Celebrating Life With Our Children

This issue celebrates life and all that is gift to us from God. Are not our children a source of life for all of us? Their smiles, laughter, and hugs touch our hearts! The pictures and activities included in this “Spirit” issue celebrate the many gifts and talents that each child brings with his/her presence to our school community. I think that you will agree, that our St. Agnes children are celebrating their gift of life!

We who love them, celebrate too!

There are so many activities that fill a school year. The success of these activities depends upon many people. We are grateful for the partnerships we share with parents, St. Agnes parishioners, our Magic-Match sponsors, grandparents and alumni who continue to support Catholic education for our St. Agnes School children.

Whether participating in sports, Scholastic Bowl, Student Council, class field trips, community gatherings, the March for Life, singing, service opportunities, faith experiences, extracurricular activities or daily classes, each child is important to the spirit of St. Agnes. Parents, thank you for choosing a Catholic education for your child(ren). Thank you for choosing to celebrate their life with us at St. Agnes!

Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed… this year’s logo for Catholic Schools Week! Let us give thanks for what we do together! Our children are learning, serving, leading and succeeding!

We celebrate life with them!

Sr. Joan

“Dance, then wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance,” said he.
“I’ll lead you all wherever you may be,
I will lead you all in the Dance,” said he.

~ Lord of the Dance
Shaker melody, 19th century

The weather is getting slowly warmer; the daylight hours are getting slowly longer.
We’re getting a bit stir-crazy; we want to be out and about.
Spring is approaching; the Easter festivities are upon us.
In short, we want to celebrate God’s gift for life!

This issue of the Spirit newsletter focuses precisely on such – Celebrating Life – in and around our faith community that is St. Agnes. Enjoy the signs of God’s life and respond to God with a grateful heart!

Blessings,

Fr. Bob
Amazing, faith-filled, historic, once-in-a-lifetime, overwhelming, exhausting, fabulous, wonderful, and breathtaking are just a few words to describe the 4 day pilgrimage that six St. Agnes 8th grade students along with 4 chaperone parents were able to attend on January 17 -21, 2018. The 4 days were filled with activities that allowed the students to see faith in action. Students attended Mass with all youth from the Dioceses of Springfield, IL with Bishop Paprocki presiding at St Peter’s Catholic Church – just steps away from the U.S. Capitol Complex. They participated in the rally and March for Life parade with over 50,000 youth from across the country marching from the National Mall to the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court, and wrapped it up by attending a Christian Concert on the campus of George Mason University. The trip allowed for some sightseeing throughout the Washington, D.C. area: a tour of the White House and U.S. Capitol Complex, the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, FD Roosevelt Memorial, Martin Lutheran King Jr. Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, the Library of Congress, and the Smithsonian Institution – National Air and Space Museum. This trip was not only a great way to celebrate life, but also a reminder to respect and protect life.
LIFE AT ST. AGNES SCHOOL AND PARISH IS VIBRANT AND ACTIVE!

THERE WERE NO WINTER BLAHS HERE, WITH ACTIVITIES LIKE THE ST. AGNES WAX MUSEUM, HICKORY GLEN TREE OF LIFE, AND AN 8TH GRADE LOCK-IN.

It was an all-nighter for the 8th grade class with games, team-building activities and fun with their classmates at the lock-in!

Residents from Hickory Glen recently visited the third graders at St. Agnes to create a living legacy tree poster. Everyone worked together to trace their hands and then write positive affirmations on the palms. The third grade class works hard to maintain a relationship with our senior friends at Hickory Glen.

7th Graders brought Black History Month to life through a wax museum. Students, parents and friends listened as characters shared their life stories.
St. Agnes Gala

This year’s GALA was a wonderful evening! So many families and parishioners gave their time, talent and treasure to help support the goals for this year. Thank you to all who donated items to the auction. Students and teachers put a lot of thought and effort into their creative classroom projects and room parents put together attractive Gala baskets. A special thank you to the GALA committee for their hard work which raised over $40,000. Congratulations to Sr. Joan Sorge on her recognition award, in honor of her continued dedication and service –

We appreciate you, Sister!
The 2018 Catholic Schools Week theme celebrates the priorities that make Catholic education a value. Students are taught not only the knowledge of the Catholic faith but how to have a relationship with God. Our academic program prepares students for higher education and for leadership. Children learn to share their faith by putting it into action through service.

St. Agnes teachers, staff and parents catch the spirit all week long with activities like Random Acts of Kindness Day, Vocation Day, Student, Teacher and Parent Appreciation Days and so much more. No matter what the celebration, there were plenty of smiles all around.
S E R V E

L E A R N

S U C C E E D

W I L L G R E A T L O V E
Student life at St. Agnes is robust and offers kids many opportunities. Scholastic Bowl, Art, and Athletics all help students live and learn skills like teamwork and problem solving. This learning prepares them for high school and other areas of life. No matter what day of the week or what each person’s interests are, there is always something to make each and every individual shine!
Kudos to 5th grade volleyball the 3rd place SCAA finish

5th/6th combined talents for the SCAA league

6th grade volleyball team gives it their all

7th grade volleyball team spirit was great all season

8th grade boys took it to the basket all season long

7th grade hit the court hard to score some wins

Bump, set, spike! 8th grade volleyball

Jaycie C. is an ACE on the links

Congratulations to all wrestlers
FITNESS IS FUN!

FAMILY FITNESS NIGHT makes fitness fun. Many community groups and organizations volunteered their time and prepared interactive booths to help everyone learn about healthy choices. Volunteers educated students and parents about nutrition, health and the importance of staying active. Healthy snack items were set up in the cafeteria and interactive demonstrations were going on throughout the building. A great evening for everyone.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

PreK-8th grade registration is open for the 2018-2019 school year!

Please call the office at 217-793-1370 to set up a tour and to get more information.
St. Agnes School Staff and Students present the 2018 Alumni of the Year Award in memory of

JENNIFER (CAVENY) BRIESACHER

St. Agnes School Alumni · Class of 1997

We celebrate with deep gratitude Jennifer’s love and commitment to her family and to her Catholic faith.
Friends & Alumni “Base Builder” — Help us reach friends, neighbors, alumni, grandparents or businesses that might be interested in “Spirit” from St. Agnes School. Fill out the form below and return it in the enclosed envelope. We’ll rush the current and future issues to our new friends.

Name ___________________ Address ____________________________________________ Apt. ________

City ____________________ State ____________________ Zip ___________ ❑ New Add.

ATTENTION YOUNG ALUMS — We’d love to keep in touch with you! PLEASE let us know where you’ve moved! Many of you are still listed at your parents’ address.

LIVING LENT!

St. Agnes students had a great time raising funds for the missions with Mardi Gras festivities. The Lenten season offers Stations of the Cross and soup suppers in the Church and parish hall on Wednesdays. It is a wonderful opportunity and Lenten practice of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving shared among a congenial group of participants. Donations collected from this year went to Habitat for Humanity.