

## Notre Dame des Victoires School: Nurturing a new generation



# Historic Gem

## French Catholic school marks 90 years

Within the city's central business district, NRG Energy Center San Francisco supplies steam to approximately 170 customer buildings—keeping tenants and visitors comfortable as they keep the wheels of commerce turning, check in for hotel stays, or attend a major convention or trade show.

But one of the buildings on our system, among the smallest, has a distinctly different calling: Educating more than 300 students in kindergarten through eighth grade, with a focus on nurturing body, mind and spirit.

With a 90-year history of teaching French culture and language, Notre Dame des Victoires (Our Lady of Victories, or NDV) is a Roman Catholic school nestled in San Francisco's French Quarter. Fathers Henri Gerard and Louis Le Bihan opened the school in 1924 to serve the parish church for which it is named, located at the same site since 1856. Both men were Marist priests—part of the Society of Mary, a religious institute founded in France whose members seek to emulate the humility and compassion of Mary, mother of Jesus. For much of its history, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange staffed the school; today they are instrumental in guiding its direction.

NDV remains dedicated to its mission as a center for French culture and its Marist tradition. Drawing students of diverse ethnic backgrounds from throughout the Bay Area, the school offers a full curriculum, including

daily French language classes taught by native speakers, French music and art instruction, and such activities as educational travel to France. Religious instruction, worship and the many student service projects reflect Marist values.

Fr. René Iturbe S.M., a pastor at NDV since 2002, explains, "Our students are involved in many different kinds of volunteer work together with the church community, from helping at a food bank to feeding the homeless to singing at a rehabilitation facility."

Many NDV students have gone on to become notable civic and business leaders, including Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom, who attended the school until fourth grade.

Located on lots purchased behind the church, the school has had its own gymnasium and auditorium since it opened. Later it was equipped with a library and science lab. A major renovation in 2003 included new carpeting, lockers and fresh paint. Five years ago, the school added a chapel dedicated to French Marist missionary St. Peter Chanel. Recently it installed energy-efficient lighting, while other technology upgrades continue to keep the school as up-to-date as possible.

On October 18, NDV celebrated its 90th anniversary with a reception, tours and a special mass. NRG San Francisco congratulates NDV on this milestone and recognizes the school's contribution to the city's rich culture and history. *Félicitations!*

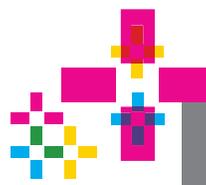


Notre Dame des Victoires is a distinctive four-story terra cotta school building at 659 Pine Street, constructed in 1924. The school recently marked its 90th anniversary.



Courtesy NDV.

NDV students and their families and friends carry out their Marist values by helping others. In 2013, these girls helped out at the Empty Bowls Dinner fundraiser for victims of Hurricane Sandy.



## The French National Church of San Francisco

Église Notre Dame des Victoires, the church community that supports NDV school, is one of San Francisco's earliest ethnic congregations. The local French community founded the church at the site of a former Baptist church on Bush Street in 1856, during the Gold Rush. In 1887, Pope Leo XIII designated it a French National Church and placed it under the charge of the Marists.

After the original church was destroyed by the earthquake and fire of 1906, a new church was dedicated nine years later. A series of 63 stained glass windows, created by local artisans, was added between 1935 and 1970.

The church building and its adjacent rectory were declared a San Francisco Designated Landmark in 1984 and received an earthquake retrofit in 1996. Today NDV is a vibrant, cross-cultural parish, continuing its ministry to the city's French Catholic community.

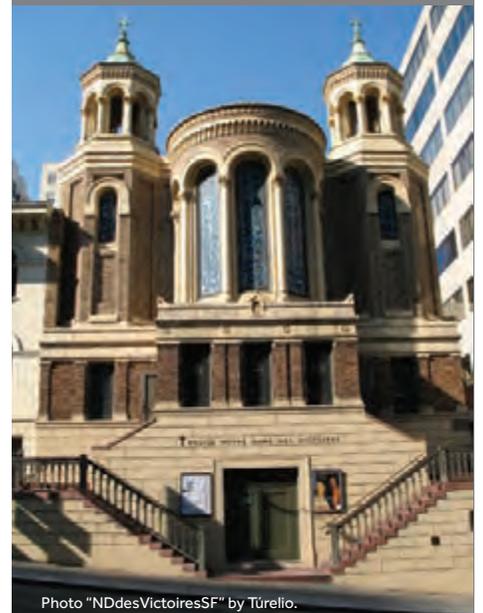


Photo "NDdesVictoiresSF" by Turelio.

The church's striking stained glass windows were recently repaired and cleaned, an intricate process that required their removal and eventual reinstallation. Perforated Plexiglas was added to the exterior to provide protection and ventilation.

## Serving Up a Thank-you to Customers and Vendors

Long before anyone arrived at NRG Energy Center San Francisco's Fourth Annual Customer and Vendor Appreciation Day luncheon October 17, our Distribution Manager Mike Eurkus was hard at work. In fact, he spent the entire night before at our plant preparing rubs and marinades for the steaks and manning the smoker to cook the pulled pork. The plant has never smelled so good!

More than 50 customers and vendors attended and enjoyed Mike's creations. "I think the word is spreading that Mike is quite a chef," said Gordon Judd, NRG San Francisco General Manager. "I wouldn't be surprised if even more people attend our event next year after they hear the rave reviews." A Ben and Jerry's ice cream truck on site was also a popular attraction.

Customer and Vendor Appreciation Day allows NRG San Francisco to personally thank customers for their business, and vendors for the great work they do to keep our plant and distribution system in top operating condition. Each customer who attended received a gift card as a token of our appreciation.

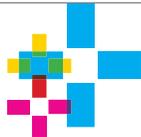
Thank you, customers and vendors, for your support!



At NRG San Francisco's Customer and Vendor Appreciation Day, customers had a chance to win an iPad, two iPad minis and a \$150 gift card. Ben Nerone, Chief Engineer from the University of California Hastings College of Law, left, won an iPad mini, presented by General Manager Gordon Judd.

## Buy or Lease a BMW i3?

Sign up now for complimentary charging



NRG San Francisco's sister company, NRG eVgo, is further expanding access to its electric vehicle charging network by partnering with BMW on its ChargeNow DC Fast program. If you own or lease a BMW i3 equipped with Option 4U7, DC Fast Charging, you are eligible for complimentary 30-minute fast-charging sessions at all NRG eVgo Freedom Station sites equipped with DC Combo Fast Charging through June 30, 2016.

Qualifying vehicle owners can register at the following site using the ChargeNow cards that were provided with the vehicle: <https://chargenow.chargepoint.com/register>. Once registered, owners must activate the program with one use of an SAE Combo DC fast charger at a participating eVgo station before June 30, 2015.

Learn more program details at [www.nrgevgo.com/bmw-chargenow-dc-fast-program/](http://www.nrgevgo.com/bmw-chargenow-dc-fast-program/).



Courtesy NRG eVgo.

**BMW ChargeNow DC Fast Program: Enjoy complimentary 30-minute NRG eVgo fast-charging sessions through June 30, 2016.**

## Partnering for a Cleaner Downtown:

### Controltech lends expertise to system upgrades

NRG Energy Center San Francisco customers rely on us for energy-efficient and environmentally sound steam service. Equipped with stringent emission controls, district energy systems like ours help improve the local air quality. To help keep our system operating as cleanly as possible, NRG San Francisco partners with engineering firm Controltech Inc. (CTI).

"CTI is instrumental in helping us maintain our system's solid environmental compliance," explains NRG San Francisco Plant Manager Ted Vincent. "For a number of years, we have called on them for boiler tuning and improvements, among other services."

From 2011-2013, CTI helped upgrade NRG San Francisco's boilers to meet new air district regulations. CTI's most recent effort was aimed at reducing our boilers' nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions to 5 parts per million (ppm) on boiler No. 7 and 9 ppm on boiler No. 8.

For boiler No. 7, CTI designed and managed the installation of a new selective catalytic reduction (SCR) system that allowed stable operation below 5 ppm NOx. The company also tuned the boiler after the SCR installation.

For boiler No. 8, CTI helped design a new burner management system, specifying new controls that allow more stable operation over a wider load range. This included controls for burning fuel oil in case of natural gas curtailments. CTI tuned the upgraded boiler and will help retrofit it with a new oil gun and piping when the fuel oil permit is officially approved.

NRG San Francisco thanks CTI for the important role it plays to help us optimize our system performance as we reliably, sustainably continue to meet our customers' energy needs.



**Dean Jansen, Senior Project Manager, heads up Controltech Inc.'s team that handles NRG San Francisco projects.**



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FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



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## What Do You See in CHP?

Energy and cost savings, enhanced reliability, greenhouse gas reductions

Just about everyone in California sees the letters "CHP" and thinks California Highway Patrol—for good reason!

But here at NRG Energy Center San Francisco, CHP now has a whole different meaning: Combined Heat and Power, a technology we'll be using to further increase our energy efficiency, enhance steam system reliability and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In their simplest form, CHP systems use a fuel source such as natural gas to generate electricity.

The heat rejected during that process helps produce steam that's piped out to customers for space heating, domestic hot water and sometimes even cooling use. Since CHP systems can increase production efficiencies from 40% to more than 80%, more and more energy producers located in areas that can use the heat are starting to tap CHP's potential.

At NRG San Francisco, we're installing two 250-kilowatt (kW) natural gas-fired reciprocating engines to produce 75% of the annual electricity

we need to operate our plant. That means we won't be solely dependent on the power grid should there be an area power outage, and we'll use the waste heat to produce steam for our steam system.

As a result, we get two products—electricity and steam—from one fuel input, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and saving money in the process. So you can see why we're eager to finalize construction and get CHP into operation as we start 2015.

NRG offers Combined Heat and Power solutions through NRG Distributed Generation (dGen), which develops, finances, owns and operates CHP facilities in the U.S. and abroad. For example, its CHP systems in Dover, Delaware; Princeton, New Jersey; Tucson, Arizona; and Tempe and Mesa, Arizona, at Arizona State University. (See [tinyurl.com/nrgchp](http://tinyurl.com/nrgchp).)

CHP may even work on site at some of our customers' facilities using natural gas-fired microturbines ranging in size from 20 kW to 1 megawatt of electrical power. Our team can help you assess whether this technology is right for your organization. Please contact Dwain Botelho at 415.644.9666, Dwain.Botelho@nrg.com, to learn more about on-site CHP opportunities.

Together we can leverage CHP's many benefits!

NRG San Francisco will be installing Combined Heat and Power technology to increase plant efficiency to more than 80%. Traditional power plants are often only 40% efficient.

