

# Children Helping Children H.C.A. Newsletter Volume 1, Issue 1



## 1st Annual H.C.A. Mass and St. Therese of the Little Flower Award Ceremony

Spring /Summer  
2008

On March 11th 2008 we celebrated our H.C.A. Mass. As people entered the Pastoral Center Chapel they were welcomed by the beautiful sounds of the St. John of the Cross Crusader Choir. This 31 student choir is led by Suzanne Kennedy. Listening to their inspirational voices was the perfect way to begin our day.



H.C.A. Mass

Fr. Peter Ruggere gave a wonderful homily based on John 4:7-11 and Luke 4:14-21. He spoke of the true meaning of God's love and on the significance and meaning of when Jesus read from the book of

the prophet Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, he has sent me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, and to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord." His homily

was interactive, asking questions to the students present at the Mass. Our closing song for the Mass was, *Just like you*, by Matt Maher. Here is a

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Special points of interest:

- 1st Annual HCA Mass and St. Therese of the Little Flower Award Ceremony.
- Website gets a face lift.
- Save the Date
- Michael's Corner

## Advent and Lenten Coin Boxes

Did you order your 2007—2008 Advent and Lenten coin boxes in time? The extra boxes we had in our office were quickly used up. Remember to order

your boxes for next year. The order form is already on our website and on our National's Office website. You need to order them directly from our National

Office in New York. We are only able to keep a limited supply in our San Diego office.



1st Annual H.C.A. Mass and St. Therese of the Little Flower Award Ceremony continued

After receiving Jesus in the Eucharist, to sing of dancing in his holy presence! If any school or parish needs a youth choir, we recomened contacting St. John of the Cross in Lemon Grove. Following the Mass everyone was led downstairs for refreshments and a brief presentation. Three Catholic Schools were honored. Notre Dame Academy in Del Mar was honored for having one of the 25 National HCA Christmas Art Contest winners, 1st grader Martin Surillo. Every year over 10,000 students submit art to our National office in New YOurk and only 25 are chosen. Each winner is invited to attend in ceremony in Washington D.C. where the art pieces are displayed in a National Shrine during the Christmas Season. You can see pictures of Martin's trip on our website. It was extremely hard to chose between all the schools that submitted applications for the St. Therese of the Little Flower Award. The two winning schools were St. Charles in Imperial Beach and Stella Maris Academy in La Jolla . Both schools exemplify the Missionary Sprit to all it's students. Each school gave a brief presentation as to why the won the award. They spoke

about the various service projects and fundraisers that there school conducted. They



St. John of the Cross Crusader Choir

also spoke of what it means to them to be a schools focused on Mission Spirituality. Many of the service projects and fundraisers were originally conceived and led by students. Hopefully, next year we will have even more schools apply for the award so it will be even harder to chose two winners. In this day of, "Me, me, me", it is refreshing and awe inspiring to see so many youth striving to go beyond there own lives and reach out to those living in



St. Charles Catholic School

HCA Website gets a face lift!

The new year has ushered in a few changes for HCA. Not only did we celebrate our first annual HCA St. Therese of the Little Flower Mass and Award Ceremony, but our website has been getting a face-lift as well. Our goal is to make the website easy to navigate for students and teachers/ coordinators alike. It's now easy to download a materials

order form or remittance form (which is included with all payments that are sent to us). New ideas are bubbling up every day, so I look forward to fresh ideas and a pleasant surfing experience. Go to [www.helpthemissions.org](http://www.helpthemissions.org) and fill out our short questionnaire so that we know what you, as the front

- end user, are looking for. Thanks and God Bless! - Tracy Stout



## Here a Glimpse into Next Years Theme!



Next year's theme is titled, **Believe the Good News**. We are still working on the final presentation. It will be another multimedia interactive Powerpoint presentation! Many of the schools and parishes enjoyed the Mission Game we played this year. We are working on another Mission game that incorporates the information from the presentation.

## 2007—2008 statistics

Beginning in the Fall 2007 and going through the Spring 2008, we gave H.C.A. Mission presentations to 26 Elementary schools, 21 Religious Education programs, and 5 confirmation programs. We were able to spread the Missionary message to 8,500 youth and we traveled over 8,000 miles. We received

many compliments on this year's presentation. We are looking forward to next year! Hopefully we can go to more schools and parishes and reach many more students!

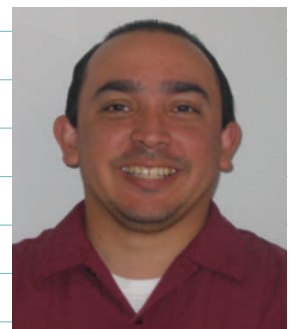
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## Michael's corner...

I enjoyed my first year in the Mission office. I had an awesome time visiting the schools and parishes throughout our diocese. I want to thank all of you who invited me to speak. I am working on the presentation for next year and I am really looking forward to the

opportunity to revisit all the places I visited this year. At the same time, I am hopeful that we will be invited to even more schools and parishes in our diocese.



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National Office: <http://www.worldmissions-catholicchurch.org/flash.html>

## Save the Dates:

**2008**

**October 2008**

**Mission Month**

**October 19th 2008**

**World Mission Sunday!**

**2009**

**March 15-22, 2009**

**National Prayer Week**

**March 24th 2009**

**2nd Annual H.C.A. - St.  
Therese of the Little  
Flower Mass and Award  
Ceremony.**

