

# Charity Alive



## Joyful Witness

# Gathered Together



## ASSEMBLY 2018

Sisters and Associates gathered in Halifax, NS for our annual Assembly (August 23 – 26) while others joined the Assembly virtually from across the Congregation. Donna Fyffe and Carol Zinn, SSJ through content and process led us to engage with one another to claim the gift we have in our call, and the charism of Charity we have to bring to our world.

In referencing Thomas Friedman, a NY Times columnist, Sister Carol spoke of our call, this Life, as lived within the context of seismic changes: globalization, technological advances, environmental challenges, and forced migration—all of these happening at the same time. Her question and ours is: how do we step deliberately into this moment?



On Saturday, Donna incorporated some of Carol's points into her own presentation and led us through a process of claiming how we, as Sisters of Charity and Associates, in this moment of time, wish to move into the future.

Through reflection and sharing, we explored ways to engage and ultimately chose the direction for the immediate future. We prayerfully educate ourselves on the current issues: globalization, technology, climate change, and forced migration leading to the heart of action.

*We are gathering  
for our next  
Assembly in*

Bedford, MA  
August 22 - 25, 2019



## **GOLDEN JUBILEE**

Left to right: Sisters Judith Park, Maureen Beale, Cathy Stare, Miriam MacKenzie, Mary Burns, Mary Beth Moore and Margaret Mary Fitzpatrick are seen here celebrating their Golden Jubilee at Caritas Residence in Halifax, NS this past summer.

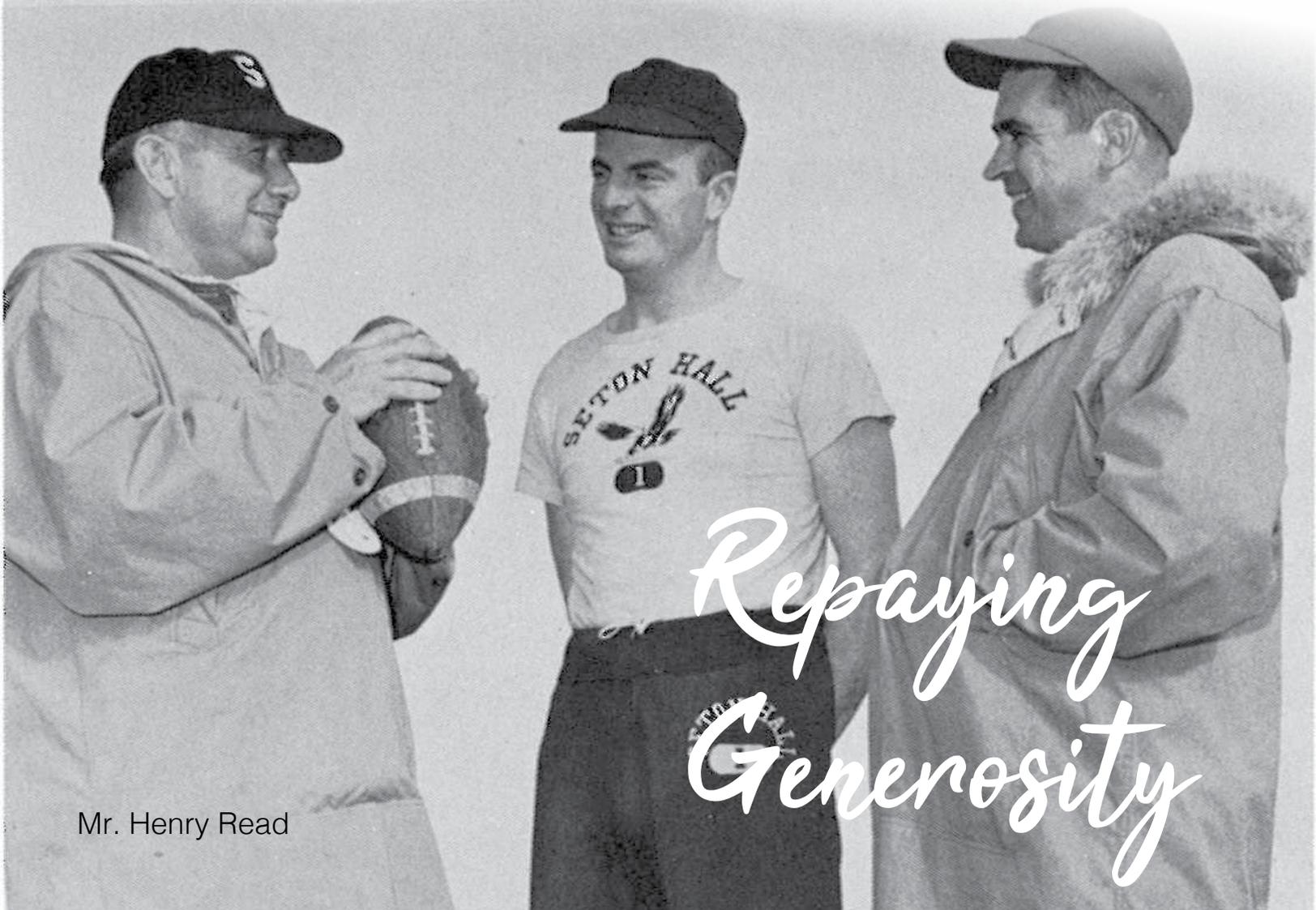


# Adventure Seeker

## **SISTER KATHLEEN CARVEN**

This summer, I laced up my hiking shoes and explored the scenic trails and natural wonders of the Southern Blue Ridge Mountains in the United States with a group of adventure seekers and naturalist Jack Loveless who revealed the diversity of wildflowers, trees and mountain life.

We hiked 4-8 miles a day along the Appalachian Trail through the Nantahala National Forest and to heights up to 5200 feet to the summit of Standing Indian Mountain and wind swept grassy Siler Bald at 5215 feet. We took advantage of exquisite views to learn about the area. We spent our evenings immersed in Appalachian tales, folklore, music of Lee Knight and outdoor museums of the Cherokee. Our accommodations for this moderately challenging Road Scholar Program were at the Hinton Center, Lake Junaluska, NC. The sharing of skills, motivation and experience of our intrepid trekkers also contributed to this stellar trip.



Mr. Henry Read

# Repaying Generosity

## PROFILES IN GIVING: PETER READ

*My Dad was employed at Seton Hall High School in Patchogue, NY as head coach and Athletic Director from 1937 - 1974 (all the years that the school was open). I was born in 1943 and I can tell you I feel part of my DNA shows a connection to Seton Hall, and by extension, the Sisters of Charity.*

*We were a family of 11 children who all attended tuition free. I have a certificate issued by the Sisters in 1943 to certify that I would be welcome to attend, when ready, tuition free. It's a wonderful keepsake. Before I was even a student I made*

*the school year book several times: including twice as “the Baby Jesus” in the Christmas play and at around 3 years old as mascot for the football team. I have wonderful memories of the Sisters from those early years.*

*It’s been my pleasure to give back to the Sisters, beginning in 2001 when my Dad passed. John Walsh & Jim Haverty, both fellow graduates of Seton Hall High School, informed me about an annual golf event they organized to help fund the retirement needs of the Sisters.*

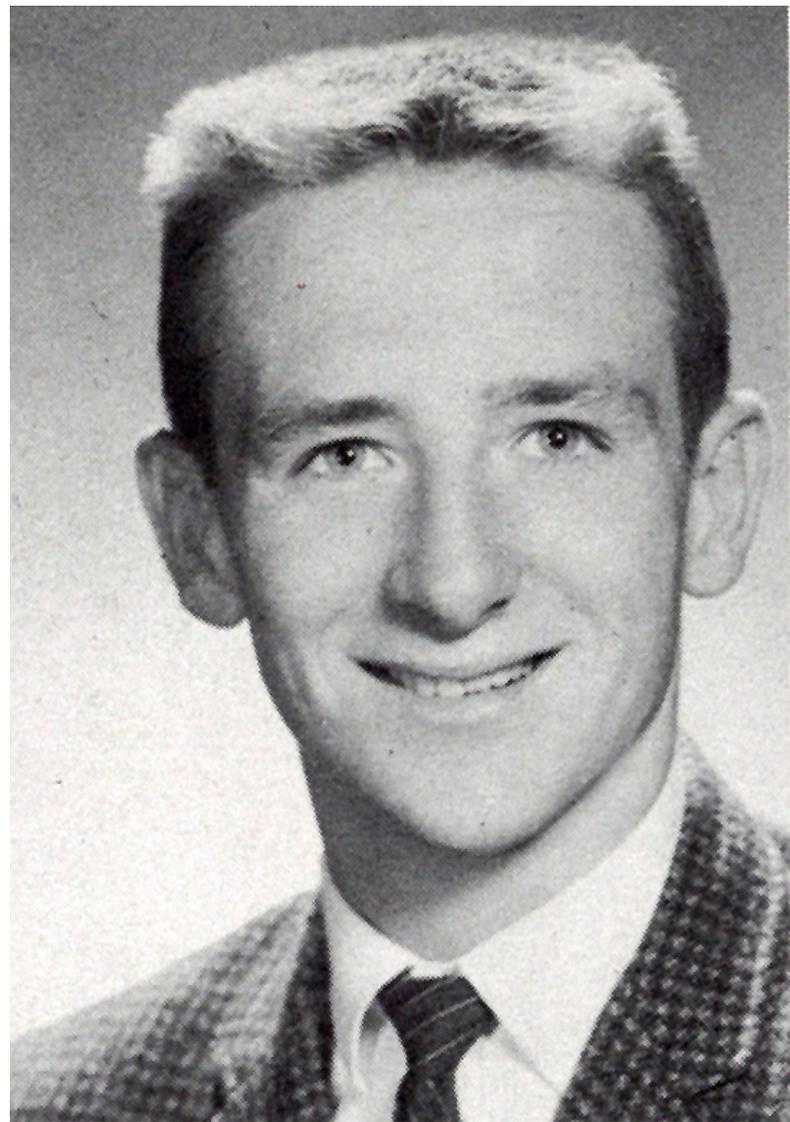
*I started by supporting the golf outings and in turn got other classmates involved, including George Booth & John Kenny. George and John went on to arrange fundraising events at the Union League in NYC. I made it my goal to even the tuition cost for 11 kids; 44 years of tuition-free education, raised in memory of my Dad and the Sisters who were so wonderful to him and his family.*

*This goal was met, but the real worth can never be. I hope to continue until such time as the need no longer exists, in*

*thanks as well to the Sisters of Charity for all they continue to do.*

*Sincerely,  
Peter & Carole Read*

To make a donation or to join our mailing list, visit [schalifax.ca/donate](http://schalifax.ca/donate), or call Carrie Flemming, Donor Relations Coordinator at 1-844-406-8114.



Peter Read, Seton Hall (1961)



## UNITED NATIONS

On September 25, 2018 the world marked 3 years since the 193 countries of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, more commonly referred to as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are comprised of 17 goals and 169 targets seeking to remedy the social, economic and environmental ills of the world with the ultimate goal of wiping out poverty, fighting inequality and tackling climate change.

As we find ourselves living in an increasingly polarized social context, a world of “us vs. them,” widening gaps between the wealthy and those in poverty, and many political leaders calling for isolationist policies, it can be hard to remember there are many people working to make these Goals a reality. Moreover, we need to remind ourselves that though the language of the 2030 Agenda may be secular, the concepts surely aren’t foreign to us as people of faith.

The most often quoted principle of the 2030 Agenda at the UN is “Leave No One Behind.” When each issue is discussed, the most vulnerable populations – e.g. women, children, indigenous people, those with disabilities – are mentioned with an urging to ensure they are included in the conversation and in policy planning to guarantee they are not left behind. The 2030 Agenda pledges to “endeavor to reach the furthest behind first.” We don’t need to look far into the tenets of Catholic Social Teaching before we are reminded to have a “preferential option for the poor and vulnerable.” A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring and the church is called to put the needs of those individuals first.

The SDGs are ours to own and hold. They are a useful tool not only to measure how well our leaders are doing in truly caring for the people within our nations and around the world, but they are an excellent guide for each one of us to measure how we invest our energies in working to transform the lives of all human beings, especially the poorest and most vulnerable by providing dignity, equality and a healthy environment to fulfill their potential; protect the planet from degradation; and to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies.



Melissa Gibilaro, our Coordinator of Justice, Peace and Care of Our Common Home, with several NGO Liaisons and members of the [Sisters of Charity Federation](#) attended the Commission for Social Development at the UN with our UN NGO Representative S. Teresa Kotturan, SCN.

Left to right: Marion Sheridan, CSM, Faith Colligan, DC, Melissa Gibilaro, Carol D’Angelo, SCNY, Diane Curtis, and Teresa Kotturan, SCN.

# Justice Weekly

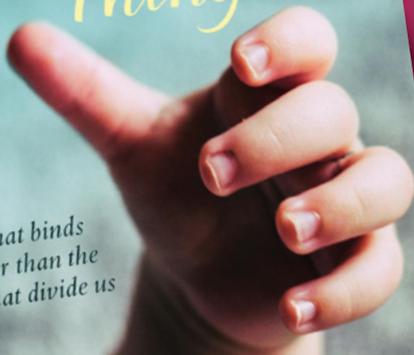
Hear from Melissa by joining our [Justice weekly email list](#).

JODI  
PICOULT

From the bestselling author of *The Storyteller*

*Small Great  
Things*

The love that binds  
us is stronger than the  
differences that divide us



*Sister Roberta  
recommends*

In her typical style of character development per chapter, Jodi Picoult presents the issue of racism. The reader is exposed to this in racism's uglier form as well as a subtler kind.

The commentary in the NY Times says, "With richly layered characters and a gripping moral dilemma that will lead readers to question everything they know about privilege, power, and race, *Small Great Things* is the stunning new page-turner from Jodi Picoult".

## QUOGUE PICNIC

Sisters in the New York area gathered in September for a picnic at Quogue. It was a beautiful day for a picnic!





# Welcoming

Sister Alice Mailman and members of Mother Teresa Parish in Halifax welcomed newcomers from Syria by way of Lebanon. The parish has waited two years for this dream to come true. The father of the family has a sister and brother who arrived here two years ago. It is a great reunion for all three families.



## SISTER KERRY IN BELIZE

Sister Kerry Rowland is in Belize where she will minister at a school. Stay tuned for updates from Sister Kerry and her Belize experience.



**1962**

*Cookout at Academy of the Assumption pond.*

December marks 125 years since the first pupils were admitted to Academy of the Assumption in Wellesley Hills, MA. For nearly 80 years, Academy of the Assumption, along with St. Joseph's Academy for boys, and Elizabeth Seton High School, provided top notch education to students from the USA, Argentina, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Peru, and Venezuela.

Do you recognize anyone in this photo? If so, send a note to our archivist, Mary Flynn, at [mflynn@schalifax.ca](mailto:mflynn@schalifax.ca) or call 902-406-8136.



# Joyful Witness

## **CELEBRATING PERU**

Sister Cecilia Hudec visited with Señora Teresa Martinez while in Peru for the 50th anniversary celebration in October. Señora Teresa remembers the arrival of the first missionary team. [Click here for more Peru 50!](#)

## **CHARITY ALIVE FUND**

Our Charity Alive Fund promotes our mission, which is to give joyful witness to love, stand on the side of the poor, and address unjust structures in a world wounded by violence and stripped of hope.

Does your project qualify? [Apply](#) by April 5, 2019

Charity Alive witnesses to the life and mission of the Sisters of Charity - Halifax, which is to make the love of God visible in today's world.

Please submit articles and photos to:  
Melissa Falle, Communications Specialist  
[communications@schalifax.ca](mailto:communications@schalifax.ca)  
215 Seton Road Halifax, NS B3M 0C9

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