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The Southsider Voice

The Voice of the Southside

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Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Vol. 10, No. 47

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 Proverbs 9:9



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Saluting Catholic Education

During National Catholic Schools Week: Sunday, Jan. 27 - Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019



CENTRAL CATHOLIC

New hallway has meaning and color

By Al Stille
 Senior staff writer

Central Catholic students can find their favorite color and meaning when they look at two paintings in the newest hallway at the school.



SOUTSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY AL STILLEY
 Artist Jeff Thomas, Principal Ruth Hurrie and facilitator/artist Bernadette "Bernie" Price stand in front of the interior of the main entrance at Central Catholic School. Significantly painted on the wall above the entrance are the words, seek, serve, persist, excel, love, also in Spanish for the growing number of Spanish-speaking students.

Artist Jeff Thomas and facilitator/artist Bernadette "Bernie" Price utilized two panels for colorful artwork that depicts the history and growth of six Southside parishes. Thomas painted a sturdy tree with artistic leaves spread on top.

"I like to show the spiritual side in all my work and show a three-dimensional world," Thomas said while students checked out the artwork. "Everything we do is geared for the kids. The colors are bright kid colors."

The paintings are on an interior wall that used to be the exterior north wall at Central Catholic before expansion added two classrooms, a resource room and a secure main entrance. Students can reach and touch the paintings because each one is covered with "graffiti sealer" for enhanced protection. St. Patrick, Sacred Heart and Holy Rosary are on one painting and St. James, Good Shepherd and St. Catherine on the other painting. Central Catholic serves students in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten through 8th grade.

"The idea to paint trees shows the strength of the schools," Thomas said. "The letters spelling out each school hang vertically from the tree."

Students, parents and patrons first see five words (seek, serve, persist, excel, love)

See "Hallway," Page 12



Central Catholic pre-k students, from left, Emily Mendova, Benito Delgado and Gael Romero-Vidal admire one of two paintings on the old exterior north wall that is an interior wall after completion of two new classrooms and a secure main entrance.



Lesly Tiunajero, Geraldine Acuna and Jose Garcia-Colorado stand in front of one of the new paintings by artists Jeff Thomas and "Bernie" Price in a hallway at Central Catholic.

RONCALLI

Theatre teacher awarded

Roncalli High School's theatre teacher, Phil Anderson, won the Indiana Thespian Hall of Fame Theatre Educator Award at the Indiana State Thespian Conference the weekend of January 18-20. More than 900 students and their sponsors from Indiana were in attendance. This award is given to educators with at least 20 years experience in theater education. He was nominated by Roncalli's 2018-19 Thespian Troupe.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
 Phil Anderson, center, with seniors Emily Wray and Allie Pena.

"All of us at Roncalli are thrilled for Phil. He is such a blessing for our school and his work with all aspects of our theater programming is simply exemplary. He has touched the lives of hundreds of young people in such a profoundly, positive manner. This is a most deserving honor for Phil."

— Chuck Weisenbach
 Principal
 Roncalli High School

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During National Catholic Education Week

Sunday, Jan. 27 - Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019



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Roncalli

President: **Joe Hollowell**
Principal: **Chuck Weisenbach**

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By **Joe Mullin, senior**

After four years of attending Roncalli I have come to realize how blessed I am to be able to learn and excel at such a prestigious school. Throughout my four years here I have been given the amazing opportunity to succeed within the classroom and on the playing field.

Roncalli is truly a special place. In regard to my classroom experiences, my education has been paramount. At times the work is rigorous; however, the faculty works tirelessly with each student in order to help them succeed within the classroom and prepare them for their future endeavors.

In addition to being provided with an unparalleled education, the students also receive a well-rounded and faith-based education. Roncalli has given me the great blessing of being able to play under the lights on Friday nights for the past four seasons, and I have cherished every moment. The many triumphs and tribulations I have experienced on the playing field are rooted in the tradition of striving for excellence in all facets of life, brought about by those who have both taught and coached me.

Roncalli is an extraordinary school, where my life has been changed in several ways. The experiences that we as students gain here, whether it be in the classroom or not, are beneficial to the development of the heart and mind.

By **Ellie Murphy, junior**

Being a student at Roncalli is an amazing experience. Not only do you receive a phenomenal education and meet great people, but you also become part of a family.

An incredible thing about Roncalli is that the student body and staff get to worship and grow closer to God once every month in the form of a Mass. This experience truly helps to bond the community together in our faith. Another thing that I think makes Roncalli unique is the student body and how everyone seems to be able to find their place and to create lasting bonds and friendships. I think a big part of this is the extensive amount of clubs and sports teams that Roncalli has to offer.

Roncalli not only has an extraordinary student body, but also an extraordinary staff. Every teacher I have had in my three years here has been willing to do everything they can to help me learn and also to grow in my faith. Most teachers start class every day by offering up intentions and a prayer to God. I think this is great because it helps to form an emotional bond between the teacher and students as well as pushing us to grow in our faith.

The teachers aren't just there to lecture for eight hours every day, and they're not even there to be just a learning tool in that subject; they are also there to push us to search for our union with God.

By **Mia Roberts, senior**

Attending a Catholic school has been a constant in my life since before I can remember. I attended Grades K-8 at St. Barnabas and go to Roncalli like my older sister, father and grandmother.

Not only did most of my family attend a Catholic school, but my mother has worked at Roncalli for 10 years. Being surrounded by the community that develops around Catholic schools has taught me more than just the specifics and origins of the religion that I have chosen, but also how to truly be kind to my neighbor.

Whether it was praying for my personal growth and development or signing up to get my family meals when my mother had surgery, Catho-



lic schools have greatly impacted me as a person. The teachers who are drawn to Catholic schools are the people who genuinely love their jobs, and they are looking out for the students' best interests. Over the years I have had many teachers who have mentored me and helped me to be the best version of myself.

Many things in my life would be harder if I was not a student at a school where I was valued as a person. I am thankful for my wonderful experience, and I know I would not be the same person without it.

By **Levi Ralston, junior**

I have always attended a Catholic school. At first I never truly appreciated my Catholic schooling. However, I have recently come to appreciate the wonderful education that I have been given. From being taught by amazing teachers who are always caring to learning the morals of sharing, honesty, respect and upholding the teachings of the church, my schooling has been nothing short of incredible.

Teachers at my Catholic schools have always been caring and nurturing toward their students and strive to see them succeed. They are consistently pushing us to do our best in school and in our extracurricular activities. However, it is not only teachers who go above and beyond in helping students succeed; counselors, administrators, coaches and many more help each and every student as well.

In my education at Roncalli I have always been taught that I am part of the Roncalli Rebel family. We are all part of a family that is accepting, loving, caring and a family that upholds the morals that we are taught.

Throughout my time at Roncalli and St. Barnabas Catholic schools, this has always been taught to students. We are always to uphold our morals no matter what the case and no matter who it is. My Catholic education has shaped me into the person that I am today. It has opened up my mind and heart to always think of others before myself.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RONCALLI
The 2018 soccer sectional championship team.



Roncalli's presentation of "Guys and Dolls."

An education is more than the three R's

By **Chuck Weisenbach, principal**

It has been said that education is about the three R's - reading, writing and arithmetic. In Catholic education we believe that education is really about the five R's - reading, writing, arithmetic, religion and relationships. Catholic schools in America have a nearly 300-year-old track record of excellence in educating young people in all five of these areas.

Academic excellence (reading, writing and arithmetic) has long been a hallmark for Catholic schools. However, the foundation of our schools is rooted in the faith formation of young people as believers in Jesus Christ as well as in the fostering of relationships, many of which have continued for generations!

As society continues to grow in its secularistic ways, Roncalli proudly continues to offer a faith-based education where prayer is a daily part of the educational process. Students are challenged to establish a deeper, more personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Teachers, administrators, coaches, moderators and directors live out their vocation as Catholic educators in ways that foster strong, positive relationships with their students. It is this one-two impact of religion and relationships that forges the strong sense of community for which Roncalli is known and respected.

Here is a sampling from just a few of the many unsolicited communications the school received in just the first semester of this 2018-19 school year:

* We truly appreciate the great educators and pivotal people that have had an effect on our lives.

* We want to thank you for all the support you and your team provide our daughter, which we know is instrumental in her success. We can't tell you how much that means to us as parents (I have tears in my eyes as I am typing this). You are all more of a blessing than you can possibly imagine!

* Our son is a freshman. He's pretty quiet most of the time. Often we have to drag things out of him. Tonight at dinner he spontaneously mentioned, "I think I must have the greatest school." When asked why, he replied, "I honestly love every single one of my classes." When questioned further, he thought for a minute and said it would be impossible for him to pick a favorite. Roncalli is definitely doing something right.

* We cannot thank you and your staff enough for the positive and successful experiences that our daughter has had during her time at Roncalli. She has grown leaps and bounds since her freshman orientation and is certainly one of the many success stories from this special place.

* Our son knows people want to help him and care about him, but he also knows he has to put the work into it. Roncalli has not disappointed us at all, and we are proud to say he goes to Roncalli.

Roncalli is proud of its 100-plus years of serving the Southside and offering students and families of all faith traditions a transforming life experience rooted in the Gospel. All are encouraged to visit our campus and experience this firsthand.



Chuck Weisenbach



The Rev. David Marcotte is the chaplain at Roncalli.



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- The Class of 2018 completed over 58,904 hours of community service during their four years at Roncalli, which averages over 205 hours per senior.
- In the past 25 years, Roncalli students have collected more than 2 million canned food items for the poor.
- Over 100 students participate in our comprehensive special needs resource program STARS – that addresses the needs of students with learning and physical disabilities.

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for the 2019-2020 school year.

RONCALLI.ORG



Central Catholic

Principal: **Ruth Hurrle**

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Why I Love my Catholic School

By **Heidy Olivares**, seventh-grader

I go to Central Catholic School (CCS). Central Catholic is a school that is a family and we practice our faith. This school helps you in your goal to go to college then heaven. I really appreciate that they teach us values in life like love, serve, seek, persist, and excel. They also teach us how to see God in all things. For an example if we hit someone on purpose we are hitting God and that is mean.

Central Catholic School is a great school because they teach you how to work as a family. I love my Catholic School because they have fun and learning activities. They have something called STEM which means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. STEM teaches us how to work together and how to express your creativity. My school also teaches us how to grow up to be saints.

Central Catholic School has good teachers that love and support you. If you need help they would help you. If you have a question they would answer it. CCS teaches you to never give up, to never stop, and to keep going. I love Central Catholic School because they talk about God. God is important in our Catholic faith because he died for our sins.



By **Ingrid Reyes-Ruiz**, fifth grade

Have you ever been in a Catholic school? If not, let me tell you, it is amazing!

Today I will tell you why I love my Catholic school. I will tell you some reasons why it is so amazing. I love my Catholic school! My Catholic school is a good school because we pray every day, we go to church every Wednesday, we get closer to God, and we do fun things! For example, we have this thing everyday called assembly. We pray, we sing, we dance, we have fun together as a school.

Why is it a good thing that we pray everyday? It's good because we get closer to God and we can talk to God. We know He is there!

Being in a Catholic school is a good thing and is not bad at all. In a Catholic school they teach you a lot about God. They teach you a lot and prepare you for more education and for life.

I just came to Catholic school two years ago. I love it because you get closer to God every day! People are so nice and we learn a lot. We have Walk-a-Thon, Field Day, and we work in Families.

Those are just some of the reasons I love my Catholic School!!



By **Nicole Hernandez-Rosales**, sixth-grader

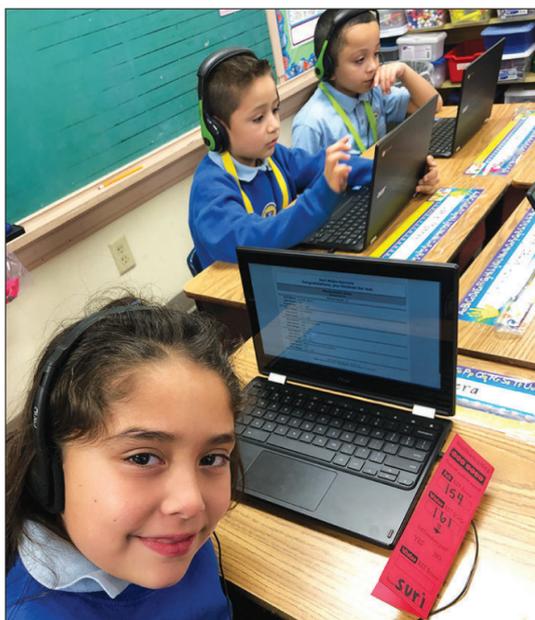
Are you thinking about moving your kids to a Catholic School? Or are you wondering what's great about a Catholic School?

There are so many good reasons to go to a Catholic school. You have the same subjects as a public school except you have religion added to it and we pray before and after each meal. We also go over to Mass and we also pray at the end of the day. Our education is better at a Catholic school because you learn faster and you learn more things than at a public school you might not be learning as much. A Catholic school can teach us to be nice to others and to see God in all things. Our goals here are college and heaven.



Catholic school students have a better chance of getting into college and heaven. They can also become someone better in life and maybe even someone important to many people. At Catholic schools you're allowed to ask questions based on catechism unlike public schools you don't have that opportunity there. In religion class you learn new stories from the Bible every day.

I thank my parents for moving me to Central Catholic because I am learning a lot here. I like having religion class because I learn new stories from the Bible and I could not do that if I didn't go to a Catholic school. I also like going to church because it helps me grow in my faith. Here I can get closer to Jesus. Also, I know that all the teachers at this school are very nice and their classes are fun.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC
Students regularly integrate technology to support their learning. Suri Mejia, 1st grade, is working hard during her blended learning rotation in math class.

Message from: Principal Ruth Hurrle

As our school year began the Central Catholic teachers and staff rallied around our 2018-19 theme of "Building Excellence," and I am amazed in reflecting on all we have built over the past six months. Truly, everywhere you look at Central Catholic, there are signs of tremendous growth, including academic growth and achievement by our students, an increase in student enrollment, growing opportunities and percentages of participation in extracurricular activities, and improvements and expansion to our physical space.

Each day as part of our school pledge, we recite, "excellence depends on me, one step at a time," and our entire school community has worked together to increase our academic performance. We received a school grade of B by the Indiana Department of Education and look forward to continued academic success in 2019-20.

Students have a variety of opportunities to be involved in extracurriculars, including Chess Club, Spell Bowl, youth choir, band, Quest for Excellence, service learning, Mass servers and intramural basketball and soccer. We also offer CYO sports, including cross country, football, kickball, boys and girls basketball and volleyball, wrestling, soccer, and track and field. This year we have trained more than 50 students to be altar servers for their local churches, and more than 90 students are involved in at least one extracurricular activity.

We are pleased to offer a free aftercare program in partnership with the Indianapolis Indians, known as RightFit. The three-day-a-week program provides a nutritious dinner for students and physical fitness stations led by local law enforcement and other community leaders.

In November our campus added a new wing on the north side of the building, home to two classrooms for our youngest learners, who start with us at age 3. The new pre-kindergarten rooms are equipped with student restrooms and large, bright windows for students and teachers to enjoy. The construction also added a secure vestibule and moved the main school entrance to Cameron Street. We added a dedicated STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) lab in our library and expanded the classroom space dedicated to English as a new language support, title services and special education.

At Central Catholic we believe there is strength in unity, and we are grateful for the support of our parents, alumni, and friends of Central Catholic. Our students are on the path to college and heaven, and we are truly standing on the shoulders of giants! We are proud to serve the parishes of Good Shepherd, Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart and St. Patrick and happy to offer an affordable Catholic education that is open to all students from three years old to the eighth grade.

Join us at our open house at 6:30 p.m. today and see for yourself why Central Catholic is the star of the Southside.



Mike Ginocchio, CCS athletic director, with 3rd and 4th grade CYO football city champions (from left) Jose Salazar, Jose Armenta, Jaime Contreras, Adilad Ramirez and Andres Murillo.

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth."
— 2 Timothy 2:15

Roncalli Salutes Kaylee TenBerge



Kaylee TenBerge R'19

Congratulations to Roncalli senior, Kaylee TenBerge, who was awarded a Lilly Endowment Scholarship from the Johnson County Community Foundation! She is one of only three recipients to receive this award, which is given based on leadership, overall character, community service and academic dedication. This extremely competitive scholarship provides students with a full tuition scholarship to any Indiana college or university.



Take a closer look. Now accepting applications.
www.roncalli.org



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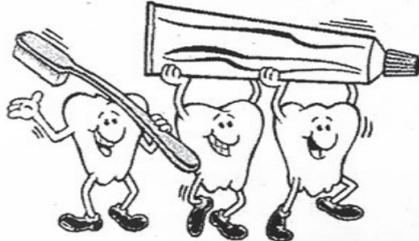
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Why Holy Name Is Great

By Parker Stafford

I'm lucky to go to Holy Name because the homemade food, Holy Mass, and special classes.

To begin with, the homemade food. I really like the extra cheese mac and cheese. Also the really yummy bosco sticks (you get two when you're in 3rd thru 8th grade.) We also have the best corn dogs ever!

Another reason, Holy Mass. We get to sing songs. I love to praise God at Mass. I love to get Communion because it cleans my soul.

Additionally, special classes. In art 8th graders do mock D.C. Gym class really gets my blood pumping, especially when we do soccer. We also learn about saints and Jesus.

I'm lucky to go to Holy Name because the homemade food, Holy Mass, and specials. I love Holy Name!



By Rosanna Spearing

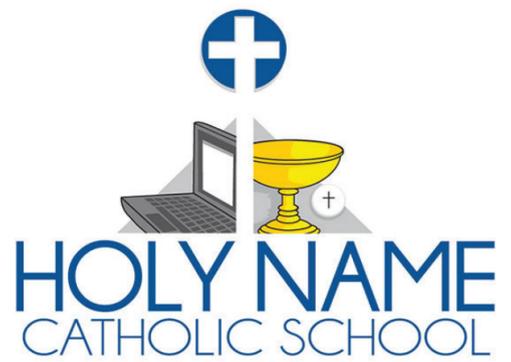
I am so lucky to go to Holy Name because of its holiness, our teachers, and fun classes. Holy Name makes me feel different.

My class just did confession. Last year I received first Holy Communion. We go to church on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

As well as, our teachers. The teachers are so nice. I feel great around them. My teacher does lots of fun stuff!

Another reason is our fun classes. We all love to sing. I think P.E. is fun. We also do art.

So you can see, Holy Name is a great school because of holiness, teachers, and fun classes. Holy Name makes me feel different.



Message from:
Principal Robert Kitchens

It is great to be a Holy Name Giant! At Holy Name, we strive to develop lifelong learners committed to knowing, loving, and serving God. We are so happy to be celebrating Catholic Schools Week with the other Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and around the country. Catholic schools, especially Holy Name, provide choices for parents as they look for the best educational option for their children.

This year at Holy Name we are continuing to grow our amazing fine arts programs. Our students continue to have opportunities in choir, band, drama club, and guitar club. Additionally, this year we have added a chess team and a new string instrument program to give even more options for our students to pursue! Another exciting addition to our school this year was the opening of our new playground in October! We work to educate the whole child, academically, physically, emotionally, and spiritually! Watching the students share their talents with their classmates and teachers reinforces all that we do!

Holy Name Catholic School serves as an important ministry of our parish. Under the leadership of Fr. Bob Robeson, our pastor, we continue to look for innovative ways to grow and spread our faith to others! One of the many great things going on at Holy Name is that we get to celebrate our faith as a community twice a week at Mass. Those times of whole-school community help us see that we are more than just ourselves and that the power that we have together to spread the Gospel to others is the backbone of our school.

If you, or someone you know, is looking for a school, please visit us at <https://school.holyname.cc> or give us a call to set up a tour: 317-784-9078.



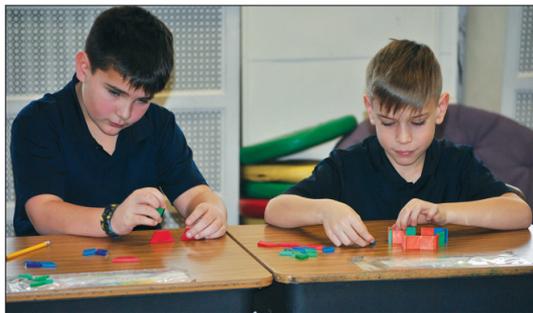
PHOTOS COURTESY OF HOLY NAME
Seventh grade students Avery Stanley, (from left), Anne McDonald, Madelyn Busuttill, and Mariska Perme prepare for a CYO chess match.



Working together on reading, fourth graders (from left) Jaylen Hatchett and Kyra Kingston and their classmates talk through a story.



The first members of the String Orchestra program smile with their new instruments, (from left) Josephina Cobb, Valerie Turner, Rayna Patel and Alison Holden.



Third graders Sam Sullivan and Tyler Kedra working with shapes in math class.

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“and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
Matthew 28:20

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What Catholic School Means to Me

By **Macen Hendrix**, sixth-grader

Catholic School means many different things. To me, it means faith, family, and friends. This is not something that you always find in other schools.

In our school, we learn about Jesus. Our class listens to the Gospel readings and learns what they mean. As a school family, we learn about His life and resurrection.

Our school is one of the few that includes The Leader in Me program. In this program, we learn about God and the Seven Habits. Our class learns about what each habits mean. I like The Leader in Me program.

We go to Mass every Thursday as a school family. Our class prays together and receives communion.

I enjoy being at Nativity. I can't imagine myself having the friends that I do anywhere else. I am grateful that my parents make the sacrifices they do to send me here.

By **Brady Waugh**, sixth-grader

Do you go to a Catholic School? I do, and it's great and it's the best! In my paragraphs you will get to know why I love Catholic school!

The first reason I love Catholic schools is that you will get to learn religious faith. You mainly focus and practice your faith in God. God can also guide you to the right path. God also helps you do the right thing more often. This is my first reason why I love Catholic schools!

The second reason is that you have friendly teachers! Friendly teachers can help you when you struggle. They always help with problems. Best of all, you have someone to look up too. That's why I love friendly teachers at Catholic schools.

The final reason I love Catholic schools is that it is easy to make friends. This is good because if you are new you could make friends quickly and feel involved. You would also have support from friends. You could keep gaining friends so you're never lonely. But, the most important part is to always feel welcome and included.

Those are the reasons I love Catholic schools. You have just read about religious faith, friendly teachers, and how it's always easy to make friends. Always give hope not hate.

By **Madeline Daming**, sixth-grader

To me, my Catholic education means everything. Most kids do not even get to go to a Catholic school! God is such a big part of everyone's life. In Catholic schools, He becomes an even bigger part of your life, which to me, means a lot.

There are so many things at Nativity that have meaning, but one of the most important things is that we are able to learn about God. Learning about Him means that we will probably appreciate Him more. Also, if you know God's backstory, you can understand what he has done for us so much more. Lastly, if you read Bible stories (which you do in Catholic schools), you might see how important it is to listen to God. When learning about God, your faith is strengthened, too.

Secondly, you pray to God better. Do you ever feel as if you don't pray enough? In Catholic education you pray at least three times a day, if not more! Often, praying makes you feel better. So, if you do it often, you feel better and refreshed. Next, you always have someone to confide in, and to forgive you - God! Finally, whenever you are in doubt, God will give you the right choice to make.

In addition, you understand God's plan for you and what you need to do to accomplish in His plan. Lastly, you can rise up, not drop down in your plan.



Anyone who has a Catholic education will definitely live better lives. These reasons obviously mean a lot to me, but those are only a few out of many reasons. What does Catholic education mean to you?

By **Elizabeth Hoagland**, sixth-grader

A Catholic school means so much to me. Do you go to a Catholic school? If you are unsure about a Catholic school, reading this will help.

I like religion class because it's for everyone, not just Catholics. We are able to learn about Jesus. We also learn how to be kind like Jesus. Learning about Jesus helps us because he was a good role model. We also have Mass every Thursday, which is another opportunity to learn from Jesus and his disciples.

Another thing I like about a Catholic School is that it is fun. We have a lot of fun sports. We have an archery team that many schools don't have. We offer unique clubs like knitting. Participating in sports and clubs helps to make lifelong friends.

We get an excellent education in a Catholic school. We have our teachers to thank for helping us learn about our faith and all of the other subjects taught. We also do The Leader in Me program which teaches us about the seven habits.

Overall, a Catholic school means a lot to me and other kids. Catholic schools have kids of all religions, kids making lasting friendships, and teachers that help us get a great education. I am so lucky to go to a Catholic School.

By **Lauren Miller**, fourth-grader

Catholic school means the world to me. I'm so grateful I attend Nativity. I learn about God each day at school.

Catholic education means to me that you know God is important. It is important because without God you would not be here with your friends and family. It is also important because God made you and it's like saying thank you back.

My favorite part is how we say a prayer each morning. My other favorite part is how we treat everyone by what we learn. My favorite activity is how we go to Mass every Thursday. My other favorite activity is first communion and how it is so holy.

I'm glad my parents brought me here. It is very important to me. I love God.



The middle school choir entertained the crowd with a Christmas luncheon performance.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NATIVITY
Celebrating Clifford Day are first graders, from left, Nathan Halla, Dillon Welt, Brynn Berry, Hannah Irwin, Christopher Silva, Sophia Crooke and Johnny Kitley.



The First Grade Thanksgiving was enjoyed by Brynn Berry and Gavin Deardorf dressed as Pilgrims.



Aidan Slusher and Christopher Silva are shown leading lunch prayer.



Ali Hadley showed enthusiasm for her project during the Amazing Science Lab Creation.



Kindergartener Henry Kitley painted as one of the Artists at Work

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Principal: **Kent Clady**

My Catholic School Experience

By **Grace Schoettle**, eighth-grader

All my life I have been surrounded by Catholic faith. Being able to attend a Catholic school is an amazing opportunity. My dad has always been in the Catholic community, but my mom was a Baptist. She didn't grow up knowing about all of God's teaching, but she did try to read and understand the Bible.

When she met my dad she was fascinated by what he knew, and it made her want to know more. So she decided to convert to be a Catholic. My mom has told me that her best life decision was becoming a Catholic because now she has the opportunity to go to Mass and understand God's teachings.

Going to a Catholic school makes me feel free of all the violence going on in our world. Every Wednesday we go to Mass, and it is the best feeling in the world to share your love for Christ with all the people around you. It feels so good to talk about Jesus without anyone saying or doing anything to make you feel ashamed for spreading the word of Christ.

If I didn't go to a Catholic school, I would probably get asked questions about why I love someone who you can't see. God is everywhere and what they don't see is that Jesus is in every single one of us. That's why I go to a Catholic School; you can say and pray God's name without any trouble from anyone.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF OUR LADY OF THE GREENWOOD
Our Lady of the Greenwood's youngest pupils celebrate the 100th day of the 2018-19 school year.



The Kids Night Out fundraiser is always a blast, just ask Braxton Stewart, Lucas Sexton, Drew Allen or James Gallagher.

By **Joe Parrett**, eighth-grader

My Catholic education means so much to me. I am proud to be Catholic. At school we get to learn so much about our faith. I believe it to be essential to our faith to know about it. I am lucky to be able to go to this school.

I am always excited for religion class because I get to learn something that no other class teaches - God. Being able to pray during the school day is important to me. I am forever thankful to be able to go to a Catholic school.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF OUR LADY OF THE GREENWOOD
Members of the Robotics Club include (from left) Oscar Sahn, John Sequin, Aiden Schneider, Alison Macgregorian, Adjoa Owusu and Inkenbrandt.

Our Lady of the Greenwood

Catholic School

Our Lady of the Greenwood Catholic School is one of the largest ministries of Our Lady of the Greenwood Catholic Parish, and it exists in order to carry on the teaching ministry of Jesus Christ and his body on Earth, the church. It is a happy home for roughly 500 students, faculty, and staff.

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SS. Francis & Clare of Assisi

Principal: **Betty Popp**

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What SS. Francis & Clare Means to Me

By **Ava DelPriore**, fourth-grader

In my opinion SS. Francis & Clare is the best Catholic school ever. It teaches me to keep God in my heart and to always put God first. One of the best memories I have is my First Communion. Before your First Communion you read a book that teaches you all you need to know about it. You practice coming up to the priest and receiving the body and blood of Jesus Christ. First Communion is a holy and sacred time.

Another thing that is special about SSFC is Faith in Action. My favorite is Christmas Angels. During this time we bring in brand-new or slightly used toys to wrap for kids who don't get presents on Christmas. The reason Christmas Angels is my favorite is because I'm not doing it for the fun of it. I'm doing it to help those in need. One other thing I enjoy is the living rosary. The living rosary is when the eighth-graders gather into a circle, hold candles, and one by one, they each say a part of the rosary.

Another reason SSFC is amazing is because of the staff. All the teachers here are the kindest. Every time you see them in the morning, the hallways, or even during class, they will greet you with a smile. In my opinion starting off my day with a simple smile makes my day. Some fun times we have are field day, Ella's, study trips and holiday parties. Out of all those my favorite is field day. We set up a bunch of stations, including games, challenges and more.

We pray at least four times a day, in the morning, before lunch, after lunch and before we head home. These prayers are a reminder that we need to put God first and to never forget all he has done for us. We have something called the Kindness Project. It challenges us to do something nice for someone else. So far my favorite is when we had to make a thank you card to a teacher of our choice. I chose our guidance counselor, Mrs. Kesler.

SSFC is an amazing school, and the staff teaches me a lot. In the years I have been to this school I learned to always put God first, to never give up, and I have also learned that SSFC makes me be the best me. SSFC has given me the strength and the tools I need to have a successful and holy future. My school means a lot to me, and I will give the staff all I've got. That is why I think SSFC is the greatest school ever!

By **Kaelin Quinlin**, fifth-grader

Every day when I get out of my car, our specials teachers, Principal Mrs. Popp and Assistant Principal Mrs. Stone greet us with a compassionate smile. When I walk down the hall to my classroom I feel so blessed that I have loving teachers that welcome me and my friends for a great day at school. All of my teachers that I have had in the past eight years here have been amazing. They have always encouraged me to do my best, and they have always brought out the best of me, whether it is Mr. Moore in science or Mrs. Matteson in writing.

I am thankful for the wonderful school I get to attend. Without Saints Francis & Clare, I would not be the person I am today. I am lucky that I get to go to a school that has numerous opportunities to come together as not just a school but a parish, like our fall festival and our annual chili cook-off.

I will always be very grateful that I got to go to a Catholic school that gets so many wonderful opportunities like a grant that Mr. Imel got that gave us an opportunity for Project Fit and STARBASE. Every year our fifth-graders get to attend STARBASE, a science, technology, engineering and mathematics program.

SS. Francis & Clare has taught me so much, like how sometimes we have to work with people we do not want to, but we still have to get along. SSFC has had a big impression on who I am today. Without all of my teachers and friends I would not be ... well, me!

I am so grateful that my parents choose to send me to such a kind and loving environment. As our patron saint, St. Francis, says, "Start by doing the necessary, then do the possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

By **Ava Cox**, fourth-grader

Have you ever wondered what a Catholic school is? Or how each Catholic school is different? Well, I'm going to tell you what SS Francis & Clare is.

It's a family, it is a faith community, and the education is extraordinary.

Our faith is strong as one family, but most importantly, we do it as a family. When we pray it is as a family. When we give food to the pantry each kid brings in an item, and we deliver it as a family. Then the homeless has food to eat. I really do feel like these students are family.

We get all the resources we need for every single subject. One resource is a Chromebook. We use these to help with our learning experience and to overcome our struggles. These can help improve scores on tests, ISTEP and NWEA.

Every day we get more knowledge about Jesus, God, Mary and the saints so when we get older we can spread the word. We pray when the morning announcements come on. We have faith class for 45 minutes a day, and we learn about how Jesus spread the word. We also go to Mass two times a week.

We have education, faith and family like no other Catholic school does. Every kid is so blessed to be at this school. This is what SS. Francis & Clare means to me. We are different, we are smart, we are family.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SS. FRANCIS & CLARE SCHOOL
Fifth-graders dressed up as various saints on All Saints Day.



Buddy Branson and Zachary participate in the living rosary.



SS. Francis & Clare demonstrated its commitment to world peace by creating windmills with prayers of peace.

**Message from:
Principal Betty Popp**

SS. Francis & Clare opened the 2018-19 school year with a theme that focused on the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control and patience. Each month one grade level takes the lead in helping the school visibly see the Fruits of the Spirit through their actions and in displays.

In September the school dedicated new, outdoor fitness equipment that was awarded through a grant from Project Fit America. Representatives from LIDS joined us as the grant funding source as well as Gina Fleming, superintendent of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Indiana Pacers mascot Boomer and Rowdie from the Indianapolis Indians were on hand and helped demonstrate the equipment by participating in a challenge.

This week we are celebrating Catholic Schools Week. We kicked off the event with a chili cook-off Saturday and are continuing it today with our students dressing up as their favorite Americans - past or present. The student council will attend a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Thompson. On Thursday our teachers will post pictures of themselves from their childhood and students will try to guess who's who. We will attend an all-school Mass Friday and write prayers for our priests and watch our eighth-graders perform the play "Into the Woods Jr." at Roncalli.

Our school is abundantly blessed by dedicated staff that answers the vocational calling to be Catholic educators, kind and caring students who demonstrate our faith by words and actions, and supportive parents who foster faith education as a priority for their families. This week serves as a reminder of the wonderful mission we carry out all year long.



The school always sports a competitive kickball team. Shyanne Greb kicks the ball.



A Veterans Day program is among the school's many activities.

St. Barnabas Principal: Carissa Maddox

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What St. Barnabas means to me

By Joey Evans, sixth-grader

"Growing in mind, heart, and spirit to become leaders in the world." At St. Barnabas, this is the motto we live by everyday. Here, the teachers really care about you. We also have the privilege of going to Mass every week and coming together as a family. For me, going to a Catholic school is everything.

At St. Barnabas, the teachers and staff will help you with everything, from problems on a quiz to personal problems at home with family life. The teachers here are also a lot of fun to be around. At St. Barnabas, there's nothing that the teachers wouldn't do for you.

Additionally, we are able to participate in the saying of Mass each week. On Wednesdays, we get to come together as a family and celebrate the reason that we are all here today: God sending his son down to Earth to save us from our sins. We worship together, sing praises together, and honor the true meaning of what it means to be a Catholic. Wednesdays have always been my favorite school day of the week because we get to come together to celebrate the Eucharist as a united church, young and old, rich and poor, and the greatest and least.

So, what is the meaning of going to a Catholic school? It means everyone saying "good morning" to you each and every day. It means praying and playing. Finally, it means coming together as a family every week and saying Mass. A Catholic school is where I belong. That is what having a Catholic education means to me.



By Maya Skartvedt, sixth-grader

Even though there are so many students who attend St. Barnabas, we come together as one. I love my education for lots of reasons, but I chose my top three to talk about. Those reasons are we have an amazing staff, we can become servers at Mass, and we are taught to stand firm. Thanks to my Catholic education, I want to go to school everyday.

The staff at St. Barnabas is the biggest part of my phenomenal education. Many teachers stay after school to join students in extracurricular activities. Also, I adore that the teachers are open to all questions, comments, and concerns. From Pre-K through 8th grade, the staff is there for me.

The next best thing is the opportunity to become a server. Serving is so much fun. My favorite part is when I get to be the one to carry up the cross. When we serve at Mass, we grow closer to God.

My third and final reason why I love St. Barnabas is because we are taught to stand firm. Each year we have a new school theme. This year it is to stand firm in everything that we do and make good choices. For example, we stand up to bullies. Our theme is part of all we do. When we stand firm we do it as a school, not as individuals.

In conclusion, I love my Catholic education because of the staff, serving, and we get to learn to stand firm. I am proud to be a warrior. Everyone from Pre-K to the staff, we are one.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ST. BARNABAS
Kate Rittenhouse, seventh-grader looking over Caroline McGaha, kindergartener, as she draws.



Pre-K friends Maxton Waugh and Steven Willinson.



Liam Steuer, Body Beaupre, Drew Taylor, Grant Steuer and Wyatt Lake.

By Bawi Thluai, second-grader

I love my Catholic school because we have very special teachers to help us learn about God and sacraments. I love my principal, Mrs. Maddox, because she chose very nice and kind teachers who help us learn. We get to do STEM so that we can learn about science. I like being part of the Warriors with my friends. School is fun because you get to do projects. I love praying with my class because it seems like God is giving us a blessing while praying. That is why I love my school.



By Reagan O'Toole, fourth-grader

I firmly believe that I attend the best catholic school in the universe. I love and enjoy every second I spend at St. Barnabas Catholic School and church for many reasons. First of all, we get to learn about God, the Bible, and much more. For example, we come together every Wednesday as a school to celebrate Mass. There is also 30 minutes every day or more that we use to grow stronger in our faith.



Secondly, everyone is treated like family here at St. Barnabas. When you first walk through the doorway into your classroom, you are immediately welcomed with love and support. You can also make hundreds of friends here as well. St. Barnabas is your school family.

There are active specials every day with great teachers. We have fun specials like P.E., music, Spanish, art, and computer. The special teachers are very good at their job and have hands on activities that are very fun. Every special brings a smile to most faces when started.

I think St. Barnabas is a fantastic Catholic school and church. It is a great environment for all kids, teachers, and Catholics.

By Zane Kale, eighth-grader

"Through our Catholic Faith-growing in mind, heart, and spirit to become leaders in the world." This is our school motto, which I have been seeing and hearing since I started school here at St. Barnabas. This motto shows in full what I love about my school.



"Growing in mind." Whether it is in an academic sense or about my own faith and identity, I am always learning. At St. Barnabas we are offered many opportunities to improve upon our knowledge and push our ability to its greatest potential. Many fun activities that we do also act as great team building exercises that bring us closer to our peers. We also participate in Quest for Excellence, a competition hosted by Roncalli High School that acts as a fun way to push our knowledge in many subjects, including faith. Our teachers are very open to questions and are always very thorough in their lessons. Because of this, all students receive the best education they can.

"Growing in Heart." From the time I started school at St. Barnabas I have been taught to treat others as I want to be treated. Many times I have come face to face with those in poverty that cannot support themselves on their own, and many times I have seen my actions and the actions of those around me help people in these situations. Without the idea of service taught to me from a young age, I probably would never complete much service for those in need. Our school takes service very seriously and holds a school-wide day of service, where students in all grades serve the community in some way. This may include doing activities at school or going out into the community to help those who have not been as fortunate as us. Galatians 6:9 says, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

"Growing in Spirit." Our Catholic faith is put first in our education. In religion class we write our own prayers that we pray as a class each day. Each month we also get a prayer partner that we pray for and do activities with in class. Although we only have one religion class each day, all of our classes help us practice our faith. It is rare for our classes not to start with a prayer to motivate us to do our best and understand that God is with us in all that we do, no matter how small the task may seem. Weekly school Masses help us to feel the joy and serenity that God brings to our lives when we put our trust in Him. Our school has been a catalyst for my Catholic beliefs to flourish into what they are today. We are all treated like one family under God at St. Barnabas.

"Through our Catholic faith." As a Catholic I feel that God is guiding me to serve others and use my time and talents to make their lives better. My Catholic faith acts as a guide for my actions in and out of school. In school I try my hardest to push my limits and achieve the most I can academically and spiritually. Out of school I try to serve others because I know it makes a difference in their lives. It feels good to act this way because I know it pleases God and others around me. To me, being Catholic means using your abilities to serve others and working to reach your best with the help of God.

"To become leaders in the world." Being a leader is not an easy task, but with God no task is hard. My family at St. Barnabas has helped me over the years and I believe they will have a lasting effect on me. They have inspired me to become closer to God through service and academics. Leaders have many duties and I feel that our school is the perfect place to nurture the future leaders of our world.



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What I Like About My School

By **Natalie Lehner**, seventh-grader

All my life I have heard the word faith but never fully understood what it meant. Through my journey at St. Jude my understanding of what faith means has grown tremendously.

My faith is not just a simple belief, it is my life. At St. Jude we have many opportunities to practice and express our faith. One of the greatest opportunities we get as students is going to Mass every Wednesday. We are lucky to have the privilege to celebrate Mass as a school. One of my favorite parts is the music. I love the way everyone participates. Together, the drum squad, canters and choir create a joyful Mass. When everyone sings along the whole church lights up.

I not only enjoy celebrating Mass every Wednesday but I love our safe and faith-filled environment. I love going to St. Jude because of all of the wonderful people in the parish and school. I really enjoy having lots of people around me who share the same interests and beliefs as me.

We may not realize it because most of us have grown up around all Catholics, but it is special to share the same religion with almost everyone around you. Having the same beliefs as someone else could strengthen the bond between you. Through my years at St. Jude my family and faith has grown as one in God.



By **Ava Malad**, sixth-grader

"Drive your own train!" "It doesn't matter if you are the first one done; all that matters is that you try your best!" "In a world where you can choose to be anything, choose kind!" "Always be the best version of yourself!"

Those quotes have inspired me to be the best person I can be, and I hear them a lot from my teachers. These quotes are one of the main reasons I love coming to St. Jude School. My teachers, including my mom who homeschooled me for five years, always encourage me to use the gifts God gave me to be the person God wants me to be.

I know my teachers use their gifts too to help me and all the students be the best people we can be, and also make school fun. They do this by inspiring us, helping us learn, encouraging us and guiding us on the right path. They also make learning fun. For example, my math teacher took a boring assignment and turned it into a fun contest. An additional example is how my English language arts teacher lets us write about things that we are passionate about instead of making us write about things that aren't especially fun. Also, my social studies teacher turns study time into a game that we all can enjoy. Lastly, my science teacher sometimes allows us to choose our project or assignment.

Being the best person I can be in God's eyes is my ultimate goal. I know I can reach this goal with the help of those who teach me.



By **Grace Hovanec**, seventh-grader

School is a word that is usually misinterpreted. Some might say that it is boring, hard or a waste of time, but what I have learned at St. Jude is that this is the complete opposite. School is a place where I can explore and learn about life. My school is the launching pad for major possibilities.

There are many special events that we do throughout the year. One example is the school play. What a great opportunity for kids to learn about how a play is created, help build sets, act, sing, dance and how to be a good audience member. This teaches confidence, trust and hard work. While approximately 80 students of all ages participate in putting on the show, the whole student body gets to see the performance at Roncalli.

We also share a school day with our sister parish, St. Philip Neri. I look forward to this every year. We celebrate Mass, meet new people and work on our ideas through STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) projects.

No list of special events is complete without mentioning Raiders Day, which is a good way to cap off an amazing school year. We have fun playing games, eating lunch outside, participating in friendly competition and really get into school spirit.

The many special events at St. Jude School go hand in hand with education and our faith in a fun-filled way that will help us in years to come. We make learning a priority, but throughout the school year we never forget how to have fun.



By **Logan Neidlinger**, seventh-grader

Friendships have really changed how my two years at St. Jude have been ... for the better. Ever since I came to St. Jude at the beginning of sixth grade, my friends have shaped how I live my life. I couldn't have come this far without them. The seventh-grade boys are a good group that help one another. What more do you need in a friend?

The friendships here for the boys are like a brotherhood. Everyone looks out for each other when someone is negatively impacted. That's what I like about my friends here. They help, and that's what positively impacts me, whether it being on homework, other friendships or whatever you can think of. They are always there for you, and that's why I think I am successful here. Friends help you no matter when or what.



By **Luke Swartz**, eighth-grader

I am truly honored to be speaking on behalf of the athletes and sports programs of this wonderful school.

When I first came to St. Jude it was the summer of 2014 and football conditioning was starting up. I knew no one at the first practice, but someone came up to me and welcomed me. Of all the people there he didn't have to come up and talk to me but he did, and he made me feel welcomed. That someone was Andrew Baugh, and to this day he is still one of my best friends.

I'm sure most of you probably know or have heard that sports brings discipline, hard work and friendship. I have experienced all of that through St. Jude sports. But most importantly through St. Jude sports, it doesn't just make all of you great athletes but great future young men and women that God has planned for you to be.

With that I'd like to go on to the success that my eighth-grade class experienced last fall. Through our athletic abilities, hard work, discipline and friendship we won the cadet AAA city football championship. That hasn't been done by a cadet class in 10 years. This was a special moment for us as it was the last time that we would represent St. Jude on the football field.

Speaking on behalf of my fellow teammates, it's not just the team you are on, but you are a family within your team. It doesn't matter what sport someone plays as we are all have different gifts and abilities through Christ. And at the end of the day it all comes down to one thing: succeeding and asking ourselves did I give my best effort? Did I make my school and family proud? Was I being a good teammate and showing good sportsmanship? If you can answer yes to all of those questions, then whatever the result of the scoreboard shows, you should feel happy with your results.

Finally, without God nothing that we do would be possible. We



couldn't use the gifts that he has given us, and most importantly we wouldn't be sitting here in this wonderful school.



Members of the inaugural St. Jude VEX robotics team pose for a picture.



Sixth-graders Sam Strader (left) and Christian Cardenas work on building a circuit for science class.

Message from:
Principal Joe Shelburn

St. Jude is a great place to be. Our parents, students and staff make our school what it is, and we are certainly thankful and appreciative of the support we receive not just during Catholic Schools Week but each day of the year.

Our parish and school communities are excited to announce the opening of the St. Jude Learning Center, which will be the site of our preschool and pre-kindergarten classes slated to start this fall. Our parish has been working on this project for a number of years, and we can't wait for the doors of our newly renovated space to open. interested in enrolling, contact our school office.

Roncalli placement scholar: Top 10 test scores



Bronson Keehn, Lauren Sulit, David Warner and Cade Johnstor received Roncalli placement test scholarships for scoring in the top of all test takers.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ST. Fourth-grader Carly Baugh catches a pass during the Big Blue Football Camp sponsored by the Indianapolis Colts.



Third-graders sport their creations for the vocabulary hat parade

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NOW ENROLLING PRE-K

Families interested in enrolling should visit the St. Jude Early Learning website at www.stjude-elc.org and complete the request for more information. Details will be emailed directly to interested families. Preschool (ages 3-4) and Pre-K (ages 4-5) will be offered. Please call with questions.

NOW ENROLLING K-8

Families interested in enrolling should contact the school office and set up an appointment with the principal. Academics, student activities, athletic opportunities, parish membership as well as tuition and scholarships will be discussed. A wait-list will be available for grades that are full. For more information about St. Jude Catholic School please visit our web page at www.sjsindy.org.

St. Mark Principal: Rusty Albertson

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Why I Love St. Mark School

By Nun Bikm, fifth-grader

St. Mark is a great school to attend. It has lots of opportunities and is a grade A school.

St. Mark includes lots of faith. We have Mass on Wednesdays and Fridays and on special days, rosary, and we learn new saints every day. The students have prayer partners. Prayer partners help each other out and teach each other responsibilities. Rosary is a set of prayers we say before Mass on Wednesdays. The great part is that we get to lead them. A class leads the rosary by saying half of a prayer and then the other classes join. Sometimes we go to the grotto to say the rosary.

We have morning announcements led by the principal. At the end our principal picks a saint for the day and teaches us what the saint did and how to become more like the saint. It helps us to be more kind and more faithful. Staying faithful is a big part in our school.

Our school has lots of fun activities to attend like musicals, Spell Bowl, CYO sports and many more. In Spell Bowl you get to practice spelling words and then all the South Deanery schools come together and compete. It's really fun and you get to learn some new words in the process. CYO sports include volleyball, wrestling, basketball and others. They teach teamwork and how to properly play the game.



add me into everything they do even though I'm not Catholic. This is a great school.

The extra events are fun and they make me braver. I used to be shy but not now. St. Mark made be braver and less shy. I joined these extra events to make me smarter or just for fun. I usually join Spell Bowl, acting club and soccer. These are fun things to sign up for, and this is another reason why I love St. Mark.

The last reason is the warm welcoming. The teachers are waiting outside their door and greet us. Even the principal, Mr. Albertson, greets us outside the entrance door. It must be really cold when he waits outside of his door, but he does it for us from love.

I hope you learn something from our school and hopefully you visit us and enroll your child to come to this school.

By Teresa Lian, fifth-grader

St. Mark is a special school. I want to tell you this because I love St. Mark, which is an amazing school to earn a quality education, to grow your faith in God and to have fun with the people around you. Now here are reasons why I love St. Mark.

The most important thing in humans' life is God. We should celebrate our faith. St. Mark celebrates it by going to Mass twice for for third- through eighth-graders and once for pre-K through second grade. St. Mark has something called adoration; it means going to church and praying to God for thanks and to ask for help. We pray before school, class and lunch, and say the rosary every Wednesday. St. Mark made a grotto for Mary, the mother of Jesus. A group of people from a different culture made it. We were able to do that cause of everybody working together.

The people at St. Mark are caring, loving and welcoming. When I was new I was in the fourth grade and my whole class welcomed me and the other new student. I didn't stand alone during recess. Instead an old friend of mine invited me to play with her. Another new student also wanted to play with us. We let her, so on that day we were BFFs! At my old school I was bullied and hated. I felt no real love. When I went to St. Mark I felt loved and welcomed. It felt like that was my place, my school and my home. Here at St. Mark I feel if I am important in my own way and for others as well.

When we want to show thanks for others we show it with a small gift like just saying thank you or making a card for them. It's amazing how a word can change a person's whole life. Because of everybody it makes a special school.

St. Mark makes God the first thing in life. We love and care for one another. There you are always loved. St. Mark is an amazing school to grow in your faith, to be loved and cared for and to be blessed.

By Vivian Ray, fourth-grader

When you walk through the doors of St. Mark Catholic School you see smiling faces. A reason you see smiling faces is because of the people at St. Mark. They make our school so wonderful. Our principal gives us high-fives to greet us in the morning. Father Bill has a dog named Epi. They say goodbye to us at the end of the day. The teachers at our school work hard and care about us.

Another reason you see smiling faces is because of our faith. At St. Mark we have our own Bibles. Our church is beautiful. It makes us think more about God. We pray for each other and that makes us come closer as a class.

The last reason you see smiling faces is because of our actions. At our school we help others. When someone helps you or you help them, it puts a smile on your face. Our school is also welcoming. When you walk into class rooms you see working together and smiles all around.

To sum up, when you walk into the doors of St. Mark you will see all of the wonderful people, faith and actions.



By San Htet, fourth-grader

I think you should come join us at St. Mark School, where the magic of fun never ends. We have great staff members and students. Every single teacher is amazing. They have their own personality and they teach different subjects. We have a lot of lunch ladies. They make delicious lunches. We have some foods that you might not have in your school.

We do exciting things that you won't forget. We do things about Jesus Christ, God and a

Message from: Principal Rusty Albertson

We are celebrating our 70th year as a leader in Catholic education on the Southside. St. Mark continues to build in each student the foundation of academics, service to others and faith in God.

For the past five years St. Mark has been one of the fastest-growing schools in the Archdiocese. We offer a full-day pre-kindergarten. Our students in grades K-8 increase their knowledge of academics by teachers who individualize their teaching to the level of each student.

Our students come from many different cultures and countries and speak many languages. We have two full-time English as a second language instructors and two special needs instructors along with a strong support staff.

Our students, staff and parents have many opportunities to grow in their faith. We not only begin each day in prayer but throughout the day there are many opportunities for prayer. Each class begins with prayer; religion is taught each day. Saying the rosary, attending Eucharistic adoration and participating in service projects is part of the curriculum. Students do not have to be Catholic to enroll at St. Mark; they just have to embrace Christ and his teachings as a part of their normal school day.

Students in pre-kindergarten through the first grade utilize our computer lab and tablets to indoctrinate themselves to technology. All of our students in grades 2-8 have access to their own Chromebook and use it throughout the day. Every classroom has a video projection system and internet capabilities for our teachers to utilize the most up to date materials.

As a parent, you have many choices for your child's education. But at St. Mark you will get an education based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. You will expose your child to a diverse setting that will allow them to know, accept and love children of different colors and languages. The family setting will welcome you in; the teachers and administration will communicate fully; and the foundation of academics and faith in God will be strongly built for your child.

Come out to our open house on Wednesday, Feb. 6, from 5-7 p.m. and see for yourself why many families make the change to St. Mark.



Students of St. Mark School gather, play instruments and sing praises




St. Mark Catholic School



St. Mark Catholic School Open House

Wednesday, February 6, 2019
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

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lot of saints. We have adoration now and then. At adoration we talk to Jesus. You can wish for something on a kneeler. We have prayer partners as well. They are students from another grade who go with you to Church. If you're older than your prayer partner then you get to show how to behave in front of them. We also have a STEM project; it's when you make things like a robotic arm. You will get teammates to help you with this project.

We have a great education here. You get to switch periods like high school or middle school, and it's fun. All of the teachers help you if you don't get what you're learning; don't be afraid because the teachers are superheroes! They will help you no matter what. They will help you until you know what to learn. See what I'm saying? They really are superheroes!



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St. Roch

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Why Do I love St. Roch School?

By Vivie Hayes, fourth-grader

When I first walked into St. Roch I knew that it was the perfect school. The reason I think Catholic schools are great is because you get to learn about God.

St. Roch has helped me throughout the years to become more like Jesus. Everyone is welcome here. During the day we attend special classes in addition to math, reading and writing. All schools have those subjects, but do they get to talk about God in school?

Well I know at St. Roch we do. Even though some students at St. Roch are tall, short, boys or girls, we all are friends. We have been lucky to have had the best priests because they all are so nice and thoughtful. I love the principal so much. Every morning she gives me hugs.

When you first walk into St. Roch the feelings you get are amazing. The teachers are wonderful; if you need help they get right to it. My teachers make me feel so joyful. We also do lots of donations. For an example each Wednesday every student brings in a quarter for our mission in Haiti.

One great experience I have had is getting to be Mary in the Christmas Eve Mass. We also get a lot of help from our parents. There is no place I would rather be than St. Roch School. I love this place so much. Go Rockets.



rock Catholic school, and we are happy to be so. We are not afraid, hesitant or unwilling to project our faith to those around us simply because we are one Catholic family. We are happy to learn and always respect each other's actions.

I am a witness to these actions every day at St. Roch, and those actions make me proud to be a student here. The teachers love what they do because of the students. There is no other place to go than this amazing and inspiring school. St. Roch prepares its attendees for high school and even college through perseverance and hard work, which the students provide every day. That is the reason why I love St. Roch. All of these claims put together equal love. We are love.

By Sophia Andrews, eighth-grader

Why do I love St. Roch School? Where do I begin? My favorite part of the day is when Mrs. Wilson and Mr. Rush welcome you to St. Roch, greeting you with a smile as they open your car door in the morning. Everyone at St. Roch is so genuinely happy to come to school, whether you are a teacher or a student.

The atmosphere is family-like; everyone knows everyone. We attend Mass twice a week and religion class every day. This school cares a lot about religion, and is faith-based. The teachers are incredible, and they challenge the students to the best of our abilities.

Many teachers will stay after school and tutor their students so that we can excel even greater in our classes. Along with sports, St. Roch provides many amazing after-school activities like speech, Academic Super Bowl, robotics, chess, Quest for Excellence, etc. St. Roch is always bringing new curriculum and better technology.

I am so happy that I have been able to experience the best faith-based elementary/middle school career. I truly feel that St. Roch has and will continue to prepare me for my high school education.



By Holly Reeves, eighth-grader

If you have ever met me, you would know that I used to go to a public school. There, I felt at certain times as if I did not fit in or was not as cool as the other kids. One day my mom told me one of the best things I had heard in my life. I was told that I will be going to St. Roch.

Some of my favorite things about this special school are all the clubs and sports I have the opportunity to do. Today that list consists of Chess Club, Technology Club, choir, kickball, cheer and volleyball. Another one of the many amazing things at this school is the highly educated and loving staff.

As if it could ever be possible to happen at a public school, but one of the most amazing things at Catholic schools is that we get to go to Mass two times a week. We get the privilege to praise our Lord and savior.

Now to the greatest and bravest role models. Let us start with my teacher, Mrs. Payne, the person that in fourth grade has taught me so well. I want to know more and am eager to see her every school day. Then we have Mrs. Cunningham, who encourages me to try hard in every one of the sports I do. The list goes on and on from Mrs. Agresta to Father Hunter and Mrs. Wilson and Mr. Rush, all of whom I relish.

I love St. Roch. Thank you.



By Nora Guthrie, third-grader

I like St. Roch School because the support staff and teachers are awesome. I think it's special that I have had all of my teachers for two years in a row for the past six years. This makes it easier for my teachers to help me learn as I grow and better understand my learning needs. I am lucky to be at a Catholic school because I get to learn about God. Also, our priest and our teachers are more like a family than just our teachers.

Our new priest is the chaplain of the Indianapolis Colts, and that is pretty cool. We love our principal and vice principal. They're not only here to lay down the law, they also help us follow our journey in a fun way. They have really worked hard to fix the church and school. It is nice to see the awesome things you can do when our community comes together to help fund our special school.

We have multiple fundraisers. One of our biggest and one of my favorites is Mayfest. We have carnival rides, live music and lots of games and good food. At the end of our school year our physical education teacher, Mrs. Cunningham and our other teachers put together a field day. We play lots of games and get to run around and have fun with our friends.

I love St. Roch because I get to practice my faith and build long-lasting friendships as I grow in my journey.



By Jonathon Snyder, eighth-grader

The atmosphere at St. Roch School is invigorating. The students are so dedicated to learning and are always excited because the wonderful teachers make it that way through engaging activities. There is always something to do too. After-school activities strengthen relationships, build knowledge and add some fun to everyday lives.

Nobody is left out at St. Roch. Why? Because there is something for everybody, and because St. Roch is a second family to me, just as it is with all the other kids who attend. We are a solid-



Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom.
- George Washington Carver



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ST. ROCH
The school's 2018 state champion Spell Bowl team.



Sixth-graders display their painting projects.



Winners of St. Roch's Colts "Do the Blue" trivia contest.



Principal Amy Wilson and pre-K through first-graders dance during lunch.

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All of Roncalli's grapplers moving onto regional action



Roncalli's 2018-19 wrestling team moving onto regionals.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RONCALLI

By **Rob Brown**
Roncalli sports information director

Roncalli advanced all 14 of its wrestlers out of the Southport sectional on Saturday for the second straight year. The Rebels finished second in team competition, 14 points behind Perry Meridian.

"It doesn't feel good," said Roncalli coach Wade McClurg. "We wrestled mediocre at best, but you have to give credit to guys like Page, Amodeo, Peeples and Fletcher for wrestling above their seeds, and kudos to our six champions for starting the postseason off on a good note."

John Harris won the 285-pound class for the second straight year, and Elijah Mahan won the 170-pound class for his second sectional title and first in the 170-pound class, after winning in the 160-pound title in 2017.

Brayden Lowery (120), Sam Slivka (126), Alec Viduya

(132) and Tyce Freije (138) also won titles. Lowery, Viduya and Freije captured titles last season but in different classes.

"We advanced all 14 wrestlers to this week's regional, and that's important," McClurg said. "The secret to success in the postseason is to continue to get better from week to week. Our coaches and athletes know what this team is capable of accomplishing in the postseason, and we must continue to build and remain focused on the process."

Hallway (Continued from Page 1)

also in Spanish above the doorway inside the main entrance. The cornerstone of the school, originally St. James, built in 1952 is preserved in the lower corner of the new hallway.

"This is better than we ever hoped for," school principal Ruth Hurre said. "We wanted to bring art and color into the new space and tie our heritage into the existing school."

The new addition opened Nov. 16. Thomas and Price began planning the artwork immediately the next day.

"We couldn't wait for the builders to put their hammers away, so we could get started," remarked Price, who serves as CYO girls athletic director.

A hallway across from the main office features a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe adorned with red roses that has drawn praise from parents who enter the school.

Thomas, who lives in Greenwood, began his artistic career in 2001 as a sculptor but began painting in 2013 which has led to doing several murals throughout central Indiana.

Thomas and Price turned their first wall into a mural in 2017 at Santorini Greek Kitchen in Fountain Square. Since then, their artwork adorns the main entrance of the Biltwell Event Center on the near-westside, murals at Holy Spirit Catholic School and Spalding Jewelry in Beech Grove, Manor House Antique Mall, and four murals, "The Hills of Framosa," in the dining hall of the CYO camp in Brown County.

The mural at Holy Spirit features stars and the moon on each side of a statue of the Virgin Mary.

During the upcoming spring break, Fisher and Price will return to Central Catholic to paint an exterior wall mural.

A permanent display of the artwork of Thomas and Price is at the Biltwell Event Center, 950 S. White River Parkway W. Drive.

Thank you ...

A special thanks to account executive Bob Kelly for his work on this exclusive section.

Kelly, a graduate of Ball State University School of Journalism with an emphasis in public relations, has written for many Indianapolis-area publications, including *The Indianapolis Star* and *The Indianapolis News*. For nine years he was the owner and chief writer for www.sportschronicle.net, a website dedicated to covering high school sports at area parochial schools.

He also sells insurance for the Knights of Columbus.

Also, thanks to all of the advertisers and schools for their participation.

Congratulations to all of our Southside Catholic schools for helping our young men and women achieve their potential in academics, athletics and the arts.

— Kelly Sawyers
Southsider Voice publisher



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