

*Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!*

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*From the Faculty and Staff of the  
McDonell Area Catholic Schools and St. Charles Early Childhood Center*

# JANUARY 2023

Join the St. Charles and Holy Ghost students at Mass every Wednesday in the churches at 8:30 a.m.

**January 3** School Resumes

**January 11** HandS Committee Mtg. 6:00 p.m. at Ojibwa Golf and Bowl

**January 13** Jump Rope Competition at St. Charles

**January 14** Jump Rope Competition at Holy Ghost

**January 20** NO SCHOOL – Teacher In-Service

## **January 29 – February 4 National Catholic Schools Week**

**January 29** St. Charles Thank you Mass 10:30 a.m.

**January 29** Kids Winter Carnival with guest Mayor Greg Hoffman (see last page of newsletter)

**January 29** Enrollment for the 2023-24 school year begins.

**February 1** Enrollment for Wisconsin Parental Choice opens. [View income chart for qualification](#)

**February 1** Most Rev. Bishop William Callahan will be joining the area Catholic schools at Mass celebrated at 9:30 a.m. at McDonell Central Catholic High School. The public is welcome to attend the Mass; please arrive early to sign in at the office.

**February 2 - 5** McDonell Musical: School of Rock





## Happy New Year!

What is your New Year's resolution? While resolutions can be cliche, the truth is that without a mindset of continuous improvement, both as individuals and institutions, we can stagnate and actually move backwards. As school faculty and leaders, we are in the midst of a big project known as the accreditation self-study through the Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools

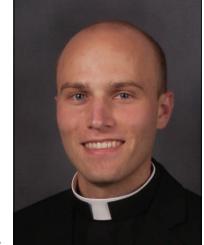
Accreditation (WRISA). WRISA looks at four domains: Catholic Mission, Academic Excellence, Governance and Leadership, and Operational Vitality. By reflecting on our operations and striving for best practices, we hope to achieve continuous improvement in the faith-based Catholic education we provide to your children!

In tandem with our accreditation self-study, we are also in the process of beginning our next Strategic Plan, beginning with a review of our mission and vision. I am proud to introduce members of our Strategic Plan Steering Committee, facilitated by me and Mary Huffcutt: Abby Adams (MACS Teacher), Debbie Baier, Alysa Konop Bowe '98, Erin Brick (Education Commission), Fr. Jesse Burish (Dean), Eva Bushman '23 (Student), Matthew Elstran (Ed. Comm.), Michelle Farrow, Fr. William Felix '80, Andrew Shakal (Ed. Comm. Chair).

We'll be seeking your feedback as we move forward to plan for the future of MACS. Please pray for wisdom and the workings of the Holy Spirit in our planning process, and may we all draw strength from God in our goals for the new year!



**Mrs. Molly Bushman**  
MACS President



**Fr. Ethan Hokamp**  
Chaplain

## Are you counting?

Counting is a very human thing to do. Ever since my ordination as a priest, I've been keeping count of how many Masses I've offered. The total, as of this writing, is 1674. I'm anticipating that later this year I will have said more Masses than the count of years since Christ's birth, which now stands at 2023.

We keep count of years because it grounds in where we are in history. We live in a very blessed time of history. As Christmas reminds us, we live in a time after the coming of God's long-awaited Messiah. Thanks to Jesus, we are set free from the uncertainty of wondering what all this time on earth is about. Jesus reveals to us that God has made us for eternity. He gives us time in this world so we can receive the grace of salvation, the forgiveness of our sins, and live for Him and so inherit heaven.

How blessed we are to live in a time when God's grace is readily available to us in the sacraments!—especially baptism and confession, where we are freed from sin, and the Eucharist, where Jesus Himself waits for us to unite us to Himself.

The beginning of a new year is a time for us to count the many blessings God has given us, most of which we often take for granted. It's also a time to ask God to bless the year ahead of us. May this year help us recognize the great blessing we have in the life of the Church, which is the life of Christ Himself. And, by our faithful participation in this incredible gift, may God shower His countless blessings upon us, our families, the Church, and the whole world.

Happy New Year!

## Tuition tax deduction for 2022 tax year – file Schedule PS

MACS would like to share with you information regarding the Private School Tuition Deduction (Wis. Stat. s. 71.05(6)(b)49) for your 2022 taxes.

Schedule PS, located as a fillable form by clicking on this link: ([www.revenue.wi.gov/TaxForms2022/2022-SchedulePSf.pdf](http://www.revenue.wi.gov/TaxForms2022/2022-SchedulePSf.pdf)) is a form you will need to fill out to send in with your state tax form.

**There is specific information on what an individual will need in order to complete the Schedule PS form:**

1. The State of Wisconsin does not require the school system to provide you with a form of what tuition was paid in the calendar year. You will need to look through your paperwork (check stubs, etc.) to determine what amount you paid in tuition for each child to the school from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

2. You will need our official name, address and FEIN:

**McDonell Area Catholic Schools, Inc.**  
**1316 Bel Air Blvd.**  
**Chippewa Falls, WI 54729-1908**

School FEIN number: **39-1032800**

The Schedule PS will define for you what is tuition and examples of what is not tuition.

**MACS Mission** 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**.

**MACS Advancement: Fundraising News****Libby  
Leinenkugel****Libby Leinenkugel**

Advancement Director  
715.723.0538 ext. 3306 or  
[l.leinenkugel@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:l.leinenkugel@macs.k12.wi.us).

A Merry Christmas to all of our MACS families, friends, and supporters! We hope your hearts are filled with the joy of Jesus' birth. We, as a MACS community, were busy with so many different events and activities in December. A huge thanks to each and everyone of you for helping us bring it all together with your time, talent, and treasure.

It's hard to believe that January brings us into the home stretch with planning for our Mardi Gras Gala. February 11 will be here before we know it. Many of you have reached out to inquire about volunteer opportunities. We will be sharing additional communications and opportunities about this fundraising event as we put more finishing touches in place. We have a few different things planned for this year's event and have high hopes that our new ideas will be fruitful. I am in awe of the efforts from each person who is serving on one of the various committees; this truly could not be accomplished without your desires to see this event succeed. As is celebrated at Mardi Gras, "Let the Good Times Roll!"



## #MACSMG

### Information Click Here

This elegant, for adults-only evening includes authentic food, live music, games, prizes, and more. You don't want to miss this amazing night out in support of our McDonell Area Catholic Schools!

**Cost:** \$165 couple, \$85 single.

**Raffle Tickets:** \$25 each or 5 for \$100.

All proceeds fund the programs at our wonderful schools! Interested in being a sponsor of this amazing event? Email [jeremyweigold@ymail.com](mailto:jeremyweigold@ymail.com) for more information!

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Would you like an intention said during Mass at the middle or high school in the chapel or with the entire student body? It may be in memory/honor of a friend, family member or in thanksgiving for the girls winning volleyball team, an anniversary or birthday. Contact Fr. Hokamp in school or email at [e.hokamp@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:e.hokamp@macs.k12.wi.us).

Mass stipend is \$10.

## #themackway

**ENROLLMENT | SCRIP GIFT CARD NEWS****Kathleen Adams**

Kathleen Adams, Executive Administrative Assistant, Enrollment & Scrip Coordinator  
715.723.0538 ext. 3301  
[k.adams@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:k.adams@macs.k12.wi.us).

**NEW Faith-based MACS 3K and 4K at St. Charles Borromeo School**

MACS is excited to announce that we will be moving forward with renewing our preschool programming to provide whole-child, Catholic faith-based 3K and 4K to Chippewa area families. The response to the survey was overwhelmingly positive! We intend to include school readiness attainments while also incorporating virtuous habit formation, outside exploration and play, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) and more! We are also looking for individuals who are interested in becoming trained as CGS catechists, so please contact Mary Beth Pfeifer or Mary Huffcutt in our central office if you are interested at 715.723.0538. Please watch for upcoming dates for a parent informational meeting and registration event and pray for the success of our new program launch.

Please help our schools and local parishes by purchasing Scrip. Our goal is that we have 100% participation from current MACS families, either purchasing Scrip, volunteering in the Scrip program, or both.

- Scrip can be purchased through the Central Office Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and Thursdays 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

- Scrip can now be purchased at St. Charles Borromeo, Holy Ghost, Notre Dame, Sacred Heart (Jim Falls) on Sundays after Mass. At St Peter (Tilden) you can submit your order and receive it the following weekend.
- MACS uses [RaiseRight](#) as our mobile payment option for Scrip. Contact me if you are interested in this option. Support MACS also through [Amazon Smile](#). If you make a purchase through Amazon (don't forget to purchase Amazon Scrip first to use for purchasing), log into their website using their Amazon Smile web address and select McDonell Area Catholic Schools as your organization of choice and MACS will receive a bounce back.



Eau Claire Hometown Radio produces the 30-minute podcast for MACS, featuring a wide variety of

guests with ties to the MACS community.

The current episode 27, guests are McDonell Central Catholic High School Science Teacher Brian Pauley and Medical Student Megan Baier '18 discussing how a McDonell education can prepare a student to excel in biomedical science.

Megan shares how her faith and relationships from McDonell are still important to her today. Brian shares how he enjoys the thrill of discovery in students and infuses the faith into the science lab.

[Listen now at this link](#) or go to our website under SUPPORT MACS - Mack Chat Podcast.

## Home and School Association (HandS)

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

The HandS committee is preparing for our biggest event of the year, the Snowflake Dance! The dance will be on Friday, February 3 at 5:30pm in the St. Charles School Gym. This annual family event closes out a faith-filled and fun Catholic Schools Week.

As always there will be dinner available for purchase, dessert and dancing!

This year, we will be asking for *gently* used books to fill our Holy Ghost library in exchange for a free dessert!

Merry Christmas from the HandS committee and we will see you in the new year!

### Parent Meeting 6:00 PM at Ojibwa Golf Club.

All parents and staff/teachers are welcomed and encouraged to attend and get involved.

January 11, 2023  
March 8, 2023  
May 10, 2023

Have any questions?  
Email President Abby Petefish  
(see email above).



## MACS Music Boosters

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

The Music Boosters would like to thank everyone who pitched in to make the Annual Country Craft Expo a success! We had the perfect amount of help throughout the day and thankfully, with clean up as well! Many hands did make light work. The three of us that have been responsible for the craft fair over the past six to eight years are about to retire from our positions. We have a new lead organizer for the craft fair, but we do not have a concession coordinator or a treasurer to handle the money. *Please do not let this 37 year old event die: you can make almost the entire music budget with this event alone. We need people to step up to run it, please.*

In addition, the three of us who have been running the Music Booster Club are about to retire from Music Boosters entirely. Our youngest children are either juniors or seniors this year and will not be around next year. We have not heard from anyone about filling these positions. I recommend getting involved this year in order to transition leadership while the current leaders are still available! Thank you for considering a leadership position in Music Boosters, either as an officer or as one of three necessary craft fair leads.



Megan McChesney  
President



## National Catholic Schools Week (CSW)

### January 29 - February 5

Kicking off CSW will be the Faith Boosters' Kids Winter Carnival on January 29, including food, games and a proclamation from Chippewa Falls' Mayor Greg Hoffman.

### Community Catholic Mass February 1

Most Reverend Bishop William Callahan of the La Crosse Diocese will be joining us and the area Catholic schools at Mass celebrated at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 1. The public is welcome to attend the Mass; please arrive early to sign in at the office. This will be followed by a fun CSW Rally for all the Chippewa Falls Deanery schools at McDonell Central Catholic High School.

### McDonell Musical: *School of Rock* February 2 - 5

McDonell Central Catholic High School is excited to perform their 42nd consecutive musical School of Rock the first weekend of February (Thursday evening premier through Sunday matinee). Students are working to create sets, put together costumes, learn their lines and practice the songs. Director of the production is Mr. Frank Rineck. Show is recommended for middle school age and up.

## MACS Faith Booster Club

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

All parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend our next Faith Boosters meeting as we talk about our kids carnival fundraiser and summer youth events. Join us in the McDonell Library on:

**Meeting Friday, January 13 at 5:00 pm.**



Join us as we kick-off Catholic Schools Week (CSW) with a Kids Winter Carival

# Notre Dame Middle School | McDonell Central Catholic High School

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER



Mr. Eric Wedemeyer

Eric Wedemeyer, NDMS & MCCHS Principal  
E.wedemeyer@macs.k12.wi.us  
715-723-9126 ext. 3309

The Advent season is such an uplifting and hope-filled time of year. As we continue to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, I am hopeful that we will continue our mission in fully educating our students through the liberal arts format and directed by the Catholic faith. I am so thankful for the support for our families and stakeholders. It is through all of us that we make this happen.

I'm always amazed at how our band and choral Christmas programs come together each year to showcase the talents of our students. Our music and band teachers have done an outstanding job pushing through obstacles with scheduling, class sizes and practice space availability to prepare our students for their performances. Proudly displaying our students' talents is wonderful to witness and I thank you all for making them happen.

As the Christmas break approaches, we are near the midway point of the school year. I am confident that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide us through our transition into trimesters and our system-wide transformation into a Catholic liberal arts institution. I also pray that the hope that comes with the new year, provides all of us with the energy to serve our students when we resume in January. As always, please feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions.

May God's peace be with all of you and your family during this Christmas time.

## Order Your 2022-2023 Yearbooks

**Orders are due February 20, 2023.  
If you want a yearbook for your student,  
please check Infinite Campus  
to verify you have paid the fee.**



## CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS



Rev. Ethan Hokamp Ms. Erica Boehm

Rev. Ethan Hokamp, Chaplain  
e.hokamp@macs.k12.wi.us  
715.723.9126 ext. 3319

Erica Boehm, Campus Ministry  
e.boehm@macs.k12.wi.us  
715.723.9126 ext. 2210

## Children Activities for the Summer of 2023

Are you looking for faith-filled activities for your grade 4k -12 children for Summer 2023? Take a few moments to fill out this form at: <https://tinyurl.com/cfym23info>. Help give us an idea of interests for your children for the summer. The survey includes those interested in Totus Tuus, Vacation Bible Study (VBS), Steubenville, Mission Trips, and Summer Fun Youth Nights, among other opportunities. Filling out the form will also sign you up for updates on the summer as details are finalized.



Mr. Thane Berg, Golf Coach  
t.berg@macs.k12.wi.us  
715.723.9126 ext. 2207

McDonell-Regis Boys' Golf Team ramping up for another exciting season! After the most successful season in Coach Thane Berg program history, the boys' golf team is looking to set new standards for the program. Having won every conference match since 2019, the boys are looking to add to that success through major invitationals across the state. Last season the team won Regionals for the first time in program history, and is looking for greater success at sectionals this season. The team will be traveling to Blackwolf Run, Lac La Belle and Lake Wisconsin Country Club; battling against the best competition the WIAA has to offer. Four out of the five starters are returning on varsity, with JV returning thirteen golfers. The team is extremely excited about the new golfers who are joining the team; making this season the largest team in program history. If you see the team practicing at Lake Wissota or Princeton Valley feel free to say hello!



Good luck to the team on your upcoming season.



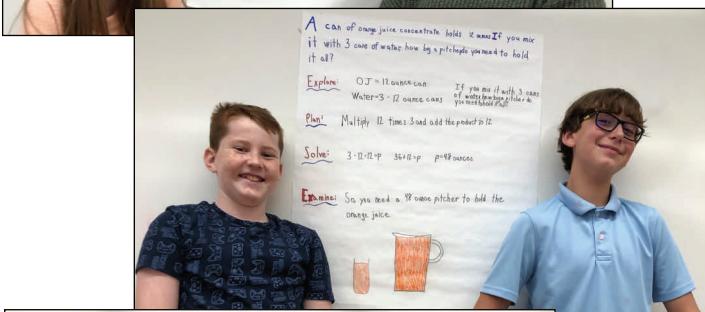
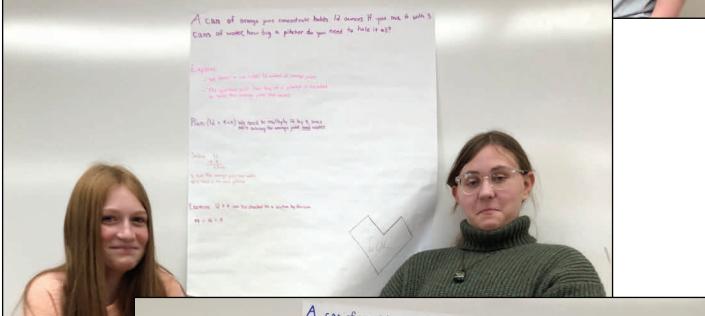
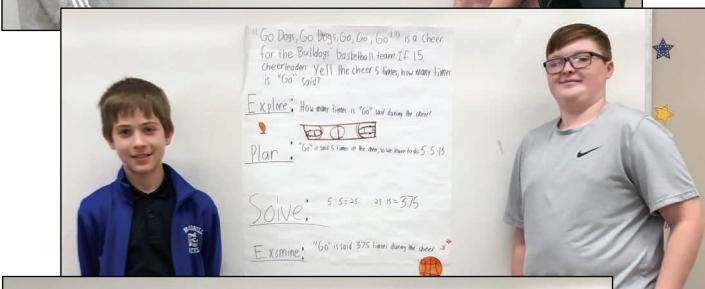
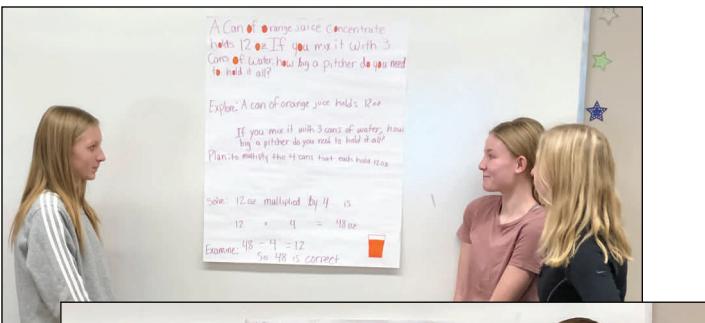
## MATH DEPARTMENT NEWS



Jennifer Rubenzer  
Notre Dame 7th & 8th Grade Math  
[j.rubenzer@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:j.rubenzer@macs.k12.wi.us)  
715.723.4777 ext. 1105

Mrs. Jennifer Rubenzer

Below are Notre Dame Math students solving word problems and presenting their answers in math statistics class this week before Christmas break.



## MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS



Amy Vogt, Choral Director  
[a.vogt@macs.k12.wi.us](mailto:a.vogt@macs.k12.wi.us)  
715-723-9126 ext 2216

Mrs. Amy Vogt

### Dorian Vocal Festival

Every January, Luther College hosts the Dorian Vocal Festival in Decorah, IA. Selected students from around the midwest spend the weekend learning and preparing music; the event culminates in a performance. The festival choir has historically been about a thousand students! This is likely the biggest choir students will ever be a member. This year's selected students are Megan Hanson and Isabelle Keck.

### WCDA All-State Middle School Honor Choir

The Wisconsin Choral Directors Association sponsors the All-State Honor Choir festival every January. This year it is in Appleton. Selected students are nominated by their director and then undergo a selection process with WCDA. This year we have three students, Xavier Stepp, Mason Grant, and Evelyn Doyle, selected. They will meet with other middle school selected singers from across Wisconsin and give a performance in Lawrence University Chapel in Appleton, WI. Congrats to our talented middle school students representing Notre Dame!

## HONOR ROLLS

The Notre Dame Middle School and McDonell Central Catholic High School honor rolls are available on pages 7 & 8 of this newsletter or by visiting our website school news pages.

Go to [www.macs.k12.wi.us](http://www.macs.k12.wi.us) hover over ACADEMICS and choose from the drop down menu either middle or high to SCHOOL NEWS.

## ENROLLMENT NEWS



### SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, January 29 is set for the 2023-24 enrollment to begin. Please watch for more details coming in January on enrollment.

## RECYLCE/REUSE:

If you have enjoyed your Christmas cards and are ready to recycle them, please send them to school and the Art Department will use them for a future project.



MCDONELL AREA  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Est. 1882

# Notre Dame Middle School

1316 Bel Air Blvd, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 715.723.4777

## 1st Trimester 2022-2023 School Year Honor Roll

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade High Honors:** Aubrey Buescher, Braeya Christopherson, Landon Cooley, Eleanor Doyle, Helayna Flashinski, Caroline Hanson, Taylan Hanson, Liam Krulik, Connor Murray, Theodore Petefish, Serenity Uttecht

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors:** Londyn Baier, Collin Berg, Isaac Brenner, Jacoby Dorn, Kendall Eslinger, Cameron Fedie, Connor Fouts, Elaina Geissler, Lincoln Giza, Vance Grunwald, Callan Johnson, Samuel Kuechenmeister, Lillian Larson, Lewiston Lokemoen, Olivia Lowe, Uriah Matthews, Jack Smiskey, Felix Stary, Samuel Tietz, Brekynn Winger, Peter Wollmer

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade High Honors:** Hunter Hartjes, Lily Mittermeyer, Jenna Proue, Xavier Stepp, Mikayla Tetrault, Brynn Wedemeyer

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors:** Mazie Andress, Aiden Bowe, Kyleigh Buckli, Megan Busse, Kiptyn Chittendon, Wyatt Cochran, Olivia Elstran, Mason Grant, Jocelyn Hager, Payton Hepfler, Evan Krulik, Elin Leinenkugel, Eve Peterson, Sophia Sikora, Addison Slowiak

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade High Honors:** Evelyn Doyle, Miranda Johnson, Kherington Mosack, Claire Ruf, Miles Schmidgall, Annabelle Willi

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors:** Luke Andersen, Johnathan Brady, Kelsey Bremness, Samuel Bresina, Rylie Christianson, Elianna Eddy, Isabella Giza, Korynn Grunwald, Emily Hartman, Olivia Herr, Elizabeth Leibrandt, Violet McIlquham, Lucia Pries, Ryan Roach, Anne Siegenthaler, Erin Siegenthaler, Grant Sokup

# Congratulations!

High Honor Roll Eligibility: 3.75 – and above Grade Point Average

Honor Roll Eligibility: 3.0 – 3.74 Grade Point Average



# MCDONELL AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Est. 1882

## McDonell Central Catholic High School

1316 Bel Air Blvd, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 715.723.9126

### 1st Trimester 2022-2023 School Year Honor Roll

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade High Honors:** Avory Anderson, William Badzinski, Jaidyn Brady, Allene Buchholtz, Lauren Buescher, Elyse Bushman, Mason Busse, Owen Clark, Angelo Enderes, Chloe Flanagan, Nicholas Flashinski, Karson Galvez, Zoie Geissler, Kennedy Giza, Lauren Grill, Paiton Grunwald, Jack Hanson, Maycee Heidtke, John Herron, Cael Holm, Samuel Kasper, Riley Krulik Callan Laux, Caleb Leet, Lucas Lobos, Desian Matthews, Lillian McDonald, Bryce Meyer, Sarah Moen, Dawson Moulton, Riella Rubenzer, Samantha Silvas, Delaney Smiskey, Ryan Smiskey, Elijah Stepp, Ashley Van Sleet, Ryan Wagner, Keagan Winger

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors:** Taylar Anderson, Adrianna Bresina, Owen Elstran, Hunter Helland, Grace Larson, HaileyAnn Pelkey, Evan Prissel, Grace Wahl

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade High Honors:** David Andersen, Aubrey Baier, Avery Bowe, Sarah Buchmann, Landon Burrier, Karley Ferguson, Cielo Belle Freeman, Daniel Fritz, Olivia Heidtke, Kiara Leinenkugel, Ryan McCarthy, Lauren Misfeldt, Cooper Mittermeyer, Yuna Miyazawa, Sean Rasmus, Tessa Roach, Tessa Rozowski, Sophia Schmidgall, Ben Siegenthaler, Paul Tetrault, Eva Van Den Heuvel, Cashton Wojcik

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors:** Caleigh Bergeron, Gavin Bowe, Carlee Chittendon, Alexander Fischer, Kendall Hepfler, Moran Hilger, Eden Holty, Alan Meinen, Grant Smiskey, Lucia Swoboda

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade High Honors:** Frederick Blair, Andrew Bormann, Abigail Bresina, Harrison Bullard, Jonah Christopherson, Olivia Clark, Emily Cooper, Alayna Crawford, Aeryn Crisp, Aubrey Dorn, Miles Flanagan, Madeline Geissler, Kali Goulet, Isabel Hartman, Kasandra Herr, Maria Herron, Corbin Holm, Lily Hunter, Liam Irwin, Kylee Jenson, Jack Kasper, Yuzuki Kobayashi, Kaylee Krueger, Kinley Laux, Joseph Leibrandt, Prudence Maloney, Ellen Matott, Joseph McBride, Micaela Moucha, Katie Ruf, Greta Sokup, Anna Thaler, Alexander Tokarski, Morgan Wirtz

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors:** Matyas Chovancik, Thomas Coushman, Jr., Wesley Eddy, Domenic Hazelton, Alexis Lewis, Shane McDonald, Kenneth Schafer, Colton Swoboda, Andrew Thaler

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade High Honors:** Christine Abbe, Rebecca Baier, Andrew Bauer, Benjamin, Biskupski, Eva Bushman, Salome Dumon, Evan Eckes, Dominick Escoto, Donald Fritz, Keagan Galvez, Jena Geist, Beth Gilbertson, Grace Goettl, Amanda Gutierrez Torres, Megan Hanson, Nathaniel Hauser, Alyssa Herr, Marley Hughes, Buchanan Huss, Maia Irwin, Viktoriia Kuchma, Thanh Le, Aidan Misfeldt, Francesc Montoya Alberola, Francesco Padrin, Paul Pfeifer, Andrew Plendl, Alba Pueyo Calvo, Sydney Retzlaff, Brady Rubenzer, Ella Schemenauer, Griffen Sokup, Emily Thaler, Greta Thornton, Sammy Vallejos Duque, Evelyn Willi, Josie Witkowski, Luke Youngquist

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors:** Mason Beaudette, Alyssa Ferguson, Isabelle Keck, Rhiannon McChesney, Asher Rozowski, Carter Stelter, Dale Tetrault

## Congratulations!

High Honor Roll Eligibility: 3.667 – and above Grade Point Average  
Honor Roll Eligibility: 3.33 – 3.66 Grade Point Average



## Principal's Corner

**Mr. Jerry Smith, Principal  
St. Charles/Holy Ghost Schools**

With the busy Advent and Christmas season in full swing, I have often found myself needing to search for time to reflect on the blessings God has given me. I believe He has placed me in this position to serve the families of the McDonell Area Catholic Schools. It is a responsibility that I do not take for granted and I am so thankful for the support. As we continue to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, both schools have taken part in the lighting of our Advent candle each Monday morning at our Merry Monday virtual assembly.

The students and staff worked very hard this past month preparing for our Advent programs and performances. I'm always amazed at how those events come together to showcase the talents of our students. The shows were so amazing and it was so nice to have our families be able to watch the performances in person. Thank you all for making the performances unforgettable!

As the Christmas break approaches, please continue to stay actively invested in the physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual growth of our kids. As always, please feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions. May God's peace be with all of you and your family during this Christmas time.

I pray that Christmas morning and the coming New Year bring all of you good health!



This third grade boy and girl (above) in Mrs. Cheri Miller Van Dyke's class get creative and make the first snowman of the year!



### UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Charles and Holy Ghost Schools – January 2023

- January 3** School Resumes
- January 4** SC Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.
- January 11** SC Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
HandS Committee Mtg.  
6p.m. Ojibwa Golf and Bowl
- January 13** Jump Rope Competition at St. Charles
- January 14** Jump Rope Competition at Holy Ghost
- January 18** SC Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.
- January 20** **NO SCHOOL – Teacher In-Service**
- January 25** SC Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.
- January 29** St. Charles Thank you Mass 10:30 a.m.
- January 29 – February 4** Catholic Schools Week
- January 29** Open enrollment begins





After making a donation, first grade students (left) and a pair of fifth grade students (right) each select an ornament as a thank you gift off the trees at St. Charles and Holy Ghost Schools.



## Christmas Giving Tree gives students a chance to help others

Again this year, our MACS schools were involved in the Christmas Giving Tree Project. This time around, all the funds collected will go to help the needy and homeless members of our Chippewa community. All of our MACS Schools together were able to raise over \$2,000.00 for this important and urgent need! Thank you to all our MACS families for your generosity in helping to improve the lives of our less fortunate neighbors in the Chippewa County. Together, we can make a difference and keep the Christmas Spirit alive!



## Students receive the gift of words

These third grade students (above) show off a display of brand new dictionaries given to the Holy Ghost third graders. Each year, the Chippewa Falls Optimist Club gives area third grade students a copy of their very own dictionary. This fall, the Optimists delivered over 600 copies throughout Chippewa County! The students will enjoy discovering a world of information within the pages of their new gift.

# Holy Ghost and St. Charles hold Christmas Programs



The fifth grade students at the Holy Ghost Christmas Program (above) are performing the play *Mary*.



These fifth grade girls are narrating the play *Mary* in the Christmas Program at Holy Ghost on December 20 (above).



A second grade girl (above left) proudly announces her class at the St. Charles Christmas program on December 13.

Nothing expresses the true story of Christmas like the sound of melodious children's voices. First grade children at St. Charles are all dressed up and excited to sing some Christmas songs to their families (above right).



*Merry Christmas*



# Holy Ghost and St. Charles celebrate Holy Spirit Week



Mrs. Cheri Miller Van Dyke's third grade class (above) are showing off their antlers for Christmas Hat day.

Mrs. Krista Misener's kindergarten class (above) celebrates Come Holy Spirit by wearing their Christmas Hats/Crazy Hair Day.



Mrs. Samantha Jandourek's Kindergarten class on crazy hair/Christmas hat day (above).



Mrs. Deb Dahl's fourth grade class (above) are wearing their red for Come Holy Spirit!





# 3RD ANNUAL KIDS WINTER CARNIVAL



JANUARY 29, 2023  
11:30AM-2:30PM  
ST. CHARLES SCHOOL GYM



\$3 PER PERSON  
\$10 LIMIT PER FAMILY



GAMES  BOUNCY HOUSE  FUN  
  FOOD AVAILABLE  
FOR PURCHASE  

SPECIAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ADDRESS  
FROM MAYOR HOFFMAN



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FAITH BOOSTERS CLUB