

THE GOOD NEWS

FROM ALUMS & FRIENDS & FAMILIES

Providing tuition assistance for Community of Saints Regional Catholic School

Let's Celebrate Together

Join COS students for a school Mass on **Thursday, December 3, at 9:30 am.**

See pg. 2 for details.

INSIDE

- » Message from Fr. Steve
Page 2
- » Gift from Pat Palmer Estate
Page 3
- » Conversation with COS Principal
Pages 4-5
- » 2015 Annual Report
Pages 6-9
- » Students Help Fund Playground
Page 10
- » St. Matt Alums Promote STA
Page 11

Best Year Ever:

A&F&F Surpasses Goal to Meet \$50,000 Schulze Challenge

Last spring the Schulze Family Foundation issued a challenge — raise \$50,000 in new or increased donations in order to earn a \$50,000 grant. Thanks to you, Alums & Friends & Families (A&F&F) blew past that goal by raising \$58,541 with 325 new or increased donations.

“Your success is exciting and inspirational,” said Steve Hoepfner, Vice President of the Foundation which was launched by Best Buy founder, Richard Schulze. “We want to share what you’ve learned through this process with other schools. Your experience can benefit our whole archdiocese.”

A&F&F raised a total of \$187,142 this year, which is the most yet in its 8 year history. The total includes money raised to meet the challenge grant but does not count the \$50,000 grant from the Schulze Family Foundation. All of the funds raised by A&F&F support tuition assistance for students attending Community of Saints Regional Catholic School (COS). (See Annual Report p.6)

Support Important to Sustainability

The money raised each year by A&F&F is an important part of COS’s budget. “Our school relies on a patchwork of funding,” explained COS principal, Bridget Kramer. “Because we’re a school that serves a large population of families that need support, we rely on A&F&F and other organizations to meet the needs of our students.”

Catholic school sustainability is among the top concerns of the Schulze Family Foundation. The Foundation has partnered



Fr. Steve Adrian (left) and principal Bridget Kramer (right) receive the \$50,000 check from Steve Hoepfner from the Schulze Family Foundation.

with the Catholic Community Foundation, the Aim Higher Foundation and the GHR Foundation to establish Catholic Schools Centers of Excellence (CSCOPE), a new organization dedicated to Catholic school sustainability. “There are 79 Catholic elementary schools in this archdiocese,” said Hoepfner. “We want to make sure that none of them close.”

CSCOPE’s commitment aligns with A&F&F’s efforts to support Community of Saints. “Our donors deserve all the credit,” said Fr. Steve, as he reflected on the successful fundraising effort this year. “Their generosity has helped many families afford a quality Catholic education for their child.”

Steve Hoepfner agrees. “I’m going to tell your success story everywhere.”





SAVE THE DATE

Join us for an
Evening Under the Stars
A COS Benefit

Saturday, April 9, 2016
St. Matthew's Social Hall

Dear Alums & Friends & Families,

On July 1, 2012, I retired as Pastor of the Church of Saint Matthew. But I guess a priest never really retires; he is like the farmer, who never climbs down from his tractor.

Most recently, I have been given the great opportunity to serve as Canonical Moderator of Community of Saints Regional Catholic School (COS).

A regional Catholic school, unlike a parish school, has no pastor because the school is an amalgam of a number of schools sponsored and supported by several parishes. The Canonical Moderator fulfills the role the pastor would fill in a parish school. I am delighted to be part of COS. The energy of students, teachers and staff is contagious.

I am also proud to be part of Alums & Friends & Families which is committed to providing tuition assistance for families seeking a Catholic education for their children. We have had a very successful fundraising year. Now we want to make sure those funds benefit as many families as possible. In doing so, we request your help.

I ask you to tell your neighbors, friends and family who might want to send their students to COS, but might think they can't afford it, that they need to come and visit the school and speak to our principal, Ms. Kramer. Tell them that no students will be turned away for financial reasons. If they don't believe you, refer them to me.

Your continued generous support of our current and future students makes it possible to tell the story of a strong Catholic education to which no student is denied because of financial reasons.

Each Thursday at 9:30 am, the students and teachers and I gather to celebrate Mass. At each service, we pray for our sponsoring parishes, and we pray for you — our benefactors, who make all of this possible. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Father Steve Adrian



Celebrate Mass with Students

Donors are welcome to join us at Community of Saints for School Mass

Thursday, December 3, at 9:30 am
333 East Hurley Avenue, West St. Paul

Everyone is welcome to a reception with students following Mass. For more information call the school office at **651-457-2510**.



COS Receives Major Gift from Estate of Pat Palmer

This summer, Community of Saints received a gift of \$206,000 from the estate of **Pat (Savard) Palmer ('43)**, a graduate of St. Michael's school and long-time member of St. Matthew's parish. Pat passed away in 2014 at the age of 86.

"Totally shocked," was how Fr. Steve Adrian described his reaction when he heard the size of the gift. "I did not realize that Pat and (deceased husband) Tony had those kind of resources."

Attended St. Michael's Grade School and Joined CSJ

Pat grew up on the West Side as the youngest of four girls in a house that she described as being full of laughter. She was taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph, first at St. Michael's School and then at St. Joseph's Academy. When she turned 18 years old, she joined the order herself and went on to earn a BA in English and Education at the College of St. Catherine's.

After that, she began her own career as a teacher; at the age of 24, she became one of the youngest educators to be promoted to principal. She served at a number of Catholic elementary schools including St. Leo's in St. Paul and Christ the King in Minneapolis. During those years, she continued her own education, earning an MA in Liturgical Studies at the University of Notre Dame.

Called to Something New

In 1980, after many years of teaching, she decided to leave the CSJ community. "God was calling me to do something else," she explained. She moved to San Jose to work at *Modern Liturgy* magazine. A year later, she married Tony Palmer, a former priest she'd met 12 years earlier at Notre Dame.

After retiring, Pat and Tony moved back to Minnesota and joined St. Matthew's parish. "They

wanted to be active members," said Fr. Steve. "Tony joined the parish council and Pat got involved in the Rosary Society."

Pat and Tony began their involvement with St. Matthew's School after they were asked to judge scholarship essays. "They were impressed by what the students wrote and how much they appreciated their education," explained Fr. Steve.

After Tony died in 2009, Pat continued to volunteer with the school and parish. But eventually, her own health declined, and she moved into Carondelet Village on the campus of St. Catherine University.

"About six months before she died, Pat wanted to talk with me," Fr. Steve recalled. "She asked me to write down very clearly what the corporate name of the school was. She said she was going to include COS in her estate but she didn't tell me anything more."

Making a Difference in the Lives of Children

Fr. Steve observed that he is often surprised when he receives letters about estate gifts. "They are generally people who lived very simple lives and really wanted to have their resources make a difference in the lives of others."

In the many remembrances of Pat that appeared after her death, she is described as a joyful person and a talented cook with a flair for hospitality. Fr. Steve agrees that she was all that and more. "She was a delightful woman," said Fr. Steve. "Full of hope and confidence. She truly loved children." Perhaps that will be the most lasting memory Pat leaves behind.



Pat Palmer ('43)

Making a Legacy Gift to Support Catholic Education

A legacy gift is a planned estate donation to a charity. It can be given through a will or another designated form. Whether to make a legacy gift is a decision each person makes in his or her own financial planning process, taking into account charitable wishes and values.

At Community of Saints, donors have the option of making an unrestricted gift or designating funds for a specific purpose, such as technology or tuition assistance. A donor can also contribute to our endowment fund, so the gift would support the school in perpetuity.

If you would like to find out about options for making a legacy gift to Community of Saints, call Doug Lieser at **651-457-2510**.

COS Principal Shares Plans for the School Year

Editor: I recently sat down with COS principal, Bridget Kramer, to discuss plans for her second year as head of the school. Turns out, she had a lot to talk about. We began with the recent announcement of the \$206,000 gift to the school from Pat Palmer's estate.

Q: What was your reaction when you learned the school had received \$206,000 — and what are your plans for the money?

Bridget: When I heard the amount, I couldn't believe it. We had been notified that COS had been named in her will but we thought the amount was around \$40,000 — which we thought was a huge gift. When we learned that it was actually over \$200,000 — I was in shock! That's an incredible amount of money for our school.

The gift was unrestricted, which means that we have the freedom to decide how to best use the funds. That's a responsibility we take very seriously.

After our School Advisory Board and Board of Directors met we decided this gift can help our school best by providing a reserve fund. The idea is that we would not spend the majority of the money now, but we would have it available to ensure the financial stability of the school.

When Community of Saints was established four years ago, there were never any resources dedicated for a cash reserve, which is standard practice for an organization of our size and essential to ensure smooth operations. We've always had a balanced budget but since we rely on a patchwork of funding, we can't always be sure that income we're counting on will actually be in our bank account on the day our expenses, such as payroll, are due.

By holding the money in reserve, it'll also be available for future use when and if we need it. That may not seem like the most exciting use of the gift but, in the end, it helps COS be sustainable and ensures that we have the resources we need to operate smoothly — and I believe that aligns with Pat Palmer's intentions. As a former principal herself, I think she would understand.

Increasing Student Service

Bridget: One of my top priorities is expanding our students' involvement in community service. Pope Francis is teaching us that living out our mission means being servants to others and we intend for our students to get that message.

So for instance, the Homework Club is now the Study & Serve Club, where students work on

academics and help with projects that improve our school and surrounding community. We're reaching out to some of our neighbors, such as Cerenity Nursing Home and Neighborhood House, and our Student Leadership Council is participating in training that will help them identify and implement school-wide service projects.

Virtues Supplement Faith Formation

Bridget: We've begun a new program called *Virtues in Practice* and it supplements our religious education.

It's a free, pre-K thru 8th grade program developed by the Dominican Sisters and it's designed to help children grow closer to Jesus by imitating His life and virtues. The whole school studies the same virtue each month and the students learn

about different saints that are associated with that virtue. Throughout the month, classrooms will talk about the meaning of the virtue as well as how they can live it out in their everyday lives.

New Math Resources

Bridget: For academics, the biggest change is our new math textbook resource called *Go Math*. The series is for K-8 so it transitions with students through middle school, which wasn't the case before. The teachers chose it themselves and they did a ton of research before deciding on this series. *Go Math* was the unanimous choice.

We also implemented *IXL*, which is an online math program that lets students work at their own speed but allows them to go as far as they can. *IXL* supplements the new math resources for each grade by giving students the tools to reinforce the lessons they learn during class.



COS students learn about Stewardship, which is the Virtue for the Month of November.

Improving Technology

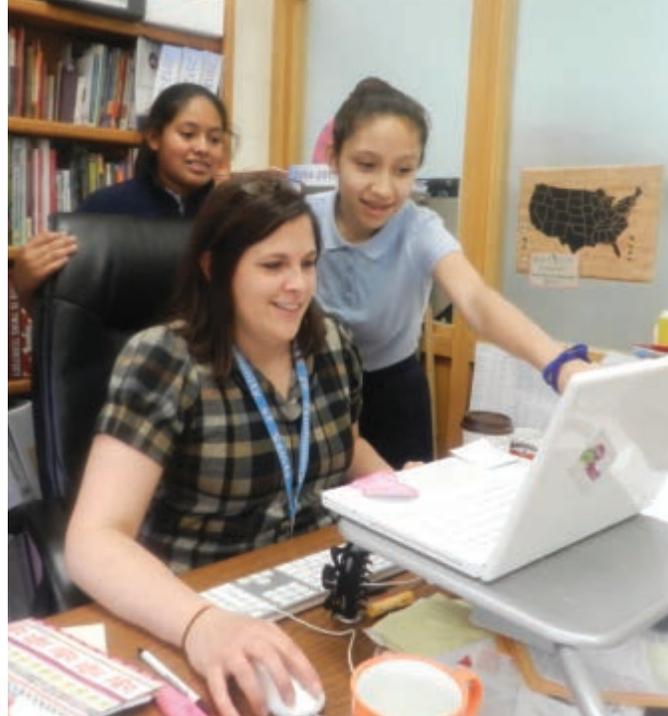
Bridget: We were blessed to receive \$20,000 from an anonymous donor that we'll use for technology. We're currently developing a long-range plan for technology enhancements.

For this year, we've installed Interactive White Boards in all of our classrooms. And we just purchased 30 iPads that teachers can sign out. We're in the process of determining which apps teachers want and we're discussing how we'll integrate iPads into classroom instruction. That's really important because this technology can be a powerful learning tool but it needs to be part of a larger strategy.

Recognizing the Value of Diversity

Bridget: We're working with our staff to implement cultural proficiency training which is important because we have a very diverse student population. Part of our job is helping all of our students recognize the value of their different experiences and give them the skills to successfully and respectfully navigate the differences among us. The first step is to make sure our staff are fully trained in diversity. Two staff members already received cultural proficiency training and they will train the rest of the staff.

Our goal is to help students achieve academic excellence as we prepare them to live faith-filled lives and become leaders in our community. That is the focus of everything we do, and we thank our supporters for helping to make it possible.



Principal Bridget Kramer with students.



Technology improvement are a major focus this year. The school just purchased 30 iPads to supplement the computer lab.



Alums & Friends & Families 2015 Annual Report

Thanks to your support, A&F&F had its most successful fundraising year ever, raising \$187,142 for students at Community of Saints Regional Catholic School. In addition to our many long-standing supporters from St. Matthew's, we want to thank the many new donors from COS's other sponsoring parishes: St. John Vianney, St. Michael's and Our Lady of Guadalupe. Over 90% of COS families rely on tuition assistance to afford Catholic school for their children. Your contributions make that possible.

NOTE: *Whenever possible, we have noted the graduation year of alums who attended a school from one of the four sponsoring parishes. If you are an alum and we did not list your graduation year, please let us know by emailing DLieser@communityofsaints.org or calling 651-457-2510.*

PILLAR \$15,000+

Roy & Joann Ferber 1959
Tom & Mary Cullen McKeown +
Pat Palmer Estate +

PACESETTER \$10,000–\$14,999

Katherine B. Andersen Fund of the
St. Paul Foundation

LEADER \$5,000–\$9,999

Anonymous
Assumption Parish
Hugh & Missy Cullen 1973
John Curran 1949 +
Jeanne Fraher Estate
John Riehle 1957 +
Jerry & Marilyn Sexton 1944 +
Irene Wimmer Estate 1932

EDUCATOR \$2,500–\$4,999

Father Steve Adrian
Anthony & Susan Frank Alleva 1955 & 1956
Jackie Cosgrove
Joe Cullen 1978
Allen & Diane Volkenant

SUSTAINER \$1,000–2,499

Anonymous
Elizabeth Arend
Marjorie Fretschel Arnold 1972
Gerald & Shirley Bergum 1946
Audrey Brucker 1952
Richard F. Cates
Fred & Molly Commers
Jack Ferber 1956
Jean Froehle 1949
John Haney 1946
Ken Herriges
Tom & Cynthia Klecatsky
Jim Kunz 1955 +
Anne Cullen Miller 1977
Tom & Mary O'Neill 1958
John Posel 1955
Tom Rolewicz, Jr. 1975
St. Matthew Mens Club
Bill Szlajus 1981
John & Mary Wren

BUILDER \$500–\$999

Anonymous
James Blaha 1968
Mark DeVecchio 1973 +

Mary Jane Ferber 1962 +
Elizabeth Richardson French 1961 +
Daniel & Elizabeth Gangl 1971
Francis Jacobs
Joseph Mansur 1961 +
Edward & Gloria McEllistrem
Larry & Andrea McGough
Steve & Anita McKeown
Eileen McMahon +
Harriet Campa Murphy 1946
Roger Newmaster 1955
William & Annette Patient
David & Cathy Pavlak 1979
Daniel Schadegg 1979
Carol Schreiner 1952
Gregory & Sue Smit
Barbara Tinucci 1944
Jim Vogel 1956 +
Richard & Susan Votel 1954
Father Martin Warren
Yvonne Scherbel Wilhelm 1951

BENEFACTOR \$250–\$499

Anonymous (3)
Theresa Thurn Bock 1958
Julius "Jay" Bonello 1962
Clem & Molly Commers
Maureen & Bill Cosgriff
Thomas Doyle +
Richard Dunn & Maggie Lee
R. James Gesell
Kathleen Groettum
Bernice Hannegrat
Grossman 1938
James Guldán 1946
Mary Gutzmann
Patricia Casey Holmes 1950
Thomas Kabesh 1960 +
Patrick Kunz 1960
George Lang 1956
Joe Nasseff 1960
Ann & Jack Peipel
Jim Pirkel 1953
Tom & Patricia
Palon Rolewicz 1954
Mary Ann Stadt Roscoe 1961
Russ Sudeith 1954
Anita Campa Sweeney 1944
Karen Thompson 1959
Mary Pat Topritzhofer 1975
Michael Vasterling 1968 +
Robert Verstraete 1967

Terry Votel 1956 +
Susan Schmidt Wallace 1972
Mary Walsh
Toni Bloechl Wilburn 1972
Father Richard Wolter
Marlene Hudalla Yarusso 1950

PATRON \$100–\$249

Anonymous (7)
Angeline Abbott
Francine Anderson
Steve Bade 1975
James & Arlene Barnhart
Jeffrey Barthe 1971
Mary Becker
Timothy & Beth Bohrer Bellon
Mary Bettenberg
Jeffrey Blaschka 1973
Patricia Cooper Blaskie 1964 +
Mary Lou Allie Bova 1944 +
Mary Sue Hopkins Brass 1946
Gerald Breidel



"I got such a good education when I went to Catholic school and loved it so much, I want to make sure others can have that too."

— NEW DONOR





“These kids are the future of the Church and our community. It’s good for everyone that they get a good education.”

— NEW DONOR

PATRON, continued

Jim Brewer 1953

Ralph & Judith Brown
Stephen & Ellen Casey

Jim Casey

Terri Cunningham Cismowski 1970

Mary & Kenneth Clausen

Jean Clausen

Pat O’Day Clemen 1958

Fran Weyer Cook 1957

Mary Kay Harrison Cooney 1959

Denise Wessel Crawford 1965

Joe Crawford

Timothy Dalzell 1970 +

JoAnn Danmeier 1966

Aileen David-Koenen

Pat & Brenda Donkers

Shawn & Kim Doyle 1972

TJ Doyle

Joanne Blaeser Dufour 1957

Jack & Linda Ehrenberg 1959

Lawrence & Carol Crisman Engelmann 1952

Gerald Fenlon 1938

MJ & Frances Galvin

Christa & Steven Gangl

Katherine Pavlak Garvey 1966

Joan Tanzer Gennero 1949

John George 1959

Paul Gifford 1951

Kathleen Ferber Gobeli 1966

Robert Goggins

Richard & Mary Grant

Steve Grundei

Becky Montgomery & Dave Haley

Richard Halvorson 1960

Anita Hottinger

David & Mary Kaul Hottinger 1981

Suzette Houle

M Huerta-Lopez

Warren (Mick) Huntress 1949

Marilu Husman-Woodford 1959

Mary Iversen 1979

Father Bradley Jenniges, OSB 1976 +

Susan Miller Jensen 1961

Larry & Sharon Joswiak

Karen Ketchmark Kachel 1961

Patricia Werden Karels 1954

Thomas Kegler 1976

Marcelline Deusterman Kegler 1949

Thomas & Ruth King

Andrew Koenen

Mary Ann Kosel 1960 +

Mike Kosel 1957

Christine L’Allier 1965

Janet Leibl Lackner 1956

Paul LaManna 1980

Mary Leibl 1964

Jeff Lemke

Doug & Krissy Lieser

Julie & Dan Loahr

John Maeurer

Don Marthaler 1955

Bill & Mary Martin

Debra May

Aloysius & Alice Mayers

Donna Duffy McCarthy 1964

David McDonald 1968

Jean Schoenberger McGroarty 1948

John & Delores McGuire

Eleanor McSherry 1932

Terry & Bebe McTeague

Irene Mikkalson

Peter Mikkalson

JoAnne Miller

Lynn Miskowic

Patricia Mitschulis

Joseph Monsour 1973

Judy Klotz Morhar 1957

Darlene Moynagh

Peter & Dorothy Murk

Elizabeth & Timothy Nowak

Margo Earle O’Malley 1954

Frances O’Neill & Michael Terry O’Neill 1960

Janet Thurn Odalen 1958

Sue Olsen

Mary K. Orme

Anthony Palumbo 1966

Ellen Buckley Parravano 1959

Eileen Patrin

Gene Peltier

Mary Mohr Perren 1957

Margaret Pohl

Larry Poppler

Margarita Abel Probst 1964 +

Dan Quinlan 1970

Allen Rasmussen 1959

Duane Rivard

Jamie T. Roberts 1979

Ralph Roubal 1950

Judy Rouse 1960

Rita Ryan

Georgianna Saumweber

Gerald Schadegg 1958

Chris Schletty 1960

George Schmid 1955

Thomas Schmidt 1966

Tom Schmidt 1962

Michael Schneider 1955

Richard Schoenberger 1939

Wayne Schultz

Linda Egner Sill 1964

Tony Sitzmann 1957

Thomas Smith 1972

Georgene Schaps Sorenson 1960 +

Janice Cooper Spear 1967

Jack St. Martin 1936

Steven & Sheila Sexton Stai

Sue & Chris Stevens 1967

Bob Stickler 1957

Steven J. Stremski 1978

Sister Clara Thomas, OSF 1938

Jane Travers Render

Julie Karels Treinen 1978

Dwaine Troje 1955

Charlene Stefaniak Vitelli 1956

Lynn Volkenant

Gerald Walsh 1946

Wells Fargo Corporate

Matching Gift Program

Andrea Wenker 1990

Peter Willems 1943 +

Diane Gabriel Wineman 1961

Eugenia Yarosz

Barbara Zimmer

SUPPORTER UP TO \$99

Anonymous (16)

Rita Wolf Adam 1944

Yvonne Allie 1954

Gloria Alt 1961

George Altendorfer 1971

Owen Anderson

Elaine Anderson Bache 1952

Victoria Petschauer Baker 1968 +

Mary Beissel 1965

Roberta Bengston 1979

SUPPORTER, *continued*

Dick Bernard
Bernard Blaeser 1956
 Henry Blissenbach 1956
 Karen Bloechl 1956
Karen & Dan Boden
 Corinne Heinrich Brengman 1947
 Muriel Budziszewski
 Helen Wimmer Bukowski 1943
Albert & Mary Centner 1953
 Joan & Andrew Chandler
 Donald Chapdelaine
Lowell & Anita Clingman
Dionisa Coates
Sharon Cosgrove 1956
Eunice Dasovich
 Craig David 1966
Jerry & Mary Lou De Zelar
Jane DeAustin
 Edward Dostert 1950
Megan & Bruce Dunsmore
Peter Exley 1968
 Emilio Fedeli 1956
 Edward Flahavan
 Francis Fried
Nancy Gagliardi
Contessa Garcia
Julie Garcia 1988
Rosella & Daniel Garcia
 Jerry & Beth Geis
 Del Gerdes
 James Gerlach
 Don & Esther Giesel
 Muriel Wildenauer Gill 1947
Joseph & Carol Ann Gramling
 Amy & Peter Grayson
Isaura Guardado
 Carol Augst Harding 1966
 Dorothy Floeder Hawkins 1952
 Thomas Heinen
 Mike Helsper 1976
 John Hernandez
 Dale Hertzog
Joseph Hinze 1964
 Virginia Smola Hirte 1938
Doris & Fred Hohmeister
 Fenton & Diane Horwath
Sister Laverne Hudalla, OSB
Michael Hughes 1960
Sister Joanna Illg, SSND
Michael & Jean Jack
M.L. Jansen
Kelly Jirschele 1990
 Lynne Sward Johnson 1978
 Robert Joseph 1972
Mary Kaliszewski
Rose Karas
 Mark Kempe 1966
 Colleen Kisch 1944
Richard & Ann Klein
 Judith Knabe 1964
 Patrick Koehnen 1972
 Jim Korman 1955
 Bridget Kramer
Beverly Kroll
 Sister Mary A. Kunze
Jackie Lackner



"We always have to remember that this is for the kids. We're giving them the education they deserve."

— DONOR

Jeanne Merry Lacy 1952
 Bernie Lancette 1961 +
Nicholas & Mary Lasovich
Mary Pat Lee
Geraldine Loder
Lucille Lorence
 Joan Meisinger Mahoney 1951
 William & Patricia Mahoney 1951
 Clem Maranda 1945
 Stephen & Teresa McCurdy
 Mary Marthaler McDonough 1947
 Helen Lannon McNeill 1955 +
Alice Meyer
Marge Milner
Jane Moen
 John Mooney 1961
 Michelle Mooney 1964
Karol Morton
 Frances Vasquez Mudek
John Mulwee
 Deacon John & Carol Murphy
Ann Myran
 Eileen Norton
Mary Beth O'Brien
Elaine Pesek
 Tom Quinlan
 Margaret Jungbauer Reed 1951
 Brian Rembish
Cesar Reynoso
 Georgine Bohrer Roers 1971
 Janelle Rohr
 Julie Fretsche Rollheiser 1966
 Herioberto Ortiz Rosas
 Tony Roszak
Garry & Barb Ruhlmann
Jim & Kay Russell
Marguerite DeNardo Sandbeck
 Sylvia Aguirre Santos 1965
 Robert Schaefer 1936
Doris Schillinger
 Paula Dalglish Schmid 1949
Paul Schmid 1954
James & Nancy Schmidt 1968
Hubert & Helen Schneider
John & Diane Schowalter
 Beatrice Martineau Schueller 1944
 Douglas & Florence Schueller
 Corinne Gangl Schuster 1973
 Securian Foundation

Linda Sellars
 Mary Deustermann Sellner 1957
 Elizabeth DuChene Shaughnessy 1957
 Bernice Shirpley
 David & Joan Smith 1962
 Robert Smith 1959
 John Steadman
 Jan Steinbrenner 1952
Cindy Steinhoff 1969
 Bob Stevens 1950
 Joe Stevens
Strawberries & Cream
Tsehay Tamarat
 Peggy Ferber Tate 1961
 Iva Tereau
 Barbara & Eugene Tinucci 1946
Lynette & Troy Toensing
 Richard & Mary Topritzhofer 1975
Dorothy Hanson Turcotte-Tait 1954
 Judith Valerius
Verdeja Family
Laura Volness
Beth Wallace
Clay Welch
Robert & Jaime Gangelhoff Witte
Marvin & Pamela Wolfmeyer
 Marian Wolters 1951
John Zensen

IN HONOR OF

1955 Graduates
 Father Steve Adrian
 2nd Grade Teacher Amy Brown
 Mackenzie & Kaylin Clausen
 Eduardo & Estaban
 Mr. & Mrs. A.S. Ernst
 Leon Estrada, Olivia Garcia, Isaac Garcia
 Marlene Friedl
 Mary Ellen Rolfer Gutzmann
 Frankie & Andre Herman
 Florence Kunz
 Tom & Mary McKeown
 Community of Saints Teacher
 Katie Miskowic
 John Riehle

Father Michael Rudolph
 Jerry Sexton
 The many inspirational teachers I had
 at St. Matt
 Karen Thompson
 Allen & Diane Volkenant
 Lynn Volkenant
 Wimmer & Bukowski Families

IN MEMORY OF

Fabian & Elvina Alvord
 Lilian Bates
 Ruby Bernard
 Joe & Catherine Blaeser
 George Bohrer
 Arnold & Susan Brucker
 Carol Casey
 Mary Chapdelaine
 Josephine Cooper
 Magdalen Corrigan
 Francis & Gertrude Cosgrove
 Denise David
 Thomas Doyle
 Thomas N. Doyle
 Father Francis Dudley
 Brian Dufour
 Tom Ernst
 Janice Ferber
 Mary Fischer
 John & Genevieve Fretschel
 Father Charles Froehle
 George & Yvonne Gangl
 Sadie George
 Russell M. Gesell
 Ann Gjere
 Goin Family
 Sister Colleen Hau, SSND
 Henry Halvorson 1954
 Carolyn Anderson (Charmoli) Hamblin
 Michael & Helen Hannegraf
 John & Elvira Hanson

Gene Harrington
 Mary & Bill Harrison
 Joan Honsa
 Donald Hughes
 Tom Kaliszewski
 Judy Kelly
 Thomas & Ann Kervin
 Virginia Koenen
 Mary Korman
 Andrina Kuechle
 Mary & Dick Littfin
 Richard Littfin 1944
 Louis & Inez
 Mahoney Family
 Sister Marguerita
 J. Stephen McGroarty
 Meisinger Family
 Veronica Mohr
 Agnes Mooney
 Helen Mooney
 Angela Mulwee
 Jane Murphy
 Michael Murphy
 Ann Palumbo
 Edward Patrin
 Robert & Edell Ruth Pavlak
 Carl & Delia Petschauer
 Bonnie L. Rasmussen/Thelen
 Robinette Family
 Kevin Robinette
 Adam Roscoe
 Gerald Schillinger
 Giles Schmid
 Richard Schmidt 1936
 Susan Herriges Splinter
 Theresa Jo Sports
 Rob & Lucille Steckler
 Agnes Stefaniak
 John Sweeney
 Greg Thompson
 Robert Tinucci
 Dorothy Valerius
 Jos & Maria Van Gilder
 Hank & Pat Votel
 Thomas & Anne Wallace
 Amanda Weyer
 Harry & Marcella Williams
 Father Alois Ziskovsky

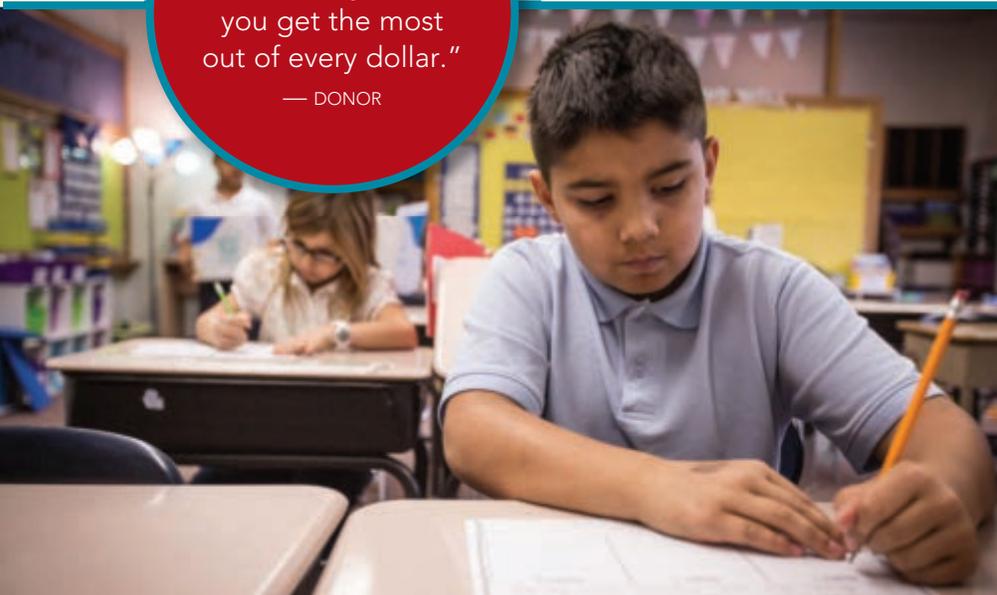
2014 GIVE TO THE MAX DAY

Anonymous (3)
 Elizabeth Arend
 Deb Bednar
 Mary Brady
 Michael Brown
 Paul Brown
 Ralph & Judy Brown
 Dianne Churik
 Jean Clausen
 Karen & Howard Cronin
 Jane DeAustin
 Jon DeLuney
 Pauline DeZurik
 Richard Dunn
 Kathleen & Michael Eischen
 Cathy Goaley
 Shirlee Goaley
 Kathy Goldenstein
 Mary Gutzmann
 Patricia Hara
 John Kaiser
 Father Kevin Kenney
 Aline Kies
 Kaley Kosak
 Bridget Kramer
 Mike Kramer
 Catherine LaBarre
 Jackie Lackner
 Krissy & Doug Lieser
 Toulee Ly
 Catherine Lyke
 Margaret McKane
 Tara McTeague
 Terry & Bebe McTeague
 Chris Mendez
 Marge Milner
 Katie Miskowic
 Lynn Miskowic
 Michael Miskowic
 Jessica Morales
 John Niederkorn
 Daniel Novack
 Elizabeth Nowak
 Janet Odalen
 Jessica Orme
 Teresa Ramos
 Carol Redding
 Janelle Rohr
 Barb Ruhlmann
 Hayley Ruhoff-Benson
 Patty Salinaz
 Brittany Schou
 Deanna Shier
 Pat Shier
 Leticia Silva
 Ann Smetana
 Mary K. Sprangers
 Barbara Tesch
 Laura Tesch
 Karen Thompson
 Carla Tressell
 Mary Tressell
 Sue VanderWyst
 Patrick Waldera
 Bill Walter
 Robert White
 Bob & Kelly Yarosz
 Michelle Youness



"I know my donation
 matters to you and
 you get the most
 out of every dollar."

— DONOR



Give to the
 Max donors
 for 2015 will
 be noted
 in the next
 newsletter.

Students Help Raise Funds for New Playground

Every Fall, Catholic elementary school students across the archdiocese seek pledges from family and friends to support their school through the Marathon fundraiser. This year, Principal Bridget Kramer issued a special challenge for the annual fundraiser. She told them all the money students raise would go toward a new playground. It was a game changer.

"The kids raised more money than ever before," said Bridget. "The goal was \$10,000 and students brought in \$10,200."

Students Go All Out

The possibility of a new playground definitely motivated 4th grader Elizabeth Novack. "Usually, I'm not the kind of person who goes all out but I really wanted that new playground," Elizabeth said. "I asked my entire neighborhood, plus aunts and uncles." Elizabeth was the top fundraiser for grades 3-5, bringing in \$430.

Eighth grade student Max Karas has always been at or near the top for Marathon fundraising, but this year he set a new school record by bringing in \$825. When he heard that top fundraisers would have a say in what equipment would be part of the playground, he was really excited. "Everybody is telling me to ask for swings," Max said. "So I really want to get that for the school."



They were the top fundraisers for grades 6-8, 3-5 & K-2:
L-R Max Karas, 8th grade, Jaslynn Ortiz, 1st grade, Elizabeth Novack, 4th grade.

It is, perhaps, not too surprising that students rallied around the new playground given the state of the current one, which was purchased for \$1 from the city years ago.

"It's not in the best condition," reported Elizabeth Novack diplomatically. Max Karas agrees. "The monkey bars are rusted out and the slide has a big hole in it," he said. "We need something kids can play on."

Well on the Way to Fundraising Goal

The school is well on its way towards raising the \$42,000 needed for the new playground. In addition to the Marathon fundraiser, the school has been awarded a \$17,000 grant from the manufacturer and will direct all funds from Give to the Max 2015 towards the new playground.

Bridget Kramer is confident they'll raise the money in time to have the playground in place before school begins next fall. "I can't wait to see their faces when we finally have the new playground," she said.

Max will be in high school next year, but that doesn't matter to him. "I plan to bring some people over so they can see what I helped make possible."

To follow the school's fundraising progress, visit the COS website: www@CommunityofSaints.org.

COS hopes to have this playground installed by the start of the next school year. In addition to equipment pictured here, they plan to add swings and monkey bars.





David Hottinger (left) and Bill Szlaius both graduated from St. Matthew's and Saint Thomas Academy.



David (left) and Bill in their 7th grade class photos from St. Matthew's.

Alums to Students: Give STA a Look

One of the goals for a Catholic grade school is to prepare students to succeed at one of the fine Catholic high schools in our area. **David Hottinger ('81)** and **Bill Szlaius ('81)** have a message for middle school boys and their families. Give Saint Thomas Academy a look.

When David and Bill graduated from the Academy, Archbishop Brady High School was still open, Derham Hall was for girls only and Cretin was an all boys school. While acknowledging that it was an uncommon choice among his classmates, Bill Szlaius said he was always pretty sure he wanted to attend Saint Thomas. "I knew I wanted to go to college and I figured I needed a good place to keep me in line," Bill said. "The competitive environment at the Academy was a good thing for me, as well as the discipline."

David had been considering Brady and Humboldt when St. Matthew's basketball coach weighed in. "It was my 8th grade year, and Coach Krueger asked me, 'Have you looked at Saint Thomas?'" David recalled. David took more than a look. He graduated from the Academy in 1985 and today he is the school's Advancement Director.

"There's a perception that it's a rich kids school, but 43% of our students receive financial aid and 10% qualify for the subsidized lunch program," David said. He pointed out that there's more of a socio-economic mix than people think. "It's really about who you are in terms of confidence," David added. "Not what your address is."

Competition and a Brotherhood

As the only all-male Catholic high school left in the Archdiocese, David thinks that what made Saint Thomas special back when he was a student is even more valuable today. "There's a competition and a brotherhood. Boys push each other and learn to lead. The school wants you to excel and then help the guy behind you."

David understands that the price of tuition may scare some families away, but he points out the school takes each family's circumstances into account to find a way to help them afford it. "Everybody has to pay something, but there are financial aid awards and additional scholarships available," David explained. "We try to make it affordable for every student who's interested."

Bill agrees. "If I were talking to kids at Community of Saints, I would tell them — don't sell yourself short. Don't think this is a huge thing outside your grasp. If you can work with the school to figure out the tuition, go for it."

Congratulations to Bill Szlaius ('81) Named Ernst & Young Regional Entrepreneur of the Year

In 1997, Bill Szlaius cofounded Logic Information Systems. Now the company has almost 700 employees operating out of 15 offices across five continents. Revenue for the current year is \$75 million. His success has earned him recognition from Ernst & Young, who named him one of their Regional Entrepreneur's of the Year.

Fr. Steve Adrian, who remembers Bill from his days as an altar server at St. Matt's, is not all that surprised. "Bill has always been a hard worker," Fr. Steve observed. "He's the kind of guy who crams more into 24 hours than most people could imagine."

After graduating from Saint Thomas Academy in 1985, Bill signed up for a five-year degree offered through St. Thomas College and the University of Notre Dame that combined engineering with the liberal arts.

After college, he worked for the software giant Oracle and eventually launched his own company to support retail businesses implementing Oracle software. "We help plan, configure, implement, and provide training to successfully integrate new or upgraded systems," Bill explained.

Bill's business continues to grow which keeps him busy traveling around the world. "There's no place we won't go to serve our clients," Bill said. "By next year, we expect that half of our business will be outside of North America."

"He has done incredibly well," said Fr. Steve. "But for as far as he's gone, at heart he's still a West Side, hometown boy."



ALUMS & FRIENDS & FAMILIES
 PO Box 7005
 St. Paul, MN 55107-0005

The Good News is published quarterly
 by Alums & Friends & Families

Editor: Maggie Lee

E-mail: alums@communityofsaints.org

**Community of Saints
 Regional Catholic School**

335 East Hurley Avenue
 West St. Paul, MN 55118
 651-457-2510

Principal Bridget Kramer

Pastor Fr. Steve Adrian

Development: Doug Lieser

E-mail: Dlieser@communityofsaints.org

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Twin Cities, MN
 Permit No. 3673

SPONSORSHIP opportunities

Businesses and organizations are invited to help sponsor *The Good News* and support Alums & Friends & Families' efforts to raise funds for tuition assistance. Sponsorship helps us achieve our goal of making a high quality, Catholic education available to all families in our community, regardless of their ability to afford tuition.

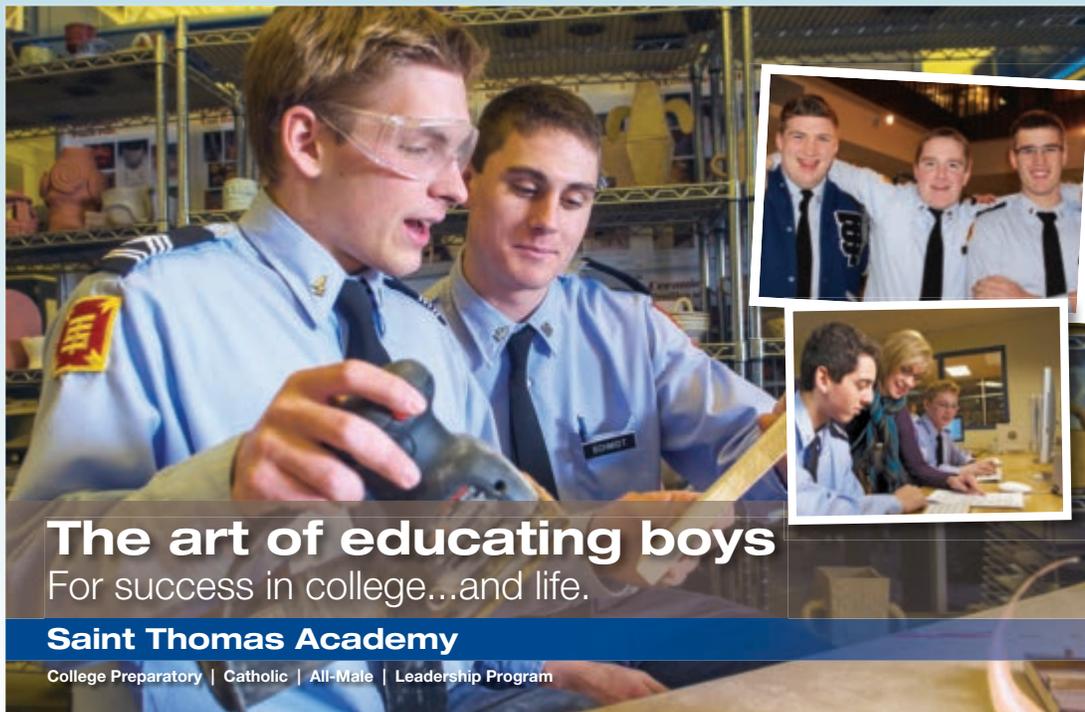
If you'd like more information about sponsorship, please contact Doug Lieser at Dlieser@communityofsaints.org or call 651-457-2510.

This issue of *The Good News* is supported in part by



SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY

1949 Mendota Heights Road, Mendota Heights, MN 55120
www.cadets.com



The art of educating boys
 For success in college...and life.

Saint Thomas Academy

College Preparatory | Catholic | All-Male | Leadership Program

Like us on  [Alums&Friends&Families](https://www.facebook.com/Alums&Friends&Families)