



# PATHWAYS

Summer 2006

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## A Woman of Service

*Sr. Helen Marie Scannell aka Sr. Mary Timothy Honored*

**O**n May 21, the St. Catharine Academy community celebrated a person whose years at SCA have demonstrated one of the school's core values — service. Faculty, former students, and Sisters of Mercy gathered with Sr. Helen Marie Scannell and members of her family, to celebrate her forty years of service to the students of SCA.

The auditorium was transformed for a tea party, with pink linen, spring flowers, and colorful teapots, providing a lovely setting for the event. SCA's principal Sr. Ann Welch proclaimed that there were two additional reasons for this celebration for the year also marked Sr. Helen Marie's sixtieth anniversary as a Sister of Mercy and her eightieth birthday.

### Known By Many Names

Helen Scannell has been known by many names in her lifetime. Named Helen by her parents, she was renamed Sr. Mary Timothy as a Sister of Mercy, and later, her nieces and nephews knew her as "Aunt Helen". In more recent times, she has come full circle, returning to her baptismal name and becoming Sr. Helen Marie.

### Surprise and Recognition

Although Sr. Helen Marie knew she was to be the guest of honor at the Sunday afternoon event, she was completely unprepared for the broad range of guests who took time to be

with her, to share a cup of tea, and to sample the abundant array of delicious tea sandwiches and desserts. Flashing cameras captured her hand flying to her mouth and her widened eyes as she realized that one large group — thirty members of her family — was waiting to greet her.

That look of surprise was repeated often throughout the afternoon as friends, associates, and past students greeted her, along with frequent interruptions for flower deliveries. In turn, Sr. Helen often generated excited responses from her guests, who were amazed at her ability to recognize them and recall their names!

Throughout the afternoon, Sr. Helen and guests mingled in a leisurely pace that allowed time for conversation and the sharing of memories, prompted by a picture display, and a Memory Book, containing messages from former students. Alumnae connected with past classmates and teachers, and Sisters of Mercy who never taught at SCA participated in the event in a show of support and appreciation for one of their Sisters.

### "Catherine's Legacy"

The highlight of the simple program was an announcement by Sr. Ann. She explained that in honor of Sr. Helen Marie's remarkable service to St. Catharine Academy, the school was initiating an award entitled "Catherine's Legacy". Persons who are noted for outstanding service will



*Sr. Helen Marie is greeted by one of her former students, Karen Adragna D'Aleo '71.*

be selected for this recognition, with their names inscribed on a plaque to be displayed in the school. As an exemplary model of service, Sr. Helen Marie Scannell will be the first name on the plaque.

Sr. Patricia Vetrano, Vice-President of the Sisters of Mercy, and member of the Board of Trustees, then spoke in recognition of Sr. Helen Marie's sixty years as a Sister of Mercy, and she invited Fr. Tim Scannell, nephew of Sr. Helen Marie, to conclude the program by bestowing a blessing upon his aunt.

After the guests dispersed, the gathering space was filled with the echo of sounds from the many who honored a woman remembered for her legacy of kind, gracious and generous service. ❖



*Sr. Rhea Bean, RSM*

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

## Celebrating a Special Connection

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### *What You Can Learn From a Phonathon*

**T**his year as part of the Annual Fund for St. Catharine Academy we conducted a “mini-phonathon”. Several Sisters of Mercy, with connections to SCA as alumnae or former faculty, gave willingly of their time to this effort: Sr. Nora Kelley, Sr. Jeannette Mendonca, Sr. Mary Gallagher; '59; Sr. Mary Sharon Donohue '57; and Sr. Helen Marie Scannell (a.k.a. Sr. Mary Timothy).

#### **A Chance to Connect**

The phonathon was a wonderful experience. It helped to raise money for the school — and it provided an opportunity to connect. As calls were placed, I overheard snatches of conversation, exclamations of recognition, and responses to inquiries about former teachers. Since then, I have been thinking about that phonathon experience, and pondering the unique relationship that exists between St. Catharine Academy and the Sisters of Mercy.

Until six years ago, I had no formal connection with SCA, but I did have a “heart” connection, created by years of hearing stories from Sisters of Mercy who had taught at the school or were alumnae. From those stories, I learned about the influence of the Sisters of Mercy in shaping the spirit, values, and mission of SCA — and those stories connected me to the school and its people.

Over the years, the decline in the number of Sisters of Mercy present in the daily life of St. Catharine’s might lead some to wonder about the ongoing level of support the sisters have for the school, or our ability to continue to influence its mission. It is my belief that while our numbers are fewer, our influence and commitment remains strong. We simply have been challenged to find new ways of demonstrating both.

#### **Mercy Educational Values**

A school is one of the most important institutions a society has for transmitting its values; and the Sisters of Mercy are very clear about the values that should characterize our educational mission. While we hold educational excellence as central, we believe that this must be achieved in an environment that gives priority to

collaboration, compassionate service, and concern for women. Further, there must be opportunities for our students to grow spiritually, and to develop a global perspective that is rooted in respect for every individual.

It is important that we speak about the values that are integral to our educational mission; and it is equally important that we demonstrate them in our lives. The reduction in the number of sisters in our schools has resulted in the need to be clear about what we value — and to invite others to share these same values. Doing this in a spirit of collaboration has helped us discover many partners, make new connections, and unleash creative energy for the mission.

#### **Linking the Past with the Future**

Frequently, alumnae speak of the significant impact their SCA education has had in their lives. They express a commitment to ensuring that such an experience will continue to be available for other young women. The Annual Fund presents the opportunity to act on that commitment. It offers an opportunity to place a value on your education, on your relationship with SCA, and on your relationship with the Sisters of Mercy. Then, the gift that you make becomes an expression of that relationship and links SCA’s past with its future.

All of those who have ever been a part of the SCA community are invited to help maintain this connection — and to stay in touch with us and with one another. This is no easy task in times of mobility and change, but we are committed to doing so, and we hope you are, as well! ❖

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# A Tradition of Service

## Graduation Theme Highlights Making a Difference

**W**hen Sr. Ann Welch, SCA's principal, addressed the Class of 2006 at this year's commencement exercises on June 3rd, she reminded the graduates that they came from a long and rich history of Catharinites who have made a difference. She noted that many of the current graduates have had an impact on both school and community by their strong commitment to service. Listing many ways they had demonstrated this, she offered a challenge: "Your gifts and talents are meant to be given to others."

Sr. Ann's words were a reminder that the integration of service as part of the educational environment at St. Catharine Academy is not something new. From the days of the school's early beginnings, response to the needs of others has been essential to what it means to be a Catharinite.

### Many Ways to Serve

While some alumnae may remember the Sodality as a school organization that facilitated service to the less for-

tunate, current students are part of a community that has increasingly rooted the act of service in the core values of the school.

In recent years, students have expressed their concern for women's issues by undertaking actions on behalf of the women of Afghanistan. Other projects have related to assuming a responsibility for the earth, encouraged the development of a world vision, and, through Habitat for Humanity, provided lessons in service and collaboration.

### Caring at Home and at a Distance

Throughout the year, students are challenged to think and act globally as well as locally. They respond to local needs by providing Thanksgiving food baskets and Christmas gifts for the needy. They also are generous in responding to victims of disasters miles away. When the tsunami occurred in 2004, followed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, students involved in the school's International Show dedicated the performance and its proceeds to those devastated by these two calamities

*Melody Felix, SCA junior, was the first recipient of the "In Her Steps" award, given in recognition of her outstanding efforts to raise breast cancer awareness. She provided leadership to a project that involved education and information, and raised funds for research.*



### In Her Steps

Those who claim service as an integral value in their lives often find inspiration in someone whose example sets a standard that goes the extra mile and flows from a remarkably generous heart. At SCA, Catharine McAuley is presented as such a model. She began the Sisters of Mercy in Ireland in 1831 and by the time she died just ten years later, more than a hundred women had committed to continuing her work.

This year, as a way of acknowledging students who serve others in the spirit of Catherine McAuley, SCA initiated the "In Her Steps" award, honoring students for service that goes beyond the expected. ❖

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## SCA Senior Recognition

**T**his year, members of the Class of 2006, 95% of whom plan studies beyond high school, were awarded in total over \$3.1 million in scholarships. One of the highlights at every commencement is the announcement of awards, which this year included:

### Cyre Quinones

Cyre, who will attend Syracuse University, received the Catharinite Award which is the highest award given by SCA. This award recognizes the senior who is outstanding for the combination of character, leadership,

service and scholarship. She is also the recipient of a number of recognitions, including Syracuse University's Merit Scholarship.

### Christina Doka

Christina, the class salutatorian, who will attend NYU, received the Alumnae Award given in recognition of school service, leadership, and contributions to the spirit and growth of the SCA community.

She also received scholarships from American, Fordham, George Washington and Pace Universities.

### Jorlyann Marinas

Jorlyann, class valedictorian, received the General Excellence Award for the highest four year cumulative average. She will be attending CUNY/Hunter College.



*Cyre Quinones*

### Nancy Totino

Nancy, who will enter Fordham University, was one of ten students recognized for highest class scholastic achievement, and received a number of awards and scholarships, including: FIERI Italian Language Achievement Award and Fordham University's Loyola Scholarship. ❖

# ALUMNAE NEWS

## Class Notes

1942

**E. Dolores Pogue Hughes**, who lives in Paramus, NJ, tells us.... school mates had wonderful days at the old SCA in NYC.... wonders if today's students "hike-up their belted uniforms when they are a block away from school or if they apply a little lipstick at a safe distance from the school — no???.... Why don't you older dolls write and tell us about some of the no-no's you did that today's young people think they invented.".... **Mary Maguire Murtagh** announces that her son, John Murtagh, is a councilman in Yonkers, representing his Mom among others! Her other children are a teacher, professor, and lawyer.

1949

**Veronica Faughnan Bartlett** in West Palm Beach, FL welcomes "any of the '49 ers" traveling her way to visit.

1952

**Rosemary Curry Landrigan** and her husband dined with Virginia Simpson '53 while on vacation at the Jersey Shore. These two grew up on the same block in St. Catherine of Genoa Parish and in 1958 Virginia attended Rosemary's wedding in that same parish. Rosemary's daughter Maryann, a corporate attorney in Dallas, TX, is to be wed in December,



*Class of 1950 — At the Alumnae Reunion in April of 2005, left to right: Dorothy Kelleher, Mary Walsh, Jeanne Vogan, Lorraine Frattolillo and Margaret Campbell.*

at her parents' parish in Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Ridgewood, NJ.

1954

**Mary Molloy Fullan**, who lives in Orlando, FL, enjoyed Sr. Rhea and alumnae in the Tampa area in February, and prays for the success of all SCA graduates and staff.

1955

**Margaret McVicar Ruckel**, who now resides at Villa St. Francis in Peekskill, NY, welcomes visitors to see the "magnificent Hudson River view".

1956

**Carol Ann Cuomo Avallone**, who lives in Middle Island, NY, is the grandmother of Mia Catherine Hayes, age 4, and Jack William Hayes, born September, 2005.... **Eleanor Merrill**, who lives in Dover Plains, NY and who graduated from New York Foundling Hospital, is widowed and works in child care. She has two daughters, Debbie and Laura, and two grandchildren.... **Margaret Kelly Murphy** and husband, George, who live in Virginia and New York, are the parents of six married children and have 21 grandchildren.... **Sheila O'Rourke Venner**, who resides in Henderson, NV, retired as a professional secretary and has become a professional volunteer.

1958

**Nancy Ellen Scheffer-Mian**, retired from teaching, enjoys her three beautiful grandchildren, Tyler, Lauren, and Breanna. She remains active in her Parish of St. Clare's in the Bronx, serving as a Eucharist Minister, singing in the choir, and teaching in the RE program.... **Carol Morrissey Scampoli** and husband of 40 years, Richie, call Palmyra, VA home. She says "I was blessed to have been taught by the Sisters of Mercy for 12 years. Their example continues to influence my life. Having spent over

40 years working as an R.N., retirement now offers me time to volunteer for both the Red Cross and the University of VA Medical Response Corps." Active in the Legion of Mary. Current goal is to write a book (on the gift of grace) as a present for five children and nine grandchildren.

1959

**Linda Montemurro Cooperman** and husband, who recently moved to a new home in Somers, NY, plans to travel this summer to Italy with their 16 year old granddaughter and visit with family.... **Mary Gallagher, RSM**, attended the reunion in April '06 and had a wonderful time. After teaching at SCA from 1968-1973, serving as principal from 1983-1987, and working at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, she is now teaching math at SCA's sister school, Our Lady of Victory Academy.... **Janet Burckhardt Hafemann** and husband, Joe, who live in Fishkill, NY, are both retired probation officers, Janet from Dutchess County, and Joe, who is also a Permanent Deacon, from Westchester County. They have three children: George, a priest in the Archdiocese of NY, ordained in '99; Mary, a free-lance television producer; and Paul, a middle school teacher in Mahopac.

1960

**Ann Purtell Bello**, who resides in Norwalk, CT, announces that she is the proud grandmother of Charlotte Eleanor Shepherd, born to daughter Kathy and husband Bart.... **Patricia Bagon Edelson** tells us that Georgia Bagon Mattinson '67 is the proud grandmother of her first grandchild, Jason Anthony Girardi, born August 26, 2005.... **Frances Hickey Fairweather** and her husband had a wonderful time when they met Dorothea Burdieri Durig '59, on a cruise to Bermuda, and ended up sharing a table for the week with Dot and her family. She believes that this

# ALUMNAE NEWS



*Class of 1956 — At the Alumnae Reunion on April 30, 2006, left to right: standing, Maryann Macejka Logalbo and Carol Ann Cuomo Avallone, seated, Maureen Hawe Kaufmann, Margaret Kelly Murphy and Barbara Russell Rafferty.*

chance encounter and their immediate chemistry demonstrated most aptly Sr. Rhea's words on the nature of St. Catharine's 'culture'....

**Margaret (Peggy) Golby Heidel** and her husband, Dan, retired last May to Surprise, AZ. They have a daughter in Alexandria, VA and one in Mt. Vernon, NY, and three grandchildren, one born last October. While they love living in Arizona and miss their daughters, they welcome contact with any SCA alumnae living near them.... **Anne Zerbo Plummer**, who with her husband lives in Burke, VA, says they still try to spend the winter in Sarasota, FL. They have a new granddaughter, Emily Constance Delmonte, who lives with her sister, Grace, and her parents in Savannah, GA. Anne enjoyed having the chance to visit with Sr. Rhea and other alum in the Florida area.... **Isabella Calderisi-Ribaudo**, who with her husband, Philip, lived in NY for years, and moved to South Bella, SC, have three grandchildren, Emma 11, James 9, and Mark 6. Isabella retired from Texaco and Philip from IBM.

## 1961

**Bernadette Treat DeAngelis** and husband Joe, who reside in Ossining, NY, have three children, John, Nora

and Claire, and five wonderful grandchildren.... **Carole Lattanzi Urfrig** and her husband, Donald, married for 35 years, make their home in Los Angeles, CA. They are bi-coastal, as both sons, live in Manhattan; Jonathan is married and heads his own hedge fund, and Gregory completed his oral maxillo-facial residency in June '06. Carole, who was in interior design, works part-time for Crystal Princess and Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines.... **Sheila Reese Wharam** informs us that while in LA, she saw classmate Carole Lattanzi Urfrig, who "still looks 17".

## 1962

**Margaret Roche Macey** recently moved from Buffalo, NY to Saratoga Springs "to be closer to the reunions!".... **Allana Maikish Nappi** and her husband, Mike, who live in Somers, NY, says son, Andrew, and his wife, Linda, will be presenting them their first grandchild in August.... **RoseMary Palminteri Pascarelli**, married for 42 years, splits time between Boca Raton, FL and Barnegat, NJ, is semi-retired, plays golf, baby-sits, and works part-time as an event planner.

## 1963

**Judy Wobbekind English** and husband, Tom, continue to live in Dix Hills, NY, are retired and enjoy traveling, but their special joys are their grandchildren, Brianna 7, twins Jake and Travis 4, Daniel 3, Andrew 2, and Ryan 6 months. Judy says "God has been good to us".

## 1964

**Barbara Fink Gardner**, says hi to her classmates, lives in Chester, NY and has five grandchildren.... **Janet Manco Rooney**, who lives on Staten Island, says "it is a wonderful feeling" to now have a grandson, James Christopher.

## 1965

**Toni Ann Mormile Boyle**, from her home in Yonkers, NY, says "Hello to the Class of '65, especially her life-long friend, Desi, and with a special hello to Roseann".... **Mary Treanor Martingale**, who is a reading recovery teacher at P.S. 200, District 20 in Brooklyn, and her husband moved in July '05 to Manhattan.

## 1966

**Patricia Kawitzky Casey**, who lives in Scarsdale, NY and attended the class reunion, says "it was great to see everyone, I would love to hear from Marie Florio and Rita Stevens, and life is good".... **Rose Orletti Ciofalo**, a 2nd grade teacher at PS 72 in Throggs Neck, and husband, Paul, are owners of Prime Time Café in New Rochelle, have two children, Michael 27 and Allison 22, and "enjoyed the reunion".... **Celeste DiOrio Coughlin** wrote that "the years and memories at SCA will never be forgotten.... and made us the fine women we are today".... **Mary Noone Rottino** and husband, William, reside in Rutherford, NJ and are parents of three children, Andy, a teacher, Nicole, in publicity, and Claire, in marketing. Mary is employed at Prentice Hall/Pearson Education, tutors ESL adult students, and enjoys tennis and golf.

## 1968

**Virginia Otis**, who lives in Darien, CT and still works in medical education, has continued her music career, singing internationally, with concerts in Paris in '05, a Christmas special with Peter, Paul, and Mary at Carnegie Hall in December '06, and one next year in Venice.

## 1970

**Ann-Marie Palladino** Carducci and her husband, Larry, reside in Armonk, NY, have been married for 30 years,

*(Continued on page 6)*

# ALUMNAE NEWS

*(Continued from page 5)*

and are the parents of Pamela, Michael, Daniel and Valerie. She continues working at Montefiore Medical Center, where she is director of the Utilization Management Department.... **Mary Ann Cirieco Genna** has been named coordinator of Multi-Cultural Affairs for the Diocese of Allentown, PA.

**1971**

**Josephine Sangermano Hammond** and her husband, Joseph, who have been married for 34 years and reside in Toms River, NJ, have a son 30, in film production and a daughter 26, in computer programming. Josephine is a school business administrator for private schools for the disabled.... **Laurie Hogan**, who lives in Yonkers, NY, said of the reunion, "it is good to come back and see one of the best places from your past".... **Elizabeth Simonetti Howe**, who with husband, Jim, calls Darien, CT home, is a self-employed CPA in Stamford. She attended her class reunion with her 12 year old daughter, who enjoyed seeing the school that her mother talks about so much. Elizabeth said, "What a nurturing environment there is at St. Catharine's. I hope my daughter's high school years will be a wonderful as mine".... **Marguerite Demers Jones**, a resident of Harrison, NY, is principal at RJ Bailey Elementary School in White Plains, NY.... **JoAnn Acierno Marrone** and her husband, Don, a physician, after living in the Bronx for 52 years, moved to their dream house near the beach in Montauk, Long Island, where son, Danny 13, is in the 7th grade at the Montauk School, and son, Nick 21, is a student at Stony Brook, in pre-law.... **Linda McNally**, who came all the way from her home in Sealy, TX to attend her class reunion, said, "I had four wonderful years at SCA". Linda's son, Brian, was disappointed that he couldn't make the trip with her.

**1972**

**Joann Trovato H. Alexander**, who lives in Greenwich, CT, after working as a nurse for 32 years, recently became a real estate agent. She has three children, Erik, Beth, and Amy, an RN in Manhattan, and a grandson, Logan. In 1999, Joann married Martin, who also has three children. Between them they have seven grandchildren.... **Linda Christopher Callahan**, who with husband, Keith, calls home Riverside, CT, this year has two 30ths in her life: a wedding anniversary and years at the company where she works.... **Nina Colavolpe-Leone**, who resides in Scarsdale, NY and is retired from



*Class of 1981 — At the Alumnae Reunion on April 30, 2006, left to right: Leslie Lewis Grant, Rosemarie Motto Bruno, Cecilia Minuto Williams, Lisa DelliPizzi, Patricia Gentosi and Hannah Grant Gomez.*

psychiatric nursing, is currently a student at New York School of Court Reporting in White Plains, NY. Her hobbies include cabaret singing, with a student class at Turtle Bay Music School in Manhattan, and as the recording secretary for the Harrison Players Community Theatre Group in Harrison, NY.... **Noreen M. O'Gara**, lives in Bedford, MA and was elected to her local school committee in March '05 with 68% of the vote. She credits SCA for her long-standing interest in education.... **Rosemaria Memoli Schneiderman**, who makes her

home in Bloonfield, CT, announces the formation of her medical legal consulting firm — Labrynth Consulting, LLC.

**1974**

**Doriana Fontanella**, who lives in Denver, was awarded the Primo Award for 2004 Italian American Attorney of the Year in Colorado, and has been renominated this year.

**1975**

**Nanci Pinto Kalbfell**, who lives in Patterson, NY with her husband and their children, Kristin 17, Lauren 15, and Bobby 12, shares ownership of a welding business and she works full-time for Putnam County in the Department of Consumer Affairs. Taking the SCA value of community service to heart, she serves as a Girl Scout leader, Boy Scout troop secretary, CCD teacher, and is secretary to the community's Home Improvement Board.... **Sarina DiStefano-Lynch**, who lives in Briarcliff, is a physician with an Ob/Gyn practice in Tarrytown, NY. She and husband are the parents of Sean 21, Genevieve 20, Katie 16, and Juliette 12.

**1976**

**Kathy Musella Dispenza**, who with husband, Mario, live in the Bronx, are the parents of two SCA alumnae, Elizabeth '00, who has just completed her masters' in Forensic Psychology at Fordham, and Angela '06, who will be attending the Berkley School in the fall. Kathy works at SCA in the book store.... **Dolores DeDonato Pomarico** and her husband, Michael, who live in Stratford, CT, have two children, Ashley 20 and Alex 16. She works at AT&T and would love to hear from classmates, especially Lorraine Mottola. She can be e-mailed at lori58@sbcglobal.net.... **Hanora Carney Sarro** and Mark, her husband, live in Yorktown Heights, NY. She relays the good news that

# ALUMNAE NEWS

their son, Thomas, is doing well following tumor surgeries in June '05 and January '06, and that daughter, Caitlin, is a high school sophomore, with plans to become an architect.

**1978**

**Cathie Frega Nardi** asks for prayers for her continued recovery from breast cancer and all women faced with this dreadful illness. Cathie says, "Please get checked early".

**1980**

**Patricia Devlin-Sidorick** lives in Naugatuck, CT and was married in October '04. Daughter, Christine, is on the dean's list at Iona College, and is in pre-law.

**1981**

**Lisa Delli Pizzi**, who lives in Franklin Square, NY, is employed by Remax West as a Long Island real estate agent.... **Rosa Torres Lifson**, who makes Parkersburg, WV her home, tells that her SCA memories are positive, that she was "encouraged never to feel afraid to tackle any task, always do her best whatever came her way, feel proud of her accomplishments no matter how big or small, and, above all, to feel great about being a woman. May this wonderful view of womanhood continue in the lives of the young women of SCA".... **Judith Rivera Schneider**, who lives in Sea Cliff, NY, has gone back to work in Park Slope, Brooklyn as an agent at Warren Lewis Realty. Her daughter, Nicki, is almost 4.

**1984**

**Diane Lugo Cartagena** and her husband live in Richmond Hill, NY with their sons, Gregory 10 and Brendan 7.

**1986**

**Nelsie Pacheco Hernandez**, who now resides in Manhasset Hills, NY with her new husband, Carlos, who was the young man who took her to

the SCA Prom. She is employed as a psycho therapist for children and adults at Bronx Lebanon Hospital's Child Study Center.... **Roseanne Platoni**, who lives in New Paltz, NY with husband, Dan, and a new son, reports that she continues to run the pet store she opened in '01.

**1987**

**Darlene Diaz Cioffi** and husband, Patrick, who have relocated to Delaware, have two daughters, Arianna 4, and Victoria 3. She says her husband, who is assigned to Dover Air Force Base, is a flight engineer on C5 Galaxy, and that she employed by Citibank as a QC Analyst in Global Technology. Her memories of SCA are wonderful... **Evie Tsolomytis**, who lives in the Bronx and earned a BA from Manhattan College and a master's from Iona College, is teaching at St. Raymond's Elementary School. She sends her regards to all her SCA classmates.

**1989**

**Jennifer Tagliaferro Herencia**, who resides with her husband and two year old daughter, Jeanette, in the Riverdale section of the Bronx, is a supervisory entry officer for US Customs and Border Protection in Newark, NJ. She has received two degrees from John Jay College, in '93, a BS in criminal justice administration and planning, and in '99, a master's in public administration.

**1991**

**Erika Cintron**, who resides in the Bronx, wants her classmates to update their address, phone, and email information with SCA, so more will make it to the next reunion.... **Dinorah Solis Raghubar**, who with husband, Dave, live in Latham, NY, traveled from upstate NY to attend the class reunion and says "hi" to classmates who did not make the reunion (and

wants those who did not attend to know that she "missed you").

**1992**

**Linda Lia**, who lives in the Bronx, works full time as a physician assistant in Ob/Gyn and is pursuing a masters'.

**1996**

**Iris Cortes**, who graduated from NYU in Spanish Education in '00 and received a master's in curriculum and teaching, is now working at The Heritage School in NYC.... **La-Shanta Forbes** resides in the Bronx and was happy to see her classmates at the class reunion.... **Katia Zapata Tanaka**, who is employed at Parenting Magazine in NYC, resides with husband Kevin in the Bronx. She has an undergraduate degree from NYU in CPA Accounting and a master's from the University of Notre Dame.

**1999**

**Milagros Roman** lives and works in the Bronx. She teaches 6th grade at Accion Academy and is working towards a masters' in math education.

**2000**

**Jennifer Torchetti**, who resides in Sayville, NY, has a master's in psychology, and plans to pursue a Ph.D. ❖



*Class of 2001 — At the Alumnae Reunion on April 30, 2006, left to right: Kathya Chiluiza, Panya Jones, Toni-Marie Falcone and Rebecca Millet.*



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## Mercy Math Academy

### *Challenges for Sixteen SCA Sophomores*

Last fall, with a grant from the Hyde and Watson Foundation, SCA launched the Mercy Math Academy, a special initiative designed to enhance the math skills and build the confidence of sophomore students.

The idea for the Academy began with Maureen Jackson, a faculty member at SCA's sister school, Our Lady of Victory Academy. Ms. Jackson wanted to create a technology-centered curriculum that focused on helping young women acquire advanced skills in mathematics. With the recommendations of math teachers, sixteen sophomores from St. Catharine Academy were selected.

Classes were held one Saturday morning for three hours once a month from October through May. Ms. Jackson created lessons, which were challenging and of high interest, to develop student skills in the use of the TI-84 Plus graphing calculator. Courses such as Trigonometry and Calculus require students to use the graphing calculator with facility.

At the last class in May, students received a certificate of completion and a book to honor their achievements. Sr. Rhea Bean, RSM, President, who was present for the distribution of certificates, remarked at how impressed she was with the confidence students exhibited while demonstrating their new abilities in mathematics. She hopes that the SCA women will continue their efforts and pursue higher level math courses. ❖



*Mercy Math Academy students, left to right, Jasmine Wynn, Jerrica Moreno and Stephany Torres work together on a solution.*

## Milestones

### ■ Births

Roseanne Platoni '86 and husband, Dan, a son, November, 2005

### ■ Deaths

#### *Alumnae*

Grace Williams Perkins '39, June 2005

Mildred Stadtmuller Donnelly '41

Ann Connors Ryan '57

Barbara Buckley Gesell '59

Patricia Duffy Moriarty '59

Angela Jean Riley Gleason '61, May 6, 2006

Sherrie White Bracco '62

Dolores Montemurro Urban '71, March 10, 2005

Mary Suozzo Allis '76, November, 2001

Laura Ferrari Bernardo '77, December, 2005

Patricia Selitte D'Amelio '80

Elmerinda Della Camera '89

#### *Parents*

Frances Ordierno mother of Josette Ordierno Perciballi '60

### ■ Marriages

#### *1986*

Nelsie Pacheco Hernandez '86 to Carlos Hernandez, November, 2005

### ■ Wedding Anniversaries

Patricia Hanafin Cassels '55 and Paul, their 50th on August 25, 2006

Linda Christopher Callahan '72 and Keith, their 30th in June, 2006

### Father-Daughter Dance

*A 50-year+ tradition, this year over 120, including Chelsea Pirela '09 and her dad, Eric, had a fun time at Maestro's on Bronxwood Ave.*

