
♦ The Legends of Prep ♦

Fr. Joseph P. Parkes, S.J., '62



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As a Prep student, Joe Parkes moved easily among the various groups that comprised the Class of '62, feeling equally at home with the athletes, honor students and publications' staffs. His combined love of sports and writing made him the natural choice to be sports editor of the *Petroc*, and he excelled in both baseball and football on the varsity level.

Upon graduation, he entered the Society of Jesus and pursued his undergraduate studies at Fordham University, followed by graduate degrees from the University of Wisconsin and Woodstock College. He was ordained in 1976. In addition to teaching at the Ateneo de Manila, Joe served as business manager and associate editor for *America* magazine, and in 1979 he was named president of St. Peter's Prep—an appointment that would help shape the school's future into the next century. During his seven-year tenure, he touched virtually every department, dramatically improving the school's outreach to alumni and prospective students and solidifying its financial footing. He also instituted the board of trustees.

After serving as Socius (assistant) to the Provincial of the New York Province, he was appointed Provincial in 1990 and held the position through 1996. Today, he serves as president of Fordham Preparatory School in the Bronx.

Joe remains a most loyal and popular son of the Prep, and whether joining his classmates during the annual phonathon or attending a football game, he is the consummate St. Peter's graduate—truly walking in the footsteps of Ignatius.