



ANNUAL
REPORT
EDITION

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL • BURLINGAME • FALL 2016

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Events 2016-17

*Visit our website for details
on these and other events
www.mercyhsb.com.*

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Tri-School Fall Play at Serra

October 21, 22, 28, 29

A Taste and Take Wine Event

Friday, November 18, 2016

7pm Kohl Mansion

Admissions

Open House

Sunday, November 20

12:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Christmas at Kohl

Wednesday, November 30

5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Dance Show

The Grinch that Stole Christmas

Thursday, December 1

Skyline College Theater

Tri-School Winter

Concert at Mercy

Tuesday, December 6

Annual Auction Benefit

Saturday, March 11, 2017

Tri-School Spring Musical

at Serra

March 24, 25, 31 & April 1 - 7:30 p.m.

March 26 - 2:00 p.m.

Making a Difference

Thursday, April 6, 2017

6:30 pm

Spring Open House

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mercy Dance Concert

Mercy Does Magic

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Skyline College Theater

Spring Concert at Mercy

Monday, May 10, 2017

Mercy ArtsFest at Mercy

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Baccalaureate Mass

Saturday, June 3, 2017 - OLA

Graduation

St. Ignatius Church (USF)

Sunday, June 4, 2017



The Oaks is published twice yearly for the Alumnae, Parents, and Friends of Mercy High School Burlingame a Catholic College Preparatory since 1931. Mercy High School is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas West Midwest Community.

In an effort to go green we will only be sending one Oaks per household. Please share with all. Thank you!

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BE THE ONE, MERCY!

In his book, *Walking with Mary*, Edward Siri writes about a prayer card Mother Teresa had with the image of Jesus suffering on the cross on the front. Below the image was the verse from one of the Psalms, "I looked for one that would comfort me, and I found no one." When Mother Teresa would hand out the prayer card she would write below the quote, "Be the One."

This year Mercy High School has adopted "Be the One" as our focus in all areas of school life from academics to activities and athletics to community service. As you page through this issue of the Oaks you will see how current students, faculty, alumnae and parents have found ways to "Be the One" through their actions and deeds.

Two people who truly exemplify Mercy and "Be the One," are featured in the pages that follow - Eileen Horan and Kathy Mountain. Gifted teachers, caring women, cherished colleagues. Kathy is a gentle perfectionist who passed along every best practice to her eager students. I have seen literally hundreds of alumnae who, when spying Eileen, scream, run for a hug and then cry. It's those hugs. When we were interviewing new teachers for the English Department one of our top candidates told me that she had gotten a hug and a kiss from Eileen. Who needs an offer letter when you have that seal of approval?

Neither of these women have, by the way, actually "left the building." Kathy is volunteering in Advancement and the Resource Center and Eileen is working with the students in the AMES program. They are following a pattern set by two of their former co-workers, Cathy Fontaine and Pat Flanagan. Cathy spent the second semester of last school year subbing for a maternity leave in English (and may do so again). Pat is a valued member of our Board of Directors. I have often thought how incredibly fortunate so many of our graduates have been to have had one, two or all four of these amazing teachers during their time at Mercy.

The Making a Difference Scholarship Dinner does exactly what it's name says...it makes a difference in the lives of young women who would not otherwise be able to attend Mercy. These funds support tuition assistance that helps families afford the cost of a Catholic education. It is challenging to try to keep tuition at a reasonable, competitive level and still pay our teachers and staff a living wage (particularly in the Bay area) and maintain our programs and our facilities, especially our beautiful mansion. The funds raised at this dinner allow us to help many families. The alumnae, parents, friends, faculty and staff who generously support this event most certainly embody "Be the One."

Mother Teresa (aka St. Teresa of Calcutta) once said that, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." This quote symbolizes to me what Mercy High School is all about. Students, alumnae, faculty and staff making a difference, each in her (or his) own way...being the one. What a privilege it is to be a part of this wonderful school!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Hanrahan".

Karen Hanrahan
Head of School



Making A Difference 2016

RAISED OVER \$281,000
FOR TUITION ASSISTANCE

Mercy's 2016 Making A Difference Scholarship Benefit was a tremendous success.

Led by Chair Cathy Dunleavey Rosaia '72 and Steering Committee members Kelli Benz (Samantha '11, Katie '12), Clare Pool Purpura '75, Caroline Romeo (Christina '14), Joan Fitzpatrick (Ciara '15), Stacey Longwich '98 and Director of Advancement Mary Lund (Theresa '06, Kathleen '08) the Green Hills Country Club was filled to maximum capacity. A heartfelt thank you to all of our donors who provide an opportunity for a young girl to attend Mercy, an opportunity which can change her life forever.

It was a family affair as Keynote Speaker Gina Rosaia Collins '99 inspired our guests. Gina spoke of the rich friendships formed at Mercy and how the mission of Mercy impacted her life long before her freshman year and continues to shape how she lives her life as a mother, a wife, a daughter, a friend, and as a professional. "A Mercy education doesn't stop at academic excellence; it extends so far beyond the books and seeks to prepare young women for their bigger, their broader, their more meaningful role in society...Mercy teachers are fueled by the potential of young women—they look beyond the surface of these girls to discover how to reach them, how to motivate them, how to prepare them to share their full potential with the world. . . what I ask of you tonight, is to give more young women that opportunity, to reflect back on their four years of high school with a depth of gratitude, and to be prepared to live out the Mercy values in ways that benefit us all."



Cathy Dunleavey Rosaia '72, Odalis Castellanos '16
and Gina Rosaia Collins '99

"You have changed my life by providing me with this opportunity and I will be forever grateful." -Odalis '16

We are especially grateful to our Board of Directors for underwriting the event allowing 100% of all donations to directly benefit tuition assistance. Bob Grassilli, Chair of the Board of Directors, Lauren Rocheleau '17, Aisling Horgan '17 and Odalis Castellanos '16 had a powerful impact on the crowd as they shared the meaning of a Mercy education and the impact of this event on the lives of young women.

Odalis and Gina's speeches and the video are posted on our website under Giving.

SAVE THE DATE: Making A Difference 2017
Thursday, April 6th - 6:30PM
Green Hills Country Club

FEATURE

Thank You!



MAKING a difference
Scholarship Benefit

A special thank you to the Board of Directors for underwriting the event; 100% of all sponsorships and donations directly support tuition assistance.





Beloved Teachers Retire

It was a bittersweet moment as the faculty, staff and students honored Kathy Mountain and Eileen Horan. These two long time and beloved faculty members retired at the end of last school year. At the last assembly and Mass both educators were awarded Mercy's highest honor – they were presented with McAuley Medals for their many years of service. Combined, these women have been in education for 96 years. They have touched the hearts of thousands of students and we will forever be grateful for the positive effect they have had on our lives.

These two wonderful women have become part of the true “Heart of Mercy.” For decades they have put their heart and soul into the education of young women. During their time at Mercy, Ms. Horan has taught English and Ms. Mountain taught both English and Social Studies.

They are true examples of educators teaching in the “spirit” of Catherine McAuley, Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. For each of these women, the girls came first; and they have always done everything in their power to see that each student they taught took something away from their class that would help them along in life.

Through the years, there has not been a costume that Ms. Horan has not donned for one of her Advisories, for a rally or for Bowlathon! She has always been there to offer a gentle hug or a kind word of encouragement or helpful critique for her student's writing.

As for Ms. Mountain, there isn't an alum around who doesn't still remember “Ms. Mountain's Words”, or how they learned the art of debate or remember the great times they had at a JSA Convention because she prepared them so well!

We wish them well as they begin their new adventures, and look forward to having them come back to walk the halls of Mercy as often as they choose!

Messages of from their students...



“When my mom died two years after I graduated from Mercy, Mrs. Mountain sent me a card, Ms. Horan called me to see how I was doing, and both came to her funeral. It meant the world to me. They are both extremely special, and I can never thank them enough for all the support they provided me.” —*Maureen Carey '04*

“Such a great education at Mercy because of teachers like Ms. Horan and Ms. Mountain. Ms. Horan has made a huge impact on my life.” —*Christina Underwood '83*



“So that’s where I got “plethora” from, Mrs. Mountain? :) Can you “love” Macbeth? I did, thanks to Ms. Horan!! All the best in your future endeavors ladies!!”
—*Cynthia Gonzalez Morton '88*

“I love this. Ms. Horan totally changed my trajectory in life. Truly an angel that supported so many of us. It’s her shining light that helped me to find mine. THANK YOU.”
—*Kristina Marie '98*

“I remember when Mrs. Mountain told us the story about how her maiden name was Hill and when she got married, she became a Mountain. I’ve always loved that story.”

—*Elizabeth Azzopardi Fredieu '97*

“‘Superfluous’ and ‘Parsimonious’, because Superfluous use of the pen was forbidden, and the famous ‘Parsimonious Halloween Costume.’ Love you Mrs. Mountain!”

—*Malena Renee Magallanes '12*





Dance

The Mercy Dance program is exceptional, with 85% of the senior dancers accepted into college/university dance programs. As one of the finest programs in the Bay Area, we offer six levels of year-long dance classes in our on-campus professional dance studio. Our comprehensive program begins with Dance 1, in which girls learn beginning dance techniques through Dance VI, in which students study advanced choreographic techniques in Traditional Jazz, Modern, Latin Jazz, Contemporary Lyrical, Tap, Hip Hop and Musical Theatre. In Dance VI, dancer's master advanced choreographic techniques, are required to learn a wide variety of choreographic styles and to incorporate these styles into the creation of their own performance for the Spring Dance Concert. Mercy offers four highly competitive dance teams which have placed at Regional as well as USA spirit competitions. Mercy graduates are on dance teams or studying dance at universities throughout the country.



Elizabeth (Lizzie) Anstice '15

Mercy Dance Alum, Lizzie, now attends the University of Colorado Boulder, and is a member of the Buff Gold Dance Team. Here she reflects on her experience trying out for the Dance team, "Through my experience at an all-girls school and the knowledge I gained at Mercy, I was able to once again find the sisterhood I had at high school." She continues, "My experiences at Mercy had helped me in a time when I felt more lost than ever, and I was never more proud to be a Mercy girl, and now, a Buff Gold girl."

Beverly Desuasido '97

WINS EMMY IN 2015 AND NOMINATION IN 2016



Top:

2016 Beverly Desuasido '97 with future Mercy girls, her daughters, Bianca (2) and Brooklyn (7);

2016 Mercy Alums - Estrellina Pacis Rius '97, Beverly Desuasido '97, and Bernadette Desuasido Portugal '97

Middle:

2015 Production crew winners l-r Jon Santos, Jeremiah Ysip, Beverly Desuasido '97, Keesa Ocampo, Joe Perry, Albert Chung

Bottom:

2015 Wendy Yi, Beverly Desuasido '97, Bernadette Desuasido Portugal '97, Estrellina Pacis Rius '97

The 44th Annual Northern California Area EMMY Award Ceremony is held in June at the SF Jazz Center in San Francisco. *ABS-CBN International's Lifestyle Network* received its first Emmy win in 2015 - The channel won for its original series "Haute the Record" a feature segment on Rafe Totengco, a celebrated New York-based Filipino fashion designer renowned for his namesake handbag collection, *Rafe New York*. Executive Producer **Beverly Desuasido '97** was quoted as saying, "I brought home the trophy in 2015 and was nominated in 2016. In attendance were my parents, my daughter Brooklyn, Mercy Alums, Bernadette Desuasido Portugal '97, Estrellina Pacis Rius '97 and best friend Wendy Yih...It was a wonderful night celebrating the television industry. Honored to have been nominated twice with one win."

"When we launched Lifestyle Network in 2013, our goal was to come up with a channel that inspires Filipinos in America to fulfill their passion and realize their dreams. By winning this Emmy for our series that celebrated precisely that spirit of creativity and excellence of the Filipino, we ourselves realized a dream with this coveted industry recognition. We're very grateful to everyone involved in making this happen," said ABS-CBN North America Managing Director Olivia De Jesus.

A Visit with Catherine

By Sister Judy Carle

We all know that a Mercy education is priceless. But every once in a while we get to see its life-shaping effects. Such was a day in my four-month opportunity to be a member of the program staff at Mercy International Centre in Dublin, Ireland—also known as Catherine’s House, the first House of Mercy built by Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy, in response to the needs of the poor in Dublin.

Six recent graduates from Mercy High School Burlingame in California were visiting Dublin. I did not know them, but we greeted each other as long lost friends and gladdened in our Mercy roots. They had only one day in Dublin and a very short time to see the house that Catherine built. So I rushed them through, rapidly commenting on Catherine’s story. In the room where Catherine died, we paused for reflection. As I began Catherine’s Suscipe prayer, expecting to be a lone voice, I was overwhelmed as seven strong voices joined me—they knew her prayer and had said it often!

One of the students, **Maggie Grogan ‘16**, shared the letter below about the experience. All you Mercy educators, take heart! Our students walk into the world with a precious heritage.



Graduates of the Class of 2016 pictured in front of the Mercy International Centre in Dublin Ireland — Hannah Lahey, Ally Ick, Layla Mustafa, Kendall Gordon, Ciara Callanan, and Maggie Grogan.

July 30, 2016

To: Karen Hanrahan, Head of School
Mercy High School, Burlingame, California

Dear Ms. Hanrahan,

A few days ago I returned from a trip to Ireland that I took with my best friends **Hannah Lahey, Layla Mustafa, Ciara Callanan, Ally Ick and Kendall Gordon**. We spent a day in Dublin and on that day decided it would be best to stop by the Mercy International Centre, as it was only a few blocks away from our bus stop. We rang the doorbell and told the sister who greeted us that we had just graduated from Mercy Burlingame and were wondering if we could take a look around. We were welcomed in, and all of the sisters were very excited to have students visiting, and one sister who had been there for four months was a sister from Burlingame [Sister Judy Carle]. She brought us to the room where Catherine McAuley passed away, and together the seven of us prayed her Suscipe prayer. It was an incredibly moving experience

and we brought Sister to tears. We later said a prayer at Catherine’s grave and saw the first-ever Mercy classroom where we met three more sisters who sang the Suscipe to us in Swahili.

I just wanted to share this experience with you because in the short 40 minutes that I was in the Mercy Centre. I felt the most Mercy that I ever have. I was able to see for myself that Mercy is a global community and that just by being a student of Mercy [Burlingame] I have a connection with countless women around the world. I am grateful that I was able to go to the Centre with just my best friends because Mercy is what connects us together. I know that as I continue to grow I will experience Mercy in more ways, and as I continue to learn about myself I will always appreciate that Mercy is a part of me and has shaped who I am.

Sincerely,

Maggie Grogan, Class of 2016



Athletics Outlook

An Interview with AD Charlie Dougherty & Asst. AD Claire Rietmann-Grout '04



What do you enjoy most about your job?

CD: "This is a wonderful opportunity to take a program that has so much room to grow, and with the support of the Administration and the athletes themselves it's a great feeling to see the steps were taking moving forward."

CRG: "This year I'm really excited about working with our student leaders, both student government and also through the Girls Athletic Association. I'm really passionate about building leaders through athletics - so I'm excited to get to know them and help them develop their leadership skills."

What's your plan to bring more fans to Mercy Athletic events?

CD: "We definitely need to get the girls involved and build a sense of community. It starts with the teams first - we've already talked with the coaches and encouraged them to have their teams come support other teams. Working with our GAA Board (Girls Athletic Association) to find different ways to promote the games and get the rest of the student body involved."

CRG: "I have two ideas - I'm an alum, and I'd love to bring more alums back to our athletic events. We currently do alumnae games for certain sports but I'd like to get more teams on board. The second idea is to start a Spirit Day Initiative - identify one game per sport that would be the "Spirit Game". Students and faculty would be encouraged to attend that game and get spirit points for their classes."

Define a good coach?

CD: "I believe a good coach is someone who can understand the athletes themselves first and foremost, and understand what properly motivates

each individual athlete in order to get the best out of them. They should be able to teach the game the right way, in a positive fashion. The goal of every coach is to be able to make sure the girls are having a positive experience and yet at the same time are expanding their overall performance.

CRG: "I value two main things: someone who can inspire their players to work hard and motivate them for their commitment to the sport/team. The second attribute is integrity: the most important way our girls learn is through modeling. It's important for our coaches to be good role models for our players."

Where do you see Mercy Athletics, in 1 year, 5 years, 10 years?

CD: "In one year, I'd like to see that the majority of our teams are competitive -- Each one of our teams grow in terms of their overall performance, not only individual athletes but each team as a whole. Five years, I'd hope to see Mercy athletics competing in every sport not only in their respective leagues championships but also in getting into and through Central Coast Sectionals (CCS). In 10 years, I want Mercy to be known as the premier school not only for the wonderful education but also for the competitive athletic program."

CRG: "For this year I really want our athletes and coaches to feel supported - we have great leadership in our Athletic department and I want our teams to know that they have the backing of the Administration behind them. In 5 years, I'd love it if the girls had a really strong sense of pride as community members. In 10 years, I want people to say my experience as a Mercy athlete changed who I am today."

What is one strategic initiative you have in place to make an immediate effect?

CD: "I think its very important that we are able to get the girls to buy in that the season is longer than when they are competing - the girls need to understand that their pre-season preparation is extremely important. We are trying to get the girls to understand that doing more outside of their season (participating in open gyms, attending strength and conditioning sessions regularly etc.) will drive them to the next level."

CRG: "I'm going to bring enthusiasm into the Athletic Department every single day - I'm hoping that there will be athletes, coaches and teachers who will be able to mirror that passion."

Spring Awards ALL LEAGUE

1st Team

Lacrosse: Shannon Grady
Mariah Pechina

Softball: Erin Dougherty
Kaylyn Sterling

Swimming: Teresa Tang

Track and Field: Teme Fanguna

2nd Team

Lacrosse: Katia Ajam,
Louise Hardiman
and Kathleen Napier

Softball: Alexis Luciano
Amber Abugharbieh

Track and Field: Catherine Nguyen

Honorable Mention

Lacrosse: Megan Becken

Softball: Kesaia Langi

Swimming: Kaitlyn Michaud

Track and Field: Gabby Stanton-Fischer



Senior Athlete of the Year MADISON GOMES

This year, Maddy was an integral part of both the basketball team and swim teams. Her senior leadership was critical to both teams as they were reliant on her experience as she was a 3 yr Varsity basketball player and 4 yr Varsity swimmer. However, it was Water Polo where Maddy made her impact felt the most as she was the Captain of the team. She was named MVP of her Mercy squad as well as the MVP of the Peninsula Athletic League for her all around solid play. She was named honorable mention all-CCS. She was also named to an all-star team comprised of CCS players that went on to play a game vs. the North Coast Section. Maddy is attending Santa Clara University where she will play Water Polo.



Top 10 Highlights of Mercy Athletics in 2015-16

- 1 Freshmen Volleyball team won the WBAL Frosh title with a undefeated league record and going 18-1 overall.
- 2 Varsity Water Polo team won the PAL Ocean division going 11-1 in league play
- 3 Maddy Gomes was named the MVP of the PAL Ocean division and was also named the Mercy Athlete of the Year
- 4 Cross Country team qualified for the CCS finals
- 5 Four Mercy dance teams (Varsity Pom, JV Pom, Lyrical & Hip Hop) qualified for the National Dance Competition, Jamz. Jazz took 2nd place and JV Pom took 3rd.
- 6 Nationals Swimmer Teresa Tang qualified for the CCS finals in the 50 Free and 100 back
- 7 Teme Fanguna took first place in shot put and discus in the WBAL league finals, qualifying for CCS
- 8 Softball team qualified for the CCS play-offs
- 9 Softball Pitcher, Erin Dougherty, was named the Head of the Class in week eight of the Prep2Prep honor roll for CCS softball players
- 10 Mercy had 29 athletes named to all-league recognition in the WBAL

MERCY PARENT CLUB



The mission of the **Mercy Parent Club (MPC)** is to assist and support the school in creating a spirit of community.

Who are we?

- All current Mercy Parents are automatic members of MPC!
- There are NO fees to join, or dues to participate!

What do we do?

- MPC Facilitates an opportunity for Mercy Parents to be invested and involved in their daughter's Mercy experience.
- We plan several Social and Community events throughout each school year.
- Driven by the spirit of hospitality, MPC is able to offer Mercy families 4 Complimentary Events:

HEAD OF SCHOOL WELCOME BBQ
MOTHER DAUGHTER TEA
FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE
SENIOR MOTHER DAUGHTER BRUNCH

- MPC also produces 2 major fundraisers each year:
FALL WINE TASTING EVENT
SPRING BENEFIT AUCTION

How does your support make an impact?

- Your participation demonstrates your commitment to the school's mission!
- Your generosity enables MPC to continue to offer complementary community events and to contribute an annual gift to the school that benefits all current Mercy students!



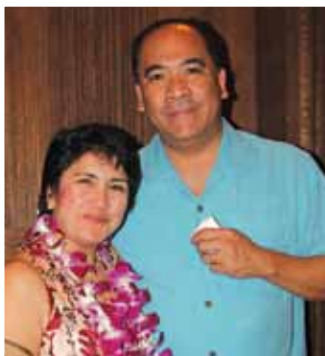
THANK YOU!

The profits from your generosity to our two major fundraising events, less the cost of our four complimentary events, allowed the Mercy Parent Club to present Karen Hanrahan, Head of School, with a total gift of \$40,000! \$9,350 of the total was restricted and used for the purchase of 3D printers for our Students!

We kicked off the 2016-17 school year with a fun Welcome BBQ! Plans are underway for "Taste and Take Wine Tasting and Sale" on November 18th and our Annual Benefit Auction on March 11, 2017.

For more information, to make reservations, or donate to these events, visit our website at www.mercyhsb.com or call 650.762.1199.

MERCY PARENT CLUB EVENTS



A Toast to Mercy!

A Taste and Take Wine Event

Sponsored by the
Mercy Parent Club



Friday, Nov 18, 2016
7PM

Kohl Mansion
Burlingame, CA

Must be 21 to attend.

Join fellow wine lovers, vintners & connoisseurs
for an evening of tasting and conversation
at the Kohl Mansion

Sales benefit Mercy High School

50% of all wine sales will be donated
to Mercy High School Burlingame

Details and Tickets at
<http://tinyurl.com/MercyWineEventPage>

A Toast to Mercy!

*Taste and Take Wine Tasting & Sale to
benefit Mercy High School*

Friday, November 18, 2016

7:00 PM, Kohl Mansion

\$20 per person

Must be 21 to attend

Reserve online by Nov. 15th

Join fellow wine lovers, vintners and
connoisseurs for an evening of tasting
and conversation at the Kohl Mansion.
Over one dozen local wineries will be
present.

SALES BENEFIT MERCY!

**Wine from all vintners will be available
for purchase. 50% of all wine sales will
be donated to Mercy High School!** Visit
the Parents tab at mercyhsb.com to find
more info about the Wine Tasting and
other MPC events.

Annual Benefit Auction Saturday, March 11, 2017

The premiere MPC fundraising
event of the year, highlighted by
amazing food, spirits and the
generosity of the Mercy Community!
*All proceeds benefit current Mercy
programs.*

MPC



Pictured above l to r: Kelsey Connolly '12, Isabella Lim '16, Lauren Rocheleau '17, Sammy Baker '15, George Caughman, Jackie O'Donnell, Bob O'Donnell and Don Ciucci.

Spirit of Mercy

Congratulations to **Lauren Rocheleau '17** winner of the "Spirit of Mercy Memorial Scholarship in Memory of Moira '90, Cindy '92 and Angelina '99." The Spirit of Mercy Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a junior student who exemplifies the Mercy spirit and the values that guided Moira, Cindy and Angelina's lives: "faith, love, courage, compassion, generosity, social justice, and a joy for life." This is the highest award presented to a junior student and provides a \$6,000 scholarship toward the winner's senior year tuition.

In June we brought together several of the former Spirit of Mercy winners for a lunch with the families. It was a wonderful tribute to Moira, Cindy and Angelina to see how the recipients of this scholarship carry forward spirit and values of our beloved alums that were lost too soon.

The Spirit of Mercy is an endowed scholarship which has reached over \$140,000. We invite you to make a gift to this scholarship in memory of these three graduates.

Mercy Scores Big in YMI Contest!

Tom Fourie from the Young Men's Institute was on hand to present awards to the Mercy winners at our Undergraduate Awards in May. He was thrilled to be able to hand out awards to the following student recipients: 1st place went to Kiley O'Brien, and she received a check for \$1,000; 7th place went to Theresa Chan, who was awarded \$100 and 13th place went to Grace Collora, who was awarded \$100. Over 1500 essays from around the country were submitted prizes were given to the top 13.



Women's Equality

In August, we celebrated Women's Equality Day, and we were pleased to welcome Congresswoman Jackie Speier '68. Congresswoman Speier explained to the girls that a joint resolution was passed in 1971 by Congress granting this date be established to commemorate the 1920 certification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote.

Jackie brought out various items, and asked the girls to guess if the price was the same for the same product, and the girls found out that they weren't – and she explained that she is working on repelling the "Pink Tax" – which refers to the extra amount women are charged for certain products or services. Things like dry cleaning, personal care products and vehicle maintenance.

Congresswomen Speier explained to the girls how important this is, and that although we have come a long way, with our rights and privileges, including the right to vote and Title IX for women's sports, that unfortunately we still have a ways to go – especially in the area of equal pay for equal work.

Congresswomen Speier then introduced Phylliss Gould, one of the original "Rosie the Riveters." Phylliss, now 95, told her story and explained that she was one of the first six women welders to be hired by the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond, Calif. There she and many other took over the job previously occupied by the men called off to WWII and not only did they do the same work, but they did get equal pay – so it can be done; we just

have to make sure that equality happens for all.



At the end of the rally, Congresswomen Speier introduced her daughter **Stephanie Sierra '12** who also told the girls to "enjoy

their time at Mercy as it will go way to quickly and encouraged them to always follow their dreams!"



Spring Awakening

In February, the FIDM Fashion Club and Students in Action Club presented their Spring Awakening Fashion Show.

This was the culmination of many months of planning, production and collaboration. It was a completely student

driven Fashion Show, which featured jewelry made by Mercy students from Swarovski Crystal. Student models wore clothes from GAP, Weston Boutique and Styling Fabulous Consignment Boutique.

All money from the event was raised for Manthan School in India, which was created by Hannah Sidhu '16 and her grandmother. It was a fantastic event and we could not be prouder of our Mercy Students for Making Mercy Real!!



Giving Back To Mercy CAREER DAY

Thinking about career options in an ever changing world can be a daunting task, in February, Mercy students were given the opportunity to hear from over 20 Alumnae and Friends about their different career paths.

The event, set up like small "Ted Talks" let the presenters talk about what they do and how they discovered their career path and gave the girls the opportunity to ask questions in a small setting. Students were given the opportunity to sign up for 3 choices that interested them, then rotated every 15 minutes to hear another presenter.

Special thanks to all of the alumnae and friends of Mercy who took the time out of their busy day to come speak with our girls and to the entire Counseling Department for putting on this great event!



In May, sophomore English students celebrated the culmination of their semester-long Sophomore

Action Project. The students presented their research around the five Mercy Critical Concerns (Earth, Women, Non-Violence, Racism and Immigration) through formal presentations, spoken-word poetry, song and film. Ms. Castillo was at the event and said "that it was one of the most moving and relevant presentations on our Mercy charism that she had seen in a long time."

The girls combined Mercy concerns with their own passion for change, did research, and demonstrated that intellectual endeavor through videos, music and poetry; and they captured all its meaning into action through volunteer activities.

The students worked with Ms. Stalter and also met with Mr. Diaz and Ms. Simonetti as part of the process. Ms. Simonetti stated that "the students were so impressive and their projects exemplified so many best practices in Catholic education."



Breidinger Sisters HAVE THE EDGE

Annie and Toni Breidinger '17 are taking the racing circuit by storm. This Spring, it was announced that they would be sponsored by Royal Purple Synthetic Oil. At

Madera Speedway in April, the Breidinger sisters had the edge placing 1st and 3rd place at the USAC Western HPD race. Later on that month, Toni Breidinger took 1st place at the Las Vegas Bullring showing grit and talent in her Royal Purple USAC midget car. Her sister, Annie Breidinger started from 6th position and made a series of wheel-to-wheel passes to finish in 2nd place. This race marked the second time that these twin sisters have crossed the finish line 1st and 2nd in the USAC Western HPD Midget Series.

Reach in,
Reach out,
Reach up!
At Mercy, we
are proud
of our rich
heritage that
began with
one woman
who made a
difference.



Chapel Visits

Each month, all of the religion classes make a visit to the chapel. Young people today rarely have time for quiet without their phones or being interrupted by social media. Monthly chapel visits begin with a short presentation by one of the religion teachers and then students are given 10 to 15 minutes of quiet time. Students can use the time to journal or for quiet reflection and prayer. The chapel visits are very popular among the students as they enjoy having the opportunity to “step away” from their noisy lives.



Freshman Retreat

The entire Freshmen Class headed for Land's End in San Francisco to participate in a challenge course. The course presents students with individual and group challenges, such as a ropes course, obstacle course and team building activities. The Freshman Retreat serves to bond the class through activities which require them to work together, support and encourage each other.



Tea with the Sisters

Students from Catherine's Companions had afternoon tea with the Sisters at Marian Oaks. Conversations varied from students sharing about their classes to the Sisters talking about their professional lives before retirement. Students were so engaged there was an audible groan when we had to leave.



Hearing God's Call

Sr. Jean Evans, the vocation minister for the Sisters of Mercy, visited all sophomore and junior Religion classes in March and April. Sister's topic was discerning God's call in one's life. Such questions as: How can we be attentive to the prompting of the spirit? How can we determine what God is asking of us? How can we be responsive to God's call, were just some of the questions Sr. Jean covered with the students. Sister also provided information on religious life and the works of the Sisters of Mercy.



LA Youth Day

In February, eight Mercy students, two faculty, two Mercy Mom Alums (MOMAs) and three Mercy Alums attended LA Youth Day in Anaheim. LA Youth Day is held at the Anaheim Convention Center and is an annual event in connection with the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress. Nearly fifteen thousand Catholic teens attend Youth Day every year. The day was filled with youth rallies, concerts, workshops, speakers, and a vibrant liturgy with eight thousand youth. The purpose of the day is to give young Catholics an experience of the larger church.



Mercy Alumnae Kelsey Connolly '12 joined the Campus Ministry

team as a member of the Campus Ministry staff and permanent substitute. Kelsey graduated from University of Portland with degrees in Marketing and Theology. Kelsey worked in Campus Ministry at the university for four years. Kelsey is interested in becoming a high school campus minister and religion teacher and she will be with us this year to learn the ropes. We are very excited to have Kelsey on board!



Ananda Farm

A group of students joined Mr. Diaz on a trip to Ananda Farm. Ananda Valley Farm is located in Half Moon Bay and is a California-certified organic farm offering organic food for the citizens of the San Francisco Bay Area. Students worked in what was once a calla lily green house planting tomatoes and squash and transplanting calla lilies. Afterwards, students got to pet the chickens, join the staff in their daily meditation and then eat lunch.



Solidarity Supper

Students and parents from Mercy, Notre Dame and Serra gathered in the Great Hall for the Solidarity Supper. After sharing a meal, students from each school shared with parents their immersion experiences. Mercy and Serra students shared their experience of working with the homeless in San Francisco. Serra students spoke about their experience in Appalachia working with food sustainability and home repair. Notre Dame students shared their experiences of working with the poor.



Immersion Trip

During Easter vacation students from Mercy and Serra attended a Poverty and Homelessness Immersion Trip. They worked at St. Anthony's Foundation for two days serving lunch and also attended a workshop on the faces of poverty. They worked at Glide Memorial serving breakfast. At Mission Creek Mercy Housing they heard the story of David who moved from homelessness to housing. Students also toured the facility and learned how Mercy Housing works. Mr. Diaz led a tour through the Tenderloin, Mission and Chinatown neighborhoods. Students spent time journaling, sharing, and praying to reflect on their experiences.



Baccalaureate Mass

Our Seniors and their families gathered at Our Lady of Angels for the Baccalaureate Mass in June. Fr. Michael was the celebrant and Senior students from ASL translated *Unwritten*. Alumnae Moms handed out roses from the Alumnae Association.



Reflection Excerpt

from Baccalaureate Mass

“...Mercy has taught us all a great number of things, but some of the most important lessons we learned throughout our four years will be lessons we carry throughout our entire lives. Mercy showed us that it's better to be yourself than try to fit in with others. Mercy gave us the courage to take on new tasks that put us out of our comfort zone. Mercy taught us to treat others with compassion, because we have no idea what others are going through. The Gospel reading tells us about the golden rule, “Treat others the way you would like to be treated.” Now, we've heard this a lot from our parents, teachers, and even our sarcastic peers. Mercy, however, didn't simply tell it to us and expect us to do it, Mercy showed it to us. The story of Catherine McAuley and all of the Mercy sisters show us that it is completely possible to treat others the way you wish to be treated. That is exactly what Catherine did; she led by example. She created a place where girls would be able to go and get an education as well as shelter. This blossomed into what it is today; an empire...”

—Sarah Feller '16

“I have great confidence in you to do what you think best. State your opinion and always act with courage.”

—Catherine McAuley,
Foundress of the
Sisters of Mercy.



Honors Art 3 — PORTRAITS FOR ORPHANS

This spring Honors Art 3 created 15 portraits for the Memory Project. The Memory Project is a nonprofit organization that invites art teachers and their students to create portraits for youth around the world who have faced substantial challenges, such as neglect, abuse, loss of parents, and extreme poverty. This the fall we will receive video of the children receiving their portraits created by Mercy Art students!



Fabulous Works of Art

A MERCY ART CONTEST

Mercy's Visual and Performing Arts Department hosted the 2nd Annual Fabulous Works of Art Contest In February.

The contest was open to 6th, 7th & 8th grade girls. This year, we had seven schools with over 70 participants! Participating schools included: Holy Angels, Good Shepherd, The Nueva School, Corte Madera School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St. Catherine of Siena, and St. Dunstan School.

Mercy 's Visual and Performing Arts Department is committed to encouraging girls to build confidence in 2D and 3D Art creation with an emphasis on exploring the many different elements of Art. Congratulation to the following contest winners: Two Dimensional category: First place awarded to Andi Mercado from Holy Angels School, Second place awarded to Snowy Sable from Corte Madera School, Third place awarded to Audrey Hirschman from The Nueva School. Winners in the Three Dimensional Category were: First place awarded to Alison Wong from St. Catherine of Siena School, Second place awarded to Mia Arruda from Corte Madera School, Third place awarded to Ananya Lyer from The Nueva School.

Nadine Baroudi, Visual Arts Teacher who started this program two years ago stated that "This was an exciting and impressive display of local talent and we look forward to many more contests to come!"

Our VPA Alumnae!

Spotlight on Isabella Ick

2016 VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENTAL AWARD RECIPIENT

Isabella "Ally" Ick will be attending Parsons, School of Design, in New York City, fall of 2016. During her time at Mercy, Ally was active in student government. She was in student council her sophomore and junior years and graduated as Publicity Officer for the SBO. Ally showcased her talent in dance as a member of the Mercy Hip Hop Team and competed for Mercy in regional and national competitions for four years. She was Captain for her junior and senior years. Ally created the FIDM Fashion Club and became its President. Ally also collaborated with the SIA Club to organize a fashion show and raised funds for charity.

2016 Mercy Graduates

ACCEPTED TO TOP ART SCHOOLS

We are extremely proud of their accomplishments and their commitment to pursue professions in the Arts.



Isabella (Ally) Ick '16 accepted to the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising and to Parsons School of Design where she is attending.



Anna Brucken '16 accepted to Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) and California College of the Arts (CCA) and plans to attend CCA.



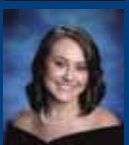
Savannah Wagner '16 was accepted to FIDM and Academy of Art University in San Francisco, plans to attend Academy of Art University.



Alexis West '16 accepted to Pratt Institute of New York.



Maya Piniero-Coleman '16 was accepted to Otis School of Art and Design, Maya was also accepted to California College of the Arts (CCA) and has started their program this fall.



Megan Giorgi '16 was accepted to Pratt Institute of Art and Design and Loyola Marymount University where she is studying animation.

Mercy Alumnae

Madison Miller '15

Maddie is attending Cal Arts, California Institute of the Arts and majoring in Stage Management and Technical Theatre. Maddie is currently Assistant Stage Manager for the North American West Coast premier of Jackie written by Elfriede Jelinek. The show is about the life of Jackie Kennedy as told through the archival and reconstruction of her life. They've been in rehearsals since early September and production begins November 11th. In addition to her current role, Madison just finished working as a Production Assistant on her second Los Angeles Shakespeare Center yearly "Simply Shakespeare" charity event. She got to work alongside celebrities such as: Tom Hanks, Martin Short, Christina Applegate, Phillipa Soo, Finn Wittrock and more. The event raises money for Los Angeles Shakespeare Center programs that bring free theater to the public, and to help clinically unemployed veterans find jobs in new fields of work.

Franchette "Fran" Tongson '15

Recipient of the Visual and Performing Arts Departmental Award of 2015 Fran is currently a Fine Arts Major at University of California, Santa Cruz. She is was recently hired as a children's book illustrator. She will be publishing her works in the upcoming months. She credits her Mercy Art classes and portfolio for her success and newest venture. We are excited to see her first publication!

Ryah Massarweh '13

Recipient of the Excellence in Visual and Performing Arts Departmental Award of 2013 Attending San Diego State University and studying Fine and Studio Art. She has spent the past year studying abroad at the Fine Arts Academy in Florence, Italy. She is member of Scholars without Borders, placed on the Dean's list each semester and recently had a solo exhibition of her art. She will be graduating next year and plans to pursue her Masters in Art Conservation.

Kristin Garrison '12

Kristin graduated from Willamette University, Oregon with a B.A. in Art History with departmental honors and a Minor in Civic Communication and Media. During her time at Willamette she worked as an Art Department Intern at the Van Gogh Museum in the Netherlands. Kristin will be pursuing a master's degree in Education in 2017.



Congratulations Class



of 2016!

Monica Alejandra
 Aguilar-Rivera
 Katia Ajam
 Jacqueline Isabella Almes
 Angelica Rose Arnold
 Jessica Anne Barri
 Megan Jacqueline Becken
 Bridget Elisabeth Bell
 Catherine Ann Bigelow
 Deidre Marie Bonitz
 Anna Julieta Brucken
 Candace Marie Burr
 Melissa Mae Cagney
 Thea Tang Calalang
 Ciara Francesca Callanan
 Rebecca Carmick
 Odalis Marie Castellanos
 Alexandra Noel Cavagnaro
 Nicolette Leanne Chan
 Hayley Elizabeth Chawke
 Victoria Anne Collins
 Alexandra Brunzell Crowley
 Heather Marie Cuellar
 Jailyann Mychelle De la Cruz
 Chloe Dimarumba
 Erin Patricia Dougherty
 Lama Majed Fakhouri
 Graeson Elinor Fee
 Sarah Feller
 Andriana Fernandez
 Alexandria Carmelita Floresca
 Margarita Diaz Francisco
 Julianne Candace Franco
 Natalie Ann Friscia
 Cameron Leah Fruehe
 Ixcalli Galindo
 Hanxu Gan
 Marissa Nicole Gimbal
 Megan Giorgi
 Kathleen Anna Glasser
 Madison Linda Gomes
 Natali Ariana Gonzalez
 Kendall Marie Gordon
 Emma Gould
 Shannon Margaret Grady
 Megan Henley Grogan
 Angelina Nicole Healy
 Katherine Henderson
 Silvana Jane Hoffmann
 Julia Hurley
 Isabella Alexandra Aquino Ick
 Natalia Mari Jacuinde
 Emily Jane Kelly

Gabriella Gaye Killin
 Allison Justine Koehler
 Samantha Chase Kotmel
 Hannah Dillon Lahey
 Kesaia Matani Langi
 Isabella Ynez Lim
 Rachel E Lock
 Kylie Lynn Lustenberger
 Julianna Marckwordt
 Mariana Mejia-Hernandez
 Shannon Marie Mendez
 Cassandra Jo Miller
 Anna Catherine Milliken
 Mary Agnes Milliken
 Ariana Zeenat Mitha
 Meghan Lidonna Moyer
 Ciara Siobhan Murphy
 Lauren Murphy
 Layla Ritner Mustafa
 Ann Elizabeth O'Hara
 Kelly Christine Oosterman
 Nicole Elizabeth Ourtiague
 Mariah Jade Pechina
 Julia Diane Pellizzari
 Sarah Elisa Pieri
 Angelica Jannette Pineda
 Maya Pineiro-Coleman
 Hadley Anne Holloway Popa
 Sophie Kathleen Posse
 Kari Novicio Putz
 Elana Raeann Rapaich
 Samantha Anne Reyes
 Shannan Suzanne Robleto
 Andrea Sanchez
 Hayley Elizabeth Schaul
 Shelby Anais Scherer
 Alana Leigh Schonbrun
 Hannah Kaur Sidhu
 Anissa Xchel Silva
 Daniella Josephine Simi
 Krystal Priya Singh
 Alexis Denise Solorzano
 Gabrielle Jajusa Stanton-
 Fischer
 Selena Alessandra Suarez
 Jacqueline Patricia Trejo
 Anna Rose Trulio
 Abigail Victoria Vargas
 Leslie Marina Villatoro
 Savannah Marie Wagner
 Camille Bella Wehr
 Alexis West
 Kylie Wong

GRADUATION

CLASS OF 2016
AWARDED OVER
\$9 MILLION IN
SCHOLARSHIPS!

The Class of 2016 graduated Sunday, June 5th at St. Ignatius Church in San Francisco. The 104 graduates were accepted to over 150 colleges and universities throughout the US and were awarded over \$9 million in college scholarships!

Highest Honors



Odalis Castellanos received the **Mercy High School Principal's Award for General Excellence**. This is the highest honor our school offers. It is conferred upon a graduating senior who exemplifies

the spirit of Mercy by putting the welfare of others above her own interests. She is chosen for her generous service, dedication to the Gospel message, and general achievement in curricular and co-curricular aspects of school life. *Odalis is currently attending San Jose State University.*



Hannah Sidhu received the **Mercy High School Board of Directors Award for Academic Excellence**. This award honors a senior who is distinguished by scholarship in maintaining the

highest grade point average over four years in a college preparatory program. Hannah was this year's Valedictorian. *Hannah is currently attending the University of California, Berkeley.*



Sarah Feller received the **Mercy High School Sister Amy Bayley Leadership Award**. This award honors the senior whose actions and example encourage and inspire fellow

students to strive together to achieve those goals which promote the growth and well being of the Mercy community. *Sarah is currently attending Colorado Christian University.*



Isabella Lim received the **Mercy High School Mother Baptist Russell Service Award**.

This award honors the senior who shows consistent

commitment in serving those in need. She carries on the spirit of Mother Baptist Russell, first Sister of Mercy in California, whose response to people in need was immediate and practical. Isabella is currently attending *University of California, Davis.*



Shannon Grady received the **Mercy High School Sister Mary Gabriel Award for Excellence in Sportsmanship**.

This award honors the senior who

exemplifies outstanding sportsmanship by her faithfulness to the team spirit and her undaunted loyalty to her team members at all times. *Shannon is currently attending the University of Portland.*



Karen Hanrahan, Head of School with Class of 2016 Valedictorian Hannah Sidhu and Class Salutatorian Cassie Miller.



Mercy SF Alumna Lori O'Brien Pins Granddaughter Cassie Miller '16

In May, at the Annual Senior Pinning Ceremony, **Cassie Miller '16** was welcomed into the Mercy High School Burlingame Alumnae Association by her grandmother, Mercy SF Alumna **Lorraine O'Brien**. Mercy Burlingame began this tradition a few years ago, seniors are pinned and welcomed into the Alumnae Association by a former graduate of a Mercy High School which includes moms, grandmothers, aunts, friends and Mercy faculty and staff.



Congratulations
Class of 2016
Mercy
Burlingame
and Mercy
San Francisco
Alumnae Moms
& Daughter!





Class of 2016 received over \$9,000,000 in scholarships

Recent Mercy graduates are currently attending prestigious colleges and universities such as Stanford, Princeton, University of Notre Dame, Colgate, NYU, UCLA and CAL. The following list is a sample of the colleges and universities where our most recent graduates have been accepted.

Academy of Art San Francisco
Academy of Art University
Albany College of Pharmacy
American University
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Baylor University
Boston College
Boston University
Bryn Mawr College
Cal Poly/Pomona
Cal Poly/San Luis Obispo
California Baptist University
California College of the Arts
Carnegie Mellon University
Carroll College (Montana)
Chaminade University of Honolulu
Chapman University
Claremont McKenna College
Clark University
Colgate University
College of Charleston
College of Saint Benedict
College of the Holy Cross
Colorado Christian University
Columbia College Chicago
Cornell University
Creighton University
CSU Fullerton
CSU Long Beach
CSU Los Angeles
CSU Monterey
CSU Northridge
CSU Sacramento
CSU San Diego
CSU Sonoma
Dartmouth
DePaul University
Dominican University of California
Drexel University
Duquesne University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University - AZ
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Endicott College
Florida Institute of Technology
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall
George Fox University
Georgia
Gonzaga University
Guilford College
Hampshire College
Harvey Mudd College
Hawaii Pacific University
Humboldt State University

Idaho State University
Indiana University at Bloomington
Iowa State University
John Carroll University
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University
Kent State University
Keuka College
Lafayette College
Lewis & Clark College
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Maryland
Loyola University New Orleans
Lynn University
Marquette University
Marymount Manhattan College
Marymount University
Maryville University
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Menlo College
Merrimack College
Miami University
Michigan State University
Mills College
Montana State University
Mount St. Mary's College
Mt. Saint Mary College
Napa Valley College
Northeastern University
Northern Arizona University
Northwestern University
Notre Dame de Namur University
NYU
Occidental College
Oregon Institute of Technology
Oregon State University
OTIS
Pace University
Pacific Lutheran University
Pepperdine University
Perdue University
Pitzer College
Point Park University
Portland State University
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Redlands
Reed College
Regis University
Ringling College of Art and Design
Roberts Wesleyan College
Rockhurst University
Rocky Mountain College of Art & Design

Rutgers University
Saint Joseph's University
Saint Louis University
Saint Mary's College Of California
San Diego State University
San Francisco State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
SCAD
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Seattle University
Skidmore College
Sonoma State University
Southern Methodist University
St. Edward's University
St. John's University
St. Joseph's College
St. Mary's College of California
St. Olaf College
Stanford University
Syracuse University
Texas Christian University
The George Washington University
The Catholic University of America
The University of Alabama
The University of Arizona
Tulane University
UC Berkeley
UC Davis
UC Irvine
UC Merced
UC Riverside
UC San Diego
UC Santa Barbara
UC Santa Cruz
UCLA
University of Alabama
University College Cork
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
University of Colorado at Denver
University of Denver
University of Hartford
University of Hawaii at Hilo
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Idaho
University of Illinois
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of La Verne
University of Massachusetts
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri
University of Nebraska
University of Nebraska
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of Nevada, Reno
University of New Hampshire
University of New Mexico
University of Northern Colorado
University of Notre Dame
University of Oklahoma
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Scranton
University of the Pacific
University of Toronto
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Washington
Ursinus College
USC
Utica College
Washington State University
West Virginia University
Western Oregon University
WellWesley College
West Virginia University
Institute of Technology
Willamette University

Mercy at a Glance

Mercy High School Burlingame is part of a network of 40 Mercy secondary schools located in 20 states in the continental United States, one territory and five countries. We are committed to educating young women of confidence and competence, with belief in their power to make a difference in the world as women of faith, justice and compassion.

Student Body

- Enrollment: 375 girls
- 70% Roman Catholic
- More than 90% of the students participate in at least one extra-curricular activity
- Over a 1/3 of the students are in leadership positions
- Average of 15,000 service hours done annually
- 70% of our students play one or more sports per year

Graduate Profile

- 100% of our graduates pursue post-secondary education
 - 88% 4 year colleges, 12% community college
- The Class of 2016 was awarded over \$9,000,000 in scholarships

Academic Program

- 16 Advanced Placement (AP) courses in English, Science, Math, Visual and Performing Arts, Social Studies and World Languages
- 18 Honors courses in English, Science, Math, Visual and Performing Arts and World Languages
- Academic program exceeds University of California entrance requirements
- Average Class Size: 15; Average AP Class Size: 12
- 4 full-time counselors
- Academic support program for students with diagnosed learning differences
- 11:1 student to teacher ratio

Tuition, Financial Aid and Scholarships

- Tuition for the 2016-2017 school year is \$20,849
- Financial aid - Mercy is committed to providing a quality education for young women of all economic backgrounds; all financial aid awards are need based.
- Scholarships: Applicants who show significant strength in their 7th and 8th grades and on the HSPT may be awarded an academic scholarship for 9th grade. The Alumnae Association also awards one scholarship to an incoming freshman who is the daughter of an alumna; this scholarship is renewable each of her four years provided she meets the required GPA.

A Mercy



Scholarly



Compassionate



Influ

Girl is...



Confident



Courageous



ential

IMPORTANT Admissions Dates

Coffee and Conversation

Presentations and Tours designed for parents

Join us for Coffee and Conversation with our Head of School, Assistant Heads and other faculty and administration. Learn more about Mercy and see the school when classes are in session. Coffee and Conversation will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the following dates:

Wednesday, 11/2/16

Thursday, 1/26/17

Wednesday, 4/26/17

Shadow Program

Shadowing is the best way for you to experience the atmosphere at Mercy! Eighth grade girls and transfer students are encouraged to shadow in the fall.

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, Nov. 20th - 12:30-3:00PM

Families may drop in or make a reservation on Mercy's website at www.mercyhsb.com

Apply to Mercy

Priority Application Deadline: December 12, 2016

Final Application Deadline: January 6, 2017

Applications and information about tuition assistance are available at www.mercyhsb.com

High School Placement Test (HSPT)

Saturday, January 14, 2017 • 8:30 a.m.

Although the High School Placement test is offered at other area Catholic high schools, taking it at Mercy is an important first step in becoming a member of Mercy's Class of 2021. Scores will be sent to each high school the student specifies.

**RSVP for these events online at
mercyhsb.com**

*For more info contact Patricia Glasser,
Director of Admissions, 650-762-1114 or
admissions@mercyhsb.com.*

DID YOU KNOW?

A MERCY EDUCATION
is priceless
But the pricetag is hefty



THE MERCYFUND
will offset tuition by more than **\$1,100** for
each student this year



Funds Raised Support
ACADEMICS
CAMPUS MINISTRY
ARTS & ATHLETICS



every program that touches
the lives of our students



...each student is challenged
to reach her **GREATEST POTENTIAL.**



ACHIEVING MORE than
she ever imagined

The **youngest** donor was

18

The **oldest** donor was

95

THE MERCY FUND

Give every year. Make an impact every day.

DID YOU KNOW Tuition alone does not cover the entire cost of educating a young woman at Mercy. Through gifts to The Mercy Fund we are able to offset the tuition of each student by more than \$1,100 this year.

The Mercy Fund (previously called the annual fund, alumnae phonathon and parent pledge) is the cornerstone of Mercy's Giving programs. The Mercy Fund benefits 100% of Mercy students. Funds raised support academics, campus ministry, the arts, and athletics - every program that touches the lives of our students.

Gifts of all levels have a huge impact, whether \$5 or \$50,000. Can we count on your support?

For more information, contact the Advancement Office at 650.762.1190 or Mary Lund, Director of Advancement at mlund@mercyhsb.com.

Make your gift today at
www.mercyhsb.com/giving
or use the enclosed envelope

Funds Raised Support

ACADEMICS CAMPUS MINISTRY ARTS & ATHLETICS



Thank you for your generosity and support.

Annual Report 2015-2016

FINANCIAL REPORT 2015-2016

(Unaudited - Report as of September 6, 2016)

REVENUE & EXPENSES 2015-2016

Operating revenue:	\$	7,516,046
Non operating revenue:	\$	773,300
Operating expenses:	\$	(7,375,908)
Non operating expenses:	\$	(414,073)
Depreciation:	\$	(357,434)

ADVANCEMENT REVENUES 2015-16

Revenue Unrestricted:	\$	379,783
Temporarily Restricted:	\$	439,882
<i>(includes Tuition Assistance/Scholarships, Mercy Parents' Club and special projects)</i>		
Permanently Restricted:	\$	27,685
Total:	\$	847,350

SCHOOL PROFILE

2016-2017

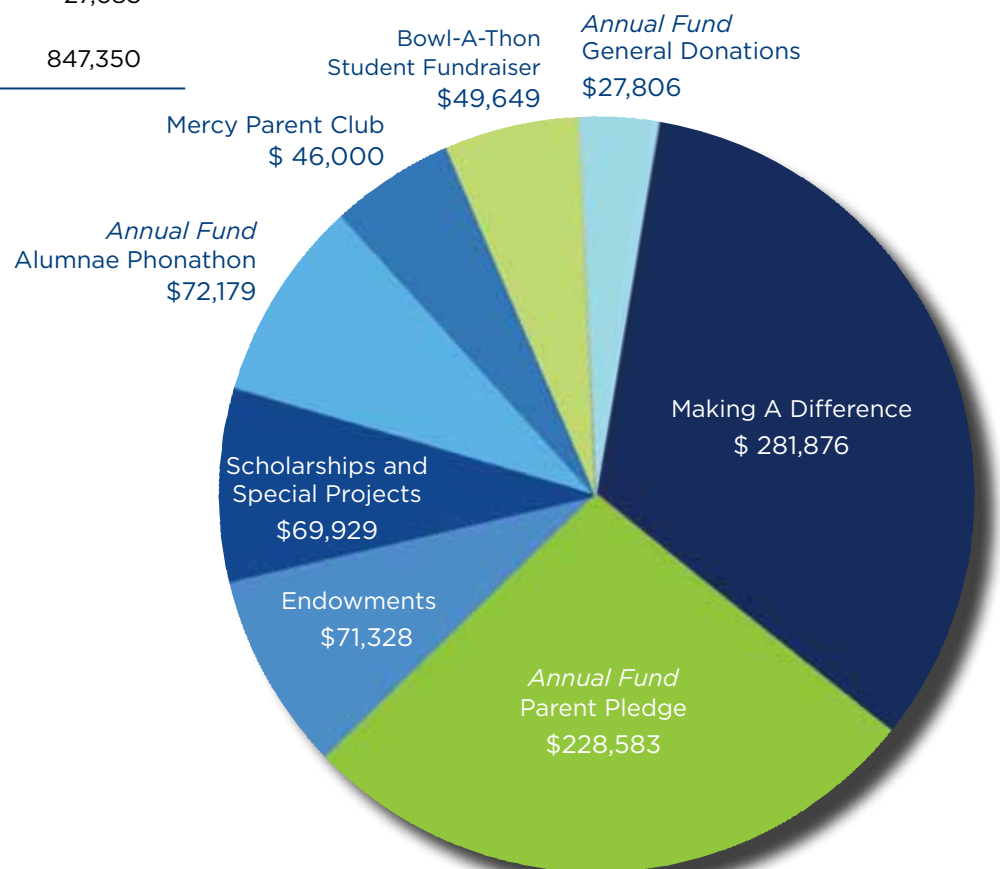
FOUNDED | 1931

ENROLLMENT | 375

TUITION | \$20,849

TYPE | Catholic College Preparatory

ACCREDITATION | Western
Association of Schools and Colleges



HONOR ROLL OF DONORS



A Message from the Director of Advancement

Once again, we are delighted to convey that 2015-16 was another banner year for Mercy with more than \$845,000 donated by our benefactors to support all of the programs at Mercy. This Annual Report recognizes and celebrates those who have given time, treasure, and talent to our school. Your investment in our school directly supports the incredible faculty, and enriches the experience of all of our students.

Most importantly, we were able to offer the kind of education that our founders, the Sisters of Mercy, envisioned when they opened Mercy High School 85 years ago. We did this because of the amazing community that supports us – our parents, grandparents, teachers, alumnae, Board of Directors, the Sisters of Mercy and friends of the school who give their time, money, and energy so that the school stays strong.

Thank you for all that you do to support the Mercy mission. It would be almost impossible for us to thank each and every one of you personally for all that you give to the school, or to relate each and every one of the stories that would illustrate the ways in which your support helps our students and faculty. We do want you to know, however, that you are making a true and lasting difference in the lives of these young people, and that we are deeply gratified. —Mary Lund

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Gift of \$25,000 or more

Archdiocese of San Francisco
Dr. & Mrs. Norbert Bischofberger
The Frank H. & Eva B. Buck Foundation
The Carl Gellert & Celia Berta Gellert Foundation
Mercy High School Bowl-a-thon
Mercy High School – MPC

Gift of \$10,000 to \$24,999

Mr. Matthew & Mrs. Penelope Stack Alexander '78
Mr. & Mrs. Steve L. H. Cartt
Mr. Kevin Domecus & Ms. Laura Brucken
Mrs. Carolyn Gaul
Mr. Robert Grassilli, Jr.
Mr. Mark S. Howitson
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SAVE THE DATE

MAKING a difference

Scholarship Benefit

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Green Hills Country Club Millbrae, CA 6:30 p.m.

The Making A Difference Scholarship Benefit dinner is being generously underwritten by the Board of Directors allowing 100% of all donations and sponsorships to benefit our students in need of financial assistance.

For more information visit our website at www.mercyhsb.com.

Steering Committee - Cathy Dunleavy Rosaia '72, Chair,
Kelli Benz, Joan Fitzpatrick, Stacey Longwich '98,
Mary Lund, Clare Pool Purpura '75 and Caroline Romeo



HONORED Sister Suzanne Toolan

The Liturgical Commission of the Diocese of San Jose honored Sister Suzanne Toolan with the Benedictus Award on Aug. 9 for "her influence in liturgical music for over 50 years in the Diocese of San Jose and the entire world...and for her groundbreaking contribution to the full, conscious and active participation of all the faithful." San Jose Bishop Patrick J. McGrath (*pictured*) presented the award to Sister Suzanne in an outdoor ceremony which took place at the bishop's residence.



Sister Suzanne enjoys her special evening with her student Susan Torriglia Monahan '60.

THE STORY OF "I Am the Bread of Life"

By Sister Suzanne Toolan

I wrote "I Am the Bread of Life" for a San Francisco archdiocesan event in 1964. I was teaching high school at the time and wrote the song during my free period. When the bell rang for the next class I decided I didn't like the music, so I tore it up and threw it in the wastepaper basket.

My classroom was next to the infirmary, where the girls who didn't want to take tests or were otherwise unprepared for class went for a period or two until they were tracked down by an exasperated teacher. As I left my classroom, a freshman girl came out of the infirmary and said, "What was that? It was



*Sister Suzanne Toolan
—Michael Collopy, Photographer*

beautiful!" I went back into my classroom, took the manuscript out of the basket and taped it together. It has had a life of its own ever since.

"I Am the Bread of Life" began to appear in archdiocesan liturgies. There were many purple ditto

copies going around. Not everyone liked the hymn. One liturgist gave talks on why it shouldn't work, saying: "It is not metric; its tessitura [vocal range] is too high. Its tessitura is too low." Others objected to it because they felt by placing the words of Jesus into the mouths of the assembly, those words were being attributed to the assembly.

Travelers to Europe and Asia in the 70s and 80s would tell me about hearing "I Am the Bread of Life" in different countries. I have a copy of it in a Slavic language, in Korean and Spanish, but it has been sung in so many other languages. It is included in hymnals of other Christian faith traditions. I remember being introduced to a woman who was Episcopalian. When she heard my name she said, "Oh, number 335!"—the number of the hymn in the Episcopal Hymnal.

I could never figure out how the hymn became popular. I know in our Roman Catholic tradition it came at the beginning of our use of the vernacular, and we simply didn't have much to sing in our own language. But I also think its popularity stems from its message of resurrection, which is so strong in these words of Jesus. We so need that message of hope. I am always touched when people tell me that at the funeral of a mother, father or friend, these sung words of Jesus gave them consolation. Then I know the hymn has done its work.

Thank you, young freshman way back in 1964! I'm sorry if you were not feeling well that day and had to go to the infirmary—or, I'm glad that you decided to sit that class out. I hope your teacher didn't scold you too much.



Alisa M. Tapia '85

ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

Alisa (Lisa) Tapia '85 writes, "After working as an Administrative Law Judge for the State of Illinois for five years, I moved back to California after accepting employment as an Administrative Judge for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Appeals Division from July 2011 to August 2015. By way of background, the National Appeals Division is independent agency of the USDA. Participants in USDA government programs who receive an adverse decision from a USDA agency may file an appeal with the National Appeals Division. All Appellants have a right to a hearing before an Administrative Judge in the state where they reside.

In September 2015, I moved to Miami, Florida. As a bilingual judge in South Florida, I now handle all the Puerto Rico and South Florida cases exclusively, and share the other southern state cases with other judges.

In June 2016, after passing an intensive exam, I was added to the Federal Government Administrative Law Judge Registry. The Registry is a list of administrative law judges across the U.S. and Puerto Rico that can serve as independent and impartial arbiters of fact in formal proceedings requiring a decision on the record. To be employed by some government agencies, a judge must be on the registry in order to apply. So, this was one of my greatest accomplishments this year."



Alumnae Moms

AND DAUGHTERS!

Mercy welcomes the Class of 2020 alumnae moms and daughters. Pictured top to bottom: Lori Smiley-Klingler '89 and daughters Jacqueline & Haylee; Erin Welch Galea '96 and daughter Ryan; Jacqueline Birkeland Rodriguez '92 and daughter Riley; Linda Cuneo Giusto '86 and daughter Angela; Phaidra Pavia Garcia '88 and daughter Caitlin; Kellie Quinn Richards '91 and daughter Kaylie; Alexa Almes (*not pictured Brenda Palala Almes '82; Karen Gallagher Sammons '82 and daughter Reagan; Amanda Fischer '94 and daughter Avery*)



MERCY BURLINGAME WAS
VOTED 28 OF THE 40 MOST
BEAUTIFUL HIGH SCHOOL
CAMPUSES IN CALIFORNIA!

Let us know what you are up to!

We love to have information for the Class Notes section of the Oaks, as well as information we can use in an article! Use the enclosed envelope to send us your news and photo or e-mail us at alumnae@mercyhsb.com. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

1941

Ruth Curran Dolim's daughter **Judy Shafer '77** was down from Seattle for a visit at the end of June through July 4th. Ruth's granddaughter Lily and grandson Charlie, Judy's children, also visited in July. Lily will be starting Graduate School at Seattle University this fall. Charlie attends Boston College and recently went to Ghana Africa with his class. While Charlie was visiting, Charlie, Ruth, George and Clare traveled to Half Moon Bay for lunch, a good time was had by all!

1947

You Betcha! PHOTO We 7 and sometimes others are still meeting once a year. We met in 1943 (73 years ago). We graduated in 1947 (69 years ago). Next year will be the big 70th and we hope to reunite at Mercy. Photo taken at Redwood Vill in Mountain View, March 30, 2016.

L to R: **Joan Evans, Mary Lou Brady Austin, Gladys Lagomarsino Callan, Donna Losch Lemon, Joan Loretz Del Secco, Sister Marilyn (Mary) Gouailhardou, RSM, Gwyn Bond Lister, Ramona Martinez (not pictured).**



1949

Sister Patricia Ryan, RSM sent us her recent poem:

HEAVEN

How do we get a
"higher place in heaven"
Higher and lower?
An earthly thought
Are there even places
When our bodies
Were left behind in the graves
Do we turn into spirits
I think we already know
That we can't bring any cash
To improve real estate
It's going to be
Who we really are

1954

Luise Roesner Marchi writes, "To celebrate turning 80 this year, my friend Ann and I decided to do something different. So we went on a wildlife viewing trip to Brazil. We spent 6 days on a private tour with a fantastic guide in the Pantanal, a huge wetland area with hundreds of different species of mammals and birds. We saw 2 jaguars the first day, as well as lots of caiman, capybara, giant river otters, Jabiru storks, lots of herons and egrets, Hyacinth Macaws, parakeets and parrots. Then

we went up to Manaus, to join a group on a river boat on the Rio Negro and Amazon for another four day excursion. Really a trip to remember."

1955

In early August **Madeleine Vonau Cunningham '55** from Lincoln, CA, hosted a 3 day gathering of two of her Mercy friends **Diane Dobson Sullivan '55** and **Pat Britschgi Wegner '55** for game playing, visiting and good food. They played Hand & Foot, dominoes Mexican Train and Rummikub and had a fine time together with a lot of laughing. Madeleine said, "they'd like to do this at least twice a year."

Patricia Jean Conroy Exum writes, "We spend half of our time in Calabasas and Colorado. I am blessed to have four beautiful grandchildren and nine wonderful great-grand children. We enjoy travel and spending time with family."

1956

Helen Gilsdorf, RSM '56 (see pg. 46 for photo and message from Helen's sister Ann Gilsdorf King '63)

Joyce Kiefer PHOTO writes, "Since my Class of '56 got together ten years ago for our 50 year reunion, a half dozen of us "Mercy Pals" have been getting together for lunch every couple of months at one of our homes. Some of us have kept in touch over the years, others became reacquainted. Lots of fun, lots of catching up, lots of ongoing stories. In this picture we're celebrating the Christmas season at the home of Ann Duffy Meuser. *L to R:* **Nancy Rooney Gouveia, Marilyn Sekany Hayward, Joyce Flores Kiefer, Pat Hoffman Keicher, Jackie Olson Keyser, Ann Duffy Meuser."**



1959

Beth Dado Aversa PHOTO writes, "My husband, Guido and I spent almost 3 weeks in Italy last month. We were in Northeastern Italy in the Dolomites for 10 days where Guido biked up some amazing mountain passes. I wisely, rode in the van. This photo is in Vernazzo, the Cinque Terre. We now have

12 grandchildren since our youngest daughter added a 2 year old foster son to her family of two girls."

SENIOR CLASS

1959

Judy Rees Cunningham PHOTO writes, "The Belles of '59 enjoyed a fun filled lunch in Carmel with Judy Cunningham. *L to R:* **Helen Rogers Haladyna, Judy Rees Cunningham, Ann Williams Regan, Fran Cummings, Maureen Rubis Leimbach, and Nannette Siracusa McAlister**



1960

1960 Alums PHOTO **Mary Pat Sullivan Prolo, Pat Fernandez O'Loughlin, Sharon Reilly McDonald, & Moira Doherty Bromham** enjoyed their annual lunch and "catch-up"- in San Jose this September.



1960 **Patricia Conway Putkey** PHOTOS in Saint Peter's Square, waiting for arrival of Pope Francis and 4 Mercy grads at the Italian Catholic Federation party in Auburn. *L to R* **Marisa Nastrini Borba '59, Patricia Conway Putkey '60, Marie Mazzetti Fregosi '55, Martha Rowley Young '56**



1963

PHOTO **Ann Gilsdorf King** writes "I don't usually write these messages because my older sister, **Helen Gilsdorf, RSM '56** did it. Now she is in heaven and I am left with the duty. Helen died on September 30, 2015, she was a Sister of Mercy for 59 years, 2016 would have been her 60th Jubilee. The picture is of the 5 of us taken in February of 2015 at Marian Oaks." *Front row:* **Judy Gilsdorf Lake '67, Helen Gilsdorf, RSM '56, Mary Gilsdorf Petillo '79, Back Row: **Eileen Gilsdorf Delzell '80 and Ann Gilsdorf King '63.** (The sixth Gilsdorf sister, Linda Class of 66, passed away in 2014)**



1964

Pat Colapietro-Mundy PHOTO writes, "My husband, Dick, and I just returned from a cruise to Alaska. We were celebrating our up-coming 25th wedding anniversary and my 70th birthday. At the beginning of the cruise a very nice lady, **Carol Ann Bocci Nulk '55**, and I were just chatting. Come to find out we were from the same area, Daly City and South City. Carol Ann and her husband, Bob, now live in San Jose and Dick and I live in Spring Hill, Florida. And here we were sailing to Alaska on the same ship! Then, it turns out that her family was in business in Colma, that being Bocci Memorials. Well, many years ago I worked for her cousin Tom Bocci, an attorney in SSF. With a hunch, I asked Carol Ann where she had gone to high school. And, yes, she graduated from Mercy High, Class of 1955, while I graduated in 1964. I couldn't let the chance meeting go by without a photo to send to Mercy for The Oaks. One never knows when one will meet a fellow-graduate from Mercy. We sailed on the HAL Volendam in June. The background is Juneau, Alaska. Pictured from left to right are: Dick Mundy, Pat Colapietro-Mundy, Carol Ann Bocci Nulk, Bob Nulk."





1964

Peggy Cosgrove writes, "Our Lady of Angels Grammar School is having their reunion on Nov. 5th, I am coming out for it! I will see **Carol Henry '65, Marie Henry '66, Sandy Schick Turner '64** and **Carol McFadden Pollack '64**. Then off to see the improved SFMOMA with my niece **Heather Cassell** (another mercy girl.) This Oct., **Rey Friel '64** and her Husband Roger, **Marianne Rappolis Hurley '64** and her husband Tim are having

dinner at my loft, cooked by **Sandy Schick Turner** whose youngest son Nick Turner is my pal in New York. The Class of 1964 sticks Together!!! Still acting been a member of actors equity since 1971...in New Hampshire doing "4,000 Miles" in Feb. and March of 2017...if a mercy girl is in NYC call ahead and lets get together...I have a lovely loft in the Chelsea section. Life is good!"

Catherine Scalmanini Marvier

writes, "My sister, **Regina O'Neal '68**, has moved up to WA and lives just an hour from my oldest son and his family. **Irene Kilcourse Turner '64** lives halfway between them, so I get to "kill 3 birds with 1 stone" as it were and enjoy visits with all three. I'm looking forward to another trip up there in September. In November, I meet up with most of the OLA class of '60 as we celebrate turning 70 together."

1965

PHOTO In late April, **six from the class of '65** gathered at the Burlingame home of **Candy Hill Martin** for appetizers & cocktails. **Dona Pesino Edlund, Pam Fornesi, Candy, Barbara Rhoads Forrest** and **Titi Mila** were happy to have **Linda Barnard Finer** visiting from London.



1966

Carol Haines Peters writes, "Well I did it again. I beat cancer yet again. This time I had breast cancer, I had both breasts removed and underwent chemo and radiation. Several trying times, however, the Lord one more time had other plans for my continued life. One more time I was strong in my faith that got me through. When I went to Mercy some 50 years ago I knew I had received a stronger

faith during my 4 years, completing my faith journey of 12 years of going to Catholic schools. My relationship with Jesus, blessed Mother and the Holy Spirit is my rock and joy. I can and do trust in their love for me. I thank God and my father for my gift of Mercy High. My father was a full blown alcoholic but he still sent his 5 children to Catholic schools for 12 years. God took care of me then and still does today. I don't ask him "Why me Lord?" I just say "are you sure Lord?" and he always answers "yes." What I also know is that all life lessons, whether good or bad, are for a reason in your continued faith journey and that reason is always for the good."

Sister Marilyn Lacey Celebrates her 50 Year Jubilee see page 52.

Jane Presta writes, "I want to give a shout out to my fellow '66 classmates. When I turned sixty I became an artist. A friend introduced me to acrylic paints and my love affair with art began. At present I also dabble in stained glass, lapidary and jewelry making. I have a son (Mike) who's given me a grandson (Mike 18) who will be entering the Marines in a month and a daughter (Nikki) who has blessed me with two more grandchildren, Ruby 5 and Nico 3. This is a happy life!"

Jan Lee Stewart writes, "Still volunteering for Murphys Fire Department through CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). Also running Skyhawk Retreat...anyone who would like to come up for a few days please call me...209 890-3055...would love to see you. Have a week in early Sept and most of Oct., etc. open. Blessings to all, Grandmother Jan."

Sister Mary Waskowiak '66 Celebrates her 50 Year Jubilee see page 52.

1968

Victoria DeMartini and her daughter, Adrienne, joined the Grand Canyon Field Institute on a five-day rim-to-rim backpack trip. Souvenirs included sore fee, 2 blisters and a happy heart!

1972

Liz Fajardo **PHOTO** writes, "Close friends from the Mercy Class of 1972, First Reunion After Over 37 Years in Burlingame." from the top and clockwise, **Mary Insera Russell, Liz Fajardo** and **Debbie Canonica**.





1973

Rose Kelly writes, "After graduating from Mercy, I received a B.S. with Honors in Design from U. C. Davis where I am now a professor and an M. A. in Museum Studies from JFK University in Berkeley. **Mrs. Morasci** would be happy to know that I continue to make art, combining a variety of textile techniques with printing, painting and drawing. My art is included in private and public collections, including the de Young Museum and it has been published in books and catalogues, such as *Art Wear: Fashion and Anti-Fashion* and *Beautiful Necessity*

- *The Art & Meaning of Women's Altars*. I share a live/work loft with my husband of 23 years, artist Robert Murray, in Oakland, CA. This photo is me in my studio. The sculpture on the right is "Love Lock" and is wire covered with small locks and hearts and other charms. I am working on the mannequin on the left right now. I am using clothes pins to make a suit of Samurai armor."

1974

PHOTOS On July 24, 2016 about 20 women from MHS **Class of 74** gathered at Salitos Restaurant for a collective 60th birthday party. We enjoyed a great crab lunch followed by a luscious cake while champagne and conversation flowed and balloons fluttered in the warm breeze. Our class has been meeting about three times a year recently for lunches in the SF area. We hope to gather next on the green at Mercy for a picnic!



Geene Rees writes, "I just published *Waiting in the Wings*, a historical novel set in the Golden Age of Hollywood, Prohibition and vaudeville in San Francisco in 1925. *Waiting in the Wings* tells the story of Ruby Adams, a vaudeville actress and jazz virtuoso with the Will King Folliotes. As she stands in the wing, waiting to go on stage of the Strand Theater an incident occurs that changes the course of her life.



1977

PHOTOS Judy Dolim Shafer '77 has been living in Seattle, Washington since 1989 after living in Dallas and San Francisco. She switched careers after working in graphic design/ advertising for

20 years prompted by the births of Lily and Charlie. Judy loved being a full-time mom for several years and focused on early education needs of both kids. When Lily was an emerging reader and Charlie was diagnosed with a severe to profound hearing loss after meningitis; education and language became her priority. Now young adults, both Lily and Charlie are products of early intervention and years of Catholic education: St. Matthew School, Holy Names Academy, Seattle Preparatory School, University of Portland, Boston College. Lily works at Univ of WA in the Institute for Learning and Brain Science and will be pursuing her Masters at Seattle University this fall. Charlie is beginning his 3rd year at Boston College. Although deaf, he learned spoken English as his primary language and has taken Spanish, German and Arabic. Teaching a deaf child to speak has been quite a journey! While both children were at St. Matthew School, Judy was the Director of Development for 10 years and also launched an Arts program for K-8 (Thanks to Mrs. Nora Morasci!). Currently, she is working at Seattle Nativity School as Director of Development. Seattle Nativity School is part of the Nativity-Miguel Coalition of schools, with the mission is to provide education as a means to break the cycle of poverty. Judy is also on the Board of Trustees for Listen and Talk, a school that teaches children with hearing loss to communicate and learn through listening and spoken language. And whenever possible she is out running. She has run the Ragnar Relay 6 times with Lily! Judy makes frequent visits to San Mateo to see her parents and sister (**Ruth Curran Dolim '41**) and connect with a few Mercy pals, **Peg Finnegan '77** and **Kathleen Bruno '77**, who have helped tremendously with the care of her parents and sister. Mercy High is so special and the bonds that are made in those four short years last a lifetime! *Photos: Univ of Portland Graduation 2014 and a Staycation hike on Saturday, Aug 13, 2016 to Rachel Lake in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness of the Cascade in Washington.*



Nora Sotelo-Kury **PHOTOS** writes, "Felix and I are celebrating our 37th wedding anniversary in Kauai this year! am still managing a research lab at Stanford, with no plans to retire just yet. I do enjoy my work, my family, and my flamenco dancing - preparing for another performance in October. Thankfully, we enjoy our close-knit family and my children live nearby. My daughters are Mercy





B. alumnae: **Nazira Kury-Arnold '98** - still teaches at Mercy B, and is now dept. chair; **Yasmine Kury '01** - now at De Marillac Academy in SF, teaching 7th grade. Nazira's children (pictured left), my precious grandchildren, are: Kimberly, who will be a senior at Mercy B. in the Fall; Kian, who just made his First Communion and is going into 3rd grade

at OLM; and Nicolás, who is going to start Kindergarten at OLM as well this Fall.



1981

Julie Greene **PHOTOS** writes, "I'm the Executive Director of Solar Cookers International, an international humanitarian organization focusing on energy access for cooking and making water safe to drink in the world's poorest regions. I'm privileged to work with women and men in 133 countries, collaborating to achieve the United Nations

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs.) What could be more important than to improve health and quality of life for nearly 3 billion people who struggle to find wood to cook with every day? All the things I learned at Mercy are still bearing fruit. My youngest daughter (pictured right) is engaged to a young man she met while obtaining her degree at the University of Otago, New Zealand. My life is a happy example of the world becoming a smaller and more connected community: with friends, colleagues, and family living and working in so many places, I see every day how each of us is a neighbor to so many others."



1983

Yolanda Valdes Thayer **PHOTOS** writes, "Our son Bryan Thayer married Tina Darlou on July 3, 2016 at Kohl mansion it was magical!" Yolanda is owner of Primadonnamakeover hair and makeup on location & Perfume Bar Soiree 415-987-5946, www.perfumesoiree.com • www.primadonnamakeover.com. **L to R:** Bryan and Tina, Gabriela Valdes '86 & Yolanda, Sandy Ascariz Bunker '82 and Yolanda.



Dava Kotta Sheehan's

PHOTOS in-laws Betty and Ted celebrated 70 years of marriage at the San Mateo Elks Lodge with 80 friends and family on July 23, 2016. They met at a USO dance in Ohio and were married on July 20, 1946. They moved to Belmont in 1947 and still reside there. They have six children, 15 grandkids and 16 great grandkids pictured below.



1985

Alisa (Lisa) Tapia '85 is an Administrative Judge, see page 44 for photo and full class note from Alisa.

1986

Michelle Murray **PHOTO** writes, "The class of 1986 had a mini reunion in Colorado this month. **Lora Ceccato, Mary Ginty, Barbara Scholz,** and I flew out from San Francisco for a girls weekend just outside Denver where we stayed in a cabin belonging to **Ana Gloria Rodriguez-Wilkinson**. We were also joined by **Patricia Regan Johnson** who recently moved to the Denver area after over 20 years in Indiana and whom none of us had seen in at least 15 years! It was a great 30-year reunion for all of us (and 34 years of friendship!) with lots of late nights talking and catching up. It's hard to believe so much time has gone by since our Mercy days, especially when we get together like this and it feels like no time has gone by at all!"





1987

Diana Villalta Farrell '87 **PHOTOS** Top is **Carolina Vega Neff**; Left is **Michelle Porrazzo Walsh**; Middle **Diane Villalta Farrell**; Right **Danielle Beltramo Hicks**. Diane writes, "We are all still close and keep in touch even though a few of us live in different



states. The photo is from a reunion last year. Also pictured **Diane** and **Jennifer Shedoudi Miller '87** pictured at right who went college together after Mercy. Diane writes, "We graduated from UC Berkeley...we still keep in touch after all these years!"

1992

Maria Grazia Affinito **PHOTO** recently starred in "Margaret of Anjou" in Berkeley. **Johanna Agius '92** and Mercy teachers Eileen Horan and Jennifer Lambdin enjoyed a performance! Maria also recently completed a solo performance series of "Eating Pasta Off The Floor" in several cities. Check out Maria's website at <http://mariagraziaactress.com/>.



2000

Marisa Borruso Angius **PHOTOS** and her husband of five years welcomed their second son, Thomas Jeffrey, on April 27 at 6:10pm at John Muir Hospital in Walnut Creek, Ca.



2001

Monica Ferrer Nazareno **PHOTOS** and husband Jonathan welcomed a baby girl, Kate, earlier this year on March 15.



2004

Marcy Christensen writes, "I graduated from Azusa Pacific University in December of 2011 with a B.A. in Communication Studies. Since then, I have moved home to the Bay Area and am currently working for Nikon Precision Inc. in Belmont. I work in IT and I really love working here. I spend a large portion of my free time volunteering with 2 non-profit youth leadership organizations. Job's Daughters International is for girls between the ages of 10 and 20. DeMolay is for boys between the ages of 12 and 21. Both teach invaluable skills and I grew up as a youth leader in these same organizations, they have been a huge part of my life and I am blessed with the opportunity to continue to make a difference in the lives of the youth who are involved. I would like to wish Ms. Horan & Mrs. Mountain both very happy retirements."

Claire Rietmann-Grout '04 joined Mercy Burlingame as the new Assistant Director for Student Life & Athletics in early July. As Assistant Director, Claire's responsibilities include all Freshman new student activities, acting as Sophomore Moderator, assisting in Athletic operations as well as assuming her role as Varsity Softball Head Coach. Claire comes to us with a vast amount of experience and a

1999

Patrice Scanlan **PHOTOS** writes, "I followed in my father's footsteps and joined the San Francisco Police Department in 2002. I worked in patrol and undercover work until 2013 when I was promoted to Sergeant. I now work in the Crime Scene Investigations unit where I am responsible for processing major crimes such as Homicides, shootings, serious assaults etc..... I love my job! I was also



able to buy my home in 2005 in San Mateo and I am still living there to this day. I love living on the Peninsula. My sister **Bridget Scanlan Basanez '98** is married with four beautiful children. When she had her first child in 2002 she started her own daycare so that she could be home to raise

deep passion for Mercy Education. She got her Bachelor of Arts in Sports Studies at Towson University in 2008, then went on to get her Masters Degree in Journalism at Cal State Northridge. Claire worked as Assistant to the Athletic Director and Head Softball Coach at Immaculate Heart High School in Southern California then went on to run the Softball Program at Harvard-Westlake School. Recently she was the Varsity Softball coach of Half Moon Bay High School, leading them to a 24-4 league record in the PAL and Central Coast Sectional, Div III title.

2005

Alumnae 2005, Marissa P Opilas, graduated from Medical School 2016. **Katrina De la Cruz** graduated from Law School in 2015. **Jerica Lomax** will be graduating from Medical School on 2017. **Congratulation to mercy for their outstanding academics to produce these wonderful and intelligent young girls.** —*Ferdinand Opilas*

Krista Goulding Greer **PHOTO** married Andrew June 6, 2015. Krista lives in Atlanta, GA and is a airframe engineer with the FAA Atlanta Aircraft Certification Office certifying new and modified aircraft and components for use in civil aviation.



2008

Classmates Daniella DeLuca '08, Tracey Poland '08, Amanda Galli '08, Jennifer Warner '08, and Christina Raquel '08 (L to R) are pictured below while celebrating Amanda's engagement to Jonathan Cruz. Amanda's wedding to Jonathan Cruz was held at Kohl Mansion on July 7, 2017 and the four Mercy girls were Amanda's bridesmaids. Amanda graduated from the Fashion



Institute of Design and Merchandising with an A.A. in Visual Merchandising, San Francisco State with a B.A. in Liberal Studies, and is currently in the process of

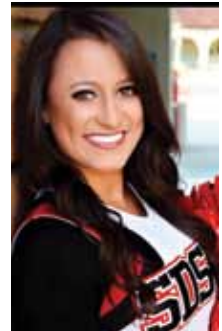
receiving her teaching credential and Masters in Teaching from the University of San Francisco. Amanda is a 4th grade teacher at Our Lady of Mercy. **Daniella DeLuca '08** graduated from Sonoma State University in 2012, received her teaching credentials from Notre Dame de Namur in 2014, and is currently pursuing her Masters of Arts in Education, with a concentration on curriculum and instruction from Notre Dame de Namur. Daniella is a 5th grade teacher at George Hall Elementary. **Tracey Poland '08** graduated from University of San Diego in 2012 with a Bachelors in Business Administration and received her Project Management Professional Certification in January of this year. Tracey is working at RightSourcing as a Project Manager in Irvine, CA. Tracey is set to get married to Grant Reindl on September 24, 2016 in San Juan Capistrano. **Jennifer Warner '08** graduated from Santa Clara University in 2012 with a B.S. in Political Science, received her law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in 2015, and passed the California Bar Exam in November 2015. Jennifer now works as an in-house attorney for a real estate development company in Walnut Creek, CA. **Christina Raquel '08** graduated from the University of Southern California in 2012 with a B.A. in Political, received her law degree from Santa Clara University in 2015, and also passed the California Bar Exam in November 2015. Christina works as a corporate attorney for a global law firm in Palo Alto, CA. All five alumnae would like to wish their fellow Mercy classmates the very best and thank Mercy for preparing them for a life full of success and happiness.



2010

Jennifer Alisha Malatesta

graduated from San Diego State University, with her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration – Accounting. She was on the cheer team, while she attended San Diego State University.



2011

Barbara Del Castello recently moved to Athens Georgia to work in a lab studying mouse genetics. Barbara writes, "I look forward to starting my PhD Program this fall at University of Georgia, Athens."



2012

Jenna Khoury writes, "I graduated from Mercy in 2012 and from there went to St. Mary's College. I just graduated and now am off to Palo Alto University to earn my Ph.D. in Pediatric Psychology."

Jubilarians



Sister Marilyn Lacey '66

50 years

Sister Marilyn was born in San Francisco and entered the Sisters of Mercy after graduating from St Dunstan School, Millbrae, CA, and Mercy High, Burlingame. Her first ministry was teaching high school

math and theology at Mercy High in Burlingame and Bishop Conaty High in Los Angeles, followed by some congregational renewal work. In 1981 she found her passion: being with refugees and migrants. She spent 1981 in a Laotian refugee camp, then led resettlement efforts at Catholic Charities, Diocese of San Jose from 1985-2006. She wrote a spiritual memoir, *This Flowing Toward Me: A Story of God Arriving in Strangers*. In 2008 she founded the nonprofit Mercy Beyond Borders, focusing on displaced women and girls living in extreme poverty overseas. "I feel only gratitude and joy," says Marilyn, "for this vocation to Mercy and the great blessing of meeting God in the poor."



Sister Mary Waskowiak '66

50 years

Sister Mary Waskowiak began her ministry in secondary education. She spent her first 11 years at Mercy High School, San Francisco; Bishop Conaty High School, Los Angeles; and Mercy High School,

Burlingame. She then spent approximately six years in vocation and formation service for the Sisters of Mercy before becoming director of Mercy Center in Burlingame, where she served for four years. From 1991-1999 and 2003-2011 Mary served in elected leadership for the then newly created Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. Between 1996 and 1999 Mary concurrently served as president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR). Mary currently serves as consultant and coach in the areas of leadership and spirituality, basing her ministry out of Mercy Center, Burlingame.

Christine Elizabeth Tapia - Christine's mom, Virginia, wrote, "Christine graduated from San Diego State University with her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration - Finance and has been accepted into the San Francisco State University Master of Business Administration program and is starting August 19, 2016. Thank Goodness for her solid education at Mercy H.S. which has prepared her for these educational endeavors. She will be starting an internship program in the Finance and Accounting departments at FibroGen, Inc. a biotech company in the Mission Bay district in San Francisco this August 2016 as well."

2013

Paige Halas writes, "I am a rising senior Biochemistry major and French and Francophone studies minor at Willamette University. This summer, I was selected for a position as an intern at Roche Molecular Solutions in Pleasanton, CA. Roche Molecular Solutions develops, manufactures, and supplies medical diagnostic tests to laboratories around the world. I am interning at Roche's new Sequencing Unit and am assisting in developing and implementing quality systems procedures."



Shay Scerri

transferred to CSU Monterey Bay to major in Communication Design (B.S.) Fall 2016. This past summer Shay backpacked with her Aunt Karen, Uncle John and friends to

Half Dome/ Yosemite and ascended the cables to the top of the dome. Shay writes, "Backpacking to the top of Half Dome was the most exhilarating feeling in the world and worth every

moment...yes, that's me on the diving board!"

2014

Vanessa Lieberman writes, "Once again I am transferring to a new school, so this will be my third school. I will be attending University of Redlands. I plan to graduate in 2018, but if not then 2019. I will major in Environmental Studies and double minor in Studio Art and Human-Animal Studies. I hope to join some clubs, and possibly start and Ocean Club. Just a recap of the schools I went to; Ringling College of Art and Design (freshman year), Eckerd College (sophomore year), and soon to be attending University of Redlands (junior)."

2015

Allison Nicole Tapia is starting her sophomore year at the University of Arizona as a Business Administration Major with Accounting emphasis and finished her summer internship in the Finance and Accounting departments at FibroGen, Inc.

A Taste and Take Wine Event

Sponsored by the
Mercy Parent Club



Friday, Nov 18, 2016

7PM

Kohl Mansion
Burlingame, CA

Must be 21 to attend.

Join fellow wine lovers, vintners & connoisseurs
for an evening of tasting and conversation
at the Kohl Mansion

Sales benefit Mercy High School

50% of all wine sales will be donated
to Mercy High School Burlingame

Details and Tickets at
<http://tinyurl.com/MercyWineEventPage>

A Toast to Mercy!

*Taste and Take Wine Tasting & Sale
to benefit Mercy High School*

Friday, November 18, 2016

7:00 PM, Kohl Mansion

\$20 per person

Must be 21 to attend

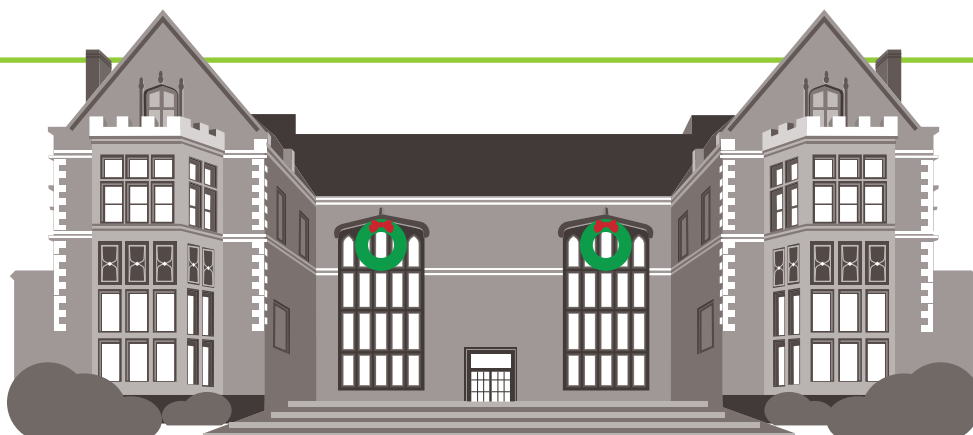
Reserve online by Nov. 15th

Join fellow wine lovers, vintners and
connoisseurs for an evening of tasting and
conversation at the Kohl Mansion. Over one
dozen local wineries will be present.

SALES BENEFIT MERCY!

**Wine from all vintners will be available
for purchase. 50% of all wine sales will be
donated to Mercy High School!** Visit the
Parents tab at mercyhsb.com to find more info
about the Wine Tasting and other MPC events.

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CHRISTMAS AT KOHL

Sponsored by the Alumnae Association

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Admission: \$10.00 (*no charge for children under 12*)

See the Kohl Mansion in its Holiday Elegance!

• Docent Presentations • Over 50 Vendors

For more information call the Advancement Office at 650-762-1190.



We will be postponing our popular annual holiday fundraiser,
Cafe de Kohl for the Kohl Mansion this holiday season, due
to an overwhelming amount of booked holiday events in
December! See you in 2018!



The Easiest Way to Make an Impact

A Gift in Your Will or Living Trust

When you create a will, you ensure the most productive use of your money for the benefit of those individuals and causes you care about.

Look at the many other good things your will can do:

- You can direct the division of your property the way you choose, not the way the state decides.
- You can make special financial arrangements for family members who are minors, disabled or unfamiliar with money management.
- You can support the future of Mercy and other charitable organizations that are important to you.
- You can select an executor who is qualified to settle your estate promptly and economically with careful attention to your wishes.
- You can name a proper guardian for any minor children.
- You can devise an estate plan, with the help of a qualified attorney and other advisors, to minimize the taxes on your estate.
- Most of all, with a current will, you can make sure your estate will be given to individuals you care about and help avoid family misunderstandings.

Are you considering a gift to Mercy in your will?

We would be happy to answer any questions. Please don't hesitate to contact the Advancement office or get more information on our website at mercyhsb.planmylegacy.org

Do You Want to Shape Our Future After Your Lifetime?

If so, there are several ways you can do this in your will. Here are some suggestions:

- You can leave us a specific amount of cash or securities.
- You can leave us a share of what's left in your estate after other obligations are met.
- You can make a contingent gift, allowing you to leave a portion of your estate to us if one or more of your named beneficiaries do not survive you.
- You can create a trust to pay an income to your spouse or other relative for life and designate the remaining balance for us.
- Regardless of income level or age, anyone can make a huge impact on Mercy's future by establishing a planned gift. Your gift continues Mercy legacy of excellence for future generations.



Catherine's Legacy

If you have made provisions for Mercy in your estate plan (with bequests, charitable trusts, gifts of life insurance or retirement funds), you can become a member of Mercy's Catherine Legacy Society. Please notify the Advancement Department at 650.762.1190 or Mary Lund at mlund@mercyhsb.com.

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Article 1 of 6.

ALUMNAE

Correction: In our Spring Oaks 2016, we inadvertently listed Barbara Dillon Wagner '58 as deceased. We sincerely apologize.

Jane O'Brien Boehle '62 sister of Suzanne O'Brien Brady '52

Virginia Grady Cosgrove '35

Jean McMillan Courier '59

Terese Dunne Cummings '55

Katherine Kennedy Dierkes '57 sister of Betsie Kennedy Higgins '49 and Peggy Kennedy Byron '54

Helen Gilsdorf, RSM '56 sister of Ann Gilsdorf King '63, Linda Gilsdorf '66 (dec), Judy Gilsdorf Lake '67, Mary Gilsdorf Petillo '79, Eileen Gilsdorf Delzell '80 (*Helen was a Sister of Mercy for 59 years, 2016 would have been her 60th Jubilee. Photo in class notes.*)

Lois Wetteland McDonald '55

Gloria Mercedes Palala Mendieta '78 mother of Andrea Mendieta '04, sister of Brenda Palala Almes '82, aunt of Jacqueline Almes '16 and Alexa Almes '20

Geraldine Barry-Seil '39 sister of Patricia Barry Barbier '34, (dec), Mary Jane Barry Cannon '36 (dec), Aileen "Mickey" Barry Hart '41 (dec), Kathleen Barry Blanchard (dec), Ethel Barry Ellis, David Barry, aunt of Sandy Hart '72, and mother of Barbara Seil Toth, Michael Seil and Donald Seil

Carole Devincenzi Tomilinson '55

Mary Pat Tormey '54

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

William Armento father of Valerie Armento '69, Anne Armento Dunn '74, Janice Armento Scherba '76, Lisa Armento '78, grandfather of Emily Dunn '09

Pamela J. Ascariz mother of Sandy Ascariz Bunker '82, grandmother of Alexa Bunker

Virginia M. Augustis granmother of Daniella Vallurupalli '05

Enrico Aure uncle of Genevieve Flieder '19

Joan Baron mother of Patrice Antosik '69

Leonard J. Barranti father of Michele Barranti Parres '79, Lauren Barranti Ortiz '81, grandfather of Jaime Parres '06 and Lindsay Parres '09

Dr. Xavier Omar Barrios father of Patricia Glasser Mercy Director of Admissions, grandfather of Kathleen Glasser '16

Mary Battaini mother of Nancy Battaini Del Colletti '67, Susan Battaini Coye '72, Joan Battaini '75 and Michele Battaini '77

Mr. Richard Bona husband of Mary Danieleski Bona '56

John Clizbe cousin of Dava Kotta Sheehan '83

Chuck Dazols brother of Sister Charlene Dazols RSM, Mercy Convent

Jesus U. Diaz father of Peter Diaz, Mercy Religion teacher

Carolyn Coppock Eriksson mother of Karen Coppock '84 and Megan Coppock Gosch '87, aunt of Christine Freeman Molinaro '82

Martin Frank husband of Ellen Huson Frank '63

Beatrice Henderson aunt of Gary Ferguson, Mercy Dance Instructor

William Hernandez father of Jessica Hernandez '09

Thomas Higgins grandfather of Kathleen Napier '18

Liliane Kolski mother of Carol Kolski, Campus Security Coordinator

Craig Kolski brother of Carol Kolski, Campus Security Coordinator

Seth Kolski nephew of Carol Kolski, Campus Security Coordinator

Louis Langi father of Kathleen Langi '96

Namanuka Lataimua father of Kolotile Lataimua '19

Eilene Legorreta sister of Jacqueline Legorreta Erdman '75 and Jean Legorreta Larette '78

Theresa Mazotti mother of Janice Mazotti San Filippo '69

Jerry Murphy brother of Patricia Ann Murphy '52

Barbara Jean Murray mother of Linda Murray Hagarety '71

Mary O'Connor mother of Michele O'Connor Tyler '68, Marlene O'Connor Baker '78, grandmother of Emily Tyler '97 and Kate Tyler '00

James Patrick Olson father of Katherine Olson Barri '81, Colleen Olson '82, Amy Olson Carr '91, grandfather of Allison Barri '14 and Jessica Barri '16

David Norman Ostello father of Erin Ostello, uncle of Jennifer Gamble '00, Amy Gamble '02 and Amanda Gamble '03

Gary Poland father of Tracey Poland '08

Roy Prinkey uncle of Dava Kotta Sheehan '83

Gladys Re grandmother of Jennifer Re '11 and Rebecca Re '13

Jose Renteria Mercy High School Maintenance Staff

Deacon Nicolas Rodriguez father of AnaGloria Rodriguez Wilkinson '86 and Deacon at St. Timothys, St. Matthews and Mt. Carmel

Rudolph "Rudy" Santini father of Sharon Santini Tallon '69, Suzanne Santini Selvitella '80, grandfather of Camille Tallon '99 and Caitlin Tallon DiMaggio '02

Joseph Schmidt father of Katherine Schmidt '17

Helen Mary Sullivan Whelan mother of Patricia Whelan-Mille '71, Joanne Whelan Thurau, '73 and Aileen Whelan, MD '76

David Wooldridge father of Summer Dittmer, Mercy Assistant Head of School for Student Life

MEMORIAM

Please remember the following alumnae, alumnae family members and friends of the Mercy High School Community in your prayers.

The Mercy Mass Program - At each of our school liturgies we pray for those people who have been acknowledged in the Mercy Mass Program. Donations are made in memory of a loved one and to honor others for anniversaries, birthdays, or at times of illness. To enroll a loved one in the Mercy Mass Program, simply contact the Mercy Advancement Office at 650.762.1190 or salbers@mercyhsb.com or at www.mercyhsb.com.





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