



Mary Ann Gomes, Gary Laca Recognized At Diocesan Event

Parishioners Mary Ann Gomes and Gary Laca were honored for their volunteer work at St. Patrick's Church during the 13th annual Diocesan Recognition Banquet held on the evening of May 2nd at Harrah's Reno's Convention Center this year. They each received a certificate thanking them for their "outstanding service to the church of the Diocese of Reno" and a Diocese of Reno medal in appreciation of their "dedicated service to God and the Church."

Among 65 volunteers from 28 parishes, one mission, and parochial schools throughout the diocese to be recognized, Mary Ann and Gary were St. Patrick's nominations for the award. Since the diocesan program's inception in 2002 a total of 716 volunteers have been recognized for their efforts.

Assisting office staff of St. Patrick's in various capacities and on a regular basis Mary Ann was surprised when she was notified about three weeks prior to the May 2nd event about her nomination.

"I volunteer because it's good to do so," she said. "I've always done it." Her tasks may include answering the telephone, inserting flyers into the weekly church bulletins, ad-

ressing envelopes, running errands, or counting the weekend's collection money. "I try to do what I can wherever and whenever I am needed."

Mary Ann's history with St. Patrick's Church goes back to the 1950s when the parish was located on the northeast corner of S. East Park and E. Richards streets in Fallon. A non-Catholic at the time she and her husband John, who passed away five years ago, were married there in 1952—the first couple of different denominations to be wed inside the sanctuary at St. Pat's. Mary Ann converted to Catholicism in the mid-1970s.

A St. Patrick's parishioner since 1987 Gary is a lector, helps as a Plant Committee member to keep the church's facilities operational, and has served for the past three-and-a-half years on St. Pat's Build Out Project Committee, which planned and fundraises for the construction of the new parish hall. Retiring about four years ago from construction contracting he currently puts his knowledge and skills to good use as the Build Out Project Committee's representative at weekly construction meetings with Dan Munoz of Diversified Builders and Mike Quilici who is

Chief Development Officer for the Diocese of Reno.

"We review everything each week and tweak where we can to make improvements as construction continues," Gary commented. "I think it's going really well, and, when the construction is completed, we'll have a nice facility."

Gary expressed his gratitude for being honored with the parish's nomination for diocesan recognition and added that "there are so many parishioners who do so much for St. Patrick's Church and are very deserving." For example, a significant number of parish volunteers have had a hand in one way or another to make the dream of a new parish hall a reality.

Parishioners attending the Diocesan Recognition Banquet are Father Tony Quijano, Jr., JoAnn Luiz, Mary Ann Gomes, Danette and Gary Laca, Judy and Kurt Carlson, Gilberto and Vanessa Duenas, Nancy and Richard Gerten, Ben and Lolly Leynes, Jane and Steve Moon, Colleen and Phil Sabatino, Hal Wandike.



HONORED—Mary Ann Gomes receives a medal and certificate from The Most Reverend Randolph Calvo, Bishop of the Diocese of Reno, at this year's Diocesan Recognition Banquet held on Fri., May 2, at Harrah's Reno's Convention Center. Mary Ann and Gary Laca, also receiving a medal and certificate, were St. Patrick's Church volunteers nominated to be honored for their hard work and dedication to the parish. Pictured, from left to right, are The Reverend Charles Durante (Vicar General of the Diocese of Reno), Bishop Calvo, Mary Ann, Gary, and Father Tony. *Photo taken by Danette Laca.*

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

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JoAnn Luiz—Office Manager

Jeannette Hale—Office Secretary
Colleen Sabatino—Office StaffMaryAnn Gomes
Volunteer Office AssistantJudy Carlson
Volunteer General Assistant

KC Carlson—Custodian

Ginny Dugan—Newsletter Editor
duganmv@cccmm.net**Capital Campaign Update**Dollar A Day Paves The Way:
\$95,215 so far with June 15th goal
of \$150,000 to obtain Catholic
Extension grant of \$75,000
\$54,785 still neededTotal Capitol Campaign:\$1,062,307 pledged/collected so
far (including Dollar A Day
pledges /contributions)Contact Build Out Committee
Facilitator Jane Moon, 423-6983,
for more info. THANK YOU ♥ to
all who have already pledged or
donated!

CONFIRMATION—The Most Reverend Randolph Calvo, Bishop of the Diocese of Reno, conferred the sacrament of Confirmation to 23 of St. Patrick's youth during the 11 a.m. Mass on Sun., May 11, 2014. He was assisted by Pastor Antonio Quijano, Jr., and deacons Kurt Carlson and Wayne Crooks. A lasagna lunch, prepared and served by parish volunteers, followed in the Rose Room. *Photo taken by Gary Cordes.*

CCD Year Ends With Large Number Of First Communion, Confirmation Recipients

With the 2013-2014 instructional year ending Sandy Hillery, who with her husband Bill directs the religious education program at St. Patrick's Church, expressed her gratitude to all who contributed to its success including the large number of young people making their First Communion (62) or receiving the sacrament of Confirmation (23).

Sandy gives much of the credit to the parents who ensured that the youth came to the required training and completed the instruction. "We had excellent attendance for all of our classes," she said, adding, that, in some cases, a family might be involved all day with one child participating in First Communion classes on a Sunday morning and an older sibling attending Confirmation classes in the afternoon on the same day. "That was a tremendous sacrifice," Sandy noted. "We owe our parents a lot of gratitude."

Julie Lynch, assisted by Juana Madera,

was the instructor for the First Communion classes. Father Tony Quijano, Jr., pastor of St. Patrick's, officiated at the 10 a.m. Mass on Sat., May 10, for the First Communicants with Deacon Ron Cherry assisting.

Parishioners who played key roles as the youth prepared for Confirmation are Alan Chronister, Paul Loop, Missy McCormick, Amy and Rudy McElvain, Cheryl Venturacci; singer and guitarist Joe Melancon; volunteer helpers Letty Orozco and Iris Ruiz; Vanessa Duenas; and Knights of Columbus members Tom Lukas and Jeff Scholz. The March 30-31 retreat master was Father Tony. Sherry Hall from St. Robert Bellarmine Church in Fernley was the Diocese Certified Retreat Facilitator.

On behalf of herself and her husband Sandy gave thanks to God and for all who helped make their jobs as DRE directors so much easier. "Everyone shared their gifts to make both the First Communion and Confirmation events a WOW," she stated.



First Communion

Photo taken by Rick Baker