

Class of '58



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fourth Avenue, Seventh to Ninth Streets, Brooklyn, NY 11215



e-newsletter dedicated to you



June 23, 1958

June 23, 2008

New York! New York!



Gertrude Burns-Clancey, Class of '55

I met Gertrude at the bus stop, corner of 9th street and 6th avenue. It turned out we both attend the same aerobic swim class at the "Y" Hard to recognize swim- mates sometimes, in our "civilian clothes". The Gushues will remember her. She graduated with Fred. I believe her and her husband attended the 2005 reunion. Sad to report that her husband passed away Christmastime 2005.

Getrude and her unmarried daughter took a cruise this year beginning Oct 08. They sailed out of Barcelona, made some stops, and got as far as Turkey.

She even met an STA'er, George? D'Allasandro, Class of '50, and his wife on this trip.



My Amanda with fiance' Gil

Front and Center

(Celebrated Events 2008)

Your Birthday. My Birthday.
Our Birthdays.

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Your Anniversary. My Anniversary.
Our Anniversaries.

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Mothers Day. Fathers Day. Memorial Day. Independence Day. Labor Day.

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and of course ELECTION DAY

STA Graduation Class of 1958



June 23, 1958 - June 23, 2008

Happy Thanksgiving

Merry Christmas

**Tentative date for next STA Reunion is
October 17, 2009**

**Update on Amanda and Gil –
(shown left)**

Amanda has made good progress to the point that in a "scripted" conversation with either myself or her mom, she can carry on a telephone conversation. "Scripted" means that if she asks us a question and we choose from 5 answers, she knows/understands our answer(s). We believe, with practice, she will come to use the telephone with those closest to her. And some very big news – So far in her masters program – She has gotten *all 'A's*.

Gil will have a cochlear implant on Nov. 17th. The same operation she had Aug.'07. We are hopeful all will go well for him.

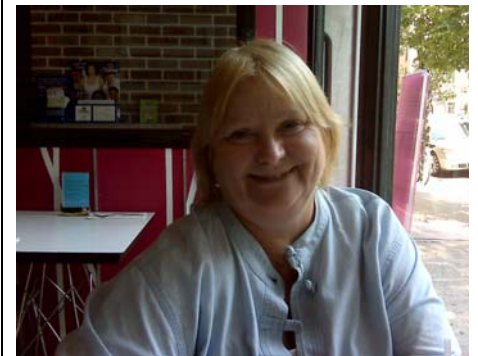
The Brooklyn Beat



Lenny Massab, June 23, 1958

This is our 50th anniversary year. This year's reunion was postponed 'til '09 to coincide with STA's 125th anniversary.

Bob Iannizotto is recovering nicely from his 2nd hip operation. Sorry to add here that Father O'Conner passed away at age 90 on Nov. 1. See last pg. for more.



Rosetta Farrell, (the other)Class of '58

Rosetta, still an area resident used to live on 9th street opp. the "Y". When you move back to Brooklyn you can enlist her services at Heights-Berkeley Realty, 7th Ave. and Berkeley Pl. Rosetta told me that at the time of her impending birth, the doctor told her mom, she might not survive. Her mom asked the doctor if he would baptize her. The good doctor obliged. Rosetta's doctor was Jewish ☺ Glad she made it. Nice knowing you Rosetta all these years. Moseltov.



This will bring back memories.....now with a new sign....9th street and 6th avenue.



Husband Norman



Mary Ann Coster-Zimmerman





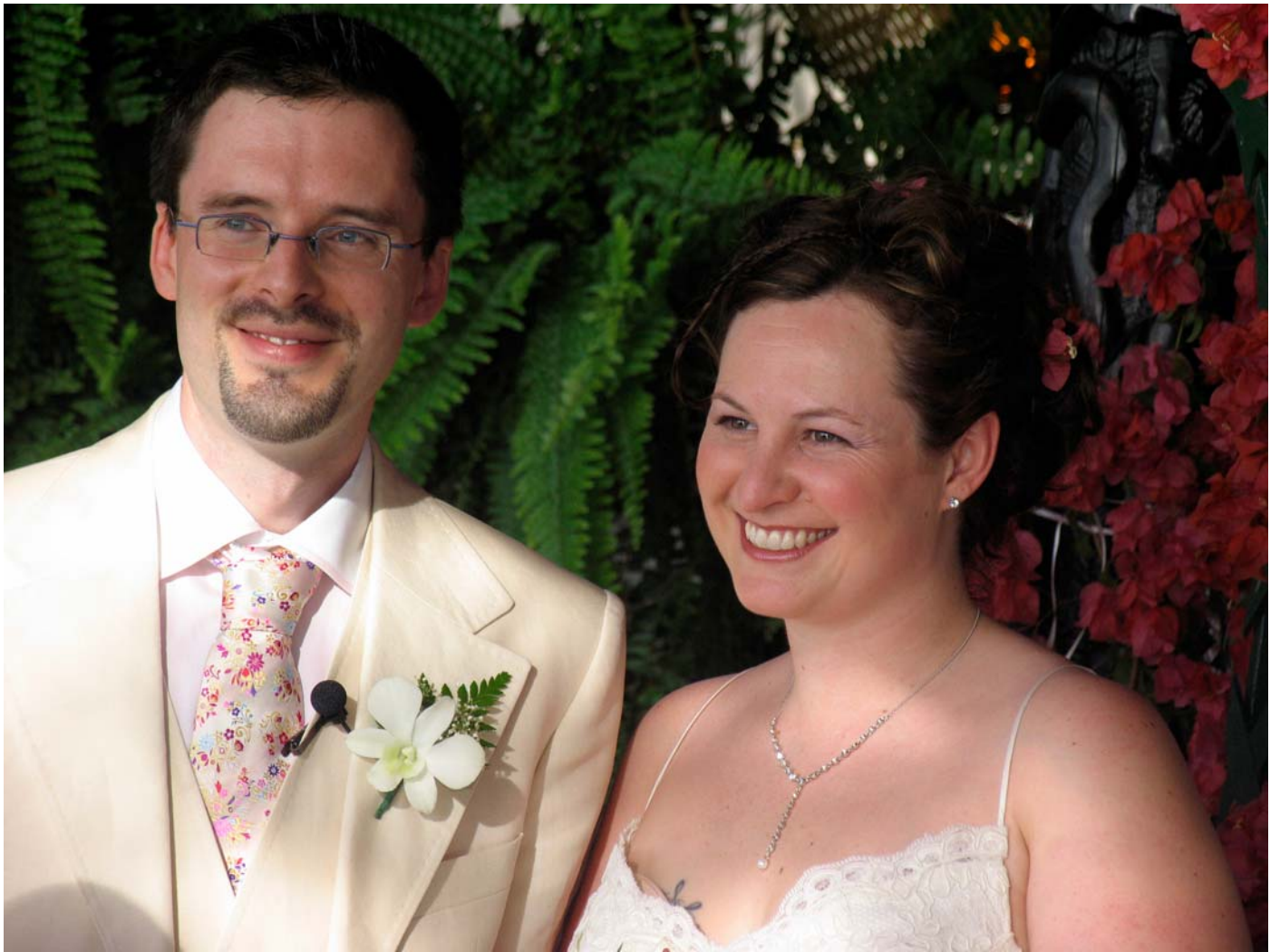
Mary Ann, her daughter Kelli, and Julia, Kelli's mother-in-law.



Granddaughter Delaney, 13 yrs. old now



The wedding of Kelli to James in St. Lucia



Mary...She is you. There is just something in her eyes and smile that is all you.



The whole clan.



James, Delaney, Kelli and Dawn, best friends to both James *and* Kelli.



St. Lucia



Anse Chascanet



Christopher Iannizzotto, St. Thomas Aquinas Class of 1986 will be ordained this December as a Carmelite and will celebrate a *Mass of Thanksgiving*

in St. Thomas Aquinas on December 27th at 5:30pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend the mass and reception afterwards in the parish hall.

If you plan on attending, please contact Dorothy Negron at 718-768-9471 as she will need to know how much food and beverage to order.

Congratulations Christopher and best wishes to you.



Bro. Chris Iannizzotto

Class Prayer

*Merciful and Mighty God,
From all eternity you knew the circumstances of our birth.*

*In our mothers womb, you formed us and gave us life.
At our Baptism, you called us by name into the family of God.*

Together, at St. Thomas Aquinas, we received the foundations of our faith.

*Heal the wounds of our heart, and help us to forgive those who have hurt
us.*

*Renew the gift of faith that united us as children,
that we may be a blessing and an encouragement to one another.*

*Lead us Lord, as we continue on this journey, bound together in faith,
until we are safely home.*

Contributed by our DOROTHY HODGENS



Fr. Edw. O'Conner passed away at the age of 90

A Mass of Christian Burial for **Father Edward T. O'Connor**, pastor emeritus of Immaculate Heart of Mary parish, Windsor Terrace, was celebrated Nov. 7 at the church. **He died Nov. 1 in Florida** where he had been living in retirement. He was 90 years old.

Born in Brooklyn, he was baptized in St. Patrick's Church, Bay Ridge, and attended Cathedral College and Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington. He was ordained April 11, 1944 by Bishop Thomas E. Molloy at St. James Pro-Cathedral, Downtown Brooklyn.

He served as an assistant at St. Peter of Alcantara, Port Washington, 1944-45; Our Lady of the Presentation, Brownsville, 1945-46; **St. Thomas Aquinas, Park Slope, 1946-60**; and St. Joan of Arc, Jackson Heights, 1960-74.

In 1974, he was named pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary and served there until he retired in 1990.

In his retirement, he served the parishes of St. Catharine's and St. Margaret's, Spring Lake, N.J., and St. Christopher's, Hobe Sound, Fla.

"Father O'Connor was my pastor at Immaculate Heart of Mary when I was an eight-year-old altar boy," recalled Father Joseph Fonti, director of the SS. Peter & Paul Spirituality Center, Douglaston. The elder priest had a great influence on Father Fonti's vocation. "He was very gifted, intellectual, articulate, a fine homilist. He quoted from literature to educate and proclaim," Father Fonti explained. "He was extremely reverent and very attentive to the celebration of the Eucharist. It was very moving to see his dedication."

Father Fonti remembers seeing Father O'Connor perspiring just after Mass one time and the older man confiding to the boy, "I still get nervous." Father Fonti was always impressed by Father O'Connor's "humanity."

Father Fonti, homilist at the funeral Mass, also preached at Father O'Connor's 50th anniversary Mass.

Father O'Connor was "a stately man" who loved to sing and was "proud of his Irish heritage."

"He was an avid golfer" and a very skilled golfer, Father Fonti said. Father O'Connor tried to teach Father Fonti how to play the game when he was a teen and even gave the younger man a set of his clubs.

Father Fonti never reached the skill level of Father O'Connor as a golfer, he says, but his greater hope is to "imitate him at the altar."

Burial was in St. John's Cemetery, Middle Village.



Louis and Denise D'Amico Family Photo: Daughter-in-law Jennifer and daughter Lilly



Lilly



Lilly



Lilly and Caleigh



Caleigh and Lilly



Son Shad with Lilly and Caleigh



Jennifer, Lilly, Caleigh, and *Denise*



Daughter Barbara with Lilly