

Mack Messenger

McDONELL AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI, FAMILIES, AND FRIENDS No. 1 - 2024



Senior Olivia Clark
Proud fifth-generation MACS student

INSIDE

- **The Rooneys, A Mack Far From Home**
- *Fiddler on the Roof* Musical
- Pray for MACS Vocation Graduates



Centered on Jesus Christ and His Church, we partner with families to nurture young people's spiritual, intellectual, physical, and moral formation through a PreK-12 Catholic liberal arts education and vibrant student life of discipleship, athletics, and the arts.



Education for Life

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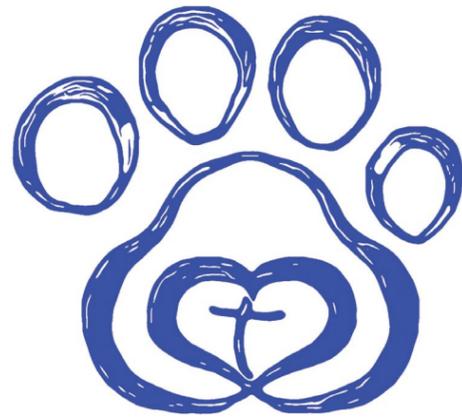
#TheMackWay

Watch live stream coverage of events at McDonellAreaCatholicSchools.org/about/livestream.cfm

The Mack Messenger is published twice a year by the McDonell Area Catholic Schools (MACS). Comments should be directed to: Advancement Office 1316 Bel Air Boulevard Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 E: MackMessenger@macs.k12.wi.us P: 715.723.0538

Very Rev. Jesse Burish, Dean Molly Meinen Bushman '98, President Amber Leibrandt, Advancement Services Coordinator Olivia Knabel, Director of Strategic Communications

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.



Faith | Honor | Academic Excellence | Healthy Living

Community | Servant Leadership

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Share your photos and information with us! MackMessenger@macs.k12.wi.us

Chippewa Falls Parishes

St. Charles Borromeo Rev. Msgr. Michael Gorman Associate Pastor Rev. Alex Kren Dcn. Dan Rider



The Church of Holy Ghost Very Rev. Jesse Burish, Dean Associate Pastor Rev. Brandon Guenther



The Church of Notre Dame Very Rev. Jesse Burish, Dean Associate Pastor Rev. Brandon Guenther



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

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 Very Rev. Jesse Burish, Associate Pastor Rev. Brandon Guenther St. John the Baptist, Cooks Valley Rev. Victor Feltes, Associate Pastor Rev. Chinnappan Pelavendran St. Paul, Bloomer Rev. Victor Feltes, Dcn. Dick Kostner Associate Pastor Rev. Chinnappan Pelavendran St. Peter the Apostle, Tilden Rev. Msgr. Michael Gorman, Dcn. Dan Rider Associate Pastor Rev. Alex Kren All Saints Catholic Parish, Boyd, Cadott, Stanley Rev. William Felix '73, Dcn. Ned Willkom



From the Dean

Very Reverend Jesse Burish

Connecting Christian Initiation to the Community



Fr. Jesse Burish Chippewa Falls Dean

One of the common pitfalls of consolidated Catholic school systems is that they may grow disconnected, in culture, or mission, or both, from the parishes that support them and established them. The school system may be perceived as "doing its own thing," while supporting parishes may resent the percentage of their offertory income that goes to the schools. This can result in the development of an "us versus them" mentality.

Realizing that our Catholic schools will succeed only as much as they are truly a ministry of our parishes, in both perception and reality, MACS and our parishes have been working to develop ways of further collaboration and alignment with the mission of our parishes. We want more of our MACS families to be closer to their parishes, and we want our parishes to see MACS as their primary ministry as it seeks to help form our children in the Faith.

One of the clearest examples of this collaboration between MACS and our parishes concerns the fact that many MACS families are either not Catholic or Catholic but not

actively practicing the Catholic Faith. This is where Christian Initiation comes in. Christian Initiation could be defined as a "pilgrimage of faith" towards the relationship with Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church. Participants, adults and children age seven and older, journey with both peers and Catholic mentors into a life of prayer, sacraments, teaching, and community that leads to full initiation and communion with the Catholic Church. This is for those persons who are unbaptized and/or baptized Christians searching to learn more about Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church. It is also for adult Catholics who have not received Holy Communion or Confirmation.

Several MACS students and their families have already been part of Christian initiation. Our efforts over the coming months will be to equip and empower our teachers, parent ambassadors, and other MACS leaders to get to better know our families, make disciples, and invite them to participate in the Christian Initiation process. If you know of any persons or families that are open or desirous of a relationship with Christ and His Catholic Church, please reach out to John Shakal at jshakal@ourladyofthefalls.org or text/call 715.861.1303.



From the President

President Molly Meinen Bushman

Embracing Our MACS Community, Near and Far



Molly Meinen Bushman '98 System President

What is at stake in our Catholic schools? What is your story? How is McDonell Area Catholic Schools a part of that story? What part of you would never be the same if our schools ceased to exist?

The term "stakeholder" used to confuse me. What could such a term, with its corporate and financial connotations, have to do with a non-profit ministry like our Catholic schools? In reality, a stakeholder is simply someone who has a vested interest, not necessarily in terms of money, but often in terms of relationship. Stakeholders include students, teachers, alumni, family members, parishes and all supporters. If you are reading this, you are a stakeholder.

If there are stakeholders, something must be at stake: something we stand to gain with success and something we stand to lose with failure. As I write this in the wake of our local Catholic hospital and clinic closures, many reading this know the pain of loss, whether financially or,

still more deeply, something within themselves that will never be the same.

With regard to our Catholic schools, the stakes are very high indeed as we seek to achieve what many would deem impossible: passing on the faith to our young people growing up in a culture which seeks to put God in a dustbin or, at best, on a shelf in a back corner. Within these pages, we share highlights from our amazing students as they grow into the people God created them to be: not passively indoctrinated by the culture, but strengthened to become a transforming force in society. We highlight ways in which we have embraced our community across the years and miles, from the story of a five-generation MACS family, to another story profiling a 1957 graduate who went West to find himself, but never forgot his roots.

By embracing our community, with your support, we will fulfill the mission of Catholic education and remain a beacon of faith, hope and love in the Chippewa Valley and beyond. St. Joseph, pray for us. O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Amen.

ARTS at MACS

FALL & WINTER

MCDONELL CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL &
NOTRE DAME MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENT:

Fiddler on the Roof

A romance and family drama by Sholem Aleichem

For the first time since 2001, *Fiddler on the Roof* made it to McDonell Central Catholic High School stage. Notre Dame Middle School and McDonell Central Catholic High School students performed four shows during Catholic Schools Week.

Fiddler is a family drama set in a Russian village during 1905 and has roots in Russian Jewish culture. Many adaptations have come from its debut on Broadway in 1964, but the synopsis observes the romantic relationships among two childhood best friends who are unable to marry due to financial instability and conflicting families.

"It's a student-run show. We have students who are in charge of costumes. We have students who are in charge of the set crew, you name it. And they have adult advisors to help them along," said science teacher and musical director Greta Jorgensen.

Main Cast Members

Tevye (The Dairy Farmer).....Zach Hunt
Tzeitel (Oldest Daughter).....Kaylee Krueger
Hodel (Daughter).....Ella Rubenzer
Chava (Daughter).....Aeryn Crisp
Shprintze (Daughter).....Jolie Bushman
Yente (The Matchmaker).....Elyse Bushman
Rabbi.....John Herron
Mordcha (The Innkeeper).....Xavier Stepp
Avram (The Bookseller).....Andrew Thaler
Shaindel (Motel's Mother).....Junia Dinh
Golde (Tevye's Wife).....Maria Herron
Motel (The Tailor).....Harrison Bullard
Perchik (The Scholar).....Angelo Enderes
Fyedka (The Russian Soldier).....Liam Irwin
Bielke (Youngest Daughter).....Elli Brick
Lazar Wolf (The Butcher).....Fred Blair
Mendel (The Rabbi's Son).....Michael Herron
Constable (Ivan Volkov).....Paul Tetrault
Nachum (The Beggar).....Sam Kasper
Sasha (A Russian Soldier).....Ryan Roach

Cast Members

Fruma-Sarah (Lazar Wolf's Dead Wife) - Delaney Smiskey (Also Jewish Woman)
Grandma Tzeitel - Lily Edison (Also Jewish Woman)
Fiddler - Daniel Sebek (Also Russian Soldier)
Jewish Woman (Anyia) - Jenna Proue
Jewish Woman (Berille) - Jaidyn Brady
Jewish Boy (Yitsuk) - Gabe Stepp
Jewish Boy (Chaim) - Johnny Bullard
Jewish Man (Hershel) - Scott Tetrault
Jewish Man (Schmeril) - Carson Sweeney
Jewish Man (Yussel) - Jullian Bullard
Jewish Man (Yakov) - Robert Schwetz
Jewish Village Woman - Kennedy Giza - Chorus co-Leader
Jewish Village Woman - Carlee Chittendon - Chorus co-Leader
Jewish Village Woman - Miku Awaji
Jewish Village Woman - Sona Nakada
Jewish Village Woman - Grape Ungsavotai
Russian Soldier - Jullian Bullard (Also Jewish Man)
Russian Soldier - Scott Tetrault (Also Jewish Man)
Russian Soldier - Robert Schwetz (Also Jewish Man)
Russian Soldier - Carson Sweeney (Also Jewish Man)

Tech Crew

Gavin Bowe Sean Rasmus

Set & Stage Crew

Lillian McDonald Elianna Eddy
Avory Anderson Conner Jansky
Grace Larson Miranda Johnson
Eden Holty Mya Fouts
Sarah Buchmann Avery Rush
Camilla Doyle Quinnton Herr

Greta Jorgensen - Director
Annette Hunt - Vocal Director
Frank Rineck '16 - Assistant Director
Carrie Bullard - Product Assistant
Helen Bullard '22 - Costume Mistress
Carrie Anders '11 - Stage Manager
Anthony Roach '20 - Props Manager
Megan Hanson '23 - Rehearsal Accompanist
Laurie Armstrong Francis '79- Pit Director



MACS Speech/Forensics Team

The MACS Speech/Forensics Team is an award-winning competitive performance team that competes against local schools in the Chippewa Valley, and across the state level. Registered with the Wisconsin Interscholastic Speech and Dramatic Arts Association (WISDAA) for the 2023-24 school year, Speech Team works to compete at the sub-district, district and state level in Madison. Example categories include Poetry, Expository, Play Acting, Storytelling, and Moments in History. McDonell Central Catholic High School and Notre Dame Middle School Counselor Kelsey Jimenez is the Speech Team coach.



McDonell Show Choir Comeback!



The McDonell Nova Magica Show Choir had a recent comeback at the beginning of the school year, and they are already taking the MACS community by storm! Show choir has reemerged as an extracurricular activity, with show choir director Annette Hunt taking the lead on bringing it back after 12 years. There are 25 singer-dancers (11 girls, 14 boys), a seven-person band, one manager and one tech person, all made up of McDonell Central Catholic High School students. Together they perform at school concerts for parents, but also perform in the Chippewa Falls community for organizations and schools.

MACS Hosts All-Conference Cloverbelt Music Festival

McDonell Area Catholic Schools welcomed 13 schools for the Cloverbelt All-Conference Music Festival Saturday, January 20, 2024, at McDonell Central Catholic High School. Last time McDonell hosted the conference was in January 2008.

Each school in the Cloverbelt Conference nominates outstanding students to participate in the Honor Band and Honor Choir. Over 175 students from the Cloverbelt Conference participated in this year's event. MACS students rehearsed all morning and afternoon for a band and choir concert that was open to the public.



Christmas Concerts at Holy Ghost & St. Charles

The Advent season brings many blessings to the MACS community. Every year, the MACS staff, students, teachers, and parents look forward to the Christmas/Advent concerts performed by students from both St. Charles Preschool and Primary School, and Holy Ghost Elementary School. This year the concerts were as beautiful as ever and everyone involved did an excellent job in bringing the Nativity Scene to life!



Varsity Teams



Boys Cross Country

◀ Placed 9th overall in the WIAA State Championships and Cloverbelt Conference Runner Up



Girls Cross Country

◀ Placed 6th in the Cloverbelt Conference and 10th in D3 Sectionals



Girls Basketball

◀ Sectional Champions, & made it to State Semi-Finals for D4. Cloverbelt Conference Champions



Boys Basketball

◀ Made it to the D4 Regional Semi-Finals

ATHLETICS at MACS

FALL & WINTER



Volleyball

◀ Won the Cloverbelt West Conference and made it to D3 Sectional Finals in the WIAA Tournament



Football

▶ Won the Central Wisconsin Conference and made it to level 2 of 3 in State Semi-Final



Co-op Varsity Teams



Girls Tennis

◀ D2 Sectional Runner-Ups



Girls Swim & Dive

◀ Placed 7th in D1 Sectionals



Boys Swim & Dive

◀ Placed 7th in D1 Sectionals



Boys Soccer

◀ Made it to D4 Regional-Finals



Gymnastics

◀ 4th overall at D1 State & won the Big Rivers Conference title. Paiton Grunwald qualified in the Individual All-Around & placed 20th in the WIAA State Tournament



Wrestling

▶ Isabella Giza and Mckenzie Simonson qualified for WIAA State Girls Wrestling



Girls Hockey

◀ Made the D1 Sectional Semi-Finals



Boys Hockey

▶ Made it to the D2 Sectional Semi-Finals

CROSS COUNTRY @ Notre Dame Middle School



Scan the QR code to learn more about NDMS Cross Country from coach Shannon Jaeger and student-athlete Landon Cooley on the Mack Chat podcast!



#TheMackWay

McDonell Central Catholic High School has four outstanding student-athletes committed to four different colleges to continue their journey in sports. The following students signed their commitment to the following colleges (left to right): Morgan Wirtz committed to Saint Mary's MN for softball, Emily Cooper committed to Black Hills State University for women's basketball, Aubrey Dorn committed to Viterbo for women's basketball, and Andrew Thaler committed to UWEC for cross country and track. Congratulations Emily, Aubrey, Morgan, and Andrew!

Follow us on Facebook for more MACS athletics!



@McDonellAreaCatholicSchools



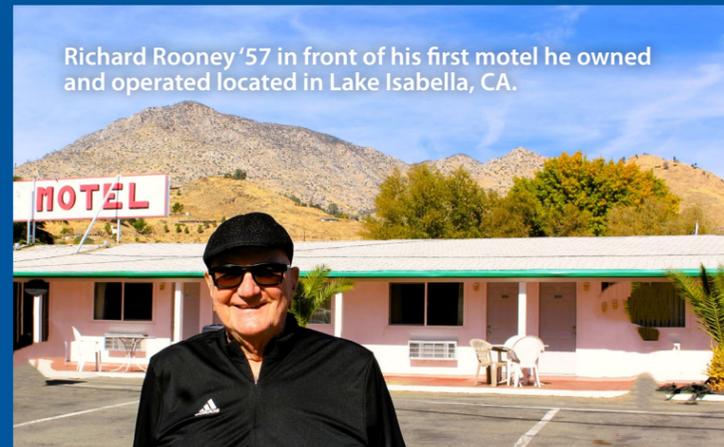
The Rooneys, A Mack Far From Home

FEATURE STORY

This past November 2023, several alumni and friends met with President Molly Bushman and Advancement Coordinator Amber Leibrandt in California. Their first stop was a visit to Bakersfield and the Kern River Valley, where Richard Rooney '57 and his wife Barbara welcomed them with open arms.

From working in Wisconsin for an insurance company, to starting his own real estate and car dealership business in California, Richard has done it all with his wife Barbara as his partner. Their story is just one of many alumni who have made their way in the world and lived to tell the tale.

Richard shared memories of his time as a youth in Chippewa Falls and as a student at McDonell Memorial High School. Richard grew up on State Street on the East Hill in Chippewa Falls. One time, during the winter months of 1951, he and his friends were playing on the



Richard Rooney '57 in front of his first motel he owned and operated located in Lake Isabella, CA.

frozen Chippewa River. They decided to hop onto an ice sheet and they rode it down the river for about four miles. Eventually, people nearby had to call the fire department to rescue them because they couldn't get out of the water. Thankfully, everybody was okay and they made it out safely. It even made the local newspaper!

As many readers will know, the School Sisters of Notre Dame were the original teachers at McDonell. Richard fondly remembers Sister Susan, who came down hard on him at first, but eventually became his biggest cheerleader.

After graduating from McDonell, and a few years later at the age of 22, Richard moved to California in 1962 to continue his insurance career in Toluca Lake, located in Southern California. Richard didn't know anybody there before the move but wanted to explore everything California had to offer. Then, at the age of 35 in 1976, Richard bought a motel in the Kern River Valley, amid a six-year drought...needless to say, business was bad!

After visiting the Rooney's Bakersfield home, Molly and Amber were also treated to a personal tour of the Kern River Valley, where they visited many of the highlights of the Rooneys' life experiences in Kernville and Lake Isabella.

Through the car tour and photos at the Rooneys' home, Molly and Amber also learned that they were in the presence of a former "Mayor" and "Guv'nor" of Whiskey Flat! Located in Kernville, California which used to be called Whiskey Flat during the height of the Gold Rush. The mayoral campaign is designed to raise funds for the Kernville Chamber of Commerce. The candidate who raises the most funds is elected as the Honorary Mayor of Whiskey Flat Days for the year. During the visit, the Rooneys gifted McDonell with a set of books authored by well-known Kernville cowboy Bob Powers.

Perhaps the most inspiring part of the visit was witnessing the love and respect between Richard and Barbara. They shared the story of how they met and the life they have built together. Barbara is originally from California but was raised in Oklahoma. Richard and Barbara married in 1996 and between the two of them have eight children. "She's my business partner. She does all my paperwork and keeps me out of trouble," Richard said joyfully.

During the California visit, Richard and Barbara shared their faith journey, including Barbara's collection of crucifixes showing her faith in Jesus. Barbara and Richard have remained together through thick and thin, and photos are proudly displayed everywhere in their home telling the stories of their beautiful family.

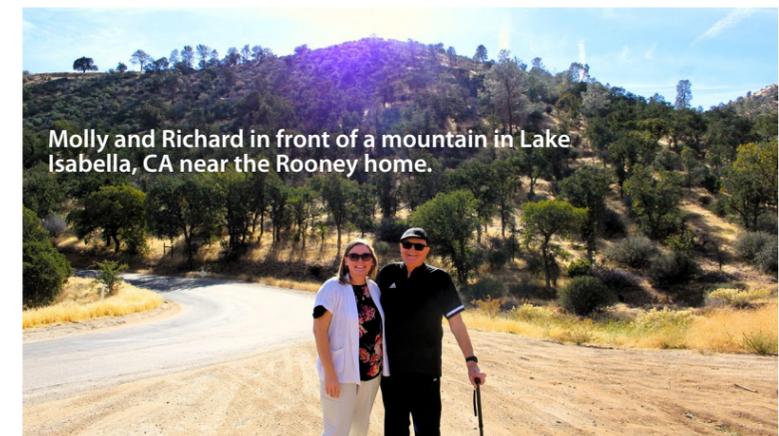
Beyond the home, to this day Richard is a proud 55-year member of a 12-step program where he can share experience, faith, and hope with people. "It's not an organization, it's a fellowship. Just sharing experience,

faith, and hope. I am very lucky to have found it," said Richard.

Today, Richard and Barbara continue to live happily in their Bakersfield home and, most importantly, can hold on to memories they've shared for the past 33 years. Driving home along the Kern River, Richard's story inspires us to persevere through all of life's trials and uncertainties, holding onto hope that a life well lived does not have to travel in a straight line.



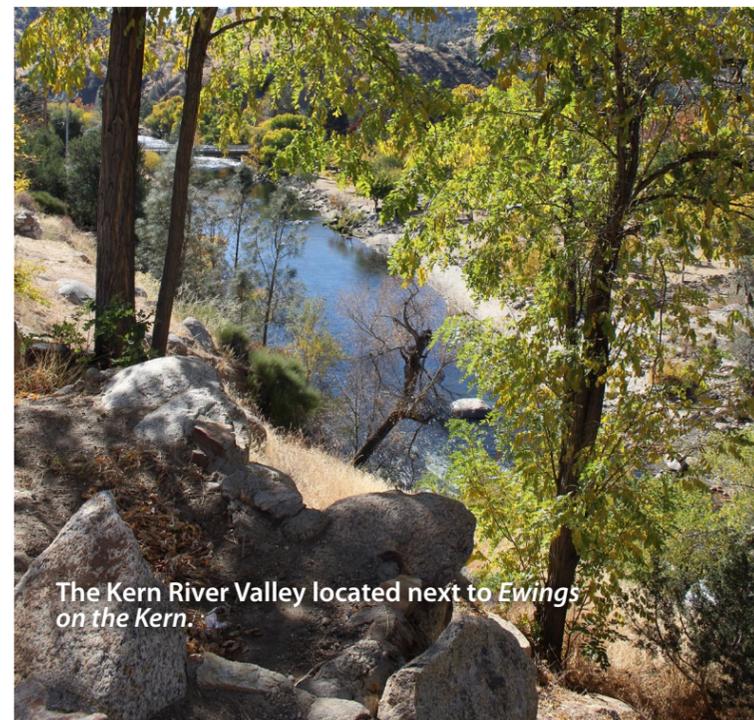
Molly, Barbara and Richard in front of Rooneys' Lincoln Continental.



Molly and Richard in front of a mountain in Lake Isabella, CA near the Rooney home.



Ewings on the Kern restaurant located next to the Kern River, the restaurant where Richard and Barbara first met.



The Kern River Valley located next to Ewings on the Kern.



Molly ponders the beauty of a valley located in the Sequoia National Forest.

From Advancement

Advancement Coordinator Amber Leibrandt

Sharing the Mission & Vision with the MACS Community



There were so many stories to tell, so many "God moments," so much to be thankful for, it was difficult to choose just a few highlights of 2023. As with any year, we have our celebrations and our opportunities to grow. We have welcomed new colleagues and said "see you later" to others. We have enjoyed successes and lamented over challenges that change brings. "From beginning to end, fundraising as ministry is grounded in prayer and undertaken in gratitude." -Henri Nouwen. We embrace this. Believe it or not, advancement is so much more than asking for money. We have the privilege of connecting with people, discovering their passions, listening to and gathering feedback, sharing our mission and vision, and connecting them with opportunities to further their philanthropic interests. In short, advancement is all about relationships and inviting you to partner with us in support of excellent, affordable Catholic education.



A.B. McDonell Vision Fund Society Members were enthusiastically hosted by each school. Tours were given by the Holy Ghost Student Council, McDonell Student Ambassadors, and our wonderful teachers and principals.

Last school year, we rebranded and revitalized our annual fund, the A.B. McDonell Vision Fund. Great strides were made with recognition, education, and



Members enjoyed an impact presentation by President Molly Bushman along with a reception with the Dean, Very Rev. Jesse Burish.



why it is important. We inducted over one hundred society members and invited those who were local to join us at the A.B. McDonell Vision Fund Impact Event and Tour this fall. The feedback from the experience was invaluable and we are still reveling in the rewarding connections.

This year we are fortunate to reap the benefits of that work, especially with an anonymous matching gift in December. As of mid-March, we have exceeded our goal by 171% with 344 gifts and have welcomed 46 new donors overall this year. Thank you!

Advancement continues to connect with alumni near and far. Annually, we organize two alumni outreach events. This year our connections took us to California and Arizona. We visited with small groups of alumni in both states. Our next event in April takes us closer to home. We will be hosting an outing with a newly revitalized show choir performing in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area and looking forward to seeing some of the over 300 alumni who live there.

To enhance alumni outreach, we have started an Alumni Giving Competition developed in part by a 2008 alum from our Arizona visit, and tackled a few other projects along the way. We look forward to summer and the promise of the new school year ahead.

Giving Literacy
The McDonell Foundation distribution is one of the many income streams that supports the MACS system. It is an independent nonprofit with a board of directors that has ultimate authority and flexibility to determine annual giving levels to McDonell Area Catholic Schools. Historically, the Foundation has distributed 4-5% of the total fund's assets annually while maintaining the corpus.

Since 2000, the Foundation has dispersed over \$3 million for the benefit of our schools. This allows for preservation of the Foundation funds and continued annual support. Contributions can be made in a variety of ways including outright gifts of cash, stocks, securities, estates, donor trusts, real estate, and life insurance policies. Thank you to our Foundation donors and trustees for their contributions and stewardship of these funds.



We enjoyed brunch with some amazing alumni and friends in Arizona.



We dined with a group of powerhouse women in Santa Barbara.

From the Alumni Association

Alumni Weekend & Hall of Fame Inductees



Nicholas Martell '05
Alumni Association President

Dear fellow McDonell Alumni,

Happy spring to you and your families! It brings me immense joy to share the highlights of our recent Alumni Weekend celebration, a testament to the enduring camaraderie and shared success that defines our Alma Mater and alumni.

One of the most gratifying aspects of our yearly reunion was the overwhelming support for our Alma Mater. Through the generosity of our fellow alumni, we successfully raised funds for McDonell, contributing to its growth and sustainability. I am also thrilled to announce that, as a result of our collective efforts, we were able to fund three scholarships for the seniors of 2024. This is a great achievement that reflects our commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders from McDonell.

A couple weekends later, the prestigious Hall of Fame celebration took place, where we proudly inducted five outstanding individuals into our esteemed hall. Two remarkable alumni were recognized for their exceptional achievements in athletics, Eric Wedemeyer '92 and Eric Fouts '92, while three others were honored for their outstanding contributions to service, Mary King '69, Carolyn Peloquin '14 and Mary Jacobson '78. Their stories inspire us all, serving as a reminder that the values instilled within the halls of McDonell continue to propel our alum to greatness.

Looking ahead, I am excited to announce the return of the Alumni and Friends Dance this fall. Stay tuned for the theme and exact date, as we promise an evening filled with nostalgia, laughter, and the joy of reconnecting with old friends.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you who contributed to the success of our Alumni Association. Your generosity and unwavering support are the bedrock of our achievements, allowing us to continue making a positive impact on our Alma Mater and the lives of future generations.

With gratitude,

Nicholas 'Nick' Martell
Class of 2005



Scan the QR code to visit the Alumni Association Facebook page!



Through the Eyes of a Fifth-Generation Student

STUDENT STORY



By: Olivia Clark '24
Student

is Olivia Clark and I am a senior at McDonell Central Catholic High School. I am also the fifth generation graduating from MACS on both sides of my family! As my time here comes to a close, it is a great opportunity to look back on my family history. Before we get into my family tree, there are a few things you should know about me. I am the oldest of three children that were born to DJ '98 and Sara Clark '99. I love to read, hunt, ski, go boating, and hang out with my friends. Family is an important part of my life as well.

This coming fall I will be attending the University of Wisconsin River Falls for Secondary Education with a focus on English Literature which will allow me to teach middle and high school students. The passion I feel towards this career is a result of my time at both Notre Dame and McDonell. Mr. Justin Kuhel, Mrs. Mary King '69, Mrs. Kellie Wagner, and Mr. Chad Bormann all had a profound effect on me through their classes and encouragement. Watching these men and women teach English Literature for years and be happy while doing it showed me how viable the

career is for me. Furthermore, I developed a passion for leadership that I feel will aid me well in the classroom. Again, I could not have gained this skill without some invaluable role models. Mr. Matthew Rider '14, Mrs. Mary Jacobson '78, and Mrs. Greta Jorgensen all gave me opportunities that I never could have imagined. So while this story is about me and my family, I want to take a moment to thank these amazing role models in the MACS system. THANK YOU!



Top row (Left to Right) Glen Zwiefelhofer '73, Luann Zwiefelhofer '74, Sara Clark '99, & DJ Clark '98.
Bottom row (Left to Right) Edna Frederick '46, Olivia Clark '24, Jim Bembnister '46, & Julie Clark '73.

Moving on to my own time at MACS, let me just say it has been an unforgettable experience. I can still hear the pebbles crunching under my shoes as I race across the St. Charles playground and I can feel the cold bite of snow from Holy Ghost recess. Most of all, I remember the warm smiles as I walked down the hallway to class, no matter which school building I was in. Most recently, my life at MACS has been a busy one. I have been consumed by organizing student council events and volunteering in the Student Ambassador Program. Within the Ambassador program, I am also an editor of our monthly Connections Newsletter. We send this newsletter out to the homebound and nursing homes

◀Olivia's parents, Sara '99 and DJ Clark '98.

in our community to make their day brighter. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the positive impact of my years running track and cross country for coach Marty Bushland who never stopped pushing me to improve. Even though these activities have been so time consuming, I would not trade them looking back because they have helped me become who I am today.

Now that you know about me, let's talk about my family. Five generations. That is how long my family has been in the MACS system, on both my mom's and my dad's side. Even more than that, there is a friendship that proceeds family. Let me explain these connections for you. My Great Grandma Edna Frederick '46, on my moms side, and my Great Grandpa Jim Bembnister '46, on my dads side, are life long friends. Edna's mother attended through eighth grade before leaving to help at home while Jim's mother graduated from McDonell in 1925.

Along with my Great Grandma Pat Bembnister '48, they kept in touch and were also able to catch up in the midst of all the craziness at our birthday parties. Similarly, their children found a connection years later. Grandma Julie Clark '73, a Bembnister by birth and my dad's mom, was a classmate of my Grandpa Glen Zwiefelhofer '73. One year later, my Grandma Luann Zwiefelhofer '74, formerly a Frederick, graduated from McDonell as well. The two couples would later buy houses in the same neighborhood and developed a close friendship resulting in many campfires, dinners, and day trips. Perhaps the greatest connection to come out of MACS for my family is the marriage of my parents who turned these lifelong friendships into family.

And so there you have it! My family has a deep connection to the MACS system, one that spans generations. Even more than that, I am blessed with a beautiful and encouraging family that gave me what I need to succeed in this fast paced world we all live in. Without their loving influence, encouragement, and mentorship, I would not be who I am today. For that reason, my last thank you is to my family. To my great-grandparents, thank you for ensuring I had an example of lifelong friendship. To my grandparents, thank you for supporting me in all my ventures large and small. And finally, to my parents, thank you for the loving home and family you have created for me.

Best Wishes,

Olivia Clark
Class of 2024

#TheMackWay Day Recap

Scan the QR code to watch the #TheMackWay Day recap video!



There's no better way to celebrate the community than giving back on Holy Thursday! #TheMackWay was a day-long community event where students went to help out local business and organizations! Students completed various volunteering projects throughout the day, and had a great time doing so. Watch the recap video by scanning the QR code for the full experience!

▶ McDonell Central Catholic High School students at Irvine Park taking staples out of trees and fences.



◀Notre Dame Middle School student reading books to St. Charles students.



◀Notre Dame Middle School students began the day with prayer and fun group activity.



Left to right: Reggie Geissler '91, Carl Smiskey '93, Beth Jacobson Leahy '11, Jodi Schemenauer Bresina '93, Jaynee Armstrong Brannen '03, Nicholas Martell '05, Rolly Enderes '96, and Jake Hepfler '00 presented.

Beth Leahy speaking during her keynote speech.



◀McDonell Central Catholic High School students volunteering at Agnes' Table.



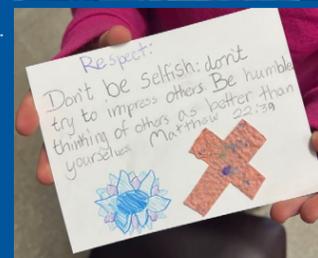
◀Holy Ghost Elementary students created virtue cards and will place them around the community.



◀McDonell Central Catholic High School student cleaning Holy Ghost building.
▶McDonell Central Catholic High School students serving community breakfast for faculty, staff, and students.



◀St. Charles students creating placemats for local restaurants.



▲Up close look at a virtue card for the virtue of 'Respect' created by a Holy Ghost student.

Junior Achievement Day

Junior Achievement (JA) of Wisconsin in the Northwest Area visited McDonell again for their JA in a Day on Thursday, October 19, 2023. Local business leaders and alumni shared more about their career with sophomore, junior and senior students at McDonell Central Catholic High School. Professionals came into classrooms as instructors, shared about their career and the steps they took to achieve success, participated on the Entrepreneur Panel, or set up a Career Fair Expo Booth for their business.

Keeping Students Safe at Home, Protect Young Eyes



Protect Young Eyes (PYE) is a faith-based organization that MACS partnered with in the Fall of 2023, to present to all our MACS families, and students, about technology safety at home. In their own words, PYE states "Our mission is to show families, schools, and churches how to create safer digital spaces. We do this with a pretty great website, powerful presentations, and a private learning community where you can 'go slow' and learn with other, like-minded families #delayistheway" (pye.com).

This past September was the introduction assembly where PYE representatives visited McDonell Central Catholic High School to discuss the importance of internet safety to staff and families. There was a great turn out for this event and thank you for your participation. MACS will continue to utilize Protect Young Eyes with article updates in the Mack Messenger, counselor discussions with students, and within areas of the Digital Citizenship class. We also encourage ALL MACS families to continue to connect with their resources at protectyouneyes.com.

New Staff Highlight: Welcome Michael!



Michael Van Hemert

Director of City Youth & Campus Ministry

Hello everyone! For those of you whom I haven't had the pleasure of meeting in person, my name is Michael Van Hemert. I was recently brought into your MACS community as the Director of City Youth and Campus Ministry. Since I began work here in December it has been my pleasure to be invited into a team that is focused so intentionally on Christ's mission to make disciples of Jesus and show Christian love and virtue to the community surrounding our campus.

With that in mind, I was extremely excited to be a part of my first #TheMackWay Day! Every Holy Thursday the school pauses our standard activities as the entire student body ventures off campus and engages in various service projects throughout the community. When I first heard about this, I was already extremely happy that MACS had made community outreach a priority, particularly in a unified way that makes it a part of campus culture. I spent a few weeks asking students about their most positive experiences in ministry and, sure enough, this day of service was one of the most consistent items that students brought up.

There is a simple truth to being part of Christ's Kingdom that we can often forget: Faith does not and should not exist in a bottle. If you want to see where the Holy Spirit is moving and where healthy and whole people are being formed by God's love, look to where there is an outpouring of love and service. When God's love fills our spiritual cups to the brim the natural result is the overflow of that, love towards others.

Seeing the students, faculty, and staff serve in this way has been very powerful. The positive results have already started discussions about adding another day of service to the fall semester. Additionally, we will continue building relationships with local organizations and community members so that students who begin to hear a call toward specific service and ministry opportunities can continue those throughout the year.

As we approach the close of the school year and I begin to feel a little less like the 'new guy' and more like a part of this campus community, I can say wholeheartedly that it is one I am happy to be a part. The MACS campus does not merely exist within this community; the students, staff, faculty, parents, and supporters are an essential and vibrant part of it. Thank you all for inviting me as well.



Scan the QR code to learn more about Michael on the Mack Chat podcast!



Celebrating Catholic Education

Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 28 - Feb. 3, 2024

What some people may not know about Catholic Schools Week (CSW) is that it's celebrated nation-wide, not just at MACS! During CSW, nearby Catholic schools' students, staff, and faculty celebrate together with all of MACS students, staff, and faculty to attend the Bishop's Mass! CSW is officially signed into Proclamation with the Mayor of Chippewa Falls signing it at Kids Winter Carnival, which is a day full of fun for kids to enjoy bouncy houses, cotton candy, carnival games and more!



Kids Winter Carnival officially kicks off CSW with Mayor Greg Hoffman signing the Proclamation.

McDONELL AREA
Catholic Schools



Notre Dame students receiving Holy Communion during CSW Mass from Father Kren.



Holy Ghost students dressed up on 'Celebrate our Vocations' Day! Students dress up like Mom or Dad, or what they want to be when they grow up.

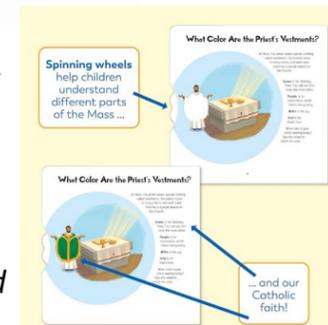
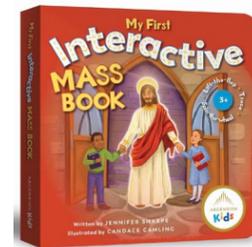


St. Charles Preschool and Primary School students on 'Celebrate Our Community' Day wearing MACS apparel.

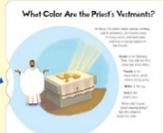
Eucharistic Revival: The BEET Grant

The Bishop's Education Endowment Trust Grant, or BEET Grant, provides the necessary funds to "support and assist the mission of the Diocese of La Crosse in providing funds for all aspects of parish and school in the diocese," (Diocese of La Crosse).

This past January 2024, MACS received this grant to provide St. Charles Pre-K and kindergarten students with classroom books that aids them in understanding Mass. Additionally, Holy Ghost Elementary teachers received funding for the *Digital Disciple: Carlo Acutis and the Eucharist* books, which tells the story of an Italian fifteen-year-old computer geek who loves superheroes, but most of all, the Holy Eucharist. Thank you to the Diocese of La Crosse for this wonderful opportunity to provide books for our students!



Spinning wheels help children understand different parts of the Mass...

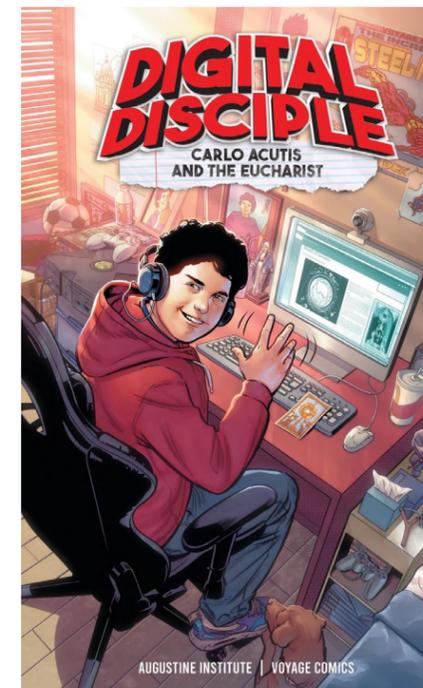


What Color Are the Priest's Vestments?



What Color Are the Priest's Vestments?

...and our Catholic faith!



From the Education Commission The Vision of a Joint Mission

Chairperson Andy Shakal



One portion of the new MACS vision statement says, "[w]e will prepare McDonell graduates to be a transforming force within society, sharing the Gospel and working for the common good as productive, virtuous citizens." But being a "transforming force" within society is not just the job of new McDonell graduates, nor is "sharing the Gospel" of Jesus Christ, which, by inner transformation, leads to being "productive, virtuous citizens." One of the areas of focus of the new 2030 Strategic Plan is, "Embracing our Community". Among other things, this part of the 2030 Strategic Plan brings attention to the goal of developing intentional relationships with alumni. One important basis for such relationships is a common mission. Indeed, the portion of the vision statement quoted above could also be considered part of the Christian mission, not only for new McDonell graduates, but for all alumni, and in general, all of the baptized, as we are all called on to transform society, based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In 1981, Pope Saint John Paul II released the Apostolic Exhortation, "The Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World." As most alumni live out their Christian life in the context of their own family, some passages from this document can shed light on what it means to be a transforming force. In a section on education, Pope John includes the following quote from the Second Vatican Council's "Declaration on Christian Education", regarding the content of Christian education: "Such an education does not merely strive to foster maturity...in the human person. Rather, its principle aims are these: that as baptized persons are gradually introduced into a knowledge of the mystery of salvation, they may daily grow more conscious

of the gift of faith which they have received; that they may learn to adore God the Father in spirit and in truth (cf. Jn. 4:23), especially through liturgical worship; that they may be trained to conduct their personal life in true righteousness and holiness, according to their new nature (Eph. 4:22-24), and thus grow to maturity, to the stature of the fullness of Christ (cf. Eph. 4:13), and devote themselves to the upbuilding of the Mystical Body. Moreover, aware of their calling, they should grow accustomed to giving witness to the hope that is in them (cf. 1 Pt. 3:15), and to promoting the Christian transformation of the world."

Elsewhere in this document the pope refers to evangelization, that is, the spreading of the gospel, as an, "apostolic mission of the family", the purpose of which is to, "sanctify and transform our present society according to God's plan". And finally, when speaking of prayer, the pope said, "[t]he fruitfulness of the Christian family... cannot but lead to the transformation of the world".

In each of these examples, the Holy Father emphasized the importance of transforming the world. But, as each example also alludes, transformation of the world presupposes prior personal transformation. Of central importance for all involved in education is the human formation of all students, and even more so, their transformation in Christ. Graduates, once formed into the people God created them to be, and transformed into the image of Christ, are then ready to be a transforming force within society. Like the leaven that Christ spoke of, which permeates and transforms all the dough, McDonell graduates, new and old, have the power, and the joint mission, to transform the world.

Thank You Val and Carolyn - Staff Retirement



Val Knobloch
IT Consultant/Media Coordinator

Val Knobloch will be retiring at the end of this school year after 10 years as IT Director and recently as IT Consultant/Media Coordinator. Val came out of semi-retirement to work directly for MACS in 2012 at the invitation of then MACS President and McDonell Central Catholic High School and Notre Dame Middle School Principal Brother Roger, and Librarian Peggy Nehring. Val indicates that he has enjoyed working with the students, staff and administration during his time. Among the many memories that stand out are working with students with the publications they have produced like the Winding River Review, the AV work with the xStream team.

MACS TV has been running for over 12 years providing a media outlet for assemblies, graduations, lectures, music and sports performances, capstone projects and the celebration of Mass. This included multiple Masses celebrated by Bishop Callahan during Catholic Schools Week. In March of 2020 at the start of the pandemic and various restrictions, the options for remote connections became even more important for classes. The opportunity to celebrate faith was an important element during his time. Technology infrastructure improvements and transitioning from labs to 1:1 deployment along with wireless and server upgrades also stand out for him.

He will continue a 40+ year history as a choral director and tending to their small MN orchard awaiting his wife Julie's retirement from teaching. He has enjoyed working with teachers, administrators, interns and those who've contributed to the shared MACS mission. Thank you Val for all your hard work behind the scenes for the past 12 years! You will forever leave a lasting impact at MACS.



Carolyn Volrath
Administrative Assistant

Carolyn Volrath will be retiring from her full-time position as Administrative Assistant for St. Charles Preschool and Primary School at the end of September 2024. Carolyn has worked at St. Charles for the past eight years, and her dedication and love for MACS has been crucial in shaping our community. She is a mother to students coming in with the need for an ice pack or band-aid coming in from recess, spending time in her office with a bucket at hand before a parent arrives to pick them up when they are not feeling well, and make sure that they are comforted when afraid.

On her office walls are many notes from the students thanking her for all the wonderful things that she does. Along with taking care of the students, she has done an amazing job supporting her principals and staff, learning the Mack Way. Her contributions have been priceless. Like many who retire from MACS, she will be here to train her successor and will become a substitute when help is needed. Carolyn and her husband, Al, plan to fulfill their dream to travel as snowbirds during the winter months. They plan to visit the few remaining US states that they haven't experienced yet, as well as revisiting some of our favorites.

Carolyn stated that the relationships she created with students, families and staff are ones she will treasure for years to come. She was incredibly honored and humbled by receiving the MACS Unsung Hero award in 2022. She also has a file with notes of what children have said to her over the years, entitled "Smiles from Students" that she reaches into from time to time for a giggle or something to make her feel better. Thank you, Carolyn, for your dedication and passion for MACS. You will be missed.

STUDENT SUCCESS at MACS FALL & WINTER

National Honor Society

Congratulations to the following 19 high school students who have been inducted into National Honor Society (NHS) for the 2023-24 school year. Each student has proven their commitment to academic excellence and demonstrated excellence in leadership skills:

Avory Anderson, Avery Bowe, Lauren Buescher, Elyse Bushman, Mason Busse, Aubrey Dorn, Angelo Enderes, Alex Fischer, Karson Galvez, Maycee Heidtke, John Herron, Cael Holm, Cooper Mittermeyer, Tessa Rozowski, Ben Siegenthaler, Delaney Smiskey, Grant Smiskey, Ryan Smiskey, and Elijah Stepp.



New NHS members becoming inducted during the Induction Ceremony, January 15, 2024.

National Honor Society Members:

Fred Blair, Abby Bresina, Sarah Buchmann, Carlee Chittendon, Jonah Christopherson, Olivia Clark, Karley Ferguson, Maddy Geissler, Isabel Hartman, Olivia Heidtke, Maria Herron, Kylee Jensen, Kiara Leinenkugel, Prudence Maloney, Ryan McCarthy, Lauren Misfeldt, Sean Rasmus, Katie Ruf, Gretta Sokup, Anna Thaler, Alex Tokarski, and Cashton Wojcik.

High Honors at McDonell Central Catholic High School & Notre Dame Middle School

Congratulations to the following high school and middle school students who have been placed on the high honor roll for the second trimester of the 2023-24 school year. High school students must have 3.667 or above grade point average on a 4.0 scale, and 3.75 or above for middle school students.

Grade 6 High Honors: Kiana Bichner, Elizabeth Brick, Jolie Bushman, Sydney Dassow, Camilla Doyle, Jasmine Kren, Kennedy Nicholas, and Isabella Wellner.

Grade 7 High Honors: Aubrey Buescher, Landon Cooley, Eleanor Doyle, Helayna Flashinski, Caroline Hanson, Taylan Hanson, Theodore Petefish, and Jack Smiskey.

Grade 8 High Honors: Tyrza Loos, Lily Mittermeyer, Xavier Stepp, and Brynn Wedemeyer.

Grade 9 High Honors: Aleah Bowe, Johnathan Brady, Kelsey Bremness, Ylie Christianson-Richardson, EllaMay Cooper, Elianna Eddy, Jazmyn Gerber, Isabella Giza, Korynn Grunwald, Emily Hartman, Zipporah Hartzell, Olivia Herr, Miranda Johnson, Elizabeth Leibbrandt, Kherington Mosack, Ryan Roach, Claire Ruf, Alexis Ryan, Anne Siegenthaler, Erin Siegenthaler, Gracie Simon, Grant Sokup, Andrew Webb, Annabelle Willi, and Layna Wry.

Grade 10 High Honors: Avory Anderson, Taylor Anderson, Miku Awaji, William Badzinski, Jaidyn Brady, Lauren Buescher, Elyse Bushman, Mason Busse, Angelo Enderes, Chloe Flanagan, Karson Galvez, Zoie Geissler, Kennedy Giza, Daniel Green, Lauren Grill, Paiton Grunwald, Jack Hanson, Maycee Heidtke, John Herron, Cael Holm, Chiara Irwin, Samuel Kasper, Callan Laux, Lucas Lobos, Desian Matthews, Bryce Meyer, Sarah Moen, Dawson Moulton, Evan Prissel, Riella Rubenzer, Mckenzie Simonson, Delaney Smiskey, Elijah Stepp, Ashley Van Sleet, Ryan Wagner, and Keagan Winger.

Grade 11 High Honors: David Andersen, Aubrey Baier, Avery Bowe, Sarah Buchmann, Karley Ferguson, Alexander Fischer, Cielo Belle Freeman, Daniel Fritz, Olivia Heidtke, Ryan McCarthy, Cooper Mittermeyer, Sean Rasmus, Daniel Sebek, Lucia Swoboda, Paul Tetrault, Eva Van Den Heuvel, and Cashton Wojcik.

Grade 12 High Honors: Frederick Blair, Andrew Bormann, Abigail Bresina, Harrison Bullard, Olivia Clark, Emily Cooper, Thomas Coushman, Jr., Alayna Crawford, Aeryn Crisp, Aubrey Dorn, Wesley Eddy, Madeline Geissler, Kali Goulet, Isabel Hartman, Domenic Hazelton, Kasandra Herr, Maria Herron, Corbin Holm, Lily Hunter, Liam Irwin, Kylee Jensen, Jack Kasper, Kaylee Krueger, Alexis Lewis, Prudence Maloney, Ellen Matott, Shane McDonald, Micaela Moucha, Katie Ruf, Gretta Sokup, Colton Swoboda, Anna Thaler, Alexander Tokarski, Judith Villemin, Samantha Wirtz, and Nathakorn Wongweerawut.

Mack Chat Podcast, Involving YOU in Our Mission



What I Learned in Second Grade



Scan the QR code to start listening to this episode!

Scan the QR code to start listening to this episode!

Student Ambassador Program



Second grade students at St. Charles Primary School are introduced to a variety of subjects that focus on the Catholic Liberal Arts education. However, one of the most vital sacraments implemented at this age is receiving First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Second grade teacher Ms. Abby Adams and student Greta Jaeger discuss their experience on preparing for this Holy Sacrament, and how Greta is excited to be able to receive Holy Communion for the first time. "I'm not nervous about receiving Jesus in the sacrament," said Greta. Ms. Adams dives into why she became a teacher, and how she ended up teaching at St. Charles after moving from near Minneapolis to Eau Claire. "I am very lucky, I've been one of those people who have known what I wanted be my entire life," Ms. Adams said.

From writing and researching from knowledge-rich text to discussing what second graders are currently learning about in the classroom, this episode truly opens the perspective of both a MACS student and teacher.



Just how many students at MACS are involved in the Student Ambassador Program? If you thought 120, you would be correct! Making up the largest program MACS has to offer, the Student Ambassador Program opens the doors for high school and middle school students to explore their own leadership skills.

History teacher Mr. Matthew Rider '14 and Student Ambassador Katie Ruf sit down to discuss event planning for program members, implementing councils within the program, and sharing ideas on how they plan MACS community events to include staff, students, and stakeholders together.

One of the largest community events ambassadors help plan and operate is Spaghetti Spectacular, MACS's largest fundraiser that welcomes hundreds of alum, friends, and family to enjoy delicious spaghetti, all while supporting our schools to keep tuition affordable for all. Without the hours of dedication from the Student Ambassador Program, these events would not be possible!



More Than Naps & Play; The Vital Role Kindergarten Plays

Scan the QR code to start listening to this episode!

You won't find too much talk of playtime in this episode! Kindergartner Eve McIlquham and her teacher Mrs. Emily Dunham sit down with President Molly Bushman to tell their story of a day in the life of a kindergarten class.

At five years old, Eve is one of the youngest guests Eau Claire Hometown Media podcast has had on the show! Eve explains that her favorite part of the day is being able to teach the nativity scene in the form of storytelling to other classmates during free play time.

"I shared the start of the beginning," Eve said, referring to when the angel Gabriel came to Mary to tell her she will conceive a baby boy. First-year St. Charles teacher Mrs. Dunham discusses her change to becoming a full-time teacher, and wanting the opportunity to teach about Jesus in the classroom.



St. Charles kindergarten teacher Emily Dunham and kindergartner Eve McIlquham being interviewed for Mack Chat episode.

"Watching the spark of the 'Ah-Ha!' Moment when you're sharing something and you want them to get something right; being able to implement and share Christ in the classroom," said Mrs. Dunham about why she loves to teach.

Eve explains what the Virtue of the Month is for school, learning about mathematics, what she likes about her classroom, and everything in between about St. Charles. Listen to all of this and more by scanning the QR code.

Class Notes

1940s

Helen Anderl Zutter '41 celebrated her 100th birthday in October 2023 with a private Mass by Father Kren held in April 2024. She was accompanied by her friends and family.

1960s

Barbara Nowak Rasmus '62 & John '60 will celebrate 60 years of marriage on July 11, 2024. Congratulations!

Patricia Ann Hartman Bertrand '64

Married to Michael Bertrand — class of 1965 — who passed away in May 2021. Worked as a nurse for 50 years at St. Joseph's Hospital. Patricia has two children, five grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. They are a fourth generation family at MACS. Her children and grandchildren are all teachers, and two of them teach at MACS.

1970s

Dan Meagher '72

Dan was selected as the 2023 recipient of the WIAA's Honorary Official Award, recognition given to one person each year for excellence in quality and 40 years of officiating high school hockey. Congratulations Dan!

1980s

Susan Zwiefelhofer Rineck '82

Susan and her husband Brian '82 are expecting their first grandchild! Frankie '16 and his wife Danica will welcome baby boy Rineck in May of 2024! Susan's younger son Calvin will graduate from McDonell this year, Class of 2024! Frankie and Calvin are third generation McDonell grads!

Sean Sinette '86

Senior Captain flying a Gulfstream G600 internationally for Target Corp.

2000s

Timothy (TJ) Proue '02 is excited to continue his career as an attorney Shareholder in the Business Practice Group at VonBreisen & Roper, S.C. in Eau Claire, WI.

Justin Babel '06

2024 will bring an addition to the Babel family as Justin and his wife are expecting their first child together in July. This will bring their total to four.

Alex Sarauer Blymire '07

Alex has been living in North Carolina for eight years, and working as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in an outpatient setting. She just celebrated her fifth wedding anniversary in November. Their family of four grew with a baby boy (Noah) in March 2023. He is joined with his brothers, Dylan (15) and Archer (5).



Timothy 'TJ' Proue '02



Sean Sinette '86 flying as a Senior Captain



◀ Dan Meagher '72 receiving the Honorary Official Award - Photo Credit: Brandon Berg, River Valley Media Group

Joe Rider '08

As part of Joe's work with Target, he was given the opportunity to travel to Bangalore, India. He worked there from Target's corporate office for two weeks. He said it was nice to meet his co-workers in person, and enjoyed all of the new experiences. During the trip, Joe got to visit ancient temples, tour palaces, and try many new foods.

2010s

Megan Baier Baughman '18

Megan is currently two years into pursuing a MD at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. She's also coming up on one year of marriage with her high school sweetheart, another 2018 McDonell grad, Hayden Baughman! They're enjoying life together in Madison as he works as a CPA while she continues her medical training.

We want to hear about YOU!

From the womb to the tomb and life's blessings in between, we want to know what's new with you. Send in your life updates to mackmessenger@macs.k12.wi.us, so we can add your story to the Class Notes.



Helen Anderl Zutter '41 inside McDonell chapel



Justin Babel '06 with his family



Joe Rider '08 visiting the Mysore Palace in Mysore, India



Megan Baier '18 & Hayden Baughman '18

Class Notes

WALL OF RECOGNITION

We need your help! We are working on creating a wall of recognition for all McDonell graduates who have moved on to vocations of priesthood or religious life. Below is a preliminary list based on our current alumni directory.

First, please email us with any additional names, corrected spellings, or other biographical information or photos you may have. We want to have as much information on file as possible so we can share these stories, honoring the persons and inspiring current and future generations of McDonell students.

1900

Sister Mary (Eugene) Coleman

1910

Sister Marie Coleman

1911

Sister Mary Felice

Sister Felice Annette, SSN

1914

Sister Mary (Immanuel) Baulne

Sister Kathleen Ruth SSND

Sister M. Kathleen

1915

Sister M. Virginia Marie

1917

Sister Mary (Ellen), Cameron Annie ?

1921

Sister Christine Gauthier

1926

Sister Mary Agnes ?

Sister Mary Arthur Bresina

Sister Agnes Connell

1927

Sister Theodore Stoffel

Sister Margaret (De Sales) Sugar

1928

Rt. Reverend Stephen Anderl

Reverend Dayton Kirby

Sister M. Charitas Prince

1929

Sister Mary (Clement), Viola Bresina

Sister Mary (Pierre) Hebert

Reverend John Rondeau

Sister Loretta Schmidmayr

1930

Reverend Ralph Geissler

Reverend Vianney Thibedeau

1931

Sister Miriam (Bresina), Elizabeth Bresina ?

Sister M. (Remy), Esther Revor

Sister Lorraine (Lorraine), Frenette

1932

Mother Mary (Gabriel), Catherine Anderl

1934

Brother John Anderl

Reverend Lloyd Geissler

1937

Sister Mary (Madeleva), Postl

1938

Reverend Francis Rushman

1940

Sister Arliss, Sheeley

1943

Sister Gregor, Bergerson

1947

Sister M. (Petrine), Adrienne Amelse

Brother Charles Bibeau

1949

Sister Mary (Corda), Muriel Glodosky

Sister Mary (Roseria), Elizabeth Mayer

1953

Sister Dorothy, Schneider

1954

Sister Margaret, Gaier ??Bot. p. 88

Sister Sharee, Hurtgen

1955

Sister Yvonne, Hiess

1957

Brother Robert Seidling

1958

Reverend John A. Schultz

1969

Brother Richard Calkins

1973

Reverend William Felix

1976

Reverend Daniel Farley

1980

Deacon Tom Kinnick

1988

Reverend John Potaczek

2006

Reverend Joseph Baker

2012

Sister Mary Veronica Kopp

MEMORIAM

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

Dorothy Anne Hebert '45

January 1, 2024, St. Cloud, MN

Catherine 'Kitty' Virginia Chisholm '46

December 18, 2023, Nashville, TN

Elizabeth 'Betty' Postl Goulet '49

February 22, 2024, Lake Hallie, WI

Rita Boos Bauer '49

September 22, 2023, Englewood, FL

George Perrenoud '50

October 12, 2023, Chippewa Falls

Beverly Willette Maurer '51

March 6, 2024, Chippewa Falls

June Hamm Stewart '53

January 23, 2024, Lake Hallie, WI

Mary Kuechenmeister Thornton '53

November 3, 2023, Chippewa Falls

Stephen Wall '55

January 2, 2024, Scottsdale, AZ

Sally Rushman Kjorlien '56

November 18, 2023, Chippewa Falls

Robert Martineau '57

November 13, 2023, Chippewa Falls

Carol Sazama '60

October 18, 2023, Eau Claire

Catherine 'Cathy' Cyr Girard '68

November 9, 2023, Plymouth, MN

Denise Bejin DeLong '69

March 31, 2023, Chippewa Falls

William 'Bill' Ritzinger '71

October 15, 2023, Eau Claire

Debora Herbert Sykora '73

December 13, 2023, La Crosse, WI

Pat O'Connell '77

September 4, 2023, Chippewa Falls

MEMORIAL FRIENDS

Betty Jennings

November 20, 2023, Chippewa Falls

Lester 'Les' Davis

December 16, 2023, Eagleton, WI

Linda Rushmann

November 29, 2023, Chippewa Falls

Lyle Sonnentag

December 30, 2023, Chippewa Falls

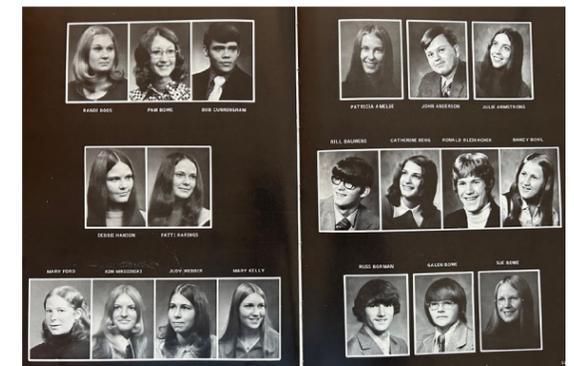
Rosemary Davis

March 1, 2024, Eagleton, WI

Save the Date!

Class of 1974

The Class of 1974 will be holding their 50th class reunion Saturday, August 10 at 5 p.m. at *The Ritz on the River*, located at 114 W. River St., Chippewa Falls. Food & music provided by the Ritz. Additionally, it's Pure Water Days weekend so be sure to make your hotel reservations now.



Class of 1974 yearbook senior portraits page.

Class of 1969

The Class of 1969 will have their 55th class reunion on Saturday, September 21, 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Chippewa Falls Moose Lodge. Please contact Henry Schneider at hank0037@hotmail.com or Mary Chovan King at mksking69@gmail.com for details. Invitations will be mailed to all classmates at a later date.

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

If you have updated contact information or would prefer to receive the Mack Messenger in a different form (digital or physical) please contact the Advancement office at 715.723.0538 or advancement@macs.k12.wi.us



◀The A.B. McDonnell Vision Fund is the foundation to keeping McDonnell Area Catholic Schools' tuition affordable for all students. Please consider donating to the fund today by scanning the QR code!



◀Be on the lookout for our 2030 Strategic Plan Publication coming April 2024!



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



THANK YOU TO OUR PROMOTERS



THANK YOU TO OUR BACKERS



THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS



2030 STRATEGIC PLAN



NURTURING OUR STUDENTS | PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES |
GROWING OUR CATHOLIC IDENTITY | EMBRACING OUR
COMMUNITY | BUILDING OUR FUTURE