



JOURNEY OF HOPE

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"MAKE SCHOOL AS MUCH LIKE HOME AS POSSIBLE"

Fr. Samuel Mazzuchelli, OP

**When relationships go well, everything flourishes...
We are Harvesting an Abundance!**



"I am standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before me. I am stronger for their courage, I am wiser for their words. I am lifted by their longing for a fair and brighter future. I am grateful for their vision, for their toiling on this Earth.

We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us. They are saints and they are humans, they are angels, they are friends. We can see beyond the struggles and the troubles and the challenge... when we know that by our efforts things will be better in the end.

They lift me higher than I could ever fly, carrying my burdens away. I imagine our world if they hadn't tried - we wouldn't be here celebrating today.

I am standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before me. I am honored by their passion for our liberty. I will stand a little taller, I will work a little longer...and my shoulders will be there to hold the ones who follow me.

They lift me higher than I could ever fly, carrying my burdens away. I imagine our world if they hadn't tried - we wouldn't be so very blessed today!"



WELCOMING OUR NEW DIRECTOR



Sister Elizabeth Dunn, OP

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Mission Statement

The mission of Hope Rural School is to offer hope to families.

The school primarily serves children from immigrant families by providing them with a Catholic Elementary education in grades Pre-K through 5 in an environment that nurtures the Gospel values of mercy, justice, and love, through fostering the principles of Christian discipleship; supporting, guiding and encouraging parents in the education of their children; developing an appreciation and respect for heritage; encouraging and enabling graduates to reach their full potential through advanced education.

Dear Friends,

Greetings! I am just beginning my tenure as the new Director of our “Miracle on 150th Street”, Hope Rural School. It is an honor and a privilege to be part of such a wonderful mission. After a couple of visits to the school last year and throughout the years, it was an easy decision to say “yes” to the welcoming spirit of love on the faces of staff, administration, and students. As I have walked on the holy grounds at Hope Rural School, I have been reminded of Joyce Rouse’s song, “Standing on the Shoulders”. Over and over again, I give thanks for all those on whose shoulders I stand, all who in their grace-filled ways have paved the way for the journey that continues at Hope Rural School.

Hope Rural School has always been included in our prayers and support since the days when Sisters Marie Celeste Gatti, OP and Marion Hangsterfer, OP were part of the staff 29 years ago. Sisters Marie Celeste and Marion are members of Sister Martha’s and my Congregation, the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa which was founded by Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, OP in 1847. Dominicans throughout the world began the 800th year Jubilee of the Dominican Order on November 7, 2015. As Sinsinawa Dominicans, we are called to proclaim the Gospel through the ministry of preaching and teaching in order to participate in the building of a holy and just Church and society.

WE STAND ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE ONES WHO CAME BEFORE US

Sister Mary Dooley, SSND, the former director, played a major role in imagining possibilities, expanding horizons, and creating an oasis of Hope for countless families in her twelve years as director. Her visionary/missionary spirit has given an abundance of HOPE to not only this generation, but to future generations to come. There are no words that could adequately express our deep affection and gratitude to her. She was a worker of “Miracles”.

WE STAND ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE ONES WHO CAME BEFORE US

The growth and development of Hope Rural School is also due in part to the hard work and dedication of the administration and staff. Academic programs, After-School Enrichment Activities and Parent Outreach Programs throughout the years have been key to improving the quality of life for immigrant families and continue to flourish. Presently, these programs provide quality education for our 135 students and 101 families.

WE STAND ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE ONES WHO CAME BEFORE US

Our volunteers, donors, fund-raising committees, and school board members who have believed so strongly in our mission have strengthened our mission through their sharing of wisdom, vision, and generosity.

WE STAND ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE ONES WHO CAME BEFORE US

During this season of giving and receiving, we at Hope Rural School pause to remember and give thanks to God who has abundantly blessed us. May our shoulders always be there to hold the ones who will follow us.

Gratefully,

Sister Elizabeth Dunn, OP
Director



WELCOMING OUR NEW PRINCIPAL



Meet Sister Martha!

After 43 years of experience in Catholic Schools in Chicago, IL, Baraboo, WI, Ventnor, NJ, Cape Coral, FL, Fernandina Beach, FL, I am now in Indiantown.

I have taught 4th-8th grade and served as assistant principal or as principal in 5 of my former schools. I have a Bachelors Degree from Edgewood College and Masters Degrees from Cardinal Stritch College and the University of Dayton. I have always loved being involved in education. I visited Hope Rural School in the past, but the children stole my heart when I visited in 2013. Now I am home!



Sister Martha Rohde, OP

TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON

Antonio Silvestre, also lovingly known as "Coach", will be retiring in December after sharing 25 years of commitment, love, and his many talents with the students, families, and staff of Hope Rural School. As P.E. Coach and Parent Outreach Coordinator, he has touched the lives of so many people within our school family and all of Indiantown. We salute you Coach and wish you all the best!



Sister Mary Dooley with Sr. Elizabeth Dunn and Sr. Martha Rohde. We thank Sr. Mary and Sister Kate for the many blessings and memories that will be in all of our hearts and woven deep within the fabric of Hope Rural School. We celebrate with Sr. Mary and Sr. Kate as they pursue their newest endeavor right here in Indiantown teaching English, cooking, sewing, nutrition, computer skills, and arts and crafts. These classes will empower families and give them skills that will help them to have a better life. Please visit or write to them at 14557 SW 174th Court, Indiantown, FL 34956.

NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

We have several new faculty members joining our Hope Rural family this year. Ms. Rebecca Martinez is our Pre-K3 teaching assistant, Mrs. Ascuzena Lopez is our new Physical Education/Outreach teacher, and Mrs. Sue Kirch and Ms Maggie Lopez-Domingo are our new Title 1 teachers. We extend a warm Hope Rural welcome to each of them. Please read their bios below.



I live on 150th Street - one minute away from Hope Rural School. Many of my family members attended Hope Rural School and my aunt, Tonya Lozano, has been working at the school since it opened! I have volunteered at Hope in past years and recently became part of this amazing school. I enjoy working with the “Little Hopes” as a teacher aide and working with everyone at the school.

~ Rebecca Martinez



Both of my children - Amilcar, 19 years old, and Azucena, 17 years old attended Hope Rural School, and my husband was a member of the board of directors for 11 years. This school has taught my children faith and academics. Here, my children started their path to know Jesus and His teachings. As an employee, it is the greatest job opportunity that I have ever had. I love the environment, the way of teaching, the discipline, and the importance the school puts on parent involvement. I want to plant a seed in these families, and I will do so with all of my heart in the same way the prior and current staff have done for my family. Hope Rural School is really a life miracle that touches many families.

~ Ascuzena Lopez



Life is a journey and mine has taken me many places. Substituting in Martin County was challenging, yet there was something missing. It was then that Erin Dilla asked me to substitute at Hope Rural School. Right away I felt at home because the students and staff were very welcoming. In addition to the required subjects, there is an element of faith which makes such a difference. When asked to consider working full time in Title I, I said yes. I feel like I am where I belong.

~ Sue Kirch



At a very young age, I knew that I wanted to give back to my community. I never would have imagined that I would be fulfilling that dream by coming back to my elementary school. Becoming a member of the staff at Hope Rural and being a part of this wonderful school, I truly feel that the children inspire me to want a future here in the years to come. I have never felt so happy and welcomed anywhere else. I am blessed to be with this wonderful family that I have always been part of.

~ Margarita Lopez-Domingo



We learn MANY things like "Character Counts" in our school and Mr. Michael Josephson came to visit!

35th Anniversary School Choir "HOPE makes me SING!"



PreK4 Red Bench readers enjoy their new bookshelf / benches.

Our students and staff FILLED 52 "Boxes of Joy" Christmas presents for children in Guatemala



3G's (Girls Growing Great) learning the importance of exercise and good nutrition with MaryBeth Peña

Enjoying African Drumming with Mrs. Music, Guitar classes at the Elisabeth Latti Library,

and a lesson in flag Etiquette with MCSO Deputy William Weiss



SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS AND SPECIAL MENTORS

“The ultimate expression of generosity is not in giving of what you have but in giving of who you are.”
~ Johnnetta B. Cole



Ellie Hotte



Lois Behrend



Marion Kraekel



Pat Parker

Faithful members of the Church of the Advent mark their 10th Anniversary of volunteering every Monday at Hope.



Jack the BIKE MAN repairs, renews, and recycles bicycles for Ms. Daly's 5th Grade students. Oh Happy Day!



Bridging for Language Outcomes in the Classroom

Florida State University Student Interns - Courtney Rankin, Kili Meckler, and Mary Kate Martin introduce the BLOOM project to some of our Kindergarten and First Grade students as their teachers - Tina Young and Erin Dilla look on. The main objective for this project is to enhance the student's vocabulary and reading comprehension skills.



Check out our WEBSITE: www.hoperuralschool.org

Please consider clipping and sending BOX TOPS to HOPE RURAL SCHOOL.



REMEMBERING AND HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

Memorial / Tribute Gifts

Remembering your loved ones through memorial gifts in lieu of flowers and tribute gifts in honor of birthdays, anniversaries, or other meaningful events is a thoughtful and life-giving way to continue the mission work of Hope.



Please also consider remembering Hope Rural School in your will...a tribute for a lifetime.

“Providence CAN provide, Providence DID provide, Providence WILL provide.”

Fr. Samuel Mazzuchelli, OP