

Inaugural Mission Peru Legends Award

The Hendricken Legends Award is presented to any group or team within the school community that accomplished something first or best. Today we are honoring our missionaries who attended the Inaugural Mission Peru Trip in 2007.

Brother Stephen Casey and our Director of Campus Ministry, Tom Gambardella '76, organized that first trip with the mission of helping the poor and marginalized of this impoverished country. On February 15, 2007, Brother Casey and Mr. Gambardella, along with then Hendricken President Brother Thomas Leto and Director of the Arts Brian Cordeiro, led a group of 13 students on a 9-day trip to Lima, a location chosen because the Christian Brothers had missions there and there were lots of service opportunities for students.

While there, they built a home for a family in Canto Grande, visited the Edmund Rice Christian Brother's school, and assisted in preparing for the start of the school year. They worked with Sister Clare in Via El Salvador in a home for abandoned babies and children, and spent a day with the Franciscan Sisters working with woman's groups addressing justice issues. At the time it was certainly their hope that it would be an annual event. The response from the students in regards to impact and love of service said it all, and on the way home they knew the mission would continue.

The relationship with Peru entered a new phase in 2011. With the Christian Brothers moving on from Bishop Hendricken. We could think of no better tribute than a permanent house in Lima, both for the Brothers and for Hendricken community members who travel there for mission work.

In three short months, \$100,000 was raised toward the project and in April of 2014, *Casa Hendricken*, (Hendricken House) was formally dedicated and it now houses students from around the globe who come to Lima to participate in the mission work of the Christian Brothers.

Thanks to Brother Casey, Mr. Gambardella and this selfless group of missionaries, this has become a Province Immersion with the Hendricken House in Lima, Peru. Today there are 22 groups each year from Canada, USA, Australia, Uruguay and Argentina living in the Hendricken House and serving our poorest brothers

and sisters in Lima, Peru, and in February 2019 our students will venture there for the 13th year in a row.

Please join us in thanking and celebrating this special group of Hawks for their gift of service to the people of Lima, Peru and for starting this incredible legacy:

Brother Stephen Casey

Tom Gambardella

Brother Thomas Leto

Brian Cordiero

Isaac Alves

Pat Bender

Andrew Benz

Domenic Bucci

Brice Cantrell

Michael Caprio

Sean D'Alfanzo

Ted DeNicola

Joe Fielding

Matt Laythe

Greg Mercurio

Dan Molloy

Matt Taylor