

Orsatti Dental Group:

A leap of faith

By Jonathan Deeley

There are those who pray before going to the dentist and perhaps even more pray they never have to visit one in the first place. However, for Dr. Louis Orsatti and Debbie Orsatti, their dental practice, The Orsatti Dental Group, is based on their strong belief in God and a great leap of faith.

"God is good to us," says Debbie Orsatti, explaining how she and her husband of 25 years built a successful dental practice. "Our practice has grown through referrals as a result of providing a caring, personal patient-doctor (and staff) relationship while providing state of the art dental care. For this we give Him all the glory! When starting a practice with no patients and many expenses, it feels scary. We just took a big leap of faith and began our journey."

Dr. Louis Orsatti, a member of the San Antonio Dental Society, the Texas Dental Association, and the American Dental Association, began his practice at a location on San Pedro in 1986, after graduating from the UTHSC Dental School. The Orsatti's opened the practice focusing on treating each patient as an individual and providing a caring, professional environment. "We want to show our patients our true interest in their individual dental needs as well as their feelings and as a result, our practice has grown," Dr. Orsatti states.

The Orsatti's quickly discovered they had out grown their location of 14 years on San Pedro and decided to relocate to a larger building on Huebner Road, opening the Orsatti Dental Group. Along with highly qualified and dedicated associate dentists on staff, the practice will soon celebrate its fourth anniversary at this location.

The Rev. Larry Lewis experienced the individual care given to each patient by Dr. Orsatti early in his career. "I have known Louis since he was in college," says the Reverend. "When he entered Dental School at the UTHSC Dental School, I was one of his first patients. I needed a lot of work because I had a real fear of dentists. I had a bad experience when I was 11 years old. Louis is gifted in his work. Not only does he make you feel confident, he really has a great ability to get the job done quickly and painlessly."

Another patient that was touched by Dr. Orsatti's individual care is Vernadette



Top: The staff of the Orsatti Dental Group.

Above left: Dr. Louis Orsatti and assistant perform work on a patient.

Above right: The Orsatti Dental Group founders Louis Orsatti and Debbie Orsatti.

LaManna. "One Sunday morning after church, I mentioned to Louis that I had an abscess and was in pain. Louis actually opened the office and worked on my tooth. He could have scheduled me to come in the next day, but he displayed his caring, loving display of WWJD (What Would Jesus Do?). The Orsatti's live and run their practice emulating Christ."

The Orsatti Dental Group is comprised of four dentists, two hygienists, three dental assistants, and three front office staff.

The Orsatti Dental Group sees patients of all ages, providing a wide range of dental care; however the majority of their work is cosmetic. "We do mostly cosmetic work such as; veneers, bonding, white fillings, all porcelain crowns and Invisalign" Dr. Orsatti shares. "We use the latest technology, including digital radiography which uses up to 90% less radiation." The digital image is instantly displayed on a computer screen. The image can be enlarged and enhanced providing the most accurate and efficient diagnosis of dental conditions. The intra-

oral camera is another piece of technology that is used to zoom in on a single tooth with 25 times magnification. "You will have a clearer understanding of your dental condition by being able to see what we see" Dr. Orsatti says.

Computer monitors are available in each of the five examination rooms. When dental work begins, a patient can opt to listen to music using headphones, rather than listening to the drill. We also have television monitors for patients to watch movies," he adds.

The Orsatti Dental Group features Invisalign (clear braces). "It works great. It is most appealing to adults who had braces in their teens, but with time their teeth have moved out of alignment. Because there are no metal wires and brackets, Invisalign is comfortable and almost undetectable," Dr. Orsatti states. The doctors and staff keep apprised of the latest technology by attending continuing education courses on a regular basis.

If asked what the most gratifying aspect of his work, Dr. Orsatti will explain it is the end

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— Reverend Larry Lewis

result. "When the patient looks into the mirror and smiles because he or she is happy with what the mirror reflects, that is the most satisfying reward for me," he says. "We can always relieve pain, but when we are able to take someone who is not outgoing and confident and enhance their smile, they come alive and that is nice to see." Dr. Orsatti experiences this reward not only at his practice, but also when he volunteers at the Christian Dental Clinic here in San Antonio.

"We will continue to do our very best in serving all of our patients and always welcoming new patients. Everyone who works here knows that our purpose is to serve our patients and above all, our Lord." To think it all started as a leap of faith.

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