



OLMatters

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To educate the whole person for global understanding!

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“To Educate the Whole Person for Global Understanding”

MARY AND THE MOSLEMS (Part II)

*From Bishop Fulton J. Sheen's "The World's First Love"
Submitted by Claire Collins*

The Koran has also verses on the Annunciation, Visitation, and Nativity. Angels are pictured as accompanying the Blessed Mother and saying, "O Mary, God has chosen you and purified you, and elected you above all the women of the earth."

In the nineteenth chapter of the Koran, there are forty-one verses on Jesus and Mary. There is such a strong defense of the virginity of Mary here that the Koran, in the fourth book, attributes the condemnation of the Jews to their monstrous calumny against the Virgin Mary.

Mary, then, is for the Moslems the true Sayyida, or Lady. The only possible serious rival to her in their creed would be Fatima, the daughter of Mohammed himself. However, after the death of Fatima, Mohammed wrote: "Thou shalt be the most blessed of all the women in Paradise, after Mary." In a variant of the text, Fatima is made to say, "I surpass all the women, except Mary."

This brings us to our second point, namely, why the Blessed Mother, in this twentieth century (1950), should have revealed herself in the insignificant little village of Fatima, so that to all future generations she would be known as "Our Lady of Fatima."

Nothing ever happens out of Heaven except with a finesse of all details. I believe that the Blessed Virgin chose to be known as "Our Lady of Fatima" as a

pledge and a sign of hope to the Moslem people, and as an assurance that they, who show her so much respect, will one day accept her Divine Son, too.

Evidence to support these views is found in the historical fact that the Moslems occupied Portugal for centuries. At the time when they were finally driven out, the last Moslem chief had a beautiful daughter by the name of Fatima. A Catholic boy fell in love with her, and for him she not only stayed behind when the Moslems left, but even embraced the Catholic faith. The young husband was so much in love with her that he changed the name of the town where he lived to Fatima. Thus, the very place where Our Lady appeared in 1917 bears a historical connection to Fatima, the daughter of Mohammed.

The final evidence of the relationship of Fatima to the Moslems is the enthusiastic reception that the Moslems in Africa and India and elsewhere gave to the Pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Moslems attended the Catholic services in honor of Our Lady; they allowed religious processions and even prayers before their mosques; and in Mozambique the Moslems, who were unconverted, began to be Christian as soon as the statue of Our Lady of Fatima was erected.

Missionaries in the future will increasingly see that their apostolate among the Moslems will be successful in the measure that they preach Our Lady of Fatima. Because the Moslems have a devotion to Mary, our missionaries should be satisfied merely to

expand and to develop that devotion with the full realization that Our Blessed Lady will carry the Moslems the rest of the way to her Divine Son.

As those who lose devotion to Mary lose belief in the Divinity of Christ, so those who intensify devotion to her gradually acquire that belief.



**Love that is justice,
tenderness and humility
came to dwell among us
in peace and joy.**

ADVENT'S MESSAGE OF PEACE

by **Sr. Helen Margaret Feeney, CSJ**

"Over the hillside country Mary went. She had not meant to tell she carried Christ, but the Christ she bore gently bestowed his love on all she met...."(Unknown author)

Like Mary, pregnant with Christ, it is for us to use this special season of Advent to allow Christ to grow daily within us. With Christ, we will create the fruit of peace -- the peace that flows from love.

Peace arises from harmony, through communion with God. Prayer alone will put us in contact with His presence. In loving union with Him, we will be able to establish a quiet serenity that no one can take from us. Only then, we will be able to act out of the center of peace.

God loves us dearly and fully comprehends the special beauty of each and every one. Has He not made us to His own image and likeness? Through quiet moments of prayer with Him, nourished by the Eucharist, we can begin to know our own inner beauty, our worth, our being in God. United with Mary, we will become conscious that when she carried Christ within her womb, her breathing was His every breath, her voice was His voice. Suddenly we will realize that He could go only where she chose to take Him.

Is not Christ dependent upon us today? This utter dependence places a great trust in us. As Christ bearers, He will guide us into the way of peace. With Mary as our role model, we must carry Him wherever He wants to go. There may be places He will never go unless we bring Him there. Surely He wishes to go to our workplace -- the office, factory or classroom.

Or it may be He has a strong desire to visit the wretched lodging of a derelict, an elderly neighbor in a nursing home, a drug or AIDS victim, a whimpering child, or a forgotten alcoholic. If our being there means that Christ is present, that alone makes it worthwhile. Indeed, each of us can be a minister of love and bring Christ's peace to the lives of others. We just have to welcome them with a caring love and bring Christ's peace to the lives of others. We just have to welcome them with a caring love by listening attentively to the communication of their hearts. By being in close touch with the Source of Peace, we shall begin to act out of that Source.

As men, women and children of God, we are the Church. We are here to create Christ's peace first within ourselves and then bring it to those we meet along the hillside of life's journey. By so doing, our peace-filled joy will know no boundaries when at Holy Mass and Communion we cradle Christ, the Prince of Peace on Christmas Day.

A Blessed Advent.

<http://www.spirituality.org/is/029/page06.asp>

December Challenge by Katia Souza

Answer the questions below about Advent and Jesus' birth in the Religion Department (orally) and get a beautiful Christmas present. Prize just for the **FIRST ONE** who shows up.

- 1- What is Advent?
- 2- What color is used at mass on the third Sunday of Advent? Why?
- 3- What are the names of the three wise men? What presents did they offer to baby Jesus?
- 4- How did the shepherds know that Jesus had been born? Where was He born?
- 5- What present would you offer to Jesus Christ this Christmas? Why?

PRESENTS TO REMEMBER

J. Majka

They were talking to their daughter in the States, making final confirmation of flights and arrival on the day after Christmas. One of the children interrupted the phone conversation asking why Grandpa wasn't coming. It would not be possible this year—"Maybe next year" was the answer. The two children could be heard talking together in the background and then the older child interrupted again with: "Mom, if we don't get any presents this year, could Grandpa come then?" My friends had to hang up. They would call back shortly, because they could hardly contain themselves on the speaker-phone. As Grandma told me the story some days later, tears came to her eyes.

Since 1979 or so in the Kansa City area there has been a "Secret Santa" who has been paying it forward ever since he pulled into a small drive-in diner on the day he was fired from his job a few days before Christmas. He saw that his carhop was cold, tired and her coat was worn, too thin for the cold weather. He gave her the twenty-dollar-bill in his wallet, telling her to keep the change. She started to cry, and he decided to go to the bank and get whatever money he still had to give away. He went on to become a successful businessman and has anonymously given away over a million dollars to needy people that would then help others. In time for Thanksgiving a book by Donna Maguire, Assistant Editor of the *Kansas City Star*, came out about him-- *Santa's Secret: A Story of Hope*. He is dying of cancer and hopes his example may stir others to do likewise. The response has been phenomenal.



In the end LIFE is the best Christmas gift of all, because life provides us numerous and most creative opportunities to love.

AN UPDATE FROM ABBY MCCRATE

As I am sitting here monitoring my computer class (yes, I teach a computer class - weird, huh? Basically, it's English lessons integrated into a computer class. So the computer teachers give me basic computer concepts that the class is covering in computer class every week, and I make a lesson for the students to do that combines basic knowledge of computer functions with what we are doing in English). Anyway, that was too long of a sentence with too many uses of the word computer. So...I digress.

Anyway, I just saw that the computer people (why can't I stop saying that word???) recently posted some pictures I gave them of various activities my class has done on our school website. If you have a second to spare, maybe you might want to take a look at what I've been doing and see what my school is like. The website is www.magnoliascience.org. Once you are there, click on the yellow box on the right-hand side of the page that says "MSA portal" or "See the attendance records" or "Check grades," etc. (it alternates between each of these messages). You can see a couple of small pictures from the field trip we took, and if they post them today, you can see four pictures of a poetry magazine project I did with my students.

In other news, Andy and I recently purchased a keyboard and organ stand so that I can accomplish my lifelong dream of learning to play the piano, and so Andy can learn to play, too, when he's not playing guitar. Which is to say that doesn't leave him much time to play the piano. :) But anyway, it's fun, even though I don't know how to play harmony yet.

We also have started doing this Midnight Riders thing, which is a 20 mile-ish bike ride the second Friday of every month. It's so cool - anywhere from 600-1,000 people gather at 10 p.m. to ride all over the city. The route changes every month. A group of people from Los Felix started it a couple of years ago, and while not sanctioned or even happily

approved by the city, it is breathtaking to see all the bikes with flashing lights taking up the road at night. It has transformed into quite the statement against gas-guzzling SUV's and the like. Anyway, the last ride was 22 miles and very hilly. Suffice it to say I am not aspiring to be the next Lance Armstrong. But cruising around on my circa-1990 10 speed was pretty cool. We crossed a couple of bridges and even went downtown. We finished at 1:30 and I was tiiiiiiired! Oh, and Jason Lee was also biking with us. Last time, Daryl Hanna joined the group for their ride (Andy and I were not in attendance because it was raining, and, well, I'm only a fair-weather fan of biking - again, not a passion).

STUDENT TEACHERS FINISH UP THEIR STAY



where I was at and what I was doing here. That was in the beginning. Now I'd like to look back on the experience and reflect on how it changed me not only as a teacher but as an individual person as well. I thought the teaching side would make me become a better teacher and a chance to improve on my personal style of teaching. As a teacher I learned a lot more about my students and where they come from than I would have if I had done my student teaching in the United States. The general school community that is a part of OLM is so amazing. After participating in all the events that happened this semester at OLM I really hope that wherever I go to teach, the community is the same as at OLM. In the light of my personal side of this experience I wanted to get outside my comfort area and also to see a culture that was very different from my own.

Cory Aron: Coming to do my student teaching in Rio de Janeiro was a great opportunity for me, though I had no clue on what to expect. Everything was so new that it took me a couple of days to adjust and understand exactly myself in four short months than I think I have in my whole life. Working with the 6th, 7th, and 10th Grade students here has made my time interesting while helping me figure out and try to become the teacher I want to be. I have found that the students in this school are some of the brightest students that I have ever worked with. The questions and the thoughts about the subjects that I worked with them have shown me how students can push a teacher and teachers can push their students. I am very grateful to have gotten to know everyone at OLM. Thank you for all of your help and support.

As a person I grew from the whole way of life down here—so different and distinctive—to the people I met and the places I have seen; it was so worthwhile to have been apart of it. I am happy to say that I have not only met my expectations but I have gone above and beyond them. I only have the whole community of OLM to thank for this amazing opportunity. Thank you!



Deborah Lavelle: Coming to Brazil and teaching has been not only a wonderful experience for me as a teacher but also as a person. Through this experience, I have learned more things about

myself in four short months than I think I have in my whole life. Working with the 6th, 7th, and 10th Grade students here has made my time interesting while helping me figure out and try to become the teacher I want to be. I have found that the students in this school are some of the brightest students that I have ever worked with. The questions and the thoughts about the subjects that I worked with them have shown me how students can push a teacher and teachers can push their students. I am very grateful to have gotten to know everyone at OLM. Thank you for all of your help and support.



Rick Gundlach will be sending his thoughts for the next edition. He thanks everyone for the great experience he had and wishes everyone the best for the holidays.

FIRST FRUITS

Just like ancestors, parents and neighbors,
Mary was awaiting the Messiah.

Sweet Mary, first fruit of her Son's saving work,
Even before He was born, was conceived
Sans sin, so he would feel at home the time
He began his stay--O Emmanuell

Then Gabriel greeted her joyously
That the Lord was with her in purity,
And she would be Mother to the Savior.

"The mighty One has done great things for me,"
She praised the Father. The Spirit within
Her sang the longed-for victory of the lowly.

Freedom from slavery to sin could only
Have been conceived in an immaculate
Womb, a humble heart untouched by vices,
'bove all the pride of being better than the rest.

Redeemed, enlightened, healed forever, first
In Mary--these come to us in grace:
The Father's gift, the Son's embracing flesh,
The Spirit's seed to fill the hungry throngs. (JJM)

Editor's Note: We wish to encourage all of our resident poets to send in their work for publication.

MY OWN. SMILE.

Julia Valois ('08)

A poem is a poem and a day is a day
A word is a word. A sentence astray
Where can I buy a smile?
And how much is it?
Do they sell happiness in jars?
Which store is it?
Do they display love in windows?
All of it for sale?
But this store only has clothing
That I will never wear

THE GIRL AT THE WINDOW

Julia Valois ('08)

Calls you at night
Beckons you with whisper fingers
Locking you with somber eyes
Sings words you don't understand
Vines cover her intentions
Fogging up the window glass
The pane that once was blue
Is now green

She looks down desolately
Like a ribbon fluttering
In a moonlight breeze
She is beautiful and strange
Hair swaying in the dark
What is her name?

Then she flies off
Wings of questions
Brushing against
Your eyes.

YOUR EYES, EYES

Julia Valois ('08)

Your eyes are two pools of
Darkness
Waiting to break
Rippling with
Unheard voices
Unspoken calamities
Sloshing intentions
Glittering
Beams
Of light
Mix together like the
Drink
I drink
At night

CONGRATULATIONS QUIZ BOWL WINNERS!

Ana Carolina Sá Lucas ('07)

Camila Monteiro ('07)

Thiago Queiroz ('08)

Organizers, **Beth Freire, Sandra Xavier, Katia Souza** and **Carmen Maia** would like to thank all of the students who gave up chunks of their lunch recess to participate in this academic competition.

Current events awareness is an important part of a global education and the shared money prize is added incentive.

Other teams are invited to **enroll in the Second Semester contest** beginning in February 2007.

Read the bulletin boards. **Show what you know.** Win extra cash besides.

Well worth the time and energy invested!

Editorial Board

Teachers:

John Majka

Kátia Souza

Sandra Xavier

Photographer:

Students:

Maria F. Monsalve ('07)

Sanmantha Guimaraes ('07)

Thiago Queiroz ('08)

Mónica Tinoco

THANKSGIVING AT OLM

Monsignor André began the celebration with a Mass of Thanksgiving. At Monsignor's invitation his Masses are always well participated by all present.



Nutritionist Giovanna and her team then offered a delicious Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings to the largest Thanksgiving day crowd ever.



Ms. Sandra Fortes and the OLM Players presented *Cinderella Wore Combat Boots* to the delight of the crowd, many of whom enjoyed the play without even knowing English!

Future productions will not be the same, as OLM gave its best wishes to one of its stars, George Sauma, already

a professional actor and moving on to a school more appropriate to his needs.

The farewell to him after the play was an emotional end to a day where giving thanks was put into practice in a memorable way.



SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING RESULTS

On December 13, 2006 **Barbara Gomes ('08)** and **Mariana X. Santos ('09)** made the team for synchronized swimming as a result of their ninth and 8th place finishes, respectively, in the Swimming Meet in Julio de Lamare Pavilion the week before. Their sacrifices and hard training have paid off. Congratulations and success to all their efforts. Does OLM have a future *Pan American Games* winner in its midst?

HIGH SCHOOL STUCO NEWS

The High School STUCO has just accomplished a successful start of the first High School Intramurals. Boy's indoor soccer had a thrilling final, won by the sophomores on the final regulation penalty kick against a valiant freshman team. A packed front court watched the games with enthusiasm, since the games were well-played and entertaining.

Intramurals will begin next semester with Girl's indoor soccer, followed by Boy's basketball and last the entire academic year, with a wide variety of sports. Then an overall champion will be announced. Next semester, the Middle School intramurals will start with boy's indoor soccer.

STUCO addressed the use of the computer labs, and Supervisor, Ms. Claire Collins announced physical changes in the 4th floor computer lab, which will be enlarged, and there will be a significant increase in the total number of computers available.

MIDDLE SCHOOL THANKS TEACHERS

For almost two years the Middle School STUCO has been trying to complete a project of acknowledging and thanking their teachers. White coffee mugs were purchased and then painted by mostly 8th Graders with the names of all their teachers. The kiln melted away some names and designs but on the day of Teachers Council day they received their respective mugs. Heartfelt thanks to all.

Aluno do
5th Grade
publica
desenho no
Jornal O
Globo –
Caderno
Globinho de
25 de
Novembro
de 2006



Bolo Nutritivo:

Ingredientes:

- 2 ovos inteiros - 2 laranjas
- 1 e 1/2 xícara de (chá) de beterraba ralada
- 1 xícara de (chá) de cenoura ralada
- 3/4 xícara (chá) de óleo - 3 xícaras (chá) de açúcar
- 3 xícaras (chá) de farinha de trigo
- 1 colher (sopa) de fermento em pó

Modo de Preparo:

- Bater no liquidificador os ovos, a beterraba, a cenoura, as laranjas (sem casca e sem sementes) e o óleo; adicionar o açúcar peneirado;
- acrescentar a farinha e o fermento peneirados e misturar bem; despejar em uma assadeira untada e enfarinhada; levar ao forno médio pré-aquecido. Agora é só provar !!!

Giovanna Quagliani Andrade

Our Lady of Mercy School

Nutritionist - Phone: 21 2266-8259/8274



After School Program



The After School Program aims to provide creative, cultural and sports activities, such as Computer training, Sports, Dancing, Theater, Art, and “Party Cooking” classes, to help students discover new talents and interests within the convenience and safety of the familiar school setting.

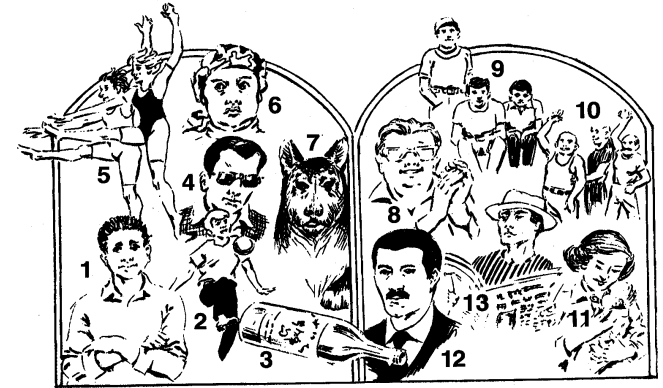
All activities are designed for both boys and girls.

The After School Program’s First

Presentation happened during the last week of November. Parents had the opportunity to see what their children had learned during this past semester. Students and teachers prepared special shows and surprised their parents with their new skills.



ASÓMATE A LA VENTANA



¿ Qué ves por la ventana? Une cada una de las imágenes numeradas con alguna de las siguientes frases:

- A) Un hombre leyendo el periódico.
- B) Tres personas saludando con la mano.
- C) Un perro.
- D) Un joven con bigote y corbata.
- E) Un hombre con los brazos cruzados.
- F) Una mujer con un niño en brazos.
- G) Dos niños sentados y un hombre de pie.
- H) Una botella.
- I) Unos chicos bailando.
- J) Un niño jugando al balón.
- K) Un hombre aplaudiendo.
- L) Un hombre serio con gafas.
- M) Una mujer con un pañuelo en la cabeza.
- N) Un hombre con sombrero.

Submitted by Ms. Ghiotti



Judó



Comic Animation



Musical Play



Keyboard



Recreation Art



TRAVESSIA DO FORTE 2006

Pedro Pinto (08)

4,200 PEOPLE. The largest swim meet in the world. All the 3,503 men and 697 women attempt to swim along *Copacabana* Beach, starting at the *Forte de Copacabana* and ending at the *Forte do Leme* 3,800 meters away. It is the most important meet on the Brazilian aquatic marathon calendar. This year it took on greater importance as a warm-up to the *Pan American Games* in 2007, where the official marathon of 10,000 meters will take place. Out of participants, around 500 were not able to finish the race, due to the cold water temperatures of 17 C. The event is a great experience and requires physical and mental preparedness. **(Congratulations to Pedro Pinto who finished 30th overall!)**



Ballroom Dancing

STUDENTS' ACADEMIC PAGE

It seems only fitting that at the end of a semester the better efforts of some students be published. OLM is proud of what its students are capable of accomplishing with their critical reading and writing skills. These are mostly excerpts.

ATITUDE IMPENSADA

“O amor é mais importante que uma carreira. A triste história dos pais que perderam o filho por um simples capricho.”

[Este foi um trabalho integrado do 8th e 9th Grade de Português com a Professora Beth Barros. Os alunos do 8th criaram uma situação com um tema polêmico e escreveram uma reportagem sobre o relacionamento de pais e filhos “problemáticos”. Os alunos do 9th Grade fizeram a apreciação do trabalho cuja avaliação final foi dada em conjunto com a professora.]

General Caio Pinto trabalha no Exército há trinta anos, é casado há vinte e cinco anos com Maria da Conceição Fátima Pinto e tem um filho de vinte anos. Naturalmente, general Caio gostaria que o filho seguisse a mesma carreira que escolhera, porém isso não ocorreu.

O filho, Gabriel da Conceição Pinto, preferiu largar sua rotina rígida, e se tornar um grande surfista profissional. Gabriel aprendeu a surfar quando tinha onze anos. Ele dizia aos pais que iria lá, mas nem entrava, saía escondido para a praia, com seus amigos. Ele se apaixonou pelo esporte e decidiu que tentaria virar um surfista profissional.

Os pais, logicamente, não concordaram com essa decisão precipitada e insensata, pois achavam que ele deveria seguir uma carreira proveitosa que trouxesse sucesso e prestígio. Eventualmente, os pais descobriram que ele faltava as aulas da universidade para surfar. Perplexos, os pais tiveram uma discussão e, sem pensar, expulsaram o filho de casa. O filho, sem saber para onde ir, foi para os Estados Unidos, patrocinado pela “Red Bull”. Ficou lá por dois anos e desenvolveu muito suas habilidades, adquirindo vários títulos de campeonatos mundiais.

Numa tarde calma de domingo, os pais estavam vendo televisão, e passaram por um canal de esportes. Surpreendentemente, viram o filho ganhando o campeonato mundial de surf em ondas gigantes. Espantados, ligaram para a administração para saber mais detalhes da carreira internacional do seu filho.

Eles pediram para a equipe da Veja para publicar essa reportagem, como um pedido de desculpas, pelo seu comportamento irracional. Apesar do filho provavelmente não perdoá-los, eles alertam aos pais para não tomar uma atitude precipitada com a deles, pois apesar do desgosto, não compensa perder o filho por uma bobagem dessas.

*Antonia Teixeira & César Miranda (*10)*

On *Macbeth* by Bernardo Colim Vieira Gomes (*07)

The guilt Macbeth feels for [King] Duncan’s death has great importance in his deeds towards the end of the play. This feeling in the start of his twisting personality is the turning point in Macbeth’s ways. When he kills Duncan he is cursed with guilt, but also he realizes what he’s capable of, that he can endure the challenge of betraying and killing men close to him.

This is a process that most people are up to in life. I have many times considered myself incapable of some things in life. But once I do one of these things, it seems like a wall was just torn down in my head. Great good or bad deeds are always backed by smaller deeds of the same nature—maybe not the actual deeds, but surely thoughts. It is common to see men with addictions of all types to experience difficulty in stopping once they start. Conversely people that do good deeds are often seen again acting in the name of

that same good will that was installed with the prior act.

On *Sonnet 60* by Samantha Guimaraes (*07)

Shakespeare’s *Sonnet 60* reflects upon mortality, asserting that everything and anything that has life will eventually perish. Imagery is used, comparing the disappearance of each individual wave as it crashes on the shore to a human’s life. Time is behind the destruction of life. As the minutes in the hour pass, so does one’s youth. Time gives the gift of life, but eventually takes it away. The sonnet portrays time as a monster or evil force that destroys everything that is beautiful; everything that is filled with life. A youthful face is a symbol of beauty and innocence. With time, however, the beauty fades as the wrinkles form. Life is nature in its most infinite and perfect sense and time is the beast that feeds on its beauty and uniqueness.

What I learned by Leonardo Magalhães (*09)

In this semester I wrote a lot in journals and essays and I largely improved the grammar and spelling in my writing. By reading different stories I got to know different authors, different emotions, different characters, and consequently, I improved my reading and oral skills. I had an awesome semester of many new vocabulary words and I saw real life situations in films [we saw and discussed].

On *The Crucible* by Ana Maria Gomez(*08)

Elizabeth Proctor was shy and saw herself as less than everyone else...But in the moment of crisis she showed herself as full of strength and brave. She loved her husband very much and although he cheated on her, she was able to forgive him with no rancor.