

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

100 YEARS 1919—2019

July, 2019
Issue 3



ST. PATRICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

401 East F Street • P.O. Box 1040 • McCook, NE 69001

Phone: 308-345-4546 • Website: www.stpatsmccook.com

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!



Then...

Catholic Schooling ranks high on my list of best things I have given my kids. The spiritual, moral, and academic foundation St. Pats has given my kids is valuable beyond words.

Carrie Roberts — St. Patrick School Parent



and Now!
(Since 1985)

St. Patrick School cornerstone was laid in place May 29, 1918 with students arriving September 1918. Due to the Spanish Flu outbreak, the school was closed for a few months and was formally opened on March 17, 1919. The school began with an enrollment of 60 children and was primarily staffed by the Dominican Sisters.

The original school building and old brick church building were demolished, and the current school building opened in August of 1985. The new facility represented the parish community's desire to continue to provide a Catholic education for the children in the area.

For 100 years, St Patrick School has been firmly rooted in our community, providing a faith-based, academic foundation at an affordable cost to local families. St. Patrick School is a place where high academic standards meet high moral standards; where values like respect, charity and compassion are not just encouraged, they are expected.

This has certainly been a fun-packed year celebrating our school's 100th Anniversary! Thank you to all of our alumni who have supported our school, told us their memories or attended our events! You have helped make our year even more memorable!

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St. Patrick McCook Alumni



Why St. Patrick School?

If anyone is hesitating before writing their 2019/2020 tuition check to St. Patrick's School, don't think twice! Raising teenagers is hard! If it were not for the solid foundation instilled in them as grade school students at St. Patrick's, I do not think I would have made it through my boys' teenage years! I continually thank the staff and administration of St. Patrick's for teaching our boys the values of discipline, hard work, and respect for authority. Whether your students is at the top of the class or the bottom, instilling a hard work ethic and learning self-discipline, will help a child reach their full potential. I am confident that our sons were never the most naturally gifted students in their class, yet St. Patrick's taught them to treasure, appreciate and utilize the gifts that God has given them.

Transferring to the public school system was easy for all of them. Academically, they were well prepared. Most importantly, they impressed their public school teachers by always bringing their books and homework to class...on time! These are lessons that you never get a second chance to teach. These habits are learned in grade school, and must be constantly reinforced! Once instilled in a child, those habits are theirs for life. Yes, they may misbehave of course. Yet at their core they will still remember what they were taught in grade school. I am so glad that we decided to send all three boys to St. Patrick's Catholic School. Now as they venture out into the world, I know that they will make mistakes, yet I can rest assured that I have given them a faith-filled foundation, a solid work ethic, and the respect that they will need to display in order to gain employment or continue their education. My husband and I have always had busy fulltime jobs, therefore we thank God every day for sending the angels of St. Patrick School to help us in our efforts to give our children a solid start.

Angela Langan — former St. Patrick School parent

We started the school year off right with a Back-to-School Family Swim Party! We had a great turnout with a lot of enthusiasm to start the new school year!



In the fall of 2018, the students were able to play on their NEW PLAYGROUND! Thank you to everyone who supported the fundraising for the playground! Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for their hard work and dedication of not only raising the funds, but installing the equipment!

A large group of children and adults are standing in a line outside a brick building, waiting for a food truck. The food truck is white with "Smile Place" written on it. A woman in a floral skirt is interacting with the truck.

[illegible]

**BIG
GIVE
McCook**
NOVEMBER 15, 2018



Alumni Banquet



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Of course the only day it snowed in October, was the day we hosted the Fall Festival! With the help our **wonderful volunteers**, we were able to move it all inside! The bounce houses and petting zoo fit perfectly in the gym, while auction items, games and food were in the school hallways and classrooms!



Thank you to Jessica Barger who has been the Fall Festival Coordinator the last couple of years and to ALL of our many volunteers who help out every year! Your time and talent do not go unnoticed!



My husband and I made the decision to send our three kids to St. Pats for several reasons. First and foremost, we love the inclusion of religion in their day and in the curriculum. Starting the school day with Mass sets the tone for the rest of the day. I love that they are able to pray throughout the day and have religious discussions. My family is not Catholic but has grown in our faith through the religious studies of our children at St. Pats. All three of my kids have enjoyed deepening their faith through their studies at St. Pats.

Secondly, I appreciate the traditional educational curriculum at St. Pats. The teachers have been excellent and my two St. Pats graduates were in an advanced position by the time they entered high school. The staff at St. Pats does an excellent job preparing their students for academic success.

Lastly, the class size and personal connections with the teachers and administrators is also an asset. The staff at St. Pats cares about the whole child - academically, spiritually and emotionally. The students coming from St. Pats are confident and compassionate.

I feel blessed that we have been able to be a part of the St. Pats community. I wholeheartedly recommend St. Pats to other parents, Catholic and non-Catholic.

Julie Gillespie — St. Patrick School Parent



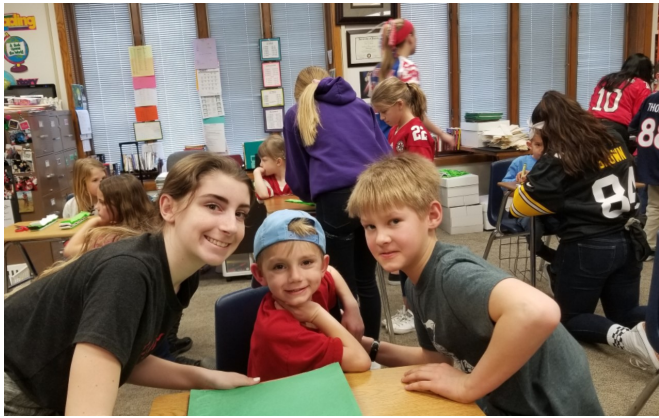
5th & 6th Grade Confirmation



2nd Grade First Communion



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!



Catholic Schools Week is always a week to remember at St. Patrick School! Dress-up Days, Penny Wars, Big Brother/Big Sister Activities and the Faculty/Parent vs. Students Basketball Games are just a few things that are happening during the week!



The 7th Graders are posing with their History Day Projects!



The Spring Concert & Art Show at St. Patrick Elementary is the best around!



A special THANKS to these Corporate Sponsors:

- ◆ Bison Dental, Jon & Ronda Graff, Sehnert's Bakery and Baker's Acres
- ◆ Cappel Sales, Inc.
- ◆ Debbie Douglas—Farm Bureau Financial Services
- ◆ Janssen Kool Honda
- ◆ Southwest Nebraska Dental Center
- ◆ Jason & Wendy Timmerman and Connealy Angus
- ◆ Norm & Sharon Timmerman



This year's G.I.F.T. Gala was a RED CARPET affair! Thank you to everyone who made our second G.I.F.T. Gala such a success! It was an evening full of elegance, laughs and so many wonderful memories. Without your efforts and generosity to the gala, it would not be such a success!

Profit earned for our 2nd annual G.I.F.T. Gala was just OVER \$86,000!! Congratulations!!



The 3rd Annual G.I.F.T. Gala

Saturday, March 21, 2020.

Kentucky Derby Theme

Please watch our website for further details!



To view all of the photos of the 2019 gala, please visit our website, www.stpatsmccook.com and click on the G.I.F.T. Gala Menu Tab.

2019 G.I.F.T. Gala Committee: (from left) Fr. Andrew Litt, Kate Siegfried, Andi Cappel, Jill Koenig, Amy Stritt, Amanda Peterson, Shelby Siegfried, Melissa Wilcox, Cassie Spencer and Fr. Gary Brethroure.

Brag Board



Grant Cappel Competes At State Competition

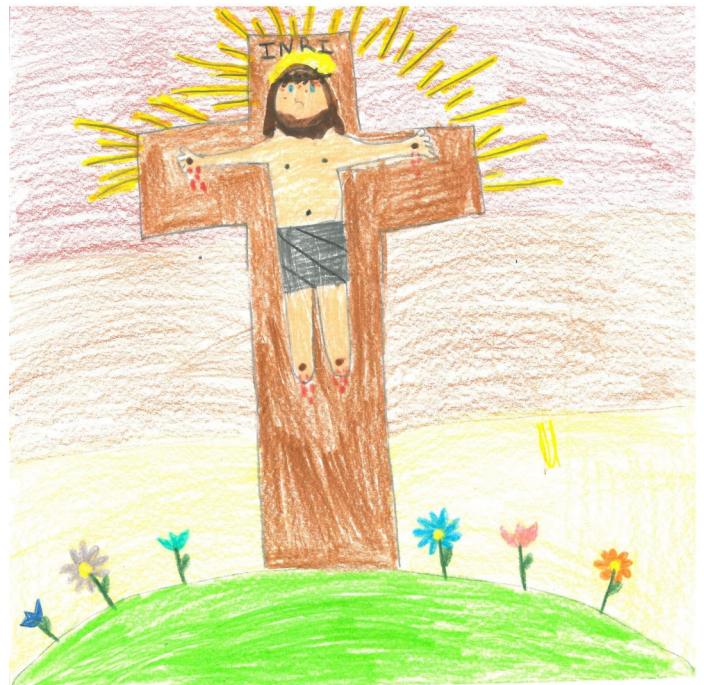
Grant (7th grade) received recognition for competing in the State Geography Bee held Friday, March 29th in Omaha, Nebraska. We're proud of you, Grant!



The student body sold over 1,000 cash raffle tickets for our G.I.F.T. Gala, so they earned an all-school PIZZA PARTY & JEANS DAY! Mrs. Amanda Peterson and her 1st graders are celebrating with some fun attire! Thank you Wal-Mart for donating the fun St. Patrick Day items and to the students for working so hard selling those tickets!



**St. Patrick 8th Grade Graduates
May 11, 2019**



Spirit Catholic Radio announced that Mya Meixner (3rd Grade) won Honorable Mention in the 2019 School Calendar Art Contest. The theme was "Why I Love My Catholic Faith". Great job, Mya!

Brag Board



The members of the McCook High School Quiz Bowl Team that placed 2nd in the Quiz Bowl competition held at McCook Community College, qualifying for State are (left to right) Connor Moorehous, Ethan Graff, Luke Roberts, Elizabeth Barenberg, Thomas Weyneth, Jackie Hinze, Maddie Hinze, Rose Stoney. Ethan, Luke, Elizabeth, Thomas, Jackie and Maddie are all graduates of St. Patrick School. Rose is a member of St. Patrick Parish.



St. Patrick School stepped up to the “Stuff the Bus” challenge for the Nebraska flood victims.



In October of 2018, McCook Public Schools announced that 22 of their students scored a 30 or higher on their ACT! Of those students, **NINE** of them are graduates of St. Patrick Elementary! Congratulations to you all!



Deacon Carson Kain, son of Fritz & Tama Kain and former St. Patrick student, celebrates the end of seminary studies, waving his western hat high, with ordination only weeks away! Fr. Kain was ordained on May 25, 2019 and has been appointed Parochial Vicar at St. Mary Parish in David City, teacher at Aquinas High School and Advocate on the Diocesan Tribunal .