

The Perpetual Light

Presented to graduates, friends and supporters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School



Principal's Perspective By Corrine Muscat

As I begin my 4th year as principal, I am inspired by this year's Catholic schools theme "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." Our Lady of Perpetual Help School truly is a community built upon these principles. What Catholic schools are able to provide their students is the ability to see beyond their own community, to serve others as God intended, and gain greater knowledge about the world around them. That is why I am excited about our efforts to improve the ratio of students' access to technology. It is our hope that through grants we will be able to purchase an additional 60 Chromebooks for student use next year. The acquisition of this new technology allows students a wider world perspective and provides them with the tools necessary to succeed in high school and beyond. Furthermore, in the efforts to fully prepare our students for high school, college and beyond, OLPH School will begin offering Spanish language classes to all students in the fall of 2016. The faculty and students of OLPH School are eager to embrace the new academic challenges that lie ahead.

In the new year, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School will be visited by a WASC evaluation team. As we wrote our self study it became clear that we have been highly effective at preparing our students for their future endeavors. As each section of our report was written, a resounding theme was evident. We are a faith filled community, dedicated to living our best lives. We are dedicated to academic achievement and spiritual growth. Thanks to our faculty, parish, school parents, students, and alum we have created a sense of family here at OLPH.

"But the most beautiful thing that God made, the Bible says, was the family." —Pope Francis



OLPH CELEBRATES ANTHONY GUEVARA

Anthony Guevara (Class of 2002) recently received employee of the month from his company, Sales Force. He received a \$1000 award to be donated to the non-profit of his choice and he chose Our Lady of Perpetual Help School to be the recipient. We are so grateful!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2016

Monique Balbuena, Corisa Barreras, Michelle Bartolo, Jayden Bautista, Pamela Cabotaje, Caroline Campos, Jannagrace Carandang, Jim Cayabyab, Isadora Coelho, Gabriel Correa, Rachel Dumandan, Rebekah Estay, Leana Flores, Christina Green, Roland Guevarra, Kathleen Halaba, Luke Henderson, Bryan Jardin, Diego Mijares, Alyssa Mouton, Courtney Nimez, Vincent Ocampo, Jerome Odhams, Daniel Queiroz, Christopher Redosendo, Jailene Talampas, Jaymie Truque, Daniel Ynalvis

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SCHOOL, CLASS OF 2016 DISTINCTION AWARDS GIVEN AT GRADUATION

Duggan's Serra Family Scholarship for Kindness: Pamela Cabotaje

Outstanding Effort and Deportment: Christopher Redosendo

Drama Award: Vincent Ocampo & Leana Flores

Fine Arts Award: Christina Green

SAINT Award: Bryan Jardin

High Academic Honors Award: Leana Flores

The James Costello Service to Students Award: Socorro Barreras

The Father Petilla Community Service Award: Mary Lucett

THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF ORANGE

By Reverend Joseph A. Gordon, OLPH School Class of 1959

Part II (Conclusion)

Expanding: The Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange in California and Beyond, 1930 to the Present



Sr. Rita Trudell
OLPH 1974-76



Sr. Ann Marie Steffen
OLPH 1981-83



Sr. Dorothy Anne Yee
OLPHS 1982-83



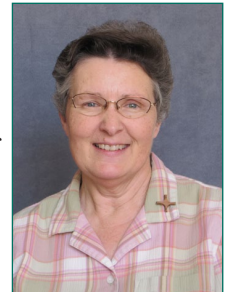
Sr. Anne Therese Allen
in residence
OLPH 1984-87
was with last Srs.
assigned to OLPH

Steffen; and OLPH Alumna Sr. Adele Marie Korhummel. A beautifully framed Proclamation was presented to the pastor of OLPH, to be shared with every OLPH parishioner and benefactor, and although they no longer serve in an active on-site ministry at OLPH, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange nevertheless carry in their hearts and prayers our Daly City parish and, in particular, OLPH School. When they presented their Proclamation, it was almost as if their Superior General in 1932, Mother Francis Lirette, could be seen sitting at her desk in the sanctuary writing to the first OLPH pastor Fr. James Donohoe, assuring him that she and her Council had heard the Lord's call to Daly City and they were replying, "Yes". We too say to the entire Community of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, Congratulations on your 114 years of devoted service – and above all, Thank You, dear Sisters, for answering that Call to Daly City. We hold you dear.

With the number of their California ministries increasing rapidly, it was inevitable that the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange would soon set their sights on new areas of service outside of the US, and with unshakeable trust in the Lord they established themselves in Australia, Papua New Guinea, northwestern México, and El Salvador. Closer to home they would open schools and hospitals in numerous other California cities and, eventually, in Texas. But the most impressive, and most daunting example of their service emerged in 1940, prior to the United States' entry into the second World War in December 1941. Marist Bishop Thomas Wade, of the northern area of the Solomon Islands, sent an invitation to numerous Orders of Sisters to assist in the missionary care of his vast south Pacific diocese, and in response Mother Louis Bachand, St. Joseph of Orange Superior General, invited volunteers from her Community. In early 1941 four Sisters were selected to travel to the Solomons to open a mission, and collaborating with Sisters from other Orders, that small group eventually established spiritual formation programs, schools and catechetical centers, medical and dental clinics (2 of the Sisters were trained teachers, and 2 were registered nurses) and of course leadership training for the Islanders. Unfortunately they went about all of this exhausting work at great peril, since the south Pacific was becoming one of the most dangerous areas in a world at war. Then, in late 1942 what the Solomon Island Sisters feared most came to pass. For their own safety and that of their beloved Islanders they were ordered by the US Pacific Command to leave their mission and evacuate the Solomons, and with the assistance of devoted Islanders and the United States Navy they escaped under extremely dangerous circumstances. On December 25th of 1942 they departed in the silent blackness of Christmas night on board the Navy submarine USS Nautilus, bound for Guadalcanal where they were transferred to another Navy ship that would bring them to New Zealand. Finally, in New Zealand they would board still another ship and embark on the several-thousand mile dangerous voyage from Melanesia to San Francisco. For 3 years none of the Sisters in the entire Orange Community, including their Superior General Mother Louis, had been able to communicate with their missionaries. Neither Orange, nor any other Sister of St. Joseph of Orange, nor even the Vatican had any idea whether or not they were safe or even still alive until the brave foursome arrived at their San Francisco convent, Notre Dame des Victoire, on a Sunday morning in late January 1943, wearing filthy tattered habits, but overjoyed at seeing their Sisters.

With the war's end, the Sisters of St. Joseph expanded their works over the next several decades, including a joyful return to the Solomons. In addition to their traditional ministries of health care and education, and in the Schools of Nursing affiliated with a number of their hospitals, they began to diversify into the fields of spiritual direction and retreat work, job-training programs in under-employed communities, catechetical ministries, university-level campus ministry and classroom work, and all manner of parish ministries and leadership formation. Needless to say, each successive Superior General and her Council arranged countless opportunities of education and training for them in whatever their ministries might require.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange celebrated their Centennial Jubilee in many wonderful ways throughout 2012, and in the manner of a Biblical Jubilee they gratefully acknowledged the parishes and communities where they either serve or have served during those 100 years. One of the communities that they honored was, of course, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School at a special April 2012 ceremony in OLPH Church. A member of the General Superior's Council, Sr. Mary Beth Ingham, was joined by four other Sisters who had once been a part of OLPH: former principals Srs. Rita Marie Kropp and Madeleva Williams; Sr. Ann Marie



Sr. Christine Hilliard
OLPH 1982-83



Sr. Anna Louise Leveille
OLPH 1957-58;
71-72; 83-87

GAME ON!

The 2016 Alumni event titled "Game On" was a great success and a fun time was had by all. A special thank you to Linda-Kleinheinz Shea ('65) for donating her time to set up for the event and all of the faculty and staff who donated their resources, time and energy.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OLPH/DALY CITY TRIVIA GAME WINNERS

John Shea ('65), Linda Kleinheinz-Shea ('65), Gerry Nolan ('61), Marianne Hill ('61),
Mr. and Mrs. Denis Pustelnik ('69) and Rich Rider ('57)



BIG WINNER!

The big winner of the BINGO BONANZA game was Noelle (Clark) Bianchi ('64). Noelle won 4 owner's box Giants tickets and parking pass generously donated by Kathy (Carroll) Nibbi ('59).

RAFFLE WINNERS

\$50 OLPH SCHOOL

\$100 Outback Steakhouse bartenders

\$250 Cecilia (Drury) Smith ('56)*

\$500 Gustavo Proano

\$1000 Rosemary (Rhody) Valente ('46)

**(Cecila Drury Smith generously donated her winnings to OLPH School)*

MAJOR SPONSORS OF THIS EVENT:

Duggans Serra Mortuary, Kathleen Nibbi ('59), Lucky Chances Casino, Robert Varni ('47), Pat (Ricci '56) Casey, Michael Ryan ('53), George Jackson Associates, Mary Tunnell (Teacher), Tony Spiteri, John Madden Charities, Arlene and John Castillo (Staff)

THANK YOU TO ALL

WHO DONATED ITEMS AND PURCHASED TICKETS TO THIS GREAT EVENT!

Save the Date!
The 2017 Alumni Auction will be held on Saturday, March 11, 2017!

CAN YOU HELP???

In planning for next year's auction we would like to honor the class of 1957 with diamond diplomas and the class of 1967 with golden diplomas. We would like to gather as many alum from the Classes of '57 & '67 as possible to celebrate. If you have contact information for anyone in either of these classes, please forward the information to mrs.ortega@olphdc.org.

1956 DIAMOND DIPLOMAS

A highlight at this years Alumni Auction event was the awarding of Diamond Diplomas to the class of 1956.



Class of 1956 Kindergarten



Recipients included from left to right: John Mahoney, George Ambrosio, Leonard “Lenny” Mejia, Patricia Ricci Casey, Jane Gruenwald Eagen, Lois Lagomarsino Erasmy, Cecilia Drury Smith, Roy Cavellini



For more than 25 years, George Ambrosio ('56) has generously donated his time to play the role of “Santa” OLPH during our Christmas Luncheon. Every Kindergarten student and new faculty members enjoy sitting next to Santa and telling them their Christmas wishes.

School News

MISSION STATEMENT

At Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, we aspire to educate the whole child spiritually, intellectually, socially, psychologically and physically, in light of Catholic/Christian principles and service. We are committed to providing our students with a quality education, which will prepare them for their roles in society.

Community Outreach



OLPH students are dedicated to a life of service. Each class participates in one branch of our school wide outreach program to help the elderly, the sick, the environment and the homeless. This year's service included: singing at a



local senior citizens center, working at the San Francisco Food Bank, collecting Mac-n-Cheese for the Daly City Food Bank, participating in habitat restoration, creating Valentine cards for veterans, creating Dreamboxes for underprivileged children, and donating to SVDP book drive.



International Food Festival

OLPH School's 1st International Food Festival was held in April. Thanks to the efforts of Joey and Susan Elacion (grade 6 parents) as well as the class

parent representatives and donations by all OLPH families, the event was a huge success. The day included performances by live bands, bagpipe players, and a variety of dancers from different cultures. Food booths included Filipino, American, Latin, and Italian. Games and face painting were a big hit with the children. Our next International Food Festival is scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2017. Be sure to join us!



Outdoor Education



In May of 2016, the fifth grade students of OLPH School embarked on a 3 day trip to the CYO Outdoor Environmental Education Camp in Occidental, CA. For some students, this marked their first overnight trip without family. It was a tremendously valuable experience for the students! There was a great deal of growth and bonding in addition to the academic gains. A new tradition has begun! Our incoming 5th grade students look forward to this adventure in 2017.



A Tribute to Betty O'Connor

Elizabeth “Betty” O’Connor served as Our Lady of Perpetual Help School’s Kindergarten teacher for over 30 years. She was loved by family, friends, colleagues, students and parents. She worked tirelessly to ensure the success of each student socially, spiritually and academically. Every student was a gift to her, and she made sure they knew they were loved. In addition to her classroom responsibilities she also served the school in numerous ways. Betty established the Kindergarten St. Patrick’s Day Mass, participated in fundraising activities, and was an integral part of school festivities and parties which helped establish a sense of community at OLPH School. Sadly, Betty passed away in March of 2016.

A beautiful tribute was held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church honoring her service. Representatives of current students, parents, co-workers, family members and friends were in attendance. She is survived by her two daughters, Ellen (OLPH Class of 1978), Dymphna (OLPH Class of 1980) and 3 grandchildren (Ryan, Liam, and Katie).



IN MEMORIAM

Linda Munoz Greiner
Class of 1956 (April 2016)



Carol Martin Dorsey
Class of 1951
(December 2015)



Lea Petroni
Class of 1946
(May 2016)



Paul Louis Bacigalupi
Class of 1959
(February 2016)