



World Mission Sunday

On Sunday, Oct. 20, the DWC community joined Catholics everywhere in commemorating World Mission Sunday. Each year on this day, we renew our commitment to missionary activity and invite the public to the college's largest annual event — a multicultural liturgy and Taste of DWC.

We were pleased to welcome Fr. Quang Duc Dinh, SVD, Provincial for the Society of the Divine Word's Chicago Province, who served as presider. Pope Francis designated October 2019 as Extraordinary Mission Month, giving this year's celebration an even deeper meaning. Students and staff shared their favorite cultural dishes with all who attended, filling the gym with rich aromas and a very satisfied crowd.



Support from DWC Friends enhances educations

Teachers come in many forms. At Divine Word College, we are blessed to have a faculty made up of talented, highly-educated instructors who dedicate themselves to the academic and spiritual education of our students. We are equally blessed to have DWC Friends who volunteer their time, talents and treasure to reinforce lessons and aid those educations.

The FAN Club, short for "Friends Across Nations," matches DWC's international students with area families. Students learn about life in the United States and participating families have an opportunity to learn about other cultures. Students and their FAN Club families meet up during college events and on their own, just to enjoy and learn from one another.

Terry and Paula Friedman got involved when the club was first formed and over the years, they've taken DWC students to visit the House on the Rock in Spring Green, Wis., a Milwaukee Bucks basketball game and various Dubuque restaurants. They've also attended a number of school events, like musical performances and Mission Sunday.



FAN Club participants Terry and Paula Friedman with Fr. Bau Nguyen, SVD, at his first mass.

"We have met some smart, hard-working and holy men and women from a variety of countries and the United States over the span of 23 years," Paula said. "They have been grateful for the opportunity to converse with us, spend time with us and come to know us. We also are thankful for our relationship with them."

Community tutors also work to reinforce classroom lessons at DWC. Anyone who speaks English and is willing to meet regularly with students qualifies to join.

Each week, a tutor meets with a student for one hour and practices conversational English. It's a chance for students in the Intensive English Language Institute (IELI) to talk with a native speaker and learn culture outside of the classroom.



Area residents help ESL students learn the language from native English speakers.

Community volunteers, along with prayers and gifts from supporters around the world, help ensure that DWC students receive the well-rounded education they will need to pursue lives of missionary service.