

THE GOOD NEWS IN OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



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“GO AND WORK OUT YOUR SALVATION WITH DILIGENCE.” PHILIPPIANS 2:12

As the end of this past September approached, in the days leading up to my retirement as Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Fort Worth, I could not help but reflect that, at that point in time, I had spent 65 of my 70 years on earth in a Catholic school. I had been a student, a teacher, an administrator and a parent. As I have grown more “mature” (my wife just hates it when I talk of me growing old), I tend to understand more deeply how much my life has been built and shaped by the faith, wisdom, efforts and kindness of others. And for me, at least, the vast majority of those folks have been in the context of a Catholic school. Surely, no single factor, save for family, has shaped more of who I am than Catholic schools.

The sisters, priests and lay people who taught me passed on a legacy of faith, formation and excellence that remains rooted in my being. They made real for me all that my parents had striven to instill in me. Somewhere about half way through my freshman year in Catholic high school, I knew that the only thing I really felt called to do was be a Catholic school teacher. I feel that yet today.

I know and understand there are many other ways and places where our faith can be passed on. but, over the centuries, the Catholic school has shown itself again and again to be one of the best and most effective means. I am convinced that is true primarily because of the centrality of Jesus in our Catholic schools. In scripture, Jesus is described as a teacher or as teaching more than 150 times. But the simple fact is that in a truly Catholic school we encounter Jesus in far more ways than through the teachers. The faith and the person of Jesus is infused and permeates all that is said and done and the way people interact with each other.

The evangelizing mission of our Catholic schools is rooted in spreading

the Good News. The goal of the Catholic school is the faith taught, believed and lived. Because of the transcendental destiny of every human, all must be prepared in all manner and means to achieve that destiny. The whole child must be taught and shaped by personal relationships that reflect the person of Jesus. This is a matter and obligation of witness by all members of the Catholic school community. Are all of our Catholic schools perfect in this course all the time? Of course not. God does not demand perfection but that we are faithful. But because we are essentially spiritual beings with a physical side (and definitely not the other way around) the fundamental task of the Catholic school is to support the parents as the primary educators of their children and help them shape the souls of the children. No place or institution is better suited for this role than the Catholic school.

In this way the Catholic world view is thoroughly expressed and infused. The deep and abiding values permeate every and all: worship, the communal nature of faith, subsidiarity, the moral grounding of all behavior, the responsibility to transform and enrich the world, a commitment to and preference for social justice, and understanding of the value of truth and wisdom. God is always up to something in the world and the Catholic school sets out each and every day to make that known, understood and, ultimately, lived in the lives of all members of the Catholic school community.

I shared with some friends that the Sunday before my retirement, as part of the Sunday liturgy, the hymn “Open My Eyes, Lord” was sung. I was almost overcome as I heard and felt the words, “Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see your face. Open my eyes, Lord, Help me so see...”

At that moment, my mind’s eye saw literally thousands of faces, a lifetime of faces, if you will. Some names I recalled, some, I admit, I did not. But in each, some laughing, some crying, some enthused and some not so much, I truly believe I saw and felt the presence of God.. It has been my honor and privilege to serve our Church in her schools. But as the poet once said, “The powerful play goes on and you may yet contribute a verse.” We all must continue to live out our baptismal commission to be true missionaries, Jesus taught with both authority and conviction. Jesus constantly challenged people to also come to conviction. That’s one of the major roles of the Catholic school, bringing faith to life and then life to our faith. Thank you for your faith in our Church and her schools and thank you for your support of my vocation as a Catholic school teacher. Your children and our Catholic schools will always remain in my prayers. God bless you all and God bless our Catholic schools.

“What we have loved, others will love and we will teach them how.”

—Wordsworth

Don Miller, superintendent



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Mary's Catholic School set aside some special time at the beginning of the school year devoted to rediscovering the Mass and remembering why we do what we do. Eighth grade students portrayed all the individuals who participate in the Mass, from the priest to the congregation. They led the school in a step-by-step walk through, explaining each part and its significance. Many times attendees go through the motions from habit. Everyone benefits from understanding the ins and outs of the Mass. These students were led by Mr. Benton, their religion teacher. He said, "We tend to go through Mass without understanding what is going on. It would benefit all religion teachers to review the basics. We always have new students who do not know what the Mass is about, so we teach these things so all students can enjoy the beauty of the Mass." Students, faculty and staff attended the presentation. Due to the positive feedback, this will become an annual beginning of the school year activity.



ST. PETER THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL



"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." This admonition from St. Jerome, a Doctor of the Church, helps us to recognize that, as Christians, serious Biblical study is not optional but a necessity. Taking these words to heart, **St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School** is working to incorporate learning not only Bible basics, but also incorporation of Scripture throughout the curriculum at all grade levels. Students in grades first through fourth have the same Bible that they will use each year which is geared toward their reading level and is color coded to help the students visualize the different sections of the Bible. Once students reach fifth grade, they transition into the Catholic Youth Bible that will carry them through their junior high years.

"Learning the basic structure of the Bible is very important and should be started early," said Ms. Mendez, principal and second grade religion teacher. "If we can get students excited about learning the Bible and its parts, then they won't be intimidated by its size and will be more likely to use it as they get older."

Throughout the year, Bibles will be used not just in religion class, but also in Reading/Literature, English and other subjects. The Bible has many examples of different types of writing, from classic to current literature, which often includes Biblical references for the students to discover.

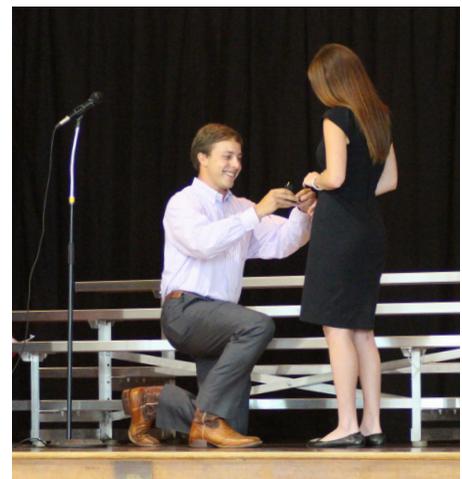
Right now, however, second graders are all about fun. "It's like a game trying to hunt for the right verse," said Joseph Cruz, "I know it's about skills, but it is fun."

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

History was made at **Our Lady of Victory Catholic School** when Alec Mullarkey proposed to Samantha Henggeler on campus. They are both Catholic school alumni (St. Andrew and St. Joseph respectively). This story began eight years earlier in the OLV gym. Alec, then a Nolan freshman, attended a basketball game at the school that would ultimately change his life. Although Samantha was on a date with Alec's friend, he convinced her to go to dinner. "We hit it off," says Alec. Their friendship began that year and developed into something more.

Fast forward to today when Alec decided to propose to Samantha at OLV -- the spot where they met (he got the idea from his dad, who proposed to his mom in the same way). To set the plan in action, Alec called the OLV principal, Ms. Linda Petrey, and the two devised a plan. The plan would bring Samantha to the school to discuss a substitute teaching position.

On the day of the proposal, Samantha made her way to the school but had no clue what was coming her way. OLV students knew something special was to occur at lunch and excitement was in the air. As the students were eating lunch, Samantha arrived and the curtains opened. Alec began to introduce Samantha, but instead of asking all to welcome her, he dropped to his knee and proposed. Well-wishers and students broke out in a round of applause. Mrs. Shaw, Pre-K teacher, said, "It was incredible and we are glad OLV played an important role in their lives. What a beautiful moment at OLV!"



ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Andrew Catholic School celebrates its 60th Anniversary this year. A celebration of the milestone took place on the night of October 4th in the school courtyard with the theme of Denim and Diamonds. Many current parents, alumni, parishioners and supporters of the school attended the event. The halls of the school were decorated



to represent the various decades of the school's history. "We had a committee that worked very hard to plan this year's activities," said Charlie Llewellyn, school president. "St. Andrew has a great legacy and has influenced so many people over the years," Llewellyn added.

The school opened Monday morning, September 13, 1954, with 270 students, first through eighth grades. The school was staffed by the Sisters' of Saint Mary of Namur, from Our Lady of Victory Provincial House along with a few lay teachers. The first principal was Sr. Marie Magdalene Barrios. The school currently has 59 staff members and 691 students under the direction of school principal, Melissa Button.

The campus has seen many changes since 1954 with the addition of the baseball/soccer fields, a gymnasium, wrought iron perimeter fencing, a beautifully landscaped courtyard, a new kindergarten building (2008), the Trinity Garden in the front of the school, covered playgrounds and various remodeling projects inside the school.

With the guidance of Franciscan Friars, St. Andrew Catholic School continues to be a Christ-centered community working in partnership with its families to instill the Catholic faith and academically challenge the next generation of leaders.

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC SCHOOL

During recess one afternoon a few years ago at **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School**, one student knelt in prayer as a funeral procession emerged from the church. Silently and reverently all the other students on the playground followed suit. The students knew a funeral was taking place that day, but had only been instructed to be respectful. This response was the students' own, and it has become a stitch in the fabric in the school's culture. To this day, students go to their knees in prayer if they are outside when a funeral procession is in sight.

The school implements multi-sensory learning because they find it so effective for its students. In this example, God provided his own multi-sensory lesson for the children. They learned what it means to be the body of Christ for one another, and that the best place to live out the joyful and sorrowful times of our lives is with Christ in His church.



ST. RITA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

It was a warm and sunny morning when **St. Rita Catholic School** students witnessed the opening of a 50 year old time capsule that was buried at the Bank of America building across the street from the school. This was an excellent opportunity to learn what happened from the well-preserved artifacts. There was a newsreel of President Kennedy's last speech, copies of the New Testament and Psalms, along with copies of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Fort Worth Press.

Students then wrote about the items that would represent the School's time in history. St. Rita Catholic School is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, and artifacts from its own time capsule will be displayed during Catholic Schools Week.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

There was a different feel to the place when students from **Sacred Heart Catholic School** filed into the newly remodeled Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Muenster recently. In an effort to improve the looks and comfort of the parishioners and students, Rev. Ken Robinson, pastor, took on the project of installing new pews, new Stations of the Cross, and refurbished the stained glass windows and exterior doors. The new additions adhere more to the gothic feel



of the church, which was lacking in the past décor. The characteristics include the pointed arch, the ribbed vault and the flying buttress. Other characteristics include dark wood which is shown in the new pews and frames on the Stations of the Cross. Since the beginning of September, the kindergarteners have been studying the stained glass windows, in particular, "The Sacred Heart of Jesus" and "St. Margaret Mary", located just off the side of the nave of the church.



ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Buon appetito! is a common Italian phrase heard at **St. George Catholic School** during its annual San Gennaro Italian Dinner. Guests feel as if they are truly sitting in a quaint Italian eatery as the gym is converted into a Tuscan trattoria. This annual dinner is prepared exclusively by the school teachers in honor of the beloved Feast of San Gennaro, Patron Saint of Naples, Italy.



Camille Pierfelice, third grade teacher and native Italian New Yorker, initiated the idea as a means for the school community to come together to socialize and enjoy an authentic Italian dinner. “It’s such a joy to celebrate the Italian heritage by preparing this spaghetti and meatball dinner. In New York City, this festival is a huge, festive occasion where Italians honor Saint Gennaro and celebrate their heritage. I love the teachers uniting to work as a team and have fun doing so,” expressed Pierfelice. All funds raised go to teacher resources for the classroom. “With the funds from last year, I was able to purchase resources and materials to enhance my novel study units for my students,” said Nicole Bayer, fifth grade teacher.

The eighth grade students also enjoy taking part by dressing up and waiting on tables. Arlett Plasencia noted, “Seeing the teachers cook for others was a real treat. It felt like I was in Italy, especially with the Italian music, the decorations and more.”

“Celebrating the Feast Day of San Gennaro is one of the many ways that our school truly celebrates diversity. It’s an enjoyable experience all around where we, the teachers, are able to serve our students and their families while educating them about this memorable Italian saint and some of the cultural aspects of Italy,” commented Bayer. The evening was a perfect example of what happens when community comes together for the common good to help build camaraderie, fellowship and lasting memories.

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

After a national application process, **All Saints Catholic School** was chosen as one of three schools nationally to participate as a study school, alongside twelve Boston College Two Way Immersion Network Schools (TWIN). This initiative, grounded in research and leadership by Boston College faculty and other university researchers from around the country, implements and assesses models of dual-language immersion in Catholic school classrooms around the United States. Dr. Martin Scanlan, Associate Professor for Research at the Roche Center for Catholic Education at Boston College, felt All Saints offered the right dynamics and support administratively to pursue a transition to a Spanish Immersion school.

Faculty and staff quickly worked to lay the foundation to increase its bilingualism and bi-literacy. Some changes added included

Bilingual Tuesday where the school day begins with a bilingual prayer service and speaking/praying conversationally in both languages. Another addition is a monthly bilingual all school Mass.

Teachers and students have been very receptive of the added activities. Donna Heim, fourth grade teacher, also noted, “Students are finding a lot of word similarities in our new bilingual religion textbooks as they view side-by-side pages in Spanish and English. They are very intrigued by the many words that look and/or sound similar.” All-in-all the transition has been a smooth one and the school is looking forward to becoming a fully participating member with Boston College. All Saints will transition to a Spanish immersion school beginning with Pre-K and adding one new grade each year.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL



When students and parents gathered in the St. Helen Center on the first day of school at **Holy Cross Catholic School**, the room seemed smaller than they remembered. Nothing had changed about the room itself, what was different was the size of the crowd. The school has 60% more students enrolled this fall because 22 new families have entrusted the education of their children to the wonderful faculty and staff. When the school opened its doors in 2012, there were 27 students enrolled in PK-3 through second grade. Now serving students up to the fourth grade, enrollment stands at 64, with new faces arriving each week. “We are blessed with so many families trusting us with their children. It has been a leap of faith for all of us,” said principal, Ann Beckel, who fully expects to see the enrollment continue to rise.

NOLAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

This summer, Mr. John Skees, economics teacher and **Nolan Catholic High School** alumnus '03, was named Faculty Technology Coordinator. In Skees' expanded role, he works with the school's technology committee to improve technology use in the classroom. Skees is the go-to person for faculty to ask questions about current tools, as well as to help identify new tools, and implement and train faculty on use in their classrooms. He also works with various departments to help develop solutions to departmental teaching issues. For example, he recently helped Nolan's Science Department implement the use of videotaping science labs so that students who are absent can watch a replay of the lab and not miss out on the learning experience.

"We have plenty of technology at Nolan," said Skees. "We just need to use it in better ways."

This year, a learning management system was established which included giving each student a gmail account. This is similar to the email addresses students are given in college. "The email system enables teachers to better communicate and collaborate with students, and provides students the option of submitting completed assignments digitally."

Grade Cam is another innovation initiated at Nolan. "Grade Cam is similar to Scantron, but it uses a camera to grade tests and scans an answer key to provide a variety of analytical data that can track a student's progress," said Skees. "It also can identify *trouble* questions, or areas in which student's might need additional instruction."



"Nolan was the first Catholic secondary school to require a computer class for graduation," said Skees. "We are continuing that forward-thinking approach by integrating today's technology into the classroom and better preparing our students not only for college, but for their professional lives."

ST. MARIA GORETTI CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Technology is becoming a bigger part of the learning experience at **St. Maria Goretti Catholic School**. With help from the SMG Home and School Association, the school purchased several additional sets of iPad minis, surface tablets and rolling charging stations for classroom use. Having the classroom technology sets readily available and portable, frees teachers from having to bring their classes to the computer lab.

Teachers use these devices in a variety of ways to enhance learning experiences. English classes are using tablets for writing and peer editing student work. The seventh grade Geography class prepares power point presentations about the elements of geography. Spanish classes use the devices to take quizzes, listening activities, and use online dictionaries when doing writing activities. The third graders look up current events while fourth graders do research. The Pre-K students use them to read books in the listening center.

This continued successful implementation of technology is due in part to the vision of principal, Mary Ellen Dorskocil, and the dedication of computer teacher, Mrs. Sharon Hydak, who worked tirelessly over the summer to order the equipment and ensure adequate WiFi. "It is our goal to have a set in every classroom," said Dorskocil. Sixth grade student Andrew Vu agreed adding, "Tablets can encourage students to work more because they make learning more fun."

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The eighth grade students at **Holy Family Catholic School** continue the tradition of keeping connected with Holy Family's founding Sisters. The Sisters of Saint Mary of Namur opened St. Alice School which is now Holy Family. Last year, eighth grade teacher, Kim Pierce, made the communication exchange between the founding Sisters. Each month, the seventh and eighth grade students write letters and make treats to share with the Sisters. Recently, the eighth graders made pies to accompany their letters. Sister Mary Helen, as well as the other Sisters, are thrilled to receive the treats and also correspond with the children. The students are excited about bringing joy to these ladies. The Sisters pray for the students' special intentions that are enclosed in their letters. It is a beautiful gift of friendship and charity for all involved.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Joy is deep in the hearts of **Immaculate Conception Catholic School's** ambassadors who sing like angels as they are aptly dubbed The Cherub Choir.

The brainchild of ICCS alumni music teacher Tish Becker more than a decade ago, the 50-plus-member choir has brought tears of joy to residents of retirement centers, parishioners, festivals and more. Children in kindergarten through third grades, who choose to be Cherubs, bring back the echoes of the ages, belting songs in Latin such as *Adoramus Te Christi* and *O Sanctissima*. With a full arsenal, they easily go into *The Butterfly Song*, *Seek First, Joy!* and *The Fruits of the Spirit*.

"Tish had such a way of making it fun to sing! She always had great songs selected like *What a Wonderful World* by Louis Armstrong and classic Christian songs like *Father, I Adore You*," said Cathy Kemna, now Cherub co-director with Ben Briones.

ICCS alumni Cherubs have gone on to high school where choir has continued as an important part of their development. There have been so many memories built, but some of the most touching have been when the Cherubs bring their joy to the local retirement centers. The most recent visit was a typical example.

"The kids sang on a stage in the dining room," Kemna said. "When they finished singing, the children gave cards they made and took them out to the residents and talked with them. The children were so filled with God's love; to see the expressions on the people's faces really touched my heart," she said. "It was a beautiful gift to witness their joy . . . all from our little ambassadors for Christ. It is truly amazing how one child can warm the heart of another; their innocence and sweet charm, all a part of God's love in action, in the purest form."



HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

In honor of Respect for Life Month, the students of **Holy Trinity Catholic School** will participate in an all-school diaper drive benefitting the Gabriel Project at each of their three parishes.

A cooperative effort between the three parishes is no easy logistics task. With three parishes with different Pro-Life programs, it was difficult to find one common item for a successful drive. A series of collaborative meetings pulled one item most called for: diapers. With today's ever-changing and individualized product world, diapers were the one thing that a) cost the most money and b) were hardest to buy because of the many new sizes.

Therefore, each grade Pre-K through eighth exclusively collected one size of diaper. The drive spanned a month, and was kicked off by a special Respect Life Mass and Living Rosary on October 1st, and concluded with a special prayer service on October 29th. Our Living Rosary was another great partnership with sister school, Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School in Fort Worth.

The diapers collected were divided amongst the three parishes that support the school – Good Shepherd, St. Francis, and St. Michael. Middle school students assisted in loading the diapers into trucks for each parish.

The diapers will go to moms and families supported by the Gabriel Project in each of the parishes.

CASSATA HIGH SCHOOL



Thanks to a partnership with the Tarrant County Master Gardener Association, **Cassata High School** students will be designing and implementing a garden in front of the school this fall. A volunteer from the Master Gardeners approached Cassata about working together to beautify the campus. Rather than simply have the students plant a garden, Principal Nancy Martin decided to turn the project into a semester-long learning experience by creating a Landscape Architecture minilab. Martin said, "We are so excited to have the Master Gardeners working with our students to help beautify the landscape in front of Cassata. The students are learning so much about composting, native plants, and landscaping. They are ready to get their hands dirty!"

The Landscape Architecture minilab will meet for one week every month this semester. Minilabs are weeklong learning experiences that help students grasp difficult academic concepts and allow them to learn about topics outside the general curriculum. "I have tilled a garden before, but I'm really excited to learn about different kinds of plants," said new Cassata student, Kobie.

Students in the minilab will also be taking a field trip to the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT). The BRIT tour will focus on what students can do as individuals to care for the environment, discuss environmental career options and educational requirements, offer volunteer opportunities and more. The goal of the minilab is for students to get hands-on experiences and to learn about careers in horticulture.



NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL

How do you grow a garden without water? The Junior Master Gardeners at **Notre Dame Catholic School** are learning how to do just that as they face a severe drought and banning of outside watering (not even a drip irrigation).

Students in fourth and fifth grades may participate in the after-school program. They learn the proper way to plant early vegetables, to care for and maintain a vegetable garden, how to conserve water and harvesting the crops. The harvested vegetables are served to our student body in the school cafeteria program, fostering healthy eating habits. Nate Lygren, ND fifth grader says, "JMG is awesome because we plant the food we get to eat in our cafeteria!"

Thanks to a grant from the Priddy Foundation, Junior Master Gardeners can still have a successful garden this year even with the restrictions. Thanks to the help of the Wichita County Extension Office, the school was able to apply for funds to purchase rain water harvesting equipment. The rainwater collected from the school's roof will help sustain the garden. Without the rainwater harvesting, students would not be able to grow a garden this year.

Mrs. Huckabee, Instructional Coordinator, started the JMG program at Notre Dame in 2003. Over the past 11 years, over 100 children have learned about science, gardening, service, leadership and care for our environment. Cindy Huckabee says, "It was my second year working in administration and I was missing the classroom, looking for something to give me my teaching fix. I heard about this youth gardening program and the free training at the Wichita County Extension Office. I attended and met Mr. Al Norris, who was well-known in our community and volunteered his gardening expertise. He helped me get the JMGardener program started."

Community support for the program has been outstanding. The Wichita County Master Gardeners offer consistent support for to the JMG program and the school has two Master Gardeners, Mrs. Mary Barry and Mrs. Marilyn Putthoff, who help every week. The students learn so much from the program and carry the lessons home to encourage home gardening and, most importantly now for the

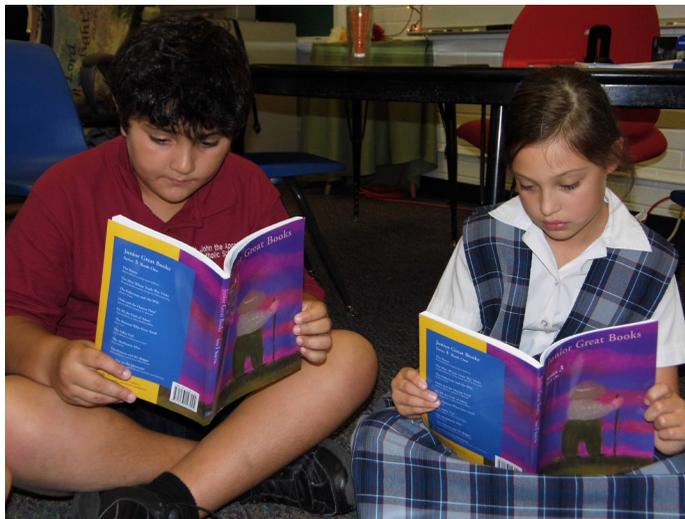


community, water conservation. "I think Junior Master Gardener is the best thing ever because sometimes we find bugs and they are fascinating," says fourth grade Knightcrawler, Abby Parker.

As fourth grader Julia Fairchild said, "I like JMG because we care for the plants like we would for God."

ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. John the Apostle Catholic School has enjoyed an excellent spiritual and academic reputation for many years. Under the leadership of David Dean, president and Amy Felton, principal, a decision was made to take a thorough look at the school in general but the curriculum in particular.



What emerged from these considerations was the obvious fact that the curriculum already contained many elements of a classical education - for example, teaching phonics, Saxon Math and the Junior Great Books Program. Next, it was determined what could be added to the curriculum within the parameters of the talent of the school's current faculty and staff and financial resources.

This year, the school increased the range of the Junior Great Books Program to more grade levels. *Theology of the Body* was added for the seventh and eighth graders. While this is a new program based on the teachings of St. John Paul II, the traditional teachings of the Church on human dignity and sexuality are studied. A Latin word power course (with a little bit of Greek) will be offered to the middle school students and cursive writing is still part of the curriculum.

Why is the school following this classical approach? First, it works. Second, it was developed by Catholic educators centuries ago, so it is a "tradition" in the true etymological sense of that word. Why not technology? Technology is a means to an end. Technology is used in the school's curriculum and even with some of the classes referenced above (first graders can do phonics on an interactive board). However, the two are not mutually exclusive.

Julia Kane, eighth grader and President of National Junior Honor Society, said, "I have noticed in the past nine years here St. John's that the Junior Great Books, Phonics and Saxon Math challenge the students' minds in a different way."

OUR SCHOOLS

All Saints Catholic School (PreK-8)
2006 N. Houston St., Fort Worth, TX 76164
817-624-2670 • www.ascsfw.org

Cassata High School
1400 Hemphill St., Fort Worth, TX 76104
817-926-1745 • www.cassatahs.org

Holy Cross Catholic School (PreK3-3)
303 King St., Frisco TX 75035
469-362-2400 • www.hccsf.org

Holy Family Catholic School (PreK-8)
6146 Pershing Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76107
817-737-4201 • www.hfsfw.org

Holy Trinity Catholic School (PreK-8)
3750 William D. Tate Ave., Grapevine, TX 76051
817-421-8000 • www.holytcs.org

Immaculate Conception Catholic School (PreK-8)
2301 N. Bonnie Brae St., Denton, TX 76207
940-381-1155 • www.catholicsschooldenton.org

Nolan Catholic High School
4501 Bridge St., Fort Worth, TX 76103
817-457-2920 • www.nolancatholicchs.org

Notre Dame Catholic School (PreK-12)
2821 Lansing Blvd., Wichita Falls, TX 76309
940-692-6041 • www.notredamecatholic.org

Our Lady of Victory Catholic School (PreK-8)
3320 Hemphill Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76110
817-924-5123 • www.olvfw.com

Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School (PreK-8)
1007 E. Terrell St., Fort Worth, TX 76104
817-923-0058 • www.omom.org

Sacred Heart Catholic School (PreK-12)
153 East Sixth St., Muenster, TX 76252
940-759-2511 • www.shmuenster.com

St. Andrew Catholic School (PreK-8)
3304 Dryden Rd., Fort Worth, TX 76109
817-924-8917 • www.standrewsch.org

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School (PreK-8)
2016 Willis Lane, Keller, TX 76248
817-431-4845 • www.seascs.net

St. George Catholic School (PreK-8)
824 Hudgins Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76111
817-222-1221 • www.sgctcx.org

St. John the Apostle Catholic School (PreK-8)
7421 Glenview Dr., North Richland Hills, TX 76180
817-284-2228 • www.stjs.org

St. Joseph Catholic School (PreK-8)
2015 SW Green Oaks Blvd., Arlington, TX 76017
817-419-6800 • www.stjosephtx.com

St. Maria Goretti Catholic School (PreK-8)
1200 S. Davis Dr., Arlington, TX 76013
817-275-5081 • www.smgsschool.org

St. Mary's Catholic School (PreK-8)
931 N. Weaver St., Gainesville, TX 76240
940-665-5395, ext. 3 • www.smsmustangs.com

St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School (PreK-8)
1201 South Cherry Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76108
817-246-2032 • www.spsfw.org

St. Rita Catholic School (PreK-8)
712 Weiler Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76112
817-451-9383 • www.saintritaschool.net

Visit the Fort Worth Catholic Schools
web site www.fwdioc.org

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

At the end of last school year, **St. Joseph Catholic School** students, staff and faculty member followed the words of Pope Francis to “Go, do not be afraid, and serve” during its inaugural Faith Extension Day. The day of service spanned throughout Arlington, Mansfield and Fort Worth.

Bishop Michael F. Olson kicked off the day with an opening prayer service and blessing at St. Joseph Catholic Church. “You carry Jesus



in your smiling faces and hard work. Meet Jesus and recognize Him in the people you serve,” he told the red-T-shirted volunteers.

After the Bishop’s encouraging words, over 700 volunteers traveled to their assigned service sites. Some of the community outreach projects included planting trees under the supervision of the City of Arlington, cleaning up and interacting with the animals at the Arlington Animal Shelter and even playing bingo and establishing a garden for the residents at Nuestro Hogar, a housing facility operated by Catholic Charities.

Other groups packed boxes at the North Texas Food Bank and prepped more than 10,000 meals for Kids Against Hunger while a group of eighth graders visited with new friends at the Green Oaks School, a facility for students with Down Syndrome and similar intellectual disabilities. The One Act Play troupe even had an opportunity to preview their state-bound show for some at Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas. And the list goes on.

What began as select grades doing service projects quickly grew to include the entire school community. St. Joseph Catholic School, unafraid, went forth and served.

OUR MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Some of the Mercy Vikings from **Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School** received the opportunity to attend the Frontiers of Flight Museum Flight School Summer Camp at Dallas Executive Airport. The camp was an exciting two days of STEM-based learning (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) for rising fifth and sixth graders. The first day covered basics of flight, phonetic alphabet, flight controls, aircraft operations, aerodynamics and aviation careers. The second day included a visit to the Frontiers of Flight Museum where students took a tour and received an introductory class on operating flight simulators.



Letter from Charlene Hymel – Interim Superintendent

School has been in session for nine weeks, and already our students have responded to the needs of others with an outpouring of loving kindness in the form of school supplies, cleaning supplies, toiletries, games and other items an immigrant who has nothing but the clothes on his back and a desire for a safe refuge from the poverty and violence of his native land might need. Fort Worth Catholic Schools delivered truck loads, car loads, and SUVs loaded with boxes of these items to Catholic Charities in Fort Worth and Catholic Charities in Wichita Falls. This is just the first time this year that my heart will swell with pride, my eyes will fill with tears, and I will see the face, hands and feet of Christ in the form of a Catholic school child. Moments such as this are just one of the many reasons I am happy to fill the position of interim superintendent for the 2014-2015 school year.

I look forward to working with the administrators, teachers, students and parents in each of our 20 Catholic schools. Together we will help form our students into the individuals God intended them to be – individuals who will pursue peace and social justice for all in our multicultural world.