

Dear Crespi Families and Friends:

In the fall of 1959 a group of freshmen boys became the first class of Crespi Carmelite High School, the all boys Catholic High School, designated by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to address the needs of the ever growing Catholic population in the San Fernando Valley. The Order of Carmelites has served the school since its beginnings through the Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary.

Thus began the long standing tradition of excellence in education, which now extends beyond the San Fernando Valley, to the outlying valleys of Conejo, Simi, and Santa Clarita, as well as to the communities of Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica, Westwood, Hollywood Hills, and Hancock Park.

Crespi Carmelite was named for the Franciscan Friar that recorded the history of the Serra/Portola Expedition. Fr. Juan Crespi crossed the Santa Monica Mountains into what is now Encino, camping at the corner of Ventura Blvd. and Balboa Avenue. Fr. Crespi played a major role, in not only the history of Los Angeles, but in the state, naming most of the cities and towns we know today.

It is with pride that we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as educators, following in the footsteps of Carmelite Leaders such as Fr. Gus Carter, Fr. Albert Koppes, Fr. Joe Atcher, Fr. Leo Glueckert, and the many other Carmelites, who have touched the lives of our Crespi family, by employing the very best and newest methodologies of education, such as the Gurian model and philosophy. In addition to this time-tested, and successful, method of education, Crespi Carmelite offers students the opportunity to live as active members of their communities by encouraging them to “live in” the gospel values as they participate in Christian Service activities, students such as Lucas Borncamp '09 who has been involved with the *Children of the American Revolution* and *Operation Gratitude*, groups focused on preserving our heritage and sending care packages to our men and women in the armed forces. This is just one example of what our students do.

Our graduates continue their education at the best colleges and universities across the country. They go on to become contributing members of society, serving as captains of industry, elected community officials, and members of Presidential Administrations, they are: priests, bishops, teachers, doctors, dentists, lawyers, coaches, professional sports players and broadcasters, scientists, archaeologists and restaurateurs; they are husbands and fathers. They are the men who lead us into the future.

Our success as a school is due to the continued support of our alumni, alumni parents and current families, friends and charitable foundations, a dedicated teaching and administrative staff, and the enthusiasm of our students.

Crespi Carmelite maintains the spirit of those who have gone before us in striving for the gift of lifelong learning, bearing witness to our faith, and preserving the past for a future that will serve others.

Fr. Tom Schrader, O. Carm.  
President