

THE LION ROARS AGAIN



The Lions' Pride is a family of Lions that stays together for safety and survival. The little lions at Holy Redeemer Grade School still need the help and protection of all you bigger and older Lions who profited from your time here. We need you to help these little ones grow strong to become educated citizens and leaders in our world. TAKE PRIDE !

Newsletter for Alumni and Friends of Holy Redeemer

SPRING 2007

All Class Alumni Reunion,

Friday, Sept. 21, 2007

Looking for Former Teachers

Alumni Office Service

Sr. Judy Eliassen, IHM
Mrs. Connie Poplawski

Class reunion information

Let us know

Grade School News

Sr. Elizabeth Fleckenstein, IHM

Celebrating the 125th anniversary of the founding of Holy Redeemer Grade School by the IHM Sisters Sept 9, 2007

Holy Redeemer Parish News

Msgr Don Hanchon

News about ALUMS new feature

We are going ELECTRONIC !

SAVE THESE DATES

NOTE CHANGES !

Sept. 9 Grade School Open House 1:00 – 3:00 pm
after the 12:00 bi-lingual Mass
(come early for the Mass)

Sept. 21 Annual Alumni All-class
Reunion - Monaghan K of C 6:00 pm

Nov. 4 Memorial Mass for Deceased alums and
family members 12:00 noon

Sr. Elizabeth Fleckenstein, IHM

When the Catholic High Schools in Detroit closed their doors in 2005, the remaining elementary schools in the city formed an alliance or consortium that meets monthly for mutual support and the development of more professional planning and sharing among us.

This past year, in collaboration with a Resource Team from the Archdiocesan School Office and a grant from the Skillman Foundation, each of our schools have pledged our efforts to improve academic achievement and student resiliency by developing ourselves as Professional Learning Communities. We have formed school improvement teams to empower students, teachers, administrators and parents to create an educational environment that is responsive to the unique learning needs and styles of our urban students.

I am proud to say that our Holy Redeemer staff has really taken this challenge to heart. As I visit the classrooms and observe what is going on throughout the school, I am energized and edified by the great dedication of these competent, professional and dedicated women (we have no male teachers) to the mission of Catholic education to our Holy Redeemer children. I see in every teacher a person who has love and concern for each unique student in front of her. They want their students to be successful, not only in their respective classes, but in their daily living out of Gospel values.

Additionally, I see them stretching the minds of our students as they, the teachers, search out those "Best Practices" that enable our children, who have many different learning styles and needs, to succeed to the best of their ability. They are dedicated to bringing out the best in each and every student. Failure is NOT an option. I know that I can say without hesitation that Holy Redeemer is blessed with a very competent, committed and professional faculty of which all of us can and should be proud.

Now you are all well aware that those who choose to teach at Holy Redeemer do so at great sacrifice. In any public school, they could double or triple what they receive salary-wise for their ministry with us. We are all proud to be part of this school and part of all of you. Your continued generosity of time, talent and treasure makes it possible for Holy Redeemer Grade School to continue in the SPIRIT and TRADITION that began 125 years ago on the corner of Vernor and Junction. Thank you and God bless you for being such an important part of us.

We hope to see you at our open house, September 9, 2007

CLASS REUNIONS

- 1957** Oct. 12 K of C in Dearborn. Call John Duff 734-697-7579 or Claude DiNatale 313-882-3232
- 1967** Aug 10-12 Friday cruise down Detroit River from Portofino's in Wyandotte 5:30-7:30; Dinner and dancing 7:30 – midnight. Saturday picnic. Sunday Mass at HR.
- 1972** Nov. 3 Saturday, 35th year reunion at the Crowne Plaza (Detroit Metro Airport) Great prizes! Contact Sharlene (Myers) Krupnak at 313-928-8992 or Patricia (Murray) Keys at 313-300-5612
- 1977** Oct. 20 Saturday 30th reunion at O'Kellys Banquet Hall in Dearborn 6:30 PM. Contact Ruta Misiunas: rutabsview@yahoo.com or 734-449-2639
- 1982** Meet together at the all-class reunion, Sept 21
- 1987** Late Sept '07. Contact Linda Cosme-Reyna: holyredeemer1987@sbcglobal.net; or John Gabriel: johngabriel69@hotmail.com
- 1997** Meet together at the all- class reunion, Sept 21

IHMSisters.org has a page on their web site where class reunions may be posted. Just follow the directions for “class reunions”



Our new Bishop Daniel Flores visits children in Holy Redeemer Grade School

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Inserted in this newsletter is a page of ads to cover some of the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter. Some of this cost could be reduced by having a mailing committee of alums and friends to stuff, label, and seal the annual appeal letter.

Sr. Judy Eliassen, IHM

Have you ever thought you knew something and found that there is a greater depth there than you realized? I experienced this while I was watching Cecil B DeMille's production of The Ten Commandments. I had seen this many years ago and, I'm sure, several times. However, I was amazed at how the people were waiting for the “deliverer” and all the while Moses was in their midst. Moses was waiting too! And yet whenever someone told him he was the one, he did not believe it. Years and years went by and the people remained in slavery. Then after a long time in the desert, God led him to people who taught him about God which led him to ascend the mountain where God appeared as a burning bush and told him that he was the Chosen One to lead God's people out of slavery.

This time wandering and getting to know God intimately reminded me of my novitiate. We all need to take time aside to know what God is asking of us. He called me back to help Redeemer Grade School continue to educate its students to become leaders in their communities. Education is the great liberator. To whom much is given, much is expected.

YOU are one of the **chosen ones**.

Do you hear God calling **YOU** to help!

We are working on a new web site. You can access it the same way but it will have a new look. Several grade school teachers and myself have been learning how to do this. Let us know what you think. www.holyredeemer.net

WE ARE GOING ELECTRONIC

We are still trying to collect email addresses for announcements instead of mailing. Eventually we would like to email that the newsletter or some announcement is on the web site. This would save a lot of trees and be a considerable savings in printing and postage costs. More of your donations could go to help the children.

If you don't have access to the internet, be sure you buddy up with someone who does. Even a family member, friend, neighbor, grandchild, anyone – who can help you keep in touch. They can even print the alumni page (or any page) and send it or bring it to you. Also, your neighborhood public libraries have the internet and would be happy to help you. It would also inform them of Redeemer. Maybe you could find some new supporters this way!

When our new web site goes up, be sure to put it as one of your “favorites” so you can easily access it.

BE SURE WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS !

Maybe class reps could send us your list

125 YEARS AGO

Excerpt taken from No Greater Service
by Sr. M. Rosalita, IHM

Four Sisters named for the new Holy Redeemer mission arrived in Detroit August 28, 1882 only to learn that the school would not be ready for a week and that the convent was being cleaned and was as yet without furniture. They resided for the time being at St. Vincent's, the nearest mission, going several days later to visit Springwells, as they referred to Holy Redeemer, to see what progress had been made.

About six o'clock in the evening, the Fathers sent them in their wagon back to St. Vincent's because the beds had not arrived. When the furniture did come, there was a surplus of bedsteads but no tables, so a table was improvised from a bedstead.

Until a stove was set up, their meals were provided by the parishioners, an inconvenience they preferred to having "to go to the city again."

Since the school was not ready to open at the same time as the public schools, Fr. Aegidius Smulders, the Redemptorist pastor, decided to give a mission to keep the parish children occupied until September 11 when classes would meet.

The first (IHM) community school report for Holy Redeemer gave an enrollment of 140 boys and 160 girls. Ten years later the number had almost doubled.

NEWS ABOUT ALUMS

John Mifsud '69 benefitted from being co-editor of the yearbook. He has published an award-winning recollection of family stories entitled All Clear. He is originally from Sliema, Malta, and currently lives in Seattle WA. This family memoir of life during WWII encompasses the spirit and self determination of the Maltese people and critical impact the island had in shaping international history. Copies may be obtained by sending \$14.95 to Diversity Productions, 216 30th Ave., Seattle WA 98122.

HRGS will receive 35% of all book sales

CONTACT INFORMATION

	Grade school	Church
Address (48209)	1711 Junction	1721 Junction
Phone (313)	841-5230	842-3450
Fax (313)	841-3640	849-0539
Web site www.	holyredeemer.net	mostholyredeemer.net

Email alumni office: hralumni@holyredeemer.net or link from alumni page of grade school web site

Msgr. Don Hanchon, Pastor

Easter is barely over as I write these lines, but I am hoping that they reach you before its 50 days are over! The intense joy of our Holy Week and Easter liturgies here at Redeemer are still with me, as I hope they are with all of you!

Our creative and faithful School Advisory Committee has been hard at work planning activities to celebrate you, our alumni, and to celebrate the 125th anniversary of our Grade School throughout this year—as you will read elsewhere in this edition of the Newsletter. I hope to see many of you here at Holy Redeemer, or at the All Alumni Night at Monaghan K of C this coming fall.

Many of you know that a part of the high school building is home to the Life Skills Center of Covenant House, where over 200 students are completing their high school diplomas in a two-session computer-assisted program that runs year-round. The other good news for young people in our community comes from a group making plans to open Detroit Christo Rey, a co-educational Catholic High School for needy students. The group has commitments from the IHM Sisters and the Basilian Fathers to sponsor the school, starting in September 2008—and they have chosen Holy Redeemer as the prospective site!

The school would start with Freshman Year, and add a class each September. They will be part of a national association of Christo Rey schools, which offer a college prep program that features a mentored work experience for its students one day a week. The jobs with Detroit-area employers will offer the students not only a valuable work experience, but help to pay the actual costs of the tuition such a school involves—making it affordable to the needy families in our Detroit community. The planning committee is still refining its business plan, which includes lining up prospective employers. Since many of you are business owners, or make decisions about hiring in the corporations where you are employed, I am appealing for your help. If you can provide employment for a student, or need any further information, please call Sr. Canice Johnson or Joyce Geco at 313-922-8806. Many thanks for this! News of the return of a Catholic High School to Detroit is wonderful news, not only for our Grade School students but for many more all across the City. As for me, nothing could make me happier than to see our parish facilities once again full of students being challenged to be the best they can be!

Visit their web site: www.cristorey.net to see a video.

Once again, thank you for the help you provide in making the Spirit of Holy Redeemer stay alive among our young people. I hope that gratitude is one of the lessons in life and faith you learned while you were a student here...and count on it to keep the tradition going!

I look forward to seeing you whenever you can stop by, or at one of the upcoming alumni gatherings.

*Holy Redeemer
Grade School
1711 Junction
Detroit MI
48209*



*He has Risen as He said
Alleluia*

**ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED**

**Remember Holy Redeemer
in your will**

ALL CLASS REUNION AT MONAGHAN K of C

Last year's reunion was a smashing success. Alums filled the huge ballroom, bar, and restaurant. See web site for photos.

This year's event will be on September 21, Friday, starting at 6:00 pm. Once again there will be no admission charge. Monaghan K of C serves delicious fish dinners on Fridays beginning at 5:00 until 8:00 pm. There will be a cash bar; munchies will be served at the tables. Former teachers will be invited again – this seemed to be a hit last year. By the way, if you know where they are, let us know or ask them to contact us. We haven't found everyone yet!

Of course we will have our popular 50-50 raffles which you so generously supported last year as well as our big prize raffle. We have reduced the cost of the ticket to make it more affordable – It used to be \$100, then \$25, and this year you can get it for a mere \$15. Just think, only \$15 for the same great jackpot prizes!

PRIZES

1st place \$1000
2nd place 500
3rd place 300
4th place 100
5th place 50

HR Grade school 313-841-5230
Jerry Farrell 810-629-8522
Dan Ewald 248-828-8153



Remember, you can't win if you don't have a ticket! So to purchase one or several of these very affordable tickets, contact:

If you have a class reunion, why not make some of these tickets available to your classmates.

Monaghan K of C is in Livonia, 19801 Farmington Road between 7 Mile and 8 Mile. Phone: 248-476-8385