

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The St. Francis De Sales K-12th Religious Education program is Christ centered, discipleship focused, and love driven. Our focus is bringing Jesus Christ to each individual heart through the truth of Catholic teachings.*

FROM THE DESK OF  
KELLY HENRY

Earlier this month, my father in law sent me a video that he encouraged me to share with friends. After watching it, I ended up sharing it with all of my students. The video titled, "The Beauty of Mathematics", demonstrated a pattern behind the ability to give over 100% in life. It presented the alphabet with a corresponding number. A being 1, B being 2, and continuing on until 26. They showed the sum of the numbers corresponding to the words "knowledge" and "hard work" first. Both words totaled under %100. When adding the sum of the numbers for "attitude" and "love of God", you get 100% and then 101%. The video ended with this statement "While knowledge and hard work get you far, it is your attitude and love of God that put you over the top and allow you to give 101%". Positivity is contagious. Unfortunately, this goes the same for negativity. I pray that as we begin spring, we can start with a smile and be a beacon of joy and love for Christ.

IMPORTANT K-8  
UPCOMING DATESFIRST COMMUNION  
PLAN ONE:

- First Holy Communion Teaching Mass: April 6th, 6 p.m.
- First Holy Communion Rehearsal: April 27th, 6 p.m.
- First Holy Communion: April 30th, 10 a.m.

## PLAN TWO:

- First Holy Communion Teaching Mass: April 7th, 6 p.m.
- First Holy Communion Rehearsal: May 4th, 6 p.m.
- First Holy Communion: May 7th, 10 a.m.

### KINDERGARTEN

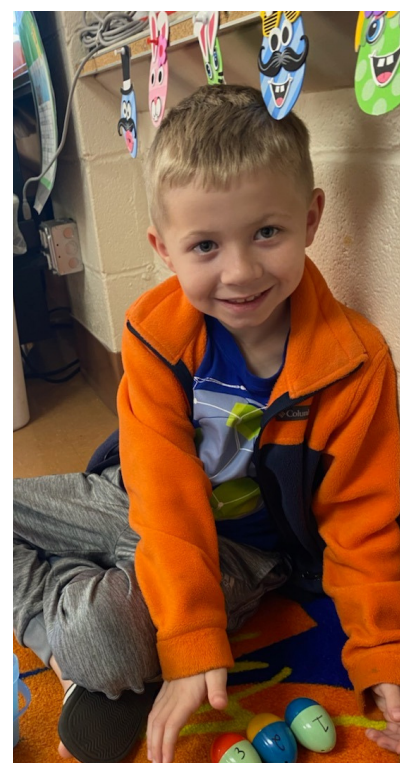
"March had a lot of content in the Kindergarten class with Lent starting and learning about Saint Patrick and Saint Joseph. But I'd say the highlight was learning more about St. Francis De Sales church building, when we took a walk all around the inside of our church and learned about the altar, the tabernacle, the statues, the hold water font, the stained-glassed windows, etc. The class was very excited about this "field trip"! A touching moment came when we were in the back of the church, looking at the Our Lady of Guadalupe statue and the kids asked if they could kneel down and pray, so they knelt down and prayed the Hail Mary. Children really do love holy things"  
-Sue Hrycyniak

### SECOND GRADE

"At class I recounted the story when Jesus was arrested. When I finished, a student raised his hand to ask: What about the ear that was cut off with the sword? Two weeks earlier I had already covered that, embellishing with Peter drawing his sword. Today I enhanced it with the JUDAS KISS, Peter's Denial of Jesus - the difference between their remorse and Judas belief that his action was not forgivable vs. Peter's remorse and Faith in GOD'S forgiveness. I thanked my student for reminding me and completed the story. What made me smile in hindsight was: when I was a very small child my mother read to me. Sometimes she wanted to speed things up and turned 2 pages instead of one. I always stopped her because I knew about her omission. I was happy to know that someone was paying attention"-  
Joanne Gasperik & Jennifer Serna

### FIRST GRADE

"We had a busy month in First grade. We began the season of Lent by brainstorming ways we could become closer to God through acts of service. Right before St. Patrick's day we learned about St. Patrick and St. Bridget. Then we learned the story of Holy Week by filling Easter eggs with props to represent the high lights of Jesus's journey from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday"  
-Abbey Rosenquist



**3RD & 4TH GRADE**

My favorite part of being with the 3rd and 4th graders was when they shared their thoughts about Jesus and faith in God. I love that while I'm teaching them, I am also learning from them :)

- Mrs. Lisa Ryan

**5TH GRADE &  
SACRAMENTAL  
CLASS**

The highlight of this month for my kids was twofold; first the children wrote their own intercessory prayers to pray together in class and then second they got to practice receiving communion both on the tongue and in the hands. A lot of coordinated effort goes into bowing, receiving and making the sign of the cross. The kids said they would like to practice at the end of every class so that they have it down for their special day, very exciting, just love the enthusiasm!- Kathleen Dobbler

**6TH-8TH GRADE**

This month we made booklets for the Stations of the Cross. We worked in groups to help one another remember the Stations of the Cross. By walking through them, we can do our best to be a witness to Christ's love for us.

- Kelly Henry





**9TH GRADE**

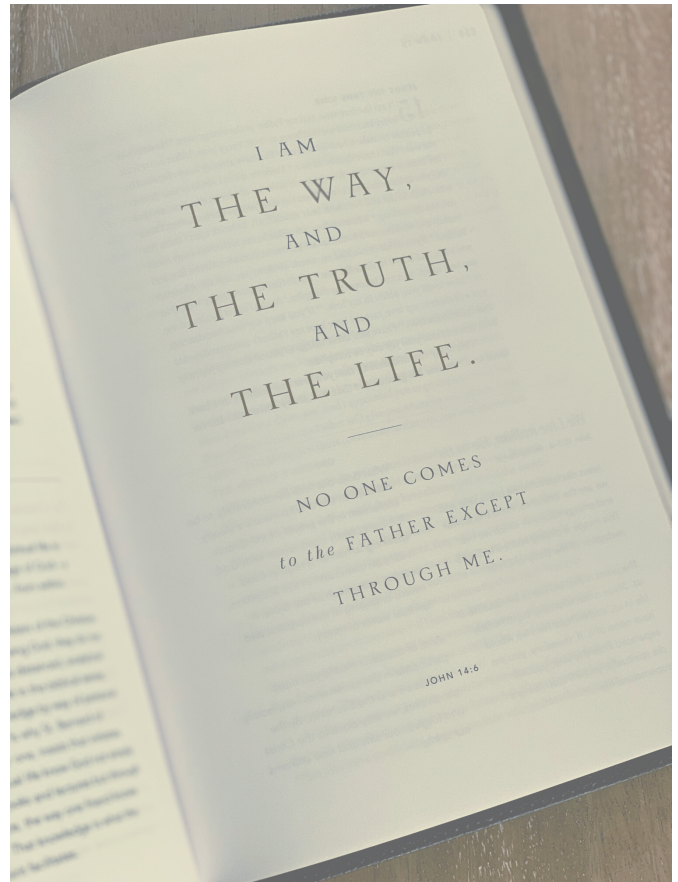
"One of my favorite times with the kids is when we looked up bible quotes to inspire us for times we need God's word in our lives and then trying hard to memorize them! Also with writing letters to Seminarians to make a connection with young men who will be serving our communities as priests. We asked questions and hope to hear back from them!" - Kathy Vorpagel

**10TH GRADE**

Our most recent class we learned about Baptism and asked students to talk with their parents and Godparents about their own baptism. Do they celebrate the day of their baptism annually? (One of our students does!) Do they still have their baptism candle? We ended class by visiting our Baptismal font and blessing ourselves to remind us of our Baptisms. - Marianne Weber & Sandra Cruz

**11TH GRADE**

Our highlight was choosing Confirmation Names and writing a paper on the chosen Saint. The paper included a brief synopsis of the life of the saint but more importantly why the students chose the saint for their Confirmation name or why they were inspired by them. We are busy getting ready for the big day!!  
- Amy & Brent Amann



**IMPORTANT  
UPCOMING  
DATES**

**CONFIRMATION  
REHEARSAL DATE:  
MAY 1ST, 6 P.M.**

**CONFIRMATION MAY  
3RD, 7 PM**