



ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

OPEN HEARTS OPEN MINDS

SPRING 2024

A NOTE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL



Welcome to another edition of our school newsletter! As we have journeyed through this vibrant season of Spring, it's a pleasure to reconnect with our alumni, friends, and community members through these pages.

Spring is a time of growth, renewal, and fresh beginnings. It's a season that mirrors the energy and enthusiasm buzzing within our school. From academic achievements to student leadership endeavors, athletic triumphs to community service initiatives, there is much to celebrate and share.

We look forward to welcoming our first Kindergarten Dual-Language Immersion class in August 2024. We have spent the past two years preparing for this transition, and are eager to start this program! We would not have been able to implement our DLI Program without guidance from our partners at Boston College, one of our multiple partners that continue to support St. Peter's School. Other partners include our dedicated school volunteers who help keep our CYO sports teams thriving. CYO also partners with us in our PE and nutrition program, promoting healthy habits in our students. Numerous benefactors make it possible for our 7th graders to attend their Caritas Creek camp retreat each year, as they did once again this year. And our faithful Alumni continue to remember St. Peter's and support our students and teachers today.

During my 22 years of service at St. Peter's School, I have witnessed new beginnings and long-standing

traditions, and I am proud to have been a part of this school's distinguished history. Since 1878, St. Peter's has been an important part of students' lives as the experiences they have gained here shape them to be responsible, caring, critical thinkers and leaders in society. With continued commitment, partnerships, and prayers, I am confident that St. Peter's will continue its mission to serve our students and community and live out the Works of Mercy.

I extend my gratitude to each of you for your support towards the success and well-being of our students. Together, we will foster an environment where every individual can thrive and excel.

In solidarity,


Sandra Jimenez, Principal

EXCITING NEWS

Developments continue as St. Peter's School implements the first Dual-Language Immersion (DLI) program in the Archdiocese of San Francisco. In partnership with Boston College's Roche Center for Catholic Education and Two-Way Immersion Network for Catholic Schools, the 2024-2025 Kindergarten class will be St. Peter School's first class to participate in a Dual-Language Immersion (Spanish/English) Program.

The DLI program will grow each subsequent year, as a new Kindergarten class enters the school. Outreach and advancements for this unique educational opportunity throughout the Kindergarten to 8th grade classes are taking shape. Support for St. Peter's School's DLI program is moving forward through wonderful campus tour visitors, such as University of San Francisco's President Father Paul Fitzgerald, SJ, and St. Peter's School 1986 Alum, SF Chamber of Commerce Chairman & Wells Fargo Senior Vice-President, Alfredo Pedroza.

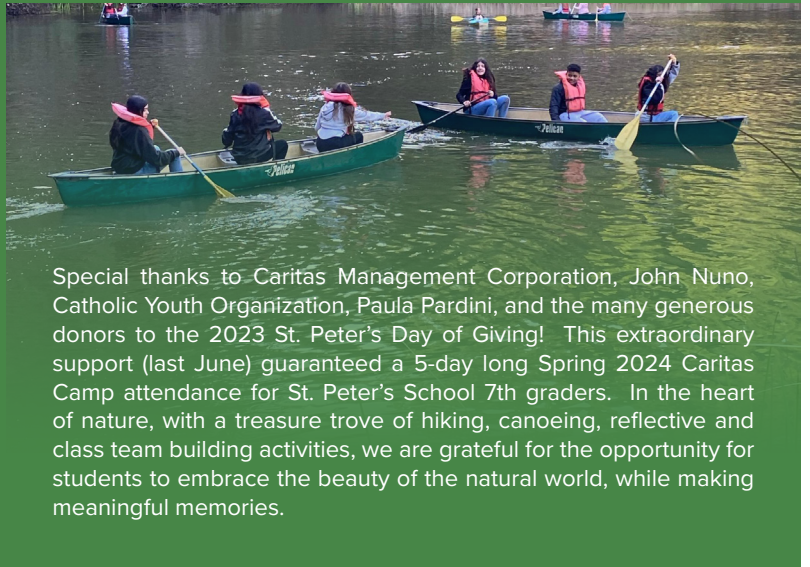
Addressing a \$200,000 DLI program launch need for the 2024-2025 academic year, St. Peter's School looks forward to collaborating with a number of benefactors and donors in support of the new DLI program. To learn more, set up your St. Peter's School visit today! We look forward to welcoming you!

PARTNERS WITH PURPOSE



St. Peter's students don't just eat salads, they grow them too! With the guidance of Catholic Charities Nutrition Educator, Jerry Waki, students grew and harvested vegetables from a hydroponic machine, then used the ingredients to make salad and pesto sauce. Thank you, Catholic Charities Nutrition Program!

CAMPING AT CARITAS SPRING IN THEIR STEPS



Special thanks to Caritas Management Corporation, John Nuno, Catholic Youth Organization, Paula Pardini, and the many generous donors to the 2023 St. Peter's Day of Giving! This extraordinary support (last June) guaranteed a 5-day long Spring 2024 Caritas Camp attendance for St. Peter's School 7th graders. In the heart of nature, with a treasure trove of hiking, canoeing, reflective and class team building activities, we are grateful for the opportunity for students to embrace the beauty of the natural world, while making meaningful memories.



GRANDPARENTS DAY



Rene Rangel '92, daughter Rio, and Rene's mother Gail Gonzalez at Grandparent's Day in January, part of our Catholic Schools Week Celebration.

LONG LASTING LEGACIES

ST. PETER'S LEGACY: A GRANDMOTHER'S GIFT



A message from Janice Vela on her retirement: It has been an honor to be part of the St. Peter's School community as development director. I've been inspired by the commitment of the school's leadership, the Sisters of Mercy, alumni, and friends who believe deeply in the school's mission and have the courage to undertake the School's transformation through Dual-Language Immersion and improvements to the campus for the benefit of the students. Thank you for welcoming me and allowing me to be with you on this journey for the past 7 years.

Now I'm retiring and passing the development baton to Julia Clark Dobel. I'm sure I'll be back at St. Peter's in some form or another!

Janice's grandmother, Sara "Elsie" Weir, Class of 1908 (top row far left) and Classmates in front of St. Peter's Academy.

RECENT MEMBERS OF THE SISTER MARIAN ROSE POWER LEGACY SOCIETY JULIE TABARES MITRA AND RICHARD MITRA, CLASS OF 1964



"We were preparing our will and had conversations about our legacy, what we value most, our family, and our community. Prominent in our memories of St. Peter's School were Sr. Bernadette Marie and Sr. Marie de Porres, two incredible teachers who promoted discussion rather than discord within our class and encouraged giving service to others—values that continue at the School today.

It was easy to include a bequest to the School in our will and gratifying to know that we were doing our part to keep St. Peter's education available to children in the community as it had been for us."

Julie and Richard continue to live out the values they developed at St. Peter's. Julie volunteers with Grupo Amparo, a Spanish-speaking peer grief support group for Latino families experiencing pregnancy loss and stillbirth, which she founded thirty years ago. Now, in retirement, both she and Richard participate in community service by picking up and delivering food to those in need.

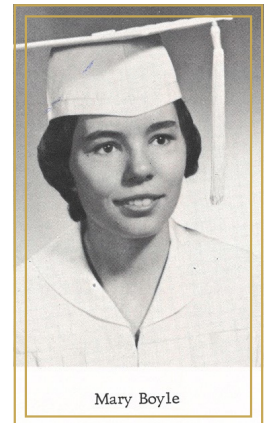
Please join Julie and Richard as members of the Sr. Marian Rose Power Legacy Society. For more information, contact Principal Sandra Jimenez at spjimenez@sanpedro.org or call 415-647-8662.

MERCY DAY ALUMNI MASS: SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 AT 2:30 PM



Save the date for the Mercy Day Alumni Mass, Sunday September 22 at 2:30 PM at St. Peter's Church. The annual Mass is being shifted from November to September in honor of our Mercy Tradition and the Sisters of Mercy. Like the Memorial Masses of the past, the names of alumni like Mary Boyle '62, who have gone home to God during the year, will be read.

Carol Erickson Guardino attended St. Peter's from 1946-1948 with her sister Rosemary when the family moved to San Francisco from Coalinga, CA. Carol's first job while in high school was as a weekend waitress at the St. Francis Creamery. Later she met her future husband, Anthony Guardino, while working at his Pace Variety Store at Mission Street and Precita Avenue. For many years, Carol made annual gifts to St. Peter's in memory of Anthony, who predeceased her, and then included a bequest to St. Peter's in her own will.



Mary Boyle

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS ALFREDO PEDROZA '86, CHAIR OF THE SF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE!



“I am thrilled and honored to serve as Chair of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and so grateful to my parents for their support and sacrifice to provide educational opportunities for their four children to earn college degrees and pursue valuable careers in the vibrant heart of San Francisco.

As Chair of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce ... I will draw on the examples and values of my inspirational teachers and mentors including the Sisters of Mercy, the Daughters of Charity, the Christian Brothers, and the Jesuits—all orders who have demonstrated their love for this great city.”

Alfredo Pedroza is a graduate of St. Peter’s School, Sacred Heart Cathedral High School, City College, and the University of San Francisco, where he earned a B.S. in International Business Administration. As Senior Vice-President of Government Relations and Public Policy at Wells Fargo & Company, Alfredo has been a consistent voice for engagement with community partners. Before his tenure at Wells Fargo, Alfredo played a pivotal role as Special Assistant for Latino Affairs in the office of then Mayor Gavin Newsom.

St. Peter’s congratulates Alfredo and deeply appreciates his commitment and work with the Chamber to make San Francisco the best place for all to work and live.

Pictured at left: Alfredo with his parents Domingo and Rosa Pedroza and San Francisco Assessor Recorder Joaquin Torres at the City Beat Breakfast in February 2024.



“...the Sisters of Mercy were instrumental in my development—their commitment to educating San Francisco’s children, especially those in the Mission at St Peter’s, taught us students to respond with love and compassion in a world that did not always welcome us. That guidance included a fierce work ethic and a belief that we were enough to achieve what we set our minds to and that our community would be there to lift us up. Sister Mary Carmela, Sister Marian Rose, Sister Lucy, Bill Graff, Father Tom Seagrave—each left a lasting imprint in my development that I carry with me to this day.”

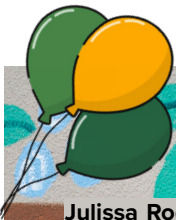
CLASS OF 1974 REUNION

WITH SPECIAL GUEST SISTER JANE MEUSE



A great time was had by all at the Class of 1974 50th Reunion! This full team effort was led by Planning Committee members Cindy Rodriguez Whetzel, Tina Paolino Chircop, Thomas Franco, and Tom Lopez who rallied the talents of so many classmates, including Grace Santana De La Cruz-Torres, Maurio Garacia, Mike Rodriguez and day-of volunteers. Principal Sandra Jimenez was on hand to welcome everyone back to school, as well as Sr. Jane Meuse, one of their former teachers.





EIGHTH GRADE SCHOLARS

OH! THE PLACES JULISSA, GENESIS, AND PAOLA WILL GO!



Julissa Rodriguez, the 2023-2024 Ethel Lager Scholar. “I am thankful for the teachers and staff support system here at St. Peter’s School and, their check-ins with me. I have also enjoyed the St. Peter’s community spirit and pride like participating in our fundraiser, Aztec Trek. Attending Drew School in the Fall, I look forward to experiencing new things and bringing an “Open Heart and Open Mind” learned during my four years at St. Peter’s.”

Genesis Ixal, the 2023-2024 Victoria Butler Christian Living Awardee. “I have really liked the electives, the time for myself to reflect, and my teachers and friends during my three years here at St. Peter’s. I look forward to bringing to ICA Cristo Rey Academy the spirit of being together, helping others, and service for others that I experienced during my time at St. Peter’s School.”

Paola Carranza, the 2023-2024 Jacqueline Macedo Greig Memorial Scholar. “Saint Peter’s School has been a safe and protecting community for me over the past nine years. I appreciate the teachers and staff; and have enjoyed my academics. An academic highlight for me was this year’s STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) project. Genesis, Julissa and I won the all-school STEAM Fair with our project, Fire Tornado! I look forward to attending Mercy-Burlingame this Fall.”

A TRIBUTE TO ST. PETER’S VOLUNTEER COACHES

BY RYAN SUÁREZ, DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL CULTURE AND COMMUNITY LIFE



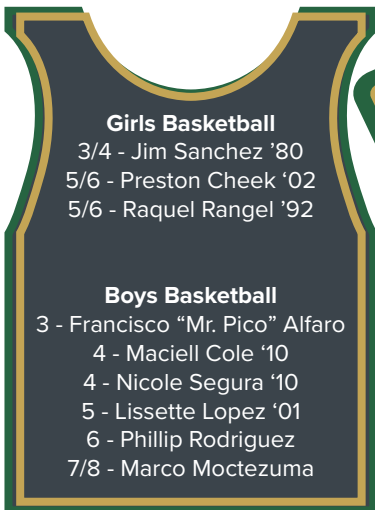
St. Peter’s School is deeply thankful for our sports coaches, who tirelessly UNITE our students, helping them GROW into stronger individuals. Through their coaches’ guidance, our students learn to both LOVE the game, and better love each other.

Through their mentorship, our coaches enable students to ACCOMPLISH feats that perhaps were never thought possible. Finally, the fruits of our coaches’ dedication extends beyond the field, enriching our broader community’s lives in ways that inspire us to SERVE others with the same passion and dedication.

On behalf of the St. Peter’s Community, I extend our deep and sincere “Thank You!” to our coaches for being such great models of the school’s core values!



Co-Ed Baseball
5/6 - Eric Ortega
5/6 - Phillip Rodriguez



Girls Basketball

3/4 - Jim Sanchez '80
5/6 - Preston Cheek '02
5/6 - Raquel Rangel '92

Boys Basketball

3 - Francisco “Mr. Pico” Alfaro
4 - Maciell Cole '10
4 - Nicole Segura '10
5 - Lissette Lopez '01
6 - Phillip Rodriguez
7/8 - Marco Moctezuma

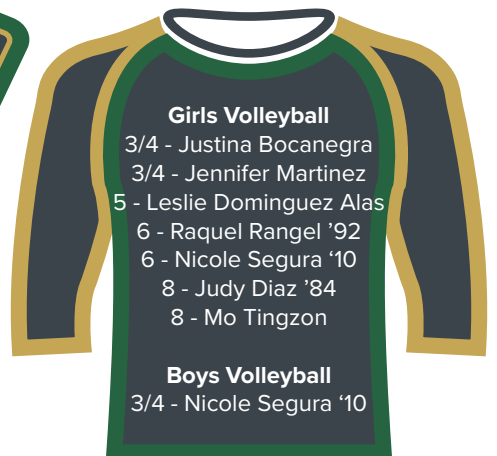


Girls Soccer

5/6 - Leslie Dominguez Alas
5/6 - Raquel Rangel '92
5/6 - RJ Rangel '28

Boys Soccer

3/4 - Thalia Leon
3/4 - Fernando Ramirez '05
3/4 - Tino Ortega
3/4 - Raquel Rangel '92
5/6 - Phillip Rodriguez



Girls Volleyball

3/4 - Justina Bocanegra
3/4 - Jennifer Martinez
5 - Leslie Dominguez Alas
6 - Raquel Rangel '92
6 - Nicole Segura '10
8 - Judy Diaz '84
8 - Mo Tingzon

Boys Volleyball

3/4 - Nicole Segura '10



ST. PETER'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1266 Florida St.
San Francisco, CA 94110

OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS

St. Peter's Catholic School community nurtures the whole child to develop a lifelong passion for learning and to live out the Works of Mercy.

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ST. PETER'S DAY OF GIVING: A CAMPAIGN FOR CARITAS

In honor of the upcoming feast day of St. Peter, whom Jesus entrusted with the keys to the kingdom of Heaven, St. Peter's School asks for your donation to help support our middle school leadership activities. Proving to be significant experiences for our 7th and 8th graders, please support 2025 Saint Peter's School Student Retreats and Leadership Programming costs, including Caritas Creek Retreat transportation, with a check to St. Peter's School using the enclosed envelope or donate online at <https://www.stpeterssf.org/ways-to-give>. With a starting goal of \$10,000, our 2024 St. Peter's Day of Giving Campaign will open on June 3 and close on June 29—Feast Day of St. Peter, Thank You for your generosity!



MEMORIES FROM PAST CAMP RETREATS

"At Camp we learned about the environment—different biological plant species like the ice plant, and met Scooby the dog. It was really inviting and welcoming and I appreciated the moments of all of us together." – Julissa

"I enjoyed the CYO camp retreat where the Caritas Staff was welcoming and the Retreat guides brought us closer together. They gathered us in groups and we were able to experience friendship and forgiveness. We also went on exhausting hikes!" – Genesis