



Sr. M. Pulcheria Saukaitis: *A Legacy of Innovation and Influence*

Sr. Mary Pulcheria Saukaitis '39 has been a student, alumna, teacher, principal, and friend of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School. She holds a special place in the hearts of many of her former students, and her impact on the history and continued success of OLSH is immeasurable.

In 1964, after teaching science for many years, Sr. Pulcheria became the principal of OLSH. Just as she saw the potential in her students and nurtured it, Sr. Pulcheria also saw the potential of OLSH. Faced with the seemingly imminent closure of OLSH, Sr. Pulcheria exhibited commendable foresight and took a risk that would change the school forever. She was instrumental in the decision to make OLSH a co-educational school in the early 1970s.

The decision to admit both male and female students to OLSH was not immediately embraced by all involved, but it was a decision that likely saved the school. Sr. Pulcheria's innovative spirit helped to ensure the continuation of the Felician Sisters' tradition of educational excellence.

Sr. Mary Pulcheria's influence at OLSH did not end with her retirement. She continued to invest in the advancement of OLSH through her donation of handmade blankets to the Legacy Gala. The "Blanketed in Blessings" raffle raised thousands of dollars that directly supported tuition assistance and student programs at OLSH.

Inspired by Sr. Pulcheria's passion and commitment, alumni have come forward in an effort to honor and continue her legacy at OLSH through the creation of the Sister Mary Pulcheria Saukaitis Scholarship. RoGene (Falbo) Clarke '63, who started the scholarship, and many of her fellow alumni envision the scholarship growing in order to last in perpetuity to honor their teacher and her dedication to OLSH. Donations from alumni and friends were invested in the OLSH endowment to establish a scholarship in Sr. Pulcheria's honor.

The *Sister Mary Pulcheria Saukaitis Scholarship Fund* is an expression of the love and respect of the alumni of OLSH for their former teacher, principal and mentor.

SR. M. PULCHERIA SAUKAITIS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship encourages academically talented and motivated young women and young men to focus a portion of their OLSH education on the study of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). *This \$1,000 renewable scholarship will be awarded annually to an incoming freshman student.

**Annual award amount is based on OLSH endowment earnings for the prior year*

ELIGIBILITY/REQUIREMENTS

- Young women and young men
- Application for enrollment submitted to OLSH Admission Office
- Demonstrated financial need based on criteria set forth by OLSH (as determined by FACTS, OLSH's third party tuition and financial aid management system)
- Enthusiasm for learning, especially in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subject areas

SCHOLARSHIP RENEWABILITY CRITERIA

- Student must take four years of science, four years of academic mathematics courses and/or coursework in the areas of computer science and engineering while at OLSH (OLSH students are already required to take four years of math)
- Maintain a 3.0 (85%) grade point average in all academic courses, monitored at the end of each semester of study
- Maintain an average conduct score of 90 points or higher

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

*Applications for the Sr. M. Pulcheria Saukaitis Endowed Scholarship are due to the Admissions Office of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart by **March 15, 2019**.*

A complete application must include:

- The application form AND student-completed essay
- 8th grade math or science teacher recommendation letter
- List of any academic enrichment program or clubs (after school clubs, honor societies, weekend programs, summer programs) in which you have participated or are currently participating

SR. M. PULCHERIA SAUKAITIS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

This application must be completed **by the student** applicant and signed by a parent/guardian.
All applications and supporting items must be received by March 15, 2019.

Date: _____

Student Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Father/Guardian Name: _____

Mother/Guardian Name: _____

School Currently Attending: _____

Principal's Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

APPLICATION ESSAY:

Please choose **one** of the following questions to reflect on and respond to in 50 words or more:

- What STEM subjects are you most interested in studying in high school? Why?
- What career might you want to pursue some day? What attracts you to this career?

Print your handwritten or typed essay on a separate 8½ x 11 sheet of paper and attach to this application page. Be sure to include your name and current school on your essay page.

COMPLETED APPLICATION AND ALL APPLICATION ITEMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO:

Admissions Office · Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School
1504 Woodcrest Avenue · Coraopolis, PA 15108