

Annual Pierce Retreat Continues to Inspire

The life's work of Fr. Michael G. Pierce, SJ, who died in 1998, has continued even years after his death. Active in the Shadowbrook Drive in the 1950s to erect a new novitiate and juniorate building in Lenox, Massachusetts, Fr. Pierce organized a weekend retreat as a "thank you" for the men who participated in the fundraising effort.



Fr. Charles H. Allen, SJ, led the retreat.

In fact, during the first few years, the benefactors' retreat was held at the seminary itself with the young Jesuit scholastics serving as hosts and dining room waiters for the men.

Every year since then, for almost 50 years, a group has gathered each September to continue the tradition and it has come to be known as the **Fr. Michael G. Pierce, SJ Retreat**. Some participants have died and new ones have joined the group. On September 26–28, 2008, close to 40 men convened at Campion Center for this year's retreat, directed by Fr. Charles H. Allen, SJ, assistant to the president at Fairfield University.



Retreatants enjoying Fr. Regan's presentation.



Fr. Provincial Tom Regan, SJ, with Bill Collins.

At the request of these outstanding men, Fr. Thomas Regan, SJ, the provincial, gave the opening talk on Friday evening, September 26. He shared with them—in words and photos—his extraordinary experience as a delegate to last spring's General Congregation 35 in Rome.

The catalyst for this extraordinary group is Bill Collins, a 1950 graduate of College of the Holy Cross, and chairman of the Collins Electric Co. in Chicopee, Massachusetts. Bill has been involved in the Pierce Retreat from the beginning, and it is his generous and unflagging efforts that make the retreat so successful each year.

Bill Collins personally contacts his friends, relatives and business colleagues—and even his primary care physician!—and invites them to join this annual weekend retreat. Working with the staff of the province's Advancement Office, he provides new ideas, encouragement and generous financial support to make Fr. Pierce's work and memory a continuing reality year after year.

The annual retreat is held the last weekend in September. If there are men who would like to join us for a quiet weekend of prayer and reflection, please contact Fr. Charles Connolly, SJ, at 617-607-2897 or cconnolly@sjnen.org

Growing the Province Annual Fund

Thanks to the untiring efforts of our dedicated committee, this year's Annual Fund continues to grow, and with the close of the fiscal year on June 30, it will provide unprecedented support for the Jesuits and our works.

The Annual Fund is designed to include unrestricted gifts, which the provincial can use in the areas of greatest need. Some of it might be used to supplement a local community's budget; a portion could be allocated for Eastern Point Retreat House to subsidize its program of retreats and spiritual direction. Perhaps the elderly and infirm at Campion Center have some special needs this year, or one of the hospital or prison chaplains has a particular expense.

In these challenging economic times, the New England Province is indeed blessed with dedicated and generous benefactors! For the current

fiscal year of 2008–2009, we have 700 donors, an increase of 300 donors over last year. The dollar total is equally impressive: We have received \$170,000, which is an increase of over \$50,000 from last year at the same time.

One reason for our success could be the work of this year's Annual Fund Committee, chaired by John McNeice. Each of the committee members made a number of phone calls on behalf of the Jesuits. After making his calls, Ed Casey commented, "There is a huge amount of love, admiration and respect out there for the Jesuits."

Between now and the end of the fiscal year on June 30, we will be in touch by mail once again, asking you to consider a gift to help the Jesuits and their works through this year's Annual Fund.

As Pope Benedict XVI told us: "The Church needs you . . . to reach

the geographical and spiritual places where others . . . find it difficult to reach." It is only with your help that we can do that, and we are very grateful for your support, both material and spiritual.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairs

John and Margarete McNeice

Helen Boucher

Ed Casey

Tom Corra

Dan Flynn

Dick Horan

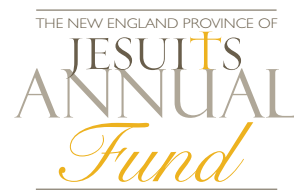
Al Lagan

Jack MacKinnon

Jim Mahoney

Gil Sullivan

Anne Marie Tippet



Your Generous Support of the New England Province Impacts Four Crucial Areas of Our Work:



"S.J." after his name. Pictured are Provincial Fr. Tom Regan, SJ, with Kevin Spinale, SJ, during first vows.

The formation of Jesuits. Our training is no less than a 10-year process. These educational and spiritual stages that have been in place since the time of St. Ignatius mold men into the type of priests and brothers that individuals come to expect of anyone who has an



Jesuit Collaborative, which oversees spiritual ministries. Pictured is Fr. James Mattaliano, SJ, the director of Campion Renewal and Retreat Center.

The ability to launch and grow new initiatives designed to foster Ignatian spirituality and make it more accessible to working people: programs such as our Leadership and Ignatian Conversations for business executives, the Jesuit Connection for young adults, and the



The support of apostolic works allows Jesuits to minister more freely in educational institutions, parishes, hospitals, prisons, the military, and on the missions—whether in Jamaica, Jordan, or here in the states. Pictured are Fr. Si Smith, SJ, with students at Nativity School of Worcester.



The care of over one hundred of our elderly Jesuits, who have heroically "borne the heat of the day." Many of these men are the reason that you see the world as you do. Their years of teaching and service are examples to us all of lives well lived. Because of you, these "men for others" will be fittingly cared for in their final years. Pictured is Fr. George Winchester, SJ, hospital chaplain, who ministers to the sick.

Discerning Your Gift of Gratitude

As a friend of the province, you have already helped advance the Jesuit mission. You have supported a distinct way of being and acting in the world, a spirit captured in the Latin, *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*, "For the Greater Glory of God."

Joining The Arrupe Society is a way of deepening your partnership with the Jesuits. It is a way to continue further along the path of becoming "men and women for others," a deeply spiritual path marked out for centuries by the Society of Jesus.

You will be supporting the New England Jesuits and their lay collaborators, who are:

- educators in middle schools, high schools, colleges, universities and seminaries;
- chaplains in prisons, hospitals, nursing homes, refugee camps and the military;
- retreat masters and spiritual directors, helping to share the blessings of Ignatian spirituality in parishes, on college campuses, and in many other ministerial settings;
- mentors of those called to ordained Jesuit ministry through years of rigorous training and formation;
- caregivers who tend to the needs of elderly and infirm Jesuits.

THE NEW ENGLAND PROVINCE OF
JESUITS
PLANNED
Giving



Sean O'Neil with Nativity teacher and students at the Jesuit GALA.

*"You have given everything to me.
To you, O Lord, I return it."*

Ways to give

Some of the ways you may consider supporting us include:

- **Bequests/Wills.** Donors can honor and thank those Jesuits who have made a difference in their lives by remembering the province in their wills.
- **Charitable Gift Annuities.** A charitable gift annuity provides the donor with a dependable income for life, while also earmarking a future gift for the Jesuits.
- **Insurance.** Donors can designate the New England Province as a beneficiary of life insurance policies, IRAs and other assets.
- **Charitable Remainder Trusts.** A trust can be established to ensure the donor's financial security while providing for the future needs of the province.



For more information visit: www.sjnen.org/PlannedGiving

Generosity of Spirit

Darald and Juliet Libby share their love and life together in New Hampshire. They exude spirit, energy, warmth, optimism and a zest for all that is good. They have been longtime friends and benefactors of the New England Province with a firm belief in all that is Ignatian.

In March, Juliet celebrated her 90th birthday with our Provincial, Fr. Thomas Regan, SJ, and Fr. William Russell, SJ, joining her and the Libby family and friends.

Darald first met the Jesuits as a student at BC Law School. Years later he was introduced to Fr. Michael Pierce, SJ, by his boss David Clark, CEO of the David Clark Co., manufacturer of astronauts' space suits. Darald explained, "Fr. Pierce was beloved by many and he and David Clark were great friends." The story goes that David Clark, a pilot, made an offer to Fr. Pierce that he would teach him to fly if Fr. Pierce would teach him to be a Catholic. David Clark became a Catholic, but Fr. Pierce never quite received his pilot's wings!

The Libbys' love for the Jesuits was crystallized in the naming of an endowed chair at BC Law School in memory of Fr. Pierce. They have also helped the Jesuit GALA with



Fr. William Russell, SJ, with Juliet and Darald Libby.

surprise gifts to help the province surpass its goal. Juliet expressed her excitement, "We love to watch an effort succeed. We are blessed to be able to help the province move to a new level."

The Jesuits give thanks each day for Darald and Juliet Libby and their generosity of spirit!



All Souls Remembrance

One of the favorite mailings of the Jesuits' Advancement Office is the annual All Souls Remembrance sent each October. During November, when the Church remembers in a special way those who have died, we invite our friends to send us the names of their deceased family members and friends, and each day we Jesuits bring them to the Lord in the various house chapels throughout the New England Province.

In November 2008 we were delighted to receive over 1,500 responses to the All Souls Remembrance mailing, and many of our friends included gifts, which totaled over \$25,000. Thank you very much!