



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Learn.
Serve.
Lead.
Succeed.

A Supplement to the Inland Catholic Byte | www.icbyte.org

February 2019

A proven road to success

During Catholic Schools Week, each school celebrates and expresses the image of Christ's love among us in a unique way. Currently, our 30 schools of the Diocese of San Bernardino cultivate meaning and create activities that animate our core values of faith sharing, collaboration, hospitality and reconciliation. While blending



faith and academic excellence they seek to develop communities of God-centered citizens enlivened by the Gospels. These Catholic communities are energized and living out their faith together, while utilizing the abilities that make each school special.

Our faculties are primarily lay teachers and administrators, and they dedicate themselves to effectively addressing a safe and welcoming environment with a holistic approach. Students are guided toward meeting their potential through rigorous academic programs in nurturing and supportive classrooms. Our campuses offer a safe and welcoming environment for all.

San Bernardino Diocesan high schools maintain a 100% high school graduation rate. Our graduates complete the California university system A through G requirements required by any four-year university. Additionally, it is common for many of our graduates to transfer college credits earned in high school, while others may receive academic scholarships for the college journey ahead. Our high schools have adopted an attitude that all students can learn and will succeed. This high standard of expectation, paired with support and diligence, continues to serve as the bedrock for a partnership with parents who desire a college education for their children.

Personal care and attention for each student with consideration for his/her development requires ongoing dialogue, reflection, and planning. Our high schools receive students from our Catholic elementary schools and surrounding schools. Transitioning students from our Catholic elementary schools to high schools involves ongoing evaluation and planning that takes into account all expectations and readiness for the rigor of college entrance. Our schools also accept transfers from public schools and offer



a variety of resources to support transitioning students towards successful outcomes.

Just as college expectations impact our high schools, our high school expectations impact our elementary programs. When Catholic school elementary stu-

dents enroll at the Catholic high schools, they often bring with them the confidence of their developed values, enriching the new environment with faith and Christian joy. Our schools become the final stop before embarking on the more independent and adult commitment of college

life. Ultimately, our goal for all graduating seniors would be to express their learned talents with their new academic environment while continuing to develop their God-given talents as college students. These goals are realized every year. They are important to our growing church, require a quality staff, leadership and a supportive community.

Catholic Schools in the Diocese of San Bernardino maintain environments that emphasize moral development, self-discipline, integration of faith, culture and life, service to others, and cultivate students on the path to becoming productive citizens and future leaders. It is my honor to let you know that the support received by the people of our Diocese is appreciated. I thank you on behalf of our children, the future of our Church.

Together we will strengthen our communities by offering more opportunities for the children of our Diocese. My goal is to create greater access for any and all families seeking Catholic education for their children. If you know of any child who would benefit from a Catholic school education, please notify me. If you have a special gift or talent you would like to contribute in partnering with this goal, I invite you to contact me, storres@sbdio-cese.org

Samuel Torres is Superintendent of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of San Bernardino.

Diocese of San Bernardino Catholic Schools



Aquinas High School (9-12)
Dr. Jim Brennan, *President*
Chris Barrows, *Principal*
2772 North Sterling Ave.,
San Bernardino 92404 • 909-886-4659

FUN FACT:
*Tied for the most
CIF Championships in
San Bernardino County*



Xavier College Prep (9-12)
Chris Alling, *President/Principal*
34-200 Cook St., Palm Desert 92211
760-601-3900

FUN FACT:
*Serves students and families
from more than 30 different zip
codes*



**Our Lady of Perpetual Help
School** (Pre-8)
Diane Arias, *Principal*
82-470 Bliss Ave., Indio 92201
760-347-3786

FUN FACT:
*Began in 1962 when a motel
on the corner of Bliss and
Park streets was converted for
classroom use*



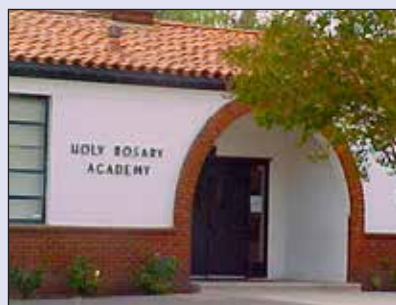
Resurrection Academy (Pre-8)
Madeleine Thomas, *Principal*
17434 Miller, Fontana 92336
909-822-4431

FUN FACT:
*Started in 1961 as a four-room
building staffed by the Daughters
of Charity and got its name
from the founding priests, the
Congregation of Resurrection*



Notre Dame High School (9-12)
Robert Beatty, *President*
Matt Luttringer, *Principal*
7085 Brockton Ave., Riverside 92506
951-275-5896

FUN FACT:
*Kenyon Barner,
2017 Super Bowl champion,
is a graduate*



Holy Rosary Academy (Pre-8)
Cheryll Austin, *Principal*
2620 Arrowhead Ave.,
San Bernardino 92405 • 909-886-1088

FUN FACT:
*Two current teachers are
graduates of Holy Rosary
Academy*



**Our Lady of Perpetual Help
School** (Pre-8)
Ann Meier, *Principal*
6686 Streeter Ave., Riverside 92504
951-689-2125

FUN FACT:
*Three teachers are STEM
certified through Notre Dame
University*



Sacred Heart School, (Pre-8)
Alan Bruzzio, *Principal*
43-775 Deep Canyon Rd.,
Palm Desert 92260 • 760-346-3513

FUN FACT:
*The futuristic design of the stem
lab, meant to provide exterior
shade for the building, looks
like a large wind chime to the
kindergartners*



**St. Jeanne de Lestonnac High
School**
Annette Zaleski, *Principal*
32650 Avenida Lestonnac,
Temecula 92592 • 951-587-2505

FUN FACT:
*The fourth Catholic high school
in the nation to have a
Future Farmers of
America (FFA) chapter*



Our Lady of Lourdes School
(K-8)
Beverly Diaz De Leon, *Principal*
5303 Orchard St., Montclair 91763
909-621-4418

FUN FACT:
*Founded in 1959 by four
Sisters of the Presentation from
Ireland;
one still lives in the local area*



**Our Lady of the Assumption
School** (Pre-8)
Sue Long, *Principal*
796 West 48th St.,
San Bernardino 92407 • 909-881-2416

FUN FACT:
*One of the first schools in the
Diocese to be photographed
by a drone (owned and flown
by the pastor)*

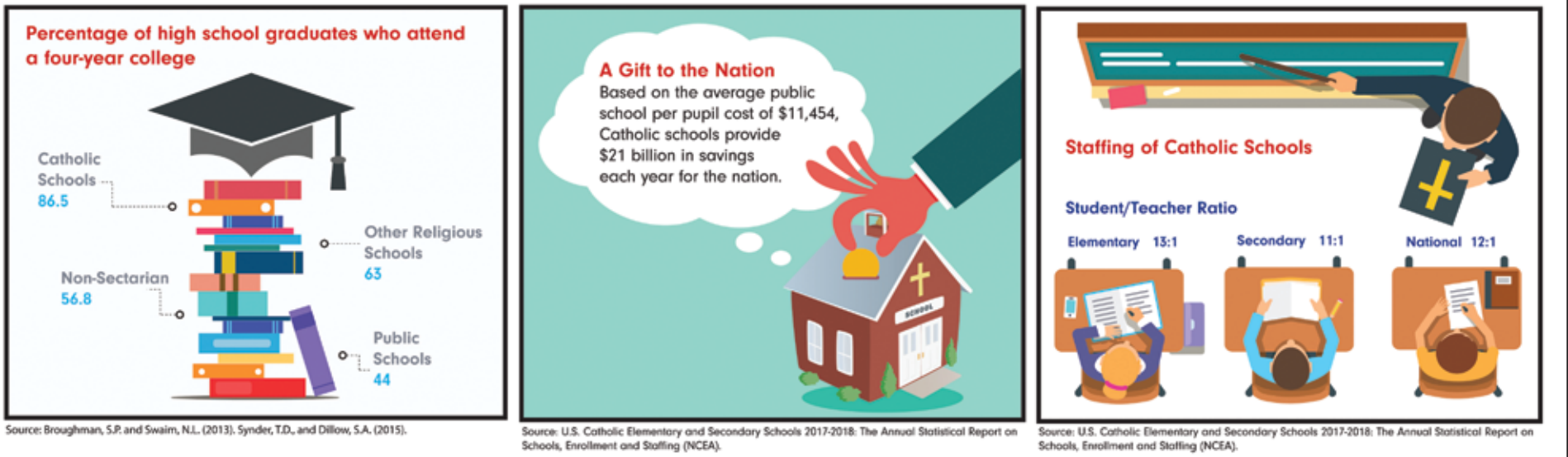


Sacred Heart School (K-8)
Dr. Danielle Lascano, *Principal*
12676 Foothill Blvd.,
Rancho Cucamonga 91739 • 909-899-1049

FUN FACT:
*Every year a helicopter lands
on the school's play field to
celebrate hero day*

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SNAPS

A quick take on issues and statistics



Awards for ministers in Catholic education given at annual banquet

ONTARIO—The Office of Catholic Schools presented awards at its 18th annual banquet held Feb. 2 at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario. Below is a summary of awards and recipients.

Distinguished Volunteer

Volunteers who have impacted our schools with Gospel values so that students' lives are filled with hope, and who are held in high regard by members of the school community.

Larry Williford, Aquinas High School, San Bernardino; Celina Jimenez, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Indio; Kharryn Tran, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Riverside; Adrian Islas, Our Lady of the Assumption School, San Bernardino; Felipe Garcia, Sacred Heart School, Rancho Cucamonga; Alexander Tiu, Sacred Heart School, Rancho Cucamonga; Shirley Tiu, Sacred Heart School, Rancho Cucamonga.

Dr. Wayne McAfee, Sacred Heart Academy, Redlands; Susan Howard, Sacred Heart Academy, Redlands; Chris & Rachelle Eugene, St. Edward School, Corona; Jesse & Patty Navarro, St. James School, Perris; Suzy Alvarado, St. James School, Perris.

Hector & Wanda Delgadillo, St. Catherine of Siena School, Rialto; Josh & Amy Orosco, St. Catherine of Siena School, Rialto; Stephanie Regalado, St. George Parish School, Ontario.

Alena Delgado, St. Hyacinth Academy, San Jacinto; Rob Crisell, St. Jeanne De Lestonnac School, Temecula; Armida Campos, St. Margaret Mary School, Chino; Leo Dyoco, St. Peter & St. Paul Catholic School, Alta Loma; Jacqueline Gasca, St. Peter and St. Paul, Alta Loma; Nellie Wren, St. Thomas the Apostle School, Riverside.

Distinguished Teacher

Teachers who have been a part of our Catholic Schools for at least 5 years, actively ministering in our Catholic schools, parishes, and the greater community.

Kim Herness, Aquinas High School, San Bernardino; Timonth Albrecht, Notre Dame High School, Riverside; Silvia Castrejon, Resurrection Academy, Fontana; Yvette Harris, Resurrection Academy; Editha Herrera, Resurrection Academy; Shannon Maloney-Flores, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Riverside.

Megan Flynn, St. Peter and St. Paul School, Alta Loma; Vanessa Orozco, St. Catherine of Alexandria School, Riverside; Valerie Lopez, St. Thomas the Apostle School; Katryna Estrada, St. George Parish School, Ontario; Wendy Bombard, St. Jeanne de Lestonnac School, Temecula; Cynthia Vargas, St. Margaret Mary School, Chino; Jennifer Finlay, St. Joseph School, Upland.

Distinguished Staff

Staff members who have been a part of our Catholic schools for at least 5 years and are active members of their parish and the greater community.

Teresa Zendejas, Aquinas High School, San Bernardino; Elisa Bautista, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Indio; Cecilia Gallardo, St. Catherine of Alexandria School, Riverside; Lillian Arrezola, Sacred Heart Parish School, Rancho Cucamonga; Lois Tompkins, St. Margaret Mary School, Chino; Stephanie Maurer, St. George Parish School, Ontario; Neveen Farag, St. Thomas the Apostle School, Riverside.

Distinguished Alumni

Graduates of Catholic elementary/middle schools/high schools who have made a contribution to American life and/or the Catholic Church. The recipient must have graduated from the Catholic elemen-

tary/middle school/high school at least ten years prior to receiving the award.

Tony Ybarra, Notre Dame High School, Riverside; Beverly Zehringer, Notre Dame High School; Monica Aguilar, Sacred Heart Academy, Redlands; Manel McMillan, Our Lady of the Assumption, San Bernardino; Lucianna Cianciulli, St. Catherine of Alexandria School, Riverside; Connie Valencia, St. Hyacinth Academy, San Jacinto; Charles Henderson, St. Joseph School, Upland

St. Thomas Aquinas Award

An individual who is a courageous educator who demonstrates an enthusiasm for learning. Students receive from this individual the human qualities that bring forth the best in each student. Through a passion for learning, this person has touched the lives of students through continued support and communication with our Catholic School Principals and our Catholic School Communities.

Annette Zaleski, Principal, St. Jeanne de Lestonnac High School, Temecula

Partnership Award

Individuals who have exhibited extraordinary support to our Diocese, benefiting many of our schools.

Antonio Felix, Director, Loyola Marymount University Place CORPS

Faithful Companion Award

An individual who has been a generous and faithful companions to our Catholic Schools as well as many other ministries in this diocese.

Ann Marie Duncan

Vision of Hope Award

A person who has impacted our greater community of San Bernardino with Gospel values so that people's lives are filled with hope.

Sister Cathy White, sP

Leader in Innovation

This award recognizes the creative spirit necessary to address the needs of our students to best prepare them for the dramatic and ever-changing advances of the 21st Century. Whether it is through facility upgrades, technology tools, or new research-based instructional strategies, the recipient of this award has touched the lives of children in new and innovative ways.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Riverside

Friend of Children

We acknowledge the following individual who has touched the lives of children in various schools and parishes beyond the realm of ministry.

Dr. Enrique Murillo, California State University, San Bernardino

Distinguished Principal

A person who has met the criteria set by NCEA actively ministering in our Catholic schools, parishes, and the greater community, and chosen by the Office of Catholic Schools as the Distinguished Principal for 2015-2016.

Cheryll Austin, Principal, Holy Rosary Academy, San Bernardino

Diocese of San Bernardino Schools



Sacred Heart Academy (Pre-8)
Angela Williams, *Principal*
215 South Eureka St., Redlands 92373
909-792-3958

FUN FACT:
Oldest Catholic school in the Diocese, founded in 1897



St. Catherine of Siena School (Pre-8)
Beverly Winn, *Principal*
335 N. Sycamore Ave., Rialto 92376
909-875-7821

FUN FACT:
KOLA 99.9 disc jockey Vic Slick is an alumni.



St. George School (K-8)
Andrew Ramirez, *Principal*
322 West D St., Ontario 91762
909-984-9123

FUN FACT:
Two properties on campus are over 115 years old and considered Historic Landmarks for the City of Ontario.



St. Jeanne de Lestonnac School (Pre-8)
Kristen Mora, *Principal*
32650 Avenida Lestonnac, Temecula 92592 • 951-587-2505

FUN FACT:
Celebrated its 25th anniversary, along with the City of Temecula; began with 12 original pre-schoolers, now 480 strong



St. Adelaide School (Pre-8)
Barbara Malouf, *Principal*
27487 East Baseline, Highland 92346
909-862-5851

FUN FACT:
School staff has collectively given over 238 years of service to the Diocese



St. Edward School (Pre-8)
Nathan Arnold, *Principal*
500 S. Merrill St., Corona 92882
951-737-2530

FUN FACT:
Founded in 1947 by the Sisters of St. Francis and a former student is attending Yale this year



St. Hyacinth Academy (Pre-8)
Grace Lacsamana/Tami Jimenez
275 South Victoria Ave., San Jacinto 92583
951-654-2013

FUN FACT:
Once held classes at Our Lady of the Valley Church in Hemet



St. Joseph School (K-8)
Sandra Alamo-Ng, *Principal*
905 N. Campus Ave., Upland 91786 • 909-920-5185

FUN FACT:
80% of St. Joseph School staff is either an alum, parent of alum, or BOTH!



St. Catherine of Alexandria School (K-8)
Enrique Landin, *Principal*
7025 Brockton Ave., Riverside 92506
951-684-1091

FUN FACT:
The school is celebrating its 65th Anniversary this year



St. Francis De Sales School (K-8)
Trenna Meins, *Principal*
4205 Mulberry St., Riverside 92501
951-683-5083

FUN FACT:
The school was originally an all-girls Catholic high school



St. James School (K-8)
Tom Strickland, *Principal*
250 West Third St., Perris 92570
951-657-5226

FUN FACT:
Recently received a visit from the United States Air Force Blue Angels stunt flying team



St. Jude Mission School (K-5)
Ann Peace, *Head Administrator*
P.O. Box 399, San Jacinto 92581
951-213-1276

From our religious

An authentic witness for today's youth

By Sister Ernestine Velarde, ODN

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Mt. 28:18-19)

Having personally attended Catholic school and received religious instruction on a daily basis, I was very moved by the reality that there is a God who loves me unconditionally. The daily classes were complemented with special feast celebrations: schoolwide rosaries, May crownings, Christmas plays, enactments of the Stations of the Cross, and other observances.

The teachings of our faith and the impact of my Catholic school environment became the basis of my calling. I felt deeply that we could not allow children in any part of the world to grow up not knowing the most fundamental truth about themselves: there is a God who loves them wholeheartedly, gave his life for them, and through his teachings shows them the way to live happy, meaningful and fulfilled lives.

Being able to teach the Catholic faith in the classroom within the context of today's youth culture is a challenge and privilege. More than ever, our youth today need the knowledge of a truth that grounds their very being. And for many of our youth, our classrooms and schools are the foremost place in which they are exposed to the Gospel and its values. So many aspects of society and current family structures do not provide and promote these values. I often have parents confess to me their limitations in the practice and



The Annual "Nun Run" at St. Jeanne de Lestonnac School

knowledge of the faith, and how their children have become their enthusiastic instructors.

The opportunity to instruct in our religious faith is a personal call to deepen our own understanding, challenging our lives and nudging us to grow in a deeper relationship with the One whom we wish to share with our children. It is important to highlight that instruction of the Catholic faith in the classroom is not just about imparting doctrine. It is about putting flesh on the doctrine. Growing in the knowledge of God, developing a relationship with Christ, religious instruction and the Catholic school environment are meant to

be a guide to daily living more Christ-like lives.

More than ever, today's youth are looking for authentic witnesses. They want to see that our actions correspond to our words. Young people today thrive on experiences more than theories. They want to be led in exploring how content becomes a lived experience expressed in how we are called to respond to the challenges in our lives and in society.

The words of Pope Francis give us a clear mandate. "You must not teach just content, but the values and customs of life.

You must transmit: how to love, how to understand which values and customs cre-

ate harmony in society. ..."

As one student put it, his religion class serves as a "translator." "It helps me understand the meaning of what God is trying to tell me, how to live my faith." Another student states: "religion class helps me look at the world with a faith-filled lens, how to look for God's light." And lastly, "religion class introduces me to Jesus, the one who models for me a way of living."

Sister Ernestine Velarde, ODN, is the President of Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac School in Temecula.

Students share

"I like going to Resurrection Academy because I have nice friends. A lot of my friends are very kind and fun. Sometimes the class gets into a circle and prays about the person or things they want to pray for. I think some of my friends will be great leaders one day. Also my friends are very kind because they care for each other, by looking out for each other."

Camila Zaragoza
2nd Grade

"I like Catholic school because we get to go to church. At church Father asks us questions about the Ten Commandments, and we get to answer him. We learned the names of the three kings. We get to pray. I feel like I got blessed at Resurrection Academy."

Grace Duranleau
2nd Grade

"The reason I like Catholic education is because they individually teach us, and they care about teaching us. The people here are really nice. The best part about being here is they give us all the supplies we need to have an education. The teachers help us with stuff we don't understand and need help with."

Ezikel Ruiz
8th Grade



Diocese of San Bernardino Schools



St. Margaret Mary School (Pre-8)

Waylynn Senn, *Principal*
12664 Central Ave., Chino 91710
909-591-8419

FUN FACT:
28 out of the 37 staff members attended, had their children attend, or currently have children attending the school



St. Thomas School (K-8)

Dian Pizurie, *Principal*
9136 Magnolia Ave., Riverside 92503
951-689-1981

FUN FACT:
St. Katharine Drexel was one of the founding teachers of the school



St. Peter and St. Paul School (Pre-5)

Kelly Burt, *Principal*
9135 Banyan St., Alta Loma 91737
909-987-7908

FUN FACT:
The only Catholic elementary school in the Diocese of San Bernardino to open in the 21st century



St. Christopher Preschool (Pre)

Eleanor Manucal, *Director*
25075 Cottonwood Ave.,
Moreno Valley 92553 • 951-571-8347

FUN FACT:
Is the place to pray and play
Learning is at its best
Trusting God to do the rest"



St. Theresa School (Pre-8)

Michael Keno, *Principal*
455 S. Compadre Rd., Palm Springs 92262
760-327-4919

FUN FACT:
The statue of St. Theresa located in the front of the school, and the statue of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton located in the back of the school, both face inward to the school watching over our students and teachers



St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Preschool (Pre)

Christina Stutzman, *Director*
14085 Peyton Dr., Chino Hills 91709
909-325-8950

FUN FACT:
Located in a different city than the church.



Catholic Education Foundation
DIOCESE of SAN BERNARDINO
Our Children. Our Community. Our Future.

Foundation aims to make Catholic education a dream for all

In the words of Saint John Chrysostom, "There is no greater work than to form the minds and hearts of the young." Catholic schools are committed to both a religious and academic mission. In a world where values are progressively more and more secular and humanistic, Catholic schools are privileged to teach the faith and nurture in students a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Catholic schools anchor communities, promote social justice, and are one of the most precious gifts of the Church, and they exist only through the incredible sacrifice and the dedication of

the mission-driven men and women who answer the call to teach and lead within them.

The Catholic Education Foundation (CEF) for the Diocese of San Bernardino was established to bring financial support to deserving students and families. Since its inception, the CEF has awarded over \$600,000 in tuition assistance. Our vision is that every child has access to a Catholic education. It is our Mission to raise sufficient funds to support Catholic education and make Catholic schools accessible by all.

Never miss an issue!



To receive the *Inland Catholic Byte* at home
call 909.475.5423 or

mail the coupon below to:

Inland Catholic Byte, Diocese of San Bernardino
1201 E. Highland Ave., San Bernardino, CA 92410

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip Code: _____
Parish: _____
E-mail: _____

At this time, home delivery of the *Inland Catholic Byte* is free, a donation of any amount to cover mailing cost is greatly appreciated.

Parent Perspective

Setting up our child for a bright future

By Sarah Colella

Catholic education fosters an incredible sense of community and nurtures the understanding of and commitment to community service. Our Catholic schools provide not only an excellent educational curriculum, but the Christ-centered teaching also cultivates a whole person approach with an emphasis on Catholic values.

My husband, David, and I were educated in the Catholic schools of the Diocese of San Bernardino. He attended Holy Rosary Academy and then Saint Thomas Aquinas High School; I attended Our Lady of the Assumption School and then Saint Thomas Aquinas High School. The education we received has been paramount to our success.

We have recognized the immense sense of community and stewardship

shown throughout our Catholic schools. The care, attention, and dedication to teaching with Christ's example at the forefront are important to us. In a time when religious beliefs are allowed in fewer and fewer public places, they are ever-present in our Catholic schools and this is essential to raising the next generation of leaders who will ensure the principles taught by Jesus are part of the fabric of our communities.

So, what does our Catholic school mean to us? For us it means that our child is receiving the best "whole person" education available. It means knowing the teachers and staff, personally, because they are always available to discuss our child's progress and take a direct interest in the success of our child. It means that our child is learning in a safe and healthy environment. It means that we are setting up our child for a bright future.



Parent Perspective

Meeting the needs of a diverse student population

By Andraea Regalado-Cardenas

St. George Parish School is a radiant gem in Ontario. Miracles happen here every day. When our eldest son, Andres, started junior kindergarten at St. George, he ignited the third generation to attend Catholic school in our family.

When our youngest son, Christopher, was diagnosed with autism, we were convinced he would not be able to attend St. George with his brother. However, our principal at the time, Peter Horton, invited us to register Chris. From that day forward, amazing achievements have happened every day because of the love, hope, support, and prayer that fill our community of St. George Parish School.

When Andrew Ramirez took place as our new principal, he promised to continue helping Chris grow. The most instrumental

way he does this is by having an exceptional Resource Teacher, Christina Murguia. She is the key and primary link between the parents, teachers, administrative staff, school district, and therapists. She helps and encourages all of our students with devotion, patience, genuineness, endearment, and reliability.

Chris has made the most progress with her because she has taken the time to observe what tools truly help him. Christina celebrates every accomplishment and recognizes the gifts of each student. She encourages the growth and development of our students with a beautiful smile, strategic plan, inspiring prayer, and devoted heart.

St. George School is powered and guided by the Holy Spirit and Murguia. She is a blessing to our school and students!



Catholic high schools in San Bernardino, Riverside came in pairs

We are fast approaching 100 years of Catholic high schools in our Diocesan area. In a unique historical development, there were two sets of Catholic high schools in the two biggest cities in our Diocese that had a special relationship.



This article will explore the connection of St. Bernardine High School and Aquinas High School in San Bernardino, and the connection of St. Francis de Sales High School and Notre Dame High School in Riverside.

St. Bernardine and Aquinas High Schools

When Rev. Nicholas Conneally set out in 1918 to build a new elementary school at St. Bernardine Parish, he also had in mind that the time had come for a Catholic high school. The new building was large enough to accommodate both an elementary school and a high school.

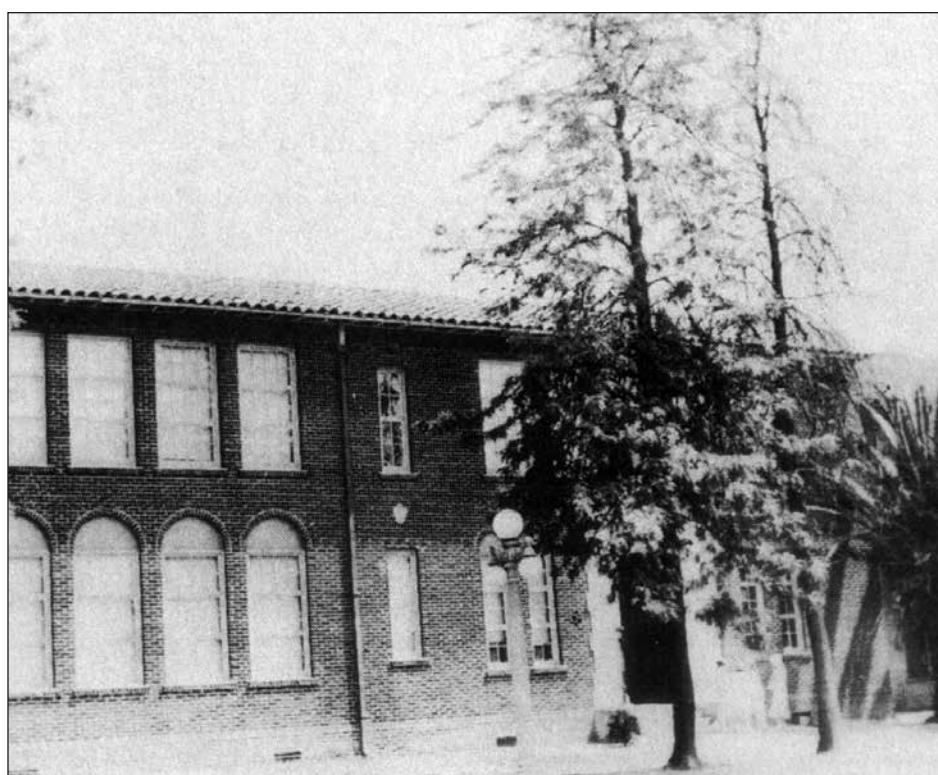
The co-ed high school began in 1920 with the sisters from the Immaculate Heart of Mary religious community as faculty. San Bernardino and Riverside counties were part of the Diocese of Monterey-Los Angeles at that time.

The economic depression during the 1930's was difficult for the school, but the prosperity after World War II would lead to an expansion of the school with eight classrooms, a girls locker and shower facility, and a library. When Newman High School opened in Fontana in 1947 as an all-boys school, there was an impact on the number of male students at St. Bernardine High School.

In 1954, Bishop Charles Buddy from the Diocese of San Diego, which had absorbed San Bernardino and Riverside counties 18 years earlier, announced that a new central high school for boys would open in the city of San Bernardino for the next scholastic year.

Aquinas Hall, the first name for the school, opened with 49 freshman boys. One of the early challenges for the new school was student transportation. To purchase a school bus, the tuition was raised to \$25 a month. However, having three Catholic high schools in close geographical proximity caused financial challenges for all three schools during the 1950's.

There were only 234 boys at Aquinas High School in 1965. This led to merger discussions with St. Bernardine High School. In 1967, the first St. Bernardine – Aquinas graduation was held. To prepare for the eventual merger, 15 acres of land was purchased just north of the Aquinas campus in 1969. This provided for the



St. Bernardine High School

needed expansion with eight classrooms, a library and gymnasium, science laboratories and even a swimming pool.

In 1971, the last senior class from St. Bernardine graduated. That fall, Aquinas High School became co-educational when the remaining 336 girls from St. Bernardine High School were transferred to join the male student body of 320 at Aquinas.

St. Francis de Sales and Notre Dame High Schools

Another interesting connection between St. Bernardine Parish in San Bernardino and St. Francis de Sales Parish in Riverside was the Rev. P.J. Stockman. Fr. Stockman was pastor of St. Bernardine Parish from 1875-95. During his long pastorate, he began several new church communities in the area. One of those new churches was St. Francis de Sales Mission in 1886 in the growing community of Riverside. St. Francis de Sales became a full parish in 1893 when Riverside County was formed. Thus, St. Francis de Sales is the mother parish for Riverside County.

With the first graduation of the new elementary school at St. Francis de Sales Parish in 1921, there were enough students from St. Francis de Sales and Catholic graduates from the Riverside public schools that a high school freshman class could be formed. In September 1921, a fifth Dominican sister from Texas arrived to join the Dominican community teaching in the elementary school. Sister Mary John Lamb would teach all the first-year classes at the new high school.

The high school along with the elementary school was located on the property of St. Francis de Sales Parish in downtown Riverside. The first graduating class consisted of four girls. One of the two graduates in 1928 was George Rice, who would

later become a priest in the Diocese of San Diego. The high school received its state accreditation in 1933.

Much of the success of the high school can be traced to the leadership and determination of Msgr. Peter Lynch who served

elementary school in 1954, a large “faculty house” was built adjacent to the Church to accommodate the Holy Ghost Fathers who would serve at both the parish and new high school.

Bishop Buddy approved the new high school and Notre Dame opened in 1956 with 59 boys in the freshman class. Separate high schools for boys and girls in the Diocese of San Diego was an important value for Bishop Buddy. In the early 1970's, two events occurred that would impact St. Francis de Sales High School. First, there was a declining number of Dominican Sisters available to teach at the high school, and secondly, Notre Dame High School was experiencing financial difficulties. The solution to these developments was to combine the two schools.

On the golden anniversary of St. Francis de Sales High School in 1972, the final graduation was held for 65 girls. When the two schools merged that fall, the total enrollment was over 600 students. The Dominican Sisters joined the faculty at Notre Dame. At St. Francis de Sales Parish, the elementary school expanded into the vacated high school facilities. To accommodate the new students, Notre Dame added eight new classrooms, two laboratories, and a home economics room.

In closing, the leadership and dedica-



St. Francis de Sales High School

as pastor for 40 years (1934-1974). His continuous support led to the construction of a new convent in 1939 and later, in 1947, six new classrooms, an auditorium, new school office and a library.

Immediately after World War II, Bishop Charles Buddy purchased property at the intersection of Arlington and Brockton Avenues in Riverside. In 1946, St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish was begun. After the establishment of the parish el-

tion demonstrated by Bishops, pastors and school officials contributed to this unique reality with these two sets of Catholic high schools. The memory and spirit of St. Francis de Sales High School lives on today at Notre Dame High School, and the tradition of St. Bernardine High School is part of the culture today at Aquinas High School.

Peter Bradley is Archivist in the Diocese of San Bernardino.