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Dear Friends,

Very often, when people are asked to recall a particular Jesuit, their minds are immediately transported back to a classroom where they first encountered a “friendly” and yet “challenging” priest or brother whose influence has had a profound effect on their lives. Fortunately, here in New England we are blessed to have a number of well known educational institutions at which so many of these wonderful memories were created and where on-going relationships continue to be nurtured.

Ever since I became provincial four years ago, one of my goals has been to “get the word out” concerning some of the other apostolic ministries in which Jesuits of the New England Province are actively involved in addition to higher and secondary education. This issue of *JESUITS*, highlights several of those ministries beginning with formation and showcases our current work in the missions of Jordan and Jamaica, in Ignatian retreats, as prison, hospital and military chaplains and in the “*Jesuit Connection*,” a brand new effort in which the Province has reached out to young adults. Hopefully the pages that follow will give you a much better sense of the range and scope of our apostolic outreach.

Whether you meet Jesuits in a classroom or in one of these other venues, Saint Ignatius, our founder, always envisioned that Jesuits would be present to women and men in all walks of life. He hoped that in all of our relationships we would engage individuals in a unique mode of discourse that he termed “spiritual conversation.” He knew well that this rich dialogue serves as a tremendous help in assisting people to appreciate how God can truly be seen “in all things.” Each and everyday, Jesuits throughout the world remember in prayer all those with whom we work and who make our work possible. We are graced to be accompanied by so many wonderful men and women who share both our spirituality and our mission. Know how grateful we are and how much we trust that God’s greater glory is praised and enhanced by our collective efforts.

In gratitude,

(Very) Reverend Thomas J. Regan, SJ
Provincial, New England Province of Jesuits

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COVER:

This issue highlights some of the ministries of the Jesuits from New England. Pictured on the cover are: Fr. Louis Grenier, SJ, Jamaica, Mr. Thomas Kenny, SJ, Brazil, Fr. George Williams, SJ, prison ministry, Fr. George Winchester, SJ, hospital chaplaincy, and Fr. Robert Kane, SJ, military chaplaincy.

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