



St. Jerome... COME AND SEE

222 Alexander Avenue Bronx, NY 10454-3800 Tel: (718) 292-4920 Fax: (718) 292-3111 Website: www.stjeromebronx.org

Winter 2009

New Leadership at St. Jerome Parish



Father Gustavo Nieto
Pastor/Administrator
St. Jerome Parish

Cardinal Egan has appointed the Fathers from the Institute of the Incarnate Word to take over the administration of St. Jerome Parish. On September 1, 2008, Father Gustavo Nieto became Pastor and Administrator and Father John Grange began his new assignment as Pastor of St. Athanasius Parish (878 Tiffany

Avenue, Bronx, NY 10459). When Father Nieto, who is the national superior of his order, becomes familiar with St. Jerome, he will see to the appointment of a more permanent Pastor from within his order. Father Nieto states that his immediate focus is to continue Father Grange's mission of serving the South Bronx Community.

The Institute of the Incarnate Word often referred to as the IVE (from the Spanish "Instituto del Verbo Encarnado") was founded by Rev. Carlos Buela in Argentina in 1984 with a small number of priests and seminarians.

The goal of the Institute is following Jesus Christ, and Him crucified, through the profession of the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, taking the Blessed Virgin Mary for their protector and guide. The IVE consecrate

themselves to her according to the method laid down by Saint Louis de Montfort.

Currently, the Institute has over 300 priests (among them, about 100 have received their Licentiate degree, 10 have received their Doctoral degree, and many more are studying to obtain either their Licentiate or Doctoral degrees), 240 seminarians, 100 minor seminarians, and more than 75 novices. The General House is located in Rome, Italy with seminaries in Argentina, Peru, Brazil, Italy, and the United States. The Institute also provides priests for the formation of seminarians at seminaries in Peru, Brazil, Israel, Pakistan, Russia, the Ukraine, Egypt, Ecuador and Papua New Guinea.

In 1988, Father Buela founded the 'Institute of the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara,' as the feminine branch of the Institute of the Incarnate Word. The branch has about 700 members (more than 300 have taken private perpetual vows) and more than 75 novices who have come from various countries. The sisters also have a contemplative branch with monasteries in Argentina, Peru, Brazil, Italy, and in the United States. The sisters work in hospitals, houses for the elderly, as well as houses for orphaned and disabled children. Many sisters carry out the important task of teaching in schools and in catechetical instruction.

For more information on The Institute of the Incarnate Word log on to www.ivevocations.org.



The Loss of a Friend Sister Gilmary Lawlor

We are sorry to report the sad news that Sister Gilmary Lawlor, former principal of St. Jerome School 1990 – 1999 passed away. Sister Gilmary has been part of the Archdiocese of New York for over 19 years – nine years as the Principal of St. Jerome School and 10 years as Grade 3 teacher at Immaculate Conception Elementary School (151 Street and Courtland Avenue in the Bronx).

Sister Gilmary in her years here at St. Jerome was a dynamic and strong leader in maintaining our school. She was influential in the 90's to help our school remain open when it was threatened to close by the Archdiocese. Working long hours with Father Grange and our

Alumni Advisory Board, she was influential in maintaining the school's long-term viability.

Although leaving St. Jerome in 1997, Sister Gilmary still kept ties to our school as an Advisory Board Member, mentor to the principal, Rocco Martz, and friend to faculty and staff. She will be missed in our school community. Our prayers are with her family and all the Sisters of St. Agnes.

CHRISTMAS CALENDAR WINNERS

LOG ONTO WWW.STJEROMEBRONX.ORG

A Word From the Principal



Dear Alumni and Friends,

As we move into 2009, our school and parish have also moved into a new era with the assignment of the Fathers from The Institute of the Incarnate Word. We welcome Father Gustavo Nieto, Father Andry Garcia and Brother Pablo Torre to the St. Jerome School family. A family that is rich in history and service to the South Bronx.

Our school continues to grow; this past September we opened our school with 325 students. A tremendous increase in our enrollment and we look forward to the future with continued growth and expansion.

The financial challenge continues, so once again we ask for your support in our fundraising endeavors. All of us at St. Jerome are always appreciative of your help and you will always be in our prayers.

God Bless,

A Letter From Our Advisory Board Chair

John J. Hannaway^{'53}



Dear Friends of St. Jerome,

Unfortunately, we are recently learning more and more about the importance of making our investments prudently and wisely. The recent turmoil in the global economy has affected us all, not least the students of St. Jerome School, whose families' economic position is often precarious even in the best of times.

Nevertheless, those families continue to invest in their children's education and pay tuition (\$2,700 for one child) that poses a severe burden for the families. This Annual Fund Appeal is the cornerstone of our efforts to bridge the gap between tuition income and operating costs that are 36% higher than tuition revenue.

The parents of present St. Jerome students – like their predecessors of the past 138 years – are not disappointed in their investment. They know that the intellectual, spiritual and emotional growth that St. Jerome's provides its students is the foundation of an excellent education for life. Enrollment this year is 325 – the highest it has been for at least 25 years.

Since its establishment in 1871, St. Jerome School has been a force for greatness and good in the lives of its students and of everyone those students have affected. Imagine the ripple effect of the lessons taught by the Ursuline Sisters, the Christian Brothers and all the other devoted teachers. Those lessons have been an inspiration in countless thousands of lives and in our Church and nation.

We need the continued generous support of all members of the St. Jerome Family to continue those lessons.

Please invest in the children of St. Jerome School to allow them to learn the same lessons as their predecessors. That investment will be a wise one – St. Jerome School has been turning out magnificent "products" for almost 140 years.

The return on your investment – priceless!

With great gratitude,

St. Jerome School

222 Alexander Avenue Bronx NY 10454-3800

Tel: (718) 292-4920 Fax: (718) 292-3111 Website: www.stjeromebronx.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Matching Gift:

- Attached is my employer's *Matching Gift Form*.
- My employer's *Matching Gift Form* will be mailed to you later.

(Checks or money orders should be made payable to **St. Jerome School**.)

Questions? Contact the Development Office at (718) 292-4920 ext. 124 or email info@stjeromebronx.org.

News in Our School...

Scholastic Book Fair

St. Jerome School held its annual Scholastic Book Fair from December 1 – 4, 2008. Along with an extensive variety of great books, St. Jerome's Book Fair also offered developmental items, such as school supplies, journals, flashcards, and how-to kits that encourage exploration, self-expression, creative problem solving, and other important skills.



Pre-K students, Shaylee Wright and Julia Fete

Confirmation Mass at St. Jerome Church

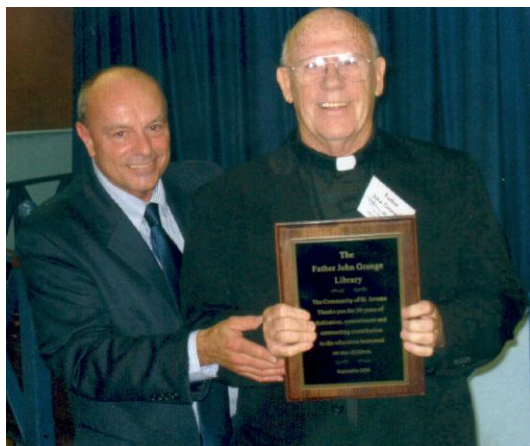
On October 20, 2008, Fr. Gustavo Nieto, Pastor/Administrator of St. Jerome Church, along with Fr. Andrey Garcia welcomed His Excellency Bishop Gerald Walsh. At this time, they presented to him 58 candidates, boys and girls from our school and religious education program, to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The candidates and their sponsors processed into church to the hymn "Come Holy Spirit, Wind and Fire." For the past year they have diligently prepared for this sacrament with the help of our principal, teachers, religious education coordinators, and our catechists that instructed the children.



Father Garcia, Bishop Walsh, Father Nieto and Sacrament of Confirmation candidate

The Father John Grange Library Media Center

Father Grange has over 60 years of history in St. Jerome



St. Jerome School's Principal, Rocco Martz and Father John Grange

Parish, as a student and devoted parishioner, as an active member of the Mott Haven community and as the pastor of the Church for over 30 years. The St. Jerome School family is honored to name our library media center The Father John Grange Library

Media Center. Robert Frost said, **"Home is where you go and they have to take you in."** **St. Jerome School will always be his home. God Bless Father Grange and his work.**

Literacy Continues to Grow

St. Jerome School was again awarded a Literacy Grant from The Endowment for Inner-City Education. Judy Brodsky, our Literacy Consultant, continues to facilitate workshops in Grades 1 to 8 to improve our students' writing skills. Emphasis is on writers' notebooks, portfolios and vocabulary building. Ms. Brodsky works weekly with our teachers and students. This year's literacy focus is on incorporating reading comprehension strategies into book clubs, building their vocabulary via a word wall, as well as how to help students organize their writing. With the support of our teachers, parents and literacy consultant, we are making gains in our student's abilities to communicate through their writing.



Judy Brodsky with Grade 6 students: William Sparks, Randy Sanchez, Omar Suarez, Ohanys Rodriguez, Vivian Revnoso. Marienela Herdia

Creative Classrooms Art Program Grades PK – 2

Supported with a grant from the Patron's Program, The Creative Classrooms Art Program encourages students in Grades PK – 2 to create works of art that reflect art making concepts learned in class.



PK and K students showing their artwork

As students learn techniques and skills appropriate for use with a wide variety of art materials, they begin to develop a personal, unique style and approach that becomes apparent in the art they create. In addition to the hands-on learning, students study the works of significant artists from many time periods, and become familiar with the process of art criticism through class discussion of their own work, and that of their classmates. Creative Classroom's professional visual arts staff, Karina Cavet worked with our Grade PK – 2 students for six weeks. Grades 1 – 2 participated in a collage project inspired by Edward Hick's paint the Peaceable Kingdom while PK – K explored various media (water color, collage, pastel crayons, clay and 3D design) that came through from listening and remembering stories and poems that were read aloud.



Grades 1 and 2 Students showing their artwork

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WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN

Name:	Class of:
Address:	
City/State/Zip	
Telephone (Day)	
Telephone (Wireless)	
Email Address	

Recognition Wall Engraving

Line 1:
Line 2:

Mail your contribution to:
St. Jerome School
222 Alexander Avenue
Bronx, NY 10454-3800.

All Gifts are Tax Deductible. Questions? Email: info@stjeromebronx.org or call: 718.292-4920 ext. 124

Area of Giving:

- Annual Fund Appeal
- Scholarship Fund
- Matching Gift
- Corporate Foundation

Contribution Level:

- \$25,000+ (Leader: Name a Classroom)
- \$15,000+ (Benefactor: Name a Program)
- \$10,000+ (Founder: Recognition Wall 1st Tier)
- \$5,000+ (Sponsor: Recognition Wall 2nd Tier)
- \$1,000+ (Champion: Recognition Wall 3rd Tier)
- \$500+ (Guardian: Recognition Wall 4th Tier)
- \$100+ (Friend: Recognition Book)
- Other: \$ _____
- I pledge \$ _____. The balance of \$ _____ will be paid in equal amounts of \$ _____ for a one year period



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