

In the Spirit

Carolyn Trozzo, Head of School

Summer 2005



Holy Spirit
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL



PENNIES FOR HOPE

In a recent effort to help the Asian tsunami victims, Holy Spirit Episcopal School fourth graders conducted a one-day "Pennies for Hope" fundraiser on campus. After encouraging their peers, parents and teachers to empty their penny jars, the students collected donations during carpool and lunch.

Many of the fourth graders made significant personal contributions to the relief effort. Jessie Skinn washed 5 dogs to raise \$57.00 to donate. Samiah Razak donated \$80.00 of her own money that she said she was saving for college but "after I heard about all the destruction, I wanted to help them. A lot of people helped us after 9/11, so I wanted to help them." Alex Vaporciyan

said the effort to raise the money "felt great...everyone had a fun time...the people that put the money in felt great. We went up to this preschool child and she only had one quarter, but she put it in."

The effort was a tremendous success and the students raised \$1,900.60 to help the tsunami victims. The money was split between the American Red Cross and the Episcopal Church's South Asia Relief Fund. After the relief effort was completed, the fourth grade classes personally delivered a check to the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, Right Reverend Don Wimberley.

HEAD OF SCHOOL, CAROLYN TROZZO, RETIRES

After seventeen years at Holy Spirit as first grade teacher, EC and LS Curriculum Director, Assistant Head of School and Middle School Director, Carolyn Trozzo is retiring as Head of School. Carolyn has done many great things at Holy Spirit including being the writer and power behind our 10-year accreditation and the Blue Ribbon Award that Holy Spirit received in 2000. Carolyn has an innate love for children, is a strong leader and team-spirited, and always puts the safety of the children first when making difficult decisions. She began teacher driven chapels and character education, started the DECATS summer program and increased professional development making sure that all teachers were certified. Space does not allow us to commend

all of the wonderful things that Carolyn has done and brought to Holy Spirit. On behalf of the Holy Spirit community "Thank You," Carolyn, for sharing your heart, time, soul and talents with Holy Spirit Episcopal School.





FINE ARTS

The Best Little Theater in Town

The middle school students gave an outstanding performance in the school's spring musical *The Best Little Theater in Town*. The students portrayed characters in an off-Broadway theater company struggling to save the theater from financial doom. The play was complete with singing, dancing, and humor as the antagonists tried to force the theater owner to sell her beloved theater.



COMPETITIVE DEBATE COMES TO HSES

Holy Spirit has offered debate class in the past, but this year, interested students organized a debate club and met once a week during their afternoon flex time. Local private schools banded together to form CATO, a competitive debating society for middle school students. Holy Spirit students participated in two of the three meets.

Nicole Sergent, Joe Edwards, Elizabeth Byrne, John Michael Box, and Kyle Smith practiced with impromptu debates on such subjects as the pros and cons of uniforms, whether students should have a say in choosing a head of school, whether Terry Schiavo should have been removed from life support, capital punishment, and other thought-provoking topics. They also prepared for the



A Race to the Finish

The first and second graders put on a tremendous performance during their show titled, *A Race to the Finish*. The show was a musical rendition of the traditional story of the race between the tortoise and the hare. The students played different animal characters ranging from butterflies to army ants, all out to cheer on the pair. The creative costumes and backdrops enhanced the students' heart-warming performance.

February meet by researching the separation of church and state. It is tough to argue persuasively before strangers and against students who are oftentimes two years older than you, but our students did very well.

All competitors in CATO use the Lincoln-Douglas debate format. They prepare to argue both sides of the issue because during the meet they are randomly assigned one side or the other and may argue the pro side as well as the con side. They are judged on speaking points and on the strength of the argument. If they win in the first flight, they move on to the second flight, and so on, until the final round in which the two students remaining debate each other. Often the contestants who have already been eliminated stay to watch and judge for themselves (and pick up a few pointers!). Holy Spirit was very proud of Nicole Sergent, who made it all the way to the third elimination round.

Debate is valuable because it teaches students to think on their feet, to respond to attacks with information and wit, to control tempers, and to examine issues critically. These skills are essential in a world that is rapidly shrinking and where ideas and cultures can clash or enter into dialogue. The students are excited to grow their club and are looking to host a CATO meet in the coming years.



COSTA RICAN'S VISIT

Holy Spirit Episcopal School families enjoyed an exciting opportunity to host 42 middle school exchange students from Costa Rica as part of an exchange student program between Holy Spirit and its sister school, St. Michael's, located in San José, Costa Rica.

The two schools send middle school exchange students on alternate years to live for a week with a host family. This year during the Costa Ricans' visit to Houston, Holy Spirit families gave them a taste of the Texas life, with opening ceremonies featuring Holy Spirit students dressed in western attire, singing and performing line dances. The Costa Rican students then entertained Holy Spirit students with some of their native dances. The week continued with tours of the Moody Gardens Aquarium, NASA and Camp Allen, as well as shopping trips and ice-skating at Memorial City Mall. The week culminated in the Holy Spirit School classrooms, with St. Michael's students giving oral presentations to their peers on various topics. The presentations gave the students the opportunity to share interesting information and insight about the Costa Rican culture. In addition to establishing long-term personal relationships, participating students gain a true appreciation for people with different values, traditions and languages.



MISSION IMPOSSI-LLAMA

For the past few years, in conjunction with Heifer International, the school has held a Mission Impossi-llama Parents Night Out for first through eighth grade students. It has always been a fun night for everyone and this year was no exception. The Student Council provided fun games for the children and donations were given to help purchase llamas for less fortunate

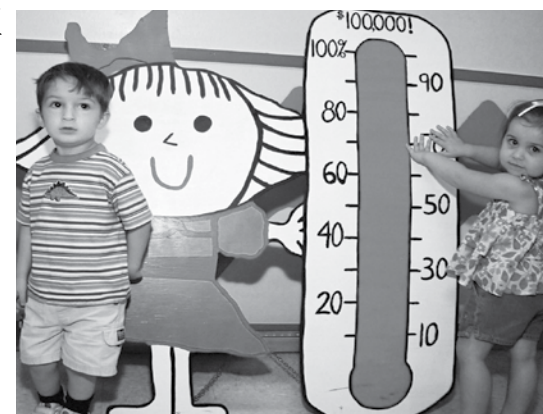
families in South America. The event raised almost \$1,100.00, and thanks to the Two For One Llama coupon, the students were able to purchase 14 llamas! The students were thrilled to be able to organize such a successful event. Thank you to those who donated and to the Student Council for coordinating such a great fundraiser.

FUND FOR EXCELLENCE

This year's Fund for Excellence campaign exceeded its goal! We raised almost \$103,000.00 through annual giving and, together with Designated Gifts, a total of nearly \$161,000.00. Here is just a portion of what Holy Spirit benefits from as a result of your generosity:

- Professional development
- Increased teacher/staff benefits
- Instructional materials
- Marketing and advertising
- Technology advancement

Thank you for your participation and commitment to support our school and its students.



TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Houston West Chamber of Commerce recently named middle school teacher Gene Liga Holy Spirit Episcopal School's teacher of the year.

Mr. Liga has been at Holy Spirit for two years and has been a tremendous asset to the school. According to his colleagues, "...his enthusiasm and creativity for teaching is unparalleled. He is a natural at incorporating experiential and differentiated instruction into his science and math teaching." Mr. Liga supports the school beyond his classroom duties by chaperoning school functions, attending after school events and handcrafting beautiful inlaid wooden bowls which he has donated to the annual auction fundraiser. His infectious warm and positive attitude continuously brightens the halls of Holy Spirit.

Mr. Liga received his MA from the University of Central Oklahoma and his BA in Elementary Education from Kean College. He has 34 years of educational experience.

Saints

ATHLETICS

This year Holy Spirit fielded two soccer teams, two volleyball teams, four basketball teams, one baseball team and one track team. Five of these teams participate in the Greater Houston Athletic Conference which consists of thirteen private schools located in and around Houston. Four of our five teams that competed in this conference placed this year. Varsity soccer came in first for the third year in a row; boys' varsity basketball came in second; varsity volleyball and girls' varsity basketball came in third. We are proud of our coaches and our athletes...job well done!!!

The Booster Club was a huge asset to athletics again this year. They supplied the Pep Club with T-shirts and materials, raised funds by selling concessions, helped fund the repairs and maintenance for the sidewalk by the Tot Lot, purchased and presented all the 8th grade athletes with stadium blankets, purchased 24 new chairs, 2 new banners and 2 new backboards with rims for the main goals in the gym, and they decorated the Parish Hall and presented a slide show for the Athletic Banquet. Thank you Booster Club members; you help make our athletics program successful.



FIELD DAY

Field Day was a big success! The entire school enjoyed eating sno-cones, getting their faces painted, winning at bingo, devouring popcorn and bouncing on their favorite inflatable like the moonwalk and the obstacle course. Each grade level provided wonderful activities and games for the students to enjoy. The students even had the chance to try and dunk their teacher or coach in the dunking booth. The Middle School students did a wonderful job helping their little buddies (EC - Kindergarten) get around to the different activities in the morning. This year the seventh grade class competed against the eighth grade class in tug-of-war. Students of all ages had a great time and made many memories from their fun day.



SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD

Middle school students Cameron Sorensen and Keely O'Donnell display their Scholar Athlete Awards at the Athletic Banquet. This award, the highest given by the Athletic Department, is presented yearly to one male and female who played on at least two teams at the varsity level. Recipients must possess good athletic ability, high academic achievement, and demonstrate qualities such as dedication, respect, leadership and a positive attitude throughout the year.



ALL SAINTS AWARD

Middle school athletes (l-r) Taylor Strickland, Jersey Gates, Alexandra Tripp, Kyle Smith, Jessica Choi and Michael Ramsey received the All Saints Award. This honor is awarded to one male and female athlete from each grade, sixth through eighth, that has participated in three sports at HSES. The recipient is awarded for demonstrating exceptional talent and skill, serving as an inspirational leader, displaying sportsmanship, and representing Holy Spirit Saints in a positive manner.



COACHES' AWARD

Middle school students (l-r) Charlie Maxwell, Mariana Quijano, Ben Silver, Kelly Shields, Weston Novelli and Anna DeSanctis received the Coaches' Award. The Coaches' Award is awarded to one male and female athlete from each grade, sixth through eighth. The recipient is honored for his or her positive attitude, ability to respond to the coach's instruction, hard work, team player attributes, and sportsmanship.

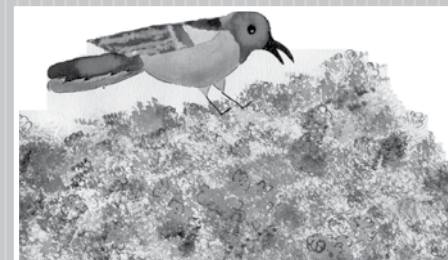
CHANNEL 2 SUNSHINE AWARD

Wes Hohenstein and the Channel 2 News team made a big hit on the Holy Spirit Campus when they landed their helicopter on the baseball field to present 2nd Grade teacher Karen Grover with the Sunshine Award. This special award was a surprise to Mrs. Grover, who retired in May after teaching at Holy Spirit for 19 years. The morning was very entertaining as Wes interviewed Mrs. Grover and allowed students to participate in the reporting. The televised event was shown the next morning on Channel 2 News.



READY FOR RODEO

Holy Spirit Episcopal School students sported their best western clothes on Go Texan Day, part of the school's week of activities anticipating the start of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The week's events also included the annual preschool Rodeo Roundup as well as a stick horse trail ride.



David Guefen, 2nd Grade

PEACE

by Mark Cotham - 8th grade

Define peace.
What is peace?
Is it a state of mind?
Or an escape from war?
I believe it's all those things and more.

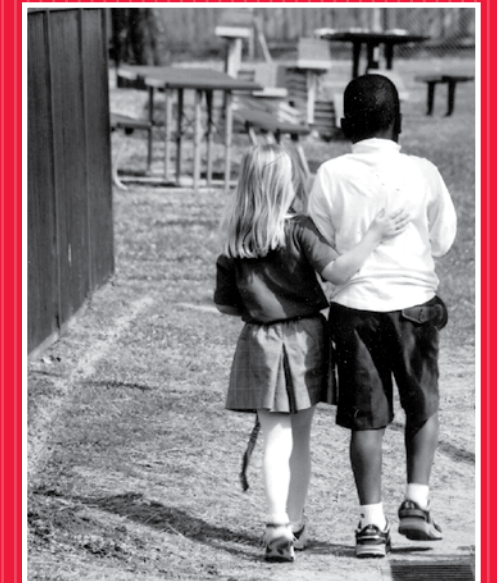
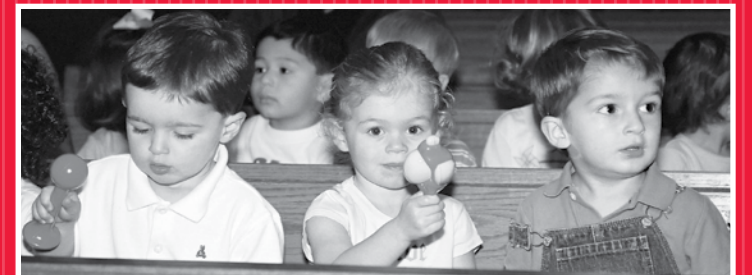
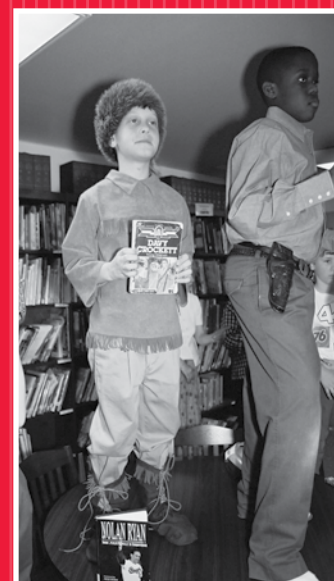
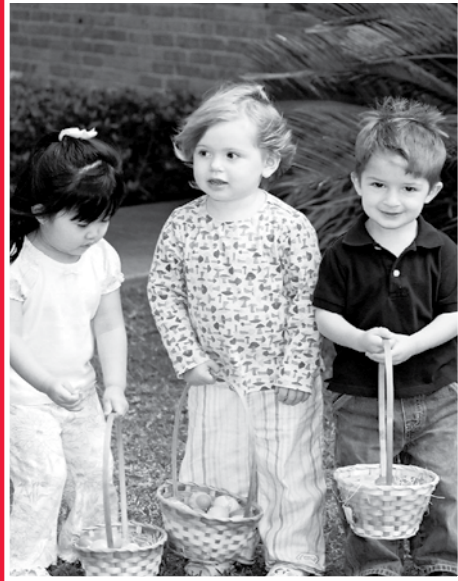
Peace.
It's a wonderful thing.
It's when you clear all the cloudiness
Of your mind and open it,
Open it to everything
So you can see its true nature.

Peace.
It's a calm time
When the sun peaks over the horizon
And the world awakens.
A place where all is still,
And everyone loves.

Peace.
It knows no quarrels.
It's never selfish,
Violent,
Angry,
Or greedy.

Peace.
It is love.
An amazing love
For all that lives.

HOT SHOTS





THIRD GRADE EXPERIENCE SCHOOL IN THE 1890'S

Third graders were given the opportunity to experience what it was like to attend school in the 1890's when they visited The West Bay Common School in League City.

Upon entering an actual one-room school house, students were transported back in time.

Lessons were taken from textbooks of this time period using slate pencils and slate boards to practice arithmetic drills and spelling lists. They practiced their penmanship in a copy book using pen and ink. Toys and materials were experienced in the "hands-on-museum". The trip made the students aware of our rich heritage and taught them how much education has progressed over the last century.



PSIA

The 2004 Private Schools Interscholastic Association (PSIA) Academic District Meet brought exciting results once again for Holy Spirit students. Over 450 students from the area participated in 18 contests. Eighty percent of Holy Spirit's entries won medals and one-third advanced to the state meet that was held at TCU in Ft. Worth. At the state meet, forty percent of Holy Spirit's entries medaled. Congratulations to all of the students who participated and to those who medaled at state!

HOLY SPIRIT HELPS AMIGOS

Holy Spirit students held a one-day book drive on March 1st to benefit their friends at Amigos Por Vida, a Texas Public Charter School for Hispanic immigrant children, ages pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. The students embraced the project and the school-wide effort received a tremendous response. Students collected 3500 previously owned books to donate to the charter school. The books donated to Amigos will expand their small library and allow books to be checked out by the students. The mission of Amigos Por Vida over the past five years has been to educate its students first in their native language, transition them into fluent English as quickly as possible, and then mainstream them into the public school system. Thank you to all who donated!



AUCTION

Pine Forest Country Club was an exciting place to be the night of April 2nd as the Holy Spirit Community celebrated its annual auction with great fellowship, Mexican Food, and Latin dancing. The auction was a tremendous success with 250 people attending and \$75,000.00 raised for the church and school. This fundraiser would not have been possible without the dedication and creativity of the auction chairman Nicola Hall, as well as her amazing committee members who made the evening such a huge success. Thank you to all the people who worked so hard to create a truly unforgettable evening for everyone.



HEAD OF SCHOOL FOR A DAY

Fifth grade student Ashley Petkas assumed the role of Head of School at Holy Spirit for a day. This special responsibility was given to the top bidder for this item in last year's Auction. Ashley, along with her assistant, Taryn Kurtanich, started the day with a trip to the donut shop. Later that morning, they performed a tour of the school

and a maintenance check with the Division Directors. Following the maintenance check, Ashley and Taryn met with the Parish Administrator to discuss and prioritize maintenance issues. The girls finished their day observing the classrooms, eating lunch off campus, meeting with other staff members, and performing various office tasks. Ashley even faxed her parents a letter telling them about her day.



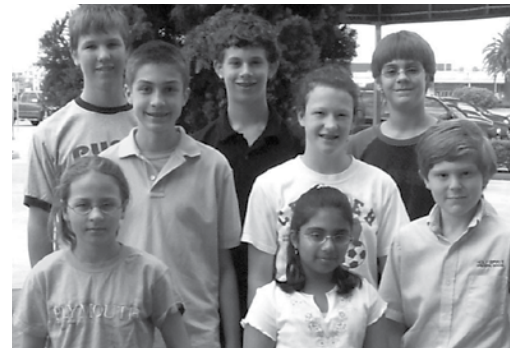
EASTER STORY

During Holy Week the Voyager Class took a step back into the past to the Holy City of Jerusalem where they traced the final steps Christ took before his Ascension. Using symbols that represented each important event during the last few days of His life, Voyagers learned about the triumphant arrival into Jerusalem for the Passover Feast and the meaning behind His riding on a donkey. They learned about the Holy Grail, Judas' betrayal, the Garden of Gethsemane, the pain and suffering inflicted upon Him by the Sanhedrin and Romans, and ultimately His crucifixion and resurrection. Each day the Voyagers were given a symbol and were told the story behind the symbol. On Maundy Thursday, each Voyager had to take his/her symbols, put them in order, and tell the Easter story. Their final mission was to retell this story to a person in the administration wing of the building.

This Easter the Voyagers truly understood that God's son was sent as the sacrificial lamb to die for our sins so that we may one day live in our Father's kingdom. They are aware that if we truly believe this, "we will never perish, but have everlasting life."

ACCELERATED READER

Lower and Middle School students (front, l-r) Taryn Kurtanich, Samiah Razak, Bradley Kawley, (middle, l-r) Ben Hoffman, Keely O'Donnell, (back, l-r) Phillip Eukel, Mickey Fernandez, and Sean Sculley were treated to bowling and lunch with Head of School, Carolyn Trozzo. The students were rewarded for achieving more than 350 Accelerated Reader points.



THANKS PTO!

PTO once again contributed many great new additions to our school throughout the year. They were also able to fulfill a lot of teacher wish list items this year including EC instructional materials, literacy kits, Big Book Anthologies, printer, Leveled Reading Passage Assessment Kits, MS science and math materials, lab equipment, karaoke set, DVD Burner, printer memory cards, USB Camera and many more items. Thank you PTO!

NJHS

Congratulations to Holy Spirit's new National Junior Honor Society members. This year marks the 6th anniversary of NJHS at Holy Spirit. New members were recognized for exhibiting the five ideals of scholarship, citizenship, service, leadership, and character during a special induction service. This year's newly inducted members pictured with NJHS sponsor Jennifer Gwydirare (front l-r) Bayley Andrews, Weston Novelli, Katie Brand, Anna DeSanctis, Alex Bell, Eilidh Bell, Nicole Sergeant, Elizabeth Davis, (second row l-r) Bobby Brown, Dimitri Skoumpourdis, Alex Tripp, Maya Duna, Gavin Peterkin, Taylor Hansen, (third row l-r) Brandon Kisch, Mickey Fernandez, Carolyn Cotham, Jessica Choi, Amanda West, Dammy Iyiola, (back l-r) Michael Andras, Ben Silvers, Brent Osborn, Stephen Skerl, and Mark Cotham. Not pictured: Chris Bertagne and Chris Yun.

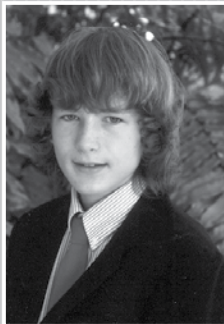




HEAD OF SCHOOL AWARD

Mariana Quijano deservedly received the Head of School Award. She came to Holy Spirit with a limited English background and

through hard work she has mastered English, as well as French. Mariana displays excellent leadership skills routinely in class as well as during National Junior Honor Society meetings.



DAR CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Cameron Sorensen received the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) award for his dependability, truthfulness, courtesy,

and consideration of others. Cameron is the epitome of good citizenship and beneath his quiet demeanor, he exudes a strength of character that has a positive influence on his peers and others within the entire Holy Spirit youth community.



FOUNDERS' AWARD

Charlie Maxwell was honored with the Founders' Award for his seriousness of purpose, love of learning, and respect for others. Charlie consistently sets high standards for himself, both academically and personally, and successfully achieves them. He is loyal to his friends, devoted to his family, and dedicated to his extended Holy Spirit family. For the past nine years he has embraced the spirit of this school and has done his best to make everyone proud.

HOMECOMING

Students, parents, alumni and faculty members enjoyed a fun evening at the school's annual Homecoming event. The festivities started with a school-wide pep rally and a roar of excitement that could be heard school wide from the students' spirit megaphones. Over 40 alumni attended to visit their former teachers and classmates and to watch Holy Spirit basketball. Both the boys' and girls' varsity basketball teams won their games and the crowd enjoyed exciting halftime events such as Showchoir entertainment, pep club cheers, and basketball shootouts that involved crowd members. The event was catered by Avalon Diner and everyone had a fun time and enjoyed seeing past and present friends.



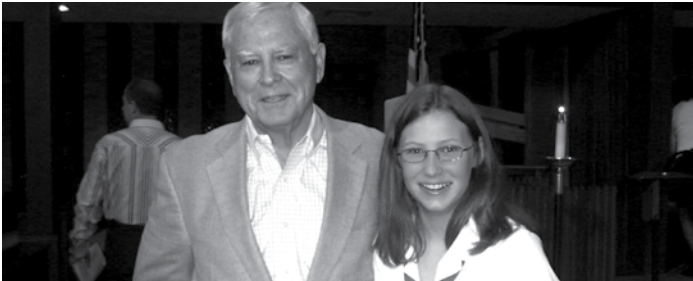
CALENDAR

AUGUST		
	12	Student Visitation
	15	School begins
	24	Parent Orientation
SEPTEMBER		
	5	Labor Day - School Holiday, CEC closed
	8	Fund for Excellence Thank You Celebration
		Summer Reading Awards: Grades 1-4
	16	5th Grade Social
		6th-8th Grade Dance
	22	Class and individual pictures
	26	Fund for Excellence Week kicks off
OCTOBER		
	10	Columbus Day - School Holiday
		6th Grade trip
	11	5th Grade trip
		Advance Sales & Donations to the Library
	18	Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day
	20	3rd & 4th grade play
	24	Book Fair begins
	27	Reading Awards



GRADUATING CLASS OF 2005

Congratulations to the graduating eighth grade class of 2005. Pictured here (back, l-r) are Christopher Yun, K.C. Crowe, Hendrik Streuding, Michael Ramsey, Mark Cotham, Charlie Maxwell, (front, l-r) Marc Assefpour, Chris Bertagne, Giselle Yeung, Taylor Strickland-Maanao, Cameron Sorensen, and Mariana Quijano.



THE CLASS OF 2005 HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT

Marc Hasan Assefpour	North Brighton, Australia
Christopher Lionel Bertagne	Strake Jesuit College Preparatory
William Mark Cotham	Houston Christian High School
Kendall Collins Crowe	Houston Christian High School
Charles James Maxwell	Memorial High School
Mariana Quijano	Houston Christian High School
Michael Anthony Ramsey	Second Baptist School
Cameron Coursey Sorensen	St. Thomas Catholic High School
Hendrik Trevor Streuding	St. Thomas Catholic High School
Taylor Brittany Strickland-Maanao	St. Agnes Academy
Giselle Erin Yeung	St. Agnes Academy
Christopher Yun	Second Baptist School

ANNE GRAHAM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

New to Holy Spirit's graduation this year is the Anne Graham Memorial Scholarship Award. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide assistance to a student who shows promise in Language Arts and expresses a desire to continue the pursuit of these talents at Holy Spirit Episcopal School. The students were nominated by their Language Arts teachers and participated in an extensive selection process. Congratulations to seventh grader Kelly Shields for receiving this special scholarship.

ALUMNI NEWS

The following are reports from Houston Christian High School, Strake Jesuit College Preparatory and The Kinkaid School about our graduates. At HCHS, the head of school honor roll includes **Lerin Rutherford**, #1 in her freshman class; Principal's honor roll includes **Cynthia Dehlavi**, **Paul Diserens**, **Kyle Sahni**, and **Jimmy Thorpe**. Kinkaid's freshman all "A" honor roll includes **Chantal Fernandez**, **Kevin Anding**, and **David Perez**. David also excelled in debate and placed 3rd in a National competition held in Chicago after placing 3rd in the regional competition at UT. Strake reports our alumni on the Principal's honor roll are **Nat Greeley**, **Matt Parks**, **Christopher Adcock**, **Danny Kisch**, **Nick Young**, and **Phillip Denkler**. Also on the Strake honor roll are **Shannon Fluellen**, **Ryan Osborne**, and **James Yeung**. In sports at Stratford High School, **Taylor Schadt** is a top scorer on the Stratford basketball team, and the baseball team has three alumni as starters: **Anderson Mohle**, **Brian Hines** and **Will King**. Brothers **Kyle** and **Kevin MacLean** attended school in London for two years and are now back in the USA where the family has relocated to Greenwich, Conn.

College graduates include **Eric Elholm**, LSU, now working on his CPA, and sister **Ashley Elholm** who is also attending LSU studying Economics. Graduates of A&M University are sisters **Amy**, **Stacy** and **Lisa Denney**, who are in the teaching fields. Lisa is teaching 2nd grade in Alief ISD. **Katherine Ahrens** graduated from Pepperdine University in International Relations. **Ivan Shalamanov** attends UT, San Antonio studying to be a Social Studies teacher, and sister **Jennifer Shalamanov** attends Baylor University and plans to attend graduate school. **Clark Simpson** graduated from HCHS and is studying psychology at Texas Tech.

We welcomed many of our former students and graduates at our 2005 homecoming event. Alumni attending were **Michelle Novelli**, **Houston Christian**; **Thomas Campbell**, **James Yeung**, and **Shannon Fluellen**, Strake Jesuit; **David Perez**, Kinkaid; **Curtis Clerkley**, Mayde Creek; **Christina Rivera**, Cy-Ridge H.S. with fall plans to attend The University of Houston; **Laura Dexter**, **Suzie Cornwell** and **Preston Moore**, Westside High School. From Memorial High School **Lauren Johnson** and **Armon Drysdale**, who plans to attend The University of Alabama in the fall. Also attending were **Haley Shields** and **Sarah Agnich** from Stratford.

At Holy Spirit School's 2005 eighth grade graduation, the flowers on the altar were given in memory of Jerry Eckles, class of '04 who lost his life in a skiing accident in Colorado in January, '05.



Holy Spirit
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

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Ellen DeSanctis	Roger Miller
Mike Frank	Eleanor Sheldon
Bill Graham	Paul Sorensen

OUR MISSION:

Holy Spirit Episcopal School, as part of The Episcopal Community of the Holy Spirit, is committed to developing each child's strength of mind, body and spirit. By empowering children, Holy Spirit promotes excellence in scholarship, richness of soul, Godly character, and physical well being.

We love to hear from our ALUMNI! Please complete and mail to the Development Office.

Name: _____	Community/Church Involvement: _____
HSES Class of: _____	_____
Address: _____	Athletics/Fine Arts: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	_____
Home Phone: _____	Clubs/Organizations: _____
Email: _____	_____
Is this an address change? Yes _____ No _____	Honor/Awards: _____
School attended after graduating from Holy Spirit:	_____
High School: _____ GPA: _____	Other: _____
College: _____ GPA: _____	_____
Other: _____ GPA: _____	_____

PARENTS OF ALUMNI Please help us update our addresses for children no longer living at home. Thank you!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.HSES.ORG In The Spirit is published for the parents and friends of Holy Spirit Episcopal School. Anyone interested in receiving our newsletter should contact Jessica Melker at 713.468.5138 or FAX 713.465.6972