



# ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## News for the Annunciation Family

Minneapolis, Minnesota • Spring 2016

### IB comes to Annunciation!

The 2015-2016 academic school year began with the announcement that Annunciation had become a candidate in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. The candidacy program continues over the course of a few years and implementation begins with the Primary Years Program (PYP) grades K through 5th. Aspects of the program have also been introduced into Middle School instruction. Together, teachers, students and staff are diving into what it means to become an IB school.

For the early grades, PYP is all about opening doors to learning by nurturing CURIOSITY and THINKING skills, by creating an exciting learning environment. The IB framework follows a Program of Inquiry, inquiry which creates curiosity, causing the students to wonder, which then connects their thinking to a “big” idea. The lines of inquiry are explored through six different units:

- WHO WE ARE
- WHERE WE ARE IN PLACE AND TIME
- HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES
- HOW THE WORLD WORKS
- HOW WE ORGANIZE OURSELVES
- SHARING THE PLANET

A good example of this process at work took us to Beth Sable and Terry Heer’s kindergarten classrooms recently. On the anniversary of the birthday of Dr. Seuss, the children explored the unit “HOW THE WORLD WORKS” starting with the story of *Bartholomew and The Oobleck*. This is a charming tale of King Derwin’s page, Bartholomew Cubbins, who deals with the King’s mighty mistake of asking his court magicians to change what comes down from the sky (rain, snow, fog – boring) to something much more exciting, namely Oobleck. Sounds like a novel idea but it turns into a sticky, expanding, intrusive, globby mess! Dear Bartholomew saves the day by pointing out to



the king that the whole error can be remedied with the simple words, “I’m sorry.” Teacher Beth Sable often tells her students, “Just because you’re little doesn’t mean you can’t do big things. Just as Bartholomew’s actions saved the day, your choices can have a big impact on the world!”

The value of humility is a mighty lesson in itself which Annunciation kindergartners learned. They learned that and so much more during their inquiry. In this unit, HOW THE WORLD WORKS, they dealt with the Central Idea: our choices impact the world. First of all they made OOBLECK, a common concoction of water, corn starch and food coloring. The end result interestingly enough is classified as a non-Newtonian fluid, meaning it has properties of both liquids and solids! *(continued on page 2)*

### IB LEARNER PROFILES

COMMUNICATORS  
RISK TAKERS

KNOWLEDGEABLE  
THINKERS

INQUIRERS  
PRINCIPLED

REFLECTIVE  
CARING

OPEN MINDED

BALANCED

*See Principal Cassidy’s article on page 2*

## From our Principal



At the heart of the IB mission are the “learner profiles” ...

...10 characteristics which describe a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities that go beyond academic success and put the student at the center of everything we do. The learner profiles unite us all with a common focus, the whole person as a lifelong learner.

These 10 profiles provide a pathway to develop active, compassionate and life-long learners. This applies to us all, students, teacher, staff and parents, for we are all continually learning. They imply a commitment to help all members of the school community learn to respect themselves, others, and the world around them, living our Catholic mission.

A good example of a student living out one of the profiles, being an “inquirer,” took place in Mrs. Loschy’s first grade classroom recently. All of the students have a “hundred chart” taped

on top of their desk. It is a 10 box by 10 box grid numbered 1 to 100. Sam A. asked Mrs. Loschy if she had a “million chart.” She said “no, but let’s see if we can find something.” Together they found a “ten thousand chart” — a grid with 10,000 stars. During choice time (when he could have been playing with Lincoln Logs!) Sam copied 100 sets of the 10,000 chart. With a little help from his friends he stuck to it and made a “million chart.” Voila! An inquiring mind and persistence pay off!

Stay tuned as we report our ongoing progress on the road to achieving our IB accreditation.



*“I did it! I made a Million Chart!”*

## IB comes to Annunciation

*(from page 1)*

If you have never heard of that one, we can say with pride, Annunciation kindergartners now HAVE and they made some too!! They tapped into the power of observation using the five senses: they touched it, smelled it, looked at it, they passed on tasting it and, in fact, it didn’t make any sound. Teacher Terry Heer explains, “It comes naturally for children to explore their world with great interest and curiosity; it’s our job to help give meaning to their observations and questions.”

The activity allowed them to explore cross disciplinary themes. The story book involved literature. Measuring the ingredients involved math. Understanding the property of different substances involved science. The impact of OOBLECK falling from the sky on King Derwin’s kingdom involved social studies. Having actual OOBLECK in the Annunciation classroom, on their desks, hands and everywhere involved one big, fat, fun, hairy mess!!

More to come in future newsletters regarding IB as the program process expands at Annunciation School.



# Pilgrimage to Italy

Join Fr. Brian Park on a pilgrimage to Rome. Visit Sorrento, Rome, Assisi and more. Mass Daily.  
Trip dates are February 7-17, 2017. Contact Fr. Park, [frpark@annunciationmsp.org](mailto:frpark@annunciationmsp.org).



## Greetings from FATHER PARK

“Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised.” (Luke 24:5-6)

Happy Easter! I hope and pray that this Easter season has been one filled with many joys and blessings for you and your families. As we are quickly approaching the end of the school year, and the conclusion of my first year as Pastor of Annunciation, my heart is filled with gratitude to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon our parish and upon me this year. There is so much to be thankful for...

I'm thankful for how kind and welcoming this community has been to me as its new Pastor. I'm thankful for seeing so many of our high school youth head off to Philadelphia this past summer for the annual AYM Mission Trip (I'm tagging along this summer!). I'm thankful for all the volunteers that helped make SeptemberFest one of the best parish festivals in the Twin Cities. I'm thankful for Wiffle Ball. I'm thankful for being able to attend Dancing with the Annunciation Stars, Trivia Night, and other great events that help support our fantastic school. I'm thankful for getting to witness our legendary Christmas Program for the first time. I'm thankful for all of the hard-working and dedicated teachers and staff here at Annunciation that make this place such a wonderful parish and school. I'm thankful for the many, many volunteers who put in countless hours of service for Annunciation. I'm thankful for our students, and the joy it brings me to see them thrive in this environment where they are challenged to grow in faith, knowledge, and virtue. I'm thankful for the members of the 12 Apostles Plus who help keep our campus looking clean and beautiful. I'm thankful for the gift of the Sacraments – for the many Masses, Baptisms, Confessions, Confirmations, Anointings, Weddings, and Funerals that I have celebrated in my first year at Annunciation. Most of all, I am thankful for Jesus Christ, our Savior whom our Heavenly Father sent to redeem us from our sins by dying and rising from the dead, and for the tremendous work He is doing here at Annunciation, transforming us and drawing us all closer to Himself.

It is my prayer that all of us here at Annunciation would daily open our hearts to the saving grace that Jesus longs to give us. God is calling us to be Saints, and we cannot achieve this great goal without His help. As we continue on in this Easter season, let us never forget that Jesus Christ is alive, and He desires to share His life with us. May our Risen Lord fill us with His peace, and may we all strive to be faithful to His will for our lives! God Bless!



## Annunciation Dominican Award

The Annunciation Dominican Award is presented to an Annunciation graduate who demonstrates gospel values in their life's work, be it at home, in the community or in the workplace. The award is named for the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, the first teachers at Annunciation School when it opened in 1923.

Past recipients of the award include:

Art Sauter, Class of 1951  
Sr. Marian Pahl, Class of 1945  
Mary Jo Holtby Copeland, Class of 1956  
Mary Parker La Fontaine, Class of 1949  
Donald Sovell, Class of 1942  
Helen Hanson Trepanier, Class of 1956  
Anita Bracchi Witta, Class of 1972  
Sr. Joyce Rowland, Class of 1936  
Mary Vasaly, Class of 1966  
Paul Jaeger, Class of 1945  
Mary McFarland Ritten, Class of 1951  
Bishop John F. Kinney, Class of 1951  
John S. Adams, Class of 1952  
Michael Cunniff, Class of 1962

We are accepting nominations for the next recipients to receive this award. Briefly describe why you are nominating your candidate. Are they a humanitarian? Is he or she involved in community service? Provide your name and contact information and submit to [tkonz@annunciationmsp.org](mailto:tkonz@annunciationmsp.org) no later than September 1, 2016.

**RUMMAGE**  
**SALE**  
**JUNE 16, 17 & 18**  
**SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

## Welcome New Staff Members

**Jim Weiland** has joined the Annunciation Parish staff as Business Administrator. Jim is a CPA, and he comes to us with experience in accounting, business and consulting. He and his wife Julie are members of Saints Joachim and Anne Catholic Church in Shakopee. Their three children attend Shakopee Area Catholic School (SACS) and are in elementary grades. Jim is active in his home parish, having served on the parish finance council as member and chair. Julie and his children are number one in his focus, but he maintains time also for coaching youth sports. A recent exciting work accomplishment was to help launch Amazing Catholic Schools, an initiative to help renew commitment to Catholic School excellence.



**Jen Renstrom** accepted the position of school secretary and is loving learning the job and getting to know all the students and parents. She and her family belong to Nativity Catholic Church in Bloomington and her children attend school there. For 10 years, Jen was the Senior Director of Event and Marketing Operations at the Mall of America. In this role she managed a staff, organized and promoted events, wrote for their newsletter, website, social media. She brings to Annunciation School a wealth of organizational, communication, and planning skills. More importantly, she has a warm and welcoming personality and is dedicated to Catholic education.

**Mary Grace Westman** is the new Administrative Assistant in the Business Office. She is a member of Saint Agnes Church in Saint Paul, and she was the Secretary at their school for seven years. She has six children, and one baby granddaughter. Originally from Kentucky, she has a great love of horses and basketball. Please stop into the Business Office and introduce yourself. Mary Grace is eager to get to know everyone at Annunciation. You will find that she usually has treats on her desk!





## Annunciation Alumni bring Minnesota Spirit to Mission Haiti, Inc. and Annunciation Leogane

“To truly understand Haitian people and their economy, you have to go there and immerse yourself in the culture,” explains Mission Haiti, Inc. Board President, Jimmy Dunn. A dozen Annunciation alumni and several companions did just that during a January 2016 visit to our sister school, Annunciation Leogane. Board member and trip director Connie Pelner added, “It’s important for our young alumni to be introduced to the school. When they return home, they are filled with enthusiasm because of their mission experience. They see first-hand that the financial contributions made by our shareholders in Minneapolis make a world of difference in the lives of our students and friends in Haiti through Mission Haiti, Inc.” The group visited Annunciation, Guardian Angel School, Coeur de Marie secondary school, the Village of Jesus home for women, and the 30-acre Bethlehem Farm. AND there was a little time for R&R. For more info visit: [www.missionhaitiinc.com](http://www.missionhaitiinc.com).



*Left to Right: Nicholas DeVetter '07, Jack Healy '09, Henry Wuollet (videographer), Callie Hogan '09, Riley Hogan '08.*



*Front Row LtoR: Dave Pelner '78, Steve Pelner '77, John Pelner '82, and Julie Loney '82. Back (all class of 2012): Eleanor Konz, Lucas Pelner, Brendan Loney, Sam Laux.*



## NEW CRUCIFIX GRACES ANNUNCIATION SANCTUARY

Konstantinos Papadakis, master woodcarver whose work is acclaimed in North America and Europe, was commissioned to produce a crucifix for the Annunciation Church sanctuary. His work now hangs over the altar. Fr. Jim Himmelsbach, pastor of Annunciation 2006-2015, explained that over the course of his time at Annunciation, many parishioners asked him about the possibility of a new crucifix. “Many folks commented to me that the crucifix which used to hang over the altar was very small and not proportional to the space within the sanctuary,” explained Fr. Himmelsbach. “The choir screen has darkened over time and Jesus didn’t show up well, he became lost against the background. Fortunately a private donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, was willing to fund the cost of the project.”

Papadakis, when only a young boy of nine in Crete, chanced upon a vacationing sculptor who taught him several carving techniques. The brief mentoring in an old coffee shop began a life-long prolific career. Papadakis emigrated to the U.S.A. in the mid-1960’s. A resident of Minneapolis, he is an active teacher of his arts. While carving the piece for Annunciation, he worked with an apprentice who is the nephew of Bishop Paul Sirba (Bishop Sirba is currently serving the Diocese of Duluth).



## Congratulations, Alumni



*Laura Bagwell-Katalinich center court*

**Laura Bagwell-Katalinich**, Class of 2012, has achieved one honor after another on the basketball court! A senior at Academy of Holy Angels, she was one of 10 student athletes in the state nominated for the prestigious McDonald's All-American Games. Laura is the AHA recipient of the Athena Awards presented annually by the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce to an outstanding woman athlete. She has committed to the University of Pennsylvania following graduation.

**DeLaSalle High School** juniors are given an opportunity to become "expert historians" by researching a topic of their choice and competing in the Metro Senior High Regional History Day competition. Congratulations to alumni from Annunciation's Class of 2013 who are prepared to participate: Kate Arms, Kylee Bohrer, Margaret Bjorkstrand, Euphrosyne Daoutidou, Elena Extrand, Emma Kane, Greta Nelson and Kyle Suek.

**Josh Dolezal, Julia Eubanks, Gwen Kelley and Noah Zerull** (Annunciation Class of 2014) and 12 fellow DeLaSalle classmates have been selected to study in Costa Rica in June 2016 by virtue of their outstanding academic performance in Biology and

Spanish. While there, they will teach English in local schools and study wild life and vegetation on the Osa Peninsula.

A donation of 30 iPads from DeLaSalle High School's tech department and the resources of non-profit Mission Haiti, Inc., provided **Julia Eubanks**, Class of 2012, with the means to develop the "Islander to Islander" initiative. Julia and current Annunciation students Esme Eubanks, Audrey Orfield Johnston and Libby Steilen delivered the iPads and provided training to students at Coeur de Marie in Leogane, Haiti.



*L to R: Sr. Alta, Head of Coeur de Marie, local student, and Julia Eubanks*

**Mary Katherine Fiala**, Class of 2012, Southwest High School senior authored a commentary which appeared in the Minneapolis Star and Tribune, February 2016. An aspiring actress and supporter of Twin Cities theater venues, she wrote with wit, humor, and most of all unabashed dedication about the magical power of theater. BRAVO!!



We are proud to announce that **Erin McBurney**, Middle School Teacher at Annunciation, is a finalist for the K-8 Honor Teacher Award for the 2016 Private and Independent Education Award.

**Lizzie Nelson**, future class of 2017, finished eighth out of 49 spellers who participated in the Minnesota Public Radio Regional Spelling Bee!



**Nora McInerney Purnort**, Class of 1997, a ("super tall!") super cool writer who likes to tell people that she was voted 'Most Humorous' by her eighth grade class, has authored her first book (out in May 2016 from Harpercollins Dey Street Publishers). *It's Okay to Laugh (Crying Is Cool, Too)* is a memoir in which hysterical, moving, and painfully honest stories are shared about the journey Nora and her husband Aaron took during his terminal battle with brain cancer. Available in hardcover on Amazon.

**Paul Wojack**, Class of 2007, began medical school August 2015 at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City. Paul is one of less than 200 students to be admitted out of a highly competitive pool of over 8,000. He is a graduate of the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, Summa Cum Laude, and a Webster Scholar with a major in Music Performance and minors in Biology and Chemistry.

## Births:

**Pehr Hovey**, and wife Ali Van Dam welcome son Helix Van Dam Hovey, born on February 1, 2016. Helix is the grandson of Merry Beth (O'Daniel) Freiemuth '77 and great-grandson of Liz (Roger) O'Daniel '51.

**Joe Keefe**, Class of 2002, and Shanice Ross welcome a son, Major Keefe, born on November 24, 2015. Joe and Major share the same birthday!

**Christine (Linnihan) Cook**, Class of 1999, and husband Joe welcomed son, Colin Joseph Cook, on March 5, 2016.

**Serena Lovera**, Kindergarten – 2nd Grade Spanish teacher, and husband Alex welcome son Xander Glenn, born February 11, 2016.



Mark and Maranda McCarthy welcome a son, Nolan Brandon McCarthy, born on March 16, 2016. His sister **Emily**, future class of 2018, is pleased as punch!

**John Urick**, Class of 1999 and wife, Erin, welcome daughter Nora Frances, born on Christmas day, 2015.

### **Marriages:**

**Michael Hupp**, son of Jim and Nancy Hupp, Class of 2004, married Megha on October 24, 2015, in Chicago, Illinois.

**Lauren Frederick**, daughter of Dan and Jan Frederick, Class of 2002, married Aaron Woods on October 24, 2015 at Annunciation Catholic Church.

**Lisa Hovey**, daughter of Merry Beth Freiemuth '77 and granddaughter of Liz O'Daniel '51, married Atrio Faiola on February 6, 2016, in Playa del Carmen, Mexico.

## **REST IN PEACE**

*Please remember the deceased and their families in your prayers. Most of the deaths are recent — some, however, are less so. We publish as we learn of them.*

**Thomas Barth**, parishioner, died on September 12, 2015; father of Susan '87, Patricia '89, Trudy '93 and Leah '95.

**John Blaylock**, Class of 1944, died on May 17, 2015.

**Madelon Byrne**, former parishioner, died on September 7, 2015; mother of Daniel '79 and Gregory '81.

**Carmen Caruso**, parishioner, died on February 29, 2016; father of parishioners Charles and Therese.

**Paul Cullen**, Class of 1935 died October 2012; survived by brother Richard '51.

**Paul Cummings**, parishioner, died October 7, 2015.

**Mary Jane Cunniff**, parishioner, died September 9, 2015; preceded in death by son, Michael '62 and survived by son, Bob '68, daughter-in-law, Patricia '61, grandchildren Michele Faherty '87, Maureen Nagle '91 and

great grandchildren, Keira and Isabel (future class of '22).

**Victor Erdmann**, parishioner, died January 19, 2016; father of Mark '64, Dan '65, Connie White '68 and Donna Martens '70.

**Joseph Fugle**, died on November 5, 2015; father of parishioner, Tom Fugle.

**Robert Geisenhoff**, Class of 1940, died August 13, 2015 at the age of 90.

**Kristine Grose**, died November 2, 2015; step-sister to John (Julie) Hasper, school parents, and step-aunt to Mary Hasper (future class of '20).

**Dennis Hemenway**, parishioner, died March 5, 2016; husband of Joan.

**Linda Hoffman**, Class of 1966, died on August 29, 2015; sister to Ted '73.

**Margarite Alice Hurley**, Class of 1969, died October 23, 2015; preceded in death by mother, Yvonne LaGrandeur '40, and survived by brother, Pierre '71.

**Carmen Jensen**, died February 12, 2016; mother of teacher-aide, Christine (John) Sennentz, grandmother of Zach '15.

**Rita Juettner**, Class of 1950, died on January 10, 2016; mother of Chris '74, Steve '76, Kevin 'X81, Ellen Wold '79, Julie (Mike) Loney '82, Annie Foley '88, grandmother of Brendan Loney '12 and Nathan Loney '14.

**Dorothy Kapsch**, parishioner, died December 2, 2015; mother of Francis '57, Robert '61, Alan (Patty) '62 and Janice Ferrell '67.

**Marie Patricia Larkin**, died on February 20, 2016; mother of Anna Marie Bailey '69, Leo '72, Patricia Larkin Green '73, Katie Johnson '80, Mary '82 and Janie Larkin Kihm.

**James LeJeune**, died November 6, 2015; brother to Larry '50, Thomas '52, Rita Engelbrecht '53 and D'Ann Avery '56.

**John T. Lynch**, Class of 1969, died October 4, 2015; brother of John '69, Ann '70, Terry '72, Liz '74 and Peter '77.

**Paul Finnegan McNicoll**, Class of 1948, died on August 16, 2014, survived by brother John (Colleen) '50, and sister Peggy Riehm '42.

**John Meyer**, died on January 27, 2016; father of Bridget (Joe) Arms, school parents, grandfather of Kate '13, John (future class of 2017) and Lucy (future class of 2019).

**Vera Moriarty**, died July 21, 2015; mother of parishioner, Therese.

**Dorothy Ann Murphy**, died January 11, 2016; mother of Colleen (Chuck) Knapp, grandmother of Molly '10, Connor '11, Jack '14 and Ann Knapp '16.

**Grace Nelson**, parishioner, died on August 23, 2015.

**Walter Martin Ostrem**, class of 1944, died on November 11, 2015; survived by sister Helen Havelson '48.

**J. Ron Pratt**, Class of 1947, died on December 16, 2014; brother to Peggy Van Munching '45 and Nancy Schmidt '50.

**Consuelo Joan Richardson**, parishioner, died on August 15, 2015.

**James Ruder**, parishioner, died on October 18, 2015; husband of Glee.

**Art Sauter**, Class of 1951, died on February 16, 2015; brother of Jerry '52, Kay Lavin '56 and Gene '59; first recipient of the Annunciation School Dominican Award on October 17, 1999.

**Robert Sheahan**, Class of 1945, died March 19, 2013; brother of John '49.

**Patricia Mae Smith**, parishioner, died on October 1, 2015; mother of Bruce '64 and Gregory '67.

**Wayne Sokoloski**, parishioner, died September 12, 2015.

**Adelaida Ortiz Vigil**, died February 2, 2016; mother of Jeff (Kathy), grandmother of Emily '10 and Abigail '12.

**Richard Zenisek**, parishioner, died on August 2, 2015; husband of Joan, father of Steve and Beth (Weides) '78 and Anne, grandfather of Caitlin '07 and Hannah '11.

CHURCH OF THE   
**ANNUNCIATION**

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**FORE!**



Join us for the  
**16TH ANNUAL  
ANNUNCIATION  
GOLF CLASSIC**

*Proceeds Benefit Help-A-Student Fund*

**FRIDAY JUNE 17, 2016  
BOULDER POINTE GOLF CLUB**

**\$125 Entry Includes: Green Fees, Cart,  
BBQ Dinner, Awards & Prizes, Scramble Format  
To register: Call Chris 612-824-9993 ext. 289  
OR email - cfrank@annunciationmsp.org**

**May 14, 2016**

**Annunciation School**

**Silent Auction** with parties for every taste.  
Raffle Tickets for **Italian Pilgrimage with  
Fr. Park.**

New this year: Challenge your friends to  
**Casino style games!**

Early Bird Ticket Price: \$50 thru April 30 -  
Reserve Tickets Now!

**Online Auction Bidding May 2 - 13.**

<http://www.vivalasvegas2016.org>



**Live Auction  
Getaway  
Vacation to  
Mexican Villa!**

Annunciation School is a Catholic parish school. We are a united and caring community of students, staff and parents committed to learning based on Christian values within our rich Catholic heritage. We provide our students with an outstanding religious and academic education, addressing the needs of the whole child.