

# Mack Messenger

McDONELL AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI, FAMILIES, AND FRIENDS

No. 1 - 2021



## McDonell Macks Volleyball at State

*Mack Chat Podcast: Senior Maggie Craker and Coach Kat Hanson chat with President Molly Bushman*

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- Witness the Difference Campaign
- Alum Spotlight
  - Rose Buchmann '13
- Annual Report 2019-20



MCDONELL AREA  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Est. 1882

*Education for Life*

The McDonell Area Catholic Schools are committed to the formation of **community**, **academic excellence** and the **spiritual** and **physical** well-being of each student in the Spirit of Jesus Christ.





*Education for Life*

Spread the good news of Catholic education. Send us their names, and we will reach out to them. Call 715.723.0538 x3301

MACS is accredited by WRISA



## SHARE YOUR NEWS

Send us your news for the class notes and update your contact information at: [McDonellAreaCatholicSchools.org/alumni](http://McDonellAreaCatholicSchools.org/alumni)

## JOIN YOUR CLASSMATES - STAY CONNECTED



Search for McDonell Central High School Alumni and McDonell Area Catholic Schools on Facebook



#TheMackWay @McDonell\_HS



Text MCDONELL to 22828 to stay connected!

Watch live stream coverage of events at

[McDonellAreaCatholicSchools.org/about/livestream.cfm](http://McDonellAreaCatholicSchools.org/about/livestream.cfm)

*Support your Alma Mater from anywhere in the United States! Try Benefit Mobile App – It's as easy as using a debit or credit card [www.benefit-mobile.com](http://www.benefit-mobile.com). When you pay using Benefit on your iPhone or Android device, the participating retailers contribute up to 20% of your transaction to McDonell Area Catholic Schools. Check it out!*

The Mack Messenger is published twice a year by the McDonell Area Catholic Schools (MACS). Comments should be directed to:  
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Senior Maggie Craker goes up for a power hit.

## ON THE COVER

McDonell Volleyball Maggie Craker sets the ball for teammates at state championship game. Maggie and Coach Kat Hanson sit down for a chat with President Molly Bushman about the season. **Info page 15.**

Team picture on page 4.

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Share your photos and information with us!

[MackMessenger@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:MackMessenger@macs.k12.wi.us)

McDonell Area Catholic Schools believe that all the information within this publication is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge. Please contact us for any inaccuracies.

## Chippewa Falls Parishes

### St. Charles Borromeo

Rev. Msgr. Michael Gorman  
Associate Pastor Rev. Ethan Hokamp  
Dcn. Dan Rider



### The Church of Holy Ghost

Rev. Justin Kizewski

### The Church of Notre Dame

Very Rev. Jesse Burish, Dean



## Chippewa Falls Deanery Supporting Parishes

### Holy Cross, Cornell

The Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Jim Falls

### St. Anthony, Drywood

Rev. Eric Linzmaier, Dcn. Kurt Zakrzewski

### St. Bridget, Springfield

Rev. Justin Kizewski

### St. John the Baptist, Cooks Valley

Rev. Victor Feltes

### St. Paul, Bloomer

Rev. Victor Feltes, Dcn. Dick Kostner

### St. Peter the Apostle, Tilden

Rev. Msgr. Michael Gorman, Dcn. Dan Rider  
Associate Pastor Rev. Ethan Hokamp

### All Saints Catholic Parish, Boyd, Cadott, Stanley

Rev. William Felix '73, Dcn. Ned Willkom

Thank you to the area priests and parishioners for your support of Catholic education.



**Fr. Jesse Burish**  
Chippewa Falls Dean

## From the Dean Very Reverend Jesse Burish



### Our greatest apostolate is our Catholic schools

You may have heard it said that our Catholic schools are an “apostolate” of our parishes. What exactly is an “apostolate”? According to the Catholic Dictionary, an apostolate is “the work of an apostle, not only of the first followers of Christ, but of all the faithful who carry on the original mission entrusted by the Savior to the twelve to “make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)...” As parishes in the Chippewa Falls area, our purpose is to bring people to Christ and provide for their spiritual welfare, particularly through proclaiming the Gospel and administering the sacraments of the Church. Aside from the sacraments, which is the particular work of the clergy, our parish communities as a whole proclaim the Gospel and seek to bring others to Christ in a number of ways. One example of such an apostolate could be the St. Francesca Resource Center, which seeks to bring people to Christ and his Church by first

providing for those with temporal needs as threshold for encountering Christ and His Church.

However, arguably our greatest apostolate is our Catholic schools. I can’t think of another work of any one of our parishes that is more fundamentally comprehensive in seeking to bringing others to Christ. Our Catholic schools are “youth ministry” in the fullest sense of the term — in the sense that we are forming our young people, together with their families, academically, physically, and most importantly, spiritually. What could be a more fundamentally important apostolic work for our parishes than this?

In many places around the country, Catholic schools have become more and more disconnected from the parishes that first established them. Many have come to see such schools as a mere financial burden on parishes and would rather see them function on their own. The problem with this approach is that, disconnected from parishes, Catholic schools are more

continue to BURISH page 4



**Molly Meinen  
Bushman '98**

## In Gratitude from President Molly Bushman '98



### Thanksgiving to God even in challenging times

Blessed Solanus Casey had a well-known saying, “Thank God ahead of time.” This simple statement calls us to trust that God is always with us, that He always has our backs and listens to our prayers. An “attitude of gratitude” is also one of hope, which allows us to offer praise and thanksgiving to God even in challenging times.

As we progress through the 2020-21 school year, we have so much to be grateful for at MACS. Our focus has been to continue to serve our students and mission throughout this pandemic, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We have prioritized educating our students in person, as we know that is best for their learning and social development. The MACS Pandemic Committee developed a “Brick to Click” plan to safely return to in-person school while also providing virtual learning capability. This plan involved expanding our 1:1 device program to all grades K-12. With some adjustments as we go, the plan has served us well through the tremendous collective effort of staff, students, and parents. This effort has paid off in a number of ways.

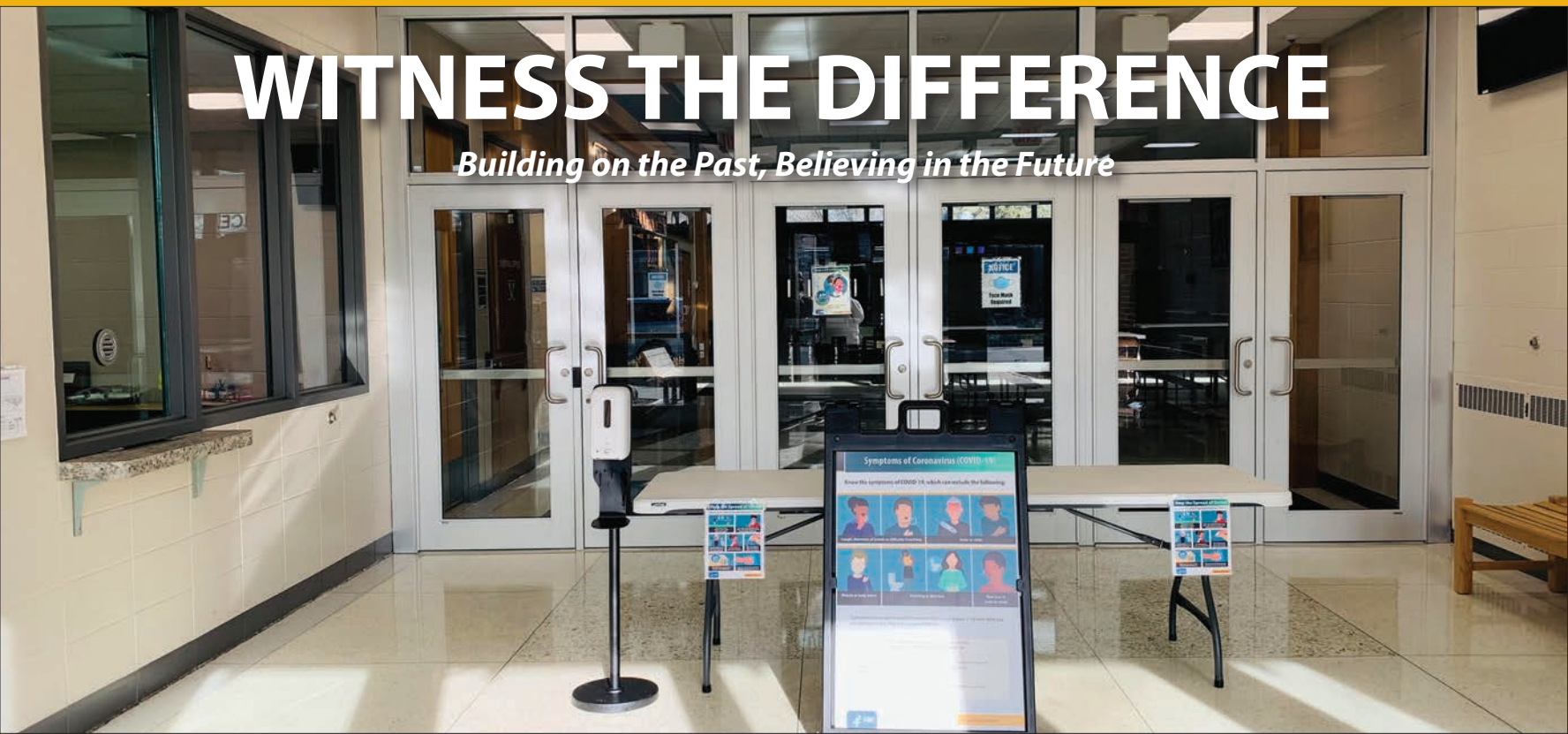
A recent survey of our families found that over 95% feel confident in the academic excellence and Catholic identity provided at MACS. A Catholic faith-based education unites faith and reason, “the two wings on which the human spirit rises to contemplation of the truth.” (St. John Paul II) Supported by highly qualified faculty, parent involvement, rigorous curriculum, and intervention services, our students continue to learn at a high level. Our students also continue to shine in the arts, athletics, and servant leadership, with plenty of opportunities for prayer and campus ministry. Finally, our enrollment has grown 14% in the past three years and we expect that to continue. At MACS, we have an uncompromising dedication to excellence and offer it all for the greater glory of God.

*I hope you will pay special attention to the message on pages 2 and 3 from our Advancement Director, Jaynee Brannen, inviting you to participate in our Witness the Difference campaign. Your contribution will help ensure the continuation of our mission for years to come. Thank you for your support of our Catholic schools, and thanks be to God for His many blessings, both now and in the future.*



# WITNESS THE DIFFERENCE

*Building on the Past, Believing in the Future*



Remodeled vestibule at McDonell Central Catholic High School and Notre Dame Middle School

## Modern Makeover

Jayne Armstrong Brannen '03  
Director of Advancement



In November of 2016, a comprehensive listening session was completed as part of updating the McDonell Area Catholic Schools (MACS) strategic plan. The result was a document to map MACS strategies going forward to 2021.

It was apparent as the strategic plan was assembled that we would need to increase our human capacity with the best talent we could find, provide a safe and appealing learning environment and make sure that MACS continued to be affordable to our current and future families. To that end, it was concluded that MACS needed a capacity campaign and thus the Witness the Difference Capacity Campaign was born.

To accomplish this goal we knew we needed help from not only our area supporters but also from our alumni and friends across the country. We began an outreach program in 2017 traveling to the Fox Valley, Twin Cities Metro, Arizona, Colorado, and Florida to share the good news of what is happening at MACS. MACS' successes include a 14% net 3-year enrollment growth, a greater than 95% teacher retention rate, and an updated leadership team model with an emphasis on "growing our own" leaders. MACS provides and supports innovative learning environments and has a long-range plan for all campuses which includes technology.

Over 95% of our MACS families believe that MACS provides academic excellence and strong Catholic identity and a Christian environment. (October 2020 survey)

With this, I ask you to include yourself in our mission and vision. Help us reach our goal of \$3,700,000 by making a charitable gift to McDonell Area Catholic Schools.



Updated women's bathroom in the commons at McDonell Central Catholic High School and Notre Dame Middle School. The bathrooms previously were outfitted with the original fixtures installed in 1965.

# Campaign Needs

## FACILITIES | \$700,000

Reaching this milestone allows us to improve our historical buildings by updating:

- athletic facilities
- classrooms
- bathrooms
- fire control system

## SCHOLARSHIPS | \$1,500,000

The newly established Guardian Angel Fund will provide scholarships to keep tuition affordable.

## TEACHER SALARIES | \$1,500,000

Allows us to effectively:

- Recruit, support, and retain quality teachers in a competitive teacher market in the greater Chippewa Falls area.
- Provide professional development opportunities to our faculty.

# By the Numbers

Campaign Timeline	June 2018-June 2021
Campaign Goal	\$3,700,000
Total amount pledged	\$2,676,749
Total number of contributors	76
Gift range	\$25-\$500,000

# Campaign Successes

- Secure, newly remodeled entryway and front offices.
- Updated mens and womens bathrooms and fresh paint in Commons.
- Assisted 40 K-12 families with tuition assistance through Guardian Angel funds.
- Provided faculty and staff continuing education and professional development.
- Restored bleachers with safety features and ADA accommodations in the Steve and Deb Roesler Gymnasium.

## Pledge by June 30

Please complete and return the pledge card on the back cover by June 30, 2021.  
Thank you!

Pledges are a multi-year commitment to make a financial gift that supports the mission and vision of the McDonell Area Catholic Schools.

Gifts to MACS can be made via check, credit card, stocks, matching or planned gifts.

To discuss your commitment to the future of MACS **contact:**



Jayne Brannen, Director of Advancement

715.723.0538 x3306

[j.brannen@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:j.brannen@macs.k12.wi.us)

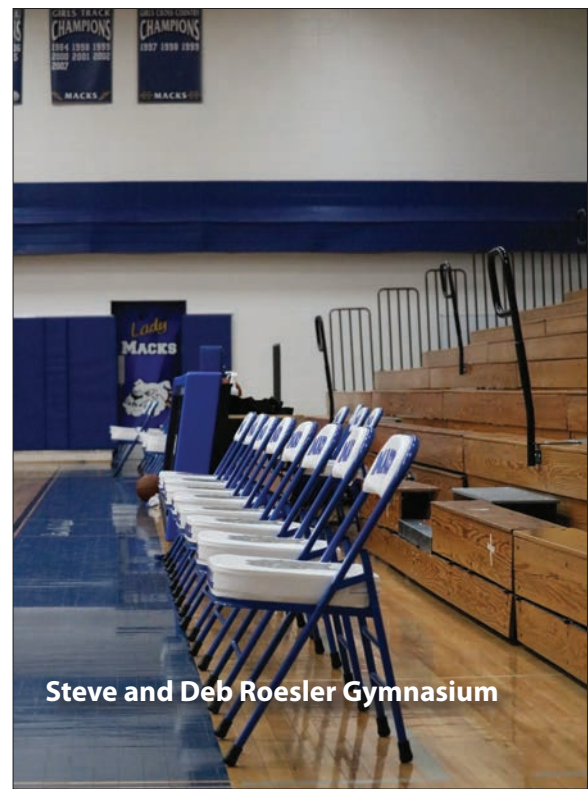
Visit: [McDonellAreaCatholicSchools.org/support-macs/](http://McDonellAreaCatholicSchools.org/support-macs/)



Freshly painted commons area at McDonell Central Catholic High and Notre Dame Middle School.

*"This school should provide no or low cost tuition to every family who wishes to obtain for their children a Catholic education."*

Sir Alexander B. McDonell  
Donor of McDonell Memorial High School



Steve and Deb Roesler Gymnasium



## BURISH continued from page 1

inclined to lose sight of their initial and primary purpose, shared by their parishes, of bringing our young people to Christ. Instead they risk becoming just another private, elite and secular school.

Our McDonell Area Catholic Schools have so many wonderful things going — great students and families, a committed faculty and staff, and a deepening sense of mission and vision to evangelize. It is my hope that our parishes continue to see our schools as our primary apostolate, not only through providing financial support and

facilities, but also through our communal engagement. This will not only keep our schools strong and effective, but it will also strengthen our parishes. Statistically, those who attend Catholic schools are much more likely to regularly practice their faith and engage in parish life as an adult. At the same time, I remind and encourage our Catholic school families that the education and formation provided for your children only has its full effect when families are regularly attending Sunday Mass and fully engaged in the life of their parish. May God bless you all!

# Teams bring home state trophies in spite of pandemic

## Volleyball State Runnerup Team



Teams Photo credit: Kris Horan Photography



## Girls Hockey State Champions



**Sitting L to R:** Aubrey Dorn, Abi Bresina, Josie Witkowski, Grace Goettl, Kaitlyn Ortmann

**Kneeling:** Emma Stelter, Marley Hughes, Lauren Deetz, Destiny Baughman, Sydney Flanagan, Kynslie Hanson

**Standing:** Taylan Hanson, Assistant Coach DeWayne Hanson, Ella Haley, Sidney Rice, Sam Wirtz, Kate Roth, Maggie Craker, Head Coach Kat Roesler

**Assistant Coaches:** Steve Roesler, April Newton, Shannon

Horan, Christi Olejtan **Manager:** Paige Smiskey **Trainer:** Lynn Reuss

**Above:** Sabers Coach Tony Menard was named Coach of the Year 2020-21. The Sabers are a co-op team with girls from McDonell, Chi-Hi and Menomonie. McDonell players are Aly Herr, Kassy Herr and Kinley Laux.



## Boys Basketball State RunnerUp

**Kneeling L to R:** Dan Anderson, Aidan Misfeldt, Landon Moulton, managers Ben Siegenthaler & Carter Grill, Eddie Mittermeyer, Carter Stelter, Miles Flanagan

**Standing L to R:** Keagan Galvez, Joey Janus, Nick Maziarka, Logan Hughes, Tanner Opsal, Jake Siegenthaler, Max Hauser, Gavin Dorn, Luke Newton

**Coaching Staff:** Head Coach Adam Schilling, **Assistant Coaches:** Alex Baierl, Morgan King, Brandon Mittermeyer, assisting Andy Smith **Trainer:** Lynn Reuss



## School Chaplain Father Ethan Hokamp blesses the doorways

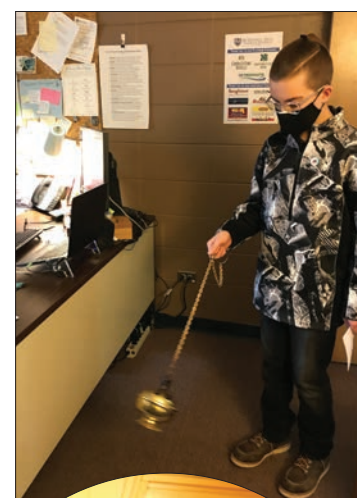
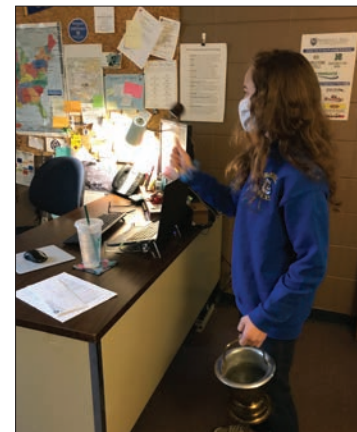
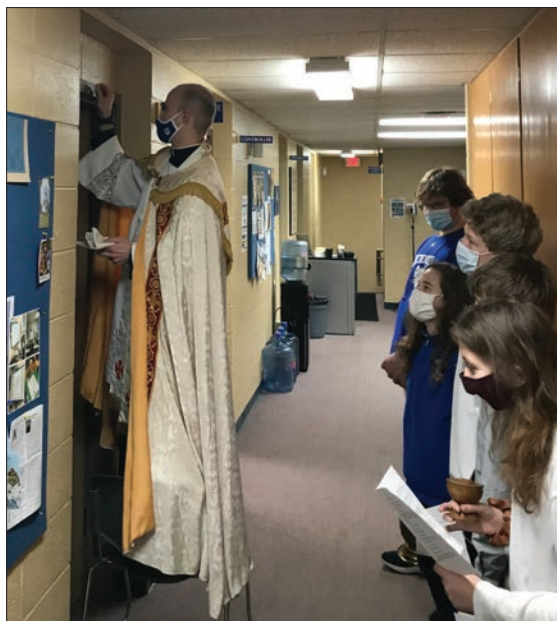
On Friday, January 8, students from Notre Dame Middle School helped Fr. Hokamp bless the school building.

It is Catholic tradition to bless homes around the time of the Epiphany by writing 20 + C + M + B + 21 on the door frame in chalk. The numbers on either end of the blessing signify the current year, and the letters C, M, and B are the initials of the three wise men who came

to visit Jesus in Bethlehem. Their names were Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Fr. Hokamp blessed the school to ask for their intercession and protection for the students during this new year, writing with chalk on the doors of classrooms and offices throughout the school.



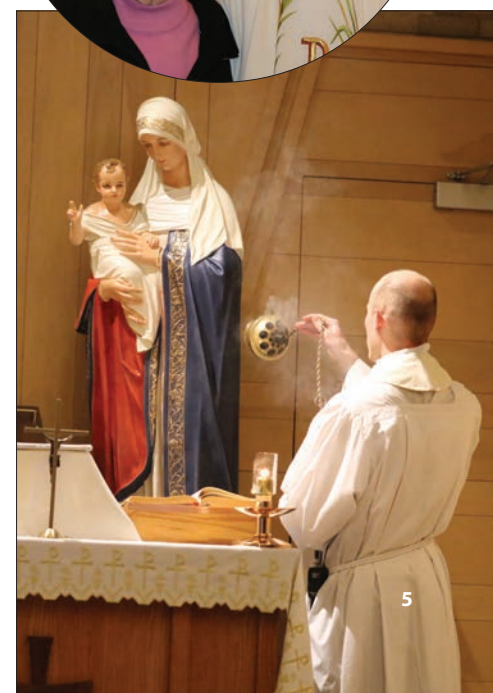
**Far Right:** Middle school students bless the school system offices with holy water and incense while above/right Father Hokamp marks the door frames.



## Dedication of new statue in the McDonell Central Chapel

On Saturday, January 23, 2021, Fr. Hokamp celebrated a private Mass with the Zutter family in the McDonell chapel. The Zutter family had generously donated a statue of the Madonna and Child for the chapel in honor of their mother Helen (Anderl) Zutter, an alumna of the class of 1941. Before the Mass, Fr. Hokamp blessed and dedicated the statue, much to the surprise of Helen, who, until that moment, was not aware of the donation which her family made to her Alma Mater in her honor.

**Right:** Helen Anderl Zutter '41, with Father Hokamp, is surprised by her family who purchased a statue and dedicated it in honor of her at McDonell Central.







## Alum Spotlight

At 7:30 a.m. EST on September 1, 2020 Rose Buchmann '13 started swimming all the way around Manhattan. With a GPS tracker, people were able to follow her swim.

Photo credit: Nathaniel Johnston

Above: "The Hudson River got a little choppy... about an hour from the finish. Encouragement from my crew was the only reason I made it past this point. I'm glad I have this picture because I was not enjoying the view or really anything at this point. But you gotta just keep swimming." - Rose Buchmann

## Ultramarathon swimming for health and to prove a point

Rose Buchmann, Class of 2013, started swimming when she was eight years old with the Chippewa Falls YMCA swim team. At a very young age, Rose suffered from joint laxity and a lot of musculoskeletal pain. Swimming helped her feel strong and capable. Little did she know how important her faith and swimming would become for her physical and mental health.

At the age of 15, Rose, her mother and five siblings were all diagnosed with Vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (VEDS), a connective tissue disorder that causes chronic pain and a variety of other symptoms. Her orthopedic doctor told her she would never be able to swim competitively again. "Getting back into swimming after being diagnosed was really difficult, and the community at McDonell and throughout Chippewa Falls provided so much support for me and my family," said Rose. But for this disorder, swimming was perfect for her. It was a very natural thing for her to keep swimming like she had been before the diagnosis. Rose worked hard on her physical therapy and set out to prove her doctor wrong. Rose said, "My faith played a huge role in believing that there was more to the suffering and pain."

Except for the one swimming season Rose missed because

of VEDS, she continued through the end of high school swimming competitively for the McDonell/Chi-Hi women's swim team achieving MVP each of the years she swam.

After graduation from McDonell Central Catholic High School, Rose was accepted to the Milwaukee School of Engineering, which didn't have a pool or a swim team, so she wasn't able to swim like she did while living in Chippewa Falls. She graduated with a Bachelors of Science degree in

Biomedical Engineering in 2017 and went on to Cornell University for graduate school in the summer that same year. There she started swimming laps for exercise, and the summer of 2019 she decided to try open water swimming since the pool hours were reduced and Cayuga Lake is less than 10 minutes from her house. "I really loved it, and I tried my first

open water race in June 2019, which was 1.4 miles across the Potomac River." In August 2019, she swam 1.5 miles in the Milwaukee River for the Cream City Classic. Rose went on to say, "I was enjoying getting back into racing, so I signed up for the Welland 15km UltraSwim in Ontario in September which took 4 hours 25 minutes, and less than two weeks later, I won the Finger Lakes Open Water Swim Festival 10 mile race in Seneca in 5 hours 4 minutes."

Though the races Rose signed up for during the summer

“My faith played a huge role in believing that there was more to the suffering and pain.”

- Rose Buchmann '13



of 2020 were all canceled because of COVID-19, she was notified that New York Open Water was allowing some swimmers to swim the 20 bridges circumnavigation of Manhattan, so just 10 weeks before September 1, the latest race date they offered, Rose started training again after four months off. "I did all my training swims in the lakes surrounding Ithaca which was a really fun experience!" Rose met a lot of other swimmers who were transitioning to open water because the pools were closed.

In open water swimming, Rose has been able to find many of the things she loved about swimming with the McDonell/Chi-Hi swim team, like exciting competitions & long-lasting friendships. "I am really grateful I was able to experience competitive swimming growing up in Chippewa so that I have this interesting aspect to my life now that helps me stay strong and healthy. It also helps a lot dealing with the stress of grad school!"

Rose swam around Manhattan on September 1, 2020. It was current-assisted, meaning she swam in the direction of the current. "I got a push the whole 28.5 miles." She swam counter-clockwise and started and finished at Battery Park. The route took her up the East River, east to west in the Harlem River, and down the Hudson River. It took her 8 hours 11 minutes and 53 seconds.

Rose concluded, "Now, more than ever, I have relied on my faith to push myself to learn and grow as a human and as an endurance athlete. I am so thankful that I am able to continue to swim, and I think this is just the beginning of a long journey of ultramarathon swimming and proving how capable I am."

#### *What water feats are in Rose's future?*

June 19, 2021, Rose will be swimming in the END-WET race in North Dakota (36 miles, current assisted). She is also considering an attempt to swim Cayuga Lake which is 34.6 miles (the course record is over 20 hours, she is hoping to go under that to set a new record).

Eventually, she would love to attempt the English Channel and Catalina Channel. These swims plus the Manhattan Island swim make up the "Triple Crown of Open Water Swimming" – basically the three big international swims.

Photographer Nathaniel Johnston works with New York Open Water to provide support kayaking for swimmers during the event. He said, "Rose just KILLED her swim around Manhattan! As always, it's an honor to be kayak support for an awesome athlete on such an epic adventure."



Photo credit: Nathaniel Johnston

**Above:** "We waited for the Staten Island Ferry to pass, then swam right behind it. Swimming so close to the ferry was one of the highlights of being in the East River." - Rose Buchmann



Rose is currently a fourth year PhD student at Cornell University studying biomedical engineering. She works in David Erickson's lab, and her research focuses on developing infectious disease diagnostics for developing countries.

**Left:** Rose at Pier 25, Tribeca, NYC the night before her race.

**Right:** "This was my favorite view of the entire swim! After over five hours, we finally made it to the Hudson River! This is the George Washington Bridge, #20 of 20. Still pretty far from the finish, but the currents were strongly in my favor." - Rose Buchmann

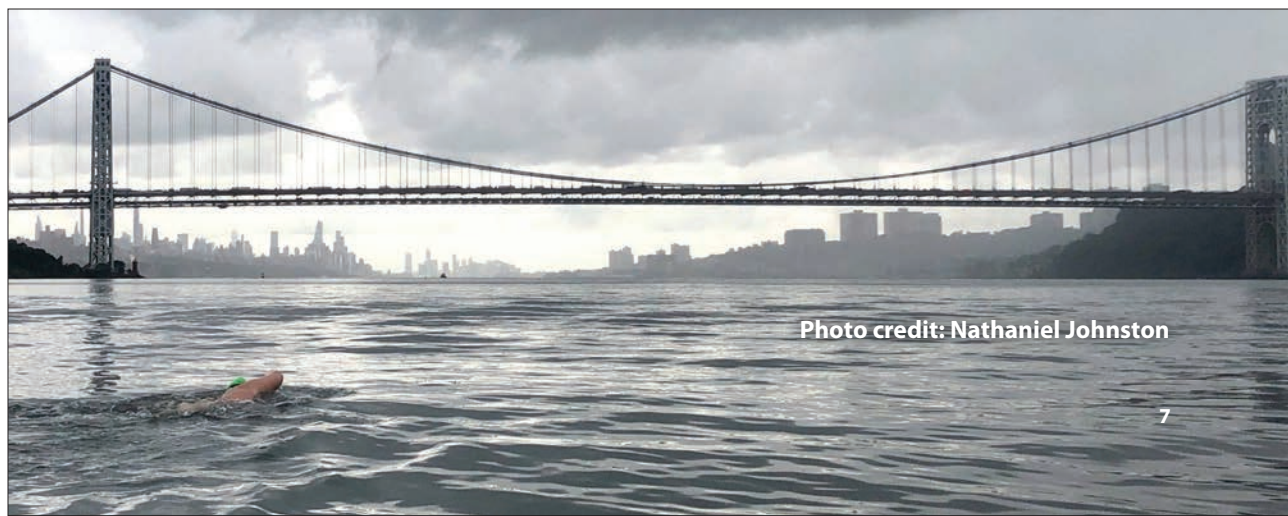


Photo credit: Nathaniel Johnston



## EDUCATION COMMISSION

Dear MACS family of parents, supporters and alumni,

I want to personally thank each of you for your support and patience in this past year. The members of the Education Commission, including myself, have been and will continue to keep the best interests of our children, our staff, parents, and our entire MACS family as our foremost priority.

It goes without saying that balancing the educational needs of our children with the public health risk is no simple task. Certainly, there have been no easy answers and no simple decisions. Even within the Commission and the Pandemic Steering Committee established by the Commission, we have not always all agreed on the best answer. However, we have worked together to do our very best to balance those needs and continue to serve our mission. I am proud that the many individuals involved in this planning process have been able to transcend the politics that have divisively infiltrated these discussions elsewhere and debate proposed action plans in a spirited yet respectful manner so as to achieve a purposeful balancing of the weighty considerations at play.

I thank all the members of the Commission and Pandemic Steering Committee for their extra time and flexibility this year in meeting, sometimes on short notice, to work toward plans which have allowed our school to stay open for the better part of this school year while keeping our children, staff, and families as safe as possible. I also commend President Molly Bushman, and the entire MACS leadership and staff for all the extra hours that have been put into this school year so far. It does not go unnoticed.

While some may not have agreed with all steps taken or plans implemented, it is my hope that you understand that you were heard and every effort was made to balance differing viewpoints, educational needs, risk mitigation, and the other emotional and health needs of our students, staff, and families.

On a most hopeful note, last year the Education Commission formed the Long Range Planning Committee for the purpose of examining our current facilities and begin planning for the future of our school system. In the early discussions of this Committee and in collaboration with our parish priests, MACS joined the city parishes in retaining Meitler Consulting for the purposes of creating a city-wide Pastoral Plan encompassing broad aspects of Catholic life in Chippewa Falls, from the educational needs of our children, to parish ministries, to the details of finance and facilities.

I am encouraged by the attention this project has received from our parish and school families and the level of participation so far. We have, to date, had hundreds of households contribute feedback to this project and we are grateful for the feedback you have given. You can read more about the project on the MACS website at [bit.ly/meitler](http://bit.ly/meitler) and view the key findings.

My prayer for each of you is for your continued safety and peace for the remainder of this school year and into the summer.

God Bless,

*TJ Proue*

MACS Education Commission Chair

### MACS Administrators - Ex-Officio

Very Rev. Jesse Burish, Dean of Chippewa Falls Deanery  
Mrs. Molly Bushman, President  
Mrs. Mary Huffcutt, Dean of Academic Affairs and Accreditation  
Mrs. Gabriella Jauch, Director of Early Childhood  
Mr. Scott Sokup, Controller  
Mr. Brian Schulner, Middle-High Principal  
Mr. Eric Wedemeyer, Elementary Principal

## PARISH REPRESENTATIVES 2020-21

**Timothy (TJ) Proue '02**

Chairperson

St. Charles Borromeo

**Justus Busse**

Vice Chairperson

St. Charles Borromeo

**Regina (Regi) Geissler**

St. Charles Borromeo

**Erin Brick**

Church of the Holy Ghost

**Tracy Fischer**

Church of the Holy Ghost

**Open Position**

Church of the Holy Ghost

**Mike Crawford '88**

The Church of Notre Dame

**Matt Elstran**

The Church of Notre Dame

**Scott Siegenthaler**

The Church of Notre Dame

**Gina Smiskey**

St. Peter the Apostle, Tilden

**Tracy Bormann**

St. Bridget, Springfield

**Andy Shakal**

St. John the Baptist, Cooks Valley

**Open Position**

St. Paul's, Bloomer

**Brian & Kendra Eslinger**

All Saints Parish, Boyd, Cadott, Stanley

**Andrew '07 & Erica Rubenzer '07 Ruf**

Sacred Heart, Jim Falls

## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

**Elise Bormann**

Senior

**Paige Smiskey**

Junior



Each adult member represents the interests of their parish, along with the student representation to work with the school's leadership team to help ensure the mission and vision is being met.



# THANK YOU

from the  
Senior Class 2021

My name is Ann David, and I am a senior at McDonell Central Catholic High School. I have attended the McDonell Area Catholic Schools system since I was in kindergarten, and I attend St. Raymond of Peñafort Parish in Fall Creek, Wisconsin. The MACS system has provided me, and every student in its classrooms, the tools and education required to succeed in further education and in the workforce.

While many school systems boast of their students' excellent academic track records, the success of students at MACS speaks for itself. Advanced classes taught by experienced teachers prepare students, both academically and socially, to both learn at a higher level and to work with other students and staff in a professional manner. Teachers value each individual and go above and beyond the usual effort to make sure subjects are understood, not just memorized. For example, this winter I was struggling with having my classes online and having shortened class time with my teachers. My teachers made a point to be available to answer my questions and concerns and helped me get through the material and difficult concepts. While some of my friends at other schools felt deserted by their teachers during virtual learning, I knew my teachers were there for me, and will be there, whether I have classes at home or at school.



While the health and safety of students and staff in the MACS system was the main focus during COVID-19, the administration encouraged healthy living and emphasized that healthy students make smarter students. Over 70 percent of eligible students participate in sports, which leads not only to exercise, but to teamwork that extends far beyond the playing field. Through sports, I have made many strong friendships and participated in experiences I will remember for the rest of my life. I would like to especially thank all the coaches and parents who give their time and energy to cultivating student-athletes. They know the value of learning is just as important as being a starter at the next basketball game.

The MACS system is special to me because it has not only academically prepared me for my future, but has also spiritually prepared me. Through all my years at MACS, I've come to understand the religion that my parents chose for me, and that I now choose for myself. Prayer is a critical part of every school day, with the day beginning with morning prayer and breaking at noon to pray the Angelus. Religion classes dive into the intricacies of the Catholic faith. The chapel, the heart of McDonell High School, is a beautiful example of what is valued the most at MACS: faith. With continued support from the MACS community, the schools in the MACS system continue to exemplify the best choice for a Catholic education in the Chippewa Valley.

One of the core values of the MACS system is servant leadership, and that is best embodied by the service opportunities that are available to students at McDonell through the Student Ambassador Program. I have been able to volunteer all around the Chippewa Valley by participating in this program. Through each experience, I have learned something unique. Service goes hand in hand with another core value: community.

I truly cannot say how much the MACS community has impacted my class and me during our time in the MACS system. Thank you to the innumerable supporters who have contributed to making MACS the place it is. Thank you to everyone who has cheered at our basketball games, taken our senior pictures, applauded at a concert or performance, coached us, inspired us, and supported us on our journey. Whether you attended the Spaghetti Spectacular, or bought Scrip in the central office, played at the alumni tournament, or drove a bus down to State, any way you have supported MACS is irreplaceable and unforgettable.

On behalf of the senior class, thank you!

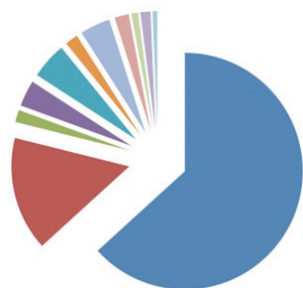
*Ann David*, Class of 2021



# Financial Reports 2019-20



**REVENUE 2019-20**  
\$4,494,693



**EXPENSES 2019-20**  
\$4,756,385

45.3% Tuition & Fees  
21.3% Parish Support  
11.5% Advancement & Fundraising  
10.7% Early Childhood Center  
3.6% Other income  
3.9% Athletics  
3.4% Food Service  
0.5% Scrip Net

63.3% Wages & Salaries  
15.6% Emp Benefits & Taxes  
1.7% Athletic  
3.6% Instructional  
5.0% Administrative  
1.8% Equip., Repairs & Maint.  
4.2% Facilities & Utilities  
2.0% Technology  
0.9% Childcare  
1.4% Food Service  
0.7% Other

## Finance Reports Charts

The pie charts (left) show what was received and expensed in the various categories for the year 2019-2020. MACS finished the year with operating revenues of \$4,494,693 and operating expenses of \$4,756,385. This resulted in an operation loss of \$261,692 excluding the non-cash depreciation expense.

COVID restrictions impacted both the Revenue and Expense side. Revenues dropped in Scrip, athletics, childcare and food service. Expenses increased in administrative, instructional and wages.

## Scrip Gift Card Sales

Sales were \$1,448,355 for the 2018-19 fiscal year. Total Scrip profit amounted to \$63,901, of which \$27,135 was allocated to school families helping with their tuition.

Scrip gift cards are a fund raising program where anyone can purchase the over 80 different local and national business gift cards we have on hand in our MACS Central Office. *Thank you to the businesses who participate in this win/win program!*

## Finance Committee

The Finance Committee works to ensure that MACS is strategic about resource management in order to ensure quality education and a safe environment for the long term. Committee members are appointed by their parish. The committee meets monthly to review financial results, the budget and investments. In addition they discuss news and trends that may impact Catholic Education. Committee members include the parish representatives and the President, Controller and Business Manager at MACS.

## Parish Reps on Committee 2019-20

Jamie Leibrandt	Chair/St. Charles Borromeo
Michele Kressin	St. Charles Borromeo
Chuck Frenette '67	Church of the Holy Ghost
Dave See '79	Church of the Holy Ghost
Bruce Mlsna	The Church of Notre Dame
Tony Thornton '87	The Church of Notre Dame
Glen Geissler	St. Paul, Bloomer
Dennis Hunt '86	St. Peter the Apostle, Tilden
Kevin DeCook	The Church of Notre Dame

## Ex-Officio 2019-20

Very Rev. Justin Kizewski	Dean
Msgr. Michael Gorman	Deanery Elected Pastor
TJ Proue '02	Edu. Commission Chair
John Van Den Berg	Controller
Teresa Dachel	Business Manager
Molly Meinen Bushman '98	President

## Student Tuition Costs for 2020-21

Grade Level	Tuition	Average Cost to Educate
K-8 Supporting Parish	\$2,990	\$8,500
K-8 Non Supporting Parish	\$4,229	\$8,500
9-12 Supporting Parish	\$4,250	\$11,700
9-12 Non Supporting Parish	\$5,998	\$11,700
Parish family cap with 3 students	\$8,600	
Parish family cap with 4+ students	\$10,160	
Non parish family cap with 3 students	\$10,660	
Non parish family cap with 4+ students	\$12,220	

## Tuition Costs for 2020-21

MACS had an average tuition increase of 3.7% for the 2020-21 fiscal year. However, the net increase seen by many families was closer to 2%, because we eliminated a technology fee and some other fees as part of our strategy to reduce fees.

Thank you to all alumni, parishioners and businesses that supported MACS in 2019-20. Your generosity has enabled MACS to keep tuition affordable.

Families who belong to a supporting parish and meet the criteria for active supporting parish member qualify for the supporting parish assisted tuition. Financial assistance is available for active parish members based on need. MACS participates in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program and the Special Needs Scholarship Program.



## THANK YOU TO OUR PLATINUM PARTNERS



## THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS



## THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS

J.W. Logging      Toycen Ford

**Thank you to our 2020-21  
Platinum Partners | Corporate Partners  
and Corporate Sponsors**

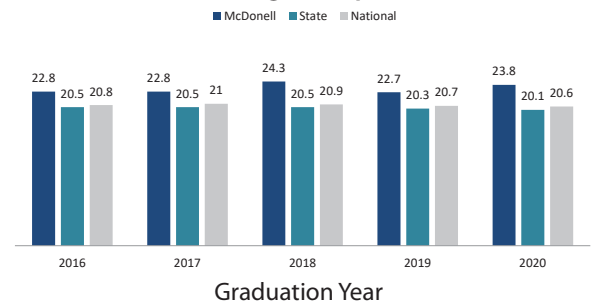
We appreciate all that you do for MACS  
and our Chippewa Falls community!

## Student Achievement

### ACT Five Year Composite Scores

The ACT reflects the achievement of McDonell graduates to the extent to which they are prepared for college-level work. The ACT consists of curriculum-based testing of educational development in English, Mathematics, Reading and Science designed to measure the skills needed for success in first-year college course work. The table shows the five-year trend of our students compared to the state and national averages.

#### ACT Test Average Composite Scores



### National Honor Society Class of 2020



Jon Bohaty  
Andrew Herron  
Eion Kressin  
Kaleigh Ripley  
Anthony Roach  
Mark Buchmann

Joseph Thaler  
Caleb Thornton  
Trent Witkowski  
Abigale Pieper  
Rachel Smiskey

### MACS Accreditation from AdvancED to WRISA



McDonell Area Catholic Schools have recently been accredited by Wisconsin Religious & Independent Schools Accreditation (WRISA). This state recognized accreditation organization is also supported by the Diocese of La Crosse and focuses on four pillars:

- (1) Mission and Catholic Identity
- (2) Governance and Leadership
- (3) Academic Excellence
- (4) Operational Vitality



# Advancement



Involving YOU  
in our Mission  
& Vision

Director  
Jaynee Armstrong  
Brannen '03



Thank you for supporting our 13th Annual Spaghetti Spectacular! We had beautiful weather for our outdoor November event and a great turnout. We exceeded our \$20,000 goal and raised \$23,500 with \$18,500 going directly back to our school system. A huge thank you to our committee, volunteers, student ambassadors and school sponsors for making this event possible.

We needed to postpone the 13th Annual Mid-Winter Mardi Gras event to 2022. However, there is a replacement event, MACS Celebrates 140 years, happening on June 12, 2021 at the Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds you will not want to miss! *See more information on back cover.*

Your support at these events and your participation in the Annual Fund Drive make tuition affordable to families and allow MACS to hire and retain highly qualified teachers. The gifts we receive fall into many categories including the general fund, student tuition assistance, memorials, matching employer and restricted gifts. The McDonell Area Catholic Schools fiscal reporting year is July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Your donation July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 will be recognized in the next annual report. Thank you for making the MACS Annual Fund Drive a success for the 2020 fiscal year.

Stay safe and be well.

715.723.0538 x3306  
j.brannen@macs.k12.wi.us

## Thank you to alumni and supporters of the 2019-20 Annual Fund Drive

### 1930'S

1937  
Susan Ermatinger Cycon (PC)

1938

1939  
Gerald Joas (PC)

### 1940'S

1940  
Harold Gingras (CC)

1941  
James Sheeley  
Helen Anderl Zutter

1942

1943

1944  
Kathryn Mower Armstrong  
John Rooney (BC)

1945  
Dorothy A. Hebert  
Helen Dupey Kouba  
Bev Popple Schmidmayr (CC)

1946  
James & Patricia Popple Bembnister (PC)  
Mark Emerson (CC)  
Gladys Gagnon Lompa  
Janet Kurtz Prueher

1947  
Robert Miller  
Eugene Mower (PC)  
Gyda (Bill) Nadreau (CC)

1948  
Jacqueline Lauer Anderson  
James & Patricia Popple Bembnister (PC)  
Ann O'Donnell Egan  
John & Barbara Lindstrom O'Connor  
Gerald & Viola Prince  
Ramona Yakesh Zumbrock

1949  
Cecilia Nelson  
Bill & Ardie LeClerc McIlquham  
Robert (Eugenia Stoffel) Chapman (PC)  
Don (Donna Pouliot) Johnson  
James Paquette  
Marlene Peloquin Rooney (BC)  
Maynard Stoehr

### 1950'S

1950  
Susan DeLong  
Henry & Dorothy Revor Geissler  
John Hughes Jr.  
Carol Fox Konerik  
James Paul  
Don & Estelle Rada  
Norbert Tlachac (CC)

1951  
Merlyn Gingras

Beverly Willette Maurer  
Robert Monarski  
Larry & Maryann Rooney Muldoon (PC)  
Jennifer Hays Worthington

1952  
Anonymous  
Janet Borneman Buckli  
Ralph & Barbara Congdon  
Ruth Hub  
LaVonne Stoehr Marquie (CC)  
Mary Lou Klaes Matthews  
Patricia (Homer) Peloquin  
Dayton & Eileen Swoboda Reed  
Lorenz Schreier (PC)  
Charles Wilbur  
Helen Jolliffe Young

1953  
William & Janice Loiselle Kroll  
Julius & Jackie Lee  
Catherine Ryan  
Mary Kuechenmeister Thornton

1954  
Richard & Nancy Newberg Douville (CC)  
William Janc  
Larry & Eileen Martineau  
Carolyn Paul McGrath  
Bill & Ardie LeClerc McIlquham  
Joan Meznarich  
Charlotte Bowe Prince  
Francis & Darlene Simon  
Bette Smith Wild

1955  
William Bischel  
Michael Deuel (CC)  
Richard & Nancy Newberg Douville (CC)  
Sr. Yvonne Hiess, SSND  
Larry & Maryann Rooney Muldoon (PC)  
Lawrence and Patricia Nicolai  
Joseph & Betty Wucherpfenning Ryan  
John & Diane Plante Welsh  
Paula Monarski Westberg

1956  
James & Evelyn Mahr Bandoli  
Alice (Francis) Bohl (BC)  
Francis & Doris Gaier (CC)  
Robert & Angeline Skany Holmes  
Richard Porn  
Vernon Steinmetz (CC)  
Bill Zumbrock (CC)

1957  
Richard & Marian Kranig Anderson  
John Bischel (CC)  
Norbert Gaier  
David K. Hebert (CC)  
Earl & Dorothy Merchart Kaiser  
Gerry R. Meade  
Francis M. Naves  
Robert & Cecilia Simon Newman (CC)  
Ellen A. O'Neil (GC)  
Richard & Barbara Rooney  
Rita Schuebel Estate (BC)  
Geraldine Felix White-Marko



1958

Donald Bischel (CC)  
Kenneth Butak  
Mary Duss  
Irvin Geissler  
Terry R. Hagen  
Peter Kalk  
Ron & Barb Kleinheinz Lambert  
Stephen & Sue Onsager Meinen  
**Joseph Oberweis (PC)**  
Rev. John A. Schultz

1959

**Anonymous (BC)**  
Kathryn Heerey Biegel  
Tom & LaVonne Bernier Dejno  
**Judy Horvatin Gaier (BC)**  
Don & Claudia Hable  
James & Kathleen Kleusch LeClerc (CC)  
Bruce Potter  
Deanne Globensky Rubenzer  
Scott & Arline Schleppenbach  
Taylor  
Mike Weigand

## 1960'S

1960

Anonymous  
Carol (Patrick) Akan  
Neil & Kathryn Derks Haselwander  
John Hillery  
Larry & Mary Loiselle Lanners (CC)  
**Joanne Bowe Leonard (PC)**  
Stephen & Sue Onsager Meinen  
Bill Piotrowski (CC)  
John & Barbara Nowak Rasmus  
**Clarence & Diane Stoffel (BC)**  
Susan Klaes Zimmerman

1961

Mary Lou Peil Burdick (CC)  
Anne Monarski Ganka  
Bruce R. Greenwood  
Michael & Susan Hartman  
**Robert & Mary Daniel Jenneman (PC)**  
Bill Klaes  
Paul & Judy Schultz  
Dennis & Sally Andrejeski Wrucke

1962

Ralph & Lucianne Geisler Cushman  
**Robert & Bonita Aubart Gelina (BC)**  
Victor & Charlene Ciolkosz Kervina  
Robert & Monica Steinmetz  
Penzenstadler  
John & Barbara Nowak Rasmus  
**Skip & Jill Thaler (BC)**

1963

Anonymous  
Judith Bowe Akey (CC)  
Steve & Carol Bohl  
Ted & Anna Bowe (CC)  
Ronald & Betty Krall Bresina (CC)  
Dennis & Karen Lea Elstran  
**John & Gail Hanson (PC)**  
**Dr. John J. Janc (XC)**  
**Robert & Mary Daniel Jenneman (PC)**  
Larry & Mary Loiselle Lanners (CC)  
**Cheryl Kern-Simirenko (BC)**  
Roland Buzz & Lynne Stelter Nelson  
Charles & Christina Norseng  
Thomas & Joan Schwartz

Peter Herron '21  
memorizes 1000  
digits of Pi ( $\pi$ ),  
tying the McDonell  
Central Catholic  
record with  
John Polus '13.



1964

Michael & Patricia Hartman Bertrand  
Betty Schemenauer Bohl (CC)  
**Linda Pitsch Brantmeier (BC)**  
Ralph & Lucianne Geisler Cushman  
**Steve & Linda Cyr (BC)**  
John Geissler  
Richard L. Geissler  
Robert & Robin Hedington  
Hassemer  
Dan & Diane Seckora O'Connell  
Donald (Carol Loiselle) Porn  
Jim Scheidler  
Terry & Cheryl Wedemeyer

1965

Anonymous (CC)  
Michael & Patricia Hartman Bertrand  
Joe & Marie Hofkes Hauser  
Gregory & Mary Monarski  
Holub (CC)  
Richard & Marilyn Liedl Krumenauer  
Carl & Jane Kleusch Laveck  
**Charles Loiselle (PC)**  
**John Lubs (LC)**  
Dan & Diane Seckora O'Connell  
Stephen & Debra Porn

1966

Anonymous  
Timothy Arntz (CC)  
Harold & Kathleen Dachel  
**Rita Oberweis (PC)**  
**Thomas & Victoria Stumm (PC)**

1967

**Jacqueline & Jim Bernier (MC)**  
Barb Bowe (CC)  
Harold & Kathleen Dachel  
Curtis Frazier (CC)  
**Charles & Jo Frenette (GC)**  
Robert & Robin Hendington Hassemer  
Jeanne Hebert (CC)  
Thomas McCarthy  
**Deborah Ritzinger (PC)**  
Susan Schmidmayr  
Schamberger (CC)  
Jim Smola  
Karen Thomas  
**Tom Voith (PC)**  
Jane Waldusky Von Feldt

1968

Scott & Kathie Emerson (CC)  
Jane Hebert Lefler  
Michael & Erica Sandretto (CC)

1969

Julia Kassner  
Jack & Susan Feider Kelly  
Ronald & Mary Chovan King  
Ann Piotrowski

1970'S

1970  
Dr. Richard Borman  
Robert & Susan Gindt Konop  
Daniel J. Lauer (CC)  
Susan Blum Nielson  
**Steven Thaler (LC)**

1971

**Gerald & Susan Cherrier (PC)**  
Robert Daniel  
Jean Altman Durch (CC)  
Jeff & Alice Buchberger Heinzen  
John McCarthy  
Gordy & Nancy Nelson Meinen  
Nancy Tannler Schuh

1972

**Paul Bembnister (PC)**  
Suzanne Eder  
Sandy Raawe Schumacher

1973

David & Julie Bembnister Clark (CC)  
John L. Larson  
Mike & Karen Marquie Lutz (CC)  
Bob & Kathryn Antolak Robbins (CC)

1974

Tom & Maria Cooney

Debbie Tannler Heath  
Robert & Susan Gindt Konop  
Jeff Mayer (CC)  
Catherine Peck (CC)  
Tony & Sue Reiter (CC)

1975

Dan & Susan Globensky Jacobson (CC)  
Mike & Christine Peterson (CC)  
Bill Wenzel  
Tom Zutter

1976

Anonymous (PC)  
Anonymous (CC)  
**James & Nancy Bischel (GC)**  
Ted Blum (CC)  
John Hibbard  
Dan & Susan Globensky Jacobson (CC)  
**Dave & Theresa Davis Meinen (BC)**

1977

Jerry Adams (CC)  
Terese Globensky  
Dave Jacobs  
Bruce & Colleen Krejci  
Mary McDonald  
Jim & Rhonda Bohl Seckora  
Pete & Kathy Marquie Sokup

1978

**Joe Bembnister (BC)**  
**Gerald & Mary Wermund Jacobson (GC)**  
**Dave & Theresa Davis Meinen (BC)**  
Jim & Rhonda Bohl Seckora  
Pete & Kathy Marquie Sokup (CC)

1979

**Anonymous (MC)**  
**Jane Davis (PC)**

Class of 1979 cont. to page 14

# Annual Giving Categories

(LC)

**Legacy Circle**  
Annual Gift \$25,000+

(XC)

**Sister Mary Francis**  
**Xavier Circle**  
Annual Gift of \$15,000 - 24,999

(MC)

**Father 'Mac'**  
**McGuigan Circle**  
Annual Gift of \$10,000 - 14,999

(GC)

**Guardian Circle**  
Annual Gift of \$5,000 - 9,999

(BC)

**Benefactor Club**  
Annual Gift of \$1,000 - 4,999

(PC)

**Pacesetter Club**  
Annual Gift of \$500 - 999

(CC)

**Challenger Club**  
Annual Gift of \$200 - 499

**Pioneer Club**

Annual Gift of \$100 - 199

**MACS Club**

Annual Gift up to \$99



For God so loved the world that  
He gave His only Son, so that



everyone who believes in Him might not  
perish but have Eternal Life.

John 3:16

Alumna Sue Zwiefelhofer Rineck '82, with the help of her husband Brian '82, added the John 3:16 lettering to the newly painted commons.

#### Class of 1979 cont. from page 13

John & Laurie Armstrong Francis  
Wes Moskal (CC)

#### 1980'S

1980  
Dan & Deb Krejchi Dahl  
Lori Simon Lund  
Mike & Karen Marquie Lutz (CC)  
Joseph Maurer (PC)  
Tom & Becky Meinen Rubenzer (CC)

1981  
Tom & Mary '16H Huffcutt (CC)

1982  
Chuck & Jenny '17H Schafer

1983  
Craig & Carol Reed Bowe  
Liz Gaier (CC)  
Pat Horan

1984  
Todd & Debbie Baier Schemenauer (PC)  
Elmer & Barb Krista Eckwright

1985  
Anonymous

1986  
Anonymous (CC)  
Robert & Sherri LeDuc (LC)

1987  
John Bye (CC)  
Mike & Kris Horan (PC)  
Tony & Heather Goettl Thornton (CC)

1988  
Anonymous (LC)  
Randy & Debra Baier (BC)  
Michael & Tristi Crawford  
Scott & Karla Sokup (PC)

1989  
Michael Akan  
Reggie & Lori Lubs Geissler (BC)  
Tony & Heather Goettl Thornton (CC)

#### 1990'S

1990  
Helen Hedrington Dohm

1991  
Todd & Jodi Schemenauer Bresina  
Reggie & Lori Lubs Geissler (BC)

1992

1993  
Todd & Jodi Schemenauer Bresina  
Carl Smiskey  
Jeff & Heather Frank Weimert

1994  
Brock & Alyssa Schneider Cooley (PC)

1995  
Josh & Amy Meinen (CC)

1996

1997  
1998  
Patrick & Molly Meinen Bushman (PC)

1999  
Joshua & Jessica Sedlacek (CC)

#### 2000'S

2000  
Nathan & Kari Roesler Stepp (CC)  
Bobby Swoboda (PC)

2001  
2002  
Timothy & Julia Jilek Proue (PC)

2003  
Charles & Jaynee Armstrong Brannen  
Hiep & Mary Phung (BC)  
Shane & Lauren Hepfler Sullivan

2004

2005

2006  
2007  
Alicia K. Davis (CC)  
Mitchell & Kiersten Jacobson

2008

2009

2010

2011  
Brianna Krause Rider  
Brittany Steiger Sykora

#### FRIENDS

Anonymous (x7)  
Anonymous (CC)  
Anonymous (PC)  
Anonymous (XC)  
John & Stephanie Abbe (CC)  
Kathleen Adams (BC)  
Jennifer Armstrong  
Skip '14H & Rose '14H August  
Mark & Kay Baker  
Russell & Lynne Bauer  
Shawn & Barb Berg (CC)  
Ron & Jolene Berg  
Maria Berseth  
Mark Birrittella  
Thomas & Kathleen Biskupski  
Erica Boehm  
Jon and Tamara Bohaty (CC)

#### Chad & Tracy Bormann (BC)

Barry & Lori Bremness (CC)  
Gerald Brost  
Bill & Jennifer Buescher  
Very Rev. Jesse Burish  
Justus & Amanda Busse (BC)  
Sandy Chamberlain (BC)  
Wayne & Teresa Dachel (CC)  
Lester & Rosemary Davis  
Amanda Empey  
Bridget Ericksen  
Christopher & Tracy Fischer  
Dave & Tracy Kuehni-Flanagan (BC)

Daniel & Connie Freagon  
Tim & M-C Fries (GC)  
Lori Frome  
Rik & Cathy '14H Greenseth (CC)  
Katie & Jordan Hackett  
Elizabeth Hedrington  
Kevin & Andrea Hess (PC)  
John Higgins (CC)  
Rev. Ethan Hokamp  
George & Mary Huffcutt

Marian Hunt (GC)  
Shannon Jaeger  
Leroy & Patty Jansky (CC)  
Jane Kellen  
Rev. Justin Kizewski  
Kathy Klatt  
Valerius Knobloch (CC)  
Nicholas & Denise Krajewski  
Matt & Michelle Kressin (BC)  
Jerry '13H & Dr. Mary '13H Kuehl (BC)  
Dennis Kurtz

Thomas Lambert (BC)  
Monica Laux  
Jamie & Amber Leibbrandt  
Jennifer Linn  
Janice McMichael (CC)  
Gail Mittermeyer  
Bruce & Beth Mlsna  
Tim Molak  
Raymond J. Nazer  
Kenneth & Peggy '14H Nehring  
Barry & Mary Nesja  
Joe Niese

Tom & Karen Olson (BC)  
David Pardoe  
Peter & Cheryl Pokrzywinski (BC)

Julie Pomietlo (CC)  
Dan & Jeanette Prince  
Mike & Ruthann Proue (CC)  
Buckley & Loree Rawhouser  
Marge Rhodes  
Gerald & Ingrid Ripley  
Jill Ritchie  
Zech & Amy Rochester

Steve Roesler '14H (BC)  
Rick & Jennifer Rubenzer  
Douglas & Vicki Schemenauer  
Sarah Schultz & Dr. Charles Wirtz (MC)  
Gerald and Nicki Schwoerer (PC)  
Nancy Scobie (CC)

Paul & Darlene Sieg  
Seth & Tracey Smiskey (CC)  
John & Deanna Suilmann  
Michael & Rita Sullivan  
Jeanne Tonnancour  
Dan & Mary Lynn Toyce (CC)  
Jeremy Weigold (CC)  
Dr. Ned & Lou Ann Willkom  
Maribeth Witkowski (PC)  
Steve & Maggie Wojan (CC)  
Gary & Cindy Yohnk  
Terry & Amber Zillmer

#### BUSINESS & COMMUNITY FRIENDS

Access Security, Inc (PC)  
All Saints Church (BC)  
Ameriprise Financial MN (PC)  
AnnMarie Foundation (GC)  
Baugman Sewer & Septic Services (PC)  
Bohl & Proulx Plumbing, Inc. (PC)  
Boxx Sanitation (BC)  
Bresina's, LLC (CC)  
ChemCeed, LLC (BC)  
Chippewa Falls Catholic Womens Club (BC)  
Chippewa Chapter No. 770 - Women of the Moose  
Chippewa Falls Lions Club (CC)  
Chippewa Valley Financial Services (PC)  
Church of the Holy Ghost (LC)  
Class of 1956  
Class of 1967 (CC)  
Class of 1969 (PC)  
Cobblestone Hotel and Suites (BC)  
Community Foundation of Chippewa Cty (BC)  
D Bresina LLC (CC)  
Day of Giving - NCEA/FACTS (CC)  
Dean & Associates (CC)  
Diocese of La Crosse (BC)  
DOA Pesticide Service LLC (CC)  
Eau Claire Community Foundation (CC)  
Fries Financial Services (BC)  
Holy Cross Church (BC)  
Horan Funeral Home (GC)  
HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital (BC)  
ITW Corporate Disbursement (GC)  
James & Margaret Kern Memorial through the Community Foundation of Chippewa County (BC)  
Joanne A Gardner Estate (LC)  
John R. & Ellen A. O'Neil Endowment  
Joseph W Joas Designated Endowment Fund through the Community Foundation of Chippewa County (BC)

**JW Logging of Chippewa Falls, Inc. (BC)**  
**Knights of Columbus (GC)**  
 Kristo Orthodontics (CC)  
 Kwik Trip, Inc. (CC)  
**Land O'Lakes Foundation (GC)**  
 Marshfield Clinic (CC)  
 Martell Tire Service (CC)  
**Mary Pat & Catherine McDowell Estate (PC)**  
**Mason Companies, Inc. (GC)**  
 MAXX Basketball Club (PC)  
 Mayo Clinic Health System (CC)  
 Mayo Foundation for Medical Education  
 and Research (PC)  
 McDonell Alumni Association (CC)  
**McDonell High School Foundation (XC)**  
 McIlquham LLC (CC)  
 MetLife (CC)  
 Northwest Coin Machine Co (CC)  
**Northwestern Bank (GC)**  
 Oktoberfest (CC)  
 Olson's Barstow 80, LLC (CC)  
 Orgel Wealth Management (PC)

Pederson-Volker Funeral Chapel (CC)  
**Religious Care Foundation (LC)**  
**River Country Co-op (GC)**  
 Royal Credit Union (CC)  
 School Choice of Wisconsin, Inc.  
**Sacred Heart of Jesus Church (GC)**  
 Securian Foundation  
 Skip and Jill Thaler Family Endowment  
 Fund through the Community  
 Foundation of Chippewa County (PC)  
 Spirit Volleyball (PC)  
 Spring Street Sports, Inc (PC)  
**St. Charles Borromeo Church (LC)**  
**St. Bridget Church (BC)**  
**St. John the Baptist Church (BC)**  
**St. Paul's Church (BC)**  
**St. Peter the Apostle Church (LC)**  
**Stelter Inc. (GC)**  
 Sue Decker Theatre Endowment Fund  
**Thaler Oil Company (BC)**  
**Toycen Ford (BC)**

**The Church of Notre Dame (LC)**  
**Two Eagles Foundation, Inc. (LC)**  
 U-Haul Co. of Northern Wisconsin & UP  
**W.S. Darley & Co. (BC)**  
 Walmart Foundation (CC)  
 WESTconsin Credit Union (CC)  
**William & Gertrude Casper  
 Foundation (LC)**  
 Wisconsin Metal Fab, Inc. (CC)  
 Wissota Dock and Maintenance LLC (CC)  
 Woodley Company, Inc. (CC)

## Matching Gifts

We are blessed to live in a country where so many people and companies give back. Your employer may be one of them!

### 3M Foundation

Lori Simon Lund '80  
 Shawn Berg

### AbbVie

Hiep Phung '03

### Ameriprise Financial

Bobby J. Swoboda '00

### Hewlett Packard Enterprise Foundation

Michael Buchmann  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Schwoerer

### ITW Corporate

Anonymous

### Kohl's

Anonymous

### Mayo Health Systems

Dr. Mary '13H & Jerry '13H Kuehl  
 Dr. Charles Wirtz

### Securian Foundation

Michael Akan '89

### Walmart Foundation

John Abbe

## Memorial Gifts

### Gifts given in memory of:

Deceased Classmates of 1967  
 Mary Lu Amundson '53  
 Gloria Blum '46  
 Francis Bohl '56  
 Tom Buchberger '73  
 Herb Hunt '75  
 Donna Pouliot Johnson '49  
 James & Margaret Kern  
 Barb Liedl '71  
 Ray Lutz  
 Dick Marquie '53  
 Ed Schulz  
 Ted Skany '54  
 Tom Swoboda '77  
 Lawrence and Joyce Walsh

## MACS informal conversations reflect The Mack Way

Listen to the audio recordings of President Molly Meinen Bushman '98 as she welcomes in **Episode 1: Student Ambassadors** Mary Wermund Jacobson '78 and Ann David '21



**Episode 2: McDonell Volleyball** Maggie Craker '21 and Kat Roesler Hanson '03



### Why Mack Chat?

We chose the name Mack Chat to reflect "The Mack Way" as well as the informal nature of the conversations, i.e. chats.

The Mack Way refers to the culture of our schools, which projects the light of Christ and aligns to our core values: faith, honor, academic excellence, healthy living, community, and servant leadership.

**TUNE IN AT:**  
<https://bit.ly/3a9q6LV>

Eau Claire Hometown Radio produces the 30 minute podcast for MACS, featuring a wide variety of guests with ties to the MACS community.

## In-Kind Donations

A Cut Above  
 A.Anderson Jewelers  
 Access Security  
 Autumn Harvest Winery  
 Baier's Bar  
 Blue Marble Pub, LLC  
 Bresina's Carry-Out  
 Bridge Street Brew  
 Burger King - Chippewa Falls  
 Chippewa Falls Dairy Queen  
 Chippewa Falls YMCA  
 Chippewa Family Restaurant  
 Cook Chiropractic  
 Country Jam USA  
 Country Treasures  
 Cow Caviar  
 Chippewa Falls CrossFit  
 Evvy Ivy Over (Vicki's Framing)  
 Elite Cuts Barber Salon  
 Elite Karate  
 Envy Wellness  
 Essential Body Works  
 Therapeutic Massage  
 Family Fare  
 Fill-Inn Station  
 John '13H & Suz Hebert '70 Flanagan  
 General Beer  
 Goldsmith Coffee Bar

H&R Electric Inc.  
 Hallie Nutrition  
 Interstate All Battery Center  
 Jacobson's Hardware  
 Bob Konop  
 Val Knobloch  
 Kwik Trip  
 Lee Beverage  
 Loopy's Inc.  
 LWS/Economy Storage  
 Marcon  
 Mason Companies, Inc.  
 Micon Cinemas  
 Mouldy's  
 Northern Tap House  
 Northern Wisconsin State Fair  
 Ojibwa Golf and Bowl  
 OneFest  
 Orgel Wealth  
 Zech Rochester  
 Sam Rubenzer  
 Ann Schemenauer  
 Sand Bar  
 Sokup's Market  
 Spectrum Industries, Inc.  
 The Bird Nest  
 U-Haul



## Class Notes

### 1990s

**Bob and Sarabeth Gale Bowe, (both class of 1999)** along with their children, Leah, Vonell, DesMariya, Khloe and Jeremiah welcomed baby sister Isabella Bernadette on January 31, 2021 to their family. God has blessed this beautiful family.



**Isabella Bernadette Bowe**

### 2000s

At her daughter's sixth grade orientation this year, **Jean Lowe McIlquham '02**, went to check to see if her initials "Jean Beej Lowe" & friend **Ashley Haley '02** were still written on the wall at McDonell Central. "Yep! Lots of great memories."



**Jean Lowe McIlquham '02**

### 2010s

**Alex Ohde '17** UW-River Falls senior has been named to the All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference men's basketball team for the 2020-21 season, one of three Falcons to be selected. Ohde led the Falcons in scoring at 18.9 points per game and grabbed a conference-best 11 rebounds per game while shooting 85.7 percent from the free throw line. Overall the 6-foot-7 Ohde shot 52.1 percent from the field and had three double-doubles and scored a season-high 25 points against UW-Stevens Point on Feb. 26.

### MEMORIAM

Please join the MACS community in prayerful memory of deceased alumni, parents, and friends.

**Gerald Joas '39**

January 13, 2021, CF

**Jeanne Wall Picotte '42**

December 18, 2020, Blaine, MN

**Janet Bleskacek Brick '43**

August 18, 2020, Chippewa Falls

**Rose Padruitt Tietz '43**

April 3, 2019, Chippewa Falls

**Wayne Bischel '44**

August 22, 2020, Madison, WI

**Beverly Ann Popple**

**Schmidmayr '45**

October 15, 2020, CF

**Patricia O'Driscoll Albrecht '45**

March 7, 2021, Fishers, IN

**Jean Forrester Thornton '46**

August 8, 2020, CF

**Teresa Ludwig Miller '48**

July 31, 2020, CF

**Donna Langel Blunt '51**

August 19, 2020, CF

**Eugene Doucette '51**

September 16, 2020, CF

**Helen E. Wagner Bowe '52**

August 28, 2020, CF

**Homer Peloquin '52**

October 20, 2020, CF

**Robert Sumner '53**

March 14, 2021, CF

**Mary Ann Werner Close '54**

January 5, 2021, Batavia, IL

**Beverly Bowe Simet '56**

October 6, 2019, Wauwatosa, WI

**Barbara Schwartz Dunham '58**

October 23, 2020, Osseo, WI

**John Onsager '62**

November 15, 2020, Eau Claire

**John Voittl '63**

August 8, 2020, Golden, CO

**Charlotte LeDuc Butler '63**

September 21, 2020

Port Charlotte, FL

**Jon Rushmann '67**

January 27, 2021, Phoenix, AZ

**Jean McQuillhan-Stacup '68**

January 7, 2021, Lenexa, KS

**Pam Thaler '68**

November 29, 2020, CF

**Christine Boos Cook '71**

October 22, 2020

Township of Wheaton

Former teacher and Director of Early Childhood Center

**Charles Friederich '71**

November 18, 2020, CF

**David Martell '71**

December 9, 2020, CF

**David Neumann '78**

(Birth name David Hutchinson)

December 26, 2020, CF



## Alumni Association Event

April 1-2, 2022 ALUMNI WEEKEND  
(basketball and volleyball tournament)

Email: [mcdalumassoc@gmail.com](mailto:mcdalumassoc@gmail.com)

Like most clubs and organizations the COVID-19 virus caused the cancelations of our gatherings. Please look to the MAA Facebook page or the website for more information. Prayers for the safety and well-being of all our McDonell Alumni. *We hope to see you in person at future events!*

## Class Reunions

Are you gathering face-to-face or virtual this year? Email [mackmessenger@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:mackmessenger@macs.k12.wi.us) with your class reunion information.

### Class of 1971 - 50 Year Reunion

The class of 1971 will celebrate on Friday, August 13, 2021. The day will start at the Church of Notre Dame for 8:00 a.m. Mass with classmates meeting at 7:45 a.m. at the Our Lady of the Falls Shrine in front of the main church entrance. Breakfast will follow Mass at the Goldsmith Cafe and Coffee Bar across the street from the church. Social event and dinner will be 4:00-10:00 p.m. at Lake Wissota Golf and Events. Contact Kay (Bresina) Kurz at [kurzkay@gmail.com](mailto:kurzkay@gmail.com) for more information and to RSVP for breakfast and/or dinner.

**What's Up?**  
We love hearing from alumni.  
Send a note to  
[MackMessenger@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:MackMessenger@macs.k12.wi.us)  
or call the alumni office  
715.723.0538 x3306.

MEMORIAL FRIENDS

**Fr. William Jablonske**  
August 13, 2020, CF  
Pastor at St. Charles Borromeo in  
Chippewa Falls 1981-1995.

**Denny Laramy**  
August 26, 2020, CF  
Staff, former teacher, Hall of Fame,  
Unsung Hero Recipient

**Gerald Schaefer**  
September 23, 2020, Wauwatosa,  
WI, former teacher, Hall of Fame

**Jon Larson**  
September 24, 2020, CF  
Husband, father to alumni and  
current students

**Lloyd W. Eckes**  
October 26, 2020, CF  
Father, grandfather, great  
grandfather of alumni and  
current students

**Margaret Glose**  
November 11, 2020, CF  
Former principal of  
St. Charles & Holy Ghost Schools,  
parent of alumni

**Jackie Hepfler**  
January 19, 2021, CF  
Mother, grandmother and great  
grandmother of McDonell alumni  
and current students

**Eugene Krhin**  
February 4, 2021 CF  
Former teacher, Hall of Fame,  
parent of alumni



Sister Veronica '12

**Sister Veronica '12**  
On the Octave of Easter,  
Thursday, April 8, 2021, Laura  
Kopp '12 began her two-year  
Novitiate on the journey to  
committing herself to the Poor  
Clare way of life. Symbolizing  
the beginning of a new life  
in the Lord, Laura received  
her new religious name Sister  
Veronica. "Her voice was as  
happy as her infectious smile as  
she shared all the details of her  
special clothing day."  
- Ian Kopp, Sr. Veronica's Father

**Prayer requests to Sr. Veronica**  
Poor Clare Monastery of The  
Immaculate Conception  
12210 Will Cook Rd.  
Palos Park, IL 60464-7332

**Ben Retzlaff '16**  
Ben just completed his first season  
as a graduate manager for the  
Louisiana Tech Men's Basketball  
program. As a student, Retzlaff  
graduated cum laude from  
UW-Eau Claire in the spring of 2020  
with a bachelor's degree in Public  
Relations. He was a student assistant  
coach with the men's basketball  
program for three years.  
He is currently  
pursuing his  
master's  
degree at  
LA Tech in  
Business  
Administration.



Remembering the first McDonell lay teachers

From Don Rada '50

Ever since my high school days Mr. Krhin, Mr. Schaefer, along with Mr. Frederick have been role models for me. I always admired their patience and helpful personality in dealing with others. Mr. Krhin exhibited a caring nature for his students. When it came to discipline, he showed respect and concern for students when dealing with an issue. Issues didn't escalate or fluster him. He was genuine.

Gerry Schaefer never knew how his speech instruction carried over to this student's working career. Beginning with the draft in the Korean War, a stint as a map reading instructor; and then a following business career was possible because of his early mentoring, demeanor, and guidance.

Losing both of these teachers within a few months causes me to reflect upon how God has blessed my classmates and me. I am firm believer that God has a plan for each of us. And I believe God brings people into our lives for a reason; to help us grow. Mr. Shaefer and Mr. Krhin, gave their best to bring out the best in their students.

**Editors Note:** The Class of 1950 celebrated live streamed Masses in the McDonell Chapel in memory of Gerry Schaefer and Gene Krhin. They can be viewed in the MACS Facebook feed.

WITNESS THE DIFFERENCE

(See pages 2 & 3 for info.) *Building on the Past, Believing in the Future*

Giving Plan for your Discernment			
Total Pledge	10% Down Payment	(36) Monthly	(60) Monthly
\$30,000	\$3,000	\$750	\$450
\$20,000	\$2,000	\$500	\$300
\$10,000	\$1,000	\$250	\$150
\$8,000	\$800	\$200	\$120
\$5,000	\$500	\$125	\$75
\$2,500	\$250	\$62.50	\$37.50
\$1,000	\$100	\$25	\$15

3 or 5 year Annual Giving Plan Option			
Total Pledge	10% Down Payment	3 Year Annual	5 Year Annual
\$30,000	\$3,000	\$9,000	\$5,400
\$20,000	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$3,600
\$10,000	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$1,800
\$8,000	\$800	\$2,400	\$1,440
\$5,000	\$500	\$1,500	\$900
\$2,500	\$250	\$750	\$450
\$1,000	\$100	\$300	\$180



## Calendar of Events - Live Streamed

**May 10** - 7:00 pm Fine Arts Night

**May 19** - 1:15 pm Awards and Scholarships

**May 19** - 6:00 pm Baccalaureate

**May 21** - 7:30 pm Class of 2021 Graduation

Watch live events on our website MACS TV and Facebook.

[mcdonellareacatholicschools.org/about/livestream.cfm](http://mcdonellareacatholicschools.org/about/livestream.cfm)



Saturday, June  
12, 2021

Northern Wisconsin  
State Fairgrounds  
11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

**FREE ADMISSION | LIVE MUSIC**

12-2: Cathy Reitz & 7 Swing | 3-6: Kelsey Miles | 7-10 IN2ITION

Food & Beverages • Raffles • Kids' Activities

All proceeds to benefit MACS school system

Email us at: [macscelebrates@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:macscelebrates@macs.k12.wi.us)

#macscelebrates #TheMackWay

**PARENTS:** IF THIS ISSUE IS ADDRESSED TO YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER WHO NO LONGER LIVES AT HOME, PLEASE CALL THE ALUMNI OFFICE WITH CORRECT ADDRESS: 715.723.0538 OR GO ONLINE: [www.mcdonellareacatholicschools.org/alumni/](http://www.mcdonellareacatholicschools.org/alumni/)



Saturday, October 2, 2021

The MACS Athletic Booster Club is planning an in-person event this fall!

All proceeds to benefit the athletes of McDonell Central Catholic High School.

Email us at: [spiritofthemacks@gmail.com](mailto:spiritofthemacks@gmail.com)  
#spiritofthemacks

# WITNESS THE DIFFERENCE

*Building on the Past, Believing in the Future*

(See inside pages 2 & 3 for more information)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift Amount:** I/We pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Witness the Difference Campaign for McDonell Area Catholic Schools to be paid over the next (circle one) **THREE** or **FIVE** years.

☐ Please send annual pledge payment reminders. ☐ One time payment enclosed.

I/We will begin making payments: (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (year) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to: **MACS** (please note Witness the Difference in the memo line)

If you wish to pay by credit card or with securities transfers, please contact Jaynee Brannen, Director of Advancement at 715.723.0538 ext. 3306

**Thank you for your contribution.**

