

# SPCC Happenings



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## 140 Youth Enrolled in Religious Education Classes at St. Patrick's

Bill and Sandy Hillery, new religious education directors for St. Patrick Church, are happy to announce a large enrollment for the 2013-2014 school year. Over 140 youth in eight grades are attending CCD classes since they began Sept. 8th.

Religious education is a way “to provide our children with a solid grounding in what it means to be a Catholic,” Bill said. Through the instruction they learn “what their faith is about, its oral and written traditions, and so much more.”

Although studies are already underway, a person is still needed to teach 7th grade. In addition, Bill and Sandy are looking for another team to volunteer to help with Confirmation students.

According to Sandy, she and her husband “can breathe more easily when we have a full staff.”

The Hillerys were recently hired as religious education directors after applying for the position when it became

available with the resignation of the previous directors, Mike and Pam Golding.

“We decided we have to do this in order to ensure that future generations learn and know about their Catholic faith,” the Hillerys stated.

The couple has at one time team taught religious education classes at St. Patrick's to 7th and 8th graders and “enjoyed it tremendously.”

Because of the demolition of Moiola Hall in preparation for the construction of a new parish hall, CCD instruction is taking place in St. Patrick's Church and its adjacent Rose Room until the building is completed early next year. Classes are conducted almost all Sunday morning and afternoon after the 8 a.m., 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Masses.

Both Bill and Sandy expressed gratefulness to all those who volun-



**BILL AND SANDY HILLERY**

teered to teach or assist in other ways with religious education classes including former students. “It's so nice to see our young people involved with the church,” Bill and Sandy said.

The Hillerys ask for the prayers of parishioners for a Holy Spirit inspired and fruitful year.

If interested in teaching a 7th grade CCD class or serving as a team for Confirmation instruction, please contact Bill Hillery at 428-1031 as soon as possible.



Laura Ramsey (left photo) instructs boys and girls who are studying for their First Communion, while Leticia Orasco and Paulo Narag (right photo) speak to Confirmation students in religious education classes held at St. Patrick Church and its adjacent Rose Room.

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**If you have questions about the construction of the new parish hall contact Gary Laca, 426-8096.**

**Music Liturgists Mimi, Rene Prepare for Dec. Departure**

Mimi and Rene Abadesco, who regularly cantor at Sunday's 8 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick Church, will be transferring in mid-Dec. to Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, in the state of Washington.

A commander with the U.S. Navy Rene in Nov. of 2011 came with his wife to Churchill County when he became stationed at Naval Air Station, Fallon, where he is currently officer-in-charge (OIC) of aviation maintenance for Top Gun.

When he joined the Navy almost 28 years ago, Rene took an interest in playing electric guitar and developed his instrumental skills over the years. He accompanies himself and Mimi as they sing the church hymns and liturgical responses at the Sunday morning Mass.

Mimi, who has a lovely soprano voice, began vocal training while in high school in the Philippines. As a freshman at the University of the Philippines she participated in the institution's choral group which was "very intensive," according to Mimi. The young men and women performed music that ranged from Latin to modern to Broadway and toured the U.S. and Europe.

"I always liked singing," Mimi said, although "everything stopped when I got



**Mimi and Rene Abadesco and daughter Clarissa**

married."

The Abadescos celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this past June. They have two children: Enrico, 22, a 2013 graduate of the University of Washington at Seattle with a bachelor's degree in civil and environmental engineering, and Clarissa, 20, third year student at the same university and a recent visitor to Fallon.

In 2004 Mimi returned to her love of singing through church activities where they lived at that time.

As they prepare for their departure to Whidbey Island, Mimi and Rene said, "We really have enjoyed our stay here."

We will miss you, Mimi and Rene, and your musical gifts to our parish. Best wishes!



Since Aug. 19, as the old rectory that housed the parish offices was slowly disassembled into three separate parts and as Moiola Hall was quickly torn down, the property behind St. Patrick Church was transformed into a vast field of leveled dirt ready for construction crews to lay the foundation for a new parish hall. A ground-breaking ceremony will soon be scheduled. Watch for details!

