As we move from summer into fall, the days are getting shorter and the nights a bit colder. But this new season brings with it a fresh purpose as we continue to move ahead with our plans for the new St. Louis Guanella Village being proposed for the southwest corner of our property here in Sylvan Twp. We are currently working with architect Marco Silveri on the design of the project, and our staff has been researching other effective programs in Michigan. These include the Genesis Non-Profit Housing Corporation and Wedgewood Christian Services in Grand Rapids, along with the Autism Collaborative at Eastern Michigan University, and the Autism Alliance of Michigan. During the September visit of the Servants of Charity leadership, we received full approval from the congregation for the Village project. Now we are working with Sylvan Township to obtain approval for all that he intended. We are not called to put up our own structures but the structures of the Founder given to our congregation. Finally, serving the mother means serving the congregations (the Servants of Charity and the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence). She needs our love and our contributions. Let us serve her with commitment.

During this Centennial celebration, the sons and daughters of Father Guanella are called to transmit these things into the world where we work in his name. Let us mark this Centennial by building more missions throughout the world.

Fr. Soosai Rathinam, SdC
Provincial Superior

In Memory of St. Louis Guanella’s Legacy

The Centennial birth of St. Louis Guanella into heaven, October 24, 1915, opens up a new horizon in the history of the Guanellian family. When the father of a family passes away, his children are sad and miss him. And after a period of time, they return to life’s normality. At this point, children must inculcate four things: to internalize their paternal inheritance, to take on more responsibility, to reconstruct the unfinished works of their father and to serve their mother, which for the Servants of Charity and the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence are our congregations.

Internalizing our paternal inheritance means that every son and daughter must ask themselves, “Do I really know the father?” Every son and daughter of Father Guanella should have a thirst to know his spirit, charism and mission.

Taking up responsibility means that as Guanellians we must respond to the signs of the times within the Church. We are given the task of discerning the needs of the people and ensuring that the poor will not be disappointed in their expectations.

Reconstructing the unfinished works of the father means that Father Guanella had not accomplished all that he intended. We are not called to put up our own structures but the structures of the Founder given to our congregation. Finally, serving the mother means serving the congregations (the Servants of Charity and the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence). She needs our love and our contributions. Let us serve her with commitment.

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Administrator’s Message

As we move from summer into fall, the days are getting shorter and the nights a bit colder. But this new season brings with it a fresh purpose as we continue to move ahead with our plans for the new St. Louis Guanella Village being proposed for the southwest corner of our property here in Sylvan Twp. We are currently working with architect Marco Silveri on the design of the project, and our staff has been researching other effective programs in Michigan. These include the Genesis Non-Profit Housing Corporation and Wedgewood Christian Services in Grand Rapids, along with the Autism Collaborative at Eastern Michigan University, and the Autism Alliance of Michigan. During the September visit of the Servants of Charity leadership, we received full approval from the congregation for the Village project. Now we are working with Sylvan Township to obtain approval for the three children’s homes, the first segment of homes to be constructed.

Recent meetings with the State Department of Health and Human Services revealed the need for more specialized residential programming for children with autism as this population continues to grow, and we hope to be able to fill some of these needs. An exciting future is in store for St. Louis Center as we continue to adapt to meet the needs of the 21st Century.
On September 19, 2015, a special Mass and dinner to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the passing of St. Louis Guanella into the heavenly arms of God was held at St. Mary Parish in Chelsea. Special celebrants during the Mass included the Most Rev. Bishop Earl Boyea of the Diocese of Lansing, Most Rev. Alfonso Crippa – Superior General of the Servants of Charity from Rome Italy, Provincial Fr. Soosai Rathinam from Chennai, India, Provincial Treasurer Fr. Joseph Rinaldo, Fr. Enzo Addari, Fr. David Stawasz, and Fr. Satheesh Alphonse from the Chelsea Community of the Servants of Charity, and St. Mary Pastor, Fr. William J. Turner.

The purpose of the Mass was twofold: it gave the followers of the local Guanellian Community an opportunity to celebrate the life and passing of St. Louis Guanella, and sixty-five (65) members of the laity made the “Guanellian Promise” after Mass. This promise committed them to leading an authentic Christian life, paying attention to disabled persons in need, deepening the charism (spirituality) of St. Louis Guanella in their lives, and “cooperating” to support the Guanellian Family. Following the Mass, 200 guests of the Guanellian Family enjoyed a catered meal donated by Gina Pantely and the staff of the Chelsea Grill, and Fr. Joseph Rinaldo presented certificates to the new Cooperators.

Through the generosity of the Knights of Columbus Council in Temperance, MI, a group of 22 residents and staff members from St. Louis Center were able to attend a baseball game in Toledo, OH between the Toledo Mud Hens and the Louisville Bats, which the Mud Hens won by a score of 5-2. To the delight of members of the Temperance Council, this trip focused on the children’s program, which filled one of the vans and included the ladies from OLP and the gentlemen from Fr. Guanella Hall. Each ticket came with a food voucher provided by the Mud Hens, and our residents enjoyed their traditional ball park meal, with the assistance of Fr. Enzo who also threw out the first pitch!

The Detroit Tigers are the official major league baseball team of St. Louis Center, and our residents love going to Tiger games every summer. This year’s ballgame took place on Wednesday, July 22, 2015, and forty residents and staff members watched the Tigers take on the Seattle Mariners. The Tigers won by a score of 9-4, and the residents in attendance got to witness 3rd basemen Nick Castellanos hit the first grand slam home run of his career in the 3rd inning. Most importantly, everyone had a great time at the ball park and enjoyed another fun summer outing in the City of Detroit.
**Joe’s Top Dog** — This year was the 19th year for the Joe’s Top Dog Golf Outing, and thanks to our friends Joe and Zoja Bojovic, this outing continues to be one of the most successful of the summer based on the number of supporters who come out for the day. This year’s outing was held on Sunday, July 27, 2015 at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford, MI. Golfers enjoyed all day Coney Island Hot Dogs while playing on a challenging course, and at the end of the day, everyone was proud of the support given to St. Louis Center and the Servants of Charity. The Bojovic Family has a great love for the residents of St. Louis Center, and it shows in the hugs given to each one at the end of the day. We thank Joe & Zoja for their continued commitment to SLC.

**Dad & Lad** — For 18 years, the “Eastside Italian” community of Detroit has been financially supporting St. Louis Center through a golf outing known as the Dad & Lad Outing, and this year’s event took place on August 4, 2015. The outing was held at Twin Lakes Golf Course in Rochester Hills, MI. The concept for this outing is for fathers to teach their young sons the importance of charity to others, and to instill these important values while they are still young and impressionable. The three major benefactors of this outing are Mike Chirco, Sam Cottone, and Joe Maniaci, and nearly 250 people came to dinner that evening to show their support. Most importantly, Fr. Joseph Rinaldo (Provincial Treasurer) honored Mike Chirco with a Papal Blessing on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

**Memorial Golf Outing** — The SLC Memorial Golf Outing took place in Chelsea at Pierce Lake Golf Course on Saturday, August 15, 2015. The event is an opportunity to celebrate the life of a SLC supporter who has passed on during the last year, and this year’s event memorialized John R. “Bob” Moody who was a Past State Deputy of the Michigan Knights of Columbus (2008-2010). The event featured 15 teams competing for the top prizes, and everyone enjoyed a warm sunny day on the golf course. The winning team shot 13 under par for the day. This event is now in its 28th year and could be SLC’s oldest continuous fundraiser.

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**Receive Newsletter by Email** If you would like to help us reduce our postage costs, send your email address to: kellyf@stlouiscenter.org and we will send the newsletter electronically.

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**Fall 2015**
Knights Cook Up Fun for the Residents

The summer schedule isn’t complete without a visit from St. Louis Guanella Council #3092 of the Knights of Columbus from Chelsea. Past Grand Knight Tom Turek chaired this year’s event held on Thursday, August 20, 2015. The menu featured grilled hot dogs and hamburgers and healthy side dishes. After dinner, the Knights engaged the residents in a game of kickball. Everyone had a great time, and the most important thing was seeing smiles on the faces of our residents at the end of the evening.

Tocco Family Serves Smiles

Members of the Tocco Family have been supporting St. Louis Center since the early 80s, and every year their family members and friends visit SLC for the “Tocco Family Picnic.” This year’s picnic took place on Sunday, August 23, 2015, and included pizza, hot dogs and hamburgers, chicken tenders, potato chips, and snow cones. Jack Tocco, Jr. and Dominic Bommarito are the new leaders of the group, and they brought along a balloon maker and two young ladies who were face painters for the day’s festivities. The residents always enjoy the food and fun that accompany a visit from the Tocco family.

Residents “Run for the Rolls”

St. Louis Center welcomed back Fitness Specialist Caitlin Blomquist for this year’s annual “Run for the Rolls” event in Chelsea. The “Run” features a 5K race followed by a one mile walk on the last day of the Chelsea Community Fair, and precedes the Fair Parade. The event was on Saturday, August 29th, and 35 residents, family and friends participated. Michigan Lt. Governor Brian Calley also participated with his son this year. He addressed the crowd about the importance of including persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities in fitness activities and met the SLC residents. Community members cheered loudly for our walkers as each went by, and everyone was a winner for making the effort to participate with the community.

3rd Annual Car Show a Hit

The 2015 St. Louis Center Car Show entered its third year on September 20th with a total of 110 cars and owners visiting our beautiful grounds. An eclectic selection of classic cars, trucks, and custom vehicles were represented at this year’s show, and guests were able to see everything from a one-hundred year old 1915 Ford Model-T “Speedster” to a 2013 modified Corvette that won “Best in Show.” Local DJ Jerry Martell provided 50’s and 60’s rock and roll in the morning, while Brian “Bubba” Cowan from W4 Country 102.9 FM Ann Arbor ran a remote broadcast in afternoon and assisted with the awards presentations.
Twin Lakes Golf Course once again hosted the Italian American Delegates Golf Outing on July 13, 2015, where Fr. Enzo Addari (center) received a check for $5,000 for St. Louis Center from funds raised at the outing.

A goal of St. Louis Center has been to join together with Intentional Communities Washtenaw to become better acquainted socially, and on Monday, September 14, 2015, a group of ICW children, parents and staff joined St. Louis Center residents for a barbeque.

The Servants of Charity recently contracted with Adams Sign to promote SLC with a new sign at EB I-94/Mt. Hope Rd. The sign went up at Exit #150 during the week of September 28th.

St. Louis Center was promoted on back-to-back days on July 25th and 26th, as PR Director Joe Yekulis was featured with Linda Hughes on “The American Dream” Show, and St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea CEO Nancy Graebner appeared on the Dr. David Janda Show.

SLC Board member Tom Nowatzke fights to raise awareness of closed head injuries for former NFL players through the Gridiron Greats organization. Fr. Enzo is shown with Tom and Norm Neuman at the recent banquet in Novi on September 25th.

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Fr. Enzo and Joe Yekulis were invited to Quinby’s Restaurant in Temperance, MI for Council #8902’s annual awards banquet on July 17th. Fr. Enzo was honored by Grand Knight Frank Esposito with the council’s MI Drive check and a certificate of appreciation.
The Annual Fall Dinner Auction will once again be held at St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea this year with an expanded dining area that will allow more people to attend on Saturday, November 14th. Auctioneer Joe Merkel will also be on hand to entertain our supporters with a great night of auctioneering the many exciting items to benefit the operations of St. Louis Center. SJMC will once again donate the meal for this “prime time” yearly event. Visit stlouiscenter.org soon to get a preview of items that have been donated for this event.

"Be a Guardian Angel" in Support of SLC

The format for the 21st Annual Dinner hosted by the Italian American Club of Livonia this year will include Mass, a sit down dinner, live entertainment, silent auction, raffle and presentations. The event will be held at the beautiful Italian American Banquet and Conference Center in Livonia. Tickets are available at the Club or St. Louis Center. Please RSVP by Monday, January 18, 2016.

Upcoming Events

- **Event:** Italian American Dinner Dance  
  **Date:** Sunday, January 24, 2016  
  **Time:** 12:00 p.m. Mass/1:00 p.m. Dinner  
  **Cost:** $60/person  
  **Location:** Italian American Banquet and Conference Center, 39200 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48154  
  **Contact:** Joe Yekulis at 734-475-8430 to purchase tickets

- **Event:** Fall Dinner & Auction  
  **Date:** Saturday, November 14, 2015  
  **Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
  **Location:** St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea, 775 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118  
  **Cost:** $100/person, $175/couple  
  **Contact:** St. Louis Center for more information 734-475-8430.

- **Date:** October 22: 2nd Eva Evola & Friends Concert - Andiamo’s, Warren
- **Date:** November 14: 28th Annual Fall Dinner Auction - St. Joseph Mercy, Chelsea
- **Date:** January 24, 2016: 21st Annual Culinary Extravaganza - Italian American Club, Livonia
The Autistic Brain: Thinking Across the Spectrum

Just 30 years ago, the incidence of autism was one in 10,000. Today, the incidence has climbed to 1 in 50.

If you consider the full range of neurological disorders that could fall under the wider umbrella of “Autism Spectrum Disorder,” the incidence may be as high as one in 10.

A conglomerate of potential factors likely contribute to the rise in autism, including but not limited to heavy metal toxicity, microbial toxins, dietary factors, vitamin D deficiency, and electromagnetic radiation.

Helpful Strategies for Autistic Children

There’s tremendous hope for children with autism and I have made it one of my goals to provide parents with as many safe and effective cutting-edge solutions as possible. Based on my own experience and insight from many autism experts, here are my recommendations:

1. Optimize vitamin D levels through proper sun exposure or as a last resort oral vitamin D. It is VITAL to make sure a pregnant mother’s vitamin D level is above 50 ng/ml during her entire pregnancy.

2. Eliminate processed foods, sugar (particularly fructose) and grains from your child’s diet: Sugar is in fact toxic to your body, capable of causing profound harm to your health. This includes ALL forms of sugar, whether it’s regular table sugar or corn-based sweeteners like high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), honey, or agave, and whether it’s found in juice, soda, French fries, or grain products (such as pasta, bagels, cereal, pretzels, etc).

3. Avoid pasteurized milk. This is absolutely imperative when you’re treating autism. This includes ALL milk products, including ice cream, yogurt, and even whey. Even natural flavorings in food must be avoided unless the processor can guarantee, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that caseinate is not included.

4. Lower microbial burden: Any type of chronic infection, whether caused by Lyme disease or any other microbe, such as mold, can spread through your system and make you chronically ill.

5. Lower your toxic burden: Avoid exposure to as many environmental toxins as you can, such as pesticides, herbicides, and sources of mercury, aluminum and fluoride. Also, do whatever you can to establish a mold, dust, and smell-free environment for your whole family, followed by a comprehensive detoxification program. Please remember hidden toxins like fluoride and carefully evaluate all cleaning products in your home.

6. Reduce EMF exposure: Exposure to electromagnetic fields from cell phones, electrical wiring, and Wi-Fi may significantly add to the problem because when toxic microbes in your body are exposed to electromagnetic fields, they respond as if they’re being attacked, and start producing even more biotoxins in an attempt to prolong their survival.

7. Use an effective intervention to address any emotional stresses as soon as possible – avoid having destructive thoughts and letting emotions fester. Potent energy psychology tools such as the Emotional Freedom Technique are excellent for this purpose.

Margaret ‘Maggie’ Bushong was a beloved employee of St. Louis Center who dedicated 20 years of her life to the service of our residents from 1984-2004. Maggie passed away surrounded by family on Tuesday, September 29th at Olive Branch Senior Assisted Living in Perry, MI. According to Fr. Enzo Addari, her official title was “bookkeeper,” but she was much more than that, as she also assisted with several human resource duties. She performed her work before the advent of computers, and was known for doing all of her bookkeeping by hand. Pam Fredette, whom she trained and worked with for five years stated that, “Maggie was one of the kindest, most compassionate people you’d ever meet, and she was very dedicated to St. Louis Center.” Longtime employee Ginny Wheaton also added, “She was a very nice person and always fun to be around.” A memorial Mass was held in her honor by the Servants of Charity on Sunday, October 4, 2015, and the family dedicated a “Tiger Eye” Sumac tree to SLC in her memory.