

AMERICAN MARTYRS
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

2016

*End of Year
Celebration*

GO EAGLES!

American Martyrs Church, Sullivan Center

ROOKIE BOYS SOCCER TEAM

Jaden Brunson	Jalen Jean	Diego Mojica
Juan Caamano	Brian Lau	Bleck Peter
Justin Chen	Hugo Ledesma	Max Suarez
John Cossin	Alexander Lopez	Nicholas Toriello
Aidan Desruisseaux	Jeevan Mathews	Donovan Turck
Dylan Edwards	Josh Mathews	Sunny Wong
Oliver Garcia	James Maurer	

Head Coach: Mario Desruisseaux

Assistant Coach: James Maurer

Helpers: Marleah Desruisseaux & Bel Mojica

Our Rookie Boys Soccer Team faced many challenges this year as it was composed of boys from grades 5 to 7. The addition of players and an assistant coach from Our Lady of the Snows helped complete the team. Most of the players were new to soccer and needless to say, they didn't win many games. The team, however, showed up for every game and displayed great sportsmanship throughout the season. It was remarkable how two groups of kids became one unit, always displaying mutual respect in such a short period of time. The team finished the season with a 3-6 record with their most exciting win of the season coming against St. Gregory, Bellerose. St. Greg's was a very skilled team. They created many scoring opportunities that could have led to goals if it wasn't for the excellent play of the Eagles goalie, John Cossin who helped give the Eagles their 5-0 shutout win. Brian Lau gave outstanding effort at the sweeper position, keeping the ball out of the danger zone. 2 goals were scored by Bleck Peter, and 1 each by Alexander Lopez, Max Suarez, and Nick Toriello.

PEEWEE BOYS SOCCER TEAM

Ryan Ambery	Paras Gupta	Alex Tan
Adam Bouallaq	Charlie LeRoux	Edwin Tom
Hao Chen	Nicholas Lin	Nicholas Turck
Ethan Correa	Aidan Marte	Nicholas Valdes
Noah Fortuna-Jikko	Joshua Menendez	Matthew Velez
Maxwell Gaveau	Nate Shoule	Michael Velez
Olivier Gaveau	Akash Singh	

Head Coach: Mike Ambery

Assistant Coach: Patrick Gaveau

Our PeeWee Boys Soccer Team finished the season with a record of 3-6-1, after going last season without a win. The players all worked hard, improved individually, improved as a team, and had fun. They have learned to both win and lose graciously.



INTERMEDIATE GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

Wei Chen	Emma DiRado	Julianne Leavy
Minna Cheng	Gabriela Gomez	Emily Ledesma
Julie Cossin	Anjali Gupta	Aliya Masihuddin
Brielle Desruisseaux	Mikaela Huang	Sophia Mojica
Juliana DeVito	Isabelle Karshner	Jenna Romano

Head Coach: Bel Mojica

Assistant Coach: Mario Desruisseaux

Despite having a great bunch of athletes on this team, they struggled against the teams that were older and more experienced. Gabriela Gomez, Jenna Romano, and Julie Cossin were the goal scorers this season. The power defense was led by Julianne Leavy, Juliana DeVito, and Sophia Mojica. Mikaela Huang was completely committed to the team, never missing a game. Newcomers Isabelle Karshner and Minna Cheng gave everything they had on the field and greatly improved as the season went on. With most of these girls returning for next season, we expect them to be a wild card with the potential to really shake up the division.



SQUIRT BOYS SOCCER TEAM

Yoon Choi	Maxwell Karshner	Bobby Shoule
Ethan Correa	Matthew Mitranga	Andres Suarez
Chris Gupta	Carlos Ponce	Isaiah de la Espriella
Christian Herrera	Oscar Qu	

Coaches: Henry Correa & Max Suarez

The Squirt Boys Soccer Team practiced hard and learned the skills they will need to play CYO soccer in the future. This year they participated in the Little Neck Douglaston Little League to give them a little introduction to competition.

OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS GIRLS SOCCER CLINIC

Aya Sophia Cheng	Lalita Singh	Victoria Tappy
Sera Ashlyn Cheng	Kaitlyn Tappy	

This group of girls showed up faithfully for our Summer Soccer Clinic and practiced with our Novice Girls Team for weeks until we finally found a great home for them with the Our Lady of the Snows clinic. They had time to learn the game and develop their skills. We look forward to them playing with the AMAA Eagles next season!

NOVICE GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

Kaitlin Carbone	Gianni Herrera	Laura Moran
Lei Chen	Claudia Lopez	Maya Panepinto
Yeona Choi	Rina Kim	Jaclyn Regan
Leilani Correa	Rubi Kim	Lavender Reynolds
Jessie Cossin	Aleesa Masihuddin	Penelope Rice
Sarah Gonzalez	Alina Madihuddin	

Head Coach: Ariadna Lopez

Assistant Coach: Robert Panepinto

The Novice Girls Soccer Team faced girls older and much bigger than most of them all season long, but they fought hard and never gave up. Despite being in only 3rd grade, Claudia Lopez and Gianni Herrera scored goals for the Eagles. Next season as these girls prepare to play against competitors closer to their own age level, under the skillful leadership of Coach Ari, we all know that they will be a force to be reckoned with!



ROOKIE BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Bryan Aranda	Jake Krasovitsky	Mungavin
Seth Carlson	Nathan Lin	Owen Torio
Kyle Chong	Diego Mojica	Sunny Wong
John Cossin	Christopher	Daniel Yellinek

Head Coach: Dexter Mojica Helper: Brandon Ma

The Rookie Boys Basketball Team was made up of a lot of AMAA newcomers. The team worked hard to learn to play together as a team. Point guard Jake Krasovitsky proved to be a force to be reckoned with. Owen Torio, with his skills and intense focus was an all-around asset to the team. Guard Daniel Yellinek was injured in a game late in the season, and the team missed him dearly. The Eagles finished the regular season with a record of 5-5. They drew a bye for the first 2 rounds of the playoffs, but fell to St. Sebastian's in round 3.

NOVICE BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Dejvi Bushkolaj	Keifer Lim	Derek Tom
Justin Chen	Alexander Lopez	Donovan Turck
Aidan	Keilan Moran	Adam Yellinek
Desruisseaux	Adrian Perez	

Head Coach: Mario Desruisseaux

Helper: Ariadna Lopez

The Novice Boys Basketball team had a surprisingly successful season. The returning Eagles had never played at their own age level before, and therefore didn't know how they would measure up against the competition. The addition of a few new players help round out the team. The opened the season with an exciting 20 point win, and it motivated them. The finished the season with a 6-6 record. Unfortunately they had a tough draw in the first round of the playoffs, where they lost to the team that finished in second place in their division.

Alexander Lopez, Keifer Lim, and Adam Yellinek competed in the Knights of Columbus annual Free Throw Contest. Adam made it all the way to the NY State Finals in West Point, NY! Congratulations and good luck next year!

SUB-NOVICE BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Ihsan Aksoy	Erik Bushkolaj	Ethan Correa	Charlie LeRoux	Alex Tan
Tahsin Aksoy	Maxwell Chan	Rocco DiRado	Carlos Ponce	Edwin Tom
Alejandro Aranda	Yoon Choi	Isaiah de la Espriella	Oscar Qu	Nicholas Turck
Adam Bouallaq	Kyle Chung	Noah Fortuna-Jikko	Nate Shoule	Derek Tyska

Head Coach: Mike Shoule

It was a great first season with AMAA for many of the 21 boys on the roster that was comprised of 1st through 3rd graders. Coach Mike had very simple goals to start the season - improve their individual skills, improve as a team, and most importantly have fun. Coach Mike says with a lot of confidence that they achieved all three of those goals. Like all of the teams in the league, the Eagles struggled to get the ball in the basket at first, but they did take plenty of good shots (and some not so good ones too!). The Eagles had strong defense and good rebounding thanks to height in the middle and nice hustle all around. Coach Mike is especially proud of the way the boys unselfishly passed the ball to their teammates and tried to get everyone involved regardless of their experience or skill level. With such a large roster, the players were also very patient with all of the substitutions. We're hoping more volunteers step up to coach so this team can be split in half next year. These boys are looking forward to next season already!

PEEWEE BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Ryan Ambery	Nicholas Lin	Adam Sirota
Hao Chen	Aidan Marte	Nicholas Valdes
Gabriel Harris	Joshua Menendez	Matthew Velez
Maxwell Gaveau	Akash Singh	Michael Velez
Olivier Gaveau	Herman Singh	

Head Coach: Mike Ambery
Assistant Coach: Patrick Gaveau

The PeeWee Boys Basketball team was made up of a great group of talented, young athletes. They finished the regular season in second place with a record of 10-1. The Eagles received a bye in the first round of the playoffs, and then won big in round 2, fought hard to pull off an exciting win in the Quarterfinals, but eventually lost a heartbreaker in the Semi-Finals against St. Robert's. They had quite a season to be proud of, reaching the CYO Diocesan Final Four! With Mike and Pat coaching this team, if these Eagles stay together, we expect big things of them down the road!

ROOKIE GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Kathey Chen	Sophia Mojica	Sophia Tartaglione
Wei Chen	Kaitlyn Rivera	Christine Yan
Jillian Ma	Jenna Romano	

Head Coach: Kathleen Fortune
Assistant Coach: Sal Tartaglione
Helper: Sue Zatzky

The Rookie Girls Basketball Team started with a stronger 13 player roster that dropped down to 7 after the first week, due to lack of player commitment. After the second week of the season, the eagles suffered another loss when an injury sidelined Katie Rivera for the rest of the season. Christine Yan then joined the team to get the Eagles back on track. The Eagles, led by team captain and MVP Jenna Romano, finished the regular season 6-6 with only 6 players for the majority of the games. Sophia Mojica came back to re-join the team to help out during the playoffs. The Eagles won the first round of the playoffs by forfeit. The second round they played St. Sebastian, a team that beat them by double digits twice during the regular season. With only two subs and playing on a very large high school court, the Eagles battled hard in a close game. In the end, great defense by Mojica and Sophia Tartaglione, fast breaks from Jillian Ma, and all-around extraordinary effort catapulted the Eagles to a big win, sending them to the Quarter Finals. In the Quarter Finals, the Eagles faced a fellow Bayside team in Sacred Heart. Sacred Heart started strong, and the Eagles were down 10-0 early, but aggressive play by Wei Chen, smothering defense by Kathey Chen, along with support from the fans helped them battle back to an exciting win, sending them to the CYO Final Four. In the Semi-final game, the Eagles found themselves with only 5 players. Two minutes into the game, Sophia Mojica was pulled down to the court on a rebound, and she suffered a concussion, leaving the Eagles with only 4 players for the rest of the game. The Eagles did their best, but fatigue set in quickly, and they lost to St. Francis DeSales, who went on to win the Diocesan Championship. This is a team to watch next season!

BANTAM GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Julie Cossin	Emma DiRado	Rachel Shonfeld
Lei Chen	Isabella Keilbach	Jade Wright
Leilani Correa	Lavender Reynolds	

Head Coach: Ann Marie Cossin
Assistant Coach: Henry Correa

The Novice Girls Basketball Team was comprised of two veteran Eagles, MVP Julie Cossin and Lei Chen and 5 other girls who were new to the sport. Early on in the season, the Eagles struggled with protecting the ball and scoring. They finished the regular season 3-11. When it came time to playoffs, CYO acknowledged that the team was placed in the wrong division, and gave them a shot at participating in the Playoffs in Division 2. They won the first round of the playoffs by forfeit. In the Quarter Finals they dominated Blessed Trinity for their most exciting win of the season, which sent them to the CYO Final Four. In the Semi-Final, they faced Our Lady of the Snows and hoped for a storybook ending. They fought hard and hung in the game for the first 3 quarters before they began to tire out. Snows went on to win the Diocesan Championship. We were very proud of the effort this team put forward!

PEEWEE GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Hailey Cohen	Katie Lam	<u>Practice Squad:</u>
Jessie Cossin	Claudia Lopez	Yeona Choi
Kelly Gildea	Amanda Martini	Rina Kim
Sarah Gonzalez	Laura Moran	Rubi Kim
Gianni Herrera	Maya Panepinto	Sarah Yim
Alexandra Keilbach	Jaclyn Regan	
Vanessa Keilbach		

Head Coach: Robert Panepinto
Assistant Coaches: Ariadna Lopez & Randy Lee

The PeeWee Girls Basketball Team had an exciting first season with a mix of newcomers and returning AMAA athletes. The team started out with many of the girls never having played basketball together, so they needed to learn to play as a team. Newcomers Katie Lam and Kelly Gildea immediately made their presence felt by taking over the back court duties and helping to guide the team. Strong play underneath the basket by Laura Moran, Jackie Regan, and Jessie Cossin, helped the defense improve as the season went along, and made things difficult for opposing offenses. The girls played extremely tough and made every game they played a close one. As good as the starters were, they were only as good as the girls backing them up, led by Claudia Lopez, Maya Panepinto, Sarah Gonzalez and Alexandra Keilbach. The girls got stronger as a team as the season went along. The season was highlighted by many great individual moments, an overtime win and some great team play. The girls never backed down from any team no matter how much bigger the other team was. The girls finished their first season playing together with a record of 5-7 in the regular season. In the first round of the playoffs, they played a very aggressive and hard fought battle, but unfortunately they struggled to score. They lost to Our Lady of Hope, but not before Sarah Gonzalez scored her first basket of the season. These girls will be exciting to watch next year as they continue to grow and improve their skills.

ROOKIE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Kathey Chen	Samantha Ho	Megan Leavy
Wei Chen	Mikaela Huang	Sophia Tartaglione
Minna Cheng	Madelyn Kimmel	Shirley Tom
Juliana DeVito	Angie Lam	Christine Yan

Head Coach: Brendan Leavy
Assistant Coach: Sal Tartaglione
Helpers: Andrew Chen & Emma Leavy

The Rookie Volleyball Team had the luxury of competing for the first time with a team full of girls who were the same age. In years past, the grades were combined and we were often playing over our head. With the growth of the program this year, we had 12 7th graders playing volleyball. The team finished the regular season with a record of 8-2, first place in their division. They had an exciting win in the first round of the playoffs vs. Immaculate Conception, a team that they lost to during the regular season. They lost in round 2 against a very experienced St. Francis DeSales team.

BANTAM VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Zoe Baez	Emma DiRado	Isabella Keilbach
Lei Chen	Kristen Ho	Lavender Reynolds
Leilani Correa	Grace Hughes	Christina Russell
Julie Cossin	Isabelle Karshner	Rachel Shonfeld

Head Coach: Dina Pizzingrillo
Assistant Coaches: Henry Corra & AnnelMarie Cossin

The Bantam Volleyball Team featured 3 returning volleyball players, and a bunch of new AMAA athletes. The team went through a lot of growing pains with so many girls being new to the sport, but they worked hard and improved as the season went on; this was evident in the playoffs. The team finished the regular season with a record of 2-8. In the first round of the playoffs, they faced an Our Lady of the Snows team that they lost to during the regular season. The Eagles dropped the first set by a big margin, but they didn't give up. They took the second set in a close game. The match went to a tie breaking third set, where the Eagles rallied back from a deficit, and MVP Julie Cossin aced her last serve to give the Eagles the win! Unfortunately the Eagles lost in the next round to blessed Trinity, but with such improvement in a short amount of time, look out for this team next year!

PEEWEE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Hailey Cohen	Mia Angelina Fortuna-	Alexa Ho	Rubi Kim	Aleesa Masihuddin
Mia Colman	Jikko	Alexandra Keilbach	Katie Lam	Laura Toriello
Jessie Cossin	Kelly Gildea	Vanessa Keilbach	Claudia Lopez	Melissa Tyska
	Sarah Gonzalez	Rina Kim	Amanda Martini	

Head Coach: Randy Lee Assistant Coach: Ariadna Lopez

The PeeWee Volleyball Team featured 2nd-4th grade AMAA athletes, all playing Volleyball for the first time. At this age, the most difficult challenge is serving the ball over the net, and the Eagles struggled with it early on in the season. Coaches Rand and Ari worked hard and these girls got stronger as the season went on. They finished the regular season 2-8, with their biggest win coming over one of the top team, Immaculate Conception. The PeeWee Eagles won the first round of the playoffs in only two sets over Our Lady of the Snows. In Round 2, they fought hard against Blessed Trinity. They lost the first set, but kept their heads in the game and dominated the second set. They tried their best, but lost in the nail-biting 3rd set, 23-21. We see great things in the future for this team!

JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Julia Bueno	Michelle Huang	Jennifer Ng
Sabrina Chan	Mona Jiang	Madison Soohoo
Emily Chang	Allison Lau	Nicole Soohoo
Waverly Chong	Dana Martinez	Jasmine Tong
Kaitlyn Dantuono	Aliya Masihuddin	

Head Coach: Peter Chong Assistant Coaches: Kitty Lau

Our Junior Volleyball team started the season off with a terrific win and all around team effort against St. Nicholas. Our regular season ended with a second win against St. Nicholas. We dominated our two matches this season against this team while being competitive against the other teams in the division. The last regular season win propelled us into the playoffs with some momentum against the higher seeded Holy Child Red team, but we were not able to pull off the upset as we lost in two sets. During the season, there was a lot of individual and team improvement. Graduating Senior co-captain, Kaitlyn Dantuono, brought her steady play on the court throughout the season and did an excellent job during her stint as Libero, digging up balls when called upon. Junior co-captain, Mona Jiang, motivated the team on court as the primary setter by keeping everyone pumped up for each play, rallying the team and continuing to improve each season. Her overhand serves were more reliable and consistent in getting several aces this season. Dana Martinez was exceptional with her powerful hitting and attacking the ball from front and back row giving the team a ferocious attack from anywhere on the court while piling up a number of kills. Michelle Huang was tentative in the beginning to try the setter role but as the season progressed, she felt more comfortable in the role and improved tremendously as the opposite setter with her play at the net. Waverly Chong provided steady play with her serving and return of serves while working on her overhand hitting throughout the season. Sabrina Chan was a key contributor in the rotation, helping to win rallies during the matches. Allison Lau gave the team a spark off the bench with her inspired and improved play. Jasmine Tong has worked hard to get her serve consistent while maintaining a steady return of serve and improving her hitting. Madison and Nicole Soohoo brought a lot of team spirit by bringing their enthusiasm and inspiring the players to display their support by cheering on the team. Emily Chang improved her attack game the latter part of the season and was able to notch a few kills. All the players, especially the newer and younger players - Julia Bueno, Aliya Masihuddin, and Jennifer Ng brought positive energy to the team as they worked hard in practice to develop their skills! With most of these girls returning, we look forward to them racking up more wins next year!

NOVICE BASEBALL TEAM

Tyler Calderon	Adrian Perez	Antonios Varelas
Aidan Desruisseaux	Kenny Spencer	Ashton Vung
Aidan Huie	Derek Tom	Adam Yellinek
Alexander Lopez	Donovan Turck	

Head Coach: Henik Calderon
Assistant Coach: Ariadna Lopez

The Novice Boys Baseball Team is another team that was competing at their own age level for the first time. While we were struggling to find more players for this team, we were also searching for a coach, and we struck gold when Tyler Calderon joined the program, and with it, we convinced his father Henik, a former collegiate baseball player, to join us as the head coach. Ari Lopez stepped in to assist Henik as Ari is always so generous of her time and enthusiasm. The team had a small roster, but they had dedicated players. This group of boys really rallied around each other. All members contributed throughout the season both at the plate and on the field. They had some tough losses, but they played solid games. Their most exciting game was a tremendous 17-4 win over Our Lady of Hope. These hard working boys will be ready to go next season!

SUB-NOVICE BASEBALL TEAM

Alejandro Aranda	Noah Fortuna-Jikko	Harshaan Singh
Adam Bouallaq	Christian Herrera	Eric Sun
Erik Bushkolaj	Charlie LeRoux	Edwin Tom
Adrean Cooper	Ethan Pereira	Nicholas Turck
Ethan Correa	Justin Saffian	Derek Tyska
Rocco DiRado	Walter Saffian	Jack Wong-
Joseph Esposito	Nate Shoule	McMahon

Head Coach: Mike Shoule

A 20 boy roster for baseball is a bit more manageable than for basketball since we were able to field 10 players and have everyone bat. A big difference though is that the game moves at a different pace and there is no dirt to make sandcastles on a basketball court. That being said, Coach Mike and the team started the season with the same simple goals that they had for the basketball team and they accomplished them without a doubt. The team focused on the basics, trying to minimize the amount of mental errors while overcoming the physical ones. The boys made good contact at the plate and did not shy away from the faster pitches. Coach Mike told them, "the faster it comes in the faster and farther it goes out." The Eagles were fortunate enough to have six pitchers on the team and Coach Mike tried to give the boys a chance to play several different positions throughout the course of the season. Thankfully the rain and snow that seemed to keep following us at the beginning of the season gave way to a beautiful last few weeks of good baseball weather. Coach Mike hopes the boys keep on playing throughout the summer and watching live games so they will continue to learn in preparation for next season and beyond.

INTERMEDIATE BASEBALL TEAM

Bryan Aranda	Declan Reilly	Kyle Ye
John Cossin	Tommy Russell	Tommy
Xavier Galarza	Max Suarez	
Adam Masihuddin	Nicholas Toriello	

Head Coach: Ann Marie Cossin
Assistant Coach: Danny Bacci

The Intermediate Baseball team was quite a project this year. CYO gave us the leniency of entering a team that was short a few players and filled with boys who had never played the game before. Not having a coach, Ann Marie Cossin stepped up and took on the team with the expertise and guidance of assistant coach, Danny Bacci. In practice they worked on learning the game and tuning their basic skills. Our opponents were helpful in teaching us the game, and giving our kids an opportunity to play. We love that these Eagles had no fear in learning a new sport at their age! Though the season was a tough one, the boys got plenty of at bats, time in the field, and most of all, they had fun learning what it was to be part of a team.

PEEWEE BASEBALL TEAM

Ryan Ambery	Joshua Menendez	Michael Velez
Hao Chen	Akash Singh	
Maxwell Gaveau	Herman Singh	
Olivier Gaveau	Adam Sirota	
Gabriel Harris	Nicholas Valdes	
Aidan Marte	Matthew Velez	

Head Coach: Mike Ambery
Assistant Coach: Patrick Gaveau

The PeeWee Baseball team was plagued this season by some commitment issues, but when they full squad was there, this team has talent! They finished the regular season in 3rd place in their division, sneaking into the last playoff spot. The lost 14-11 in a real nail-biter back-and-forth game to a good St. Patrick's of Brooklyn team



NOVICE SOFTBALL TEAM

Leilani Correa	Katie Lam	Magdalen Saffian
Jessie Cossin	Aleesa Masihuddin	Stella Saridis
Mia Angelina Fortuna-Jikko	Alina Masihuddin	Anastasia Sutton
Isabella Keilbach	Monica Reilly	Laura Toriello
	Lavender Reynolds	

Head Coach: Dina Pizzingrillo

Assistant Coaches: Eric Keilbach & Henry Correa

The Novice Girls Softball Team started the season on paper with a nice, full squad, but last minute drop-offs hurt the team for the rest of the season, as they often played short, or needed girls from the younger team to play up just so that they could play a game. With a full squad in attendance, this team had some talent! Leading both in the field and at the bat, was pitching ace, Magdalen Saffian in her first season as an Eagle. Laura Toriello and Isabella Keilbach helped the Eagles offense, and good defensive plays were made throughout the season by Stella Saridis and Jessie Cossin, and catcher, Lavender Reynolds, who made an exciting play at the plate in a big win over St. Gregory. The team pieced together three great wins, and never gave up even when they were at a disadvantage. This team is filled with some great athletes and softball players, and in the future we look forward to finding the right team balance to help these girls and coaches shine!

SUB-NOVICE SOFTBALL TEAM

Hailey Cohen	Vanessa Keilbach	Maya Panepinto
Sarah Gonzalez	Claudia Lopez	Samantha Shoule
Gianni Herrera	Leoni Lyons	Edith Sutton
Emma Hommel	Isabella Milazzo	Gemma Sutton
Alexandra Keilbach	Joleen Montes	Valerie Ye

Head Coach: Robert Panepinto

Assistant Coaches: Ariadna Lopez, Eric Keilbach & Matt Sutton

The team welcomed a lot of new faces to the team like Edith and Gemma Sutton, but the Eagles were led by veterans Claudia Lopez, Maya Panepinto and Gianni Herrera. Since it was the first time playing softball for most of the girls, pitching turned out to be the key for team, and Maya Panepinto and Claudia Lopez stepped into those roles. Both girls turned in some nice pitching performances, which helped to lead the team to some great wins. As good as their pitching was, they were only as good as the catcher behind the plate. First timers Sarah Gonzalez and Samantha Shoule split catching duties and did an amazing job. Since most of the girls had never played softball before it took a little time to adjust to hitting the ball. Once the girls got a few games under their belts and got more comfortable at the plate, they were swinging for the fences. Newcomers Isabella Milazzo and Vanessa Keilbach recorded their first hits of the season in an exciting win against OLBS. The girls showed a lot of heart this year, and have a chance of growing together and becoming a very strong team in the future.

ROOKIE SOFTBALL TEAM

Julie Cossin	Dalin Martin	Lydia Saffian
Emma DiRado	Aliya Masihuddin	Felicity Sutton
Dominique Duvil	Sofia Mitts	Shirley Tom
Madelyn Kimmel	Sophia Mojica	Alexan Varelas
Julianne Leavy	Kaitlyn Rivera	
Jillian Ma	Jenna Romano	

Head Coach: Kathleen Fortune

Assistant Coach: Sue Zatzky Assistant: Kerri Fortune

Helpers: Craig Rivera, Tony Varelas, Saffian family

After just missing out on the playoffs last year, the Eagles came back this season looking for some sweet revenge. Most of last year's girls returned, along with 2 new AMAA athletes, Emma DiRado and Shirley Tom; 2 Our Lady of the Snows, Dalin Martin and Dominique Duvil; and Felicity Sutton from Holy Family. At the beginning of the season, we found out that we were facing a new hurdle – with so few 8th grade teams entered into CYO, they decided to combine the 7th and 8th grade divisions into one. This meant our Eagles squad made up of 6th and 7th graders would have to square off against 7th and 8th grade teams. The Eagles had a tough start, with a big loss to Our Lady of Hope (7), but they bounced back with exciting wins over Queen of Peace, OLBS, and St. Anastasia. When the Eagles faced Our Lady of Hope (7) for the second time in the season, they were determined to make it a good game. The Eagles played their best 6 innings of the season, with everyone on the team contributing at the plate, giving the Eagles a 5 run lead going into the bottom of the 7th against the undefeated team. Unfortunately, a 7th inning melt down meant the Eagles lost their lead and dropped the hard-fought game to Hope 12-11. The Eagles finished the regular season in third place with a record of 6-4, giving them a playoff berth. In the first round, the Eagles faced Our Lady of Hope's 8th grade team. The Eagles feared that they would be outmatched, but there was no doubt that they belonged on the same playing field. It was a close game, but the Eagles eventually lost to the older squad 4-3. The ace on the mound, Julie Cossin, also lead the team with her batting average and on base percentage, followed by 2nd baseman captain Julianne Leavy, shortstop Jillian Ma, and catcher Alexan Varelas. The Most Improved Player from last season, Lydia Saffian, stepped up to lead the team in RBIs, followed by top outfielder and pitching reliever, Sofia Mitts. Lydia also learned a new position and helped back up our veteran 1st baseman, Sophia Mojica, when we needed her gold glove elsewhere on the field. Returning players Kaitlyn Rivera and Aliya Masihuddin showed much improvement as Katie's defense and Aliya's on-base percentage helped contribute to many of the team's wins. The girls had a great season and we're very proud of them. Many think that they will be top contenders for the Diocesan Championship next season!

CROSS-COUNTRY TRACK TEAM

GIRLS:

Kathey Chen
Wei Chen
Julie Cossin
Mia Angelina Fortuna-Jikko
Gianni Herrera
Alyssa Hinck

Claudia Lopez
Gianni Herrera
Shirley Tom

BOYS:

Ryan Ambery
Hao Chen
Ethan Correa
John Cossin
Noah Fortuna-Jikko
Olivier Gaveau

Christian Herrera
Charlie LeRoux
Keifer Lim
Alexander Lopez
Alex Tan
Sunny Wong

Head Coach: Lioret Gaveau Assistant Coach: Patrick Gaveau

DEVELOPMENTAL HALF-MILE RACE:

(Top 25 finishers receive a medal)

Alex Tan – 3rd place in the Novice Boys race
Noah Fortuna-Jikko – 12th place in the Novice Boys race
Olivier Gaveau – 20th place in the Novice Boys race
Claudia Lopez - 3rd place in the Novice Girls race
Mia Angelina Fortuna-Jikko – 13th place in the Novice Girls race

JOHN BENNETT CROSS COUNTRY CLASSIC:

Noah Fortuna-Jikko – 13th place in the Novice Boys race
Olivier Gaveau – 17th place in the Novice Boys race
John Cossin – 17th place in the Junior Boys race
Claudia Lopez - 3rd place in the Novice Girls race

MARTY ENRIGHT MEMORIAL SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEET:

John Cossin – 12th place in the Junior Boys race
Alex Tan – 2nd place in the Novice Boys race
Olivier Gaveau – 7th place in the Novice Boys race
Julie Cossin – 15th place in the Bantam Girls race
Claudia Lopez - 3rd place in the Novice Girls race

CYO DIOCEASAN CHAMPIONSHIP MEET:

John Cossin – 12th place in the Junior Boys race
Alex Tan – 4th place in the Novice Boys race
Noah Fortuna-Jikko – 9th place in the Novice Boys race
Olivier Gaveau – 16th place in the Novice Boys race
Julie Cossin – 15th place in the Bantam Girls race
Claudia Lopez - 3rd place in the Novice Girls race
Gianni Herrera – 21st place in the Novice Girls race
Novice Boys Team – 3rd place

SPRING OUTDOOR TRACK TEAM

GIRLS:

Gianni Herrera
Isabelle Karshner
Emily Ledesma
Claudia Lopez

Penelope Rice
Kaitlyn Tappy
Victoria Tappy
Mia Angelina Fortuna-Jikko

BOYS:

Adam Bouallaq
Hao Chen
Noah Fortuna-Jikko
Mawell Gaveau
Olivier Gaveau

Christian Herrera
Hugo Ledesma
Charlie LeRoux
Keifer Lim
James Ma

Diego Mojica
Elijah Pulga
Alex Tan

Head Coach: Lioret Gaveau

Assistant Coach: Patrick Gaveau & Hector Fortuna

CYO SPRING GAMES:

Novice Boys - 2nd place in the 400 Meter Relay
Bantam Boys - 3rd place in the 600 Meter Relay
Alex Tan - 2nd place in the Novice 200 Meter Dash
Diego Mojica - 1st place in the Junior 200 Meter Dash
Novice Girls - 1st place in the 400 Meter Relay

RAY SUAREZ MEMORIAL MEET:

Novice Boys - 1st place in the 400 Meter Relay
Adam Bouallaq - 3rd place in the Novice 50 Meter Dash
Diego Mojica - 1st place in the Junior 100 Meter Dash
Gianni Herrera - 2nd place in the Novice 400 Meter Run

WARREN SCULLIN DIOCESAN CHAMPIONSHIP

American Martyrs Boys Track Team - 1st place in Western Division
Novice Boys - 2nd place in 400 Meter Relay
Diego Mojica - 1st place in Junior 200 Meter Dash
Alex Tan - 1st place in Novice 400 Meter Run
Claudia Lopez - 1st place in Novice 400 Meter Run
Victoria Tappy - 4th place in Novice 400 Meter Run



LIAMS BOYS SWIM TEAM

Bineth Abeysekeera
Seth Carlson
Justin Chen

Alex Chong
Brian Lau
Keifer Lim

Nathan Lin
Nicholas Lin
Alexander Lopez

Joshua Menendez
Diego Mojica
Keilan Moran

AMAA Boys swimmers participate in the "LIAMS" Swim Team (Our Lady of Lourdes, Incarnation, American Martyrs, Our Lady of the Snows). The Boys Team finished in 4th place in the regular season in the Queens Division and 4th place in the "B" Division of the Diocesan Championships.

Alexander Lopez and Keilan Moran were part of the Boys 9-10 100 Yard Medley Relay that finished in 4th place in the CYO

LIAMS GIRLS SWIM TEAM

Kathey Chen
Catherine Cour
Emma DiRado
Mia Angelina Fortuna-

Jikko
Sarah Gonzalez
Gianni Herrera
Mikaela Huang

Allison Lau
Julianne Leavy
Megan Leavy
Claudia Lopez

Amanda Martini
Elisa Martini
Sofia Mitts
Sophia Mojica

Laura Moran
Jazmine Ofori
Jaclyn Regan
Jasmine Tong

AMAA Girls swimmers participate in the "LIAMS" Swim Team (Our Lady of Lourdes, Incarnation, American Martyrs, Our Lady of the Snows). The Girls Team finished in 4th place in the "C" Division for the regular season, and 3rd place in the "C" Division of the Diocesan Championships.

In the CYO Olympics:

Girls 7-8 25 Yard Freestyle; Claudia Lopez finished in 5th place

Girls 9-10 25 Yard Breaststroke; Jaclyn Regan finished in 1st place

Girls 9-10 25 Yard Butterfly; Laura Moran finished in 2nd place

Girls 11-12 50 Yard Backstroke; Sofia Mitts finished in 5th place

CYO CHEER SHOWCASE SQUAD

Clarissa Chan
Mia Coleman
Sarah Gonzalez

Claudia Lopez
Alina Masihuddin
Aleesa Masihuddin

Emily Ortega
Penelope Rice
Samantha Shoule

Head Coach: Binu Masihuddin

Helper: Aliya Masihuddin

CYO Cheer Showcase Assistant Coach: Terri Shoule

These girls from our Cheer Squad participated in the First Annual CYO Cheerleading Showcase. The Martyrs Eagles cheerleaders were one of five parishes that participated in the inaugural. Coach Terri came on board to help Coach Binu prepare the girls for the big event. Though we had the smallest and youngest contingency there, they were definitely not the quietest! There were just as loud and entertaining as squads three times their size! The girls practiced hard, sometimes three times in one week to nail down their routines. All participants received a medal at the end of the showcase. We look forward to sending the whole squad again next year!



CHEER SQUAD

Lei Chen
Clarissa Chan
Hailey Cohen
Mia Coleman
Leilani Correa
Sarah Gonzalez
Alyssa Hinck
Lexi Jampole
Rina Kim

Rubi Kim
Aoife LeRoux
Ava Lerea
Claudia Lopez
Antonella Martinez
Alina Masihuddin
Aleesa Masihuddin
Emily Ortega
Penelope Rice

Emma Shoule
Samantha Shoule
Lalita Singh
Kaitlyn Tappy
Priya Musa Velez
Eris Weaver
Hannah Yim

Our Cheerleading squad is back after a long hiatus, thanks to Coach Binu stepping up and getting the program up and running again. The girls cheered on our Eagles boys and girls basketball teams at our home games at PS 205 and PS 188. They learned cheers and dance routines, and the crowd loved them! They were quite instrumental in cheering our teams on to successful seasons!



Guest Speaker – Ray Fortune – 2016 CYO Hall of Fame inductee

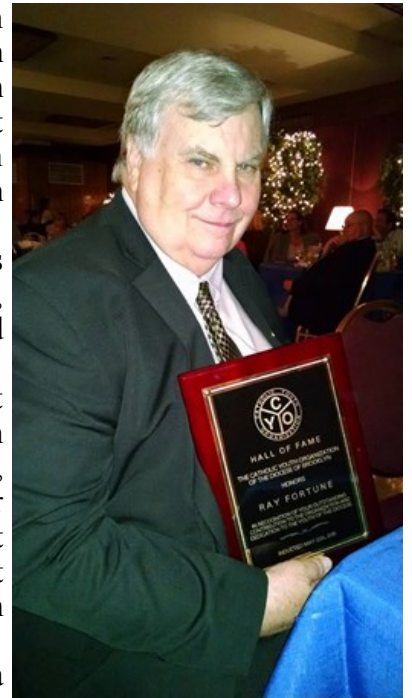
Ray Fortune's involvement with the sports program at American Martyrs began when he was four years old. At this time, his mother ran the sports and teen programs at American Martyrs. The sports teams were competing in the Interfaith League at this time. His father coached baseball and he allowed Ray to be the bat boy for the team. From 1961 to 1963, Ray played CYO baseball for American Martyrs. In 1968, Ray enlisted in the Army. He served his country as a soldier in Vietnam from 1969 to 1972.

After returning from war, Ray felt the need to continue his service, and found his talents would be best utilized by volunteering to coach CYO at American Martyrs, as his parents had done when he was a child. From 1974 to 1979, Ray coached basketball and baseball for the program.

In 1991, Ray took over the PAR responsibility for the program, and in their first registration drive, the American Martyrs Youth Council had over 200 children registered to participate! The parish fielded teams in CYO Soccer, Track, Swimming, Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball, and Softball, and even offered a Cheer Squad, a swimming clinic, and recreational Bowling. Ray worked hard to get parents involved in the program. He knew that the parents' involvement was what the program needed to grow and succeed. He formed a new executive board with athletic directors for each sport.

Ray had his hand in all aspects of the program. He obtained field permits, secured a home gym at PS 205, secured the pool at the Cross Island YMCA, ordered uniforms and equipment, tracked registration, and he still found the time to coach his daughter's soccer, basketball, and softball teams.

Ray embodies the mission and values of CYO; community, hope, service, dignity, and spiritual growth. He was always accepting of all children, treating all of them with patience, understanding, and respect. He promoted participation, and growing in service to his community. This is shown by the many people he coached who received the calling of service to become a coach, and volunteer just as he had. Without Ray's contributions, it is likely that the program would not exist today. We're grateful and proud that he received this great CYO honor that he very much deserved!



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SPECIAL THANKS

To all AMAA Parents & Athletes!

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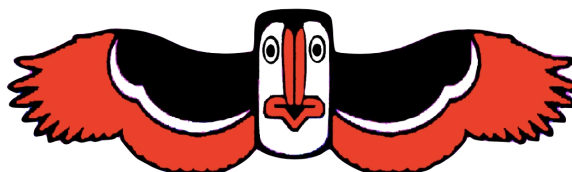
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Binnu Matthews

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Tara Russell



American Martyrs Athletic Association
79-43 Bell Blvd Bayside, NY
www.AmericanMartyrsSports.com