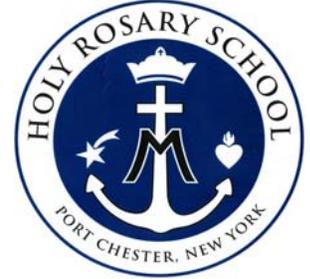




Holy Rosary School Alumni News



Winter 2008

Port Chester, NY 10573



Save the Date!

Saturday, October 4, 2008

Holy Rosary School Hall of Fame Dinner Dance

Honoring the Graduating Classes of the 1950s



Honorees will be our own "Greatest Generation," the first complete graduating classes of Holy Rosary. The Dinner Dance will take place in the Holy Rosary school gymnasium at an affordable price for all. There will be other events at Holy Rosary Church and Youth Center all weekend, including the annual October procession and outdoor Mass in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary.

Your Alumni Association Working For You
and Holy Rosary School. Join With Us!



Pictured at a recent Alumni Association Board meeting are, in front, Barbara (Novak) O'Toole and Carol Ruspini, and back row, Paul Zaccagnino, Fr. Tim Ploch, SDB, Holy Rosary Church Pastor, Nick Mecca, President, Sam Silva, our youngest board member and Vice-President, Andy Zaccagnino, and John Mecca. Our annual 50/50 raffle raised \$1,400 and was won by Kevin Vizcho attending Pre-K. With past proceeds from the raffle and contributions from the alumni, our Alumni Association has been able to give \$1,000.00 in incentive scholarships each year for the past 10 years. These scholarships go to worthy 5th and 6th grade students to encourage them to stay at Holy Rosary School for their middle

school years. Our association has purchased and installed the name plaques for the statues in front of our newly renovated church and for the school sign on Grace Church Street. The association also continues to help pay for the annual luncheon for the open house on St. John Bosco's feast in coordination with Catholic Schools Week at the end of January. We served well over 400 for lunch this past January 27th. The board welcomes your interest, your input, your participation, your financial support, your time. Holy Rosary School is alive and more than well; it can use your helping hand. Get involved and enjoy connecting with some great memories, and hundreds of fellow alums, as well.



Sponsorships Available

You can sponsor a student's attendance at Holy Rosary School. Many students need partial or complete scholarships. \$2,300 will completely sponsor a child for a year. All contributions are welcome! Call Fr. Tim Ploch at the Rectory at 914-939-0547.



Holy Rosary School Alumni News



Dear Alumni of Holy Rosary School:



Holy Rosary Pastor
Fr. Tim Ploch SDB

Happy Feast of Saint John Bosco! Do you remember celebrating his feast day when you were a student here at Holy Rosary School?

These days we do it up big too. This year on January 31, exactly 120 years after Don Bosco died in 1888, we had a grand celebration. The two Salesian schools of Port Chester, ours and Corpus Christi, came together for a

joint Mass. Afterwards the kids had time to play in the Don Bosco Center. Then we had lunch together and finally a little talent show. All the kids went home with a little souvenir of Don Bosco. He's still the father and teacher of youth. I know he was happy.

Just like he was happy when YOU were here at Holy Rosary! I'm sure the Salesian Sisters and the other teachers and administrators of our school reminded you often that we are a family, with St. John Bosco as father and Mary Help of Christians as mother. Lots of things have changed over the years at Holy Rosary School, but not that.

One of the things that has changed is that now the kids we serve are mostly newly arrived immigrants from all over Latin America. A good number come to us not knowing a word of English. Their parents are hard working and poor. The school is on an upswing now. We increased our enrollment by 30 this year. We are so proud to be the place where they can get to know the Lord, Don Bosco, and their new country.

I invite you to be part of your elementary school again. You still belong to Don Bosco!

Please feel free to come and visit us anytime. And consider supporting your alumni association. It's because of you we can offer this kind of Salesian education to these poor children. And more are waiting. For you!

Sincerely,

Rev. Timothy C. Ploch, SDB

Pastor

Holy Rosary School Continues to Grow

...a message from the Principal

Dear Alumnus,

Happy New Year and warm greetings from your Alma Mater! For many of you it has been as many as 50 years since you have walked the halls of Holy Rosary School. At that time, the Salesian Sisters prepared you well for the 20th century. Today, the faculty and staff of Holy Rosary continue to educate the children in the spirit of St. John Bosco, while preparing them for their place in the 21st century. The same strong Salesian presence and family atmosphere that you felt as children, our children continue to experience today. Many of your happiest memories and lifelong friendships were surely made here at Holy Rosary.



Holy Rosary Principal
Mrs. Mary Norelli

Today our students continue to be formed in the faith, as you were, and they are also being called to a high standard of academics, conduct, respect and responsibility; the same qualities which made you the successful individuals that you are today. They enjoy the benefits of the latest technology, physical education, music and the arts. Really, since 1946, only the names have changed. We all remain one Salesian family under the guidance of Mary help of Christians, and as with any family, you are always welcome here.

Please visit our school, *your* school, and see that while many things have changed over the years, that what really matters hasn't changed at all – quality Catholic education at Holy Rosary School.

Until we meet again, may God continue to bless you.

Fondly,

Mary Norelli

There are 136 Holy Rosary Alums on

Classmates.com!

Contact the Alumni Association through our new e-mail address

HRSalums@yahoo.com



Holy Rosary School Alumni News



The Holy Rosary School Kindergarten Class of 1946

Send us any pictures you have scanned and would like to share. E-mail them to HRSalums@yahoo.com

Spotlight on...Basilia Dayse Menick

By John Mecca '57

I had the opportunity to interview **Dayse Menick**, 22-year veteran of pre-K classes at Holy Rosary School. Dayse and her husband Louis live in Port Chester. They have two grown children and two grandchildren. Dayse grew up and was educated in Cuba. She came to Port Chester in 1969 and began work at Holy Rosary School as a teacher's aide in 1984. Dayse immediately began helping out with communication between Spanish-speaking parents, who constituted 99% of Holy Rosary parents, and the English-speaking staff at the school. When asked about the changes from her first years at Holy Rosary to the present, she said that she now sees "an increase in the support and the involvement of parents and the many friends and alumni of the school. The parents now speak more English and are better educated, some being doctors, nurses, teachers, and lawyers."

She has many fond memories of the children she has taught and of the Salesian Sisters from the school. She was saddened when the Sisters left the school and even went to speak directly to the Sisters' provincial superior. She has always had a great fondness for the Sisters and her eyes light up when she talks about her



memories of working with them.

Throughout her career she has seen the grace of God through the help of Mary and the good people she knows at work at Holy Rosary. She feels she is a missionary and her mission is "to give her students a good start and then let them go." While other jobs are available to her, she still teaches at Holy Rosary because she sees so much positive potential in the school especially through the encouraging upswing of active parental involvement. "Ask the parents and they come through," she stated. Although she is very busy at the school and with school-related activities, she still manages to read a lot and to do physical activities, like playing tennis, walking, and swimming.



We are sure that many alumni have fond memories of Dayse and can easily understand why she was chosen as one of the inductees of the Holy Rosary Hall of Fame in 2003. Dayse Menick, teacher, woman of faith, role model: we thank you for all you have done and continue to do for the children of Holy Rosary School.

Help Us Keep In Touch!

Fill out this questionnaire and send it to...

Holy Rosary Alumni Association, % Nick Mecca, 45 Alto Avenue, Port Chester, NY 10573

Name: _____
Last Name First Name Maiden Name

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Year Graduated: _____ Occupation: _____

What did Holy Rosary School mean to you? _____

What would you like other alums to know about you? _____

You can also e-mail this information to HRSalums@yahoo.com. We hope to hear from you!



Holy Rosary School Alumni News



Holy Rosary Alumni Association

18 Central Avenue

Port Chester, NY 10573



Holy Rosary School Alumni News

