



Scholarship Fund Appeal 2009 - 2010



Dear Alumni and Friends of St. Jerome:

Do you value the outstanding academic education you received at St. Jerome (or another Catholic

school)? Has the education you received given you a jumpstart to your life whereby you have become a person of integrity because of the spiritual and social instructions you received in your formative years? Perhaps, you have memories of the Ursuline Sisters or Christian Brothers? Do you remember your first communion or confirmation in our beloved St. Jerome Church?

On June 12, 2009, 36 children began their journey to remembering the education, the spiritual and social instructions, and the sacraments they received here at St. Jerome. In the not so distant future, these new alumni will remember sitting in the pews of our beloved church participating in their commencement exercises; the very same pews many of you sat in for this very same event. Each will remember the joy reaping the benefits from a tradition that has lasted for over a century. Ninety-eight percent of these graduates will attend the same high schools you attended – Cathedral, Mt. St. Ursula, Cardinal Hayes, All Hallows, etc.

St. Jerome has ended a very successful year and enrollment projections for September continue to be strong. However the difference between tuition and the actual cost of educating a child continues to be our challenge. Tuition in September 2009 for one child is \$2,800 against the actual cost of \$4,866.

The economic downturn and uncertainty are felt most acutely in the St. Jerome environment and specifically by our parents. Corporate and individual philanthropy is uncertain, and tuition becomes an even greater burden in the face of a declining job market. Nevertheless, our school family – teachers, staff, parishioners, parents, alumni and friends – are committed to establishing scholarship assistance that will help attract and keep some of the South Bronx best and brightest.

Your generous response to our scholarship appeal in past years has made it possible for many to receive the gift of a St. Jerome education. If you can find it in your heart to give for the first time or give again, the many blessings that will return to you by the prayers of our children will be insurmountable. A \$2,000 donation would provide a partial scholarship for a needy student – that's \$200 per month. Though, no gift is too small to help our students. Thank you in advance for all you do for our children.

Sincerely,

Rocco A. Martz
Principal

New Addition to Our Parish Father Jorge Randle, IVE



Father Jorge M. Randle ^{IVE} is a priest from the order of the Institute of the Incarnate Word. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1978, he was ordained to the priesthood in August 2003. After his ordination, Father Randle, was assigned to perform his priestly ministry in the United States. Since his arrival he has been the Associate Pastor of St George Church in Bridgeport, CT; Assistant Chaplain of Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT; Catholic Chaplain of the University of Bridgeport; Associate Pastor of Our Lady of Peace in Santa Clara, CA and now Associate Pastor of Saint Jerome Church.

As head of St. Jerome Church's Youth Group, Father Randle's goal is to energize parish youth in their faith through social activities, scripture reflection, discussion topics, church related activities, service and outreach in our South Bronx community.

The entire St. Jerome community looks forward to working with Father Randle as he joins our family.

St. Jerome... COME AND SEE

222 Alexander Avenue Bronx, NY 10454-3800 Tel: (718) 292-4920 Fax: (718) 292-3111 Website: www.stjeromebronx.org

Summer 2009

2008 -2009 Fund Appeal Supporters

Dear Friends of St. Jerome:

Thank you for your recent gift to St. Jerome School's Annual Fund and Scholarship Program. We have been blessed over the past years for the strong support from alumnus and friends like you.

The Annual Fund was established over ten years ago, and quickly became the cornerstone of our development efforts for advancement at St. Jerome School. Each year, gifts to the Annual Fund help to supplement operating costs and provide extra needs to students in the form of scholarships.

Again, thank you for supporting our children.

Sincerely,



Rocco A. Martz

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Wyckoff Reformed Church/
Activities Unlimited

**Advisory Board Member*

Question? Contact Cynthia Davis at
(718) 292-4920 ext. 124 or cdavis@
stjeromebronx.org

News in Our School...

The American Museum of Natural History

Visits St. Jerome

In the Structures and Culture Moveable Museum students in grades 3, 4 and 5 were able to explore the traditional homes of three nomadic cultures, including the Gabra of Kenya, the Mongols of Mongolia, and the Blackfeet of Montana. After an in class prep session and museum tour, our students learned about the world of a cultural anthropologists and what architecture and everyday objects reveal about *these cultures*.



Grade 5 Students exploring

The Endowment for Inner-City Education Literacy Program – Year 2

For a second year, St. Jerome School was awarded a Literacy Grant from The Endowment for Inner-City Education. Judy Brodsky, our Literacy Consultant, facilitated writing workshops Grades 1- 8. Students in Grades 5 – 8 developed writer's notebooks where stories from their lives were shared, while students in Grades 1-4 created poems.

Student Authors

In May 2009 Grades 5 – 8 donated their homemade books to children in the Coburwas orphanage in Uganda. It is common in parties of Africa for a child to never own a book of their own or even use one in class. These children will receive truthful, colorful stories about the lives of our children at St. Jerome.

Poetry Celebration

Grades 1 – 4 have been reading and analyzing numerous poems since September, with the culminating activity being



Grade 1 students show off their books.



Grade 3 students waiting to read their poetry.

the first Poetry Celebration. Each student wrote their own poems modeled after published pieces, creating their own Poetry books, and read their favorite poem to their fellow classmates.

Patron's Program Salt Attic - Folktale Playwriting

Our children participated in the Patrons Program's Attic Salt Theater Program. Students focused on oral tradition, literary genre, elements of storytelling, sequencing of events, and creative writing. At the end of the course, students performed their own folktales in play form.



Grade 5 students with theater arts instructor, Ms. Kelly

Drama Program

The Drama Program is dedicated to teaching an in-depth, multi-layered approach to the study of theater and its collaborative nature. Through acting, technical theater, and education as audience members, students learn to communicate and expand their imagination, creativity, thoughts, and emotions. In classes and mini productions, students discover self-discipline, self-motivation, self-esteem, and social interaction. The Drama Program combines these elements to form a curriculum that allows our students to explore and experience the theatrical world, instilling a lifelong love of theater. Each Spring our students perform an extensive drama production—past productions include Grease, Hair Spray, and Little Shop of Horrors. This year's production, hosted on May 29 and May 31, was The Wiz with South Bronx flair.

St. Jerome Church Youth Festival

From Friday, May 22nd, until Sunday, May 24th, over 70 priests and religious gathered at the IVE Retreat Center in Upstate New York with over 200 youth to celebrate the annual IVE Youth Day.

The Church had the honor of participating with fifteen of the youth of our parish. It was a great opportunity to reflect on the theme, taken from St. Paul's first letter to Timothy, "We have our hope set on the living God." His Eminence Theodore Cardinal McCarrick gave the closing talk, and presided at the closing Mass.



WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN

Name:	Class of:
Address:	
City/State/Zip	
Telephone (Day)	
Telephone (Wireless)	
Email Address	

Recognition Wall Engraving

Line 1:
Line 2:

Area of Giving:

- Annual Fund Appeal
- Scholarship Fund
- Matching Gift
- Corporate Foundation

Contribution Level:

- \$25,000+ (Leader: Name a Classroom)
- \$15,000+ (Benefactor: Name a Program)
- \$10,000+ (Founder: Recognition Wall 1st Tier)
- \$5,000+ (Sponsor: Recognition Wall 2nd Tier)
- \$1,000+ (Champion: Recognition Wall 3rd Tier)
- \$500+ (Guardian: Recognition Wall 4th Tier)
- \$100+ (Friend: Recognition Book)
- Other: \$ _____
- I pledge \$ _____. The balance of \$ _____ will be paid in equal amounts of \$ _____ for a one year period

Mail your contribution to: St. Jerome School; 222 Alexander Avenue; Bronx, NY 10454-3800.
All Gifts are Tax Deductible. Questions? Email: info@stjeromebronx.org or call: 718.292-4920 ext. 124



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Bronx, NY 10454-3800