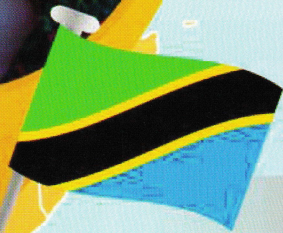
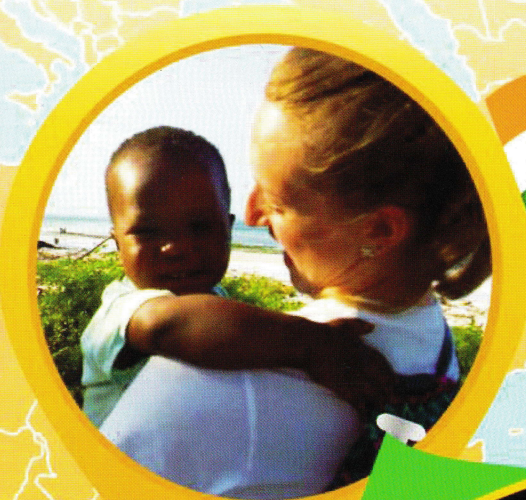


THE SENTINEL SHIELD

MAGAZINE OF SETON CATHOLIC PREPARATORY | SPRING 2016



*'The majesty of God's
presence consecrates every
part of the universe...'*

- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Loving Service on a Global Scale



Serving others is central to our call as Catholics. At Seton Catholic Prep, it is part of our mission, the fiber of our school. During their years here, opportunities for Seton students to serve others abound. And while opportunities for loving service are plentiful in the community we call home, giving back has no borders. The following Seton students and alumni represent just a few who carry out our mission on an international scale. Each has a unique journey to share in the hopes of inspiring others toward global service and fulfillment.

DR. ERNEST LEE '86. HELPING THE CHILDREN OF THE PHILIPPINES

As the founder of Philippine Children's Charity, **Dr. Ernest Lee's** mission is to help the "poorest of the poor" children of his birthplace. Lee recalls seeing pictures of Filipino kids his dad had "fixed" as a volunteer surgeon there. His mother taught special needs children and, through his parents' example, Lee learned the importance of volunteerism at a young age.

Lee's passion for service was cemented during his years at Seton. While he may not have known yet he wanted to be a doctor or start a nonprofit, "Seton planted the seeds within my heart and soul that would later mature and bear fruit." He adds, "We watched documentaries at Seton about nuns who had been killed in El Salvador while they served the poor. They knew of the risks and yet they went there anyway. This resonated with me."

Lessons in humanity continued during Lee's years at Harvard University, where harsh truths about "giving" were revealed by peers. They shared examples of organizations pouring millions of dollars of aid into lesser-developed nations, but the actions of corrupt politicians were preventing the funding from reaching the poorest kids on the streets.

This realization fueled Lee's desire to set up a charitable organization whose proceeds would directly help the poorest children of the Philippines. They would teach children "how to fish, rather than giving them fish," to ensure long-term success. By equipping them with basic life skills such as fishing, farming and building houses, Lee believes the organization is giving them basic skills to get jobs and "fish for themselves."

Thanks to Lee's tireless efforts, Philippines Children's Charity achieved 501(c)(3) status this past fall. In addition to volunteering his time with the charity, Lee is a busy family man as well as a medical director for a Marine Corps base clinic and Colonel in the Army National Guard. Despite juggling many responsibilities, Lee continues to give of himself and encourages others to do the

same. His words of advice are simple yet profound:

"Helping others on a large scale does not happen overnight. Often, a dramatic experience occurs which stimulates your social conscience and causes a moral outrage to arise. This compels you to take action to address social injustices in the world. If you want inspiration, volunteer for overseas humanitarian missions to see firsthand how the poor suffer, and the heroic efforts of others who have stepped out of their comfort zone to help. I promise you will return inspired and motivated."

KAYLA CASEY '14. INSPIRED TO GIVE IN TANZANIA

A sophomore at Northern Arizona University, **Kayla Casey** relishes the chance to share her experience teaching in Tanzania with the community that "shaped me into the person I am." During her sophomore year at Seton, Kayla read *Left to Tell*, by Immaculee Ilibagiza, and was inspired by the author's journey of faith amidst the horror of the Rwandan holocaust. Ilibagiza's visit to Seton further awakened Casey's desire to give back and sparked her dream of teaching English in Africa.

This past July, Casey aligned herself with GIVE (Growth International Volunteer Excursions), an organization that sends volunteers on service projects around the world. She traveled to Tanzania with 12 college students from all over the U.S. on a mission to work with villagers on the eastern tip of the island of Zanzibar to construct a school and teach English. When not volunteering, she explored forests, wildlife and spent time on the beach swimming with local children. Casey also went on a thrilling two-day safari and had the eye-opening experience of visiting an orphanage in Arusha.

Reflecting on her experience, Casey claims she went in with the goal of teaching the villagers but ultimately learned so much from them about herself. She adds, "I was amazed at how happy and kind they were despite the fact that they lacked so much. Even though they didn't have much, they were among the most