

News for the Annunciation Family

Minneapolis, MN - Winter/Spring 2014

Annunciation Preschool Expands and Grows

Annunciation School is excited to announce our new partnership with Lake Area Discovery Center (LADC) to expand our current preschool program to five days with full-day or part-time options for preschoolers ages three to five years. In addition, we will be able to offer extended care and summer programs.



LADC is a Christian-based program where everyone is welcome. The classroom is designed to meet the needs of young

Technology in Education iPads & Smartboards = Smartkids

*From the Principal
Jennifer Cassidy*

As the educational landscape continues to grow and change, schools need to grow and change as well. One area of growth is technology in education. Annunciation School thanks all members of our community who have donated to help us build the present state of technology in our classrooms. We could not have accomplished all that we have done without this support!

Technology provides another tool for us to positively impact students, actively engaging them in learning. Here are a few ways technology is currently being implemented in the classrooms:

“Smartboards” provide expanded resources and interactive lessons for students and teachers.

children academically and socially. Activities and objectives aid the students in meaningful development. The curriculum creates an environment where doors are open to make learning exciting and relevant for every child. Parent involvement is welcome.

Registration is now available at the Annunciation website: www.annunciationmsp.org. Click on School, Admissions, and Registration.



Preschool students and director/teacher Terry Heer dance the Hokey Pokey during Catholic Schools Week.

iPads in various classes aid student learning and exploration on an individualized basis.

In first grade classes, iPad minis provide an expanded literacy resource through the use of apps including RazKid’s and A-Z Learning, allowing students to work at their individual learning level.

Middle school math classes are testing the “Flipped Classroom” model. Teachers create an online lesson instruction for students to review at home in preparation for further classroom instruction the following day.

Our work is just beginning. We are reviewing our current infrastructure and technology plan through external assessments, expanding training for teachers, and creating a strategic vision to continue to bring technology into the classroom for all of our students. We are excited to move ahead and grateful to a supportive community for the resources to continue to grow our programs.



From the President Mary Ann Pearson

Dear Friends of Annunciation
Near and Far Away:

In my 26 years at Annunciation School, I have been blessed to have known such wonderful families, colleagues, parishioners, alumni and students. Knowing so many of you has made my life very full. Being involved in Catholic education all these years has deepened my faith, which is a great gift.

I am confident, as I prepare for retirement in June, that it's the perfect time for transition. Annunciation has the finest leadership in Jennifer Cassidy and together with the outstanding faculty and staff, the hardworking and dedicated families, and our generous donors, they will take the vision for Annunciation and run with it. One of the most exciting recent developments has been the strategic planning that is

Acknowledging A Career Of Accomplishment & Care

We are grateful for Mary Ann Pearson's role in making Annunciation one of the finest Catholic schools. For over two decades, Mary Ann has served as a teacher and administrator, and her service will have an impact for generations to come. She championed many initiatives for improving student learning, strengthened the Catholic identity of the school, and recruited and retained outstanding faculty and staff, our greatest resource.

During her tenure, the School's 21st Century Endowment Fund was established. Mary Ann was at the helm when the largest single gift in the School's history was received, a \$2 million matching grant, launching our last capital campaign. These transformational gifts were a testament to the donors' confidence in Mary Ann's leadership. While President, Mary Ann oversaw an increase ten times over in donations to the Annual Fund. Contributions to the Help-A-Student Fund for tuition assistance also increased dramatically.

Throughout her 26 years at Annunciation School, Mary Ann actively engaged both students and faculty to become the best people they could be. Catholic education is more than academic rigor – it is a journey into the very life of God. Mary Ann's outstanding and dedicated leadership to this pursuit was prominent. She will be greatly missed.

Sincerely,

going on to position Annunciation School as the Catholic leader in educating the whole child in mind, body, and soul.

This grew out of Annunciation's accreditation renewal process which has been underway for two years. More details will be coming after the accreditation renewal site visit in late March. Everyone will be invited to get involved in helping to make the new vision unfold.

In May, an archdiocesan team will also visit Annunciation to affirm its Catholic identity. After reviewing the self-study documentation and school improvement plan, the team will observe and interview religion teachers, talk with administration, pastor, parents, and students. Annunciation looks forward to welcoming the team and gaining new insights into enhancing the Catholic identity of the school environment.

Although I will be spending more time in Florida with our daughter, family, and friends, I will always keep Annunciation in my heart and continue to support this amazing school and parish. Thank you for your friendship and support throughout the years.

In gratitude,

Mary Ann Pearson, School President



Above, Student Council President Meredith (on left) and Treasurer Julia, Class of 2014, address the Annunciation student body during morning announcements. Students raised \$514 during the Catholic Schools Week service project to aid disaster relief in the Philippines.



Below right, Kate Banovetz #34, Annunciation Class of 2010 and 2014 Captain of the Academy of Holy Angels Girls Varsity basketball team, hit a cumulative career total of 1000 scored points in the game against Chanhassen Storm February, 2014.

Class News & Notes



Pat Kersten Brooks, Class of 1940, published her 26th book titled "Food Lovers Guide to Connecticut". She has been reviewing Connecticut restaurants for the New York Times since 1977.

Kristine (Linnihan) Cook, Class of 1999, serves as an associate attorney with Brownson and Ballou Attorneys and Counselors, PLLP, Minneapolis, MN.

Paige '99 (LaMere) and Dustin Henry welcomed the birth of their son, Odin Vincent Henry, born September 10, 2013.

Michael '97 and Bridget Kelly welcomed the birth of their daughter, Ava Grace Kelly, born on December 2, 2013.

Grace Lowry, Class of 2008, a 2nd year nursing student at St. Catherine University, St. Paul was selected to the MN Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) Academic All-Conference Team 2013 for soccer. Honorees must be a sophomore with a minimum 3.5 GPA and have played in at least 50% of their league games.

Douglas & Mary Jo (Poitras) Maisonneuve, Class of 1943, celebrated 63 years of marriage in May 2013.

Julie Traun (Tony Tamburello), Class of 1963, daughter Natalie Tamburello graduated from University of Cambridge, UK with a master's in Education.

Emily Vigil, Class of 2010, received the 2013-2014 Scholar Award from the National Hispanic Recognition Program for excellent academic performance. Students receiving this award must be at least one-quarter Hispanic or Latino.

Rest in Peace

Please remember the deceased and their families in your prayers.

Anna Marie Dent, died October 2013; mother of David (Jodi) Dent '64 and Sharon Tripp '65.

Rita Mae Gehrke, died October 16, 2013; grandmother of Rita Mae Marr Gehrke and great grandmother of Celia, '17.

Gerald Goodge, Class of 1951, died January 15, 2014; brother to David Goodge '57 and Richard Goodge '61.

Leon Earl Red Heskett, died September 28, 2013; father of Karen (Jeff Nelson) Ibarra and grandfather of Kailee, '12.

Patricia Ann Hogan, parishioner, died December 4, 2013.

Sylvia Holthusen, died January 22, 2014; mother to Hal (Jennifer) Holthusen, grandmother to Jack '15 and Clare '20.

Leona Kapaun, parishioner, died September 4, 2013.

Walter Kofski, died June 28, 2013; father to Robert (Ginny) Kofski '58, James Kofski, MM '60, John (Genny) Kofski '63, Marilyn (Ernie) Tursich '65.

Mary Lesinski died July 25, 2013, and **Tony Lesinski** died July 31, 2013; parishioners and parents to Lori (Jim) Sorenson '67, Jeanne Shingledecker '70 and John and Frank Lesinski.

Tom Markos, parishioner, died August 11, 2013; husband of Mary Markos and grandfather of Ambra Markos, '77.

Donald Martz, parishioner, died October 16, 2013; husband of Sylvia Martz.

Harriet Joseph McDonald, parishioner, died October 22, 2013. Survived by son-in-law Greg Grande '65.

Dorothy Mae (Flynn) McNamee, Class of 1938, died September 30, 2013. She is preceded in death by siblings Jeanne Wikman '34, Dr. Thomas Theodore Flynn '40 and is survived by brother Lloyd Flynn '36.

John Morrison, Class of 1945, died February 15, 2011.

Erin Elizabeth Mullen, Class of 1997, died October 11, 2013; preceded in death by sister Andrea '82 and survived by loving parents, parishioners Greg and Nancy Mullen.

Marguerite Ann (Leadon) Nolan, died September 20, 2013; preceded in death by husband Pat Nolan, '38. Survived by children Kathleen (John) Nolan-Lee '64, Pat (Kathe) Nolan '67, Tim (Kate) Nolan '69.

Gerald "Jerry" Nygren, Class of 1957, died December 22, 2013; brother of Jim Nygren '55, Sue (Dick) Orlan '59, Judy (Earl) Teporsten and Joanne (Russ).

Leona Pauline O'Brien, parishioner, died September 13, 2013.

Martha Phillips, parishioner, died December 23, 2013; mother of Mark (Jackie) Phillips '68, Tom (Dora) Phillips '71 and Ann (Dale) Lorang '75.

Roger Rude, parishioner, died September 4, 2013; husband of Margaret Rude, father of Steven (Josephine) Rude '71, David (Sandra) Rude 'xx73, Tony (Sandra) Rude 'xx74, Nancy (Scott) Lindall 'xx 77

Annabelle Marie Sorenson, parishioner, died December 7, 2013.

Mary Spencer of Rhinelander, WI died December 20, 2013; grandmother of school kindergarten aide and parishioner Chrissy (Nick '88) Fritzen and great grandmother of Samantha, '16 and Jessica, '18.

Jeannie Stark, died October 14, 2013; mother of John (Britney) Stark and grandmother of Gabe, '16 and Andrew, '17.

Thomas Peter Vasaly, died August 22, 2013; husband of Carol Vasaly and father of Thomas Vasaly '61, Ann Vasaly '63, Mary Vasaly '66 and Paul Vasaly.

James J. Winkels, parishioner, died September 14, 2013; husband of Adelle Winkels.



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New York City

Here we come!

SAVE THE DATE:

MAY 17, 2014

ANNUNCIATION LIVE & SILENT AUCTION



Annunciation is thrilled and proud to be home to *four sets of twins* in the 2013-2014 Kindergarten class and *three additional sets of twins* in three other grades. Check out those special pairs of MINNESOTA TWINS!



Nothing says "Merry Christmas" better than to have a child don a bathrobe and towel to play the part of Shepherd in the annual Annunciation Christmas Program. The 2013 performance of *Oh Heavenly Day* warmed the hearts of all who attended, bringing a smile to every face and a tear to every eye.

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.