



Spiritual Care Notes: September 2018

It is the practice in September to recognize our volunteers at Maristhill and acknowledge how they help us fulfill our mission.

Our Maristhill mission statement is: “We are a Catholic health ministry, providing healing and care for the whole person, in service to our communities.”

In the Spiritual Care Department we are blessed with over 25 volunteers who give of their time and talents, special attention to our residents and patients. Volunteers serve as pastoral visitors, Eucharistic Ministers, lectors and also transport residents and patients to and from our daily Mass. These 25 volunteers include six Marist Missionary Sisters that are currently on Mission here in Waltham and have traveled from 6 different countries. We are praying that their USA Visas will be extended for one more year!

We all have a mission. We are all called to be holy. We all have elements of goodness. If you do not consider yourself to be religious, you still can acknowledge that you have certain “gifts” that you have been given that can be shared with others. When we give to others of the gifts that we have received, we often feel that we receive back more than we have given. We can even experience moments of joy when actively giving. In Pope Francis Apostolic Exhortation from March of 2018 titled “On the Call to Holiness in Today’s World” the Pope quotes from Xavier Zubiri “life does not have a mission but is a mission”.

How do you live your life?

Do you think that volunteering might be part of your mission, or your call to holiness or goodness? We can always use an extra set of healing hands and compassionate hearts in meeting our mission as a Catholic Juridic person to care for the whole person. We are all part of one community on this earth, all brothers and sisters. We care about all of the family members and friends that make visits here to their loved ones. If you are a visitor or family member here at Maristhill, think how volunteering can bring joy to others and joy to your life.

We can think of Jesus, Buddha, Moses or Mohammad when we go out on our mission of using our healing presence to bring comfort or others. As Pope Francis says in The Call to Holiness #131 “We are weak, yet we hold a treasure that can enlarge us and make those who receive it better and happier. Boldness and ... courage are an essential part of mission.”

Thank you to all of our volunteers who are bold in living their mission! I look forward to reporting back on our soon-to-be-scheduled volunteer appreciation dinner!

Peace, Light and Love,

Janet Hutchison

Director of Mission and Spiritual Care