

ST. MONICA

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

23
24

ANNUAL REPORT



www.stmonicasea.org

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Friends of St. Monica Catholic School,

It is my honor to present the 2023-2024 Annual Report for St. Monica Catholic School, a place where faith, knowledge, friendship, and leadership guide every aspect of our community.

Faith remains the foundation of everything we do at St. Monica. Through our Catholic values, we strive to form students whose lives reflect the teachings of Christ. Whether in moments of prayer, service, or celebration; our community's devotion is apparent in all we do. As our students continue to grow, we hope they carry with them the faith and compassion learned here, embodying the spirit of St. Monica in all they undertake.

Knowledge is the gift we are privileged to offer every student, knowing that true education goes beyond academics. With a curriculum steeped in the Classical Liberal Arts and inspired by truth, beauty, and goodness, we are committed to developing well-rounded, thoughtful individuals.

Friendship is the heartbeat of our school, as we continue to be a vibrant and welcoming community. The bonds shared here go beyond classrooms and hallways, uniting parents, faculty, staff, friends, parishioners, and alumni in a collective mission to support and nurture our students. Through shared celebrations, collaborative problem-solving, and dedicated service, our community comes together time and again, strengthening the fabric of our school.

Leadership is evident in our students and in the work of our entire community. We are especially proud to acknowledge Evelyn Zwolski, who was recognized with the 2024 Mercer Island Preschool Association's Exceptional Educator Award, for her dedication to early childhood education. We also reinstated the middle school trip to Washington, D.C. providing students with invaluable experiences that help shape and inspire them to become future leaders. In addition, we are excited to share that our accredited high school continues to grow and has achieved a 100% university acceptance rate.



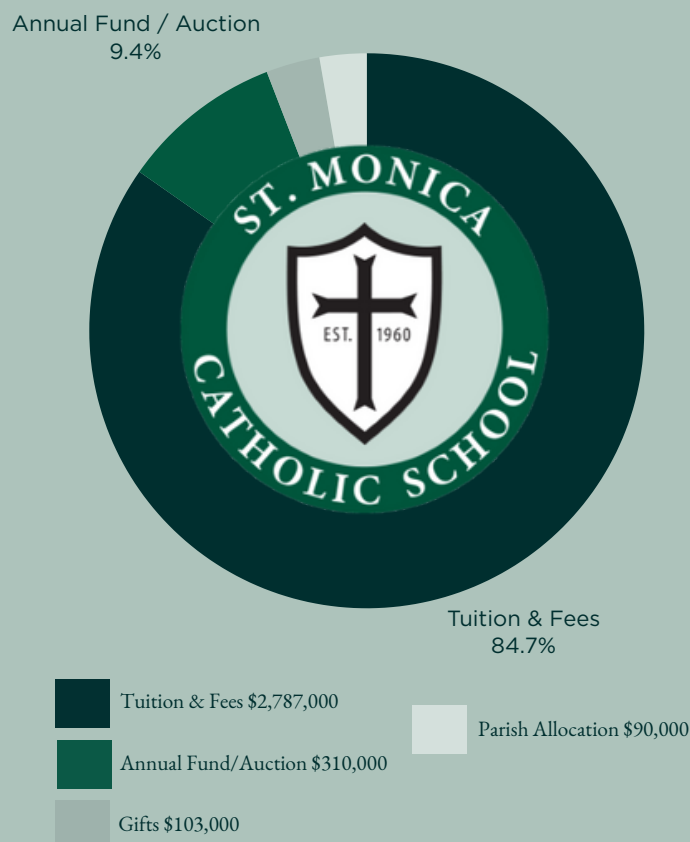
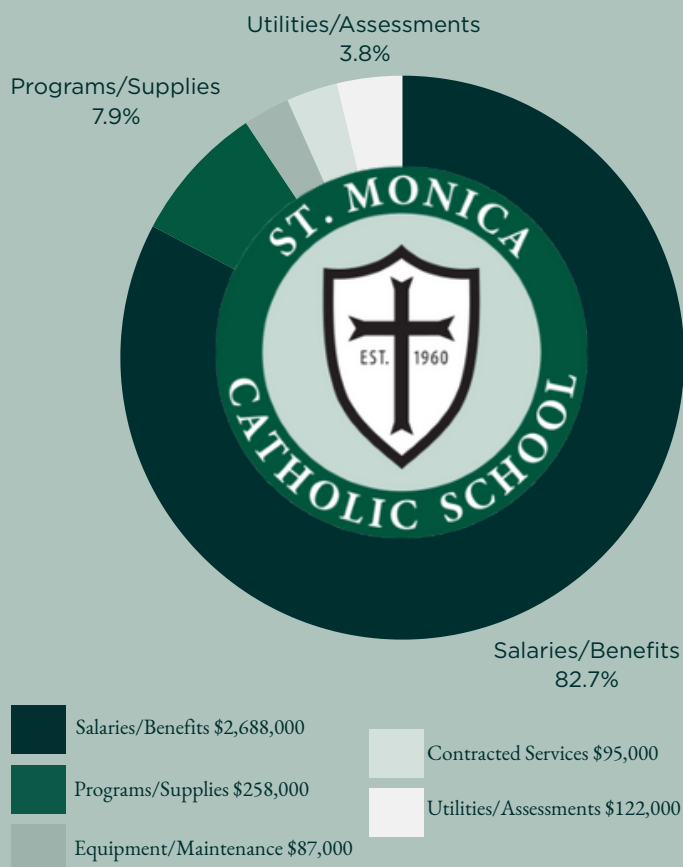
These accomplishments, along with countless individual student achievements, are a direct result of the dedication of our faculty, staff, and supporters. Together, we are shaping tomorrow's leaders, instilling in them not only academic excellence but also the courage and integrity to serve others.

As we look toward the future, I invite you to reflect on the role you play in sustaining these pillars at St. Monica Catholic School. By supporting the 2024-2025 Annual Fund, you help us continue providing an education that prepares students to be servant-leaders in a Christ-centered world.

On behalf of our entire school community, thank you for your ongoing prayers, generosity, and faith in our mission. May God bless you for your continued support.

Warm regards,


PRINCIPAL



TOTAL EXPENSES: \$3,250,000

TOTAL INCOME: \$3,290,000

* For comparative purposes, figures are adjusted to exclude prior year accounting adjustments booked in the 23-24 school year.

2023-24 Fiscal Year Review

St. Monica Catholic School strives to achieve a balanced annual operating budget where revenues are equal to expenses. A strong fiscal 2024 is a critical component to meeting the school's goal of providing the highest quality education within a sustainable operating budget. Some specific highlights from fiscal 2023 are below.

The Annual Fund (also known as Monica's Fund) helps to bridge the gap between tuition and what it actually costs to educate each child. Gifts made to the Annual Fund directly support each student by supporting essential academic programs, retaining outstanding educators, and covering operational needs and expenses. Specifically, these include teacher development, curriculum materials, technology upgrades, educational subscriptions, bringing in speakers, salaries for teachers, building maintenance, etc. As an example, given the generous donations to our Annual Fund last year we were able to buy new computers for our teachers, upgrade our Wi-Fi system, get new desks and chairs for our middle school, and hire new para educators. Thank you to all of our supporters!

The school continues to prioritize affordability for all families who choose SMS, especially as we navigate increasing inflationary pressures. Because of your generous donations, 12% of our students have been able to receive **financial aid** and continue on in a faith-based education. Financial aid is funded from several sources, including the Fulcrum Foundation, Monica's Fund (The Annual Fund), and school operations.

The **Make A Difference** ask at the 3rd Annual Holy Hoedown raised money to update the Gym and Family Center. Our generous community came together to make it possible! The update included new flooring, basketball hoops, bleachers, safety mats, a water station, a new speaker system and more! This is an update that will be enjoyed by our community for generations. Thank you everyone for making this possible for our kids and school!

Additional **Gifts** outside of the Annual Fund and the MAD ask, we're designated for special projects including sponsoring the production of the Holy Hoedown and upgrading our CYO uniforms.



“HER CARE FOR HER STUDENTS IS EXCEPTIONAL. I’VE BEEN BLESSED TO HAVE HER CARE FOR MY DAUGHTER IN PRESCHOOL AND TO WORK BESIDE HER AS A TEACHER. SHE SEES THE WHOLE CHILD AND WORKS TO SET EVERY CHILD UP FOR SUCCESS, WHEREVER THEY ARE.”

Shanni Perez



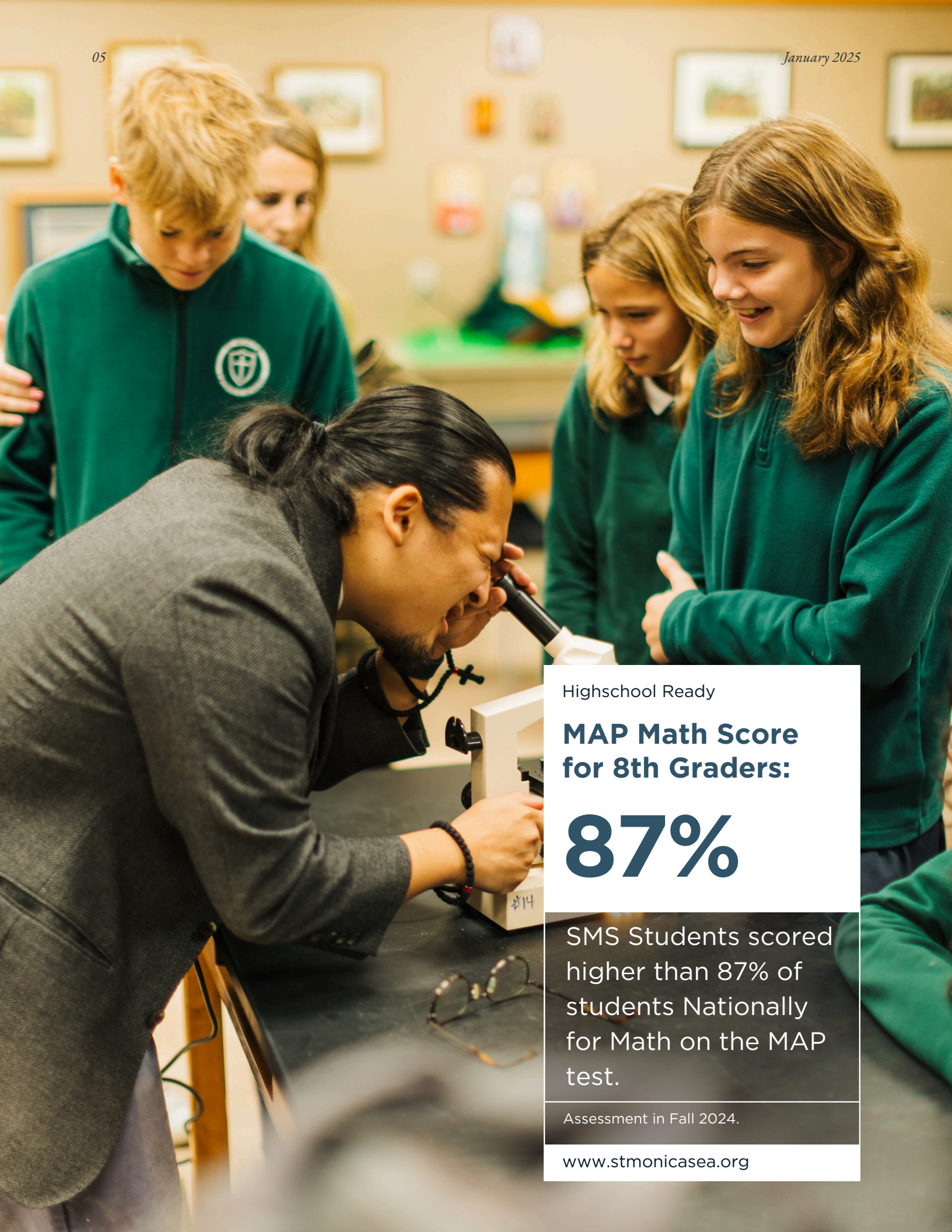
St. Monica Catholic School continues to offer an excellent faith-based education for our earliest learners.

A young child should experience a variety of guided teaching moments with ample time and freedom to create and play. Pretend play and executive functioning are linked to increased problem-solving skills, communicating clearly, creativity, and the ability to delay gratification. Our philosophy is as Piaget’s – “Play is the work of a child.”

Our multifaceted program provides thematic units that engage, integrate, and teach across all curricular areas including teacher directed instruction in reading and math readiness as well as through multi-sensory learning centers, songs, chants, creative movement, play, and exploration.

MIPA EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATOR, EVELYN ZWOLSKI

We are so proud to share that Evelyn Zwolski, our ELC Program Supervisor, was recognized as Mercer Island Preschool Association’s 2023 Exceptional Educator of the year! She was chosen as a Teacher/Administrator who has made exceptional contributions to our preschool community through her dedication to early childhood education. She was honored at the Preschool Director’s Luncheon hosted by the Mercer Island School District last Spring.



Highschool Ready

**MAP Math Score
for 8th Graders:**

87%

SMS Students scored
higher than 87% of
students Nationally
for Math on the MAP
test.

Assessment in Fall 2024.

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College Ready

**AVG
SOPHOMORES
CLT-10 SCORE:
93%**

SMS Students scored
92.75% on the
College Prep Test.
The average score
nationally was 62%.

Assessment in Fall 2024.

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HIGHLIGHTS



ROME, ITALY

This past year, our SMHS students got to experience Rome together as they traveled back in time to explore the ancient world while also engaging prayerfully in the present during Holy Week. They meditated at the ancient Colosseum during the Stations of the Cross vigil and sat in awe and reflection at Easter Mass among the many faithful at St. Peter's Basilica. They enjoyed adventuring around the city, discovering the ancient sites and over 900 churches of Rome, and opened their minds to the past, present and future.



HOLY HOEDOWN

Save the Date: May 3, 2025

The 3rd Annual Holy Hoedown Auction brought the community together to support a great cause. We successfully raised funds for the much-needed renovation of our gym and family center, making the night a memorable and impactful success!



WASHINGTON, DC

7th and 8th graders embarked on an exciting journey to Washington, D.C., where they explored the nation's capital and experienced its rich history firsthand. From visiting iconic landmarks like the National Mall and the U.S. Capitol to learning about American history, the trip was both inspiring and unforgettable, creating lasting memories for all who attended.

24-25 ANNUAL FUND PRIORITIES

WHAT'S AHEAD FOR SMS



Fundraising Goal
\$250,000

Help Us Get There

The Annual Fund is a barometer of our school's potential; it is a foundational element of our financial sustainability as an organization of faith and education in our community. With your help, we bridge the gap between tuition and what it actually costs to educate each child. We need your help to reach our Annual Fund goal of \$250,000 which will help us to:

- Keep tuition affordable for all students
- Continue PD for teachers in **social emotional, executive functioning and neuro diverse teaching strategies.**
- Continue **Classical PD** for teachers to deepen the integration of curriculum so the trivium is more fully experienced in each of the school's levels - grammar (K-5), logic (6-8th) and rhetoric (9-12).
- Cover **tuition for students of staff.**
- Support tuition needs for families who wouldn't otherwise be able to attend.



Donate Today

OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

St. Monica Catholic School would like to extend a sincere congratulations to all our Alumni on all their successes since their time here at St. Monica. SMS graduates are servant leaders who are well prepared to embrace the life that God calls them to live. We are truly blessed to have such an outstanding group of Alumni representing St. Monica School worldwide. Go Crusaders!

This year though, we are honored to feature Bella Huynh as one of our Outstanding Alumni. She is a 2nd generation legacy student and achieving great success at Seattle Prep as a Junior. Bella's commitment to serving others, academic success, as well as her faith-based values make her stand out as an extraordinary alumnus.

"St. Monica set the foundation of my faith life, instilling in me the values of service and compassion which are further emphasized in my current education at Seattle Prep in the Jesuit mission of being men and women for others. My teachers at St. Monica challenged me, helping me dissect the complicated works of philosophers until I could confidently approach these works myself. This made my transition into high school seamless and seemingly significantly easier than my peers coming from other Catholic middle schools."



Bella Huynh, St. Monica Class of 2022



We are also excited to feature Jack Moffitt as one of our 2024 Outstanding Alumni. Jack has achieved remarkable success both academically and athletically. After graduating from St. Monica Catholic School, he played Division 1 baseball at Gonzaga University for four years while earning a degree in Business Marketing. He went on to play an additional year of D1 baseball for Indiana University while completing a Master's certificate in Cybersecurity from the Kelley School of Business. Jack is now preparing to begin his career in Sales Development at Oracle in Boston, MA.

"St. Monica gave me the confidence to communicate effectively in any setting," Jack shared. "The opportunities I had to practice public speaking—whether at Mass, concerts, or plays—prepared me to express my ideas clearly, a skill that has been invaluable throughout my academic and professional journey." Jack also credits St. Monica with laying the foundation for his faith life, which he continues to nurture through daily morning prayer that motivates him to glorify God in all his pursuits.

Jack Moffitt, St. Monica Class of 2015

We are truly blessed to have such an outstanding group of Alumni representing St. Monica School worldwide. Go Crusaders!

Would you like to share an Alumni story? We'd love to hear from you! Just email hhankins@stmonicasea.org with any updates!



2023-2024 DONOR RECOGNITION

WE CELEBRATE THE GENEROSITY OF THE ST. MONICA CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY. THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE A REMARKABLE DEMONSTRATION OF COMMUNITY AND PHILANTHROPY.

Annual Fund donors generously contributed to keep tuition affordable for all students, helped to support teacher wages, provided school supplies, updated technology, and much more! Donations were collected via the school website, at registration, during the school auction, during Mass, and via gifts sent straight to the school. Please note, these numbers do not include matching.

\$100,000+

Anonymous

\$30,000+

Mick & Marnie Schreck

\$10,000+

Dale & Mary Winter

\$5,000+

*Javier & Mariana De Lucas
Adam & Kasey Sibert
Kyle & Natalya Petersen
Carvel & Sara Sue Zwingle
Dolores Gehrig*

\$1,000+

*Isaac & Amber Gribble
John & Pamela Hayden
Alexander & Maria Griot
Rob & Gina Maguire*

*Jamison & Carolyn Balousek
Burke & Dolores Gibson
Morgan & Lissa Shook
Wally & Paula Boos
Michael & Barbara LaSalle
Dale & Nancy Bird Vogel
Julei Yang
Simon Yau & Vivian Sit
Marise Chan
Thomas & Elaine Bligh
Brett Chapman & Shaye Mitchell
Kevin & Mary Chu
Rick & Patti Fersch
Forrest & Karen Fielder
Colby & Kristine Hanover
Andrew & Ashley Hay
Leif & Stacie Johnson
Bryan & Justyna King
Andrew & Julie Lamb
Larry & Eileen Mitchell
Glynnis Morton
Serge & Patricia Ngako Kameni
Bette Orrico
Timothy & Lori Punke
Stefan & Megan Slivinski
Sean Vegeler & Michelle Pulling
Danny & Eunice Wong*

\$500+

*Doug & Christy McKiernan
Tim & Dianne Arpin
Jamie & Robert Huynh
John & Paula Tiscornia*

*Don Lionetti
Sean & Binh King
Linda Barber
John & Lisa Brondello
Jack & Myra Hanover
Matthew & Linnea Augustine
Jordan & Everly Babineaux
Stuart & Erin Battersby
Tygann & Fallon Billow
Jared & Trisha Cooper
Khang Doan & Ha Thai
John & Katie Dolence
Justin & Elizabeth Donaldson
Robert Filley
Jennifer Franklin
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Ian & Claudia Goodhew
James & Cecelia Gregson
Kyle & Jennie Griffith
Kenik & Laura Hassel
Mason & Shelley Helms
Bart & Ashley Housman
Kent Hu & Cindy Goh
Jeff Mackie & Stephanie Ries
James & Jill Minarsich
Adam & Rachel Ortega
Michael & Ann Rosato
Troy & Shannon Schell
Scott & Lindsey Schield
Haley & Tim Street
Gary & Cheryl Stubbers
Greg & Krista Van Gaver*

\$200+

Chloe Eisen
 Jeff & Linda Kercher
 Jon & Kelly Kuhn
 Dominic Lai & Louisa Lee
 Kyle & Jessica Roche
 Carol Jergens
 Jacqueline Balinbin & Jeremy Bean
 Jim & Hannah Bogensberger
 Matthew & Jacklyn Brown
 Andrew & Jennifer Buhrmann
 Jason & Phui Cooper
 Alex & Natasha Krilov
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 Paul McDonald & Carly Bird-Vogel
 Mike & Lisa San Diego Nekahi
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 Chris & Heidi Scalzo
 Brandon Schmid & Anh Than
 Sergio Solano & Maria Molina
 Gregory & Shine Spak
 Carol Appel
 Jason & Lindsay Bloom
 Frances Call
 Julee Neyer
 George Soler
 Theresa Werlech
 Kathryn Hoffman

\$100+

John Stephan & Britta Banchemo
 Philip & Barbara Davidson
 Robert & Amanda Rubeck Laney
 Trevor & Leeching Wong
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 Michael Smith & Kikis Tame
 Frank & Belinda Gosson
 David & Wendy Holloway
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 Colten Andrews & Charlie Billow
 Mollie Bahner & Kevin Pettigrew
 Mohar Bhise & Ruchi Junnarkar
 Arthur Buonamia & Hongmei Wang
 Michael Corsilles & Eunice Gong
 Tyson & Yilu Farmer
 Dan & Kelly Feimster
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 Gabriel & Marisa Maricich
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 Vadim & Mariia Oliynyk
 Dorothy Rempe
 Eric & Shannon Smith
 Dallas & Stacey Thornton
 Richard & Beverly Volk

Garret & Emily Grob
 Bill & Megan Radzevych
 Riley & Brooke Shephard

The below include **Make A Difference** donors who helped us achieve the update in the Gym and Family Center. Donations were collected during the Auction and via gifts sent straight to the school. Please note, these numbers do not include matching.

\$30,000+

Nicholas & Lindsey Wellmon

\$20,000+

Deacon Larry & Karen McDonald

\$15,000+

Charlie Sr. & Courtni Billow
 Bryan & Justyna King

\$10,000+

John & Pamela Hayden
 Stephan & Linda Banchemo
 Hal & Joanie Griffith
 Andrew & Julie Lamb

\$5,000+

Rob & Gina Maguire
 David & Rachel Claridge
 Forrest & Karen Fielder
 Kyle & Jennie Griffith

\$2,000+

Brett Chapman & Shaye Mitchell
 Michael & Cara Perla
 Tygann & Fallon Billow
 Jared & Trisha Cooper
 Patrick & Sunday Heily
 Bart & Ashley Housman
 Sean & Binh King
 Michele McDonald McCarthy
 Michael & Ann Rosato
 Sarah & Walter Scott
 Matt & Stephanie Murphy

\$1,000+

Sam & Sarah LeClerc
 Andrew & Jennifer Buhrmann
 Jon & Kelly Kuhn
 Jay & Shokofeh Tabaraie Nygaard
 Hanwool Choi & Andrea Winter
 Scott & Lindsey Schield
 Mike & Sky Alfieri
 Jamison & Carolyn Balousek
 Stephan & Britta Banchemo

Brew & Janice Bede
 Jason & Lindsay Bloom
 Joanna & Matt Boisen
 John & Katie Dolence
 Justin & Elizabeth Donaldson
 Linda Fernandez
 Colby & Kristine Hanover
 Eric & Sarah Hansen
 Andrew & Ashley Hay
 Leif & Stacie Johnson
 Dominic Lai & Louisa Lee
 Erik & Tara Lawler
 Tim & Kathy Leahy
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 Olivia & Jeff Lippens
 David Lockhart
 Patrick & Andrea McDonald
 Dick & Pat Mitchell
 Glynnis Morton
 Fr. Kurt Nagel
 Mike Nekahi & Lisa San Diego
 Timothy & Lori Punke
 Jordan & Radhika Sehn
 Sean Vegeler & Michelle Pulling
 Simon Yau & Vivian Sit

\$500+

Andrew & Mary Roedel
 Gregory & Shine Spak
 Kathleen Mazure
 Jordan & Everly Babineaux
 Rob Billow
 Steve & Kimberly Conn
 Charlene Crawford
 Naveen & Diana Dsouza
 Christopher Frank & Victoria Huang
 Jake Jacobson
 Bill & Megan Radzevych
 Mary Wright

\$100+

Laura & Andrew Jarboe
 April Bauer
 Jean McMullan
 Anthony & Maria Moore
 Salim & Janice Nice
 Kelly North
 Jensen Okimoto
 Teryl Orrico
 Ashley & Colin Reed
 Riley & Brooke Shephard
 Troy & Kim Thomas
 Meghan Wright

ANNUAL REPORT



St. Monica Catholic School collaborates with parents in educating and developing the whole child, so they may maximize their human potential, fulfill their God-given purpose, and flourish in a Christ-centered and rigorous academic environment.

HELP US CONTINUE TO EDUCATE OUR FUTURE CATHOLIC LEADERS. CONSIDER A DONATION FOR MONICA'S FUND THIS YEAR!

DONATE ONLINE



VISIT OUR GIVING PAGE AT ST.MONICASEA.ORG OR SCAN THE QR CODE.