



LANCER LIFE

An eNewsletter for Alumni, Parents & Friends

A publication of Salpointe's Advancement Department

SPOTLIGHT | CAMPUS NEWS | UPCOMING EVENTS | ALUMNI NEWS | CARMELITE VALUES
IN ACTION



March 2019

Why Are You Here?

What does Lent look like for a Carmelite? Probably the best Lenten image that many of us embrace during this liturgical time is the desert, a place where we can dialogue with God.

In the First Book of Kings, the Prophet Elijah finds himself in the desert, reconsidering if he is doing what God wants him to do. Despite being chosen by God to be a prophet, he still struggles to understand the purpose of his life. God takes the initiative and leads him into the desert to prepare him for the most important conversation of his life. After a journey of 40 days, Elijah arrives at Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. "There he came to a cave, where he took shelter. But the word of the LORD came to him: Why are you here, Elijah?" (1 Kings 19:9)

This is one of the most compelling questions God has ever asked somebody: "Why are you here?" Such a question can be enough to turn our Lenten prayer into a life-changing experience. Lent is a time to go into the desert of our lives and to sit quietly in the cave of our hearts. Once there, we are invited into a conversation with the One who has given us life.

Carmelites believe that such conversation always leads to a fascinating discovery. In conversation, God listens to our desires while He shares with us His plans; yes, God has big dreams for each one of us! If we hold such conversation deep and long enough, we will discover that our dreams are not other than God's. They are big, and they are always good!

This Lent may be the opportunity for us to embrace such a conversation. Share your plans with God and listen in prayer to what God has planned for you. God will never ask us to do things we do not want to, but He will always invite us to change the course of our lives whenever fear, anxiety and despair make us think our lives are meaningless.

Why are you here?
Only prayer can reveal to us the answer.

*Fr. Manu Franco-Gomez, O.Carm.
Salpointe Chaplain*

Spotlight: Kairos, On God's Time

For many participants, Kairos is a deeply impactful yet indescribable experience. For prospective participants, Kairos may be a mystery of infamous secrets. Perhaps the observable common ground is the change that Kairos inspires in individuals and then filters to the larger community. Retreatants



return beaming, embracing former strangers who've now become friends.

But what is Kairos?

The Greek word "kairos" means the right or opportune moment of indeterminate time in which everything happens. Its opposite is "chronos," meaning chronological or sequential time. While on retreat, we ease away from our dependence on chronos and focus more closely on kairos, fondly

understood as "God's time."

Kairos is an initial opportunity to encounter God where we are in our lives. During the four day experience, students reflect upon their relationship with God, family and friends. Students learn about themselves and others. What else happens on Kairos?

[Click here for more reflections from students and adults.](#)

Carissa Krautscheid and Campus Ministry

CAMPUS NEWS



Fr. Eduardo, the Pope's Climatologist, Visits Salpointe

Fr. Eduardo Scarel, O.Carm, visited Salpointe to discuss his ongoing efforts regarding "Laudato Si" with students, faculty and staff. He first visited Salpointe in 2015 when the school designed the "Laudato Si" curriculum. "I appreciate what Salpointe has been doing on 'Laudato Si' because I know the school has taken on its message in daily life. You see it in the sensitivity that the students have for these issues," Fr. Eduardo said. He presented the scientific aspects of climate change as well as the spiritual roots of the ecological crisis, and the ecological and personal healing path. He proceeded to propose some of the practical steps by which we can protect our planet.

[Read more...](#)



Soccer Teams Inducted to Sports Hall of Fame

Salpointe was proud to induct this year's Girls and Boys Soccer teams into the [Sports Hall of Fame](#) after both won State Championships this season. This was the seventh State Championship for both programs. It was the third consecutive State Championship for the Girls, while it was the first for the Boys since 2013. "It was a true team effort this year," said Boys Coach Wolfgang Weber, who has been at Salpointe since 1982. "Everyone contributed on this team. In some years, we've had one or two players who carry us, but not this year. I was proud of how they came together during the season and had a strong run right until the very end." [Read more.](#)

Thespians Nominated For National Music Awards

Salpointe's drama program is consistently recognized for student and faculty creativity, hard work and performance success. This year, Salpointe's Thespian Troupe 5370 performed at the Southern Arizona Festival of Theatre and 14 Lancers received 21



"Superior" scores. These outstanding actors and actresses will be traveling to the University of Nebraska this summer to compete at the International Thespian Festival. The Troupe also ranked second in the AIA Southern Region of Arizona. At the Arizona State Thespian Festival in November, Salpointe's troupe was once again recognized as a Gold Honor Troupe and the school's One Act production of "Dia de los Muertos" received a ranking of "Superior with Distinction."

Salpointe thespians Jackie Barra '20 and Luke Williams '22 have been nominated for the [National High School Musical Theatre awards](#) for the Southern Arizona Region. They have been invited to compete at what is now called the Monte Awards. The male and female winners will receive a one week, all expense paid trip to New York where they will compete in the Jimmies. What an honor for these talented Lancers!



Sophomore Qualifies for Ninja World Finals

Izabella Adkins '21 qualified to compete for the World Final Ninja Competition coming up in July in Minneapolis! She recently placed third in the regional competition in San Diego. Izabella started rock climbing five years ago and now competes in bouldering and sport climbing. After seeing the *American Ninja Warrior* show a few years ago, Izabella dreamed of becoming the youngest and first female finisher of the Mt. Midoriyama course. She built her own ninja course in her backyard so she can train for ninja competitions while continuing rock climbing and bouldering. [Read more about Izabella's story](#) of this exciting sport.



Freshmen Succeed at Shakespeare Competition

Isabel Finley '22 and **Victor Londono '22** performed with distinction at the annual [regional Shakespeare Competition](#)! The English Speaking Union's Annual Shakespeare Monologue competition was held on Saturday, March 2 at the University of Arizona. Isabel and Victor were the winners of the Salpointe school competition and then advanced to the regional competition. They competed against 24 other students from schools in Tucson and Sierra Vista. Isabel was in the top ten and Victor was the first runner-up! Congratulations, Lancers!



Lady Lancers Gather for Brunch and Blessing

The [Salpointe Parent Association](#) held its annual Lady Lancer Brunch and Blessing at Hacienda Del Sol Guest Ranch. It was a memorable day for over 200 Lady Lancers: grandmothers, mothers, daughters, alumnae and friends attended a "garden party" themed morning of fun, friendship, prayer and inspiration. This year's inspirational speaker was past Lancer parent, Sarah Smallhouse, a Tucson community leader

and philanthropist. The 2019 Faith in Action award was presented to Peggie Felici Gessner, past Lancer parent and Salpointe employee. [Read more here.](#)



32ND ANNUAL SALPOINTE GALA

A Swanky Affair



You're Invited!

32nd Annual Salpointe Gala: A Swanky Affair

April 6, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Support the Salpointe Catholic Education Foundation (SCEF) at this year's "outta sight" gala in the Grand Lobby at the Tucson Convention Center! Get jazzed and join us for A Swanky Affair: a retro sixties night of dinner, far out dancing, and fab entertainment in downtown Tucson! Get decked out in costume or cocktail attire! Click here to [purchase hip tickets](#), [purchase boss sponsorships](#), or [donate groovy auction items](#). Don't miss the party! It's gonna be a gas!

- March 15-24 [Spring Break](#)
- March 21-22 [Powderpuff Flag Football](#)
- March 29-30 [Drama Presents: *Bang Bang You're Dead*](#)
- April 12-14 [Drama Presents: *Faith County, The Musical*](#)
- April 16 [Student Award Assembly](#)
- April 19-22 [Easter Break](#)

ALUMNI NEWS



'68 Alumna Recognized for Her Life's Work

Agnes Ronstadt Poore '68 recently received the 2019 Most Inspirational Mentor Award from the Tucson Nurses' Week Foundation. Last year, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Inside Tucson Business/Tucson Local Media Women of Influence dinner. Agnes co-founded Casa de la Luz Hospice, which has cared for over 20,000 patients in its 20 years of service. She has dedicated her life to this cause. Casa de la Luz is the largest hospice provider in Tucson. "Starting Casa was a huge risk for

us," Poore said. "My nature is not to take risks... but you've got to take risks sometimes to get a reward. And it's very rewarding to do this." [Read more of Agnes' story here.](#)



'14 Alum Engineers Rockets for Next Space Launch

Barrett Falbaum '14 is a rocket engineer at Northrop Grumman Innovation Systems. "Here we build all sorts of rockets," Barrett explains, "including the D5 missile which carries nuclear warheads, and the NASA Space Launch System (SLS) that will be our re-introduction to the moon. I have been helping to make SLS and it is simply amazing getting to work on something you know will be blasting into space and carrying with it the hopes, dreams, sweat, and tears of so many people." [Read more about Barrett's journey](#)

[from Lancer Life to rocket engineering!](#)

Kara Luebbering '09 Joins United Way of Tucson

Kara Luebbering '09, MDP, accepted a position at United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona as their [Director of Leadership Giving](#). Kara brings over five years of nonprofit experience to United Way of Tucson



and Southern Arizona and leverages her background in community development to bring resources and partnerships into the organization. Formerly, Kara worked as the Director of Strategy and Programs at St. Joseph Catholic School after returning to Tucson from three years of international development work in Nicaragua where she served as the Director of Programs and Operations.



New Director of School of Family, Consumer Sciences

Dr. Laura Scaramella '84 was named the new director of the University of Arizona's Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences. Laura comes to the UA with a wealth of experience in adaptive leadership in some of the most challenging academic circumstances imaginable. The School prepares the next generation to solve the global challenges of individuals, communities and the changing

marketplace. [Read more about Laura's accomplishments here.](#)



Director of Campus Ministry Influenced by Salpointe

Ministry begins and ends with community. **Kevin Durazo '09** knows this, if not from his time at Yale Divinity School, then from his time at Salpointe Catholic. He flourished here at Salpointe, thanks to the relationships that existed between faculty and students both in and out of the classroom. Kevin loved his time at Salpointe. The football team, the service work, the retreats - he loved it all. But he never really knew the exact words to describe why. Now, as the Director of Campus Ministry at Catholic Memorial School in Massachusetts, he knows why: community. Kevin has expanded and deepened the retreats, service programs and liturgies so students can experience God in many different ways and openly live their faith in their community. [Read more about](#)

[Kevin here.](#)

CARMELITE VALUES IN ACTION



Lent is a Time of Change

"Lent is a time of change. As Pope Francis proposes to us in 'Laudato Si,' Lent could be an opportunity not only for ecological conversion but also for transformation in the social, spiritual and Christian dimensions of life." The Claretian Network for Development created Lenten reflections based on the United Nations' Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs). Each of these daily Lenten reflections focuses on one of the 17 SDGs including topics such as climate action, ending poverty and hunger, developing sustainable cities, and promoting decent work and quality education. The reflections include observations about the SDG for that day, readings from the Bible and ideas for prayerful action. These reflections were shared with the Salpointe community as a way to encourage faculty, staff, and students to integrate social justice into our Lenten prayer journeys. The Carmelite charism calls us to prayer, community *and* service. We are asked to go beyond the prayer in order to also serve our community. By doing so, we put our prayer into action. In a very real way, we become the answer to our own prayers for a more peaceful world. [View the Lenten reflections here.](#)

EVERY GIFT MAKES AN IMPACT!

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Lancer Annual Fund 2018-2019

Make an Impact at Salpointe!

Together, we build the future



Submit News for the Next Lancer Life!



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