

# USJ Parents' Connection



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## Greetings from the University of Saint Joseph

As we break to celebrate Thanksgiving, USJ students are busy completing their courses and at the same time, planning for the spring semester. Since returning to campus at the end of August, USJ students have been part of several new initiatives on campus and have maintained traditions, like Mercy Week, Investiture, and the upcoming Festival of Lights, which have contributed to campus culture for decades. They continue to support the Greater Hartford community through volunteer service, demonstrate the strength of their academic preparation with outstanding work in internships, field placements, and clinical rotations; and produce exceptional research in collaboration with USJ faculty. Earlier this year, USJ announced that our full-time undergraduate programs will become fully coeducational, beginning fall 2018. A Coeducation Implementation Team, made up of representatives from departments across the University, has been working to ensure that USJ is prepared to welcome all students next fall. Projects have included conducting student surveys, exploring new academic options, researching the experiences of other schools that have made this transition, preparing for men's athletic teams to join our women student athletes, and more. We look forward to this exciting new chapter in the life of the University, while we continue to honor our traditions, keep a focus on women's leadership, and provide a rigorous and meaningful educational experience.

## News from Campus



Our annual Mercy Week once again involved hundreds of USJ students, faculty, and staff who completed activities focused on the University's Core Values. The week of activities, led by members of the USJ community, culminated in the Mercy Day of Service, with volunteers engaged in many activities including: cleaning up Elizabeth Park, and helping out at Habitat for Humanity: Re-Store.



To celebrate World Kindness Day, students organized activities to spread kindness across the University. Resident Hall Council's Kindness Week encouraged all students to participate in acts of kindness and a "Love Yourself" student appreciation event. Ask your student about the Thanks and Giving Card Campaign.

Applause for the USJ volleyball team! These Blue Jay athletes earned the 2017 GNAC Institutional Sportsmanship Award for the fourth time in the last five seasons.

Congrats to four members of the soccer team – Amanda Ghent, Megan Ricci, Jessica Spezzano, and Shelby Tallman – who were named All-Conference by GNAC.



## Upcoming Events

There are many ways for you to stay connected with your student at USJ. If your student hasn't already signed up for the spring semester, there is still time. Visit the Registrar to sign up for courses.

Our events calendar can keep you up-to-date with activities all year long, while our academic calendar can be used as a reference for important deadlines.



**Please join us for upcoming events, including:**

**Festival of Lights** on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at 4 p.m., in the Connor Chapel of Our Lady. Join members of the University community as we celebrate the Advent season with music, dance, and liturgy, culminating in a traditional candle-lighting ceremony throughout the Chapel. A Festival of Lights Dinner will be held in the McGovern Café immediately afterwards. No registration is required for either event. Admission is free for Festival of Lights; dinner is \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. For more information, contact Lynnette Colón, Campus Ministry.



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## USJ Fund

The USJ Fund helps bridge the gap between tuition dollars received and the actual cost of educating a USJ student, and provides support for the University's greatest needs, including scholarship support, teaching excellence and faculty development, curricular initiatives, and campus enhancements. Every gift of any size is important. Please GIVE today so that we can continue to keep education affordable and accessible to all deserving students. Thank you.

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## USJ Recognition



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## Other Parent Resources

*Your student's safety is our top priority.* Winter in Connecticut can cause a delayed opening, early closing, or cancellation of all classes. To ensure that you have the most up-to-date information, please sign up for USJ text alerts to receive messages on weather-related issues and other campus notifications.

Questions about student tuition payments? Our staff is here to assist you with all of your questions about financial aid. Contact Student Financial Services or call 860.231.5223 for more information, or to review your tuition payment options.