms are better and very comfortable, and I love the gym because it is big and it has a lot of space." Pausing for a moment, Jonzel moves from reflection to affirmation and confidently expresses his overarching sentiment: "It feels like home."

Melissa Zangari is the director of advancement for Nativity School of Worcester, a tuition-free, Jesuit middle school for boys living in vulnerable neighborhoods of Worcester, Massachusetts. In a structured learning environment—including an 11-hour school day, individual attention and small classes—students develop the character, skills, and disciplines to become "men for others." Visit www.nativityworchester.org for more information.

After sharing space with the generous community of All Saints Church, Nativity School of Worcester has a home of its own. Students and faculty moved into the new facility at 67 Lincoln Street immediately after Christmas vacation.

It's hard not to share the excitement of our faculty, staff, and students. There are four main classrooms, a bright and spacious homeroom



Fr. Thomas Regan, SJ, with one of the students during the blessing of the classrooms.