

THE Aggie Archives

Keeping alumni, families and friends connected to Saint Agnes School • FALL 2024

INSPIRING *Joy*

INSIDE THE ARCHIVES

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



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The Church recently celebrated the Solemnity of All Saints, recognizing the deepest desire of every person to be drawn into God's circle in heaven. As I reflect upon my first months at Saint Agnes School, it is an apt metaphor, because in so many ways, I have been drawn into this wonderful school community with open arms in a spirit of joy.

During the first week of school, I was privileged to address the Upper School (grades 7-12) students. With words prayerfully chosen, I made to them this promise:

I will **stand by your side** in good times and in bad, I will be the **best fan** I can be, cheering for you **win or lose**, attending your plays and concerts, and I will share and teach the fullness of truth—even the challenging truths of our faith—and will do so **without compromise**. I will also willingly celebrate the great sacrament of God's mercy, for we are **all sinners**—every one of us needs forgiveness. I confess I'm not exactly a young priest...but I already feel **ten years younger** just being among you. But I do have **one favor** to ask of you today. Help me better understand

your generation, your hopes, your dreams and even concerns. Help me to embrace the Saint Agnes way. In return, **I'm all in** and proud to be an Aggie.

And the students have responded enthusiastically, especially as I seek to understand their generation. I quickly noticed how many student fans were wearing slip-on footwear at volleyball games, and inquired of them, "What are those shoes everyone's wearing?" "Those are Crocs, Fr. Ubel." "What? Crocks?" "Yes, Father, it's C-r-o-c-s. They're really comfortable." A few weeks later, a student asked me to participate in a class project studying the correlation between height and shoe size. I agreed to answer the survey.

It was a ruse! Two days later, several members of our Spanish 5 Class presented me with a gift-wrapped package outside my office. Completely caught off guard, I had no clue as to the contents. "Open it!" they demanded. Much to my surprise, inside was a pair of black Crocs with three jibbitz, another term with which I was

blissfully ignorant! They are pieces placed in the holes of the shoes and mine included a Rosary, a Sacred Heart and a quotation: "My daily Bread." It was one of the most touching gifts I have ever received.

So much more than a welcoming gesture, our students have truly drawn me into their circle, inviting me to be part of their lives. Serving them has brought tremendous joy to my priesthood. Working alongside such talented administrators, dedicated faculty and staff, and scores of parent volunteers has reinvigorated me. With each passing month, I see why the culture at Saint Agnes School draws

students from 85 ZIP Codes. I thank you for supporting our mission to form Catholic hearts and minds in faith, reason, and virtue. Peruse and enjoy this issue of the *Aggie Archives*—it will really draw you in!

Rev. John L. Ubel

Rev. John L. Ubel
Superintendent



A Blessing of Animals

on the Feast of Saint Francis

After school on the Feast of Saint Francis, we welcomed our parish and school families and their pets for a blessing on the steps of the church. From dogs to cats, to tortoises to hamsters, to fish to tarantulas, to chickens to hermit crabs, Fr. Ubel was happy to bless all of the animals that bring such joy to our lives.

And yes, he even blessed the pigeons nested above the entrance to the church!



THE GREAT CONVERSATION

When you walk into most high school classrooms in America, you'll probably be greeted by a rather discouraging atmosphere—laptops open on every desk, a PowerPoint queued up on a giant screen, and students (and teachers) who are mindlessly scrolling on their phones ahead of the bell-ring. Rest assured, this couldn't be further from what you'll find today as you walk through the classrooms at Saint Agnes. In fact, one classroom boasts a particularly inspiring pursuit, which takes place every day during 3rd and 4th hours: Dr. Scott Pentecost's Great Conversation senior seminar.

Upon entering this sun-drenched classroom atop Gruden's 3rd floor, you'll find 20 Aggie seniors who are alert and invested

throughout the entirety of this almost two-hour course that runs through both semesters of their senior year. Whiteboards line the walls for hastily scribbling down ideas, connections, and key takeaways. Bookshelves are stacked top to bottom with a selection of humanity's greatest literature. Around the room are hung various icons, drawing one's mind to deeper mysteries and the realities of our human existence. The bell rings, signaling the beginning of the period—as well as the conversation.

"The Great Conversation," says Pentecost, "is a course that expects a lot of buy-in and participation on the part of the students. It's largely an examination of ancient literature. We're going back to the material, seeing it on its own grounds, and then asking ourselves—ultimately, at the end of each piece that we've read—'How is it that we appropriate such a work as this? How does a Christian look at something out of pagan antiquity?'"

It's a class that involves a lot of steady reading. "It's kind of relentless in that sense," Pentecost says. "Every day we do the same thing: we read a fair deal, we talk about it, and then we get ready to write. It's that way from day one all the way to the end of the year."

This pedagogical method—known as the Socratic Method—is perhaps the most enduring, famous, and commonly used classical pedagogical method. "A Socratic seminar (or dialogue) follows the pattern of the Greek philosopher Socrates in the Platonic works," says Dr. Michael Adkins, Dean of Academics. "The conversation starts with a broad, open-ended question (usually based within a text the group is reading) which is posed by the teacher who guides the students and discussion. The teacher does not answer the question, but rather prompts students to confront their lack of knowledge and guides them with questions to greater understanding."

"Day in, day out, students are reading and thinking about, talking about some of the

most fundamentally challenging works, and they're working it out together," shares Pentecost. "I'm not usually going to stand up front and provide them magisterially with the answer. I try to prod them, and they will work it out in concert with each other. It's amazing the number of times students have said, 'I wouldn't get that if I were doing it just on my own.'"

Senior James Grismer believes this course is one of his favorites he's ever taken at Saint Agnes. "I really enjoy how we get to dive into great texts," he says. "We read a bunch of Greek texts—Aristotle, Homer—and then we discuss it with Dr. Pentecost, who leads us through it. It's so much fun, and it's a huge gift to be able to be in a class with people who really care about the material and want to go deeper. And it's awesome because we bounce off each other, so someone will have an idea or spark someone else and that leads to everyone reaching more truth together."

Also in the class, senior Ruby Bitzer notes how quickly the double period seems to fly by as a result of the students' engagement and Dr. Pentecost's direction of the conversation. "It's its own little magical world," she says. "Everyone starts thinking on the same page at a certain time and everyone is really excited about what we're talking about and the books we read. Dr. Pentecost just lets us have free rein, but when he gives his insights, it reins us all back in. It feels like a little secret realm at Saint Agnes."

We bounce off each other, so someone will have an idea or spark someone else and that leads to everyone reaching more truth together.

James Grismer '25

fosters confidence in every student and teaches them the value of their own ideas and how to defend them with evidence," says Dr. Adkins. "Ultimately, Shared Inquiry and Socratic seminar discussions are a cornerstone of a classical liberal arts education: students learn how to sift through fact and fiction on their own—they have the skills and self-assurance to defend their own ideas, and we intend to protect and foster this educational vision at Saint Agnes School."

Dr. Pentecost recognizes the gift he has in the students who enroll in the Great Conversation. "In a world in which a lot of students don't read a lot at all and don't write, I keep getting students in the seminar who can and are ready to call themselves on to some really challenging material," he says. "We do college level work. In some ways I'm sorry to say it that way. College ought to be harder. Last week we had a conversation that was one of the handful of really fun conversations that I've listened to in my entire career. I would dare say that they hit the level of some graduate level conversation. It was astounding."

From second grade onward in the Lower School, Saint Agnes students are familiar with the Socratic Method of learning as a result of a program called Shared Inquiry. The dialectic, or conversation, that occurs within Shared Inquiry in the Lower School is a great precursor to not only the English, Philosophy, and Theology courses in the Upper School, but also to a senior capstone course like the Great Conversation. "This careful approach

Dr. Pentecost couldn't agree more. "The more of Shared Inquiry we do in lower grades, the better," he says. "They are doing it at a stage appropriate for elementary school kids to do exactly what we do. We just do it in an even more mature form, but in a lot of ways it's the same kind of project."

"I think the great thing about the seminar class is that the things that the students come to they own. I've seen the difference between giving a lecture or offering students content and saying, 'This is what you're supposed to take on. Write it down in your notes. Believe this or at least be able to spit it back to me at some point.' And the process of having a conversation in which they're looking at something that's really challenging about which they often individually, but sometimes even as the group, come to a conclusion

themselves, there's something that is much more deeply marking and fulfilling about something that a student discovers on his or her own. I think it sticks with them a lot better. When they have these kinds of discoveries, sometimes they even seem like epiphanies, I think those abide in a way that the other approach doesn't."

The seniors in the class—many of whom have, indeed, grown up learning through Shared Inquiry in the Lower School—have come to



appreciate this style of learning and are particularly thankful for the leadership of Dr. Pentecost. "Dr. Pentecost—because of the way he teaches—it feels like he's learning along with us," says senior AnnMarie Vance. "I'm never afraid to fail in that class. He's so patient and gentle and I feel like I'm so excited to get there because I'm always discovering something. Like a hidden truth in a big puzzle. It feels like a gift—that class. I think a lot about how privileged we are to have it."

"I've told them oftentimes this may be one of the rare opportunities that they ever have to be in an intellectual community," Dr. Pentecost says. "We're with each other so much. We develop a kind of rapport, an understanding of each other. We can challenge each other, help each other. We sometimes will evaluate each other's writing. I think, too, I've found

chuckles Pentecost. "The nice thing is the length of time allows us to let a conversation develop and mature, and we can break when the conversation allows for it rather than when a bell goes off. They've established a schedule of treats, so it's kind of fun to put them into the middle as an incentive for doing a really good job before we get to it."

So, what does Dr. Pentecost hope his students are able to take away from this course? "The measure of success at the end of the year is that we've got a student that one could sit down and have a mature, intelligent conversation with," he says. "You find out that they're not just making things up, but that they have gone through a track that has made them think seriously about some things—not just off the cuff, but in response to or along with things people have been thinking about for a couple thousand years. That's why we call it the Great Conversation. It's not to describe what we think is going to happen every day in here. It may or it may not, but it's because we are finding ourselves in a flow of conversation that has been going on for a couple thousand years, and I hope that, in addition, they learn not only to speak and think well but they see how the things that we read actually inform their faith."

"When I walk into class on any given morning I really don't know what's going to happen. To say that you can have a lesson plan for a class like this is to be playing a game. It's just not true. I know what we're going to read, I know what we're going to talk about—the passages—but what they're going to see in it? I have my suspicions because I've read this and talked with seniors about such things for any number of years, but every once in a while it's kind of like, 'Okay! We're going on a ride, and I've never been on this one!' And that keeps me on my toes."

that students who have come out of that class and gone off to college report back that their level of writing tends to be considerably above that of most of their fellows."

Seated circularly around the room, students naturally popcorn the conversation amongst each other as a desk full of goodies sits at the center of the classroom. "We at some point try and find a natural breaking point in which we'll have a bit of a break,"

“It's its own little magical world. Everyone starts thinking on the same page at a certain time and everyone is really excited about what we're talking about and the books we read.”
Ruby Bitzer '25

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A GROWING Preschool

Dubbed the “Dream Team” by Lower School Director, Mrs. Miriam Naughton, our Saint Agnes Preschool is under the exciting new leadership of co-coordinators Mrs. Kate Sekevitch and Mrs. Jenny Loch, as our preschool has now expanded into two classrooms in our Lower School.

Sekevitch and Loch are two veteran teachers who come (back, in Loch’s case) to Saint Agnes with decades of combined teaching experience. They lead our 3-4 year olds in the brand-new Ladybug Room (formerly, the maintenance workshop!). They join Saint Agnes Preschool stalwarts Mrs. Nancy Johnson and Mrs. Nadège Kreitzmann down the hall, who continue to lead what is now known as the Star Room—the primary learning space for

our 4-5-year-olds who are preparing for kindergarten.

“I want to serve the families really well,” says Sekevitch. “I want people to feel like they have a really solid preschool option where they can send their child and know that they are being cared for and know that they are being prepared for a future at Saint Agnes. That they are going to be met with warm and loving caregivers who are really going to make them feel okay about beginning the transition away from parents at home.”

With wait lists in preschool for the past three consecutive years, Saint Agnes administration knew that it was time to expand. “We’ve been sending families who

are really good fits for our community to other preschools—all because of a space issue!” reflects Dr. Kevin Ferdinandt, Headmaster. “My attitude when we began this expansion last year was that we probably ought to open up another



room, and, in opening up another room, we could separate the younger kids from the older kids and give them two different preschool experiences.”

“We now have a 3-4-year-old room and a 4-5-year-old room.” adds Mrs. Miriam Naughton, Director of the Lower School. “A student can now go through two distinct stages in the preschool. They can be in the 3-4-year-old room, then they’ll advance to the 4-5-year-old room, and then they’ll advance to kindergarten. It’s a much more fluid approach to preschool, and it means you have two separate, age-appropriate curricula in both rooms. So, we can have more kids, we can serve different ages, and we can really prepare them well for kindergarten—and that’s going to be huge for the whole Lower School.”

Mrs. Loch, who previously taught in our preschool, likes the fact that the littles and the bigs are separated now. “You can do so many different things,” she comments. “They (the 3-4s) need different things. Yes, they’re close in age, but there is a huge jump in maturity and what they really need—sensory stuff, socially and emotionally—they handle it all differently. And the older kids are in the other room and can do all the things that they’re ready for, and they don’t have to wait on the three-year-olds that aren’t quite there yet.”

Teaching only one day each week and focusing the rest of her time on handling the logistics like paperwork and field trip planning, Loch has been inspired by each of her colleagues’ dedication to their students, and, especially, with Mrs. Sekevitch’s vision. “It’s been great to see Kate come in and be able to teach and not have to do the paperwork on top of it,” Loch reflects. “She can dedicate all of her time and energy to the curriculum and the kids. It’s a beautiful thing because she knows what they need. It’s been nice to be able to help her and learn from her.”

“When I came in, the room was empty and there was no plan set for how the rooms should be structured or what the students



should be doing in their rooms,” says Sekevitch. “It was really fun for me to bring my experience in and pull what I felt was good from the previous years and work with Nancy and Nadège on tweaking some of the things that had been going on in the old room and try to really form it into a Pre-K classroom. Before it was 3,4, and 5-year-olds in one room; it was anybody and everybody together. So we had to ask, ‘What do the differences look like? What does that mean?’

“The timing was very tight. We had the last order of cubbies arrive on Meet Your Teacher Day in August, which was also my birthday. It was so funny—it was such

a gift to be working really hard with these amazing women and everybody brought their talents in to pull it together. Everyone kept saying, ‘This is a terrible birthday—you’re running around and working so hard!’ I’m like, ‘No, this a wonderful gift!’”

Saint Agnes’ investment into preschool and its expansion are already bearing much good fruit. All preschoolers now attend Catechesis of the Good Shepherd weekly. The Star Room is now able to incorporate more large group instruction time to better prepare the 4-5 year olds for kindergarten. More students enrolled has meant the addition of outstanding co-teachers and support staff like Mrs. Becki Berthiaume ‘00 and Mrs. Christi Hrbacek. There has never been a better time to consider Saint Agnes Preschool for your youngest Aggies.

“Why Saint Agnes Preschool?” asks Sekevitch. “If you’re looking for a place where the teachers, the families are really trying to live out their faith and take each moment as an opportunity to serve and ask ‘How can I serve you well? How can I be the face of Jesus to each child? How can I foster that truth that they’re made intentionally, they’re valued, their wonderful, they’re appreciated, so that they can really experience that?’ That really happens here. With each teacher, every single staff member, that is what happens when you drop your child off at Saint Agnes Preschool.”





HOMECOMING

2024

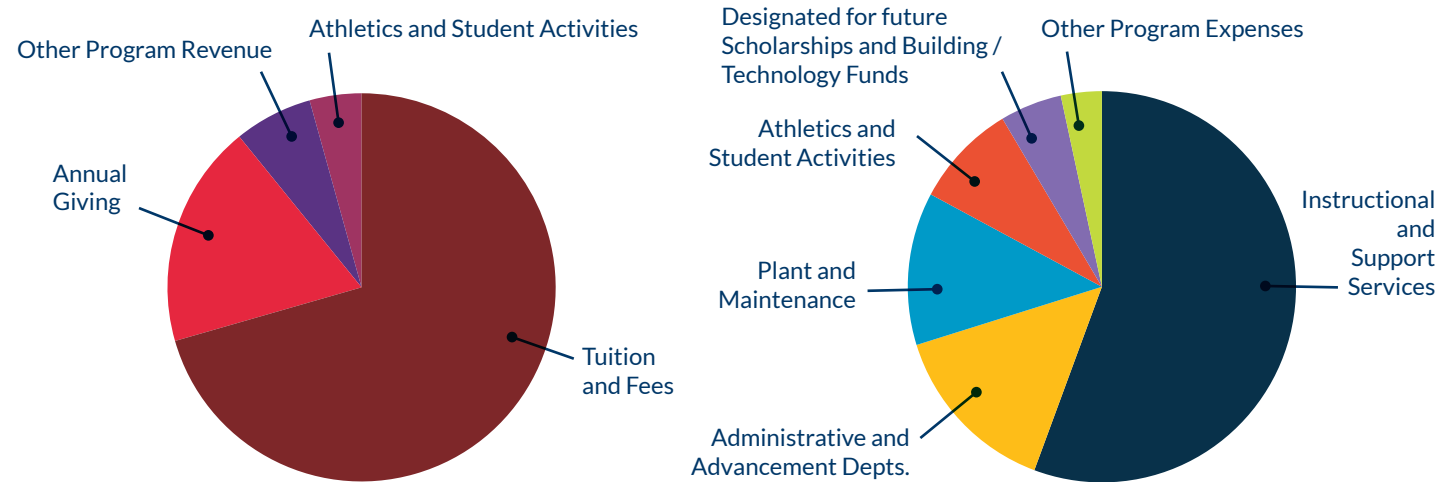


It was once again a sea of red at this year's Aggie Homecoming on Friday, September 20th at Concordia University's Sea Foam Stadium! Aggies young and old gathered to cheer on the football team. Although the outcome wasn't what we'd hoped for with a loss to Holy Family, Aggie spirit never dwindled!





ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



Revenue		
Tuition and Fees	7,916,500	
Grants and Aid Awarded	(2,905,313)	
Net Tuition and Fees	\$5,011,187	60%
Annual Giving		
Unrestricted Gifts	344,919	
External Foundations	514,868	
Restricted Scholarships	475,386	
Fundraising	412,796	
Parish Support	300,000	
Total Annual Giving	\$2,088,433	25%
Other Revenue		
Athletics and Activities	484,644	
Other Program Rev	732,693	
Total Other Rev	1,217,337	15%
Total Revenue	\$8,316,957	

Expenses		
Instructional & Support	4,628,941	56%
Admin & Advancement	1,209,087	15%
Plant & Maintenance	1,050,555	13%
Athletics and Activities	716,724	9%
Other Program Expenses	428,769	5%
Designated for future Scholarships and Building / Technology Funds	282,881	3%
Total Expenses	\$8,316,957	
This report reflects the operating revenue and expenses for Saint Agnes School from July 1 2023-June 30, 2024. Capital projects, unrealized gains, and the PPP Loan/forgiveness are not included in this report.		

To view the 2023-2024 annual report, please visit saintagnesschool.org/support-us



Fr. Ubel has expressed how pleased he has been to see the wonderful school culture here—so many students and teachers supporting our student athletes, academicians, and artists with positive, supportive applause and cheering... In so many ways, this school’s culture and climate are second to no other school I have known or been a part of. I am so proud of our students and faculty!

Dear Saint Agnes Alumni, Families, and Friends,

It is hard to believe that I am in my 10th year as headmaster of this institution (in fact, I’m told that I’ll get a 10-year pin at the end of the year, if I behave myself!). Over these 9+ years, I have found this community to be simply amazing—generous in sharing time, talent, and financial resources and committed to making sure that this school and its extraordinary culture flourishes. During my years here, we have not allowed the status quo to reign supreme, because God has given us so much (and we know that much is expected of us for that reason). We will not leave well enough alone!

This past summer, we embarked on our first school year with a new pastor, Fr. Ubel. We are taking full advantage of his fresh eyes on this institution—all for the sake of improving all facets of a school that so many of us have loved for well over a century! Fr. Ubel has expressed how pleased he has been to see the wonderful school culture here—so many students and teachers supporting our student athletes, academicians, and artists with positive, supportive applause and cheering. He has been learning students’ and families’ names and attending games, meets, matches, and all kinds of events. In so many ways, this school’s culture and climate are second to no other school I have known or been a part of. I am so proud of our students and faculty!

Speaking of improving, we have embarked on a vision for the next three years that includes a number of new(er) initiatives. After COVID hit, the federal government began to fund student improvement in private schools via Emergency Assistance to Non-public Schools (EANS), and we have been able to make significant strides in serving our students who need more help and some adjustments in their pedagogical approach to learning. Since that funding ended in September 2024, we have been working to keep a number of those initiatives in place through our own budget (stretched though it may be). We are hoping to further expand our outreach to students who need additional help by establishing a special center for students with varied learning needs. Our three-year vision includes the following additional initiatives: purchasing more land around our school so as to create green space for our students to play, introducing more fresh air into our Gruden building, expanding tuition scholarships for students of families in need of financial assistance to access our school, and expanding the endowment to serve those families in perpetuity, among other initiatives. Again, we will not leave well enough alone!

We have had a number of noteworthy events happen in the first few months of the school year to share with you in this issue of the *Aggie Archives*. At Homecoming, we inducted four new members into the Aggie Hall of Fame! For the first time in the past 10 years, we had an appreciation brunch for our donors; at that brunch, we handed out our first ever Legacy Society pins to those who have contributed to our Endowment or left us in their wills! If you want to join our Legacy Society (and get a pin!), feel free to put us in your will, fill out the Legacy Society paperwork, and send it to us. Announcing as well: the Class of 1978 has been contributing toward the purchase of a new bus. Mike Parizino ’78 made a lead gift of \$76,000, and other 1978 graduates have been donating as well. The bus may very well have arrived on our campus by the time you receive this magazine! A special thank you to Mike and the Class of 1978!

Please continue to pray for Saint Agnes School. God wants Saint Agnes School; all we have to do is pray and be faithful. We cannot do this work without your financial and material support, but we especially need your prayers. We are always grateful for any help on any front you can provide!

Blessings to you and your family,
Kevin Ferdinandt
Dr. Kevin Ferdinandt
Headmaster of Saint Agnes School

We have made every effort to ensure that the information contained in this report is accurate. Please feel free to contact Mary Appel, Advancement Office, with your comments or corrections at 651-925-8811 or email advancement@saintagnesschool.org.

Raksmey Pham

Class of 1998



We sat down with Raksmey Pham, a 13-year Aggie from the Class of 1998 and owner of Tuan's Auto Repair on University Avenue, to talk about his time here at our beloved school, his career as a successful small business owner, and why he has chosen to become a benefactor of Saint Agnes School.

Q: What brought you to Saint Agnes School?

A: My family and I immigrated from Vietnam in 1979 and settled in the Merriam Park neighborhood of St. Paul. The family who sponsored us and helped us get settled were parishioners at Saint Agnes. They recommended the school and my two sisters and I enrolled at Saint Agnes. We are 13-year Aggies!

Q: What do you value about your time at Saint Agnes?

A: What I value most is the friendships I made. Saint Agnes has small class sizes so you got to know everyone. Just yesterday I talked to a friend I have had since kindergarten. I have a great group of friends. The small classes also allow the teachers to know and care about each of us. Mr. Flood, especially, taught me about discipline and keeping in line. I think that's a good thing that we could use more of. I still give him a discount on car repairs because I'm afraid I'll get in trouble! I also learned how to communicate with a variety of people. We had classmates of different nationalities and cultures and because of that, I have been able to connect with different people in my business as well.



Q: What were the beginnings of Tuan's Auto Repair?

A: Before immigrating, my father worked on cars in Vietnam. Once here, he went to school to learn English and, at the same time, worked on cars out of our garage. Seven years later, in 1986, he opened Tuan's Auto Repair on University Avenue. We were surrounded by new car dealerships. A funny thing happened a while back: a gentleman came in and was looking around and just started laughing. I asked him what



was so funny and he said, "I used to work at a dealership across the street and when you opened, we all stood there and laughed at you guys. Being around all these new cars and new car dealerships, how can this little shop make it? And now, you are the only one here. There are no more dealerships." I thought it was really nice of him to come and check us out and tell us that.

Q: What did you do after graduation?

A: My parents always told me I had to go to college. I knew I wanted to be in the family business, so I chose the shortest program, Sociology, at the University of Minnesota. I got my degree and came back to help my dad at Tuan's. I probably could



have focused more on school, but higher education is not always the only route. There are plenty of things you can do outside of going to college. You just have to make sure to find something you love doing. And I love doing what I am doing!

Q: What prompted you to stay in the community?

A: This is where my dad opened his shop and I'm proud of what he has created. With recent events, and even a recent break-in here, the community has really helped us realize how important we are to everyone around us and how important our business is. A lot of times I feel like I'm just a person who fixes cars, but so many people have shown us that we are a lot more than just mechanics—we are a key member of the community. We've created a lot of relationships with the people around here and now people come in from everywhere. The wall is covered with thank you notes and Christmas cards. New customers are amazed by all the well-wishes. It is very heartwarming and very humbling.

We are still part of the Saint Agnes community, too. I support the Aggie Open golf tournament, and I have a lot of alumni customers. It's great to catch up and hear about their lives. Saint Agnes prepared me well to run my business and I want to help the school continue to prepare kids for life after graduation.

Car need a tune up? Stop into Tuan's Auto Repair, located at 1459 University Avenue W or call (651) 646-2700 to get an appointment on Raks' calendar.



WE'VE EXCEEDED OUR GOAL!

We've raised \$ 274,384!
303 donors are making an impact!

**G AGGIE
GIVE
DAY**
NOV 13
2024

Saint Agnes held Aggie Give Day 2024 on November 13th. Following up on last year's success, we set an aggressive goal of \$255,000. For the first time before this magazine's publication, we have exceeded our goal! Your gifts are still needed to continue to form Catholic hearts and minds in faith, reason, and virtue.

Missed Aggie Give Day? It's not too late! Gifts received from now until the end of the year can still be counted toward Aggie Give Day!

We are
PROUD to be
CATHOLIC!



Our
CURRICULUM
inspires
EXCELLENCE!

Our
COMMUNITY
is strong!



Five easy ways to give!

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- Venmo @SaintAgnesSchool
- Online at SaintAgnesSchool.org/GiveDay
- Phone 651-925-8814
- Mail in enclosed envelope



Scan Me!



DONOR PROFILE



Lucy Maloney,
Class of 2019,

is a young alumna on an adventure. "Don't be afraid to take risks and be adventurous in pursuing God," she advises. "He gives back 100-fold everything we give to Him." As she searches for God's plan for her life, she has chosen to give back to Saint Agnes through charitable giving.

"I have so much gratitude for Saint Agnes, and I want to give back in some small measure for what has been given to me. I have worked hard for my money, and I trust that Saint Agnes will use it well. Since graduating and being in the world, I have come to appreciate even more what I learned at Saint Agnes. The Theology, in particular, is solid and true. I have witnessed such good character and virtue

in my brothers and sisters, friends, family friends, and in the community. The work Saint Agnes is doing is changing not just the Saint Agnes community, but the Twin Cities, the Archdiocese, and beyond. As Saint Agnes graduates move away, they bring that character and virtue with them. They are influencing the world. I am grateful knowing my money is supporting that."



SCHOLARSHIPS

Families receive financial aid from a number of sources including foundation grants, work study, need-based scholarships, and named scholarships. Following is a list of some of our active named scholarships available for additional funding. If you are interested in supporting one of these particular scholarships, please indicate that with your gift. If you'd like more information on a named scholarship, please contact **Mrs. Beth Morgan** at **651-925-8814** or **emorgan@saintagnesschool.org** for more information.

Endowed Scholarships: *These scholarships are endowed. Only the interest may be awarded each year and the principal funds will be available in perpetuity.*

Bob Ercolani Endowed Scholarship
Established by Robert and DelAnn Sathe, this scholarship is awarded to an incoming 9th grade student who is in good academic standing, exhibits good behavior and is committed to athletics.

Cecelia Gormley Endowed Scholarship
Established by the children of Cecelia, this scholarship is awarded

to one male and one female student in good academic standing who serve at the altar as servers, lectors, or cantors.

Stephen and Mary Kubista Endowed Scholarship
Established by family and classmates of Steve and Mary, this scholarship is awarded to one male and one female student entering their senior year who exhibit strong Christian values, character, leadership and academic excellence.

Meg Endowed Scholarship
Established by Hoon and Kathy Ge, this scholarship is awarded to one incoming 9th grade female student

who is in good academic standing, exhibits good behavior, and has an interest in pursuing math and science.

Steven M. Tauer Endowed Scholarship
Established by Donald Tauer, this scholarship is awarded to a student in good academic standing who exhibits good behavior.

Wisty Endowed Scholarship
Established by LeDonna Wistrill in memory of her brother Leonard, this scholarship is awarded to an incoming 9th grade student in good academic standing who exhibits good behavior.

Named Scholarships: *These scholarships are awarded yearly until funds are depleted.*

Pete Connors '66 Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to one male and one female student entering 12th grade who are involved in athletics and demonstrate the virtue of justice.

Padre Pio Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to students in need who commit to after-school, work-related duties to help care for our facilities.

John Pojar '83 Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to students who are involved in activities and are friendly, cheerful and of good character.

Sr. Mary Richard Scholarship
Established by a former student of Sr. Mary Richard, this scholarship is awarded to two incoming 9th grade students who reside in Frogtown or the east side of St. Paul, come from a grade school other than Saint Agnes, and maintain a 3.0 GPA. This scholarship covers half of tuition and is renewable for four years.

Schmidt-Gontarek Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to female students who are employed outside of school to help pay their tuition or help with family finances.

Sean Smith '87 Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to one male student who is involved in athletics and demonstrates a willingness to help others.

Fr. John L. Ubel Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to students who have significant financial need.

Donald Yecke '76 Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to a 9th grade student who is in good academic standing, of good moral character, is motivated, and of service to others.



FREEWILL

Would you like to have a greater impact? Remember Saint Agnes in your will or name us as a beneficiary of an insurance plan! You can often leave a larger gift from your estate than is possible in your lifetime. Just 5%, 10%, or 25% of your estate can make a huge difference for our students and still leave you with the peace of mind that your family will be cared for.

Our trusted partners at *FreeWill* can help you complete this important task and protect what matters most, in 20 minutes or less.

Create your free, legal will today at **FreeWill.com/SaintAgnes**

WAYS to GIVE

"Most needed" are the best immediate gifts, but you can designate your gift as well. Want to support athletics or the band? Great! How about field trips or classroom supplies? We will honor your wishes! Tuition assistance? Our largest need! Choose from general tuition assistance or support a named scholarship.

- Give through donor advised funds, IRA distributions, stock and securities, cash or check!
- Give through the mail, over the phone, online, or through Venmo @SaintAgnes!



Courtney Henry

Class of 1996



Courtney Henry and his family moved from Atlanta to St. Paul in 1989, when his parents purchased their first McDonald's restaurant on Marian Street next to the State Capitol. "We are from Louisiana but moved several times with my dad's job transfers. We settled in Maplewood, but I say I grew up on University Avenue since I spent all my time at the store, working there since I was 11 years old," commented Courtney. Courtney took a break from his busy day at McDonald's to chat with us about his path and why he chooses to support Saint Agnes.

"Mr. Peper and Mr. Ercolani would often come to our McDonald's store and got to know my dad. They recommended he send his boys to Saint Agnes where there was discipline, small classes, and a great education. My brother Kevin attended first and had a great experience, so I followed in his footsteps, entering 9th grade in the fall of 1992.

"While in school I participated in football, basketball and track and I have many great memories of my coaches and teachers. Mr. Flood, my varsity football coach, first comes to mind. He was a great influence then and still wrestles me into doing things to this day. Mrs. Johnson, my Spanish teacher, Mr. Hoemke, Mr. Blonigan, Mr. Fitz, Mr. Peper, Mr. Ercolani, there were so many great teachers! I also remember the State basketball game at the St. Paul Civic Center and playing football at Midway stadium, especially my senior year when we almost made it to State.

"I really value my time at Saint Agnes. We had a tight-knit group of kids who really stuck together. You were friends with everyone. I appreciated the uniforms, the small class sizes, and most importantly, the teachers and staff, who really cared about each one of us. They knew us and wanted us to do well.

"After graduation, I attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It's a family tradition. My grandparents



went there, my dad went there, and all six of his siblings did too. I started out in marketing because I knew I wanted to be in the family business, but I switched to accounting after reading an article that said 75% of Fortune 500 CEOs have an accounting background. Knowing I wanted

"It's rewarding to see the results of the investments we have made over the years. We have built an infrastructure of supervisors, a human resource team, a director of operations, and even an IT department. A fellow Aggie, Ben Gansler '19, leads that department.



"With our success, we feel it is important to give back to our community. We invest in our employees and offer scholarships for college. Some now have their own McDonald's franchises. And, of course, we support Saint Agnes. Saint Agnes set me up well to help me get to where I am today. I received a great education, and the school is a great asset to the St. Paul community.

"There is so much negative publicity these days about the education system. I advise other alumni to go back and see what is happening at Saint Agnes. I am proud of what I see. They have expanded not just the physical school, but the educational programs, too. There are more advanced classes, and I am impressed with the colleges the kids are going to. Kids are taking their education seriously at Saint Agnes and because of that, they can go anywhere."

to eventually be CEO of our company, KCB Corporation, I completed my degree in accounting. I then worked for Deloitte and Touche, a large accounting firm, for a couple of years before coming to work for the family business around 2002. Since then, we have grown the business from one store in 1989 to 19 stores ranging from Circle Pines to Hastings, though most of our stores are in St. Paul.

You can patronize any one of the **Henry's KCB Corporation's 19 McDonald's** throughout St. Paul and the greater metro area!

One Act Play Festival

By Mr. Steve Broszko

With the growth of our student body has come a revamped Drama Club and a desire for more theatrical opportunities. To meet this demand, the club's advisor, Mr. Steve Broszko, began an annual One Act Play Festival last fall. Building on last year's inaugural success, this year's One Act Play Festival took place from November 8-10, featuring three one act plays:

- **The 15-Minute Hamlet**, directed by Mr. Broszko
- **How to Succeed in High School Without Really Trying**, directed by Mrs. Claire Missy
- **Check Please**, directed by Grace Iverson '20

Iverson '20
The One Act Play Festival (Take 2!)
once again thrilled audiences, with
the dramatic and comedic talents of
our Aggies on full display!





Elizabeth LeVesseur,
All-Conference

FALL SPORTS

BOYS AND GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

The Aggie Boys Cross Country team showcased impressive young talent and solid depth this season. A majority of the top five varsity scorers were underclassmen, led by freshman **Jack Pepin**, who clocked a 17:32 at the Skyline Conference Championships—the third-fastest Aggie time in at least 12 years. Following close behind were fellow freshmen **James Alt** and **John McGeehan**, forming a strong trio at the team’s front. Eighth-grader **James Nelson** and senior **Will Kuwata** were also consistent contributors. Freshman **Morgan Hawkins** and sophomore **Felipe Torres**, both first-year cross country runners, emerged as surprise assets, steadily advancing through the ranks and competing for the fifth varsity spot later in the season. The team’s depth was evident in the JV races, where a large pack of Aggie runners often stayed near the front. With so much talent and motivation, the boys are aiming to climb from this year’s **4th-place Section 4A** finish into a top-2 spot to secure a State meet qualification.



On the girls’ side, a mix of returning athletes and newcomers led the Aggie varsity team. Sophomores **Klara Ferdinandt**, **Jane Kuwata**, and **Sarah Lehn** were the backbone, setting the pace in practices and meets. The team celebrated a victory at the Kasson-Mantorville Invite, with **Lehn** taking first in the girls’ race. Newcomers including seventh-graders **Maureen Alt** and **Maria McGeehan**, and sophomore **Gemma Spencer** showed remarkable improvement throughout the season, joined by eighth-grader **Beatrice Pawl**, who provided crucial support during a tough stretch of illnesses

and injuries. Despite setbacks, the Aggie girls maintained their **7th-place finish in Section 4A** and are eager to return next season stronger and healthier.

From varsity leaders to the back of the JV pack, the Aggie runners consistently challenged and supported one another, striving to grow as athletes and individuals. Thanks to a fantastic group of seniors, the team culture exemplified the values at the heart of Aggie athletics.



FOOTBALL

The Saint Agnes Football team capped off a strong season with a 6-3 record, thanks to an outstanding senior class of twenty players—a remarkable number for a 2A program. This senior group set the tone with their leadership and dedication, helping the team rebound from early losses to 4A Hill-Murray and 3A Holy Family. After a 2-2 start, the Aggies hit their stride, winning four of their last five games to secure a 6-3 finish, the second seed in their section, and a first-round bye. All three Aggie losses came to teams that won their way to the MSHSL State Tournament.

Key victories this season included dominant wins over rivals Concordia Academy and Saint Croix Lutheran. In their 35-0 win against Concordia, the Aggies retained the “Battle for Dale Street” trophy for a third consecutive year, bringing Head Coach **Sam Thompson** to a perfect 3-0 against

Concordia. The team followed up with an unforgettable 21-0 shutout of Saint Croix Lutheran at TCO Vikings Stadium, where the Aggies showcased their stellar defense in a thrilling environment for players and fans alike.

The season also saw several postseason honors, with senior WR/DB **Daniel Plamann** being named **Skyway Orange District MVP**—a well-deserved recognition for his exceptional play. Coach Thompson, who wrapped up his third year as head coach, has guided the team to an impressive overall record of 23-6, reinforcing the strength and bright future of Saint Agnes Football.

BOYS SOCCER

After graduating many seniors and varsity starters last year, it was unclear what the Boys Soccer team would look like this fall. The program ended up with an impressive nineteen freshmen coming out to play. For some context, in Coach **Peter Foley**’s senior year at Saint Agnes there were only eighteen total players in the program, and back then it was from grades 7-12. Due to the large freshman group, Boys Soccer was able to field a C team in addition to the JV and Varsity for the second straight year, something that most conference opponents are not able to do, and a sign of a thriving program. The future of Aggie boys soccer is bright indeed.

The varsity team walked away from their first game against St. Croix Lutheran knowing that, despite losing, it was as competitive as they had ever been against that team, and there was a lot to be excited about with this group. The team followed that loss up with an exciting 7-4 win over United Christian Academy in which both **Joe Harper** and **James Steiner** produced hat tricks. In the middle of the season the boys had a series of frustrating losses, not because they were getting badly beaten, but because they knew how good their team was and somehow the wins continued to evade them. Games against Johnson,



Maranatha, and Cristo Rey all ended in 3-2 losses where our opponents scored the winning goal at the very end of the game. The Aggies tied New Life Academy while down to ten players and also tied Hope Academy, who would go on to be ranked top ten in the state.

The team finished the season strong with convincing wins against Nova and Concordia Academy, with all three of our captains scoring against Concordia and a hat trick for **James Steiner**. In the section playoffs the Aggies upset Humboldt High School 1-0 with a thrilling defensive effort. **Louis Berthiaume** made many incredible saves to preserve the shut-out, and after the game several Humboldt players came to acknowledge his goalkeeping. The Aggies lost in the next round of the playoffs to Minnehaha Academy.

The Aggies finished the season with an overall record of 4-11-2. Seniors **James Steiner** and **Nathaniel York** earned **All-Conference honors**, and **James Steiner** was voted a **top ten player in the Skyline Conference**. **Peter Hoppe**, **Louis Berthiaume**, and **Joe Harper** earned **All-Conference honorable mention**.

GIRLS SOCCER

The Aggies Girls Soccer teams enjoyed a successful season across all levels, showing growth and promise for the future. The Junior High team placed **3rd in the St. Paul Catholic Athletic Association** with a 6-2-0 record, finishing strong after a thrilling quarterfinal playoff win over Visitation. Although they fell to top-seeded St. Joseph Rosemount in the semifinals, the Junior High Aggies demonstrated impressive skill and tenacity.

Despite a challenging start with five conference opponents dropping their Junior Varsity squads, our JV team maintained resilience and focus. They closed out the season with a spirited game against St. Paul Academy, where they took an early lead on **Lovena Hogan’s** goal before narrowly falling 2-1. Their hard work and positive momentum have them well-positioned for an exciting start in 2025.

The Varsity Aggies finished with a 6-9-1 record, highlighted by standout moments like a near-win over St. Croix Lutheran and an upset over #3 ranked Mounds Park Academy in the conference quarterfinals. They battled fiercely against St. Croix Prep in a 1-0 overtime loss in the semifinals, demonstrating their growth since a 6-0 regular season loss to the same team. With two **All-Conference players**, **Elizabeth LeVesseur** (16 goals, 46th overall in the state) and **Faustina Adkins** (10 goals) and a strong defense anchored by goalkeeper **Teresa Patros** (183 saves, **2nd in Conference**), the Varsity squad has set a strong foundation for next year.

VOLLEYBALL

This season, the Aggie Volleyball team ended with a record of 10-19-1. At season’s close, the team viewed their performance with mixed feelings—both proud and determined to improve. Despite a challenging season, marked by too many narrow losses that affected their section ranking, the Aggies made significant strides, improving upon last year’s results. They competed fiercely, even after losing six starters from the previous season,



holding their own against tough teams like Woodbury, Anoka, and St. Croix Lutheran, scoring over 20 points in many sets. Notable victories included wins over West Lutheran (which advanced to the Section 4A finals) and St. Paul Academy, the #5 seed in their section. They finished strong with a win over Math and Science Academy (#8 seed) before capping off their season in a spirited match against top-seeded St. Croix Lutheran.

Throughout the season, every player displayed growth in skill and resilience, with some earning special honors. **Ma’Lon McCoy** and **Tessa Trygstad** received **All-Conference Honorable Mention**. **Ma’Lon** was named **“MVP”** for her impressive 449 assists and her exceptional ability to turn difficult passes into productive sets. **Tessa**, transitioning to libero, earned **“Defensive Player of the Year”** with 581 career digs and 124 aces. The **“Offensive Player of the Year”** was closely contested among **Daniela Chavez Rivas** (152 kills), **Terese Fisher** (184 career kills), and **Veronica Damm** (173 career kills), with **Veronica** ultimately earning the title due to her versatility across multiple positions. The **“Aggie Award”** went to **Claira Wolf**, whose positive spirit and encouragement brightened every practice and game. The **“Faith Barrett Award”** was given to **Frannie Stariha** for her resilience and adaptability in transitioning to a new position in her senior year. Finally, the **“Bull Award”** recognized **Terese Fisher** for her outstanding leadership and invaluable presence on and off the court.

The Senior Captains—**Monica Barrett** (DS), **Terese Fisher** (OH), **Claira Wolf** (DS), and **Frannie Stariha** (S/RS)—exemplified leadership and humility, building strong bonds across the team. Fellow seniors **Gabi Kotchevar** (MH) and **Anna Satnik** (MH) also provided key leadership, helping to keep morale high and pushing the team toward ambitious goals. Looking ahead, the Aggies will have seven strong returners, and with a promising group of JV and C-squad players ready to step up, the 2025 season could be the Aggies’ breakout year.



This year’s Aggie Rouser Athletic Day of Giving and Aggie Open golf tournament were again held on the 3rd Monday of July, falling on the 15th this year. What a smashing success, raising over \$120,000 for the athletic department!

Over **\$78,000 in donations** were raised by 112 donors who designated gifts to cover equipment such as soccer balls and baseball helmets, fund tournament entry fees, help with busing costs, or simply to apply “wherever needed most.” What a gift!

At the same time donations were coming in online, thirty-six teams of golfers gathered at Como Golf Course to support Aggie Athletics, socialize, and post a birdie or two. The 2024 Champion team of Mike Dahlstrom, Pete Vogel, Joe McKean and Adam Olson took top honors with their team score of 55. 1978 classmates Bob Zacher,

Mike Parizino, Mike Fleischhacker, and Mark DeLaforest shot 14 under par to claim the senior division. Other awards presented at the ceremony were “longest drive” in their respective divisions earned by Mitch Knippenberg ‘12, Bill Kusterman ‘79, and Laura Jacobson, as well as “longest putt,” won by Bill Tschida ‘69 and John Weyandt ‘96.

The Saint Agnes Athletic Department is so grateful to each donor, golfer, and sponsor for their support of Aggie Athletics. Among other items, proceeds have already been used to purchase baseball and softball helmets, soccer practice balls, a volleyball cart and net set, and new State Tournament banners to hang in Bandas Gym. **Be sure to save the date for next year’s tourney, which is slated to take place on Monday, July 21, 2025.** Watch your email for communications regarding the opening of registration in the spring.

Classes pool resources to sponsor a hole! How about your class?

Team shirts are catching on!



Upper left: Class of 1987. Upper right: Class of 1978. Lower left: Class of 1964. Lower right: Class of 2012-2014.



A huge thank you to our tournament sponsors who committed over \$45,000 to Aggie Athletics!

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Michael Parizino '78

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Introducing the 2024 Saint Agnes Hall of Fame Inductee Class

Tom Poeschl, Sr.† '46

Tom Poeschl spent many childhood hours at the local playground with bat and glove in hand. It was no surprise that baseball would be the first sport he played as an Aggie. Lettering all four years, he captained the team beginning his sophomore year and was instrumental in that year's title as Champions of the State Catholic League.



His speed on the bases was utilized even more so on the football field. Earning three letters, he was often highlighted in the Pioneer Press as scoring a multitude of touchdowns by running 40, 80 and even 95-yards as a "hard running halfback" and the "Aggie speed boy."

Tom played and lettered in basketball as a junior and senior, where he captained the team and used his speed and agility to carry the ball up the court. But it was baseball that he loved most. In the offseason, he played Legion ball and was the leading hitter on the St. Paul All-Star baseball team with a batting average of .566 in addition to being a top-notch shortstop.

After graduation, he enlisted in the Army and was deployed to occupied Japan, just one year after WWII had ended. Noticing a flier on the board about baseball tryouts, he showed up, became the starting shortstop

for the US Army and played baseball to entertain the troops in Tokyo and the surrounding areas.

After discharge, he returned to St. Paul, went to trade school, and continued to play amateur baseball—eventually switching to fast-pitch softball as his children became more involved in their own activities. "I have great memories of playing on the swings at West Mini while my dad played ball," commented his daughter, Lisa '83. "My dad loves sports, both playing and watching, and has passed that on to his children and grandchildren. He doesn't miss a game!"

We are saddened to share that Tom passed away peacefully on November 11th, 2024 at the age of 96. We are grateful we were able to honor him this fall while he was still with us. May he rest in peace.

Larry Doyle† '68

"Humble, unpretentious, unassuming, even tempered, mild-mannered, dutiful, purposeful, and an accountable young man. He had a tremendous work ethic and a quirky sense of humor. That's our Larry. Our classroom Larry," commented Jay Monogue '68, one of the presenters for Larry. "He was, of sorts, the Clark Kent or Peter Parker of our classrooms. He could have been a reporter or a photographer for the Aggie yearbook by day. But... when the bell rang for the end of the school day—when his

baseball, football or hockey seasons were in play—especially hockey and especially Sunday nights—this mild-mannered young man of the classroom exploded to become our high school hockey superhero—Superman and Spider-Man all in one. Still humble. Still disciplined. It was a thrilling and awe-inspiring transition for those of us privileged to be around Larry at that time to see this player excel so well."

Larry was a three-sport athlete playing football, baseball, and hockey. In football, Larry was the starting left end, and his team placed second in the Don Bosco Conference in 1967 and 1968, finishing 8-1 in his senior year.

Hockey was Larry's first love. He cut his hockey teeth at North Dale playground before playing for the Aggies. Under the direction of Coach Tom Osiecki '60, and Coach Don Joseph, he matured and grew, gaining a reputation for speed, finesse, strength, and scoring prowess.



As a junior, Larry's forward line was the highest scoring line of the Central Catholic Conference, leading the team to the Championship game. After posting a season's record of 17-1—with the one loss being to a Canadian Junior B team that brought respect to the Catholic High School caliber of MN Hockey—the 1968 year resulted in an additional conference championship and a second-place finish in the CCC State Tournament.

Larry was a member of the CCC All-Conference Team, the CCC All-State Team, Co-Captain of the hockey team, tied for state tournament scoring, leading scorer in his summer Olympic Junior Hockey League with the Country Club team and accepted to play for St Mary's of the MIAC. Tragically, his life was cut short in an automobile accident on July 4, 1972, at the age of 22.

A number of Larry's teammates, friends, and family were in attendance, and his award was accepted posthumously by his brother Dan '75.

Kathy Masson '82

"I feel extremely fortunate to have been able to participate in the organized sports programs here at Saint Agnes. As some of you may remember, Title IX came into effect in June of 1972 requiring federally funded learning institutions to offer equal opportunities for men and women in sports. Although Saint Agnes is not a federally funded school, it seemed to have a positive effect on the administration here as they began offering more activities and sports teams for girls to participate in."



Kathy, a 13-year Aggie, started playing school ball for Mr. Greg Koltres, when he recommended that she try out for the grade school 7th/8th grade basketball team as a 6th grader. She played on the varsity team the next three years and was a leader of the 1978 CAA Twin Cities Championship Basketball team.

Kathy gave a shout out to many of her coaches, starting with the volleyball season and Mr. Dwight Johnson. "Mr. Johnson was a very good volleyball player in his own right. He taught us so much, put us through the toughest drills, ran a very tight ship and because of all that, we had a pretty good team." In 1980, her junior year, the team was the Don Bosco Conference Champs and District 15A Runner up. In 1981, they were both Conference Champs and District 15A Champions. Kathy lettered both years and was named All-Conference her senior year.

Basketball continued under the direction of Miss Terri Eicher, now Mrs. Cartwright. As a freshman, it was Coach Eicher's first year coaching and there were some growing pains, winning only one game by forfeit. But with hard work and Coach Eicher's knowledge, the Aggies became the Don Bosco Champs in '81 and '83, District 15A Runner up in '80 and '81, and District Champions in 1982. Kathy lettered four years in basketball and was named All-Conference three years in a row.

With spring came softball and Coach Joe Silvia. "His competitiveness and love of the game rubbed off on all of us." With a consistent winning record, the team won the Don Bosco Championship in '81 and '82, earning Kathy three letters and one All-Conference honor.

Kathy continued her basketball career at St. Thomas College, lettering all three years she played.

"When the Hall of Fame was first announced, the first person I thought of was Kathy Masson," stated John Hilpisch '80, who had nominated Kathy. "She is a tremendous athlete". Teammate Colleen (Zabrok) Simons '82 summed it up when she said, "Nobody played harder, faster, or stronger than she did. She always gave it 100% no matter what sport it was. Kathy was every coach's dream."

Charlie Turch '12

"Hard work and humility are the first things that come mind when I think about our time as teammates," led Mitch Knippenberg '12, presenter for Charlie, "He let his actions on and off the field speak for him rather than his words. In the classroom and on the field, Charlie gave it everything he had. He always left the field the most battered and bruised out of anyone on the team."



Charlie was a 2-year letter winner and All-Conference honorable mention in football, and a 3-year letter winner, captain, and All-Conference honorable mention in basketball. But baseball became his passion. Charlie was named All-Conference for two years, All-State his senior year, and the recipient of the 2012 Class A Mr. Baseball Award. Charlie also holds a place in the Saint Agnes record books with the all-time career hits record of 156, as well as the single season batting average (.556) and the all-time batting average record.

"This list of accolades are all individual awards, but do not be confused," continued Knippenberg, "Charlie was a team player. In baseball, we had the honor of winning the 2012 State Championship and throughout that run Charlie was there to lead us every moment we needed him. I always knew he was the heart and soul of our team, but it wasn't until recently that I reviewed the statistics again, and I understood how clutch he was for our team. During our run through Sections and the State Tournament, Charlie hit an amazing .677!"

Charlie credits his parents for introducing him to athletics. "Thanks to my parents for countless hours of driving us everywhere, even with my mom's occasional speeding tickets and my dad (Steve Turch '75) napping on ballfield grass. My dad always pushed us to go further, whether it was 100 layups, dribbling through cones, or throwing a

bucket of balls. I remember hating it at the time but eventually grew to love the foundation it built. And to my siblings, Nick '14 and Maria '16, thank you for the countless hours in the yard and basement, for putting up with the rough housing, and for making me tougher. As a

kid, I dreamed of the Timberwolves or the Twins, but in hindsight, growing up to be an Aggie was the biggest blessing I could have asked for."



The Class of 1964 celebrates 60 years!

REUNIONS

Class of 1964 Celebrates 60 Years



13-year Aggies reminisce in the kindergarten room

The Class of 1964 held their class reunion at Saint Agnes! Everyone enjoyed the evening and the conversation was lively. Remarked Pat (Mahowald) Theroux, “I would really recommend other classes consider having your reunion on campus. Especially if you haven’t been back in years. The tour of old and new was so great and a wonderful way to relive memories.”

Class of 1974 Reunion: Celebrating 50 Years Together

It’s hard to believe that 50 years have flown by in the blink of an eye! Our Class of ’74 recently gathered at Gabe’s for a milestone reunion that turned out to be an absolute blast. The joy of seeing everyone come together to laugh, reminisce, and create new memories was truly heartwarming.

With a record number of attendees, including classmates who traveled from around the country and from as far away as Thailand, the night was nothing short of unforgettable. It was a wonderful reminder of the special classmates who made our high school years so impactful and the friendships that have stood the test of time.

While we may have missed out on prom, selling the most candy bars, and crowning a homecoming queen and king, we certainly rocked our 50th reunion! Together, we created moments that will last a lifetime, and those special memories can never be taken away from us.



Here’s to our incredible journey together and to keeping the good times rolling until we gather again! Let’s continue to cherish the friendships that have enriched our lives.

The Reunion Committee



The Class of 1979 celebrates 45 years!

Class of 1979 Celebrates 45 Years

The Class of 1979 held their 45-year reunion at Gabe’s in St Paul. We had nearly 40 of our classmates present for the festivities. We toasted those who are no longer with us and caught up with all of our old friends. Comments from our class Facebook page:

“A fantastic opportunity to be a part of friendships that have lasted nearly 50 years”

“A fun night for all.”

“It was a wonderful evening!! I feel so blessed to be part of such a beautiful class!!!”

“It was fabulous! Enjoyed every minute!”

“Fun night reconnecting with good friends!”



The Class of 1984

Class of 1984 Celebrates 40 Years

The 40-year reunion was held on September 28th at Sweeney’s Saloon. It was a great success and a fun evening to see people, catch up and share memories. Committee chair, John Preuss, did a great job of coordinating everything!

Class of 1994 Celebrates 30 Years

Daniel Hoppe sends this photo of classmates enjoying an afternoon of

catching up with one another and sharing memories of high school.



The Class of 1994

Class of 2004 Celebrates 20 Years

We had a great summer evening at Sweeney's in St. Paul for the 2004 Saint Agnes Class Reunion. We had a small group, but it was filled with stories from the past and learning all about each other's lives over the past 20 years! Looking forward to more get-togethers in the future!

Class of 2014 Celebrates 10 Years

The Class of 2014 gathered at Lake Monster Brewing. The photo speaks for itself in ways life has changed in the 10 years since graduation!



WHISPERS OF THE PAST



The homecoming dance has been an Aggie tradition—like so many others—that has stood the test of time. From our stunning royalty with nicely pressed suits and plumes of hairspray swing dancing to big bands in the 1950s and 60s, to man-perms, disco, and rock-and-roll in the 70s and 80s, to the ever-lengthening conga lines and brightly colored dresses of the new millennium, the Gruden

Gym dance floor is always packed with endless energy. So much so, in fact, that the gym is always still a few degrees warmer than usual on the Monday morning after the dance!

What was your favorite memory from one of your Aggie homecoming dances?



In Memoriam

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

- Sr. Sandra Fleischhacker, OSB, 1943
- Sr. Luke (Lucille) Hoschette OSB, 1943
- Rita (Jungwirth) Chial, 1946
- Thomas Poeschl, Sr, 1946
- Mary Ann (Koller) Houck, 1947
- Claire (Dech) Maturen, 1949
- John Napiowski, 1949
- Florence (Wagner) Voss, 1949
- Mary Ann (Shea) Doyle, 1951
- Pamela (Galvin) Hiller, 1952
- Dorothy (Bege) Belko, 1953
- Robert Hurley, 1955
- Ronald Weidenheft, 1955
- Mary (Lynch) Schoenecker, 1956
- Jean (Marusic) Lohman, 1956
- Patricia (Elm) Brennan, 1957

- Barbara (Elm) Weisz, 1957
- Lee Larkey, 1957
- Louise Charpentier, 1960
- Jean (Bettendorf) Heintzen, 1962
- Ruth Ann (Clark) Lambert, 1962
- Patricia (Probst) Bren, 1962
- Jerome Borell, 1964
- Arthur Hassel, 1964
- Elaine (Kasel) Altier, 1964
- Noreen O'Connor, 1964
- Donna (Preston) Tesch, 1964
- Geraldine (Stoffel) Storm, 1964
- William Sullivan, 1964
- Gregory Tschida, 1964
- Terrance Woulfe, 1964
- William Hecht, 1966

- Paul Merrill, 1972
- Robert Lewandoski, spouse of Charlene (Hurlburt), 1976
- Theresa (Stelter) Hempeck, 1981
- Robert Lee, friend
- Marian Collins, Grandparent
- Jeffrey LeVoor, Parent
- Bob Burke, Past Faculty
- Ronald Poplau, Past Faculty
- Josephine Barnes, Past Parent
- Elizabeth Bradac, Past Parent
- Marlin Freyholtz, Sr, Past Parent
- Gregory Youngs, Sr., Past Parent
- Diana McEvoy, Past Parent

*GS=grade school alumni *CC=commercial class alumni

Saint Agnes School

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SAVE THE DATE

SAINT AGNES SCHOOL ANNUAL **RED & White** BENEFIT

Saturday, February 8, 2025

Ubel Activity Center • Saint Agnes School
Dinner, Games, Silent Auction,
Live Auction

The Red & White is a festive night for the entire Saint Agnes community to come together to support the Saint Agnes mission of forming Catholic hearts and minds in faith, reason, and virtue. We ask for your participation, prayers, and financial support so that we may continue our work for years to come.

Social media and electronic advertising packages are available. Have a vacation home? Travel rewards? Provide a service? Consider a donation to the auction! Wine and liquor baskets and new household items are especially appreciated. For more information contact benefit@saintagnesschool.org or 651-925-8720.

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