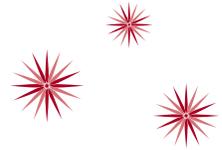




# Our Family Newsletter



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**Christmas 2007**

**The Olivases**

*Eduardo "typing" a letter.*

*Merry Christmas from our family to yours!*

Again, the end of the year has come and it's time to count our blessings! Please join us in thanking Our Lord for all the following gifts he showered on us in 2007

*Eddie (2 years old)*

*Montsy (5)*

The youngest "piano player" in the family, he loves dancing, building towers, singing toddler songs (from "Blue's Clues") and learning words in both Spanish and English. His three "tutors" (read about them below) have taught him how to spell in English, as well as counting in both languages. He is a most polite little boy and has quickly learned to obtain anything he wants by using the "magic words" ("please" and "thank you")!

Currently in Kindergarten, she is learning how to read (and along with her older sister she practices her times tables!) She is increasingly motivated by her piano lessons and now knows how to move all the pieces in chess. She loves her dolls, role playing, singing, drawing and coloring; and she is always using her imagination. Whenever she laughs, we rejoice with her and Mom remembers her cousin Marisela!



*Xhonanita (8)*

In 3rd grade now, her favorite subjects are Piano, Reading, Phonics and Religion. She has been playing the piano for a few months and danced the Jarabe Michoacano with Mom in four public appearances; the most recent, at the University, put her in the front page of the Clarion newspaper! But the greatest blessing for her this year has been receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion !



*Montsy's Fifth Birthday!**The Tang Soo Do athletes show their trophies**Xhonanita's First Holy Communion**Joseph playing the violin.**Joseph (10)*

Newest hobbie, playing chess; his favorite subjects are Geography, Spelling and Math. His abilities as a violin player and a Tang Soo Do athlete are improving quite evidently! This year he is about to memorize a French language method (level one), and loves learning about countries, their customs and many other interesting facts. He cannot wait for Eddie to grow enough to be roommates and play more 'boy games'!

*Xhonane*

She and her friends just finished the first liturgical year publishing their website ([escuelacatolicaencasa.triorg.com](http://escuelacatolicaencasa.triorg.com); currently in Spanish) with activities, games, prayers, and many other ideas to celebrate the Catholic faith as a family. In addition to homeschooling the three older kids, she organized a Math, a Geography, and a Spanish clubs for interested kids. Also, she is trying to catch up with her scrapbooking in her free times.

*Miguel*

Trying to keep up with the kids' artistic abilities, he's been playing Joseph's violin, the girls' piano and his guitar on occasion, proudly realizing that the most talented individual in the family is not the oldest! The book *Successful Women of the Americas* he co-wrote last year was given perfect scores by the Brazilian Ministry of Education, in an unexpected, but most welcome recognition. The year was very productive in new publications too, in addition to teaching various courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

*Overall this was a very busy and productive year for all of us. We look forward to hearing from you and all around you!*