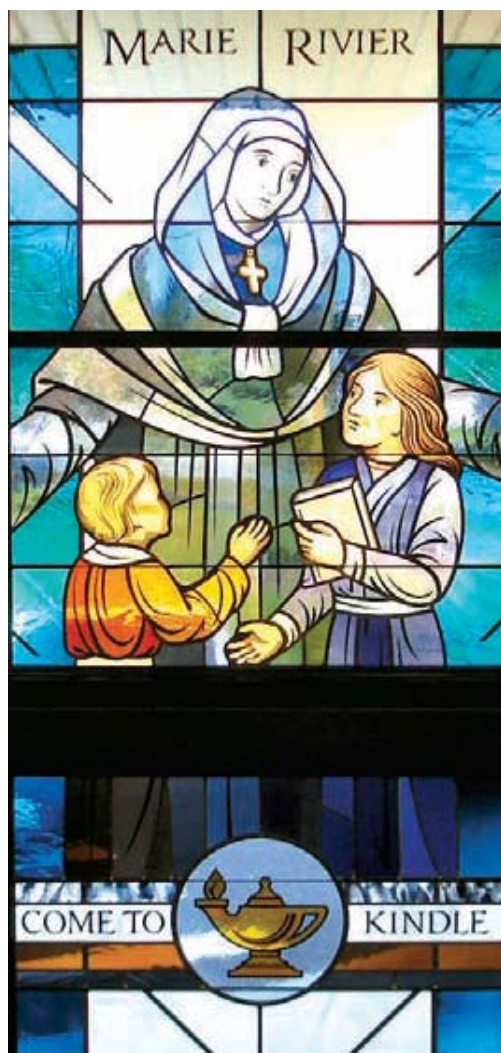


MISSION IN FOCUS

(From: *Rivier Today*, Spring 2011)



Throughout the academic year, Rivier faculty and staff have opportunities to revisit how the College's mission influences and intersects with their daily work. In the fall semester Vice President for Student Development Lynn Jansky asked Director of Campus Ministry Mary Jane Silvia to conduct a mission-focused session for Student Development staff.

"We had hired new people and wanted to make sure they saw ways their work connected to the mission," Silvia says. Shortly after, Diana Strano, Director of Human Resources, approached Silvia about developing mission curriculum for all the College's staff. The Student Development session served as a pilot; Silvia conducted five additional training sessions for staff from across campus.

In 2010, in preparation for the College's 2012 NEASC reaccreditation visit, Sr. Lucille Thibodeau, p.m., Ph.D. '66/'72G conducted a mission study among faculty. She surveyed faculty regarding ways they believe their teaching connects to the College's mission. The results of the survey were distributed to faculty, who have the opportunity to discuss them at "Mission Fridays" conversations held once a month during the spring semester. Sr. Lucille says one of the main considerations is how to broaden the conversation to the entire campus. "Another consideration is to demystify the term Catholic mission—to chip away at the stereotypes surrounding both those words. People who aren't Catholic or Christian who hear those words don't know if they have a role in the conversation...we need to remove obstacles so they will enter the conversation." ■