Dear Friend,

The past year has been one we will never forget. The world has literally been turned upside down by the COVID-19 pandemic. Right before the country went into quarantine, I was with many of you in Florida. In light of the warnings, the St. John’s University alumni banded together, and we did our part to stay safe during our gatherings. Now looking back, I cherish those happy memories. When I returned to New York, our daily way of life was very different, forcing us to make significant adjustments on nearly every level.

During these stressful times, St. John’s has remained true to its mission of making a difference for those in need. In my E-News I have been sharing countless stories about our alumni who stepped up to the plate to help the first responders, the homeless, blood drives, and the like. You should be very proud of your alma mater.

The president and senior administrators were faced with making unprecedented decisions. News 4 NY aired a story entitled Return to Campus which I think you’ll enjoy. As an alumna, I was proud to see alma mater taking the required precautions to keep our students safe and the student body taking the situation seriously.

This college semester is not what we expected, and the support from our alumni has never been more critical than it is today.

As you may know, the University is celebrating its 150th Anniversary during the 2020-2021 academic year. It will be a time to reflect on how St. John’s has not only survived but flourished for a century and a half, growing from a small farmhouse in Brooklyn with a handful of students to one of the world’s most respected academic institutions. It will also be a time to reassure ourselves that the unprecedented achievements of our past will be matched – or exceeded – by the unlimited potential of our future. It is our unique mission that keeps us strong, and it is you, our beloved alumni and friends, who support this mission and allow it to continue for future generations.

Better times surely lie ahead, and I look forward to sharing them with you as we have done so happily in the past. We will continue offering our Power Hours every Tuesday afternoon. The McCallen Globetrotters next excursion to Paris is postponed until October 2021 and our Society events will remain virtual until further notice. But there is indeed light at the end of the tunnel, a light shone by St. Vincent de Paul as he beckons us to remain strong for ourselves, for those we love, and for those among us whose needs are great.

All of us in the Office of Gift Planning are incredibly grateful for all that you have done, and continue to do, for the University. On behalf of the students whose lives you have directly impacted, I thank you for your unwavering support. Your St. John’s family is praying for the safety and health of you and your loved ones. With the love and support from family, we will persevere. May God bless each of you, and the University that we all so dearly love.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Damiani ‘87CBA

THE MCCALLEN SOCIETY

is a community of generous alumni, benefactors, and friends who demonstrate their commitment to the values of St. Vincent de Paul by including St. John’s University in their estate plans. It was named in honor of Rev. Thomas J. McCallen, C.M., whose vision helped St. John’s relocate to Queens, NY in 1955.

The Society’s planned gifts fund scholarships, programs, and initiatives as well as University enhancements and facility upgrades needed to ensure student success. For members, the benefits are academic, cultural, and social. Members are invited to an exclusive annual luncheon hosted by The Vincentian Fathers. In addition, the members are invited to exciting off-campus events.
There are 24 individuals on the Board of Trustees, Board of Governors and in the Founders Society who are McCallen Society members.

In 2019-20, The McCallen Society contributed $4,678,958 to St. John’s University.

There are 740 McCallen Society Members.

In 2019-20, The McCallen Society contributed $4,678,958 to St. John’s University.

WHERE WE ARE

TOP 4 STATES MCCALENS RESIDE IN

- NEW YORK: 273
- FLORIDA: 81
- NEW JERSEY: 47
- CALIFORNIA: 26

WHO WE ARE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDERGRADUATE</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRADUATE (NOT LAW)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER (NON-ALUMNI)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVERALL</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>740</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Designations for gifts by percentage
(Data reflects 2019-20 fiscal year)

- University’s Most Needed Priorities: 49.67%
- Endowed/Expendable Scholarships: 41.74%
- Athletics: 4.51%
- Programs/Initiatives: 4.08%

---

**WAYS TO GIVE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Gift</th>
<th>How to Make Gift</th>
<th>Benefit to You</th>
<th>Benefit to St. John’s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bequests</td>
<td>• Name us in your will or living trust</td>
<td>• Donations exempt from federal estate tax</td>
<td>• Request will be held in perpetuity or can be put to immediate use and invested to fund the University’s needs as designated by the donor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Simply make one of the following donations:</td>
<td>• Income tax deduction</td>
<td>• Perpetual income or immediate impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Cash</td>
<td>• No capital gains tax on appreciated gifts</td>
<td>• Interest impact used by the University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Stocks/securities</td>
<td>• Removes property from estate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Real estate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Insurance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outright Gifts</td>
<td>• Establish a charitable gift annuity contract with us that pays a set amount for life</td>
<td>• Current and future savings on income taxes</td>
<td>• Upon the death of the donor or last surviving annuitant, the remaining assets provide income for the University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Create a charitable trust that pays fixed or variable income to us for a specific term of years; principal is retained for heirs</td>
<td>• Fixed payments for life for one or two individuals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable Annuities</td>
<td>• Create a trust that pays income annually; principal is retained for charitable organization</td>
<td>• Reduces your taxable estate</td>
<td>• Income for duration of trusts helps the University meet educational and social needs that exceed its current capabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Name us as the beneficiary of the remainder of the assets after your lifetime</td>
<td>• Immediate income tax charitable deduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement Plan/IRA</td>
<td>• Make a large gift with little cost to yourself</td>
<td>• Allows you to make the gift from the most highly taxed assets, leaving better assets for family</td>
<td>• Significant gift upon death of donor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Policy</td>
<td>• Current income tax deduction</td>
<td>• Possible future deductions through gifts to pay policy premium</td>
<td>• The University receives full face value of policy upon death of donor, or may receive current surrender value prior to donor’s death</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wendell Cruz, Esq. ‘91SVC proudly refers to himself as “...a member of a dying breed – a native New Yorker.” So it was not surprising that when it came time to make a decision about where to attend college, St. John’s University was at the top of his list.

“St. John’s being in New York City definitely played a big role for me,” he recalled. “I knew that New York City had so much to offer, and going to college there would open up so many doors for me. I had been in Catholic education for my entire life, and the fact that it was an affordable Catholic university was also an important factor. Plus, my brother was a student at St. John’s at the time, and had only good things to say about it.”

Following graduation, Wendell earned his J.D. from Seton Hall University Law School, and began a rewarding career as a public interest attorney, initially representing children and young people in Family Court before switching to defending adults as a criminal defense attorney. After twenty years as public defender Wendell left behind direct client representation to pursue an opportunity with the Center for Family Representation (CFR), an organization dedicated to providing families in crisis with free legal assistance and social work support in Family Court. CFR was looking for someone to help develop a criminal defense practice and the opportunity to develop that from the ground up was too unique for him to pass up.

Wendell joined CFR in 2016 and during that time he has helped develop a practice which provides representation for clients with concurrent cases in both Family and Criminal Court. “I’ve been at CFR for four years, and have recently become one of the directors of the organization,” he said. “I’ve had the opportunity to help the organization grow. It has a unique, interdisciplinary holistic model, and it’s been very rewarding to see how our team approach offers so many benefits to people who really need them.”

Wendell acknowledges that he is living the Vincentian mission of making a difference for those in need in his personal and professional life. “The Vincentian mission is a big part of who I am, and St. John’s definitely helped to develop that in me. I try to reflect that mission in my everyday life as I interact with others.”

This loyal alumnus remains steadfast in his love for alma mater. A lifelong fan of St. John’s athletics, he is a member of the Red-White Club and attends every men’s home basketball game, and occasionally travels to some road games with fellow St. John’s supporters and alumni. He also supports the University as a member of The Loughlin Society and The McCallen Society.

“Giving back is such an integral part of who we are,” he acknowledged. “We really develop an appreciation of that at St. John’s, and that’s something that definitely resonates within me. Any opportunity that I can have to give back to the University, especially with respect to the future, is something that I really cherish. The message that we give to our students and our alumni – and to the world – is incredibly special, and I’m happy that I can be a part of supporting that message.”
Fatima Tanzin Bhuyan ’25P has her sights set on the future

St. John’s University students are unique in so many wonderful ways. Although they come from a variety of individual backgrounds, cultures and life experiences, their diversity is matched by an overwhelming commitment to using their time at St. John’s to make the world a better place.

Fatima Tanzin Bhuyan ’25P is a shining example. A lifelong Queens resident who lives within walking distance of the University’s campus, Fatima comes from a family with a prominent role in health sciences. Her father works at a private pharmaceutical company on Long Island, one of her sisters earned a degree in Biochemistry, and the other in Education. Her brothers-in-law are both doctors.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, her first year in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences ended somewhat untraditionally, moving from on-campus to virtual learning. “Despite the terrible conditions that caused this decision, I was excited to partake in remote learning,” she said. It didn’t take long, however, for this dedicated and energetic young woman to experience a strong desire to return to campus, both for her in-person classes and her duties as a student worker in the Office of Gift Planning.

Once things return to normal, Fatima plans to become involved in a number of professional organizations, particularly the Rho Chi pharmacy fraternity.

“I discovered Rho Chi during my Pharmacy Organization Day and was instantly intrigued. Speaking with the members and panelists gave me a sense of how dedicated they are to their profession and how eager they are to help other students. I believe being a part of this fraternity will offer several professional networking opportunities and help me gain more experience through the years as I learn and take advice from the seniors.”

Reflecting her commitment to the highest academic standards, Fatima was invited to join The National Society of Leadership and Success, which will provide her with access to professional leadership training and networking opportunities and events.

Despite the stress caused by the pandemic across the world, Fatima is heartened by how St. John’s has risen to the occasion by manifesting the strength of its Vincentian values of making a difference for those in need.

“I am surprised at how resilient and unified we are as a community and how we find optimism in every situation,” she said. “It has been especially comforting to see how St. John’s has done a COVID-19 related relief aid for students and donated PPE to hospitals. All the good that happens simultaneously with the bad gives me hope that no matter how bad things get, they will get better, even if it does not feel like that at the moment.”
The McCallen Society serves to recognize and thank those who include St. John’s in their estate plans.

**STAFF**

Susan M. Damiani ’87CBA
Director of Gift Planning
and The McCallen Society

Shu Zhen Bernardin ’07CPS, ’10G
Associate Director of Gift Planning

Nicole M. Ziegler ’20TCB
MBA Candidate, Class of 2021

David A. Targett ’20TCB
MBA Candidate, Class of 2021

Jason P. Wright
St. John’s College, Class of 2023

Fatima T. Bhuyan
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Class of 2025

Steven Verdile ’18C
Designer