

A Journal Entry of Fr. Samuel Mazzuchelli; Fall 2012

“Today, I visited a high school in the strange year of 2012. My feet were shaking; I felt light-headed. The travel in a vehicle called a “Prius” was not easy. The door opened and I placed my feet firmly on the ground. Where I found myself was River Forest, Illinois at Trinity High School. Where I found myself was home.

After busting through the door, greeting a most energetic faculty and a few spunky representatives of the student body, I was given a tour of the school. Naturally, I was taken to the beautiful Chapel; I saw a portrait of St. Catherine and pictures of past May crowning ceremonies. I was taken to the auditorium, the gymnasium, and the library. All of this was lovely and picturesque; however, what I really enjoyed was seeing how the students made the school their own. The idols of saints hanging in the halls were wonderful as were the pictures of boy bands and young actors hanging on the lockers. The pictures of girls in white dresses crowning Mary warmed my heart as did the pictures of girls sporting their Trinity wear or acting in a play or helping at a service event. The building was magnificent but what truly made it a Dominican institution, a school, and a home were the people inside of it: the teachers dedicated to offering a healthy environment for education, the faculty who serve the community, and students who use their various skills, talents, and personalities to reach their full potential. I’ve never been to Trinity High School, but I admit that I do not feel a stranger within its halls. The Dominican legacy has lived on through them as they fully embrace the four essentials of prayer, study, community and service.”

This is some of what I think Father Samuel would have to say after a day at Trinity. I truly believe that right now Trinity is at its highest point. I thought the same last year, the year before that, and even my freshman year when I didn't know anything. Trinity is at its peak every year, but how can a school be at its highest moment forever? I don't mean to say that Trinity hasn't changed since the days of Rosary House because in most obvious ways we have while being able to maintain our essence and mission. We've seen tough times and easier times. When people have doubted us or pitied us, we knew in our hearts that we were still strong. Trinity has climbed a mountain and reached the top. We put our flag in the ground, and we are proud to be the best. We refuse to go downhill, and we refuse to stay idle. Instead we build upon that mountaintop making a higher peak each year. We build with our accomplishments, we raise the stakes, we make new goals, and we reach the seemingly impossible. For instance, we easily reached our Walk-a-thon goal this year of \$90,000. I remember when I was worried that we could never reach a goal of \$80,000. I learned then to stop doubting women of Trinity. Trinity is not just a building on Lathrop and Division. It is a community of people, deceased and alive, near and far. This is why at events like 50 year reunions students proudly still identify as Trinity girls. In all honesty, Father Samuel wouldn't have to take a frightful car trip to the year 2012 to see what is going on at Trinity High School. All he has to do, all any of us have to do, is look into ourselves and know that Trinity is doing just fine on their mountaintop, living out the essentials, and always striving for more. Trinity is a projection of what each student, teacher, and faculty member has inside. It works as a prism to take what is wholly beautiful and magical inside each of us and refract our light into a rainbow. Father Samuel would see all of this if he were to visit Trinity. He would see our spirit glorifying the spirit of God, and he would be proud.