

The Perpetual Light

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



Principal's Perspective By: Katie Franco

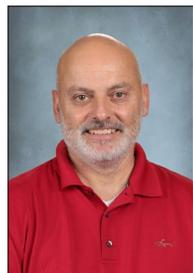
As a former teacher and now elementary school principal in the Archdiocese of San Francisco for the last 15 years, I have been asked numerous times, “Why do you choose to work in Catholic schools?” First of all, I am a product of Catholic schools in the San Francisco Bay Area. I feel a sense of pride when I say that I attended Catholic school from Kindergarten through twelfth grade and am now able to serve in the Archdiocese that gave so much to me in my school years. Secondly, the foundation that the schools I attended gave me was a springboard for all that I would eventually strive to be. I became a better person because of my schooling and I know this was the case for many of our former alum of OLPH. Lastly, I continue to choose to work in Catholic schools because of the unique and invaluable communities that are formed at these special places. OLPH School, of course, is that special place for me and for so many of our past and present students and their families.

This year, our school theme is “Together in the Journey”. Our school theme drives our school year and is reflected in the actions of our teachers, students, parents, and our alumni communities. These past 2 years have been extremely difficult for our world and for our school community with extreme challenges - yet we continue to persevere. In addition, to struggling through the pandemic, one unforeseen challenge this year came in late October, after the first big rainstorm in the Bay Area. OLPH School’s Alumni Hall and adjacent storage rooms were flooded, with water up to four inches high in some places. The damage was caused by eroded seals in the exterior of the building and old and broken drainpipes and gutters. In true Catholic school fashion, the entire community jumped in to help get the school back into working order quickly. Parents volunteered their time and equipment to clean and dry all of the floors, our Parent Club members came to clean and organize storage rooms, and under the supervision of our 8th-grade teacher, Mr. Angelo Marquez, student volunteers hauled all of the damaged items and materials into a rented disposal bin. Our pastor, Father Villote, personally cut down part of a large fallen tree that fell into our parking lot due to the storm. Jumping in to help is just what the OLPH community does. This year especially, we really are together on the journey! Although we were able to keep the cost down because of these volunteers, the cost of hiring professionals to complete the job thoroughly was an unexpected expense to our school.

Although we can not hold our annual Alumni Event due to the pandemic, we will be conducting our “Together We Can” raffle and hope that you can support the school by participating in the raffle or in any way you are financially able to. OLPH will be allocating the funds from this year’s raffle to help fund the purchasing of a new Language Arts curriculum, as well as much-needed updates and repairs to the building. In addition, we have begun preparations for our WCEA/WASC Accreditation visit in March 2023. Funds generated from the raffle will truly help OLPH shine during our visit.

As we prepare for our 90th year of Catholic education next school year, we hope that you know that while you have been away from OLPH, the traditions and the community have held true and strong as it always has. I would especially like to thank those of you who continually donate above and beyond to help your Alma Mater. You have shown your “Catholic school spirit” in many ways to us over the years. May God continue to bless all of you and our Catholic schools, especially Our Lady of Perpetual Help School!

Welcome New Staff Members!



*Raymond Trounday
Technology Teacher*



*Leila Rashid
1st Grade*



*Fr. Roy Remo
Associate*



*Emily Milton
4th Grade*



*Elizabeth Gomez
2nd Grade*

ANNUAL ALUMNI AUCTION UPDATE

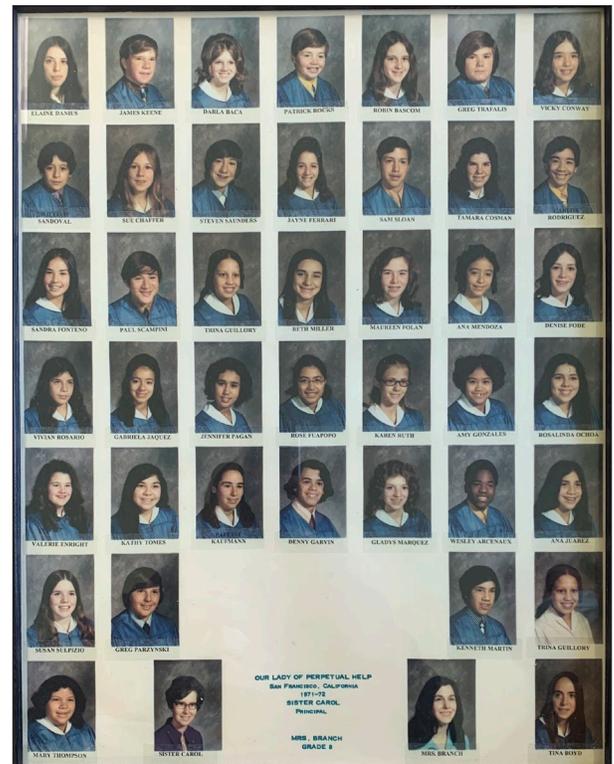
Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold our Alumni Event due to the continued health concerns from the COVID-19 virus. Even though we cannot be together, we hope that you will be able to continue your support of OLPH by participating in the annual raffle. The raffle will be held, at school, on March 18, 2022. Congratulations to the classes of 1942, 1952, 1962, and 1972 on your milestone years.

2021 "TOGETHER WE CAN" RAFFLE WINNERS

- \$50 Edward Prieto
- \$100 Jack Lewis '55
- \$250 Andy Ferrari
- \$500 Richard Garabaldi '53
- \$1,000 Rev. Joe Gordon '59

Thank you to everyone who entered the 2021 raffle. A special thank you to:

Lucky Chances, Ferrari Electric, Patricia (Ricci) Casey '56, Barbara (Senkir) Hall '64, Michael Martin '63, Tom Ryan '51, Michael Ryan '53 for your donations.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE “REFINING CLASS OF 2021!

It was a blessing for us to be able to hold the Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2021, inside OLPH church again. We wish the Refining Class of 2021 great success in the future.



Special awards were received by the following students:

- **ACCEPTED WITH HONORS TO SAINT IGNATIUS COLLEGE PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL — Julia Flores**
- **ACCEPTED TO JUNIPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL DISTINCTION AND THE SCHOLAR PROGRAM — Arthur Coelho**
- **S.A.I.N.T AWARD — Julia Flores**
The Saint Award is given to the student who has exemplified the spirit of OLPH School. This student is a Spiritually Active Christian, an Accountable Citizen, an Independent Thinker, a Noteworthy Learner and a Thoughtful Choicemaker.
- **FINE ARTS AWARD — Zoe Booc**
- **HIGH ACADEMIC AWARD — Arthur Coelho**
- **CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP — Arjay Garcia**
- **SPIRIT AWARD — Raygel Jericho Esteban and Princess Revia Reberedo**
- **THE BUD DUGGAN SCHOLARSHIP FOR KINDNESS AWARD — Jea Image**
This award is presented to the student who generously and unselfishly treated others with kindness and charity.



THE JAMES COSTELLO SERVICE TO STUDENTS AWARD



The James Costello Service to Students award is presented to individuals, who commit themselves to the success of the students of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School. Ms. Katie Franco, Principal, was the 2021 recipient of this award because she not only serves the “students” of OLPH but rather, the entire school community. She not only fulfills the written “requirements” of her job and has dedicated herself to OLPH school community by sacrificing much of her personal time and resources so that all who are under her care and the school, itself, thrives. She has donated her personal finances for building upgrades and classroom supplies, teacher gifts, and donated to student programs, school fundraisers and the school’s scholarship program. Over time, she

has had to lead OLPH through flooding in the cafeteria and music room, fires in the valleys, and most significantly—the pandemic. The pandemic has sent many principals into retirement, due to the amount of work and stress that it has caused, but Ms. Franco remains committed to ensuring the safety of all who enter OLPH doors.

To her the most important job is her service to students. She interacts with the students daily, whether tutoring struggling students on her personal time, counseling them, or providing an avenue for which they can talk freely. Her motive for every decision made is what is best for the students. She challenges the teachers to be the best, so that the students will reap the rewards and most importantly, she beams with pride as she watches an 8th grade class take their next steps in their life’s journey. Thank you, Ms. Franco, for your commitment to Our Lady of Perpetual Help School.

Written and delivered by Sheila Ortega

THE FATHER ANTONIO PETILLA OLPH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Father Antonio Petilla OLPH Community Service award, is given each year to recognize those who play a vital role in both our parish or school community. In 2021, the recipient of this award was Mr. Angelo Marquez, current 8th grade teacher. Mr. Marquez has a long standing dedication to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. For many years he volunteered to take an active role in the OLPH Parish Youth Group. As a spiritual guide for the youth of the parish, he worked hard to hold fun events, retreats and community service projects. Over the years, he watched the young men and women in the group not only grow up but also grow closer to God. He became a mentor to so many.

Eventually he worked himself into the role of CCD Coordinator. In this role, he gained leadership skills. He also learned to lead with an open heart, patience and understanding. To this day, you can still hear him speaking on his experiences during this time with pride. His hard work shaped much of why the current CCD program is so successful now.

His talents and skills are abounding. More than that, he is a lifelong learner. This learner’s spirit sparked his love of teaching and drove him to take on a teaching position at OLPH School—one that he still holds today. He instills his love of learning in his students as well as teaching them skills outside of the textbook to be used throughout their lives. He continues today, working with the parish and school and by sharing his beautiful singing voice at Mass. We are blessed to have Mr. Angelo Marquez at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish and School.



Written and delivered by Katie Franco

† IN MEMORIAM †



JOHN MADDEN '50

Mr. Madden was a generous supporter of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School. Over the years he donated autographed items for our auction. To celebrate his 70th year since graduation, he sponsored the auction event in 2020. Additionally, in that year, Mr. Madden established the John Madden Scholarship Fund to assist families in need of tuition assistance. His donation, during the Pandemic, was instrumental in providing families who had lost their jobs, the assistance needed to keep their children enrolled at OLPH. Before his passing, without being asked, he added funds to the scholarship fund and donated several copies of pre-released Madden NFL football games to give to our current students. He was very touched to receive the thank you notes from the parents and students who were the recipients of the scholarship. He always held OLPH close to his heart.

LESLIE LINHARES '44

Leslie was a graduate and former OLPH 5th Grade teacher. She continued her journey in education by serving as a principal in the Laguna Salada School District for over 40 years. Her niece reached out to OLPH and provided us with some pictures she found upon her passing. They are from her days as a teacher at OLPH. Her niece wrote, "she had a special place in her heart for OLPH School." Knowing how much Leslie loved OLPH School, a donation was made in her name, to the school's scholarship program.



MOLLY MEYER

P.E. Teacher

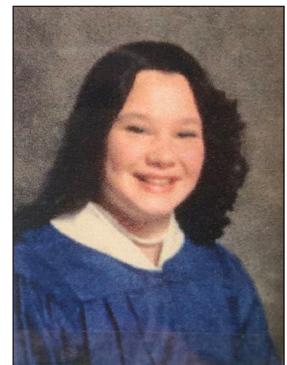
Miss M, as she was known to our students, was a donor to OLPH's Alumni Event. She and her father, William Meyer, who had a medical office across the street from OLPH in the 70s, donated their Gotham Club Access and Giants tickets several times to our Auction Event.

AL CUNEO, OLPH ACCOUNTANT FOR OVER 20 YEARS.



PHYLLIS BIGAZZI '51

DENISE BUCKLEY '77



MYSTERY PHOTOS: Found in Ms. Linhares home files are pictures from her years of teaching 5th grade. Can you help identify the students in the pictures? The year? Contact us at: info@olphdc.org

The Perpetual Light

Father Augusto Villote

OLPH Pastor

Katie Franco

Principal

Sheila Ortega

Vice Principal



Our Lady of Perpetual Help
School

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Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



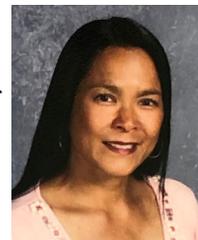
KIMBERLY (TERNATE) DING '97. In December, 2021 Kimberly, who lives on the East Coast, recently came back to visit and tour OLPH. "I am currently a graduate student in the School of Education at Harvard and am taking a class on Leadership and Faith-based education and schooling. I was reflecting on my time at OLPH and how much that shaped the path I took in life. I am forever grateful to what OLPH gave to me. It inspired me to pursue a path in education." She still keeps in close contact with her classmates, Audrey Abar and Jessica Reyes.



RAY TROUNDAY '79 After working for years in the technology field, Ray decided to follow his passion for teaching and is currently teaching at OLPH as our K-8 technology teacher and Junior High Math Teacher.

CASILDA LAZALDE

Casilda retired from teaching in 2021 after serving 18 years at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School as both a 1st grade teacher and then 4th grade teacher.



JOE GORDON '59 Recently celebrated his 50th ordination with fellow classmates. Organized by classmate Judi Allen, several members of the class of 1959 gathered at The Iron Gate Restaurant in Belmont in November to celebrate this milestone.

