

## Reilly Scholarship Winners

Winners of the 2016 John J. Reilly Memorial Scholarships have been chosen from a field of more than 20 nominated high school seniors.

The scholarships are awarded annually to help defray the cost of a college education for outstanding children of NACST members.

The students will receive \$1000 in each of their four years of study, making each scholarship a \$4000 value over each student's course of collegiate studies.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2016 Reilly Scholarship:

**William E Reil,**  
ACT, Philadelphia

**Brittany M. Shook,**  
COACE, Columbus

The scholarships are awarded in remembrance of John J. Reilly, the founding President of NACST.

## 38TH NACST CONVENTION

The 38th annual NACST Convention/Conference will be held October 7-9, 2016 in Baltimore, MD.

Keynote speakers are: Clayton Sinyai, Executive Director, Catholic Labor Network; and, Martin Milz, NACST Counsel, of the labor firm Spear, Wilderman [Philadelphia].

Mr. Sinyai will be presenting the information about the Catholic Labor Network, its mission and resources available for NACST affiliates. He will also lead an interactive workshop on Strategic Planning for locals.

Mr. Milz will present the latest developments in legal issues facing Catholic teacher unions.

Convention business includes, the annual Report of Locals, the President's State of the Union address, and a forum for discussion of local affiliate issues.



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## The Employer Church

Among the basic rights of the human person is to be numbered the right of freely founding unions for working people.

These should be able truly to represent them and to contribute to the organizing of economic life in the right way.

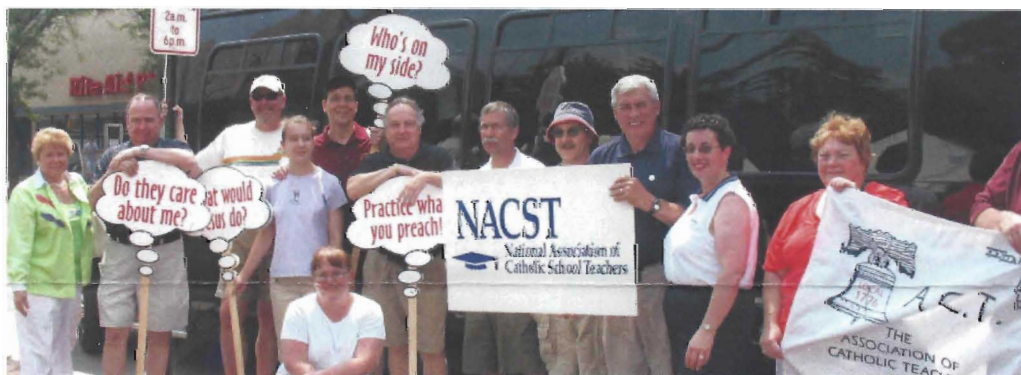
Included is the right of freely taking part in the activity of these unions without risk of reprisal.

*Gaudium et Spes, Pastoral Constitution on the Church and the Modern World (1965)*

On the parish and diocesan level, through its agencies and institutions, the Church employs many people; it has investments; it has extensive properties for worship and mission.

All the moral principles that govern the just operation of any economic endeavor apply to the Church and its agencies and institutions; indeed the Church should be exemplary.

*US Catholic Bishops, Economic Justice For All: Pastoral Letter on Catholic Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy (1986)*



Catholic social teaching endorses the right of workers to form labor unions and calls upon labor and management to establish cooperative relationships to advance their craft and the common good.

When Catholic institutions and trade unions establish mutually rewarding partnerships, they express our faith in deed as well as in word.

*Clayton Sinyai, Gaudium et Spes Catholic Labor Report (2016)*



*Affiliated Locals*

**Altoona Johnstown Catholic School Teachers Association**

(Diocese of Altoona Johnstown PA)  
Michele Kirk

**Association of Catholic Teachers**

(Archdiocese of Philadelphia PA)  
www.act1776.com  
Rita Schwartz

**Catholic Teachers Union - NJ**

(Diocese of Camden NJ)  
www.ctunj.com  
William Blumenstein

**Central Ohio Association of Catholic Educators**

(Diocese of Columbus OH)  
www.coace.com  
Erica Gowitzka

**Cleveland High School and Academy Lay Teachers Association**

(Diocese of Cleveland OH)  
Michael DeSantis

**DELTA**

(Diocese of Worcester MA)  
Jonathan Meagher

**Diocesan Elementary Teachers Association**

(Diocese of Buffalo NY)  
Joann Biggie

**Federation of Pittsburgh Diocesan Teachers**

(Diocese of Pittsburgh PA)  
Brian Klisavage

**Greater Hartford Catholic Education Association**

(Archdiocese of Hartford CT)  
Paul Fitzpatrick

*From the President ...*

**LABOR DAY 2016: UNSUNG HEROES**

Labor Day arrives much too quickly these days. Usually, my Labor Day article looks at the employer Church, our employer, to see how the diocese, superintendent or pastor fared this year in upholding the rights of the worker. Often, the mark is missed, especially when fledgling groups attempt to form themselves into a union.

This Labor Day, instead of talking about the failures, I want to sing the praises of the many unsung heroes and heroines of the Catholic Teacher Union Movement. My song is for the Presidents, Vice Presidents and Officers of union locals in Catholic schools. These are the people on the front lines of the battle to obtain and retain social justice and equity for the teachers and staff that they represent. These men and women ensure that their Labor-Management Agreements are enforced, that their teachers' rights are honored and that the Union, itself, is treated with respect. They do all of this while, at the same time, holding a full-time teaching position in a Catholic school.

Whether it is a single school or a large number of elementary and secondary schools, the Union leader's devotion to duty is constant. Many times, they work as hard behind the scenes preventing problems as they do solving them.

Catholic teacher union leaders are, basically, self-taught. They have no degree in Labor-Management Relations. It is, definitely, on-the-job training.

For those who are Presidents of NACST locals, they have the ability to contact the National Office when something comes up that may require just a bit more. At our upcoming National Convention, Presidents and Officers will be able to network with their colleagues from around the country. This is also very important. They will return to their unions ready to take on the many new challenges the school year will bring.

Many thanks to all of you for a job well done.



*From the Editor ...*

Whether as large as the unions in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, or Columbus ... or as small as Queen of Peace, Holy Cross, or St. Rose, ... Catholic school teacher union members steadfastly call the employer Church to justice.

Catholic school teacher union members put the Church's social justice teaching into practice day after day, year after year.

With the substantial social justice tradition explicitly developed since Pope Leo XIII's **Rerum Novarum**, teachers call the Church to participate in the Gospel demand to establish justice in the world.

It is the moral duty of both teachers and the employer Church to make that justice real.

The best in the Catholic social justice tradition is exhibited by teachers joined together to organize ... bargain ... act.

The employer Church can and ought to be called to implement the Church's social justice teaching. Catholic school teacher unions large and small do this.

More power to us.



*from the Catholic Labor Network introduction to the 2016 **Gaudium et Spes Labor Report***

Did you know ... that more than 350 Catholic elementary, middle and high schools in the United States have union contracts with their teachers?

Although these schools are exempt from the jurisdiction of the National Labor Relations Board, the federal agency that protects workers' rights, that doesn't mean they can't have unions.

Many Diocesan school systems model Catholic social teaching by bargaining with the unions their teachers have chosen.

***Affiliated Locals***

**Greensburg Diocesan Teachers Association**

(Diocese of Greensburg PA)  
Will Merchant

**NACST @ St. Joh Vianney**

(Diocese of Trenton NJ)  
Lisa Lenn

**Queen of Peace H.S. Lay Teachers Association**

(Archdiocese of Newark NJ)  
Lynn McGill

**St. Louis Archdiocesan Teachers Association**

(Archdiocese of St. Louis MO)  
Patricia Spellman

**St. Peter Prep Teachers Association**

(Archdiocese of Newark NJ)  
Steve Caslowski

**St. Rose Teachers Association**

(Diocese of Trenton NJ)  
Dee Badach

**Scranton Diocese Association of Catholic Teachers**

(Diocese of Scranton PA)

**Secondary Lay Teachers Association**

(Diocese of Buffalo NY)  
Chris Rusin

**Union County Catholic Education Association**

(Archdiocese of Newark NJ)  
Jaelyn Church

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