



# THE Aggie Archives

FALL 2020

*Keeping alumni, families and friends connected to Saint Agnes School*



*See inside: Read how Jack Weyandt '65, Tom Gormley '74 and Bob Tibesar '92 are helping current Aggies on the Headmaster's Council.*

**Alumni  
Giving Back  
to Saint Agnes**





# THE Aggie Archives

*Keeping alumni, families and friends connected to Saint Agnes School*



## FEATURES

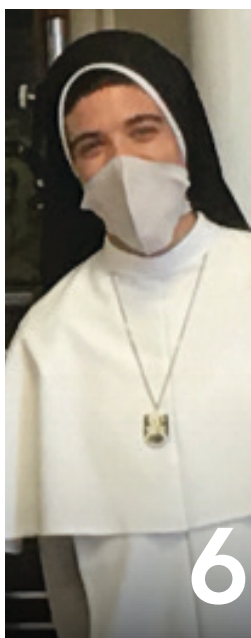
Faculty Spotlight:  
Our Teachers, Our Heroes

Annual Report

Alumni Spotlight:  
Aggie Alumni Giving Back

Hall of Fame:  
Induction class of 2020

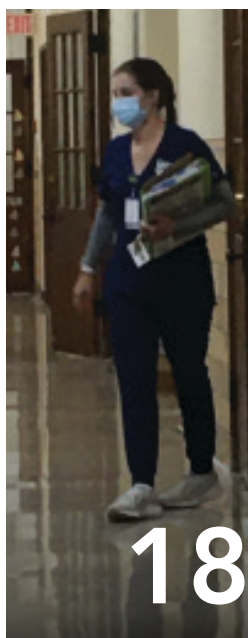
Aggie Open:  
Hitting the Links for Athletics



6



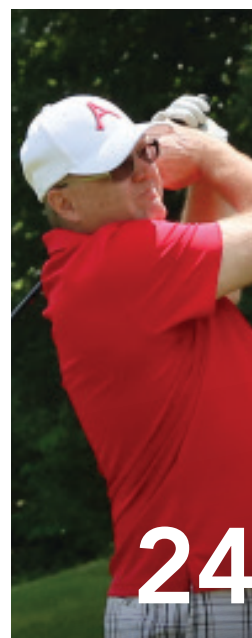
15



18



22



24



# SAINT AGNES SCHOOL

[www.SaintAgnesSchool.org](http://www.SaintAgnesSchool.org)

School Office  
651-925-8700

Advancement Office  
651-925-8811

Admissions Office  
651-925-8803

Alumni Office  
651-925-8880

Fax  
651-925-8808

Mailing Address  
530 Lafond Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55103

Superintendent  
Rev. Mark Moriarty

Headmaster  
Kevin Ferdinandt

Assistant Headmaster  
Karl Hendrickson

Lower School Director/  
Academic Dean  
Michael Adkins

Dean of Students  
Tom Flood

Activities/Athletics  
Mike Streitz

Admissions  
Joseph Olson

Alumni Relations  
Kate Boyle

Business Administrator  
Bob Collett

Marketing and  
Admissions Coordinator  
Emma Dingbaum

# INSIDE

Grade 5 enjoys an outdoor mask  
break with quiet reading.

On the cover:  
Senior Anna Walter is crowned  
Homecoming Queen.

The Aggie Archives is published by the  
Saint Agnes Advancement and Alumni Office.

EDITORS:

Mary (Hilpisch) Appel '83, Kate Boyle, Emma Dingbaum

DESIGN:

Andy Grams Design Solutions

PHOTO CREDITS:

Richard Graner, Bridget Richtsmeier, Jordana Torgeson,  
Student Photographers

Please direct inquiries to:

**Advancement/Alumni Office**

**530 Lafond Avenue**

**Saint Paul, MN 55103**

**651-925-8880**

**[alumnioffice@saintagnesschool.org](mailto:alumnioffice@saintagnesschool.org)**

- 5 Welcome
- 8 Lower School Life
- 10 Fine Arts
- 12 Athletics
- 14 Advancing the Mission
- 16 Around Campus
- 25 Whispers of our Past
- 26 Alumni News
- 27 Liturgical Living

 [www.facebook.com/SaintAgnesSchool](http://www.facebook.com/SaintAgnesSchool)

 [@saintagnesschool](https://www.instagram.com/saintagnesschool)

 [www.linkedin.com/company/saint-agnes-school](http://www.linkedin.com/company/saint-agnes-school)

# SAINT AGNES SCHOOL

# RAFFLE



## WIN A NEW

## 2020 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4WD!

**\$39,725** VALUE

4-door, 7-seater SUV,  
fabric interior

Silver • 4WD • 3rd row - 50/50 fold flat • Roof-rack  
side rails - black • AM/FM/MP3, 6 speakers •  
intelligent accept with push button start  
• rearview camera • reverse sensing  
system • 10 speed auto  
transmission  
• 23 mpg



**100% of Proceeds Benefit Saint Agnes School**

**TICKETS \$20**



Drawing to be held on  
**February 6, 2021** at the

SAINT AGNES SCHOOL ANNUAL  
**RED & White**  
BENEFIT DINNER AND AUCTION

Must be 18 to purchase tickets and win. Sales, income tax and  
applicable fees are responsibility of the winner.

**651-925-8814**

[www.SaintAgnesSchool.org](http://www.SaintAgnesSchool.org)

**530 Lafond Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55103**



# Welcome From the Headmaster



*“When I found out our nurse would not be present to students until at least the middle of October, we began calling... we broadened our request to include our alumni community, and we were able to cover almost every shift. We are so grateful to them for their generosity and willingness to help their alma mater.”*

## Dear Aggie Supporters,

When I first arrived at Saint Agnes School well over five years ago, I remember being struck by the generosity of our parent, donor, teaching, and student bodies. I must now add alumni to that list of generous members of this community. This issue of the Aggie Archives is dedicated to recognizing our alumni generosity!

As you probably know by now, we opened our school to all our students for in person learning on August 25, 2020 for the first time since March 17th. We had put together a plan with our Reopening Committee—a group of current parents in various jobs (doctors, nurses, teachers, public/private business)—to help us in this endeavor. I remain grateful for all the work they did to help us open safely. Over 790 students started school (all but 50 were in person) and we saw enrollment increase for the 14th straight year. The faculty members and I were eager to get back to the way education should be done—in person, available for all students, each day.

Then, the first shoe dropped! Just six days before we were set to open, I was sent a letter by the superintendent of St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS) that our school nurse and two counselors (three people provided to us by State law and our parents' taxpayer dollars) would not be available to come to school because the district would not be in person. How were we going to start a COVID-19 protocol-laden school year with no nurse on site? How could our nurse be considered non-essential? When I found out our nurse would not be present to students until at least the middle of October, we began calling current parents who were nurses and doctors to see if they would be willing to volunteer in our nurse's office. Then we broadened our request to include our alumni community, and we were able to cover almost every shift. We are so grateful to them for their generosity and willingness to help their alma mater.

When it comes to Saint Agnes School, alumni generosity extends well beyond the nursing field. We have just added our third alumnus, Mr. Tom Gormley '74, to the Headmaster's Council (joining Jack Weyandt '61 and Bob Tibesar '92, who are founding members of the Council). Mr. Josh Moore '98 has been coordinating daily St. Paul Police presence at Saint Agnes this school year. Finally, our alumni give substantial support to our extra-curricular activities with their dedicated coaching and support of our clubs.

Thank you to all of you alumni who volunteer for this beautiful school. Although we cannot pay you, your reward is most definitely in heaven!

Please keep praying for our school,

Kevin Ferdinandt  
Headmaster



# OUR TEACHERS, OUR HEROES

During this unprecedented year we have chosen to focus on the virtue of gratitude. We truly do have much to be grateful for, and there is no other group of people that we are more grateful for than our heroic teaching staff.

Coming off of a year where we very quickly and successfully transitioned to distance learning in under a week's time (when many other schools had a whole week plus spring break to prepare) we entered into the 2020 school year with many unknowns and much trepidation. Most of our parents and school staff were just praying for two, three, God willing, four weeks before having to go back to distance learning for a time.



Dr. Pentecost records his lessons for hybrid students to access

Through the guidance of the Saint Agnes administration and the Re-opening Committee members, the Saint Agnes faculty were asked to prepare for in person learning, while having the ability to move classes back to distance learning in a short span of 12-24 hours. Additionally, to accommodate the needs of families that were



Faculty pray Novena of Our Lady of Good Help after school in the sisters chapel



Mr. Walter helps a hybrid student while the Biology class works.

housing immunocompromised individuals at home, we wanted to provide a solid Catholic education via technology. With nearly 10% of the Saint Agnes community going hybrid, teachers set students up with the ability to essentially log into the classroom via laptops. Not only were teachers managing an average classroom size of 22 students, but they were preparing tests, work sheets, quizzes, and class notes for students at home, as well as uploading their class lessons to the cloud for easy access. This probably does not need mentioning but none of our teaching staff entered this profession to be teaching via a screen. For many of our students who come from homes of five, six, seven plus family members with one or both parents staying home for work, logging into the live classroom setting was not an option. With several people needing the computing device, classes happening at the same time, and students needing to access assignments online, families didn't have the bandwidth to run that much video at one time. To accommodate these overlaps, the class lessons are also recorded and uploaded for later viewing, another responsibility placed on the shoulders of the already burdened faculty.

To say the least, our heroic teachers have been doing double time. Thus far this

semester, we have experienced very few hiccups, and much honor and praise is due to the faculty and staff. Of course, the logistics of entering into the 2020-2021 school year were nerve wracking, but on top of that, many of the older or otherwise health compromised teachers still made the heroic decision to be here, to the potential detriment of their health. They desired to be



Hybrid students tune in during Morning Meeting to interact with classmates in Kindergarten

face to face with Saint Agnes students, and to provide the Catholic education our families seek. If not for our teachers, the Catholic community of Saint Agnes would not be able to proceed.

God bless you Saint Agnes faculty! Thank you for taking the risk to yourself and your families. The rewards of your decision are, and will, be immeasurable.







## Day in the Life: Mr. Hank Kemp

7-12 SCIENCE

### How does your daily routine look different this school year?

I wake up at 5:15 AM and try to pray. Eventually the kids get up, we have breakfast, and everyone is in the car by 7 AM. Inevitably, rushing inside to grab a forgotten mask has become part of the routine. Then, we arrive at school by 7:30 AM. I've found that this year, more than ever, it is critical to arrive at this time because students come to the classroom for temperature checks.

### How has teaching both hybrid and in person changed the way you teach?

Now there are two paths to everything: my normal routine with the in person students, and a new routine of helping hybrid kids access certain materials, preparing different things to send home, and bringing them to the office for pick up. When I'm constructing weekly lesson plans, I always have the question, "How can I do this for the online students?" I check to make sure students either tune in live or watch a recorded lesson later. I've had to redesign labs so each student can complete the lab themselves, different than the usual lab group of three to four students.

### How have the masks impacted the school day?

I'd say for the majority of students, mask-wearing is not an issue. I think they are happy to be in person with their friends and classmates. Each class, I try to find a 5-minute period where students are sitting quietly and give them a mask break. Especially with seventh grade, when I announce a mask break, I hear a collective

sigh of relief! I've also noticed that because of masks, beginning discussions are more difficult for students and I often find myself saying, "What was that?"

### What do your prep periods look like this year?

My prep time is filled with grading and preparing tests/quizzes and materials for class. This year, my prep periods seem to focus more on technical tasks. Each day, I download the recorded lessons of the day, then upload them to Microsoft Teams so students can access them. On average, video management takes up ½ hour of my day, whether it be



editing, linking, downloading, etc. After planning lessons for the upcoming week, I upload everything. This takes an extra 30 to 45 minutes to post everything in Teams, and then put in Educate, our student information software system. As a result, I've been bringing more work home than in year's past.

### What looks different about the course of transitioning between class periods?

At the beginning of each class I set up the webcam and make sure the recording is ready to go. It looks different having hybrid students, as I want them to be able to see the students in person and feel free to ask questions throughout the period. When the two-minute bell rings at the end of each period, we disinfect desks with wipes. Whereas time between class periods used to

consist of chatting with students, now that time is packed with sanitizing, ending the present video call for that period, adjusting the webcam, beginning a new call, and gathering materials for the next class.

### How has your relationship with students changed as a result of Covid-19 protocols?

Being masked, there is a loss of facial expression from the students which makes it more difficult to really get to know them. Hence, mask breaks are essential! It is also harder to interact one on one with the kids, mainly because of a lack of time with cleaning procedures and such.

### What is something positive to come out of this new teaching experience?

When students are sick or when they forget assignments, having everything on Teams allows the student to easily access everything they need.

### What would help you in your classroom?

I would love for the hybrid students to have the ability to see/interact with their fellow classmates. I wish our video technology could be updated so the camera can focus on the





# Lower School Life



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd  
- a hands on study of our faith  
for the younger grades



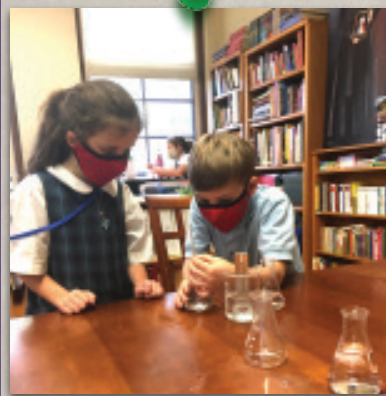
Learning about vestments  
and the Holy Land



Preschoolers in morning meeting  
practice counting the days of the week



Students dress up in the traditional  
clothing of their ethnic background  
on Heritage Day



Grade 3 experiments with  
measuring



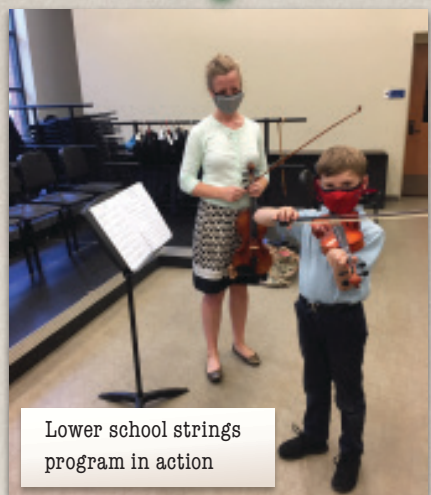
Celebrating All Saints Day with  
Mr. Adkins

Grades K and 1 attend Mass virutally in the Helene  
Houle Auditorium due to covid 19 protocols



Grade 4 in Studio Art



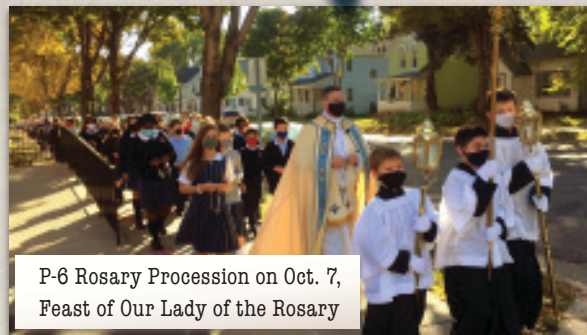


Lower school strings program in action

Lower school Mass requires social distancing



Grade 4 science class making observations of nature



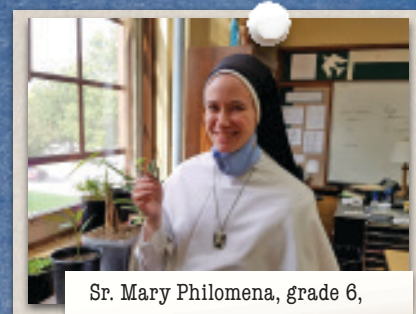
P-6 Rosary Procession on Oct. 7, Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary



Grade 4 preparing for a seminar discussion of literature



Outdoor class discussion provides a welcome mask break



Sr. Mary Philomena, grade 6, with class pet, a praying mantis



### Dr. Christopher Ganza

**Saint Agnes School Choral Director,  
Cathedral of St. Paul Choirmaster & Organist**

I grew up in rural Maine and began piano lessons when I was seven. At nine, I started taking organ lessons and became the organist for two different churches at age 11. I received my Bachelor's degree in Church Music from Saint Olaf College and earned my Master's and Doctorate degrees from the University of Oklahoma, having studied organ and choral conducting. Sacred music is a particular passion for me. I can't think of a better way to thank God for the gift of music than to use it to glorify Him.

Making music with students is something I enjoy greatly, whose enthusiasm and determination I find infectious. I have been awarded first prize in the Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival Competition, the John R. Rodland Memorial Competition, the Paul and Ruth Manz Competition, the University of Michigan Organ Improvisation Competition, and the University of Oklahoma Provost's Award for Teaching Excellence.

The Saint Agnes choir program accentuates the rich tradition of music in the Catholic Church, which the Second Vatican Council called, "a treasure of inestimable value."

By giving students the opportunity to sing at Masses and concerts, they learn the art of making music and the value of working together to learn the best sacred and secular choral music. Choral ensembles at Saint Agnes include the 5th and 6th grade choirs, the Junior High Boys Choir, the Junior High Girls Choir, the High School Concert Chorale, and the Madrigal Singers.

My favorite repertoire to work on with the students is the great polyphony of the renaissance era. This is a tradition here at Saint Agnes, and the students take a great deal of pride in it!

Learning to use one's God-given voice is one of the many benefits of singing in a choir. Learning to sing well involves engagement of the body, mind, and soul, that pays great dividends in physical, mental, and spiritual health. Singing selections in foreign languages enhances students' knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, and diction. Learning to read music involves mixing the disciplines of math, science, and history. And, most importantly, music can be one of the greatest tools for teaching the

mysteries of our faith. Great works of art convey not only their own beauty, which is itself a link to the Divine, but they often have many layers of meaning and truth that reach both the intellect and the soul.

Students are routinely accepted into the Minnesota All-State Choir, and recent years have shown high numbers of students receiving this honor. Our ensembles that enter the Minnesota State High School League contests consistently receive the highest ratings. What a gift it is to be apart of such a rich program that challenges students and allows them to develop their God-given talents.





## JACOB TAGGART '23 Making Music

Jacob Taggart has already established a career as a successful classical pianist. He made his orchestral debut and played a solo recital in Lovere, Italy at the young age of seven. Currently a sophomore at Saint Agnes, Jacob's prowess has been recognized with top prizes and awards in multiple major competitions. Marked by an engaging and energetic personality, his daring interpretations have captivated audiences and juries across the United States and Europe. Jacob is also a member of the esteemed Madrigal singers at Saint Agnes. It is an elite group of students, chosen by audition, to perform various concerts throughout the year. The repertoire chosen for this group entails a more difficult selection than what is typically sung in the regular choir and performing is where Jacob excels.

"I enjoy playing piano very much and I love performing," exclaims Jacob. "My sister, Emma '20, also an accomplished classical pianist, and I usually perform

every few weeks but with COVID-19, most of our recent performances have been live streamed from our living room. We have our first live concert together next week, the first one since last March. I love to sing and enjoy listening to other genres of music, such as pop. I'm also interested in learning to play the organ."

When asked why he chose to be involved in choir, Jacob stated, "Saint Agnes has always been known for their excellent choir program, so I chose to join choir in 7th grade. I really enjoy singing, and Dr. Ganza is an excellent choir teacher. I knew him prior to his arrival at Saint Agnes as he was my sister's organ teacher."

COVID-19 protocols have been particularly difficult for the choir program. Students must wear a mask while singing, and they must stand at least nine feet apart. To abide by those guidelines, it was necessary to move choir practice from the new choir room to

the Upper Church, where the students can distance themselves appropriately. "It is hard to see Dr. Ganza and the sound is very lively in the Church, which presents its own unique set of problems," remarked Jacob. "However, I am grateful that we are still able to sing together, as I know that many other schools are not allowing this."

It is no wonder Jacob misses public performances most, as music and the performing arts have played an important role in his life. "A memory I'll cherish is last year's Christmas concert. It was the last time the choir sang publicly before COVID-19 hit." The "Cantate Domino" by Hans Leo Hassler and "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" are two acapella works the choir traditionally performs very well. Both pieces have become Jacob's favorites. "I appreciate not only learning to sing, but what I love most is the time I spend making music with my friends."





## Aggies on the Gridiron



There is mounting enthusiasm for the Saint Agnes football program! Just four years ago, only 27 students registered, requiring them all to compete at a Varsity level regardless of experience. Now, with 60 young men in the program, Saint Agnes runs a full Varsity and JV schedule. The Varsity team has played in the section championship the last two years and the JV continues its undefeated streak from last year.

What has attributed to the success of this quickly growing program? The answers lie in a coaching staff who cares deeply for the players, a philosophy that teaches young men to work hard and push past their comfort levels, a student body with an exceptional work ethic, and, frankly, TackleBar® football!

The coaching staff is led by Coach Tom Flood, Dean of students, assisted by Coach Sam Thompson, Lower School Athletic Director and Phy-ed teacher. Both these gentlemen truly care for each and every student. Being in the building gives them a chance to interact daily with the student body: reaching out to students, promoting the program, and pushing students to be active and healthy. They challenge young men to go outside their comfort zone and uncover their potential. More importantly, these coaches help build character. Coach Flood states, "A team with great character will win more than they lose. These players come to us instilled with a great work ethic that started at home and is reinforced in the academics, faith life, and activities at Saint Agnes. The coaches push them just a little further and they are rising to the challenge and doing great things."

The players are in full support of this philosophy. They step into their roles as leaders both on and off the field. They push each other to excel and no longer play for themselves or the coaches, but for the team. They are excited about football, having fun, and spreading the word to their classmates. "We have had some tremendous captains. Leadership may start with the coaches, but it quickly becomes the captains who lead the team. Names like Gutzmann, Tibesar, Kitto, Jones, Wolf, and Doby have created a strong foundation for today's

program. Thanks to the dedication of Coach Thompson, our captains live in the Berens Strength and Conditioning Room year-round, getting stronger and overcoming fears. As they get stronger, their confidence grows. The other players see that and follow their example. The captains deserve all the credit for making the football program thrive," remarks Flood.

The coaches also recognize the impact TackleBar football has had on the program. In 2016, Athletic Director Mike Streitz pushed for Saint Agnes to be one of the founding eight programs to offer TackleBar. TackleBar is a limited contact football game that bridges the gap between flag football and tackle football. Players wear full pads and learn all the fundamentals of the game in a limited contact setting. The coaches were reluctant but have since seen the benefits. Having students in grade 5-8 experience the game without full contact has allowed more students to tryout and calmed parent's concerns over serious injuries. They come to love the game and want to continue playing at the high school level. TackleBar is now a world-wide program, endorsed by the NCAA and the NFL.

Though the current pandemic has caused some challenges and unforeseen expenses, the coaches and players have met them head on. Frequent sanitizing of equipment, personal water bottles, masks, and distancing have all caused inconveniences but none as much as not knowing who will be in the line-up based on illnesses and quarantines. But with every challenge comes an opportunity. Players rise to the challenge and fill the voids, overcoming their fears to help the team, learning more about themselves in the process.

Though no one knows what next fall will look like, the future is bright for Aggie football. With only five seniors graduating, a good number of experienced players will return to the squad next year. Let's hope the kids can get back on the field and suit up for more normal Friday nights under the lights.



## CROSS COUNTRY

The Aggie cross-country teams capped extremely successful 2020 seasons in October. The boys finished with an overall team record of 15-14, placing third in the Skyline Conference meet and tenth in the Section 4A meet. The girls ended up 16-11, finishing second in the conference and ninth in the section. Senior Vaughn Wolf earned All-Conference honors for the boys by placing in the top ten individually (3rd) at the Skyline meet, while freshmen Ave Wolf (4th) and Lily Dimmel (9th) and 8th grader Felicity Mortland (6th) earned All-Conference honors for the girls. The boys and girls team conference finishes were the best combined result (in both the Tri-Metro Conference and the Skyline) since the beginning of the program in 2016.

All runners should be proud of their efforts in practice and races this season, as well as their diligence in following Covid-19 protocols to ensure health and safety. With twenty-seven of thirty runners returning in 2021, next season looks promising!

## BOYS SOCCER

The varsity boys began the season with a blowout loss to Trinity but ended the season going toe to toe with St. Anthony in a 1-0 nail biter. The improvement throughout the season was steady despite the lack of wins. The boys played with heart and energy all season long versus a tough lineup of Skyline opponents. The Aggies tied with Concordia Academy and New Life Academy, as well as had several close games including a 1-0 loss to Concordia on Senior Night at Sea Foam Stadium. Arguably, they played their best games of the season vs the Conference Champions Cristo Rey, holding the Pumas to just 1 goal in the first half of each game.

Senior Tommy Calton earned All-Conference honors, and senior Sean Thornton, junior McKenna Evans, and

sophomore Paul Plasch received Honorable Mention. The Aggies were led by senior captains Griffin Lennes, Tommy Calton, Nathan Brownell, and junior captain McKenna Evans.

The JV boys had an outstanding season, going 6-2 with their only losses coming to Cristo Rey. The final game of the JV season vs Nova encapsulated what was best about the team. There were 5 different goal scorers in that game and the Aggies won the shutout. The JV boys played tough defense and moved the ball very well all season long in a team-focused, unselfish style that led to a balanced attack and a great deal of success. The future is bright!

## GIRLS SOCCER

The girls' soccer team struggled to put the ball in the goal this year finishing 4-8 overall. Numbers are good for next year as they return 13 varsity players. Seniors Emma Bettencourt and Agnes Plamann earned All-Conference honors while senior Olivia Most, junior Audrey Steffes and sophomore Isabelle Most earned Honorable Mention honors.

## VOLLEYBALL

The volleyball program continues to grow as over 40 girls tried out for the fall season. Not only a varsity and junior varsity team, but the ability to field a freshman only team helps so much with the development of the program. In spite of a delayed start and a season cut short, the Varsity was able to play ten games, and, more importantly, were able to put a team on the court each game instead of cancelling due to illness and quarantines. The girls are not only dedicated to the sport, but to their academics and their communities. They earned team academic awards, and spent time making greeting cards for shut-ins during Halloween and Thanksgiving.





# Make an IMPACT!

**G** **AGGIE**  
**GIVE**  
**NOV 18**  
**2020** **DAY**

Saint Agnes held its Annual Aggie Give Day on November 18. With an aggressive goal of \$175,000, we are well on our way! Our school year may look different in many ways, but safely **EDUCATING** students remains our #1 focus and concern.

**\$130,190 raised so far!**  
**352 donors are making an impact!**

**Missed Aggie Give Day?**  
**It's not too late!**

Gifts received from now until the end of the year can still be counted toward our goals!

Use the enclosed envelope or go to [SaintAgnesSchool.org/giveday](https://SaintAgnesSchool.org/giveday) and support Saint Agnes School today.

- **You provide TUITION ASSISTANCE!**

MORE students are enrolled this year than in over the past 20+ years, almost 800! MORE students = MORE need.

- **You support ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES!**

Student life remains a priority as students adapt to clubs and sports being modified to meet safety guidelines.

- **You ensure A CULTURE OF FAITH!**

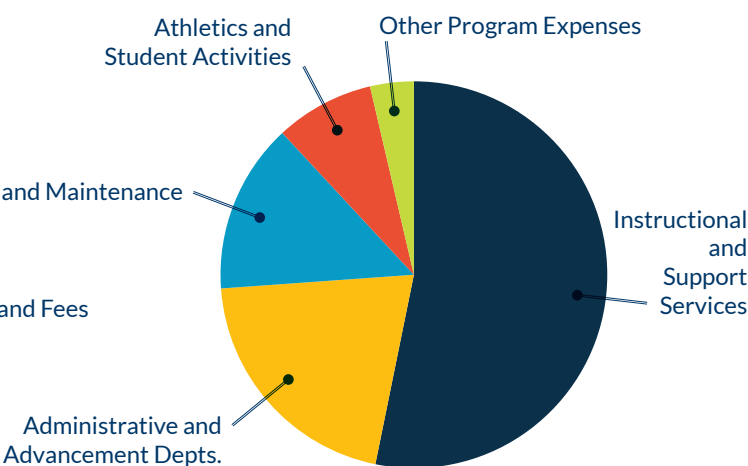
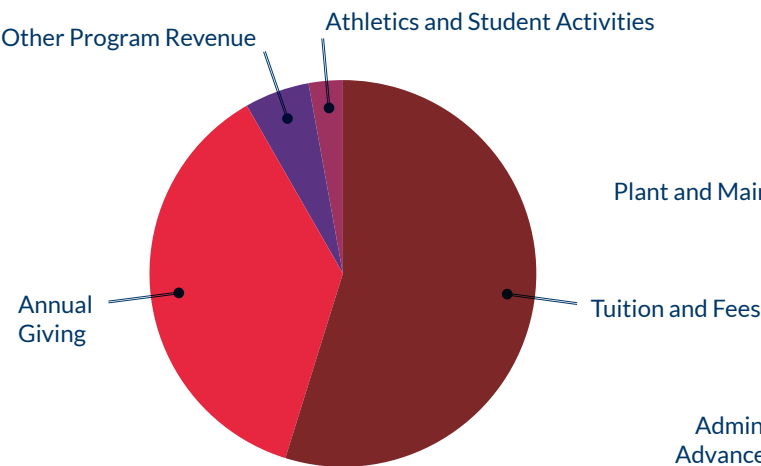
Our Catholic faith affirms the dignity of each human person, and this truth encourages a culture of life at Saint Agnes.

**Saint Agnes students need YOU now, more than ever, to make an IMPACT!**





# SAINT AGNES SCHOOL    Annual Financial Report 2019-2020



Revenue			
Tuition and Fees	6,328,440		
Grants and Aid	(2,920,970)		
<i>Net Tuition and Fees</i>	<b>\$3,407,470</b>	55%	
<b>Annual Giving</b>			
Unrestricted Gifts	463,225		
External Foundations	438,917		
Restricted Scholarships	365,745		
Fundraising	625,411		
Parish Support	300,000		
Other Gifts	101,502		
<i>Total Annual Giving</i>	<b>\$2,294,800</b>	37%	
<b>Other Revenue</b>			
Athletics and Activities	177,297		
Other Program Rev	337,479		
<i>Total Other Rev</i>	<b>\$514,776</b>	8%	
<b>Total All Revenue</b>	<b>\$6,217,046</b>		

Expenses			
Instructional & Support	3,307,102	53%	
Admin & Advancement	1,285,197	21%	
Plant & Maintenance	884,367	14%	
Athletics and Activities	513,738	8%	
Other Program Expenses	226,642	4%	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,217,046</b>		
This report reflects the operating revenue and expenses for Saint Agnes School from July 1 2019-June 30, 2020. Capital projects including the Faith & Tradition Campaign are not included in this report.			
To view the 2019-2020 annual report please visit <a href="http://saintagnesschool.org/support-us/annual-report">saintagnesschool.org/support-us/annual-report</a>			

## Help SA continue to grow

- ▶ Tell one person about SA this year
- ▶ Send us a note about how SA has impacted your life
- ▶ Consider a first time financial gift or an increase in your giving this year



# LIBERAL ARTS PODCAST SERIES UPDATE

The School of Athens  
Raphael, 1511

Saint Agnes School has been hosting a 12-part series on “Why the Liberal Arts?” – why choose a Liberal Arts or Classical education for our young people, and, in particular, in a Catholic school setting?

Our 12-part series on the Liberal Arts has included the following episodes featuring Saint Agnes faculty:

- Intro Episode: 12 Reasons to Choose a Liberal Arts Education
- Reason #1: Formation for Future Learning with Fr. Moriarty
- Reason #2: Virtue & Character Formation with Mrs. Claire Bona
- Reason #3: Latin – the Myth, the Means, the Legend with Mr. Dan Berthiaume
- Reason #4: A Novel Idea – Reading the Great Books with Ms. Sarah Ennis & Mr. Ted Sexton
- Reason #5: The Art of Conversation – Socratic Discussion with Dr. Scott Pentecost & Mrs. Leila Vance
- Reason #6: The Importance of Teaching History with Sr. Teresa Christi & Mrs. Lori Dumas

Reason #7 is an investigation of what is called “cultural literacy,” which is defined as: the ability to understand and participate fluently in a given culture, particularly one’s own culture. This would include, for example, knowing the history, founding documents, heritage, form of government, art, architecture, religious beliefs, literature, customs, and speech of one’s homeland. A true, Catholic liberal arts education believes it is the responsibility of a school to cultivate a comprehensive understanding of one’s intellectual tradition and history; in the case of Americans of all backgrounds, that is Western Culture and American history (both

largely derived from Jerusalem, Greece, and Rome). Such a focus recognizes the various backgrounds of individual Americans but focuses on those perennial truths that we share in common as American citizens.

Part I of our investigation of Cultural Literacy features a conversation between our Dean of Academics, Mr. Michael Adkins, and Dr. Anika Prather, professor of Classics at Howard University and founder of Living Water School. Dr. Prather helps listeners explore the importance of cultural literacy as Americans, as Christians, and as people



of goodwill from diverse backgrounds. In addition, as a proud African American educator, wife, and mother of three, Dr. Prather evaluates and criticizes those current

trends in education that threaten to “cancel” or remove the Western Canon of the Great Books, and she underscores the importance of a traditional Liberal Arts education.

Dr. Prather shares her own conversion to becoming a supporter and proponent of Liberal Arts education, once skeptical that it did not address the needs of African American students and those of diverse non-European backgrounds.

Upon investigating the Liberal Arts tradition through various means, Dr. Prather reflects, “I discovered an entire world in learning how the education of Black people after emancipation, and even during slavery, involved the Classics; I would even venture to say that most Black people were educated in this way. At first, Classical education provided to newly freed people was common. We see this in the stories of Anna Julia Cooper, Nannie Helen Burroughs, and

Martin Luther King, Jr. We even see it in Frederick Douglass, who, although self-taught, was quite proficient in studying ancient texts, favoring the works of Cicero.”

Dr. Prather continues, “America started with a fight for liberty and equality. We are all seeking to help create a more perfect union. The culture of America is that constant fight to uphold that. Our cultural literacy is joining in that constant effort and constant fight to create a more perfect union; it is a work that we all have to be committed to, it is a democracy that we’re fighting for: to live out what it promises. When we look at foundational documents like the Constitution, I love the fact that these slave-owning founders of our country wrote that document in a way that any person, no matter the color of their skin, can use that document to engage a dialogue that makes sure we uphold what that document says for every single person living in America. Without cultural literacy and understanding, [an American citizen] can’t join that effort, [they’re left] on the outskirts being angry or apathetic.”

Dr. Prather concluded our podcast interview with these final, closing thoughts:

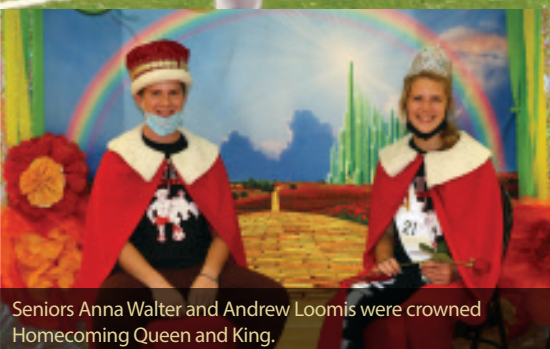
“I want to encourage everyone to read the [Great Books] texts, to have a heart like Socrates; when he was engaging in dialogue he would say, ‘hey, so and so, come over, what do you think about this?’ I want us to have that heart of welcoming everyone into the conversation, welcoming everyone around the table to discuss the story of humanity.”

Listen to the full interview with Dr. Prather, as well as our other podcasts at <https://www.podomatic.com/podcasts/saintagnesschool>



Girls soccer took on New Life Academy in this year's homecoming game. Fan count was limited to 250, allowing parents and upperclassmen to attend the game.

# Homecoming 2020



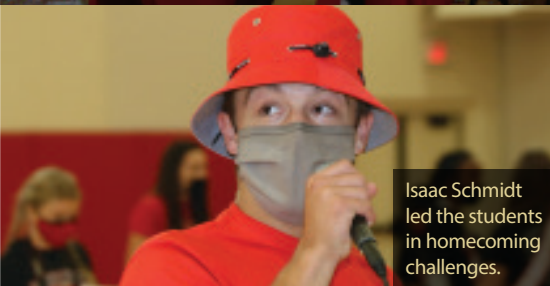
Seniors Anna Walter and Andrew Loomis were crowned Homecoming Queen and King.



Thanks to the generosity of donors, the entire Lower School student body were treated to a visit from the Big Bell ice-cream truck.



Students incorporated the mask mandate to show their Aggie spirit.



Isaac Schmidt led the students in homecoming challenges.



Seniors pull for class pride in the traditional tug-of-war.

There's No Place Like Home; this was the theme of Homecoming 2020. After being away from school since last March, this theme held a special meaning for the students of Saint Agnes. They finally had the chance to come "home." Granted, homecoming did have a different look this year. While our usual alumni, family, and friends tailgate party was cancelled, the Alumni Memorial Mass went virtual, and the high school students had to forgo their homecoming dance, the students found other ways to celebrate all that is Saint Agnes. Girls soccer had the honor of hosting the homecoming game, door decoration and theme days occurred throughout the school, and an Upper School pep assembly was held with half the students watching via video screen from the auditorium. Despite all the restrictions and modifications, school spirit was high! It's good to be home.



A sweet break for these first graders



Creative games are played like catching cheese balls on a head of shaving cream.



Can you have a virtual pep rally?





## ALUMNI GIVING BACK: THE HEADMASTERS COUNCIL

In 2016 the Headmaster's Council was established as an advisory board for the school. With the permission of the pastor, Dr. Ferdinandt invited community members, alumni, current parents, and past parents to form a collective group of advisors who could openly discuss pressing issues and provide feedback and support. They have proven to be an invaluable resource in setting short and long-term goals and visions, as well as assisting in making informed decisions on various school topics—including, most recently, the recommendation to prioritize endowment fundraising for the sake of securing future scholarship income. Each council member brings a unique perspective and level of experience to the board, yet all are invested in ensuring the long-term viability of Saint Agnes School. We are grateful to each person who so graciously volunteers their time for our beloved school.

We asked our Saint Agnes alumni council members to give us some understanding as to why they support Saint Agnes and their thoughts on the direction of the school. These Aggies have gone on to pursue distinguished professions and, more importantly, they value the importance of faith, family, and education. Thank you, Aggies, for giving back to your alma mater.

### Bob Tibesar '92

**What do you appreciate about your time at Saint Agnes as a student?**

As I look back on my time as a student at Saint Agnes, I very much appreciate the well-rounded and balanced education I received here. I was challenged academically in all the various subjects and I was encouraged to participate in a different sport each season. Furthermore, I was challenged to partake in other student activities such as the Debate team or the Pro-Life Club. All of these different areas were unified by the theme of teaching us to be better people who could practice our faith out in the real world. It was not until I left Saint Agnes and went to college and beyond that I realized how unique this experience was compared to the high school days of many others.



**How has that made an impact on you now, at this point in your life?**

I would honestly say that my time at Saint Agnes did not simply impact my life, rather it formed my mission in life. My education at Saint Agnes was not some small influence that modified how I think about my life, rather it was a defining experience that determined the course of my life. I have spent the remainder of my life trying to be

the man that I learned that I should be while at Saint Agnes.

**What made you decide to give back to your alma mater?**

I met my wife, Amy Grau, at Saint Agnes high school. Of course, she has been the greatest gift in my entire life. We both treasure the memories of our time at Saint Agnes. It's only natural then, that we want to share that wonderful experience with our children and hope they can also achieve a remarkable education and Catholic formation at Saint Agnes. Giving back to our alma mater is something we do without hesitation. The institution is a part of who we are, and we will do anything we can to help the school succeed in continuing to form young people in the Catholic intellectual tradition and sacramental life of the Church.

**With your background, what do you bring to the Headmaster's Council?**

My background is in medicine. I do think it's helpful to have people on the Headmaster's Council who do not live or work in education. Diversity of perspectives helps in providing more balanced guidance. With that said, over the past 10 months, as the world has been battling the coronavirus, I do think my background in medicine has been helpful in providing some advice for our school opening for in person class, despite the continuing threat of viral infection.

#### Current Council Members:

- Jason Adkins – current parent, Executive Director & General Counsel at Minnesota Catholic Conference
- Christine Buss – current parent
- Tom Gormley '74 – alumna and currently retired (former

- Principal at Piper Jaffray)
- Helene Houle – community member and former business owner
- Dr. Michael Naughton – past parent, Director, Center for Catholic Studies at the University of St. Thomas

- Dr. Bob Tibesar '92 – current parent & alumna, Pediatric ENT/Craniofacial Surgery at Children's Hospital of Minnesota
- Jack Weyandt '65 – alumna and currently retired (SVP, Seagate)

### What work or focus of the Headmaster's Council are you most proud of?

Achieving financial stability is one of the primary issues the Headmaster's Council has been focusing on. We are trying to provide fair compensation for our faculty and staff, achieve long-term institutional financial stability, all while keeping tuition affordable for all our Saint Agnes families. As you can imagine, this is a real challenge. I have really enjoyed our in-depth conversations on the various aspects of this issue. We all know this will remain a challenge into the future, however we are trying to be intentional and deliberate with our efforts to set Saint Agnes School on a pathway towards a solid and sustainable financial future.

### What message would you give to your classmates about the current state of Saint Agnes School?

I am happy to report to my classmates that Saint Agnes School is thriving. We have an outstanding group of faculty members that are intelligent, personable, and experts in their chosen field. On top of that, they genuinely care about the well-being of their students. They have shown great courage in opening, despite the COVID-19 pandemic. They truly believe in their vocation as educators and it shows. The leadership team and administrative staff have worked hard in creating an outstanding environment for forming Catholic hearts and minds. If you're not currently a part of the Saint Agnes community, I would encourage you to consider coming back and re-joining the family. You'll be glad you did!



**Tom Gormley '74**

### What do you appreciate about your time at Saint Agnes as a student?

Attending Saint Agnes from Kindergarten through 12th grade had an immense impact on me and on my life. It definitely helped in a big way to develop my moral values. It also gave me many opportunities educationally and athletically. It was a well-rounded experience that I truly value.

### What made you decide to give back to your alma mater?

The experience that my siblings and I received at Saint Agnes gave us the motivation to establish a scholarship

fund to help a current Saint Agnes student to be able to attend high school. The scholarship is in our mother's name because she was the one who made it such a priority that we attend Saint Agnes and she helped teach us about our Catholic Faith.

### With your background, what do you bring to the Headmaster's Council?

I believe Dr. Ferdinandt asked me to join the Headmaster's Council because of my experience since graduating from college. Since 1978, I have worked in the banking and investment industries. Hopefully some of my experience will help with assisting on this advisory board.

### What message would you give to your classmates about the current state of Saint Agnes School?

I would tell my classmates that Saint Agnes is in "great" hands with Dr. Ferdinandt. Enrollment has increased over the years and the school is very close to a maximum enrollment count. The atmosphere when walking around the school is very positive and uplifting. The students want to be there!!!! We all should be proud of Saint Agnes - they are navigating these challenging times very well.

### Jack Weyandt '65

### What do you appreciate about your time at Saint Agnes as a student?

When Carol, my wife, and I attended Saint Agnes high school we came from neighboring Catholic grade schools that were smaller than Saint Agnes. Our class was approximately 140 students and almost everyone got along well, no matter what your skills were or where you came from. The school was run by Notre Dame nuns at that time. The academics were very good and the religious foundation was excellent. Our three sons also attended Saint Agnes high school and by then the nuns were replaced by lay teachers. These teachers were remarkable and they taught the boys the same religious principles as well as nurturing their personal growth and respect for others.

### How has that made an impact on you now, at this point in life?

The experience of our family with Saint Agnes has amplified the importance of a good Catholic education.

This education, along with the family, is the foundation on which our values are based and determine the direction of the rest of our lives. Now,



more than ever, with all the distractions around us, kids deserve and need this opportunity.

### What made you decide to give back to your alma mater?

So much has been given to us by many people and from Saint Agnes. The very least we can do is to pay back a very small amount so that others can continue to benefit.

### With your background, what do you bring to the Headmaster's Council?

The council is made up of diverse, talented people. I am not a current parent nor educator, so others fill those critical roles. My assets include my life experience with the church, our family, business, and the various schools we have encountered.

### What work or focus of the Headmaster's Council are you most proud of?

The challenge of balancing a good Catholic education with fair tuition and fair teacher salaries is what we strive for. The tuition is higher than any of us would like it to be at. Our goal is to see that every student who would like to come to Saint Agnes be able to do so. Our teachers are great and we will never be able to pay them what they are worth. We need to keep pushing hard in that direction. The education continues to be the highest level religiously, scholastically and rounded out well with personal development.

### What message would you give to your classmates about the current state of Saint Agnes School?

Saint Agnes is vibrant! The students, teachers, administration and the parish are working hard to make this a wonderful place of education in the way of Jesus Christ. Take a moment to say a prayer for Saint Agnes and if you can find a way, try to give some financial support. A little bit from many adds up to a lot. These students and teachers deserve it!





## OFFICER JOSH MOORE '98 LOOKING OUT FOR FELLOW AGGIES



St. Paul Police Officer Josh Moore '98 has been seen around campus quite a bit lately. The school administration had considered having a police presence on campus this year, thus Mr.

Flood, Dean of Students, decided to reach out to his former football player. Josh was more than happy to help his alma mater, and he began coordinating the schedule to have off-duty officers patrol the parking lots and surrounding areas. Being on site as a visible sign to students and interacting with them has been a positive experience for not only the students, but the officers as well.

"We love to have that outreach with the community," Officer Moore remarked. "We like to take advantage of any opportunity we have to let the kids know we are there for them and that we are just regular people who care about them and their safety. I had the opportunity to speak with the Lower School kids on Patriotism Day during Homecoming week. Though I would like to think the highlight of their day was having an officer come to school, I know I lost out to the coolness the kids experienced seeing and playing in the squad car with the lights and sirens."

Josh gave a wonderful presentation to the students, talking about basic safety tips like knowing your address and phone number, wearing a bike helmet,

and never getting into a stranger's car. He also talked about police outreach programs, first responders, and other service positions. He revealed

that many of these officers have served their country in the military and that the police have families, too, who sacrifice daily, wondering if their loved one will return home from work.

Back in his high school days, Josh was very active. He was a three-sport athlete, playing football, hockey, and baseball. A highlight of his senior year was when the football team played in the State tournament inside the Metrodome. The Aggies played hard but were unable to pull off the win.

After high school, Josh attended college but was not sure what he really wanted to do. He ventured to Las Vegas for a year before his path became clear. Josh's father was a policeman, and he grew up seeing first-hand the positive impact his dad had on other people's lives. Josh felt called to help people and decided the perfect fit was following in his father's footsteps. He returned to MN to enroll in the law enforcement program at Hibbing Community College and joined the St. Paul Police Department in 2002.

He has tried to stay connected with Saint Agnes over the years. He often attends football games with his family to support the Aggies and always plays in the Aggie Open Golf Tournament. When asked to reflect on his days at Saint Agnes, Josh replied:

"I think the value of Saint Agnes is the overall experience and it's not just something that lasts while you are in school. Saint Agnes gives people the tools to be successful and be leaders in our communities. There are so many stories, mine

included, where people credit everything they have accomplished in life in thanks to the education, friendships, and the character Saint Agnes provided. I am married to a fellow Aggie (Becky Fitzgerald) and have a father-in-law that is an Aggie Athletic Hall of Famer (Mike Fitzgerald). I always refer to St. Paul as St. Small because everyone knows each other and looks out for each other. I think Saint Agnes is the same. Without this institution and people taking an interest in my future like Mr. Peper, Mr. Fitzgerald, the Floods, Mr. Krois, and many others, I would not be where I am today."



Josh surely took notice that the facilities look a bit different now than they did in the 90s. "The school now is absolutely stunning. The hard work by so many should make any Aggie proud to call Saint Agnes home. I'm sure the current students are thankful for the state-of-the-art facilities and are taking full advantage of them. I hope to see a play soon at the great auditorium which Helene Houle so graciously helped build and now bears her name."

In parting, Josh quips, "I know the sports teams are playing in nicer, newer stadiums than when I played, but I don't know that I would trade a Friday night at Midway stadium for anything! I may be biased but Midway was Aggie territory."



# THE AGGIE FAMILY IS NOT OUTDONE IN THEIR GENEROSITY!

Just days before beginning our school year on August 25th, we learned from the public school district that our district appointed nursing services would only be available to us remotely. Dr. Ferdinandt immediately sent out a cry for help to those in our community asking for individuals with a healthcare background to help staff our health office and serve our 792 Aggie students. We were overwhelmed with the outpouring of support from alumni, parents, and friends who volunteered their time and expertise to staff our health office for the first eight weeks of our school year! What a joy and gift it was to have you back on campus inspiring the next generation of Aggie Alum to be generous with their time, talent, and treasure – thank you!



## Justin Hernandez

Junior II/Senior I Nursing Student at the University of Mary  
Saint Agnes Graduate 2018

*"Saint Agnes gave so much to me throughout my 13 years (K-12) of education, for that I will be forever grateful. Being a nursing student, I had the opportunity to give back to my alma mater and help during this time of uncertainty. I am extremely proud to call myself an Aggie for life."*

## Lan Nguyen

Nursing Student at St. Catherine University



*"I'd love to venture into the realm of public health nursing and saw this as a great opportunity to learn more about different RN roles. I am also a 10-year Aggie myself and loved to give back to the school that developed me into the individual I am now!"*

## Emily Harper

ICU Nurse at University of Minnesota  
Saint Agnes Graduate 2013

*"I volunteered as a school nurse to have fun working with the kids and help out my alma mater!"*



## Jessica (Tarnowski) Bruxvoort

Acute Care Nurse- Float Pool  
Saint Agnes Graduate 2015

*"After working in the COVID pandemic professionally for the last 7 months, I wanted to find an opportunity to use my skills and knowledge to give back and find some joy within my professional role. Volunteering at Saint Agnes made me remember why I pursued nursing in the first place and allowed me to give back to a place that gave so much to me and my family throughout the last decade. It was a joy to assist students and reconnect with my beloved faculty."*



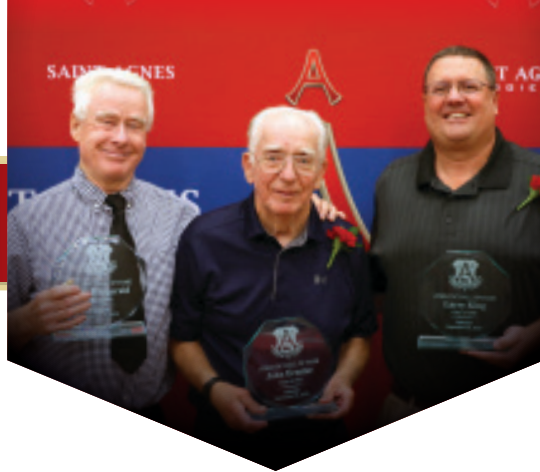
## Emily Lopez (and daughter, Hailey Rose)

NREMT, Nursing Student at Inver Hills Community College  
Saint Agnes Graduate 2017

*"God has called me to the role of a caregiver for others physically and spiritually. When I saw the need at Saint Agnes for a school nurse, I felt it would be a fulfilling experience and opportunity to enter into God's plan for my life."*







## COMING HOME

Good things come in threes, just like the newest inductees to the Saint Agnes School Athletic Hall of Fame: John Ernster '61, Mike Fitzgerald '61, and Larry King '88. In a year unlike any other, what a gift it was to join family and friends in honoring these three men for their athletic achievements.

### **John Ernster '66**

A 13-year Aggie, football extraordinaire, and friend to all, John Ernster entered the Saint Agnes sports scene making quite the name for himself. As John's fellow inductee and good friend Mike Fitzgerald introduced him, he recalled how John was the first person he met, and fifty-nine years later finds them recalling these beautiful memories at the Hall of Fame.



John began his football sports career at Saint Agnes as a 118-pound freshman. By the time he left, he was awarded All Conference as a 165-pound senior. Mike Fitzgerald recounted the last high school game that they played.

Aggies were behind twelve to seven against Rosemount, and John rushed 85 yards down the field for a touchdown, placing them ahead of Rosemount. To some this memory may seem like nothing but a good game, but Fitz recounted this specific game with a deep sense of pride.

Ernie also earned the reputation as an accomplished tennis player, a four-year basketball player, and winter carnival handball champion. He lettered in football for three years and in basketball for two years.

Ernie went on to receive his bachelor's from the University of Minnesota in Civil Engineering which drew him to California designing aircrafts for an airline company. But Ernie's tie to Minnesota was too great, and a great job with the DNR found him back to where it all started.

As one of the greatest contributors to Saint Agnes School, he served the school in numerous ways beyond his time as a student. As the jack (John) of all trades, John has continued to give back to Saint Agnes as a 25-year trustee, Fall Festival chair, Cub master, parish archivist, food pantry director, and volunteer custodian. John's involvement in the life of Saint Agnes post-graduation speaks to the strength and loyalty of the community here.

### **Mike Fitzgerald '66**

Mike Fitzgerald, honored by Bob Ercolani, left quite the imprint on Saint Agnes School, both in the way of athletics, as a coach, and as a teacher. Where most students took off when that final bell rang for the day, one would often find students in Mr. Fitz's classroom either getting extra help



on homework or advice on life. Mike had a tremendous amount of patience, which also made him an amazing coach.

He coached football, hockey, baseball, and tennis at Saint Agnes. He could radiate to each student/athlete the notion of "I care about you." What a strong attribute of a coach and teacher, one who conveys the truth about each person's God-given dignity.



Ercolani took the crowd present at the Hall of Fame luncheon on the "magic carpet" of Mike's life, highlighting his time as a three-sport athlete. After transferring to Saint Agnes School from St. Andrews grade school, Mike succeeded in both athletics and academics. Mike lettered in hockey all four years, baseball for three years, and football for two years. In football specifically, Mike was awarded All



Conference, and in hockey he received the All Conference-Honorable Mention. As the pitcher and utility player in baseball, Mike could play anywhere on the field.

Several notable highlights in Mike's athletic career are the hockey season of 1958-1959 and the 1960 football season! The Aggies went undefeated in the CCC Hockey Championship, a 16-game winning streak, and the football team was named Don Bosco Football Champs in 1960!

After graduating from St. Mary's Winona with a BA and MA in Teaching, he returned to Saint Agnes where he taught for thirty-three years in the high school. Mike continues to inspire young people as he subs as a teacher and a coach, plays in the Roseville Senior Softball league, and spends time with his grandsons.

### **Larry King '98**

Twenty-seven years later, Larry King takes the stage as a baseball, basketball, and football star. King was honored by coach Dick Ghizoni, who spoke about King's leadership qualities for each team he was involved in. 1986 found the football team Section Runner Up, and in '87 they took their place

as Conference Champions. In basketball, Saint Agnes took the title Conference Champions in both '87 and '88 and brought home the District 15A Champion title in '88.

King lettered three years in both football and basketball, and in baseball all four years. In football he was named All Conference '86 and '87, League MVP of '87, and played in the Minnesota High School All Star Football Game. Receiving an Honorable Mention All-Conference for the '86-'87 basketball season and All Conference for the '87-'88 season only adds to King's repertoire. Finally, in baseball, King was a four year All Conference player and participated in the Minnesota High School All Star Baseball Game.

King's success at Saint Agnes continued to St. Thomas college where he played baseball all four years, no small feat. During his time at school King earned a Business degree which set him up for a career in real estate as an appraiser.



If King's list of personal achievements does not portray his deep love of sports, then his continued participation in high school sports as a referee should do it. He has refereed for high school baseball for 12 years, and still referees for high school football, as he has



done for the past 20 years. One can easily see the fire and love for sports of Larry King as he spoke at the Hall of Fame.

### **Memories Continue**

What a beautiful chance to honor the talent and contribution of these three men during their time at Saint Agnes School and beyond. Inherent in their stories, whether funny or bittersweet, was the role of athletics in their formation during their time at Saint Agnes School. Not only did their participation in sports enliven a grand love of the game and teamwork, but also fostered lasting friendships. Their loyalty to the school is a continual inspiration and a testament to the mission of Saint Agnes: forming Catholic hearts and minds in faith, reason, and virtue.



# 2020



# AGGIE OPEN

...AT LEAST WE CAN GOLF!

Practicing social distancing; Jim Kinsman, Fr. Moriarty and Fr. Dan Haugan '95



Tournament sponsor Mike Parizino filled his teams with fellow '78 grads: Bob Zacher, Mark DeLaforest, Mike Fleischacker, Mark Hellermann, John Erickson, Bob Pate and Joe Huss

What a response to this year's Aggie Open! After feeling isolated since March, our alumni, parents, and friends were eager to get out and enjoy some fresh air this past July in support of Aggie athletics. The 148 golfers and additional dinner guests were comfortable with the safety measure we had in place and eagerly filled up the tournament. It was a glorious day with blue skies and sunshine. Our golfers spanned nearly 70 years of Aggie alumni from Russ Bovee, class of 1951, to Rebecca



The Stangl family, senior division winners



Mike McKernon '83 and the Championship team

Fabozzi, who had just graduated with the class of 2020. The layout at Como Golf Club lends itself to easy chatting amongst teams between swings... which is one reason our golfers find the tournament so fun!

After a day of golfing, all were welcomed back to campus for a social-distanced dinner in Bandas Gymnasium. Student-athletes from the football and volleyball teams served up a Tinucci's famous chicken dinner to the guests, raffle prizes were selected, and hole contest winners were announced while score cards were tallied. We had some big swingers this



Team Hamburger; John '73, Mike '80, Steve '75, and Jerry Pitzl '70

year! The Msgr. Bandas Championship Cup went to newcomer Mike McKernon '83 and his heavy hitting buddies, Dan Christian, Tom Morenz and Brian Scheuring, who scored an impressive 17 under par! A tournament record perhaps? Senior division winners were members of team Stangl, scoring 13 under par. Congrats to Tom '66, Al '67, Joe '68 and Rose '69. Athleticism obviously runs in their family!

The Aggie Open is a "fun-raiser" to be sure, but more importantly, it is a fundraiser for the Saint Agnes Athletic department. Thanks to the generosity of the \$25,000 exclusive tournament sponsor, Mike Parizino '78, the golfers and supporters of the Aggie Open, and the anonymous alumnus who offered to match \$5,000 in Aggie Athletic donations, we are thrilled to report a net profit of \$56,500. Most definitely a tournament record! What an incredible boost for our athletic programs!

Be sure to watch for announcements and save the date of Monday, July 19, 2021 for next year's Aggie Open to get in on the fun!



Becca Fabozzi '20 in her first Aggie Open

## Platinum Tournament Sponsor

- Michael Parizino '78

## Silver Tournament Sponsor

- Downtown Periodontics and Implant Dentistry - Dr. Charles McCann, parent

## Dinner Sponsors

- Lois Berens
- Nasseff Mechanical Contractors

## Beverage Sponsors

- McDonald' KCB Corp. - Courtney Henry '96 & Kevin Henry '95
- Cecelia R. Gormley Scholarship Fund - Tom Gormley '74
- 7 Corners Printing

## Hole Sponsors

- Abbott Paint & Carpet
- Carroll Construction Supply - Andy Dahlstrom, parent

- In Memory of Joe Schletty, Tom Schmidt, Rick Wagner - Class of 1966
- Custom Image
- Donald's Uniform Store
- Financial Dimensions Group - Char Turch, past parent
- Frazer Automotive - Gary Moos, past faculty & parent
- Gateway Bank
- Graphic Edge
- Grosinger, Kimlinger, Wesley & Zook Families
- Hamburger Family '73 - '80
- Harold's Shoe Repair
- Hawk Janitor Supplies - Gerry Klein '66
- In Memory of Matthew Schramm '04 - Chris Hennessey '04
- Karl Hendrickson, Director of Upper School
- Hilpisch Upper Cervical Health Center - John Hilpisch '80

- Tom & Jean Houghton, past parents
- Hynan Chiropractic Clinic
- Joe's Sporting Goods - Jim Rauscher '82
- JWood Sports Flooring
- Bernie Lancette, grandparent
- Life Touch National School Studios
- Mancini's Char House
- Mike McKernon '83
- Metro Roll Off
- Neitzel Painting
- St. Paul Winter Carnival Boreas Rex LI Ted Stiechen '52 & Boreas Rex LXI Dan Olson '63
- ReMax - Sophia Pham '92
- TEKTON Engineers
- Tim Tibesar '91
- Tuan's Auto Repair - Raks Pham '98
- Walsh & Gaertner
- Warners' Stellian - Carla Warner '82
- Yetzer Properties, LLC



In honor of one our Hall of Fame inductees, Mr. Mike Fitzgerald, we found these photos in the 1961 and 1973 yearbooks! Can you find Fitz? Player, coach and teacher, Mr. Fitz did it all! How many other players do you recognize?

# Whispers OF OUR PAST

Joe M... Steve... Chuck Watson... Paul...  
 Tony... Steve... Mike Fitzgerald...  
 Mark... Frank... Terry...  
 Dan Barthol...  
 Dave Hanes...  
 Perry "B..."...  
 Tom Doyle...



1973  
1961

## Pucksters' Teamwork Earns High Standing

St. Agnes took second place in the Central Catholic Conference League with a 7-3-2 record. Robert Moeller, Dan O'Connor and Mike Fitzgerald were placed on the all-conference team.

Excellent teamwork provided much excitement for Aggie spectators. Perfect plays executed by the Aggies were just impossible to stop. Coach Jack Kight feels the team showed steadiness and spirit. "They played their hearts out" was his comment.

Playing their last year for the Aggies were Robert Dueber, James Bannick, Robert Moeller, Mike Fitzgerald, Don Schuett and Thomas Hermes.

HOCKEY TEAM, BACK ROW, Left to right: Moeller, Semlak, O'Connor, Bannick, Kowalski, M. Wagner, T. Wagner, Fitzgerald, Coach Jack Kight, FRONT ROW: Jackson, B. Bannick, Wegscheider, Dueber, Hermes, Connolly, Schuett. J. Marin is not pictured with the team.



# Alumni News

## Class of 1956

"A shout out to the class of '56! We all value our Catholic based education at Saint Agnes. God bless you all!" says Roger Lavoie.

## Class of 1954 Grade School

David Batsche writes, "I love the Aggie Archives! I was directed away from Saint Agnes for high school by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. I came back to church and got married and it's lasted 55 years and counting!"

## Class of 1970

Kathryn Selbitschka sold her home in the Como area and moved to Maplewood. "Best thing I ever did!" exclaimed Kathryn.

## Class of 1974

Mark Sterner sends an update. "My wife Annie and I completed the building of our new house in Hua Hin, Thailand. We plan to winter in Thailand and summer in Minnesota, where my two sons and 5 daughters are, as well as Colorado, where my parents and brother live."

## Class of 1981

Bill McMahon sends an update. "This past year I celebrated 30 years of being a caregiver for developmentally disabled adults at 15th Ave group home in New Brighton. We are members of St. John the Baptist parish in New Brighton."

## Class of 1992

Denise (Adrian) Koontz notes, "I am on my 8th year as an Aggie parent! I am so blessed and excited that my first two children are now Aggie grads! I still have two children in the high school and one in grade school. It has been fun seeing so many Alumni as Aggie parents and on staff here. I invite you all to come see the new UAC building. Saint Agnes is better than ever!"

## Class of 1999

Sr. Maria Nikopoia (Therese Klobe) is the superior of a small group of sisters from the religious order Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará. Sister Nikopoia joined the order in 2008 and served in the U.S. until 2018, when she was asked to be the superior in the village of Charity, Guyana. Read more about Sister Nikopoia in the Catholic Spirit 10-9-2020 edition.

## Class of 2016

Anna Hobbs will be entering the order of St. Mary Sisters in Bismarck, ND. She will continue her studies at the University of Mary when she enters the convent in January. Our prayers go with Anna as she begins her consecrated life.

## Past Parent

Joan Och writes, "Our five children, John, Ronald, Michael, Ann, and Sue all graduated from Saint Agnes, have good jobs, and are doing well. We are thankful for Saint Agnes!"

## Stay Connected!



Like and follow us on social media!



Sign up for our quarterly Aggie Alert Alumni Newsletter!



Send us your news!

[AlumniOffice@saintagnesschool.org](mailto:AlumniOffice@saintagnesschool.org)

## In Memoriam



Gerald Blees, 1950  
Jean (Deustermann) Winstead, 1958  
Theresa (Fastner) Kegley, 1947  
Edward Fastner, 1947  
Jean (Fowler) Javorski, 1947  
Marilyn (Gibis) Wagner, 1952  
Eugene Glass, 1969  
Albert Hafner, 1938GS  
John Healy, Past Parent  
Bernard Hesse, 1954  
Eugene Hesse, 1966

George Huss, Sr, Past Parent  
Roger Huss, 1961  
Carol (Juaire) Kline, 1954  
Helen (Kammerer) McNamara, 1931CC  
Caroline (Koch) Anderson, 1940GS  
George Kronschnabel, Friend  
Donald Kvidt, 1968  
Elizabeth (Marrier) Geis, 1955  
James McNamara, 1958  
Dorothy (Moser) Plonty, 1949  
Mary R. Poeschl, Grandparent

*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*

Vernon Schultz, Past faculty  
Marie Sirois, Friend  
Melvin McNamara, Spouse of Helen (Kammerer) '31  
Jim Purinton, Spouse of Mary Ellen (Hollish) '65  
Catherine Thommes, 1991  
Robert Westgard, Sr., 1961  
Theodore Winstead, spouse of Jean (Deustermann) '58

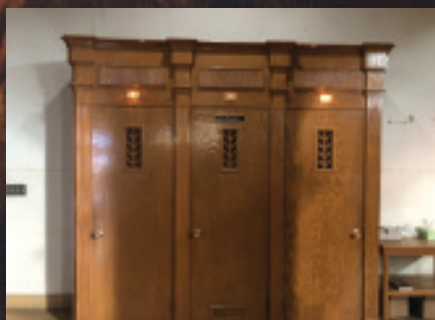
\*GS=grade school alumni

\*CC=commercial class alumni

## The Sacrament of Penance: COURAGE, SELF-KNOWLEDGE, AND GROWTH

BY FR. MARK MORIARTY, PASTOR AND SUPERINTENDENT

In the past two decades of serving as a priest, I have been fortunate to have the opportunity to hear confessions at many Catholic High Schools. Hands down, Saint Agnes has had the most students per capita participating in the Sacrament of Penance. The first time we had monthly Friday Confessions this 2020/21 school year, my assistant priest, Fr. McConville, and I estimated we heard 250 confessions in one day! Two priests in traditional, double sided confessional boxes can offer God's mercy to many souls but that still represents over 11 hours of hearing confessions. Our students also have the opportunity to participate in the sacrament of Penance during the upper school Masses. Thus, in one month, we had about 375 confessions with very few repeats.



There are 450 students in grades 7-12. This means 75-80% of our Upper School students go to confession monthly. The numbers of penitents who approach Reconciliation has always been high during my eight years of service at Saint Agnes. This is not to say that we have more sinners here than other schools! We have all fallen short of the great plan God has for our happiness and holiness. The numbers tell a story, but more importantly the sincerity of our young people speaks volume of their openness to God's abundant mercy.

Standing in line for confession is truly an act of

courage! Of course, it could be awkward and uncomfortable, especially for a teenager who might be overwhelmed with self-conscious thoughts, wondering what others are thinking. Let me assure you our students have the requisite courage, both external and internal courage. As the psalmist wrote, ***"Have Mercy on me God, in your goodness...for I know my offense..."*** (Psalm 51). This is not about degrading ourselves. Rather, it is about knowing the reality of what needs healing and forgiveness. Our students have the fortitude to acknowledge their faults, and the trust to approach God as His sons and daughters who have sinned. In a world that wishes to diminish or excuse, the young people of Saint Agnes are a sign of hope that healing requires taking responsibility for whatever is separating us from complete love of God and neighbor.

Moreover, our Father loves us so much, He does not want us to be stagnant in our spiritual development. Trusting in God's love includes a desire for the fullness of life, a desire to understand how one can become more virtuous, more loving. This entails an openness to God's plan for our happiness. Aggie students frequently ask questions that show they are probing the whys of life and the God given purposes and meanings. Growth occurs when we realize not just where we have fallen short but when we see and appreciate the great plans God has in store for us!

It has been very edifying for me to witness the faith of our students. May our patroness, Saint Agnes, help our students to always possess the courage to approach the mercy of God so they can become, more and more, beloved sons and daughters of God.

Jesus told the disciples: ***"Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven"*** (John 20:23).



## Saint Agnes School

Church of Saint Agnes  
535 Thomas Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55103

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Twin Cities, MN  
Permit #490

*Multiple copies?* If this magazine is addressed to your son or daughter who no longer lives at home, please contact the alumni office with a correct address.  
CALL 651-925-8880 | EMAIL [kboyle@saintagnesschool.org](mailto:kboyle@saintagnesschool.org) | UPDATE ONLINE at [www.SaintAgnesSchool.org/alumni](http://www.SaintAgnesSchool.org/alumni)

# SAVE THE DATE

SAINT AGNES SCHOOL ANNUAL

**RED** & *White*

BENEFIT

Saturday, February 6, 2021

**WE'RE GOING VIRTUAL!**

Though we'd love to see you in person, we just can't do it yet. Therefore, mark your calendars and plan on joining us for a VIRTUAL RED & WHITE BENEFIT! Still lots of fun, still lots of auction items, still lots of need for our students - and seating for all (from the comfort of your home)! More details to come.

*Unique opportunities for sponsorships, advertising, or to donate items!  
Your name and message can reach all over the world with our online presence.  
For more information or to donate please call 651-925-8811.*

Exclusively sponsored by Feltl and Company

*Feltl and Company*

SPONSORSHIP, ADVERTISING AND DONATION SERVICES