



# The Good Shepherd School

IN THE JESUIT TRADITION

April 2017

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**FOUNDER'S DAY MASS & GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY** It was not mere coincidence that this day was celebrated on April 5, 2017 — 16 years after the passing of our original founder, Fr. Harry Tompson, S.J. The day began with our Founder's Day Mass held at Immaculate Conception Jesuit Church. Fr. Frank Reale, S.J. and Fr. Jason Brauning, S.J. concelebrated with all in attendance witnessing the vision of Fr. Tompson and so many others coming to life in the voices of our newly formed choir and the children who read the sacred scriptures. The gifts offered included a portrait of our founder and textbooks signifying the potential of our students through education. A reception at the school followed the Mass.



Then it was on to the business of breaking ground and building the dream at our new school site, 1839 Agriculture on the corner of Agriculture and A.P. Tureaud in Gentilly. Libations of mission, love, and commitment were poured out at The Good Shepherd School's Groundbreaking Ceremony. We were certain of "Irish Eyes Smiling" down from heaven as dozens of supporters, benefactors, and dignitaries were present for the special event in our school's history. Guest speakers included, board president, Ronnie Briggs, Fr. Frank Reale, S.J., Mayor Mitch Landrieu and school president, Tommy Moran. We were reminded that unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain (Psalm 127). We have no doubt that our new school project is blessed and destined for greatness and will be the vehicle of success for future GSS scholars. The GSS Family is grateful for all those present for these events and for all those whose support has led us to this moment. We are all "founders," each adding our own unique contributions. Thank you for being a part of the foundation as we continue to follow the call to a mission rooted in providing a superior education for all, rooted in faith.

**THE LIVING WAY OF THE CROSS** The entire GSS school along with friends of the school participated in our first ever Living Way of the Cross, Friday, April 7. This moving procession and dramatization of Jesus' passion took place in the streets of downtown New Orleans. We began at Immaculate Conception Jesuit Church on Baronne Street and ended at the steps of Gallier Hall on St. Charles Avenue, with a chilling reenactment of the crucifixion and final moments of Jesus' earthly life. Along the way, the crowd grew as downtown workers, tourists and passersby joined the procession. The event was a true witness to the great need for faith and God's love in our community. Many thanks to the staff, room mothers, and students who worked so hard to prepare for this event.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017**



**THE 15TH ANNUAL GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL GOLF TOURNAMENT** This year's tournament was kicked off with a fabulous party at the home of our board members, Barbara and Tom Diano. It was a chance for the golfers, sponsors and their significant others to gather, socialize and celebrate GSS and our accomplishments. Special thanks to the Dianos for hosting and to Blitch Knevel Architects and Ryan Gootee General Contractors for underwriting this inaugural event.

Tournament day was breezy and slightly cool in our new location at Audubon Golf Course, overlooking the greens and waterways. For the first time, we had the entire staff and faculty present helping with the tournament and enjoying this great day with our supporters. Another first that made this year special — GSS 3rd Grader, Corey hit the greens and has high hopes to be a future force on the course — look out, Tiger!

We want to thank the Golf Committee members who worked tirelessly to make this event possible and as always, we are more than grateful for our fabulous food and beverage sponsors: Marriott, Acme, P&G Restaurant, Dragos, Swiss Confectionary, Sportsbeat, Galatoire's, Tito's Vodka, and Crescent Crown.

Finally, the day would not have been possible without our title sponsor, for the 4th year in a row: Royal Honda. The entire Brinson family has truly embraced the GSS mission and we are grateful for their support and generosity.



**GSS RANKED 4<sup>TH</sup> IN THE STATE** As published in conjunction with the most current Louisiana Department of Education Annual Report released in March 2017 for the 2015-2016 school year, The Good Shepherd School received a Scholarship Cohort Index [SCI] of 80.2 which ranks fourth out of thirty-nine schools throughout the state who are assigned an SCI. SCI scores are calculated for Louisiana Scholarship Program schools using the same formula used for the School Performance Scores [SPS] in district and charter schools. We thank everyone associated with our school for your recent efforts and we look forward to even greater success as work move forward.

**GSS CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH** The Good Shepherd School celebrated Black History Month in February — the past and the “now” — the thread that ran through the performances of the day was “now is the time!” Our students worked together to coordinate an inspiring program full of prayer, dance, music, history, art, and the spirit of our African roots. We learned about the great black thinkers, engineers, scientists, and doctors of our past through the efforts and research of our students. The 6th and 7th grade classes recited the poems *I Dream a World* by Langston Hughes and Countee Cullen's *Hey Black Child*. Most importantly we learned, that “now” is the time for our students to forge their path as the great thinkers, scientists, doctors, and engineers of tomorrow. We thank the GSS parents and school supporters who attended this moving event. Special thanks to faculty and staff for their guidance and support of our students in this tremendous showcase!



**TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017**

**The Good Shepherd Nativity Mission School Mission Statement**

The Good Shepherd Nativity Mission School, Inc. seeks to help low-income, urban youth in order to realize their fullest potential as productive members of society by providing them with an extended day, year-round, quality education, integrated with personal, moral and spiritual development and continued guidance during the students' further education.

The Judeo-Christian values which have inspired the Nativity model include a respect for the dignity and potential of each person, a responsibility to assist the poor and those in need, a strong sense of community within the one family of God, and the obligation to promote a society characterized by social justice. In this Nativity model, students are enrolled without regard to race, color, religion or ethnicity.