

# The Perpetual Light

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



## *Principal's Perspective* By Corrine Muscat

I have been a dedicated member of the OLPH family for over 7 years now. It will forever be a part of who I am. In so many ways it defines who I am. Though I will not be continuing on as principal of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School for the 2017-2018 school year, I will continue to be of service to the OLPH community as the human resources / finance director.

The work that we have done together at OLPH School over the last 7 years brings me tremendous pride. I have overwhelming gratitude for all those who have worked so hard to help OLPH grow and prosper. I am so thankful to our parent community who comes together to raise funds and celebrate our OLPH community through weekend family Masses, BBQ / Bake Sales, International Food Festival, Cartoon Afternoons, ice cream socials, and our OLPH School Fun Run. All of these activities have not only helped the school financially, but have brought us together as a school community. Thank you to our OLPH parents for all you continue to give in support of our fine school. In addition, I am immensely grateful for the faculty and staff of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School and Parish. They all have given so selflessly of their God given talents. They spend their nights & weekends at school giving their very best for the community we serve. Furthermore, I am thankful for the outpouring of alumni support. The ongoing donations and generosity never ceases to amaze me. Finally, I am thankful for my partner, vice principal Sheila Ortega. I am honored to have worked alongside her over the last 7 years. Our Lady of Perpetual Help School is blessed to continue to have the knowledge, wisdom, and heart of Mrs. Ortega, as the new principal Ms. Katie Franco takes the reins for the 2017-2018 school year.

I thank God for bringing me to OLPH School to be a small part of the school on top of the hill's history.

## ALUMNI EVENT ~ "OVER THE RAINBOW" ~ SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018



## *Principal's Spotlight* By Katie Franco

*"Every day is a journey, and the journey itself is home"* –Matsuo Basho

Home. It is right where I felt I was the first day I came to OLPH. I knew when I came into the building, that this was a community that I wanted to become a part of and a place I wanted to work. I didn't know at the time in what capacity I was going to be working, but it is with great joy and pride that I introduce myself now as OLPH's new principal for the 2017-2018 school year. I wouldn't have been acquainted with this wonderful school however, if not for Corrine Muscat. I would like to pay tribute to the amazing leader, friend, and mentor that she has been to OLPH and me over the last 6 years.

Corrine and I have worked closely together running the teacher training days for our cluster of schools. I was drawn to her personality and her leadership and knew that we shared many of the same views of Catholic education and where it could go. It was Corrine who personally encouraged me to continue to pursue my mission as a Catholic educator that I started 9 years ago. Working with her I have gotten to know Corrine and seen the things that she was doing at OLPH, but it wasn't until now that I realize what a truly gifted leader she is and what a blessing she has been to the school and parish community of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

In her time here at OLPH she has created a strong thriving community full of dedicated and passionate teachers, families, and students. She has given the school a solid foundation to stand on, and although the job of a principal is a big one, she does everything with the most radiant smile on her face. OLPH would not be what it is today without Mrs. Muscat, and we are lucky that she isn't going too far next year.

I have always been in awe of Corrine and have wanted for many years to work with her. Luckily, she will be staying on next school year in the role of finance and human resource director as well as a mentor for myself and our new teachers in Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades. I have extremely big shoes to fill and want to give thanks to Corrine for welcoming me to OLPH and mentoring me throughout our transition. I wish Mrs. Muscat the best in her new role and am looking forward to a great school year ahead!

## IN THE BEGINNING...

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

### *Part 1 of 2*

Acutely aware of the need for a resident priest in Daly City in the 1920s, the seventh pastor of Holy Angels Parish in Colma, 44 year-old Italian-born (Turin) Father Charles Bertola leased a small social hall on the second floor of a grocery store building in Daly City, where he would hold religious services for Daly City residents. Appropriately, in 1924, the first Sunday Mass in Daly City was celebrated in an upper room – the fairly small “Ryan’s Hall.” Bertola came to Daly City regularly for Mass and other sacramental services, but his hilltop duties were beginning to occupy the bulk of his time. He therefore drew up a long-range plan that he hoped would persuade Archbishop Edward J. Hanna, Archbishop Riordan’s successor, to establish an independent parish in the newly incorporated (1911) Daly City. He recommended that the San Francisco/Daly City line be the northern boundary of the proposed new parish. Then, anticipating a positive response from Hanna, he began the difficult task of planning for a permanent church building, almost as if attempting to force Hanna’s hand.

At first, Hanna gave his permission for nothing more than the building project, and therefore in 1924, although still hoping for more from Hanna, Bertola contracted a “Mr. Jensen, Architect,” as the old records tersely point out, to draw up plans for the new church on Wellington Avenue, to serve as a mission church of Holy Angels for the convenience of the Catholics of Daly City. (Further research sheds some light on Mr. Jensen. He purchased a promotional advertisement in the booklet announcing the “2nd Annual Bazaar, St. Maximus Church, Daly City, August 26 to 28, 1926”, which reads: “Creston H. Jensen, Architect, 605 Market Street, San Francisco). Costing \$60,000, it was to be of reinforced concrete in the California mission style, ruggedly able to withstand a strong earthquake, and set on a shelf of solid rock on the south side of Wellington Avenue, about one hundred feet east of Mission Street. Hanna eventually consented to Bertola’s plan when, on March 11th, 1925 he formally established the new parish, “Dedicated to the glory of God in honor of St. Maximus.” One year later, on March 14, 1926, in the presence of parishioners, hundreds of neighbors from San Francisco and Colma, visiting clergy, and many local civic officials, Archbishop Hanna solemnly blessed the new Saint Maximus Church. Curiously, although the Daly City community was now independent of Holy Angels it would be some seven months before their first pastor arrived, and in the meantime Bertola served St. Maximus as Administrator pro tempore from his parish in Colma. The hardly-known patron saint of the new parish was chosen in order to honor both the Irish and Italian communities in Daly City during those years. Butler’s Lives of the Saints an essential source of saints’ biographical information, lists more than one St. Maximus, and it is not clear which one Hanna had in mind. Father Joe O’Reilly, an avid amateur church historian in residence at OLPH during the 50s while he was assistant director of Archdiocesan cemeteries, maintains that Daly City’s Maximus was a colleague of St. Patrick in his missionary activities in Ireland, and centuries later had been chosen as the patron of Father Bertola’s childhood parish in Turin, Italy. (One St. Maximus was actually the Bishop of Turin in the 4th Century.) Walk down Wellington Avenue, and on the front side of the building you will notice that the polished cornerstone’s original Latin words, “ECCLESIA SANCTI MAXIMI, MCMXXV” (Church of St. Maximus, 1925).

# ALUMNI EVENT

The 2017 alumni event “Monopolphy” was a great success and a fun time was had by all! A special thank you to all our silent auction donors and the faculty of OLPH who donated their resources, time and energy.

## BIG BINGO WINNERS!

John Castillo ('07) won the Bingo Bonanza  
*4 owner's box Giants tickets and parking pass  
generously donated by Kathy (Carroll) Nibbi ('59).*

Deacon Leryn Prudenciado.  
*A flat screen TV, donated by Duggan's Serra Mortuary*



From left to right: Ms. Linda Correa ('85), Mr. David Correa ('80), Mr. William Kovacich (former OLPH School principal), Mr. Ruben Nunez (OLPH parent)



Ms. Mary Tunnell and Ms. Caroline Hickey,  
OLPH teachers.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TRIVIA WINNERS

William/Roxanne Kovacich, Tom Pisani and Family

## RAFFLE WINNERS

\$50 Roger Gordon ('51)

\$100 Marina DeGroot (Bob DeGroot '58)

\$250 Carol Winternitz (Retired OLPH teacher)

\$500 Marjorie McHugh ('40)

\$1,000 Patricia Pascual (Parent)

## MAJOR SPONSORS OF THIS YEARS EVENT

Duggan's Serra Mortuary, Kathleen Nibbi ('59), Pat Casey ('56), Lois Erasmy ('56),  
Nadine Goyhenetche ('63), Michael Ryan ('53), George Jackson Associates,  
Mary Tunnell, Tony Spiteri, John and Arlene Castillo

## HONOREE'S

Celebrating 60 years... Robert Varni    Celebrating 50 years.... Rich Rider  
Celebrating 40 years... Barry Clark, Ron Gonzalez, Judy Martin, Richard Murray, Nina Story (McGovern)  
Celebrating 30 years... Michelle Nunez (Correa)

Also in attendance were guests from classes of 51, 56, 58, 60, 63, 64, 65, 78, 80, 81

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED ITEMS AND PURCHASED  
RAFFLE TICKETS FOR THIS GREAT EVENT!**

## OLPH NEEDS YOU!

In planning for next year's event we would like to honor the classes of 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988 with special milestone diplomas. If you have contact information for anyone in these classes, please forward information to [mrs.ortega@olphdc.org](mailto:mrs.ortega@olphdc.org).

**Save the Date!** Next year's Alumni Event will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2018!

# THE "INSEPARABLE" CLASS OF 2017

8th Grade  
Class  
Picnic



On Friday, June 1 Our Lady of Perpetual Help School awarded diplomas to the class of 2017.

## SPECIAL AWARDS WERE RECEIVED BY THE FOLLOWING GRADUATES

The Duggan Family Scholarship for Kindness Award  
Joshua Yumul *Joshua will be attending Archbishop Riordan in the Fall*

The Outstanding Effort and Department Award  
Alani Gainer

The Christian Citizenship Award  
Julienne Cancio, Samantha Santos

The Leadership Award  
Catalina Morales

The Spirit Award  
Rhaymrald Toyorada

The Spartan Scholar Award to  
Immaculate Conception Academy College Preparatory High School  
Julienne Cancio, Jessica Ferrer

The High Academic Honors Award  
Julienne Cancio, Vrenelli Guzman

Saint Awards  
Vrenelli Guzman, Paolo Ponce

The James Costello Service to Students Award  
The Father Petilla Community Service Award  
Mrs. Corrine Muscat



From left to right: Mrs. Corrine Muscat, husband Mr. Paul Muscat, daughter Madeleine Muscat, father Eli Ortega.

## Where Are They Now???



**Veronika Roble**, OLPH graduate of 2013, has been named Valedictorian of Immaculate Conception Academy of San Francisco's graduating class of 2017. She was accepted at Georgetown University, UC Berkeley, and UCLA, to name a few. She decided to go to UC Berkeley to pursue a degree in Psychology and then law school.

**Christian Tarusan '97, Chad Tarusan '01, Chester Tarusan '04** stopped by to visit their grammar school alma mater after attending Ash Wednesday Mass.



*We would love to hear what you are up to now. Send your information to [mrs.ortega@olphdc.org](mailto:mrs.ortega@olphdc.org)*

# CLASS HIGHLIGHTS

## GRADE 8 YEAR IN REVIEW

The 8th grade class created a class constitution in the fall and set out to be the best role models for the school while keeping in mind the school's Student Learning Expectations (SLEs). This was also the first year we introduced our 8th grade Code of Ethics, focusing on the intentions of love, justice, wisdom, excellence, and humility. All of these combined helped us to plan our activities and give us a guide to make our actions both memorable and meaningful!

Whether it was helping out the office during recess, acting as mass buddies with grades K, 1, and 2, or setting up the hall for events, the eighth graders really took action and helped the student body grow into a more connected and happy community. One of the highlights of the year was the Stations of the Cross, during Lent. Our eighth graders brought the Stations of the Cross to life through a spiritual piece filled with dramatic movements, expressions and words taught by our very own 7th grade teacher, Mrs. Ortega.

Congratulations Class of 2017, we will miss you all!



## TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN YEAR IN REVIEW



What a wonderful year we had in TK and Kindergarten this year! Kindergarten students worked very hard to successfully meet academic standards, while TK students had the unique opportunity to be exposed to these concepts and get a jump-start into Kindergarten. In language arts, students became eager readers as they practiced phonemic principles, memorized sight words, and engaged in literary discussions. In math, students can not only count to 100 and identify shapes, but they are adding, subtracting and even decomposing numbers! In social studies, students focused on what it means to be a good citizen and friend. They compared jobs, housing, clothing, and transportation from long ago to today. In science, students loved learning about plants and animal

life cycles, especially butterflies! In religion, we focused on Gods love and the many blessings in our lives. Though we worked very hard, we also had a lot of fun! Some highlights include our Halloween Parade, Fun Run, Thanksgiving Finger Feast, Christmas Show, Valentines Day, 100th Day of School, TK/K Bake Sale and Mass, Dr. Seuss' Birthday, a leprechaun visiting on St. Patricks' Day, Easter festivities, Spirit Week, and of course Graduation.

We began the year as strangers and ended as family. We thank God for our times together, for the friends we've made and for all that we have learned from our teachers and others. Thank you to all of those who helped make our school year a success!



**Our Lady of Perpetual Help School**

80 Wellington Avenue  
Daly City, CA 94014

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**The Perpetual Light**

*Father Augusto Villote*  
OLPH Pastor

*Mrs. Corrine Muscat*  
Principal



*Falcon Associates, Inc.*  
Graphics & Design

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help School



*Join us—*

**Saturday, March 10, 2018**

## **OLPH Annual Alumni Event** ***“Somewhere Over the Rainbow”***

- Reconnect with classmates
- Enjoy appetizers, cocktails, dinner
- Participate in our silent auction
- Win the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow cash raffle

*Special diplomas will be awarded to members of the classes of 48, 58, 68, 78, 88!*

**† IN MEMORIAM †**



**GEORGETTE KLEINHEINZ-LUTMAN**  
*Class of 1963*



**RICHARD GRAHAM**  
*Class of 1961*

**JIM KENNEDY**  
*Class of 1957*

