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Little Flower's Residential Treatment Center Students Celebrate Graduation





Students from Little Flower Union Free School District, which our RTC residents attend on campus, celebrated high school graduation on a beautiful spring day in Wading River. We are so proud of our hard-working graduates!

YOU'RE INVITED

TO LITTLE FLOWER'S

27TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC!

Please join us for a day of golf, camaraderie, delicious food and drinks, and making a meaningful impact.

Cold Spring Country Club
22 E. Gate Dr., Huntington, NY 11743
Monday, September 30, 2024
9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

New Venue!

[Click to register](#)

The advertisement features a background image of a golf course with a green fairway, a sand trap, and trees under a blue sky with white clouds. The Little Flower logo is in the top right corner.

Secure your foursome today for our [27th Annual Golf Classic!](#) Sponsorships are open as well. Join us for a day of games, delicious meals, and golf, or just come for dinner.



Plus Ça Change, Plus C'est la Même Chose: Corinne Hammons Delivers 10th State of the Agency Address

President and CEO Corinne Hammons gathered with 127 Little Flower employees over Zoom for her 10th State of the Agency Address. She opened with a heartwarming anecdote about her daughter's graduation cap, which was decorated with the phrase "the more things change, the more things stay the same" en français. Indeed, Little Flower has seen many big changes and will continue to evolve with the implementation of the new three-year strategic plan.

Over the next three years, the organization will focus on the expansion of mental health programs, programs at St. John's, and support for the staff. Little Flower will seek to build a thriving campus in Wading River as we search for ways to expand our service offerings. Corinne also renewed her commitment to holding an annual in-person staff appreciation event. This beloved Little Flower tradition needed to be put on hold during the Covid pandemic but resumed last year.

After fielding questions from staff, Corinne closed by stressing that we are intentionally changing some of our methods of service but not our mission, which has remained constant for nearly 100 years. She said, "The state of the agency is embracing change for Little Flower, each other as staff, and those we serve."

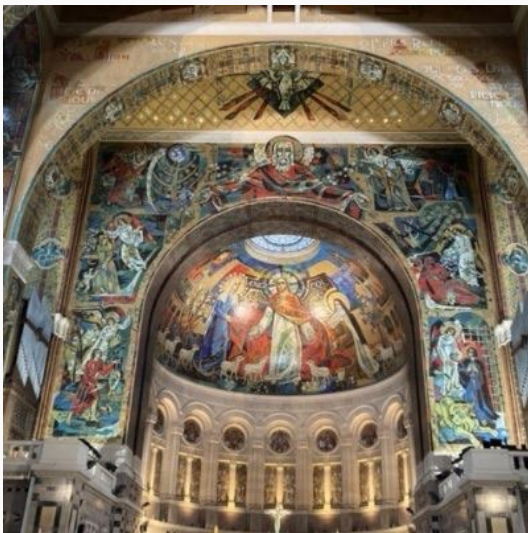
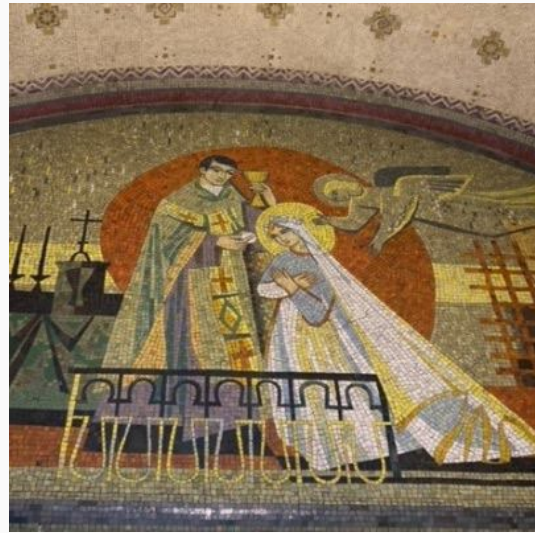
St. John's Earns New Contracts and Opens Two New Locations

Little Flower's affiliate, St. John's Residence for Boys, is expanding! After being awarded three new contracts, St. John's will open two new locations. The new St. John's locations in Staten Island and Brooklyn will join the Rockaway Park location in providing care to youth and will be introducing two new programs. The Brooklyn location will offer Limited

Secure Placement (LSP) for youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

The new contracts are also introducing Male Transitional Residential Care (TRC) to St. John's program offerings for youth transitioning into adulthood and into the community. This new program model will connect youth to community resources and help them get skills to live independently. The goal of this program is to help transition age St. John's youth find apartments, jobs, and individual success.

Little Flower's Jessie Rothkuo Visits the Basilica of Saint Thérèse



Little Flower's SVP of Strategy and Growth, Jessie Rothkuo, had an unexpected and meaningful experience while visiting France for a meditation retreat. A mix-up with train

ticket times left her in the city of Lisieux with a few hours to kill, and she realized she was near the Basilica of Saint Thérèse. A walk up the hill (suitcase in tow) led her to a beautiful cathedral with statues and reliquaries honoring the saint from whom Little Flower takes its name.

Saint Thérèse was a Carmelite nun born in 1873 who died of tuberculosis at the age of just 24, but who left behind a lasting legacy of spiritual teachings in her book of essays. Her doctrine is based on trust, surrender, and a pursuit of holiness in ordinary life.

The history of our organization's name goes back to our founder Father Bernard Quinn's days as a chaplain on the battlefields of the first World War. In the midst of chaos and destruction, he found solace in the writing of Saint Thérèse. When he founded a home for Black children orphaned by the Great Depression in 1929, Father Quinn took his inspiration from a vision of Saint Thérèse calling him to do this work. He named the organization after the saint who was colloquially known as "The Little Flower."

Jessie's unplanned visit to the Basilica of Saint Thérèse felt meant to be. She said, "If my ticket hadn't been for the wrong time, I might never have made this inspiring side trip. It felt a little magical."



St John's Residents Celebrate Graduation and St. John's Day

On June 21st, St. John's Residence for Boys celebrated the graduation of two middle school and one high school students. The community came together to honor their achievement, including award-winning actor, producer and St. John's alum Eden Marryshow. After the graduation, the community gathered in the courtyard, where a DJ spun classics and youth played games. A barbecue truck, a virtual reality game truck, and ice cream truck and food prepared by the St. John's faculty were enjoyed by all, with the whole day ending in a thrilling water balloon fight.



Grassi Gives Back to Little Flower

Volunteers from Grassi, a national advising and tax firm, came to our Wading River campus and helped with a beautification project. They planted hydrangeas and hostas in our garden beds outside of the Little Flower Café. They also assisted in creating game packs for our 27th Golf Classic by assembling raffle tickets, survival kits and materials for our chuck-a-duck game. We are so grateful for Grassi's care and support!

St. John's Youth Go to New York Mets Game

On July 11th, the youth at St. John's had a ball watching the Mets game against the Washington Nationals. Thank you, New York Mets, for having us at Citi Field!



Historic Photo Corner



We love this stunning color photo of the campus back in the 60s! The buildings may be familiar but those cars are surely from another era.



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