



As Seen In... U.S. News & World Report's  
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# Celebrating Lourdes Catholic School

## Seventy-Five Years of Students Who Are Beyond the Ordinary

Preparing for College

A lot can happen in 75 years. And a lot has happened at Lourdes Catholic School. Thousands of children have received a bilingual/bicultural education that is far beyond the ordinary, enabling them to lead lives that make an appreciable difference to those around them. School year 2009-2010 marks Lourdes' 75th year of service to the families of Santa Cruz County, Arizona, and Sonora, Mexico.

Upon graduating from Lourdes, Maria was accepted to the University of San Diego with a 60 percent scholarship. Feeling a strong call to missionary work, she decided to take a year off and work with the Tarahumara Indians in Chihuahua, Mexico. After the year was up, officials at USD were so impressed with Maria's experiences that they gave her a full scholarship.

### A School Unlike Any Other

As the only bilingual, bicultural Catholic school in Arizona, Lourdes is a unique place with a unique mission, and a unique record of accomplishments. Imbued with Catholic values and traditions, technologically current and featuring an academically rigorous curriculum, this pre-K-12 school has a graduation rate of 100 percent, with 98 percent going on to higher education.

David started school as a monolingual Spanish speaker. But as a testament to his years of hard work and the excellence of Lourdes' ESL (English as a Second Language) program, he earned numerous college scholarships. David was accepted to Rice, Drexel, Brown, Notre Dame, Boston University, the University of Rochester and the University of Arizona.

The most recent graduating class of 18 has been accepted to 15 different universities with 40 percent receiving scholarships totaling over 1.5 million dollars. In recent years, Lourdes grads have attended all three of Arizona's Universities, Notre Dame, University of San Diego, University of Connecticut, Johns Hopkins, Loyola and several prestigious Mexican universities.

Heddy attended Lourdes from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Always a top student and class valedictorian, she went to the University of Notre Dame. Heddy could have gone anywhere with a Notre Dame degree, but she came back to Lourdes where she now teaches middle school.



### Leading Roles in the Community

Lourdes students score well above the state average on AIMS testing and well above the national average for Latinos on the Stanford 10. Lourdes alumni hold positions of leadership in the church, government and business. For example, the superintendent of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Tucson is a graduate of and former teacher at Lourdes, and press secretary to the governor of Sonora is also a graduate. Other graduates include doctors, lawyers, business people and Catholic women religious.

"We realize the importance of preparing students for success in a global society," says Sister Barbara Monsegur, principal. "That means both professional success and the ability to reach out to others. That's why community service is such a strong part of the mission of the school."

For these many reasons, Lourdes has proven itself to be an excellent environment for learning and a worthy recipient of Arizona tax credit contributions. At Lourdes Catholic School, 75 years is something worth celebrating. But it's really just the start.

### 75th Anniversary Celebration

Friday, Sept. 4

### Eucharistic Celebration

Saturday, Sept. 5

A weekend of events including:

- First Annual Nun Run 5K
- Luncheons, dinners, concerts
- A year-long celebration of other events too!

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