SETON CATHOLIC

CARDINAL POINTS

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The End Is Just The Beginning!

Every May, high schools across the country close out the school year with graduation. They recognize and celebrate the students that have successfully completed their formative years of compulsory education.

Filled with nostalgia, seniors and their families often look back on those years with fondness; recalling such stories as that first day of kindergarten, their first best friend, their first overnight field trip, class retreat or carnival. They reflect on their favorite teachers, friends and classmates, and personal and collective accomplishments. They realize that this is the end of an era -the era of youth.

Seton Catholic High School held its tenth annual commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 31st in the Chuck Mosey Memorial Gymnasium. Matthew Westjohn gave the Valedictorian speech, while Patrick Marsee spoke as Salutatorian -both remembering times with classmates and bidding farewell to SCHS.

Prior to this year's graduation, our seniors were asked to share their favorite memories of SCHS. Maggie Lahmann reflected, "It isn't possible for me to choose a favorite memory at Seton because each moment becomes my new favorite memory or experience.

My entire experience here at Seton is my favorite memory. I'm glad I chose SCHS because it has allowed me to gain a second family. The people

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Graduating class of 2015 at their commencement ceremony

A Fond Farewell

Grateful does not begin to scratch the surface when Seton Catholic Schools thinks of Mr. Tim Love. After teaching in the public schools for thirty-three years, Mr. Tim Love retired. Two weeks in to that retirement, he received a call from Seton High School principal, Mr. Rick Ruhl. The idea was for Love to work part-time at the school and to start a music program where none had been before.

"He said, 'It's just in the mornings,'" Love remembers. "It sounded like a pretty easy thing to do." But, when he began, Mr. Love learned there were only six Seton students "that actually played anything." There were no instruments, music stands, or music.

Ending his career at Seton Catholic Schools with a farewell concert on May 12, Mr. Love directed a group of 91 students. He was delighted to find the seats full of his friends



Mr. Love at his farewell concert in mid-May, blessing Seton with what he does best !
~Palladium-Item photo by Joshua Smith

and family, as well as, former students and colleagues. At the end of the concert, Mr. Love learned that the newly renovated band space at Seton Catholic High School would bear his name – the Timothy D. Love Band Center.

Seton alum, Audrey Shake (2012) reflected on how she met Mr. Love upon learning of his retirement, "I met Mr. Love the summer before I started junior high. He was the grand Marshall for a parade in Richmond and rode with my grandma (Norma Carnes Schroeder) and me. He convinced me to join band when the school year began, and so I did."

She continued, "I had no idea how to play a musical instrument or how to read notes. A lot of us didn't know how but Mr. Love patiently taught us the basics and then turned the music program into what it is today. He is so much more than a teacher. He loves each and every one of his students and I always knew he loved me too. Thank you Tim Love for everything you did for me, for your students and for the music program at Seton. You deserve to have the new music auditorium named after you because without you, it would not be there. You are truly a blessing and I am so honored to have been your student. Enjoy being retired, again."

Thank you Mr. Tim Love for all you have done for our students, our school and our community. May God continue to richly bless you!

Welcome Aboard!

Recently, the Seton Catholic Schools Board of Directors approved the creation of a full-time music teaching position that will cover all grade levels. This new position will take effect starting with the 2015-2016 school year.

We are very pleased to announce the hiring of Mr. Evan Schroeder to fill this position. In many ways, Evan's new ministry at Seton Catholic Schools represents a true homecoming for him. Evan attended Seton Catholic Schools throughout his formative compulsory education years; graduating from SCHS in 2011. As an 8th grader, Evan was among the first students to take band with Mr. Love when he joined our staff back in 2006. Evan's mother, Terri, teaches 6th grade at our Elementary School.

A recent graduate of Butler University, Evan received a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and will be leading our general music classes for grades 1st -6th, conducting band for grades 6 -12th and directing choir at SCHS. We look forward to having his familiar face and talent back in the community!



Seton's new music director Evan Schroeder, pictured at a recent college recital.

Greatness in the Making!

Almost anyone can become a teacher, but it takes a special person to be a great teacher. To inspire not just a great student, but a great person, a teacher must rise above the crowd and make a lasting impression. Some of the qualities that go into the making of a great teacher include enthusiasm, dedication and flexibility, but also creativeness. First grade teacher, Allison Blanford possesses those qualities and more!

Miss Blanford, more commonly known by her students as "Miss B", received her teaching degree from Indiana University in 2011 and is licensed to teach K-12 and Special Education, recently completing her 3rd year of teaching at Seton Catholic. Miss B. is very dedicated to her role saying, "I am passionate about developing and implementing learning activities that involve all different types of learners. I really try to develop activities that will connect to auditory, kinesthetic and visual learners."

One student's experience shows the enthusiasm, dedication and flexibility Miss Blanford possesses. Parent, Allison Rivera was more than happy to share her daughter's story of being in Miss B's classroom. "Ms. Blanford has gone above and beyond working with us for Sydney. Early in the school year she noticed Sydney was having some difficulties in certain subjects and she worked closely with us to devise a plan for the remainder of the year. At one point there was more of a concern and she offered to tutor her after school twice a week. She focused on areas that we wouldn't have been able to do alone at home," said Mrs. Rivera. "We are so grateful for her extra time and are happy that Sydney will also be able to be tutored by her during summer break. This, to us, is such a blessing and is one, among many, reasons why we love Seton so much."



Miss B. and Sydney Rivera caught in action.

Finding new ways to teach based on research and changing things up in her classroom, keeps Miss Blanford's students excited about learning. "The more creative and interactive the activity the better in my opinion," says Miss B. "I have truly enjoyed moving to 1st grade, after being in 6th grade my first year at Seton. I have really been able to be much more creative in my lessons and I really enjoy teaching emergent readers."

Very satisfied with what is going on in first grade, principal Mrs. Becker had this to add, "Allison is absolutely tenacious about building student responsibility as well as growing with the reading and math standards at first grade in order to succeed as a student. She spends a lot of time evaluating her students and then grouping them according to their needs. And she celebrates student growth with the kids and their families!"

In her free time, Miss Blanford enjoys traveling to new places, spending time with family and friends, and performing at Richmond Civic Theater. Most recently she was a member of the cast in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *Shrek the Musical*.

Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn.

~ Benjamin Franklin









Celebrating the Sacraments

We celebrate many things; such as good report cards, birthdays, anniversaries, retirements, even National Pancake Day. However, for Catholics the most important events celebrated are the seven sacraments. By the time many of our students graduate from high school, they have received four of the seven sacraments.

What is a sacrament you may be wondering? Historically, the word 'sacrament' comes from the Greek word 'mysterion ' and the Latin word 'sacramentum '. 'Mysterion ' means 'something hidden or secret' – our word 'mystery'. More commonly, a sacrament is described as 'an outward and visible sign of an inward and invisible grace.'

God created each of us with amazing potential and the sacraments help us encounter Him helping us become a "better version of ourselves". All the sacraments have biblical roots and were instituted by Christ himself on earth. The sacraments can be divided into three categories; Sacraments of Initiation; Sacraments of Healing and Sacraments of Vocations. Let's look more closely…

Sacraments of Initiation

The first three Sacraments work together like legs of a stool. They provide stability and lay the foundation of every Christian life.

Baptism: Our spiritual lives begin at Baptism. It is the first sacrament we receive and it initiates us, through water, into the Christian community. Baptism washes away our Original Sin and promises eternal life. We renew our baptismal promises each year at Easter, as well as every time we bless ourselves with holy water in the Name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit…Amen (Matthew 28:19-20)

Eucharist: This is the source our Catholic faith. We recall the ritual Jesus performed with his disciples the night before he was put to death each time we celebrate the Mass. Jesus offers us his body and blood in the forms of bread and wine, and in receiving the Eucharist, we are uniting with Him. In essence, we become the vessel that takes Christ out into the world each week. (John 6:56) In April, many of our second grade students made their First Communion, thus receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time. What a joyous day it was for those students!

Confirmation: The Sacrament of Confirmation is the completion of the grace we received at baptism and an invitation to mature in our Christian life. Through classes and service projects, the candidates discern about deepening their relationship with God. Each Confirmation candidate reflects and chooses a Catholic sponsor to help guide them on their faith journey. When receiving the sacrament, the candidate and his/her sponsor, stand before the bishop and profess the desire to be confirmed in the Catholic faith. Just like the

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Apostles, the candidate receives the gifts of the Holy Spirit; namely courage, wisdom, understanding, knowledge, right judgment, reverence and fear of the Lord. For many of our juniors and seniors, they received these special gifts in May, promising to go out and make a difference in the world! (John 14:26)

Sacraments of Healing

The purpose of these two sacraments are to carry on the healing and saving power of Jesus Christ.

Reconciliation: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one that is received by most second grade students prior to making their First Communion. Reconciliation heals our souls. We are called to be loving, charitable and patient people. As we reflect on our actions, we turn to the Sacrament of Reconciliation to confess our sins; no matter how big or small. God's unconditional forgiveness awaits us, through absolution given by the priest. We are strengthened by God's grace to live a changed life in the days, weeks and months to follow. With a newly softened heart, we are open to God's word and inspiration. (John 20:23)

Anointing of the Sick: This sacrament is often confused with "Last Rites" given at the hour of death. However, it is similar to the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist in that it may be received as often as necessary. The Anointing of the Sick is a tangible expression of Jesus' words, "Do not be afraid." It is given to those who have fallen seriously ill; those diagnosed with a long-term illness; those having surgeries as well as those experiencing health issues related to old age. The Anointing of the Sick unites the sick person's suffering with that of Jesus and brings forgiveness to their sins. According to God's will, this sacrament provides the sick person with physical/spiritual healing as well as the strength, peace and courage to bear their burdens. (Mark 5:34)

Sacraments of Vocation

As a result of our baptism, Christians are called to a life of holiness. This divine calling, or vocation, can be lived in marriage, or in the single life, or in the priesthood or religious life. No one vocation is superior to or inferior to another. Each involves a specific kind of commitment using one's gifts and strengthened by God's grace. All vocations make a unique contribution to the life and mission of the Church.

Holy Matrimony: Catholics believe that marriage is a permanent, faithful and fruitful union of a man and woman who have entered into a relationship of love with each other and God. It is a sacred bond with two equally important purposes: First, to unite the couple as a total gift of self; and secondly, for to procreate the earth. This life-long commitment is a serious decision and not one to be taken lightly.

Holy Orders: The Catholic Church is sustained with the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Like Baptism and Confirmation, Holy Orders will leave an indelible mark on the soul of the recipient. It takes years of academic study and spiritual discernment to accept and then fulfill this calling from God. The Sacrament of Holy Orders is a lifelong commitment of universal love and requires obedience to the bishop, much humility as well as celibacy.

The seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church are rich in meaning. Each one extends God's grace and love to every facet of our lives. As we receive the sacraments, we realize God is with us every step of the way and that's worth celebrating!



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here are incredible."

Santiago Velandia and Taylor Webster felt much the same way. Santiago said, "It is too difficult to decide on just one favorite memory. My favorite memories are all of the times in which I was among my friends simply enjoying our time. I am glad that I attended SCHS because it allowed me to understand that if one has faith in God, He will show the light." Taylor stated, "I have met a lot of amazing people at Seton. I've learned more about myself and the person I want to be that I would have at any other school. Seton has helped to instill in me the morals and values I need to be the person I want to be."



Taylor Webster (right) pictured with her proud grandmother, Mary Margaret Johnson.

On average, the Class of 2015 earned over $300,000 per person in scholarships with 63% earning Academic Honors Diplomas and 88% earning Core 40 Diplomas.

Seniors commonly look upon graduation as the end, but is it really an end? Or is it a beginning? It is the beginning of post-secondary education, service to country as a member of the military, or assuming other adult roles and responsibilities. Two members of the SCHS Class of 2015 have enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, Daniel Rheinhardt and Santiago Velandia. Their first stop this summer is boot camp in San Diego, California.



Foreign exchange student, "Paint", receives her honors cords from Principal Rick Ruhl.

Other members from the Class of 2015 will head off to college in the fall to study physical therapy, computer science, architecture, pre-dentistry, political science, and computer engineering at schools including Indiana University East. Kent State University, Trine University, and the University of Dayton.

Regardless of where these graduates are headed, they will rise to the occasion, sharing all they have learned at Seton Catholic and continuing to grow in spirit, mind and body.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS THAT MADE THE 2014-2105 SCHOOL YEAR A SUCCESS!

No Passport Required

This summer two Seton Catholic High School students will be transported into a world of international business, language, and culture from around the world –all without a passport! Thanks to Indiana University!

Juniors Jack Brenneke and Cliff Dickman have been selected to participate in the Indiana University "Business is Global" Summer Program. The program accepts roughly sixty-five percent of students that apply each year. Throughout the two-week program students will learn about cultures and communication styles of Mandarin Chinese, Swahili, and Turkish. Students will also gain a basic understanding of the business practices of North America, East Asia, East Africa, and Turkey from the Kelley School of Business. These business classes will provide a basic understanding of business and how businesses operate.

We congratulate Jack and Cliff on their acceptance and wish them luck on their academic adventure!

What's better than Summer Camp? More Summer Camp!

Two Seton fifth grade girls attended camp at Camp Rancho Framasa last summer for the first time. Mary Warner and Lydia Reichleywill be returning again this summer because they just couldn't get enough!

Summer camp at Camp Rancho Framasa is different than other camps. While they are committed to fun offering activities like canoeing, games, hiking, drama, and archery, the Rancho Framasa camp experience is also laced with faith. Camp Rancho Framasa also includes faith hour, Mass and scripture into each of its busy weeks. The camp sees nearly 200 new campers each week all summer long, offering a positive, inclusive, faith filled experience to everyone.

"Mary went to CYO camp for the first time last year," says Mary's mother, Lianne Warner. "I signed her up after talking to other Seton parents who highly recommended it. I was a little nervous, since this was her first time away at camp. However, I did have comfort in knowing she would be there with a Seton friend. It turned out to be an amazing experience for Mary! She made new friends, and was ready to stay longer to participate in other activities. I love that it is a catholic camp, so the kids grow in their faith, as well as through all the activities with the camp attendees. The camp is very well organized, and all the camp counselors make the families and kids feel welcome and right at home upon arrival. I like that the structure allows for kids to group with friends, but they quickly meet new people through the cabin arrangements (two small groups of kids and two camp counselors to a cabin) and activities. I strongly recommend this camp to other families as a fun, safe, Catholic environment!"

On her experience last summer, Mary recalls, "At CYO camp, there are many enjoyable and exciting activities which include zip-lining, canoeing, horseback riding, swimming, night games, gaga ball, crafts, and campfires! You also learn a lot of things. It is a catholic camp, so you learn things about the Bible and go to church! It is definitely a learning, faith-filled, and amazing experience. I would recommend it to anyone!"

Lydia chimed in saying, "I want to go back to CYO camp because the staff has your back no matter how hard it is to protect it." Both girls are looking forward to their sixth grade retreat at Camp Rancho Framasa in the fall too!



Mary Warner and Lydia Reichley beam with "camping joy"!

Whether campers are at Mass, hiking in the woods or sleeping under the stars self-esteem grows, relationships form, cooperation and courage happen all within a child who attends Camp Rancho Framasa for a few days!

For more information on camp opportunities check out http://www.campranchoframasa.org/

"Encourage one another daily"

~ Hebrews 3:13

Save the Date!

8/10
Back-to-School Night
Primary & Intermediate
from 5-6:30pm

SCHS from 6-7:30pm

8/11
First Day of School

8/19
JV/Varsity Volleyball
Home Opener 6pm
@ SCHS

8/22
Cross Country
Richmond Invitational 9am
@ IU East

8/24
Varsity Soccer
Home Opener 5pm
@ Freeman Park

9/3
Junior High Volleyball
Home Opener 6pm
@ SCHS

9/12
Cardinal Classical
Golf Outing
Lunch @ noon
Shotgun start @ 1pm

Dear Members of the Richmond Catholic Community and the Seton family:

On behalf of the current and future students at Seton Catholic High School, I would like to thank you for your overwhelming generosity. As you know, we have spent the past two years engaged in a concerted effort to raise sufficient funds to completely transform the top floor of the high school. Your response to our invitation to give of your treasure has simply been amazing. Thanks to you, we raised nearly $290,000 for the renovation project! I stand in awe of your support and want to convey my sincerest appreciation.

We are blessed, indeed. A wide array of skilled professional contractors and caring parishioners has committed their time and talent to make this project a reality. Thanks to their skilled hands and attention to detail, the finished product will be truly impressive.

The new, well-appointed band/music room—completed earlier this year—is already a big hit with our students. The two brand new science labs and two additional classrooms are quickly taking shape and will be ready for occupancy when school starts in the fall. Once completed, these new spaces will greatly enhance the teaching-learning process in the critical areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM).

The mission of our school is to move our students to grow in their spirituality. It is our work to create a time and a place to nurture respect in the students for themselves and others. I am sure you would agree that integrating the spiritual with the intellectual is what Catholic education does best.

This year, the success stories of Seton Catholic High School are really taking root, including the challenging curriculum, commitment to long-range strategic planning, and the partnership between students, teachers and parents. SCHS has a wonderful story to tell, and I appreciate you taking a leadership role in helping us continue to spread the good news.

Those who have passed through our doors have made our past. They, and you, will also ensure our future. Thank you again for investing in our school and in the students we serve. I appreciate your belief in Seton Catholic High School.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Rick J. Ruhl

Rick J. Ruhl
Principal