CIRISH Connections

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION • ST. AGNES • ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON • SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



IMMACULATE **CONCEPTION SCHOOL**

3555A S. Fremont Springfield, MO 65804 417.881.7000 Principal: Jenny Pendleton Assistant Principal: Holly Wilson

ST. AGNES SCHOOL

531 S. Jefferson Springfield, MO 65806 417.866.5038 Principal: Paige Duda



2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Springfield Catholic Schools Central Office 2340 S. Eastgate Springfield, MO 65809 417.865.5567 SpringfieldCatholicSchools.org

ST. ELIZABETH **ANN SETON SCHOOL** 2200 W. Republic Rd.

Springfield, MO 65807 417.887.6056 Principal: JoAnne Bailes

SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC **HIGH SCHOOL**

2340 S. Eastgate Springfield, MO 65809 417.887.8817 Principal: Jeanne Skahan Vice Principal: Mike Johnson



IMPORTANT DATES 2022-2023 REGISTRATION

FEBRUARY 1ST THROUGH 28TH

- Active Catholic Form
- FACTS Grant and Aid
- Endowment Scholarship:

FEBRUARY 28, 2022

• All applicable information must be submitted

APRIL 8TH

• You will receive a Tuition Rate Confirmation letter

APRIL 8TH THROUGH 25TH

• It is Registration time!

APRIL 28TH

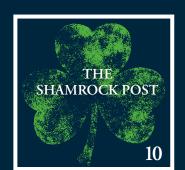
• Open Enrollment for New Families



Connections

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Stories written and edited by SCHS Journalism students.



SCHS performed "Into the Woods" on November 19th – 21st. Mark your calendar for "The Addams Family", April 1-3, 2022!

DEAR SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC SCHOOLS,

As we approach the season of Christmas and prepare to celebrate the birth of Our Lord, let us foster hearts full of joy and gratitude.

Looking back over the first semester of school, I have been thrilled to see a good measure of normalcy in our schools. Students have been participating in seated instruction, in person field trips, fans have been able to attend sporting events, our schools have hosted Veterans' Day events as well as speech debates. Parent-Teacher Conferences were available for in person discussions between parents and educators. Donuts with Dads and Muffins with Moms have been enjoyed at our PS-8th grade schools. In November, Fr. Lewis and our students performed "Into the Woods" as their fall musical. Choral and band concerts have also been planned for in person audiences and enjoyment.



"A MERRY HEART DOES GOOD LIKE MEDICINE."

PROVERBS 17:22

BY SISTER CECILIA ANN REZAC, M.S.



Yes, we still have many mitigation practices in place for the wellbeing of our faculty, staff, students, and their families, but we must not let these precautions cloud the many opportunities for joy!

Proverbs 17:22 tells us, "A merry heart does good like medicine." And this medicine of joy is not just for ourselves but for others as well. When we radiate joy, it can lighten the burdens of others, and bring back into focus the important aspects of life: faith, family, and friends.

Recently I spoke with someone who talked about teaching their children to wait with a "happy heart". This was their way of speaking of patience. It also speaks of trust in God. If we truly put our trust in Him, we can always find something in which to rejoice. Let us not let the pandemic, worry, frustrations, or disagreements steal or shroud our merry hearts. Let us take a good dose of this heavenly medicine called joy and truly live in the blessings of this Christmas season!

Sister Cecilia am Regar, 44.S.

Director of Schools

Although we find ourselves still trying to maneuver the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, there is much about which we can rejoice and thank God.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL





Bailey's dad volunteers to read during library time.

Immaculate Conception School continues our three year journey with Friendzy, our faith-based social and emotional curriculum. Friendzy taught us Ubuntu, meaning "Community is Key". Immaculate Conception School has been getting back to celebrating our community during this past semester. Our first connection was made during our Back to School Social in August. Over 500 students and their parents enjoyed meeting the teachers and seeing the classrooms again. Parents, many of whom are alumni, are one of the biggest parts of our community. We could not do what we do in the classrooms without them. This year, parents have been invited back to enjoy Donuts with Dads, Muffins with Moms, Library readers, and Cafeteria servers. Parents were also able to attend in-person Parent Teacher Conferences. PTC are a great way for parents and teachers to form lasting relationships to support the needs and gifts of each child.

The middle schoolers were especially excited this year as SCS middle schools have been able to incorporate some new opportunities. At IC, 7th and 8th graders were able to choose their fine arts elective classes, and 6th-8th graders added Irish Choice classes into their schedules. Choice classes allow the students opportunities in Irish IT, Irish Artbox, Irish Mass Choir, Irish Pride, Irish Leadership, and Irish Service.

Returning to in-person Mass has been extremely special in our school community. Our 5-8th grades have begun to fill the role of servers during Mass, our Irish Mass Choir leads us in song, and our student lectors proclaim the Word of God. Immaculate Conception Parish has invited the school to lead the 11:00 Mass on the third Sunday of each month, as well.

Relationships between our classroom communities are a key to fulfilling our Catholic mission and faith. The students in grades PreK-8 get to experience a true piece of love and service while participating together in FAB families, prayer buddies, and reading buddies. FAB families are a mix of students from 1st grade - 8th grade who get together once a month to complete service projects as a family unit. The projects are put





Aiden, 4th, with Graham, K, doing apple experiments.

UBUNTU: COMMUNITY IS KEY

WRITTEN BY: HOLLY WILSON

together and prepared by our middle school Irish Service choice class.

The entire school community is thrilled to return to the adventure of educational field trips. Whether it be a trip to the pumpkin patch to study the life cycle of a seed or a full day exploring Jefferson City's government structure, students in each grade are getting out to explore with hands-on, authentic learning.

Our community would not be complete without the love and dedication of the Immaculate Conception teachers and staff. Our educators play a vital role in the community by helping mold developing minds and encouraging spiritual growth on a daily basis. Our community trusts our faculty, with God's help, to provide a caring family environment where the Catholic faith and commitment to service is modeled in an atmosphere of academic excellence.

We thank all those who continue to support our Catholic schools in prayer, service, and financial support. Ubuntu!











ST. AGNES CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

BY PAIGE DUDA, PRINCIPAL

Retting to know the St. Agnes family this first semester has been a remarkable blessing. The love and sense of community that permeates the building is a true testament to the impact of Catholic Education. Our year thus far has been filled with wonderful opportunities to come together in faith, to celebrate success, and to find joy in our shared mission.

Our Eighth Graders have been truly inspiring leaders this year as they spend time bringing formation experiences to all of our students. They led a beautiful Living Rosary in the Cathedral to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. It was very moving to watch them guide their younger peers as they read their prayers for the school. They have been working closely with their First Grade buddies throughout the year--a relationship that was kicked off with the beautiful tradition of the Guardian Angel Mass. As the words of St. Luke reminds us, "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me" (Lk 9:48). It has been a joy to watch the relationships form between these students and their experiences together will undoubtedly be a highlight of their time here at St. Agnes. Our Feast of All Saints Day was celebrated with a wonderful Saints presentation during our all school Mass. Each Eighth Grader dressed as a saint, memorized important facts about their life here on earth, and presented it to the school. They presented with a reverence and honor that made us all so very proud.

> We continued to celebrate our community with delightful events such as Grandparents Day, Fall Fest, Trivia Night, and Literacy Day. Our Literacy Day was marked by our fall book fair and special class buddy reading time. It is no wonder our students are falling in love with reading each day as teachers go above and beyond to bring reading to life for their students. Mrs. Perryman, Mrs. Lowrance, and Mrs. Warren have all transformed their classrooms for "camping days", "classroom tents" and "book tastings". Mrs. V and her kindergarteners are continuing to meet all of the SuperKids as they discover their early literacy skills. Ms. Rita is working her magic in First Grade as she rounds the corner

of her 45th year at St. Agnes and 53rd year in education. Our middle school is working hard as a team to showcase their STEM skills through competing with Robotics, Science Olympiad, Math Counts, and Math Olympiad.

Our Student Council has taken our sense of community out to the public as they bring our school's attention to those in need. They have adopted Catholic Charities' Rancho Emergency Housing Shelter as the "St. Agnes Serves" project for the school year. They kicked off the year with a clothing and coat drive. The generosity of our St. Agnes Families filled the shelter's clothing storage capacity. Our Student Council Executive team has been spending time at the shelter organizing their donations and learning more about the program and their needs. They have brought their knowledge and passion back to the school and are leading their classmates in serving The Rancho's residents throughout the entire school year.

We have many exciting projects happening around our facilities including a new early childhood playground, new basketball goals, and a new outdoor classroom pavilion. The parish has also announced plans for a new parish hall that will be placed on the open area to the southwest of the school between the storage buildings. The parish offices will be moved to this new building which will free up a significant amount of space for the school--so many exciting things happening at St. Agnes!

Fr. Lewis and I want to thank all of the teachers, parents, and community members that have supported our school as we continue to guide our youngest disciples towards Christ. It is difficult to fully express our gratitude for the faith and trust you place in our school each day. During this Advent season, we pray you feel the peace of Christ surround your families and the hope of the New Year fill your homes.



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON SCHOOL

BY JOANNE BAILES, PRINCIPAL

#If you are ever on the campus of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, you will see our teachers, students, even our therapy dog, Teddy, "Showing S.O.U.L.- Serving Others Under Love". As the birth of Jesus draws near, we are reminded that Jesus loves us in an extraordinary and amazing way. In John 13:34, Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment: love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must also love one another." SEAS students recognize that

we are all made in the image of God and it is important to treat others with dignity and respect.

Before the 21-22 school year, our teachers worked very hard over the summer preparing for the school year. In August, we opened our doors and the students arrived with smiles and excitement for the new year. The first day of school we gathered together for All School Mass with our new pastor, Fr. Kiefer. Following Mass, Fr. Kiefer shared a Eucharistic Procession throughout the school while students witnessed the real presence of Jesus Christ. It was a beautiful way to begin the new school year.

From that day forward, students have been busy working in the classroom learning about multiplication, circuits, letters and sounds, writing...you name it, it has or will be studied. Students have been learning lessons and building relationships with Jesus as their guide. While our academics are important at St. Elizabeth



Pre-kindergarten class during their Breathe class.

Ann Seton School, the path we make to knowing Jesus better and bringing our faith into all that we do is most important.

This year has allowed more field trips which is an excellent time for students to be off campus and take advantage of the wonderful opportunities our community has to offer. Our students have enjoyed visits to the state capitol in Jefferson City, Crystal Bridges Museum, Laura Ingalls Wilder's home, Rutledge Wilson Farm Park, the Auschwitz museum in Kansas City, and the Nature Center, just to name a few. A huge thank you to our community leaders, home and school association and parent volunteers that made these trips possible.

Our preschool class held a prayer service for the feast of St. Francis of Assisi with a blessing of their plush animals from Sr. Cecilia Ann. Teddy also received a blessing. The Pre-kindergarten (PK) class has been working with Ms. Missy at SWET yoga to learn fun breathing and stretching activities as a powerful tool in managing

their emotions, energy levels, feelings and thoughts. Different breathing techniques are helping our students to decrease stress and anxiety in a fun and healthy way - learning healthy habits because it is His word.

For the month of October, our students again participated in the Baby Bottle Campaign for Lifehouse Crisis Nursery. This year we raised over \$3,000. This money is used to help every mother and child that visits the

home which provides safe housing, food and basic needs for mother and child.

We began November with an All School Mass for All Saints Day. Our fourth grade class researched a Saint and then wrote a five paragraph essay about the Saint.



Battlefield Fire Department shares presentations for grades pre-5 students. First grade students in front of the FD engine.





Eighth grade students visit the State Capitol building in Jefferson City.

On All Saints Day, the students dressed up like their saint and read their essay to the class. An ofrenda table for the Day of the Dead celebration was shared in the Spanish room. Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead), is a time when families gather to honor and remember

Students honored our military by sharing pictures of current, retired, and past military members on our "SEAS Wall of Honor." We celebrated Grandfriends Day with a prayer service and either breakfast or dessert. The Scholastic fall book fair was also available for students to visit with their grandfriends. Grandfriends are one of the greatest blessings we are given. Our PK students partook in a Stone Soup meal for Thanksgiving. For the St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry located in the SEAS parish, students "packed the principal's office" with canned food and boxed food. Once again our students are serving others under love.

Our second grade students are preparing for their First Communion. They celebrated their First Reconciliation in late November.



Preschool visiting the Springfield Nature Center.

deceased loved ones. Students placed some pictures on the table to remember their loved ones on this special day!

In December, we adopted three families and provided them with a Christmas celebration remembering the words of Luke 6:38, "Give, and it will be given to you." The SEAS teachers and staff chose an Advent Angel and showered their "angel" with special gifts and prayers. Students at SEAS engaged in a prayerful experience reflecting on how our prayers are powerful gifts. Students' prayers (personally written on printed "gifts") created a visual representation of an Advent wreath to inspire united prayer during the whole Advent Season. They also participated in a schoolwide Advent Nativity program. Pieces of the nativity set traveled from class to class for daily reflection during Advent.

There is much more to come at SEAS in the spring. Preparations for the second annual Super Squares are underway. The event, which was a huge success in its inaugural year, will be held on February 12-13, 2022. Make plans to participate this year!!

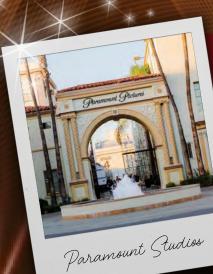
Thank you to all that support our SCS and SEAS community!

BECOME AN EMERALD EVENING 28 SPONSOR



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INFINITI Of Grundfuld





Sponsor will receive one table for 10 and four bottles of wine. Access to the Walk of Fame Pre-Party with hosted wine, beer, unique cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Dedicated table bar server during dinner and auction with 40 drink tickets. Hollywood themed Swag Bag for the table. One hotel room at the Oasis Hotel for the evening of March 5th. Priority seating and table signage. Name printed on all publicity, including event program. Special event night signage in lobby. Name included on invitations mailed to 2,000 if committed by December 13, 2021. Publicity in the Irish Connections magazine mailed to 4,800 families following the event.



following the event.





Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel

AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER STARS OF THE SILVER SCREEN













Sponsor will receive one table for 10, two bottles of wine, and 20 drink tickets. Access to the Walk of Fame Pre-Party with hosted wine, beer, unique cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Hollywood themed Swag Bag for the table. Priority seating and table signage. Name printed on all publicity, including event program. Special event night signage in lobby. Name included on invitations mailed to 2,000 if committed by December 13, 2021. Publicity in the Irish Connections magazine mailed to 4,800 families



Sponsor will receive one table for 8 and two bottles of wine. Priority seating and table signage. Name printed on all publicity, including event program. Publicity in the Irish Connections magazine mailed to 4,800 families following the event.

Sunset Strip \$500 (\$500 is tax-deductible)

Please consider if you cannot attend or are already sitting at a sponsored table. Name printed in event program.

INTO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

BY MARY SHARP (10TH)

Baker learns that he and his wife cannot have children because of the Witch's curse, they set out and attempt to break the curse. The musical follows all the characters as their stories become connected as they seek to make their wishes come true.

Junior Hailey Murphy, who is starred as The Witch, was very excited about how guickly the theatre department was able to put the play together. Before the play, she talked about how they have had everything blocked out over

A RETURN TO (ALMOST) NORMALCY FOR SCHS

Springfield Catholic High School has had another unique year as both faculty and students began the fall semester with many of the same challenges as last year. The 2021-2022 school year kicked off on August 19th with some loosened restrictions caused by the ease of Covid-19, providing students and staff more freedom and flexibility. The first couple weeks of school went by fast as faculty and students got back into the groove of the school year.

In late September, three students were named

Commended Scholars from the National Merit

Scholarship Program-- Tyler Han, Alex Homeyer, and Quinn Roubal became part of a nation-

wide pool of only 16,000 students nationwide.

Over 1.5 million juniors in about 21,000 high

schools entered the 2021 scholarship by taking

Springfield Catholic's theatre program has

always been wide reaching and always lives up

to the expectations that each past performance

sets. Directed by Fr. Lewis and Anne-Marie Cole-

man, a combination of high school and middle

school students put on this year's musical, "Into

"Into the Woods" follows the story of a Baker and

his wife, who wish to have a child, Cinderella,

who wishes to go to a festival, and Jack, who

wishes that his cow would give milk. When the

the Woods."



Sister Grace teaching Senior Theology.

seniors.

SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC SERVING OTHERS

BY PETER VILKINS (10TH)

This year's service has looked more like it has in years past as Covid has lessened its impact. However, its presence is still felt. Our schools continue to serve their students, families, parishes, and our city community.

Springfield Catholic Schools has done many service projects this year. Many students have helped with events like Good Dads, Cider Days, and with the Discovery Center. SEAS's Harvest Home and IC Fright Night has also benefited the Springfield Catholic Schools' community. Springfield Catholic High School has also participated in several buyouts throughout the year; many of which were for our own clubs, helping fund some of the great things they do.

Picture right: SCHS Students helping serve at the soup kitchen.

SHAMROCK POST

THE SCHS NEWSPAPER

WRITTEN BY SCHS STUDENTS



SCHS FALL CLUBS

BY PARKER FOSTER (10TH)

Our Newest Extracurricular Opportunities

New opportunities to get involved at SCHS are always being presented to the student body. This year, we have seen four new clubs joining the ranks of the numerous beneficial clubs available at Springfield Catholic. Students have plenty of opportunities to creatively express their interests in a variety of subjects.

New club ideas are normally brought to the attention of the faculty by students wishing to express their interests. This year, we have seen the introduction of the English National Honor Society (led by Nick Russo), iLife (led by Jake Simpson), Marine Biology Life (led by Jeff Stratton), and UNICEF (led by Ela Marcom).

Choir Warms Up their Voices

With the beginning of the new school year, Ms. Cole has made it her goal to make our two choir groups, Concert Choir and Irish Singers, the best that they can be. Both choir groups have been very ambitious this year. Irish Singers alone have sung twelve pieces.

This year, both groups showcased their talents on Grandparents' Day during a special breakfast for students and their grandparents. Additionally, Irish Singers had the opportunity to sing the National Anthem at a football game. Both choirs have been showing their commitment to their craft through practicing in class and recording their first semester concert.

Our Faith Programs

So far, the Freshman and Sophomores have attended spiritually based retreats. The retreats aim to further connect its participants to God and the Church. Students participate in games, interact with peers in student-led groups, and watch skits performed by the retreat mentors

themselves. The retreats are provided by MORE, a company based in St. Louis.

FISH is a club that performs faith-based activities around the school. More specifically, they lead prayers such as the daily Angelus and meal prayers over the intercom. During the Advent and Lenten seasons, they will also provide morning prayer services for the students, faculty and staff of Springfield Catholic.

Catholic Athletes for Christ, led by Bobby Cornelison, is a club that aims to serve our athletes in the practice of their faith. They strive to help members to see the gospel through athletics. This is a wonderful opportunity for SCHS students as they grow in community with others who have like interest as theirs, as they serve the community.

THE SHAMROCK POST | PAGE 1

a month in advance, which allowed them to spend even more time perfecting the show.

The musical took place on November 19, 20, and 21. When asked how she felt about the show, prior to the performance, junior Maggie Lowrance said, "I feel really good about the play, it's going really well and the set looks super cool." Maggie has been doing theatre since fifth grade at Springfield Little Theatre and theatre at Springfield Catholic since eighth grade.

BY PETER VILKINS (10TH)

Preliminary SAT Qualifying Tests. These three students managed to be in the select minority of less than one percent of all high school

Unlike last year, Springfield Catholic High School held its first All School Mass on the



second day of school. Last year, SCHS didn't have its first All School Mass until November 23rd. This year SCHS has had the ability to grow in faith as a community through numerous all school Masses, already surpassing last year's total number.



4 HOUSES 1 BODY

BY PARKER FOSTER (10TH)

At the beginning of the year, the four houses and their leaders made videos to represent their houses Students then voted on which video was the best and St. Catherine was the chosen winner. These "hype videos" were used to get everyone excited about the upcoming school year within the community system. The videos were just the first part of the exciting calling ceremony where new SCHS students got to join their families.

Houses also competed in a kickball tournament. St. Therese played St. Catherine and St. Michael played St. John. The championship game was between St. Michael and St. Therese and St. Michael was ultimately the victor of the tournament.

More recently, we had our House Olympics, in which families competed against other families within the house. The best family of each house would then compete against each other. This year, St. John won the House Olympics, closely beating out St. Therese.

The student body had a great time the week of Halloween. Each family had one period to decorate their classroom door and to carve/decorate a pumpkin. There was wonderful color all through the school. The Wednesday before Halloween, St. Catherine House had the joy of trick or treating and playing games with the 1st araders.

St. Therese is currently in the lead with 21 house points followed by St. Catherine with 17 points. St. Michael currently has 15 points and St. John has 14 (as of November 10th).

CANDYLAND CAME TO SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC FOR HOMECOMING THIS YEAR!

BY LUCAS SOETAERT (12TH)

The homecoming court consisted of Natalie Kempel, Tess Hutter, Abby Walz, Zabelle Baron, Cassie Moses, and Avery Ahlstrand. They were escorted by their fathers during halftime, and Avery Ahlstrand was crowned Homecoming Queen.

In this year's homecoming game, the Fightin' Irish faced Logan-Rogersville. It ended in a tough 35-7 loss, with Evan Kilmer being the sole scorer. The lively Hawaiian-themed student section brought the electric energy, making this a Homecoming game to remember.



On Saturday night, the Homecoming dance took place in the high school gym. The dance, organized by students, included plenty of balloons and candy-themed decorations. The DJ contributed loud music, and created an excellent environment for students to have fun on their homecoming night.

NEW STAFF

BY LUCAS SOETAERT (12TH)

There are some new faces walking around Springfield Catholic this year! Mrs. Call teaches Chemistry I and Environmental

Science. She is a graduate student at Missouri State working on her master's in education. She is originally from Fair Grove, Missouri.

Our new vice principal, Mike Johnson, comes to SCHS from Columbia, Missouri. In addition to his vice principal duties, he works with Mrs. Randell and the House system.



Mike Johnson

Mr. Simpson is the new sophomore and junior history teacher, having originally taught in

Fr. Allen Kirchner

Carrollton, Missouri. He grew up in Springfield and graduated from Kickapoo High School. He is currently the boys' basketball coach.

Father Allen Kirchner is also taking up a teaching role this year. He was ordained in June 2020, spent two months in Jackson, and then was assigned as St. Agnes' Associate Pastor, Springfield Catholic Chaplin, and Cox Hospital Chaplin. He teaches sophomore theology alongside Mr. Wood, junior theology, and Introduction to Latin.



Serving Wins

BY PETER VILKINS (10TH)

The Springfield Catholic Girls tennis team had another solid season. The team finished with a 9-6 record and found some success in Districts with Elizabeth Tynes finishing 3rd. During the season, the team won the Kickapoo Invitational and Big 8 Conference Tournament, as well as a second-place finish at the Republic Invitational.



Martin VerSteeg, Britney Ung, Caroline Nelson, Lila Greismer, Elizabeth Tynes, Rylee Starnes, Paige Starnes, and Catherine Schmittling representing the Girls Varsity Tennis Team

When asked about how she felt about the tournament, senior Reagan West stated, "It felt really good having that stress off of us. It was really fun to come together as a team to play together one last time." Reagan has been playing golf

Going the Distance BY PETER VILKINS (10TH)

The Boys Cross-Country team was moved into Class 4 for this season. This fall, the team had solid outings at several meets, placing 3rd at Fellows Lake, 2nd at Willard, 3rd at Republic, and a 4th place at Nixa. At Districts, the team placed 13th on October 30th.

The Girls' Cross-Country team had a good season as well, placing 4th at Fellows Lake, 3rd at Republic, and 4th at Pleasant Hope. At Districts, the team placed 9th.



ing 100, 95.

representing the boys' XC team.

Football Recap BY COACH RICHARD REHAGEN

2021 was a season where a younger team faced much adversity and a very demanding schedule. The group competed hard each week and improved throughout the year. The highlight of the season was a one-point win over Mt.

Don't Worry, Tee Happy

BY MARY SHARP (10TH)

The girls' golf program has always been up to par. This season, the Irish won their third consecutive state championship, setting a state record for a two-day total, par 72 and 613. The previous record was also held by the Lady Irish at 640. Reagan Zibilski took first place, shooting a 66, 73, and Lyla Louderbaugh took third, shooting 77, 72. Kyleigh Pfitzener ranked fourth and shot 76, 78 and Celia Stiltner ranked 14th, shooting 88, 83. Reagan West followed, shoot-



The golf team after winning their third consecutive state championship.

for three years and for the Lady Irish since her sophomore year.

The Lady Irish golf team ended their season on a strong note, and hope to continue their success into the next year. In the wise words of Ariana Perches, another member of the golf team, "don't worry, tee happy."



Ethan Carroll, James Gambon, Peter Vilkins, Ben Del Vecchio, Parker Foster, and Lucas Soetaert



Alexis Ellis, Madison Szura, Mary Sharp, and Elizabeth Fairchild shown all medaling at the Republic Invitational.

Vernon in week 7. The team went on to lose 2 of their last 3 games in overtime. The losses are always tough, but it showed how much the group had improved. We will miss a good group of seniors that were good leaders and competed hard each week and returning players look forward to next year.

Without Dance, What's the Pointe? BY MARY SHARP (10TH)

Springfield Catholic's dance team, the Emerald Girls, has always been a wonderful presence at home football and basketball games. Since the beginning of football season, they have been dancing at half time. The Emerald Girls are coached by Lauren Ashley, who has gone above and beyond.

Junior Reese Whitt has been dancing with the Emerald Girls for three years. When asked about how she felt about the dance team's season so far. Reese stated. "I think we are one of the closest teams. We're friends outside of dance and I think that helps us perform really well."

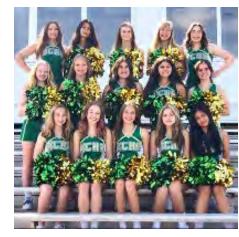
The Springfield Catholic Emerald Girls is a dynamic group, with each dancer bringing a different energy level. Sophomore Mary Wilkins noted that the team is a really great group because everyone is dedicated to striving for success and that the team chemistry is really special.



SCHS Emerald Girls

Go Irish Go!

BY MARY SHARP (10TH)



SCHS Cheer Team

Springfield Catholic's cheer team has always been a reminder of the pride that is felt around Irish athletic programs. They have always sparked excitement among students at games and shown their support for the other athletes they are cheering on.

This year, the cheer team has had a lot of success, especially at the Homecoming football game. Senior Michea Eyerman stated, "The season is going really well. Everyone gets along and it's really fun to do it, especially for senior year."

The Cheer team will continue to be a presence at basketball games and looks forward to the rest of the school year.

The Volleyball Team Continues to Serve

BY MARY SHARP (10TH)

Springfield Catholic's volleyball program has always excelled, with the team placing fourth in State last year. This year, the Lady Irish claimed their second straight District Championship, but lost to Strafford in the state quarterfinals.

The team is coached by Dan Evans, Dan Stander, and Sydney Wheeler. This year, they had a winning streak of 32 wins, 4 losses, and 1 tie.

Cherie Sabini, a senior and co-captain of the volleyball team, stated "The season has been going really well and the team chemistry we have is really special! The best part of the season has been watching the team grow together in skill and character."



Kicking it Together

BY COACH MICHAEL HINES

One component that has generated a lot of

energy for this season was the return of 11 var-

sity players, all of which had starting roles from

last season. The excitement only continued to grow after winning a tournament champion-

ship at the B. White Classic on July 16th and

All seasons have peaks and valleys that teams must navigate. The one true constant was the

leadership of Carson Morgan and Ashton Vinton

along with Keanu Baguio and Gage Vehr. This

team will be remembered for its ability to con-

nect and trust each other and know they are

better working together than doing things on

their own. The fight and drive the team showed

in the district final loss to Glendale was incredi-

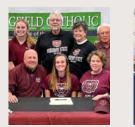
ble and will forever be remembered. The ingre-

dients that made this team great may never

come together again like it did the fall of 2021.

17th in Overland Park.

The volleyball team after winning the West Plains Showdown





	_	-
Casaundra	Moses	

BOYS BASKETBALL HIGH SCHOOL

11/23	VS	Mt. Grove
11/29-12/4	AT	Clever Invitational
12/9-11	AT	Rogers Heritage Tourney
12/14	AT	Forsyth
12/18	AT	Fulton @ Nixa
12/27-30	AT	Blue and Gold TBA
1/4	VS	Marshfield
1/7	AT	Republic
1/8	AT	SBU TBA
1/11	VS	Reeds Spring
1/17-22	AT	9th Mt Vernon Tourney
1/18	AT	Strafford
1/21	VS	Hollister
1/28	VS	Webb City
2/1	VS	Logan Rogersville
2/8	AT	Aurora
2/11	AT	Mt. Vernon
2/15	AT	Crossover
2/22	AT	East Newton

JR. HIGH BOYS BASKETBALL

1/4	VS	Buffalo	1/31	VS	Hickory Hills 7th
1/11	AT	Reeds Spring	1/31	AT	Hickory Hills 8th
1/13	VS	Seneca	2/1	VS	Aurora
1/18	VS	Mt. Vernon	2/7	AT	Cassville
1/19-22	AT	Strafford 7/8 Trny.	2/8	VS	Logan Rogersville
1/26	AT	Hollister	2/12-15	AT	Big 8 Tourney TBD
1/27	AT	Marshfield			



Congratulations D1 Athletes

Congratulations to our Fall Division 1 signees! Reagan Zibilski (Golf - University of Arkansas); Kyleigh Pfitzner (Golf - Missouri State University); Hallie Cook (Volleyball -University of North Carolina-Greensboro); and Casaundra Moses (Swim - North Carolina State University).



Kyleigh Pfitzner

THE SHAMROCK POST | PAGE 5

Hallie Cook





GIRLS BASKETBALL HIGH SCHOOL

11/19	VS	Glendale
11/29-12/4	AT	Fair Grove Trny.
12/13	AT	Parkview
12/16	VS	Strafford
12/20	VS	Central
12/27-30	AT	Pink and White Trny.
1/3	AT	Marshfield
1/6	AT	Reeds Spring
1/10	VS	Monett
1/13	VS	Aurora
1/24-29	AT	Mansfield Trny.
1/31	AT	Hollister
2/3	AT	Logan Rogersville
2/8	VS	New Covenant Academy
2/10	AT	Mt.Vernon
2/11	VS	Benton St. Joe V TBA
2/14	AT	Crossover
2/17	VS	Bolivar

JR. HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL

11/9	AT	Reeds Spring
11/11	VS	Seneca
11/15	VS	Strafford
11/16	VS	Mt.Vernon
11/18	AT	Logan Rogersville
11/22	AT	Skyline
11/29	VS	Fair Grove

11/30	AT	Marshfield
12/2	VS	Aurora
12/6	AT	Cassville
12/7	AT	Hollister
12/11-14	VS	Big 8 Tourney TBA

Check out www.SCIrish.com for up to date schedules

THE SHEPHERDS' FUND

Securing Our Future, Supporting Our Faculty



The Shepherds' Fund

is an endowment fund created and designed to provide a perpetual income stream to attract, retain, and support the best possible individuals (teachers, coaches, administrators and staff of Springfield Catholic Schools) in whose hands we entrust our children each and every school day.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the David and Stacey O'Reilly Family - Justin & Lindsay French, Matt & Ashley O'Reilly, Austin O'Reilly for your most recent donation of \$2 Million to The Shepherds' Fund. This makes our total \$4.6 million in cash and pledges!



C The tuition at Springfield Catholic Schools is stretched to its limit and we do the very best we possibly can to compensate our teachers and staff each year within the budget. But it does not allow us to be competitive in our market. The dedication and support from our staff today is incredible and they are top notch, but it is not sustainable. It is unfair to ask them to do what they do without making their compensation package more competitive. **))**

-David O'Reilly

Securing Our Future, Supporting Our Faculty



To make a gift to The Shepherds' Fund, please contact Suzanne Cronkhite at 417-865-5567 or scronkhite@scspk12.org.





"This is my fourth year working for SCS and I see first hand how hard our teachers and staff work. It's important to me and my husband to support them any way we can...especially now that our daughters are going through the system"

> -Mrs. Jennifer Weber, SCS Development Office, Parent & Alumni ('00)





CATHO



There are many people that have helped shape me over the years - family, friends, and teachers. The Springfield Catholic School System is supported by great teachers and it is critical to support them. The other person that comes to mind when I think of The Shepherds' Fund is my mom, Ann Meese. She was very passionate about supporting this fund and dedicated most of her life to the Springfield Catholic School System and wanted to do her part to make sure it was supported into the future.

-Mr. Johnny Meese, SCHS Class of 1990





"We give because we believe very strongly in Catholic education. As a former teacher, I know the challenges teachers face daily in doing their job and we are happy to help provide additional financial compensation to reward them for their dedication to our children."

-Jim & Cathy Moore



CATHO



"Please invest in The Shepherds" Fund. It's an investment in the future of Catholic school teachers and our ability to hire and maintain qualified staff. It is an excellent way to support the system for future generations."

> -Shannon Perryman, SCS 2nd grade teacher



From the Catholic Business Network of the Ozarks



The Catholic Business Network of the Ozarks is focused on establishing an energetic relationship of businesses in the Ozarks to actively network to support each other in our faith and business endeavors, and to work together to support Catholic education. As part of this effort, we are committed to supporting the Springfield Catholic School System, the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, and the Catholic Church.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PATRON OUR MEMBERS

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How the "Fightin' Irish" Tradition Began

BY SUZANNE CRONKHITE, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

I had the unique opportunity this fall to visit Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana. Since coming to Springfield Catholic Schools, I have always wondered about our mascot being the "Fightin' Irish". Some of you may not know that our mascot truly came from Notre Dame University when a priest, named Fr. James Hally, became pastor at St. Agnes in May, 1935.

Fr. Hally is credited with reestablishing a four-year high school at St. Agnes. Fr. Hally was also known for starting athletics at our schools. In fact, he started the first St. Agnes football team in 1936. They began their first season using Drury College's football uniforms (after Drury decided not to continue football). They were red and gray striped and were too big for most of the St. Agnes players, but they made them work. In fact, several times the boys' helmets were so big that they would fall off during plays and in the confusion, they were mistaken for the football.

Fr. Hally would keep St. Agnes parishioners up to date on the football team during Mass and they say, "to hear him, you would think he was talking about the other Fighting Irish in South Bend." Tragically, Fr. Hally was killed in a car-train accident on August 21, 1937. Soon after, the high school building was named Halley Hall in his memory.





Rev. James J. Hally

The Notre Dame University mascot was used as the original SCS mascot.

Sometimes our history is lost in the hustle of each day, but I thought it is always a good reminder to know how our schools began. For those of you that have not visited Notre Dame in South Bend, I encourage you to do so. The tradition, school spirit, and good sportsmanship could never be out done, and it is great to know that our high school took this as a model so many years ago.

History facts from "South of the Tracks" by Sally Lyons McAlear

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT CBNO.BIZ



1936 St. Agnes Football Team



The new SCS mascot was established in August 2019, created by Tim Bade.

the FUND for SCS 2021-2022

EDUCATING TODAY'S YOUTH

for tomorrow's discipleship.



What a challenging and incredible year the Springfield Catholic Schools system had last year!

We want to thank each of you for your support of our students and staff as we continue to navigate school through the global COVID pandemic. We are so glad to let you know that we remained open for 5-days-a-week in-person school with just one, 2-week closure at Springfield Catholic High School.

Showing S. U.L. erving Others Under Love

> Our school-year theme is "Showing SOUL — Serving Others Under Love" that is incorporated throughout our three pillars of education at Springfield Catholic Schools: Faith, Service, and Academic Excellence.

Our students are exceptional

Year after year, our students excel in academics, theater, art, music, and athletics.

They are accepted into high-quality colleges and universities. The average ACT scores of Springfield Catholic High School students top the national average year after year.



The outstanding and compassionate faculty, innovative administration, and active parental support together make the SCS experience exceptional.

Did you know?

Tuition alone does not cover the cost of educating all of our students.

- The operating revenue comes from tuition payments, parish subsidies, and fundraising.
- Donations to the Fund for SCS helps close the gap and allows us to continue to provide the highest quality Catholic education for our students.
- All parents, parishioners, and supporters of SCS are urged to contribute annually either as a one time donation or contribute on a monthly basis.

the FUND for SCS 2021-2022

The Fund for SCS provides vital operating support throughout all four of our schools: Immaculate Conception, St. Agnes, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and Springfield Catholic High School. Your gift to our Annual Fund provides an immediate and tangible impact on all of our students, faculty, and programs at every level of the Springfield Catholic Schools experience.

To make a gift, contact Suzanne Cronkhite at 417-865-5567 or email scronkhite@scspk12.org.



You can make a Difference!



How your donation to the Annual Fund supports SCS:





25% goes to the General Endowment securing the uture of SCS.



75% goes to the Operating Budge which includes: books, supplies, an supports the tier tuition schedule (Financial Assistance).



SCS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



MELISSA (BULLARD) BADE (2004)

Melissa was named a 2021 Super Lawyer Rising Star in the area Jennifer and her husband, Tom, welcomed their third child (first of family law. Rising star is a designation of top-rated practicing boy!), Duke, on May 26, 2021! He joins big sisters, Elaina and attorneys selected through extensive evaluation. Melissa is a part-Amelia. Tom and Jennifer currently live in Springfield, MO, and ner at Neale & Newman law firm in Springfield, Missouri. Congrattheir daughters are enjoying school at Immaculate Conception. ulations, Melissa!



MATTHEW MAXWELL (1991)

Matt is the General Sales Manager at Reliable Chevrolet, Infiniti of Springfield, and Elite Mercedes Benz. The company just won the prestigious Chevrolet Elite award that is only given to the top 250 dealers in the country! This award is given to the dealers that are at the top in customer service and sales! The best of the best! Congratulations, Matt!



JAKE MEESE (2000)

Jake and his wife, Sarah, welcomed their third child, Nora, on January 17, 2020! Welcome, Nora! Jake and Sarah currently reside in Imperial, MO.



PATRICIA (SNIDER) KLINE (1989)

Trish is the executive producer on a documentary film "Deliver-I Pour Life is excited to report that 1996 alum, Ben McBride, has ing Hope". It premiered in Houston, TX, on December 2, 2021, and been named the new Executive Director of the organization. sold out in two hours! The documentary will go to film festivals Since 2011, I Pour Life has been working to provide positive youth in 2022. The film documents Trish's husband's eight-day solo 300 development to local at-risk, marginalized, and foster care youth between the ages of 15 and 24. As a former prosecutor and crimmiles run across Alaska in winter to raise awareness for childhood inal defense attorney, Ben has seen the struggles of this populacancer. Trish and her husband also co-founded the non-profit Snowdrop Foundation. This Foundation provides scholarships for tion as they get caught in the cycles of abuse, neglect, poverty, college bound pediatric cancer patients and childhood cancer or substance use disorders. I Pour Life works to break those cycles survivors while raising awareness and funding for continued through its LifeStrengths coaching model. Congratulations, Ben! research to cure childhood cancer. The non-profit has donated over \$5 million to the programs with just two employees and hundreds of volunteers!



CARL WADE (1984)

Carl and Jean Wade celebrated the marriage of their oldest son, Brian, on October 23, 2021! Carl and Jean currently reside in Kansas City, MO.



SARAH (CADLE) CROSSWHITE (1998)

Congratulations to Sarah as she was recently promoted to long term care nursing home administrator for CMH Foundation in Bolivar, MO! She currently serves as the administrator of Citizens Memorial Healthcare Facility!



ALUMNI NEWS Save the Date for these upcoming Alumni Socials!

Alumni Basketball Night – Friday, February 4, 2022 All School Reunion – Saturday, September 17, 2022





JENNIFER (MAIS) WEBER (2000)



BEN MCBRIDE (1996)

Please submit your updates at SpringfieldCatholicSchools.org under the Alumni drop down.





springfield catholic schools system 2020 – 2021 Annual Report

The following Annual Report is a compilation of the major activities of the Springfield Catholic Schools System Development Office: Annual Fund, Irish Gold Cards, Emerald Evening, Irish Game Night, restricted and matched giving, and Sponsor-a-Child fund from July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. Not included in these figures are funds received at the individual parishes and funds received from the Honoring our Past... Building our Future Capital Campaign.

Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year included 379 high school students, 797 elementary students and 110 preschool students, totaling 1,286 students.

Generous subsidies from the participating parishes provide a significant portion of our budget. Tuition and fundraising all contribute to meet the System's financial needs. The quality of education we offer would simply not be possible without the blessings that come to us from the faith and generosity of our Diocese, our Parishes, our faculty/staff, our donors, and of course, our students and families. God bless everyone who helps make quality Catholic education at Springfield Catholic Schools a reality.

These figures clearly demonstrate the generosity with which we are blessed. Endowment proceeds are invested for long-range support of Springfield Catholic Schools. Proceeds from other activities are incorporated into the year following the one in which they are raised.

Annual Fund Campaign 2020 – 2021: \$160,323*

Irish Gold Cards: \$60,418*

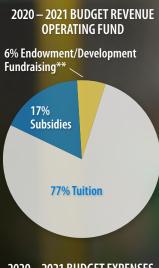
Irish Game Night: \$234,492* Emerald Evening: \$386,647* Designated Gifts: \$107,609

Total Development Revenue to Endowments from Fundraisers (includes Shepherd's Fund): \$1,345,243

For a complete listing of the SCS financials, please go to **SpringfieldCatholicSchools.org**.

*Denotes fundraisers that a percentage is designated to the endowment fund. The total of all endowment funds held in the name of Springfield Catholic Schools, including scholarship endowments, is \$18,823,656. Accountants' Compilation Report and Financial Statements reviewed by BKD, LLP.

**Does not include designated gifts, contributions to the endowment, Irish Game Night and Honoring our Past... Building our Future Capital Campaign.



2020 – 2021 BUDGET EXPENSES OPERATING FUND

1% General 2.5% Parish Administration Facility Rentals





Thank you to all of our donors, including our anonymous donors!

"Faith in action is love –

and love in action is service."

St. Teresa of Calcutta

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We apologize for any omissions.

The Magic House St. Louis Children's Museum

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"God loves those who find joy in giving. ohn Paul II



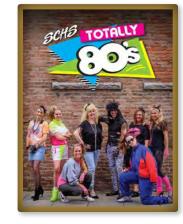
The first ever SCS Soiree was held virtually on Saturday, August 28th, via YouTube. Although we were all disappointed that we had to hold yet another virtual event, we were blown away by the amount of support the Springfield Catholic Schools community showed us. This event was originally scheduled to be in person at the Oasis, but four weeks before event date, the tough decision was made to have a virtual event due to the rising cases of COVID-19 in our community.

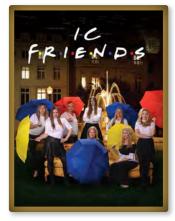
We were thrilled to announce that the event grossed \$242,000! Over \$46,000 went to The Shepherds' Fund which directly supports teacher salaries and the remaining funds go to support COVID-19 needs at all of our schools.



Congratulations to SCHS Totally 80s for taking home the trophy this year!

We are so proud of and thankful to all our teams for helping to create a very successful event.





Thank you to all our SCS family and friends who helped make this event a success! We are very grateful to our event chairs: Jennifer Corbett, Kristin McDaniel, and June Lammers. They were all amazing when we had to "pivot" to a virtual event. Also, a special thank you to Jeff Hammock.

> A special thank you to our Ring Leaders: Karen Braun (IC), Cat Wellever (St. Agnes), Ben Pomerenke (SEAS), and Anne Luzecky Harris (SCHS)!

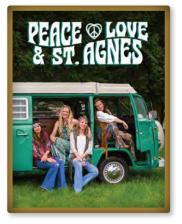
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Save the date for next year's SCS Soiree – Saturday, August 27, 2022!

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As of December, 2021, over \$57,000 was raised.