



Four of our veteran teachers accompanied Father Bob and Mrs. Trenary to Anaheim, CA to accept OLG's award for "Total Community Involvement" from *Today's Catholic Teacher* magazine. The award was a part of the magazine's recognition of 12 **Catholic Schools for Tomorrow** during a banquet at the MUZEO on April 15, 2009 at the National Catholic Educational Assoc. conference.

OLG received the award for *Project Blessings* which began in 2006 as a way to honor the school's tradition of teaching excellence and, since that time, has raised over \$400,000 to support the school's technology needs. Because of *Project Blessings*, the school was able to begin its Middle School One to One Laptop Learning Program. *Project Blessings* funds also provided new teacher laptops, additional mobile computer labs for the K-5 classes, and additional wireless access points throughout the school.



Because *Project Blessings* honors teachers, several teachers with significant tenure at our school were

asked to attend the NCEA convention and banquet:

- ❖ Nancy Jackson, 37 years
- ❖ Sue Hiemenz, 17 years
- ❖ Deb Skinner, 16 years
- ❖ Amy Slack, 11 years



All of the teachers and staff at Our Lady of Grace contribute to our faith community in ways too numerous to count. They are the reason our school is able to accomplish the extraordinary mission it has set for itself each and every day, and we are very grateful.

In a complete surprise, a SMART board was given to the school as a part of this award! SMART Technologies, one of the award sponsors, gave each of the 12 schools a SMART board, a very nice bonus. The local Sun newspapers covered the award and even created a webcast about it. You can check it out at:

<http://www.mnsun.com/articles/2009/04/22/news/ed04a21edinatoday0421.txt>

As we celebrate our 60th anniversary next year, it is amazing how much this school - which started out with 115 students - has blossomed. We have more than 660 students registered for next year, and the tours of interested families continue! Thank you to all of our supporters, especially the school families who market our school so effectively through their good words. It is a significant blessing to be a part of this community of parents, educators and students whose greatest commitment is to spiritual and academic growth.