



Tradition, Heritage, Spirit & Pride

Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Agat, Guam

Volume 1, No.2 Sept. 21 - Oct. 4, 2009

## Our Cup Runneth Over

Mount Carmel Catholic School is blessed to have not one, but three, priests to help guide us in our faith formation. Fr. Jason Granado, the Pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish, is assisting in the 8th grade theology classes. Fr. Fabio Faiola, the Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe parish in Santa Rita, is assisting in the 6th grade. Fr. Wojciech Jaskowiak, the Pastor of San Dimas parish in Merizo, is assisting in the 7th Grade.

While their role is to supplement the curriculum and to present "special topics /issues" that are brought up by the students, the very presence of the clergy has an impact far beyond the classroom, according to John Bautista, theology teacher. One of the goals of a Catholic School is to foster an environment in which vocations to the priesthood and religious life are born. The presence of Fr. Jason, Fr. Fabio, and Fr. Wojciech encourage our students to live the faith not only in the classroom but most importantly while they are in their homes and respective parishes.

Fr. Jason and Fr. Fabio visit the classes on Mondays, while Fr. Wojciech visits on Wednesdays. During their weekly visits, the priests speak to students about the Gospel of the previous Sunday. They also encourage students to ask any questions they may have about our Catholic Faith or spirituality in general. Thank God for His abundance!



Dearest Lord Jesus,  
Savior and Friend,  
Three things I pray:  
To See thee more clearly,  
To Love thee more dearly,  
To Follow thee more nearly,  
Day by Day.

--St. Richard of Chichester



## Slip, Sliding Away



It's a hit! Lines were long as students tried out the newest piece of playground equipment on Sept. 16. See back page for more.

## Features

- *Calendar of Events & Announcements and Chamoru Style* -- page 2
- *In the Spotlight* shines a light on our MCS family -- page 3
- *What's Goin' On?* features the latest photo spread and MCS happenings on back page
- *Sports* catches the action as the MCS Phoenix rises to the top! page.



# Calendar of Events & Announcements

## Mark Your Calendars -- Live Your Faith!

- Peace Prayer Service - Sept. 25 at 9 a.m.
- Parent-Teacher Meeting - Sept. 25 from 6 - 7:30 p.m.
- Catechetical Conference - Sept. 26, from 7 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., at the Sheraton
- Respect Life Sunday / Walk for Life - Oct. 4, 12:30 - 5 p.m. at Plaza de Espana
- October is the Month of the Rosary

## Contests & Challenges

- Poster Contest - Red Ribbon Week (Oct. 23 - 31)  
Theme: "Drug Free is the Key".

## Reminders

- Tuition payments are due on the 1st of every month and late fees will be assessed after the 5th of each month.
- Island Wear Fridays - Wear Island Print!
- Stage Band Practice - Tuesdays & Thursdays
- Honor Choir Practice - Monday, Wednesdays and sometimes Fridays

## Chamorro Style



Senora Irene T. S. Quidachay is in her third year teaching Middle School Chamorro at MCS. She taught Chamorro for 28 years before retiring from the Dept. of Education.

Recently, her students have been working through the Chamorro alphabet. Students had to learn 10 words for each letter. Soon students will compose their own poems using their Chamorro vocabulary.

The Mesa twins (Florencia and Emilia) share the Chamoru language, chants, and traditions with our elementary students during classroom visits and in the after-school program.

Originally from Rota, they said they began taking their language seriously after they moved to Guam as young adults -- inspired by the sounds of Chuukese and Japanese students fluently speaking their own languages at UOG.

The sisters have both been AmeriCorps volunteers and are now attending GCC studying early childhood development, specializing in Chamoru.



Emilia and Florencia Mesa





**PACSPORTS**

presents

**Mount Carmel Alumni and Endowment Foundation**

**3rd Annual Golf Tournament**

**"SWING FOR THE KIDS!"**

**Saturday, October 24, 2009**  
**Onward Golf Course, Talofoto**

**Individual Modified Callaway (Double Peoria)**  
**\$150 per person** (includes green fee)  
**No late registration penalty**  
**Show time: 10:00 am**  
**Start: 12:00 noon**

**COME JOIN IN ON THE HALLOWEEN FUN!**

**Mulligan Sales**  
**Chesa Competition**  
**Costume Contest**  
**Door Prizes**  
**Outdoor Banquet**

Registration forms can be obtained from  
mlduenas@seabridgeguam.com or Jlcruz@dimguam.net  
Call 689-4138 for more information.

Every child ... brings us God's smile and invites us to recognize that life is his gift, a gift to be welcomed with love and preserved with care always and at every moment.

-Pope Benedict XVI

## Isn't it Amazing?

Just 24 to 30 hours after conception, the zygote's 23 chromosomes from mom and 23 from dad already contain the baby's unique DNA -- the entire genetic blueprint and instructions for developing from a single-celled person to an adult!



## In the Spotlight

Ms Herma A. Abalde's K-4 class is focused on learning the alphabet, shapes and colors. This week's highlights are the letter J, the rectangle, and the color green.



Ms Abalde has taught at MCS for the last three years. She also taught here for three years more than a decade ago. During the 10 years in between, she lived in the States where she also taught in Catholic schools.

She has completed course work in Early Childhood Development and plans to complete her bachelor's degree.

After all the hard work, the children take a much needed break in the Phoenix Hall cafeteria.



## Our Children are in Good Hands

MCS welcomes Andrea H. Cruz, Board-Certified Nurse's Assistant, to our family. Her experience includes positions in the GMH Skilled Nursing Unit and the TB Program within the Dept. of Public Health.



In addition to CPR certification, she completed a First Responders course along with other courses while studying Criminal Justice.

Rest assured -- our children are in good hands at MCS!

## Help Spread the Light!

Support MCS with a tax deductible gift to assist our Endowment Fund provide excellent academic programs including Chamorro, Music, Physical Education, Religion, Early Childhood Development, and special projects for all grade levels.

Thank you!



Phoenix Rising  
Newsletter  
Mount Carmel School  
Agat, Guam

Editor: Patricia Shook

Phone (671) 565-5128  
Fax (671) 555-1234  
p\_shook@yahoo.com





# What's Goin' On?



Phillips & Bordallo, the Foundation and MCS teamed up to purchase and install the two playground sets and develop the playground. Special thanks to Perez Bros. for donating the sand.



A prayer service was held on Friday, Sept. 11 in memory of the tragic 2001 terrorist attacks that rocked the world. At the end of the service, balloons were set free to rise with the prayers toward heaven.



Learning About Life, a family-based program on relationships, was the focus of an 8th grade retreat at Phoenix Hall on Sept. 17. Mr. John Bautista presented the session to 8th graders and their parents.



# LIFE

LIFE is an acronym for Love, Infatuation, Friendship & Exploitation.

## F is for Friendship

Friendship is comfortable and easy, enriching and fun.

It is based on mutual trust, understanding, acceptance, and enjoyment.

It is not exclusive or possessive, but leaves the other free.

Some friendships last a lifetime. The best of them grow into love.

## L is for Love.

Love is the most beautiful, most rewarding, and most challenging of all relationships.

Love involves mutual acceptance, respect and trust.

Love shows itself in commitment and a willingness to sacrifice for the one loved.

Love is enduring, patient, forgiving, and encouraging.

Love lasts through thick and thin

Learning to give and receive love is the most important task any human being faces.

For more info, check out [www.learningaboutlife.org](http://www.learningaboutlife.org)

## Sports



### Phoenix rollercoaster turns up the heat

We're off to an exciting start in Girls' Basketball. Last week's games took players and fans on a wild ride -- starting with a stunning victory over the Santa Barbara Spartans 37 - 29. Destiny Castro scored a whopping 25 points, and had seven steals, while teammate Jaena Taitague kicked in six points and 12 boards, according to a write up in the *Pacific Daily News*. Camaryn Tyquiengco and Taylor Baletto were also recognized for their efforts that helped push the team to victory.

By the end of the week, MCS was served a piece of humble pie by Bishop Baumgartner Memorial School in a 32-17 loss. Ouch! Humility is good thing -- even if it hurts!