

SPIRIT

FALL 2005

A NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF ST. ELIZABETH PARISH SCHOOL

Gifts from St. Elizabeth's

*Grace Cassidy Carroll
(now at Mayfield Senior School)*

My name is Grace Cassidy, and I have been going to St. Elizabeth's since the kindergarten. Nine years seems like such a long time, practically my whole life. I remember watching the eighth graders when I was in second grade, awed by their huge "big kidness", wondering when I would ever be that old; and here I am. It's amazing how quickly the years fly by. And as I look back at my many happy years here at St. Elizabeth's, I realize just how much I have learned. I have learned the meaning of friendship, and the careful art of making new friends. I have learned kindness, from sharing my peanut butter crackers with a friend who forgot her lunch, from my teachers accepting a piece of late homework, from the big kid who gave me back my lost jacket, dusty from the lunch time kick-ball game. I have also learned responsibility. Being on Student Council gave me that experience, making sure everything worked right, things were on time, and the plans went smoothly. But perhaps the greatest gift that I have received from Saint Elizabeth is my sense of religion.

I never really knew what being a Catholic meant. Sure, I would faithfully answer, "I'm a Roman Catholic," to anyone who inquired about my religion. I went to church on Sunday. I said a prayer before dinner. But what I've learned at Saint Elizabeth's goes beyond that. It goes beyond your average bed time prayer, your vague remembrance of the Memorarie, the crucifix in the corner of a crowded bedside table. I have learned morality, spirituality, and faith.

I take pride in having the high morality that I possess. From an early age, St. Elizabeth's has instilled into me what is right and wrong, good and bad. My morality has also helped

me set goals in life, like never to do drugs, to wait until marriage, to respect my body and that of others. And I truly believe that the morality Saint Elizabeth's has given me has already and will in the future help me make the right choice in tough situations.

My faith has also become an important part of me. It is a tool that I know will help me as I move on to high school and then to college. I have faith in God. When I'm down and sad, I know that God is with me. When I'm stressed out, I look to God for support and comfort. And when I'm in a bad situation, I know God is there for me and will help me through any rough times I may have.

And lastly, I have grown in spirituality. It is a precious gift Saint Elizabeth has bestowed upon me, and will help me through my adolescent and adult years. I know that my spirituality will stay in my heart for as long as I live. It is my spirituality that will make me pick up the rosary, or gather flowers for Mary in May. And it is my spirituality that keeps me connected to God through the Church. And now, I can truthfully say I know the meaning of what it means to be Catholic.

All in all, I have learned a lot of important lessons from St. Elizabeth's, almost too many to count. The school has given me gifts that I know no ordinary public schooling could have given me. Saint Elizabeth has been my safe haven in the world, and now I am leaving it behind to venture out into the open with the precious gifts my school has given me, clutched tightly in my hand. But I am not leaving my community, the place I know and call home. I am not disappearing, melting away into the crowd. I am merely changing, moving ahead, using my knowledge and receiving more in turn. But I will always remember and return to my home, my community, my parish, and my school: the place that has taught me everything I know today. ■

Review of Guys and Dolls

By Carolyn Barela

Gambling, alcohol and deception. It's not what you'd expect to find when you step onto the campus of a well-established and reputable Catholic school but, when coupled with the time and talents of students, faculty, staff, parents and friends, those vices set the stage for a fantastic student musical production that drew an audience so large it was necessary to add two performance dates to the two originally scheduled performances.

It was in May of 2005 that St. Elizabeth Parish School proudly produced their first ever musical production, "Guys and Dolls." On the evenings of May 12th, 13th, 19th, and 20th, under the artistic direction of Ms. Kathy Jordan, Director, and Mr. Billy Thompson, Musical Director, twenty-seven students acted, danced and sang their way through a 90-minute, 15-scene production. Aided by an ingenious set design, construction and artwork, as well as realistic sound and

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SPIRIT

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Fr. Edwin Duyshart



At this time of the year we remember the person who serves as our patroness, St. Elizabeth of Hungary. Her feast day is 17 November. She is that woman of faith who, despite the obstacles, was dedicated to do what was right and just. In her situation that meant serving the needs of the poor. She helped to feed the poor and to serve the sick and dying. As we remember her Christian living, specifically her strong faith, her compassion and her determination to do what is right, let us pray that we who have her as our patroness may live up to what she taught. ■

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Jeanette Cardamone



As I drove up Lake Avenue the first time toward St. Elizabeth Church, I definitely had a sense of entering a special community nestled in the foothills. I am so pleased to be here today as a new member of this warm, caring community. It is an honor to be selected as the principal of this excellent parish school. St. Elizabeth Parish School is a wonderful living example of a parish school with the caring, spiritual leadership of Fr. Edwin and the active, supportive school community. Parents, teachers, staff and parishioners all contribute to the well being our parish school.

The testimony to the success of this community is in the children. Each day I have the privilege to share in this experience and work with the children. We have amazing students who, through parent and teacher guidance, are achieving brilliant things. The talents of our students are varied and numerous and St. Elizabeth has so much to offer in academics, music, art, drama, and sports. Our community is alive with learning, sharing and excitement!

Just in the past few months, the Improvement Committee has done amazing things with the school entry to make it warm and welcoming. They continue these efforts with the soon to be realized landscaping of the exterior. The Jr. High team has worked tirelessly since summer to develop a strong academic program that works cooperatively to build character and compassion. Our graduates are well prepared for the many wonderful college prep programs offered throughout the San Gabriel Valley. The creations from our Art program are prominently displayed in the niche boxes in the entryway. Our athletic program already has bragging rights as both the varsity football and volleyball teams have advanced to the play-offs! The Drama and Music programs are still flying high from their outstanding performance of Guys and Dolls last spring and are already gearing up for the Christmas production. However, the joy of my day is walking into Kindergarten and seeing the eager faces singing, painting and learning the skills that develop GOODNESS and EXCELLENCE in each child at St. Elizabeth Parish School! ■

Guys and Dolls *Continued from page 1*

lighting, a delighted audience was transported back in time to New York City of the 1940's without ever leaving the parish hall.

The talented cast and crew were comprised of students from grades five through eight at St. Elizabeth Parish School. Although the school student body is relatively small in size compared to some schools, the pool of singing and acting talent that emerged was large. Drey Liautaud, Fernando Cervantes, Tommy Jordan, Andrew

Orozco, Patrick Ferrell, Chris Ferris, Kyle Valino and Garrett Ballo were comically convincing as seasoned pros on the gambling circuit. Sylvie Ramirez had the singing voice to match the strong but angelic character of Sarah Brown. Anthony Villareal alternated between being funny and endearing as Sky Masterson. Danny Larranaga was hilarious as the love-torn Nathan Detroit, and Natalie Ferguson, who does a mean New York accent, sparkled as Miss Adelaide. In addition, the supporting cast members who

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PROFILE OF AN ALUMNUS

A Rose Princess Who Plants Her Dreams and Watches Them Grow

By Michele Cesario

It wasn't easy to catch up with Glynn Helene Joseph. She's been darting from coast-to-coast lately in a quest to acquire the knowledge and experience that will allow her to achieve her dream. And, what a dream it is. First, let me take you back to the class of 1999 where it all began for our Spotlight alumnus at our parish school.

Sprung from East Las Flores Street in Altadena and baptized at St. Elizabeth Church, a Rose Princess in the making was one Spartan, Glynn Helene Joseph. Glynn graduated from St. Elizabeth Parish School in 1999 with a class of about thirty-five. She recalls her favorite teachers, Miss Kathy and Mrs. Barr, who helped her with the Academic Decathlon in 7th and 8th grades, and Mrs. Gorman, who encouraged her to give Student Council a try. Glynn credits Student Council with giving her a confident feeling in middle school. She was able to have special privileges, which included leaving class in order to work on a project or attend a meeting.

Glynn remembers fun times on Student Council with her friend, Alexis Bautisa. The two girls have been friends since kindergarten. Glynn also recalls a great early friendship with Caitlin Sahey, who left in third grade but who reappeared and reconnected with Glynn in high school at Sacred Heart. Our Rose Princess graduated from Sacred Heart in 2003. Glynn says that she has either remained in contact with, or has run into by coincidence, just about every person from her class at St. Elizabeth Parish School. There is always something to talk about and fond memories to recall, like the times she and her friends would act out characters in movies such as the *Spice Girls*.

"It was so much fun being in elementary school," reminisces Glynn. She also admits to having a small crush

on Max James-Jolly, with whom she attended the Valentine's Day Dance in the sixth grade. Max was president of Student Council. The two still e-mail and talk every once in a while. Glynn also had a good friend, Tracy Miller, who she sees whenever she returns home from school.

Glynn's "best friend" is her sister, Camille, who graduated from St. Elizabeth in 1996. She remembers her sister being protective of her and asking her to stand in the Kid's Club line with her after school. Camille has a fashion sense that she embellished by attending FIDM where she earned a degree in Marketing and Merchandising.

While at Sacred Heart, Glynn was among hundreds of girls who tried out for the Pasadena Rose Court. Perhaps the confidence she gained from being on St. Elizabeth's Student Council helped her blossom when the time came for the judges to select an arrangement of beauties with brains. Among them was our very own Glynn Helene. What was the experienced like?" I asked. "It was one of the very best experiences of my life. I was able to meet a lot of very interesting people." Glynn said that as soon as the court was selected, the Tournament work began. She attended many dinners for charities and spent so much time with the Court that they grew leaps and bounds together. The busy time for the Court was from mid-October to January 1st. The girls spent time visiting seniors in senior hospitals, children's hospitals, and sponsors of the Tournament of Roses. There was a lot of volunteering. Some of the less philanthropic but more memorable events for Glynn and some of the Court were those when the princesses met the football teams at Christmas. That year, Oklahoma beat Washington State. The court had the honor of playing host to the visiting team members.

After high school, Glynn worked for six months at the Happy Trails Caterers on Fair Oaks in Pasadena, where she prepared sandwiches and plated food. In January 2004, after being accepted to the prestigious Culinary Institute of America, she became the first person in her family to leave home for college. Although it was "very scary" at first and she missed her mom and sister, Glynn knew her

dream was calling to her. How it would materialize had yet to be seen but she knew she had to go. It was off to New York where she lived in a dorm in Hyde Park, just two hours from New York City. While there, she enjoyed going to the city to sample restaurants and shop on the weekends.

Recently, Glynn finished an internship in an upscale San Francisco restaurant, "One Market," which seats from 500 to 600 people for dinner. The internship was part of her education but she admits she had "so much fun" completing the job. Capitalizing on her learning experiences and honing in on what might be a preferred niche in the culinary arts, Glynn contemplates working in a bakery, perhaps as an owner/bakery chef. After she spent three weeks in Pasadena last February, she returned to school in New York and prepared to graduate from the two-year program this October. From there, she plans to "take a break" while getting her Bachelor's degree in the Los Angeles area because it is "too hard to be away from family". Ultimately, Glynn sees herself majoring in Business Management with an overall goal to open a boutique attached to a bakery with her sister Camille.

Let's see, do you have your calendar handy? Look into a sunny spring day in the future. I'll meet you for an intimate and sisterly shopping spree and a cup of coffee, say at about 11 a.m. on a Saturday in around... 2008? We can stroll through a chic Pasadena dress shop, sample a few sharp pairs of shoes, a handbag or two...maybe find that one of a kind brooch or belt buckle that has been eluding your possession and we'll leisurely traipse through a decorative arched doorway with our treasures bagged and wrapped in tissue as we sneak in some friendly conversation over a thickly aromatic espresso and a delectable, hot, fresh brioche from the pastry oven. Does it sound good?

Dreams come true everyday. Some of us have a way of making them happen. It's inspiring to know that these bright visionaries are blooming amongst us as part of our alumni community. It's exciting to know that one person's dream can be a positive experience for others as well. Cheers Glynn Helene! We're rooting for you. ■

St. Elizabeth Parish School Class of 2005 Matriculation

Carter Andruess, *Saint Francis High School*

Jennifer Bertin, *Maranatha High School*

Kristin Dawana, *Alverno High School*

Fernando Cervantes, *Saint Francis*

High School

Jasmin Chora, *Pasadena High School*

Patrick Ferrell, *Cathedral High School*

Christopher Ferris, *Saint Francis High School*

Sean Fitz-Gerald, *Loyola High School*

Jessica Ganibi, *Providence High School*

Allison Garcia, *Sacred Heart of Jesus*

Maria Gardner, *La Salle High School*

Aubree Gorman, *South Pasadena*

High School

Jacqueline Harding, *La Salle High School*

James Holman, *Saint Francis High School*

Colin Hough, *Saint Francis High School*

Elisa Jimenez, *Holy Family High School*

Marlise Knechtle, *Flintridge Sacred Heart*

Academy

Trevor Lanzarotta, *La Salle High School*

Daniel Larranaga, *Don Bosco Technical*

High School

Drey Liautaud, *Loyola High School*

Stephanie Martin, *South Pasadena*

High School

Kathleen McGinley, *Mayfield Senior School*

Guy Moore, *Cathedral High School*

Tim Mortensen, *Saint Francis High School*

Andrew Orozco, *Loyola High School*

Gabriel Ramirez, *Crescenta Valley*

High School

Renita Salas, *Alverno High School*

Michelle Siewert, *Holy Family High School*

Jillianne So, *Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy*

Nicholas Stabile, *Saint Francis High School*

Kyle Valino, *Saint Francis High School*

Anthony Villarreal, *Don Bosco Technical*

High School

Victoria Weiss, *Mayfield Senior School* ■

Guys and Dolls

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made up the Mission Band, the Hot Box Girls, General Cartwright and Arvide Abernathy, as well as the student crew and parents who volunteered their time and kept the production running smoothly, are to be commended for their roles.

From young to elderly, not one audience member left the school hall without a broad smile on their face. All in all, it was the best \$15.00 I've spent in a long time. The only problem I had was how to explain to my husband, who was on travel when we saw the production, why our two children were running around the house saying, "I came here to shoot craps!" upon his return.

The staff of the Spirit Alumni Newsletter congratulates all involved in the production on a job well done! ■

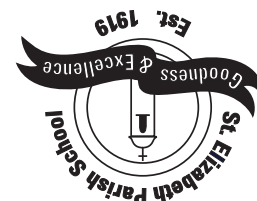
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