



REGIS REVIEW

A newsletter for the community of St. John Francis Regis Parish

Spring 2019

POSADA

Maria and Adolfo Martinez have a son, Miguel, attending fifth grade at St. Regis Academy. To express their appreciation and gratitude to the Regis community for his education, the family hosted a posada. A posada is a religious festival celebrated just before Christmas. It is a re-enactment of Mary and Joseph's search for lodging in Bethlehem.

On December 22nd friends, family, members of the St. Regis ESL class, and Annette Rosser joined Maria and Adolfo at St. Regis to provide music, food, and dancing. The children also enjoyed the breaking of traditional piñatas.

Thanks to all who participated. It was a blessing to everyone.



(More information about a Posada on page 7)

ESL

St. Regis hosts a class for English as a Second Language. This group meets at 6:00 on Wednesdays. If you are interested please contact Annette Rosser at (816) 516-7492.

FULL STREAM AHEAD!

by Robin Fisher, Academy Principal

It is with great excitement and a very humble heart that I share that St. Regis Academy is the recipient of a \$360,000 grant for STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics)

development during the 2019-2020 school year. This grant is a renewed and increased award from the \$127,000 grant received last year. Our donors, Mr. & Mrs. Mike Brown, believe in what we are doing here at St. Regis Academy,

they believe in our efforts and our staff, they believe in the continued support offered by our Parish and community and most importantly they believe in the impact that STREAM Education can have on our scholars. We are truly blessed to receive this generous gift and eagerly look to our future as we guide our scholars to thrive in these fields.



In accordance with the grant, you can expect to see the following enhancements to St. Regis Academy in the 2019-2020 school year:

1. A revised admissions policy including a placement test for every incoming scholar. Scores on placement exams will determine the necessity for immediate remedial assistance in all core subject areas.
2. Benchmark assessments given to scholars three times per year to determine the necessity of remedial assistance in core subject areas. (In addition to the assistance offered during the school day, remedial assistance will be offered after school and during the summer).
3. The addition of a qualified staff member to lead remedial instruction.
4. Professional Development for our qualified staff focused in the areas of Math and STREAM based Science programs including Project Gateway for our Logic School (6th-8th grade) scholars.
5. The addition of a Logic School Math teacher. Currently, Math and Science is taught by one teacher. The addition of this staff member will allow for both educators to work as masters of their subject giving full and due justice to each course and allowing for an onsite STREAM Coordinator.
6. A Math Hub will be created for scholars to receive individualized or small group instruction and tutoring.

(continue on page 7)

ST. REGIS FAMILY: A WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION

Friends in Christ,

As we embark upon the Easter Season, we remember our call to be witnesses to the many blessings God has bestowed upon St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church & Academy. One blessing I am particularly grateful for is our family spirit. We strive to welcome the stranger and people from outside our faith community.

I see this clearly displayed in our St. Regis Academy apostolate that welcomes so many families from different faith, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds to share in the many gifts God has bestowed upon us. I am grateful for our defense of human life from the unborn baby in the womb to the dignity and respect for the elderly, the immigrant and the prisoner. I am thankful for our outreach to the residents at The Village at Carroll Park nursing home and Little Sisters of the Poor through heartfelt cards, gifts and sharing graciously your time and talent. In addition, our students are blessed through the work of our catechists and teachers who seek to impart Truth, Beauty and Goodness as they pass on the treasure of our Catholic faith to the next generation. Our many visits to the homebound and those in the hospital display the face of our compassionate and merciful Savior.

The greatest gift is our faith and belief that Jesus Christ suffered and died on a Cross and three days later rose from the dead securing our salvation. As we participate in this Paschal Mystery of God's generous love, He calls us not to be merely spectators but witnesses of His Grace, Mercy and Love.

Spend some time in these days running with St. John and St. Peter to find the empty tomb and deeply reflect upon what this means for your life and mine. The empty tomb represents Christ's breaking the bonds of sin and death if we allow him into our hearts, our homes, and our workplace. I finish with an excerpt from an Ancient Homily on Holy Saturday (right side column).

Have a Blessed Easter Season! Be a Witness to the Resurrection Victory of God's amazing Love!



Fr. Sean McCaffery



I am your God, who for your sake have become your son. Out of love for you for your descendants I now by my own authority command all who are held in bondage to come forth, all who are in darkness to be enlightened, all who are sleeping to arise ... I did not create you to be held a prisoner in hell. Rise from the dead, for I am the life of the dead. Rise up, work of my hands, you who were created in my image. Rise, let us leave this place, for you are in me and I am in you; together we form only one person and we cannot be separated.

ALOHA!

The 6th Annual Luau Fundraiser is almost here. Make plans for an evening of dinner, dancing, and fun on May 4th.

The luau is the largest fundraiser for St. Regis Academy. All proceeds from this event provide scholarships for our scholars and support our ongoing transition to a Classical Academy with an emphasis on STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, and Math) education.

Be there when the recipient of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Teacher Recognition Award is announced. This year's winner will be honored for their impact on the students, parents and extended St. Regis community.

Also, Mr. John Walker will be honored with the Soar with the Eagles Legacy Award. Many know Mr. Walker for his long standing commitment and contribution to St. Regis.



Father Sean with John Walker. John is being honored this year with the Soaring with Eagles Legacy Award

We hope you will join us Saturday, May 4 from 6-10 p.m. at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic High School at 2901 NW Lee's Summit Road, Lee's Summit, MO. The evening starts with a silent auction then stay for awards, dinner, and dancing with live music.

Aloha!

Please join us for our 6th Annual Luau Fundraiser. All proceeds from this event provide scholarships for our scholars and support our on-going transition to a Classical Academy with an emphasis on STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, and Math) education. It is such an exciting time to be a St. Regis Eagle! We hope you will join us and share in the true joy that this year has brought us as we continue to form young men and women who are spiritually and academically prepared for a lifetime of discipleship.

EVENT DETAILS:
Saturday, May 4, 2019
6:00-10:00 pm
McGonigles Catered Dinner
Silent Auction, Music & Dancing!

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON TEACHER RECOGNITION AWARD:
This year's surprise recipient, has, through their godly character, knowledge, and God-given abilities, left an impact on the students, parents, and extended St. Regis community.

THE SOAR WITH THE EAGLES LEGACY AWARD: Mr. John Walker
The Soar with The Eagles Legacy Award is given in recognition of an individual, group, corporation, or institution's long standing commitment and contributions to St. Regis, for their support of the community of St. John Francis Regis Parish and/or St. Regis Academy.

Individual Ticket & Sponsorship Opportunities

Individual Spring Fling Ticket	\$50.00
Couple Ticket Special	\$80.00
The Bahama Table for 8 with Reserved Seating	\$300.00
The Oahu 8 Tickets Half Page Ad in the Auction Program Advertisement Banner for our Gymnasium	\$500.00
The Maui 8 Tickets Half Page Ad in the Auction Program Advertisement Banner for our Gymnasium Recognition at the Event	\$750.00
The Hawaii 8 tickets - Front Row Table Full Page Ad in the Auction Program Advertisement Banner for our Gymnasium Signage at the Luau Recognition at the Luau	\$1000.00

Please detach this portion of the flyer and return to St. Regis Academy with payment and the required information on the back side of this form. Thanks!

Sixth Annual LULAU

St. Regis Academy
SILENT AUCTION | DINNER & DANCING | LIVE MUSIC

Saturday, May 4, 2019

\$75,000

\$50,000

\$25,000

We are blessed to have an amazing match of \$75,000 if we reach our goal for this year's Annual Luau & Silent Auction! Even if you cannot attend the event, every little bit helps so we have included a link below to send any contribution you can muster to a great cause!

www.stregisschool.com/donate-today

ST. REGIS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

St. Regis Early Childhood Center is deeply rooted in Diocesan tradition and accomplishments. Dating back to the mid-1980s it is the very first early childhood center in the Catholic Diocese of Kansas City St. Joseph. We are also one of only three fully licensed facilities within our diocese, and one of four certified Breastfeeding Friendly Facilities in the greater metropolitan area.

In the year since I stepped in as Preschool Coordinator, the staff and I at St. Regis Academy ECC have worked diligently to create an even healthier and more creative learning environment for our enrolled students. It has always been our goal, since the inception of our Center, to educate and reach the whole child; spiritually, intellectually, personally, socially and physically. And this dedication to our goal is reflected in our Center mission statement.

Mission Statement

Recognizing the treatment of our children is a measurement of our fidelity to our Lord; our program provides families in our parish and surrounding community with a safe, diverse, and developmentally appropriate environment for their children. We know that the quality of care children receive directly impacts their lives, as well as the lives of their family. Our goal is to build a partnership with families who we serve.

Alabama principal and author Danny Steel writes “great schools are not defined by the mission statement on the wall, but by the adults in the building who are on a mission.” Not only are the staff members at the ECC dedicated to enriching and educating the students in their classrooms, but they are also dedicated to enriching and educating their own personal lives so they may be better at their own profession. Staff members attend Early Education Professional Development trainings on a regular basis to stay up to date on groundbreaking practices and approaches for the ever changing early education world.

In 2018, St. Regis Academy adopted a new and innovative curriculum called Classical Curriculum. In an academic effort to bridge our two facilities, the Early Childhood Center and Academy, the ECC began the process of implementing this new curriculum in our Preschool classrooms to supplement our current curriculum called Creative Curriculum. The children in these classrooms are experiencing lessons on ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, and the Babylons. They are experimenting in creating their own sundials, irrigation systems, as well as hieroglyphics. In addition to this new curriculum, PreK students also attend

music and gym classes, as well as weekly Mass and Latin class. Rooted in these new experiences is the study and knowledge that all things in our world are created through God’s beauty, truth, and goodness.

We are so proud of the direction our ECC is heading. The students enrolled in our center are receiving quality care and education through the love and dedication of our staff. The Academy and ECC are working to bridge our two facilities to fully prepare our students for a life of Catholic Education. We believe and are committed to the development of the whole person of the child or youth - spiritually, intellectually, personally, socially and physically.

Njugna Family

St. Regis ECC has been a blessing to our family. Since day one with our tour, they were amazing, and extremely helpful. The facility is clean, organized, and peaceful. The teachers are warm, patient, and kindhearted. We can be at ease knowing they are cared for, safe, and in a place that facilitates their future success. Our preschooler loves all the extra activities offered; from gym, music, and Latin. The tumble room is awesome and such a treat for our toddler. Thank you ECC. You truly are our ‘village’ helping us raise our children!



Hallam Family

I have been a member of the St. Regis parish my entire life. I was baptized in the Regis Parish. I attended St. Regis from Kindergarten through 8th grade, as did my siblings. Growing up at St. Regis, there was always a strong sense of community. When we were deciding where our children would attend school, I wanted them to experience the same sense of community that I had as a child at St. Regis.

Our children are growing up in an environment of Catholic faith and love. On top of the strong educational foundation they are building, they are also learning what it means to be caring of others and sharing of the gifts they were given.

With the new classical curriculum, our children are being inspired to excel through introspection and problem solving. There is less of a focus on being just good test takers and more of a focus on learning and understanding. With teachers who have really embraced the classical curriculum, the students are being encouraged to grow to their full potential and become responsible citizens of the world.

Murphy Family

“St. Regis has had a huge impact on my family’s life. For us as AJ’s parents, it gives us great



comfort and peace of mind to know that he is safe during the day; and not only is he being educated by the finest, but he’s also learning life lessons. He’s learning rules to carry him through life along with learning the importance of being a devout servant. AJ’s been a Regis student since Kindergarten and we’ve loved every moment of it! He’s a critical thinker, a mathematical wiz, he has a spiritual soul, he’s a lover of people and he has forged life-long friendships. Because he’s a Regis Scholar, he’s also had tons of opportunities that he may not have received, without the support of the Regis Staff and Faculty. These opportunities include being a Duke TIP participant, a member of Envision’s National Youth Leadership Forum and being a Hurtado Scholar. St. Regis was an ah-mazing choice for our family and we wouldn’t have it any other way!”

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM *Sponsored by FIRE*

Inclusive education schools welcome all children and accept them as active, participating members of their academic community. Children of all abilities have access to all academic and curricular activities by attending class with their age-level peers and participating in all aspects of the school day. Support is provided by teachers and staff to ensure that all scholars are able to participate and make progress academically and socially. In addition, inclusive education promotes friendships, acceptance and understanding, and social relationships among scholars.

St. Regis Academy has been blessed by the generous support of the FIRE Foundation (Friends of Inclusive Religious Education) and the St. John Francis Regis Parish as we have embarked on our first year as an inclusive school. This year we have been able to support scholars of all abilities academically, emotionally, and spiritually in order to help them be ready for discipleship. Through a grant from the FIRE Foundation, we have been able to hire an Inclusive Education Coordinator, a part-time paraprofessional, and a part-time counselor. As a result, we have been able to support scholars by providing academic instruction in and out of the classroom, teacher training, providing instruction for all 6th and 7th grade scholars in study skills, and provide resources to our families.

ST. REGIS COMMUNITY PRAYER

Almighty God, united as the people of St. John Francis Regis, we give thanks for your many blessings. Inspire us by your Spirit to be a welcoming community rooted in service to others. Guide us by your truth as we seek to spread our Catholic faith to all people. Help us to use the gifts you have given us to ease burdens, care for others, be peacemakers, share your love, and glorify your name. May we always find ways to put our faith into action so that your presence is made known to those we serve and may our parish spirit continue to grow through the intercession of our patron, St. John Francis Regis. Amen

MARCH FOR LIFE

Hundreds of thousands of people in one place at one time with one message: Abortion is wrong. On Friday, January 18th Susan Duerr, Ora Reyes, Maggie Givens, and Brooke Givens joined people from as far away as Scotland and Australia for the 46th annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.

“Every year at least half the crowd, hundreds of thousands of youth, come and stand up for life. This tells me that hearts and minds are changing and the Pro-Life Generation can and will overturn Roe V Wade,” said Susan Duerr.

The theme for this year’s event was “Unique From Day One” and speakers emphasized the value of life from the moment of conception.

More than 70 youth, adults, priests and nuns from the Kansas City-St. Joseph Diocese boarded buses very, very early the morning of January 17th and only made pit-stops before arriving Friday morning in Washington for the Youth Rally and Mass at the Capitol One Arena. The bus ride was filled with prayer, movies, games, testimonies, and even the opportunity for confession thanks in large part to Susan and Ora who served as Activity Leaders.

“It was neat to be around so many people my age who share my beliefs. This was my first pilgrimage and I hope to do it again,” said Maggie Givens.

Planning will begin soon for next year’s march and everyone is welcome.



¡PIÑATA TIME!

It was obvious that Fr. Sean (and even Deacon Ken) played significant roles in the Posada, a religious journey for a culture we are only beginning to know.

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX (Catholic Online)

What is a Posada? This is a question that a lot of people ask as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. The tradition of the Posadas was brought to Mexico from Spain in the 1500's by Catholic Missionaries. The Posadas commemorate Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a place for the Christ Child to be born.

In Spanish, the word means dwelling or lodging. The Posadas begin on December 16 for nine evenings, culminating with the Posada on December 24 and Midnight Mass.

The Posadas are not to be confused with a mere Christmas party. Instead, the Posadas should be seen as a religious event. In Catholic parishes, parishioners and anyone who wishes to join in meet at the church at a specific time during the early evening. The Posada begins with the recitation of the Holy Rosary, a very beautiful prayer to Mary, the Mother of Jesus. When a part of the Rosary is prayed by all those who have gathered for the Posada, the group begins to proceed from the church to the local neighborhood.

The Posada can be led by a small group carrying a manger scene or the Posada can become quite elaborate

with a live donkey and parishioners who are dressed like Mary and Joseph.



Families in the neighborhood are already previously selected to participate in the Posada. Usually three houses are selected where the Posada does not take place. The participants stand before the door of each house and sing a song in Spanish asking to enter the house. A small group remains inside the house telling the outside group that it is impossible to enter. Another family has been already selected to provide the Posada. The group proceeds along the street to the Posada house. Again, the Posada group sings from outside of the selected house and a small group sings the response from inside the house where the Posada will take place.

La Posada dinner, provided by the host family, includes such Hispanic dishes as tamales, menudo and pozole. Each Posada ends with the traditional piñata.

The seven corners of each piñata represents the Seven Deadly Sins. The beating of the piñata symbolizes the mortification that Christians exercise in overcoming personal sin. The candy within each piñata characterizes the sweetness of God's grace made available to us through the birth of Jesus.

FULL STREAM AHEAD

(continue from page 1)

7. Each classroom will be equipped with a push-in math station for assistance during math lessons and/or during independent practice.
8. Tutoring corners will be added to our hallways.
9. An online Math program will be purchased to supplement classroom instruction and can be utilized by scholars at school and at home.

As St. Regis Academy aims to be a STREAM Center of Excellence in the South Kansas City area this generous contribution allows us to take steps to further achieve this goal. There are truly no words to adequately express our gratitude to the Brown Family. It is my hope to show our truest thanks in the success of our scholars and the mirrored belief and support of St. Regis Academy by our community.



St. John Francis Regis
8941 James A. Reed Road
Kansas City, MO 64138
816-761-1608
stregischurch.com

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Kansas City, MO
Permit NO. 4888

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Weekend Mass

Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass

Monday 7:00 a.m.
Tuesday 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m.
Thursday 8:30 a.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m.

Confession Times

Wednesday 6:00 p.m.
Saturday 3:30 p.m.
Or by appointment.

Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament occurs every Wednesday evening from
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. with
confession and benediction.

First Friday Adoration

12-hour exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament occurs
every first Friday of the
month from 9:00 a.m. to
9:00 p.m. Friday.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8AM-4PM
Parish Office: (816) 761-1608
Emergencies: (816) 761-1608
School Office: (816) 763-5837
Religious Education:
(816) 761-1608
Early Childhood Center:
(816) 763-6566
Fax: (816) 966-1350
www.stregischurch.org

Parish Staff

Fr. Sean McCaffery,
Pastor Ext. 306

Rev. Mr. Samuel Adams,
Deacon Ext. 317

Rev. Mr. Ken Albers, *Deacon*

Robin Sowders,
Principal Ext. 312

Jim Brandon,
Maintenance Ext. 307

Diane Banks, *Music Ministry*

Susan Duerr,
School of Religion Ext. 314

Colleen Melchior,
Office Manager Ext. 301

Marilyn Moore,
School Secretary Ext. 311

Kevin Vento,
Finance Manager Ext. 302

Kaitlin O'Connor,
Director of Early Childhood

Jenifer Valenti,
Ombudsman (816) 812-2500

Kathleen Chastain,
Victim's Advocate
victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org

Parish Council

Cathy Albers
Glen Ernstmann
Deacon Ken Albers
Pat Hanson
Mike Apprill
Fr. Sean McCaffery
Anne Roberts