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### Editors' Comments

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## EDITORS' COMMENTS

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Catholicism is rich in art. Long heralded as a beautiful manner of expressing and celebrating faith, the arts have the power to touch the soul and inspire humanity to reach to new heights. *Catholic Education: A Journal of Inquiry and Practice* is pleased to present in this issue a Focus Section on the arts. Shepherded by Rita Guare of Fordham University, the section features four articles. Poetry, drama, dance, and literature all come under discussion as various authors give voice to some exciting possibilities for the arts in Catholic education.

Four other thought-provoking pieces are included in this issue. Jeffrey Dorman of Australian Catholic University writes of the development, validation, and use of a Catholic School Classroom Environment Questionnaire as a research tool in Catholic high schools. A qualitative study of a parental involvement program in a Catholic elementary school is examined by Janet Ann Donovan.

The role of Catholic educators in public schools is a topic that calls for research. It receives some in Paul Nochelski's study of Robert Bapst, a Catholic educator in the public schools of Buffalo, New York, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Church's educational mission to minorities and the success of minority students in Catholic schools, especially when compared to their public school counterparts, is becoming an ever more known and appreciated phenomenon. Jennifer Ekert and Eleanor Drago-Severson concentrate on what success means to young women of color who are doing well academically in Catholic schools.

In his in-depth Review of Research essay, James Frabutt continues the emphasis on minorities. Frabutt directs our attention not to students but to parenting in the steadily growing ethnic American minority families.

Sr. Mary Peter Traviss once more presents an interesting Book Review section. She begins with James Tunstead Burtchaell's response to three reviews of his controversial book, *The Dying of the Light: The Disengagement of Colleges and Universities From Their Christian Churches*, which appeared in Vol. 2, No. 4 of this journal. Burtchaell's reply is followed by reviews of *Insights on Leadership: Service, Stewardship, Spirit, and Servant-Leadership*, edited by Larry C. Spears, and *Models for Christian Higher Education: Strategies for Success in the Twenty-First Century*, which is co-edited by Richard T. Hughes and William B. Adrian.

Thomas C. Hunt, Ronald J. Nuzzi, *Co-Editors*

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