

Rooted and Rising

Klarich Center Magazine

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PODCASTING



WOMEN IN STEM

LITTLE FLOWER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Women in STEM

An Immortal Tale of Consent: Henrietta Lacks

The first immortal human cell line, Henrietta Lacks, was born on a tobacco farm in Virginia. She married her husband in 1941 and moved to Baltimore with their five children. In February of 1951, Lacks was diagnosed with a cervical tumor at John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. George Gey, a John Hopkins scientist, investigated a sample of the usual-looking tumor and discovered an endless source of identical cells now known as "HeLa," named after Henrietta Lacks. Although these weren't the first cells to be grown in a lab, they were the first to survive more than a few days. This key factor completely changed modern medical research, allowing the discovery of several cures and patents, including the development of the polio vaccine, HPV vaccines, HIV/AIDS treatments, and COVID-19 research. Lacks died of cervical cancer a few months after the tumor was harvested against her knowledge. It wasn't until the 70s that her family was notified about the unethical use of her cells while a reporter, Rebecca Skloot, was investigating the remarkable cells. As of February 2026, the family is continuously pursuing recognition and proper compensation for the mistreatment of Henrietta Lacks while raising questions about racial inequalities in healthcare and consent. She is globally honored as the mother of modern medicine, though her story remains an immoral tale regarding bioethics. Today, we have the honor and privilege to celebrate Henrietta Lacks as a woman in STEM during the month of Black History.

Aubrey Davila '26

Seamstress & Creative Construction



This month we started working on a new project- keychains! McKenzie and Lilly cut their fabric before taking it to the sewing machines.

Catherine sewed the edges of her fabric to make sure it was durable enough for every day use.



Nivea gained a lot of confidence on the sewing machine this month. Her finished product was beautiful!

Shaniyah was so excited to finish her keychain. She was eager to show it off to her friends.



Aeroponics and Hydroponics

The AP Chemistry students have been hard at work taking care of their Salsa Tower Garden this month. We can finally see some peppers growing, and the tomato plants smell beautiful! The growth has certainly been slow, but the end product will be worth it (and delicious too)!



Tower Gardens, aeroponic systems designed to grow herbs, vegetables, and baby greens indoors, arrived at Little Flower High early last year. Since then, this STEM initiative has been blooming with activity every month!

Petals and Perspectives Podcast

This month, we welcomed Destiny as a regular host on Petals and Perspectives! She and Cydney talked about Black History Month, and shared some of the most inspirational people in their lives.



In honor of Valentine's Day, Arianna interviewed some members of the school community about their Valentine's picks!

Listen to the full episode [here!](#)

Petals and Perspectives is a podcast hosted by students from Little Flower Catholic High School. The podcast's overall theme is *Ladies in Leadership*, so we aim to promote community and leadership in every corner of Little Flower.