



OLPH NEWSLETTER

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School is committed to providing an affordable, quality education in a Catholic, Christian atmosphere within the framework of the teaching of Jesus and His Church.

Volume 13

Issue No.2

Date: 9/16/11

Calendar Reminders

Sept. 20 - School Picture Day; School Uniforms are required.

Sept 21 - Lumen Christi Mass & Reception for Sister Gabriella Williams at 5:30 pm in the church; Halloween Carnival Meeting at 6:30 pm in room 205

Sept 26 - Iowa Testing begins this week

Sept 28 - Halloween Carnival Meeting at 6:30 pm in room 205

Sept. 29 - Parent Workshop at Xavier College Prep High School at 7:00 pm

Oct 6 - OLPH Night at Fresh & Easy Supermarket-North Jackson Street, Indio

Oct 7 - Minimum Day, 12 Noon Dismissal, Faculty Meeting

Anniversary Celebration

Thank you to all who attended the school's 60 Anniversary Celebration last Saturday. It was a wonderful event-from the liturgy in the morning to the dinner/dance in the evening. A very special thank you to the following:

Honorary Guests-Very Reverend Monsignor Tom Wallace, E.V.; Diocese of San Bernardino Office of Catholic Schools Mrs. Patricia Vesely, Superintendent, **Sister** Linda Nicholson, C.S. J. Associate Superintendent; **Principals** Mrs. Cheryl Corey, St. Theresa School, Palm Springs, Mr. Chris Alling, Xavier College Preparatory High School, Palm Desert; Mayor of the City of Indio Mrs. Lupe Ramos Watson Class of 77; Mrs. Elaine Holmes, Councilwoman for the City of Indio

Liturgy Coordinator & Musical Director-Ms. Sandi Amabile

Hospitality Mrs. Valentina Perez, OLPH Student Council,

Ms. Jenny Montez

Videographer-Mr. Jose Rios

Photographers-Mr. Mark Palomino & Life Touch Studios

Master of Ceremonies-Mr.

John Duran, Class of 76

Music/Entertainment-Mr. Joe Vasquez & Mr. Ricardo Perez, Mariachis

60th Anniversary Committee-

Chairperson Mrs. Frances

Flores, Mrs. Mary Rodriguez,

Mrs. Margaret Nieto, Ms.

Valerie Arias Class of 96, Ms.

Teresa Espinoza Class of 69,

Mrs. Anna White Class of 98,

Mr. Joseph White, Mrs. Brenda

Bravo, Mrs. Diane Arias

Sponsors and Supporters-

Laura Lopez, Pastoral

Coordinator, Father Miguel,

Father Luis & Father John,

OLPH Church, Mr. & Mrs.

Tom & Rita Martin, Mrs. Sylvia

Shigematsu - D'Mundo Tile,

Mrs. Rosa Alcalá, Mr. Modesto

Rios, Palm Desert Printing,

McDowell Awards, La Quinta

Resort & Club,

Xochitl Pena & Gerry Maceda-

The Desert Sun and our OLPH

Alumni

and of course our Faculty, Staff, Students, Parents and Parishioners of OLPH.

Congratulations OLPH on 60 years of Catholic education. God bless you with 60 more!

Emergency

Preparedness

We still have students who have not yet turned in their earthquake backpacks or canned food items for the school's emergency storage container. Please turn these in as soon as possible. Thank you!

Parents' Club News

Our First Parents' Club Meeting last Tuesday was a full house. Thank you to all who attended. If you were unable to attend the meeting, stop by the office for an agenda and other information that was given. The main topic discussed was our up-coming Halloween Carnival that will be held on Sunday, October 23. Each

class had their booth's sign in sheet. Please speak to another parent who attended for information.

Our next Halloween Carnival meeting is Wednesday, September 21 at 6:30 pm in room 205. All are welcomed.

School Picture Day

Tuesday, September 20 is school picture day. Flyers were sent home today regarding prices for photo packets. If you are ordering pictures, please make the check payable to *Life Touch*. Remember, all students are to be in their school uniform. These pictures will be in the yearbook.

Parents' Retreat

Today an invitation was sent home to all parents regarding the First Parent Retreat on Saturday, October 1. Please read the invitation and RSVP if you are able to attend this retreat. We hope you can make time for prayer and reflection.

Youth Group

Father John Connor, our priest minister from OLPH Church, began a Youth Leaders Group for students in 8th - 12th grades. This program is held every Tuesday evening from 5:00-6:00 pm at Casa Emmaus. If you are in 8th grade and interested in joining contact Veronica Gonzalez in the parish office at 760.578.8612.

Sports

Next Wednesday, September 21 our OLPH Angels will have their first home game against Marywood-Palm Valley. The girls' volleyball game will be here after school on the upper field playground. The boys' football game will be at Miles Park after school. Come and cheer our *Angels* to victory!

Congratulations to Sister Gabi!

In case you didn't know...Sister Gabriella Williams, OP, has worked with many immigrant families in the Eastern Coachella Valley, particularly the community of Duroville. Her dedication to serving the less fortunate is to be commended.

Because of her commitment to this ministry, Sister Gabi has been selected to receive the **2011 Lumen Christi Award** given by a national Catholic foundation, **The Catholic Church Extension Society**. The **Lumen Christi Award** is presented to an individual who best exemplifies the Light of Christ through his or her service to people in the poorest, most isolated regions of the United States. She will be presented the award at a Mass on Wednesday, September 21 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Indio. The Mass begins at 5:30 p.m. with a reception to follow. All are welcomed to attend the Mass in the church and reception here on the school grounds at 6:30 pm.

The **Lumen Christi Award** is accompanied by a **\$50,000** grant. The honoree and nominating diocese will each receive \$25,000 to enhance a specific area of their ministry.

The Mission of **The Catholic Church Extension Society** is to strengthen the Church's presence and mission in under-resourced and isolated communities across the United States.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School congratulates Sister Gabriella Williams on this outstanding award!

Catholic Calendar

St. Thomas of
Villanova
(1488 - 1555)
September 22

St. Thomas was from Castile in Spain and received his surname from the town where he was raised. He received a superior education at the University of Alcalá and became a popular professor of philosophy there.

After joining the Augustinian friars at Salamanca he was ordained and resumed his teaching—despite a continuing absentmindedness and poor memory. He became prior and then provincial of the friars, sending the first Augustinians to the New World. He was nominated by the emperor to the archbishopric of Granada, but refused. When the see again became vacant he was pressured to accept. The money his cathedral chapter gave him to furnish his house was given to a hospital instead. His explanation to them was that "our Lord will be better served by your money being spent on the poor in the hospital. What does a poor friar like myself want with furniture?"

He wore the same habit that he had received in the novitiate, mending it himself. The canons and domestics were ashamed of him, but they could not convince him to change. Several hundred poor came to Thomas's door each morning and received a meal, wine and money. When criticized because he was at times being taken advantage of, he replied, "If there are people who refuse to work, that is for the governor and the police to deal with. My duty is to assist and relieve those who come to my door." He took in orphans and paid his

servants for every deserted child they brought to him. He encouraged the wealthy to imitate his example and be richer in mercy and charity than they were in earthly possessions.

Criticized because he refused to be harsh or swift in correcting sinners, he said, "Let him (the complainer) inquire whether St. Augustine and St. John Chrysostom used anathemas and excommunication to stop the drunkenness and blasphemy which were so common among the people under their care."

As he lay dying, Thomas commanded that all the money he possessed be distributed to the poor. His material goods were to be given to the rector of his college. Mass was being said in his presence when after Communion he breathed his last, reciting the words: "Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit."

Thomas of Villanova was already called in his lifetime "the almsgiver" and "the father of the poor." He was canonized in 1658.

From americancatholic.org

Prayer Corner

Please pray for:

- Pope Benedict XVI
- Bishop Barnes and Bishop del Riego
- Father Miguel, Father John, Father Luis, and Mrs. Laura Lopez
- Students, families, teachers and staff of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School
- Peace in our hearts, peace in our world



What's Your Catholic I.Q.?

Last Week's Question

We call the part of the Mass when we stand up and express our belief in God

d. the Profession of Faith

The creed most often used in the Profession of Faith at Sunday Masses is called the Nicene Creed. The Apostles' Creed is another expression of our faith.

This Week's Question

Before the Second Vatican Council, Mass all around the world was celebrated in

- a. German
- b. French
- c. Latin
- d. English

See next week's bulletin for the answer!