

The Perpetual Light

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



Principal's Perspective By Corrine Muscat

Each school year, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School chooses a theme to guide us through the school year. This year's theme is "Stewardship – We are called." We believe God calls us to be stewards; to use the gifts He has given us, to give back. We give the gifts of our time, talents and treasures as a way to show gratitude for all He has given us. I thank you, our dedicated staff, parents, parishioners, and alumni, for the gifts you have bestowed upon Our Lady of Perpetual Help School and ask for your continued support.

OLPH School is dedicated to providing a quality, faith - filled education for every student, within a supportive learning environment. We have been successful in this effort for over 80 years. The history of our fine school is remarkable. We have spent the last year celebrating that history by honoring those

who made OLPH School what it is today and by making every effort to restore our landmark of a building to its original glory (details of our school improvements can be found on page 6 of this newsletter). What we have accomplished, together, is truly astounding. In this issue of *The Perpetual Light*, we pay homage to the Sisters of Orange who founded our school back in 1933. The foundation they built at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School guides us still today and we are eternally grateful for the gifts they have bestowed upon us over the years. We also pay tribute to Sister Philomene Golonka who was a treasured member of the OLPH staff for over 30 years and now resides with the Sisters of Mercy in Auburn, CA. Her daily presence is missed, but her spirit is deeply felt in the halls of our school.

As we move forward to a new year, let us be reminded of our call to be stewards. Let us dedicate time to honor those members of our OLPH family who came before us, and time to give of our talents and treasures to those who will follow. It is our responsibility to ensure the legacy of our fine school continues to live on.

ALUMNI FUNDRAISER ~ "GAME ON!" ~ SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2016



Left to right: Terry Keller, Sandee Chan, Sister Philomene, Sheila Ortega, & Kerstin Sjostrom.

A TRIBUTE TO SISTER PHILOMENE

Sr. Philomene Golonka, a Sister of Mercy, began her ministry at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in 1979. As a Sister of Mercy her goals included: establishing school unity and spirit, acceptance of self and others, and promoting school activities and involvement. These leadership goals were clearly evident as Sister served the OLPH school and parish community.

During her tenure, Sister Philomene, or "Sr. Phil", served as the 3rd grade teacher. As a teacher, Sister made a difference to those who entered class. To Sister Philomene, making a difference meant teaching her students not just the academics, but also how to work together in a group, show sportsmanship on the field, and most importantly, the importance of faith in their lives.

Sister consistently made the future financial success of OLPH her mission. For many years, Sister Philomene conducted monthly Reno trips in which she would secure buses filled to capacity and escort members of our OLPH community for a weekend getaway to Reno, with all proceeds going directly to the school to service students. Serving as Sports Commissioner for over 30 years, Sister Phil supported the program by personally selling roses, chocolate bars, raffle tickets and athletic wear to ensure that all students had an opportunity to play.

Sister Philomene epitomizes the spirit of OLPH. She is loved by parishioners, students, parents and faculty. Mr. James Costello, former school principal said, "If it's true that we are measured by our friends, then everyone who worked with Sr. Phil was truly blessed, inspired, and rewarded by her friendship. Just the mention of her name brings a smile for treasured memories."

Sister Philomene retired from OLPH in 2015. She is currently in residence with her community, Sisters of Mercy, in Auburn. And, although she is no longer here on a daily basis, her spirit is with us always.

Sister Philomene Golonka is the recipient of the James Costello Service to Students Award (2004) and the Father Petilla Community Service Award (2015).



Sr. Jeanne Fallon
(formally Sr. Mary
Stephen)

THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF ORANGE

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



Sr. Rita Marie Kropp
at OLPH 37-43 &
60-66 as Principal

OLPH School owes to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange not only its founding in January 1933 but also, in a significant way, the success of 54 years of its 82-year marvelous history. Nevertheless, perhaps many OLPH alumni who were taught by the Sisters have not yet had the opportunity to read their history. What follows here is the Sisters' story.

In 1912 the Superior General of the Sisters of St. Joseph of LaGrange (Illinois) accepted the invitation of Bishop Thomas Grace, of Sacramento, California, to send Sisters to the northern reaches of the Golden State, and soon after that a group of 20-some Sisters arrived in Eureka. Soon known as the Sisters of St. Joseph of Eureka, they would, in only a handful of years, open several schools and hospitals in the Eureka area, as well as institute many other works of outreach in northern California. The challenges which they confronted in California, however, were numerous and enormous.

As the Sisters gradually became acclimated to northern California's dreary weather – and to a small but noticeable bigotry toward Catholics – the local citizens in those communities slowly grew in their admiration and gratitude for the Sisters' presence, and their work was becoming known to Californians in other parts of the state as well. As a result, the Eureka Sisters received an invitation from Msgr. Henry Eumellin, pastor of a large parish in Santa Ana, Orange County, to visit the southland. (It was probably not a coincidence that Msgr. Eumellin's parish was established as "St. Joseph" some years before he approached the Sisters.) He suggested to them that they might find abundant opportunities for ministries in southern California – including, of course, the staffing of his own parish elementary school, and he assured them that they would find many more opportunities for service in the pleasant southland than in the cold and foggy north.

Responding to Msgr. Eumellin's invitation, the Sisters' Superior General and her Council made several fact-finding trips to Santa Ana in the early 1920s, and after looking at all of the advantages and disadvantages of a move to southern California, and with lengthy deliberations and much prayer the Sisters decided to move their Administration and Motherhouse to the city of Orange. Having received the Vatican's approval for this move they would henceforth be known as the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange in California. (A necessary footnote here: their move to Orange brought only a name and address change. Their foundation date would still remain 1912, hence their Jubilee Year celebrated in 2012.) With the untiring help of Msgr. Eumellin, they eventually visited a large mansion in the city of Orange located on several acres of orange groves. The house and property, for some time, had been for sale, but with the assistance of several prominent Catholics in the local banking community they were able to secure a loan not only for the purchase of the house and property, but for the necessary renovation needed to accommodate the property's new "identity". The estate, known as the Burnham Mansion on Batavia Street, became not only the headquarters of the Sisters, but also the site of their motherhouse, novitiate and Sisters' education center as well. Its exquisite grove of orange trees also proved to be a financial boon to the new community. The Sisters did not abandon northern California, however – instead, they continued to increase the number of their schools and hospitals in that area; and in addition, with the growing number of young women who were entering their Community they were able to significantly expand their charitable works in southern California as well.

The Sisters' story will conclude with the next issue of Perpetual Light.



Sr. Miriam Eckkery
at OLPH 50-51



Sr. Madeleva Williams,
Principal OLPH 72-81



GAME ON!



*Our Lady of Perpetual Help School
cordially invites you to join us
for an evening of dining, socializing,
silent auction, and BINGO!*

This year we will be honoring the OLPH Class of 1956 with “Diamond Diplomas.”

2016 OLPH Dinner/ BINGO

Saturday, March 5, 2016

6:30 - Silent Auction with finger food and no-host bar

7:45 - Prime rib dinner including: salad, prime rib, garlic mashed potatoes, vegetables, white and red wine on the table, followed by dessert (Vegetarian option available)

8:30 - Class of 1956 Diamond Diplomas

8:45 - BINGO

\$65 per person ~ Tables of 10 and 6 may be reserved.

Cash raffle prizes will be announced before BINGO. Need not be present to win!

Name _____

FOR ALUMNI ONLY Please indicate Graduation Year _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Number in Party _____ x \$65 = Amount Enclosed _____

I/We are unable to attend. Please accept a donation of \$ _____

I/We will be donating _____ for the auction

Make check payable to: “OLPH Development”

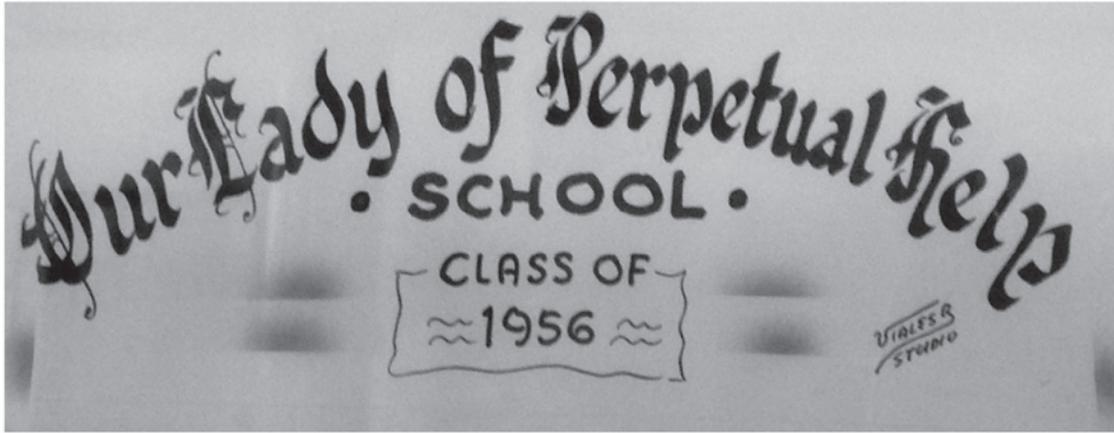
Checks must be received no later than February 20th, 2016 (SORRY, NO EXCEPTIONS)

Tickets will be reserved under your name at the door. Please complete this form and mail to:

OLPH Dinner
80 Wellington Avenue
Daly City, CA 94014

For questions or information contact:

Corrine Muscat mrs.muscat@olphdc.org or call OLPH School at 650/755-4438

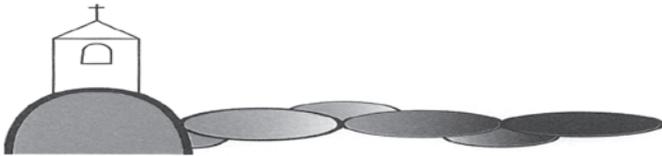


CLASS OF 1956 REUNION

Saturday, March 6, 2016 at our OLPH Alumni
Fundraiser

Diamond Diplomas will be presented to '56 graduates in attendance.

Contact: Corrine Muscat (mrs.muscat@olphdc.org)



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SCHOOL
80 WELLINGTON AVENUE, DALY CITY, 94014
(650) 755-4438

WEBSITE: www.olphdc.org

Keep in Touch by Email

We would love to be able to communicate with you via email.

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Class Of _____

Spouse's Name (including maiden) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Celebrates Alumni...

1958 Jim Kollmann was inducted into the **Daly City Sports Hall of Fame** this year. Kollmann attended Sacred Heart High School upon graduating from OLPH. In 1961, he was selected 1st Team All City from the San Francisco AAA League. In 1962, Jim accepted a football scholarship to the University of Oregon. In 1965, he was drafted by the Chicago Bears of the NFL where he played for 2 years. His football career ended in 1968.

1997 Christian Tarusan, an RN at Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center & Children's Hospital, recently was awarded **The Daisy Foundation honors for extraordinary nurses**. Christian is blessed with excellent people skills and is very congenial. He is always willing to help others and never neglects his duties and responsibilities. Patients all comment on his care and compassion and ability to follow through and get results.



Mary Lucett, former 8th grade teacher, and Alejandro Quinto

1999 Alejandro Quinto is currently working as the Press Secretary for New Mexico's Senator Martin Heinrich. His previous assignment was staffer in the Office of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Alejandro recently spoke to the 8th grade class about his current position and the importance of education.

1999 Miguel Cazares is a Physician at Sutter Gould Medical Foundation in Modesto, California. His nephew Alberto currently attends 6th grade at OLPH.

2006 Sarah Manzano is currently working at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School as the computer teacher for grades six through eight. She also works part-time at the Parish Office.

RECENT GRADUATE DISTINCTIONS

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ACADEMY, FIRST ACADEMIC AWARDS

OLPH CLASS OF 2014

*Roanne Herico
Jaimie Macalisang*

OLPH CLASS OF 2013

*Maria Balbuena
Melissa Constantino
Jadyn Padrones
Veronica Roble
Jamie Yumul*

OLPH CLASS OF 2012

*Jerianne Barrion
Ronnette Herico
Mylene Munda
Cynthia Ruiz
Lena Simbe*

JUNIPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL, "TOP OF THE CLASS"

*Joshua Dorado
OLPH Class of 2012*

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SCHOOL, CLASS OF 2015 DISTINCTION AWARDS GIVEN AT GRADUATION

BUD DUGGAN SCHOLARSHIP FOR KINDNESS **Gabriela Rodriguez**

OUTSTANDING EFFORT AND DEPARTMENT **Angely Binauhan**

CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP AWARD **Elizabeth Alota**

OLPH SPIRIT AWARD **Renee Marapao**

DRAMA AWARD **Elizabeth Alota, Marc Munda**

FINE ARTS AWARD **Samantha Mallari**

SAINT AWARD **Shamira Tesorero**

HIGH ACADEMIC AWARD **Jesus Reyes, Gabriela Rodriguez, Shamira Tesorero**

JAMES COSTELLO SERVICE TO STUDENTS **Tom Pisani**

FR. PETILLA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD **Sr. Philomene Golonka**

The Restoration of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School



We are proud of our iconic building, constructed in 1947, which stands regally on “Top of the Hill,” Daly City. Restoring our building to its “glory days” has been a top priority for the administrators, pastor, parishioners, school families and alumni.

Over the course of the last 2 years, due to generous donations from benefactors, OLPH School has received some much - needed restoration. Our beautiful building now has:

- *new exterior paint
- *new windows throughout the building
- *newly - installed blinds on windows
- *restored and repainted vinyl hallways
- *refinished and repainted doors
- *new awning at exterior parking lot door
- *new basketball hoops
- *upgraded and energy - efficient lighting
- *heaters in all the classrooms
- *newly - repaired roof
- *2 classrooms with restored hardwood floors and repainted interior walls



A special thanks to: Ferrari Electric Company, The Hugh and Hazel Darling Foundation, The O'Dell Fund, Alum Melissa Castillo, Rich and Mary Lucett, The Muscat Family, The Ortega Family, Mrs. Arleen Russi, The Latin Club of OLPH Parish, & the parents of the class of 2015 and 2016 for supporting the restoration of our school building.

We invite you to come visit to see the powerful changes that have been made.

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Linda Mahoney



Ms. Shirley Derham Green



Class of 1955

