



# The Saint Teresa Times

“Pray, Serve, Learn”



VOLUME 23 ISSUE 2

APRIL 2020

## Letter from Sister Mary Cecilia

Whoever said that schools are a better place without students was never at St. Teresa's.

These past few weeks have been rather quiet in the school. The cafeteria is quiet. The gym is quiet. The third floor hallway is quiet. The classrooms are quiet. The playground is quiet.

Never would I have envisioned spending the last quarter of our school year in a distance education environment. Never. It just would never have crossed my mind. Yet, that is our current reality. Students learning at home; teachers teaching from home; the school is closed to students & parents; and we have begun to rely on cell phones, laptops, and the internet to assist us, even more than usual, in the education of the children entrusted to our care.

Ninety years ago, the doors to St. Teresa School were preparing to open for the first time. I am positive that the Sisters, when they were getting the classrooms ready for that year, did not think about how education would change over the years. Yet, some things remain the same. We have faithful families, sending their children to St. Teresa's because they truly know the value of a Catholic education. Our students are striving to grow in holiness, opening themselves up to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They increase in knowledge, in not only Language Arts (reading and writing), Math, Science and Social Studies, but they open themselves to experience God's amazing goodness in Art, Music, Physical Education, and Technology as well as explore the vast array of how we communicate with each other in social situations. Above all these, and encompassing each of them, is the increase in relationship with God, and learning more about Him and the Church that He has so graciously given us. These things have grown and changed over the years, but their goodness is still with us. Those beginning years have laid a wonderful foundation for where we are currently.

As *Gravissimum Educationis* mentions “No less than other schools does the Catholic school pursue cultural goals and the human formation of youth. But its proper function is to create for the school community a special atmosphere animated by the Gospel spirit of freedom and charity, to help youth grown according to the new creatures they were made through baptism as they develop their own personalities, and finally to order the whole of human culture to the news of salvation so that the knowledge the students gradually acquire of the world, life and man is illumined by faith.”

That is why St. Teresa School has worked hard to keep its doors open for ninety years. That's why our teachers are pouring themselves out for your children, even in this distance education situation. That's why, when we welcome them back, physically, into the building in the fall, we will have great cause for rejoicing.

May this Easter Season be one of great rejoicing for you, your family, and for the entire St. Teresa School Family.

In Christ,

Sister Mary Cecilia

## Let us pray,

*Jesus, during Your ministry on earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses. Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them. Amen.*

**THE SAINT  
TERESA TIMES**

## First Penance

Water parks and St. Teresa Church are not usually in the same thought bubble. However, there was definitely a similarity between the two on February 29<sup>th</sup>, the morning of First Penance. Can you picture the high-up gigantic buckets that are often at water parks? After slowly being filled, they dump on whoever is eagerly waiting underneath. Though in church, the second graders were like children at a waterpark, running to get underneath the enormous outpouring – the outpouring of God’s mercy. The joy witnessed that day surpassed even the thrill of a stay at *Great Wolf Lodge*.

Being that our situation has changed drastically since then, confession is not as readily or easily available as that February morning. Nonetheless, in the spirit of St. Therese, let us still give God the joy of pouring out His merciful love in our hearts. Indeed, St. Therese was like a child at a waterpark who runs to the giant bucket and stands under the abundant torrent. She wanted to be in the midst of all that goodness, right under the Lord’s waterfall. However, she was not satisfied just to run for occasional outpourings. She wanted continual outpourings – a nonstop flow of mercy from God’s heart to hers. God is not put off by our weakness; rather, He longs to draw even closer. In these times of trial, transition, unknowns, and sufferings of all sorts, may we imitate our patroness and stand under His mercy. However, confession is not as easy. Just as children begin to make their gift wish lists for their birthdays and for Christmas, in those moments when we encounter our weaknesses, let us point out to Jesus where we wish for His mercy. All it takes is the glance of your heart to the Lord, and a simple whispering, “Jesus, I trust in you.” Sr. Mary Jacinta



## Learning Continues From Home

At this time, students are completing their schoolwork from home. Books, supplemental materials, and resources have been sent home and are being returned to school electronically and through scheduled drop-off dates. Many students have participated in virtual lessons and online class discussion. Resources such as: Power School Learning, Activelylearn.com, Zoom Meeting, and Khan Academy are making this transition possible. Thank you to our supportive teachers, staff, students, and families who have helped with the transition to learning from home. Let us pray for one another.

“It is our part to offer what we can, His to finish what we cannot.” St. Jerome





**"PRAY, SERVE, LEARN"**

**"GO JAYHAWKS!!!"**

**7th Grade Girls' BB Team Members**



### Heritage School

Chances are, if you ask your students what they remember most about 4th Grade, they would say, "Going to Heritage School!" Every 4th grade student studies Nebraska History in Social Studies. The day spent at Heritage School is certainly the highlight!

Children experience a typical school day in 1892 and in doing so, will have a chance to relive Nebraska Pioneer History. Students dress in the style of clothing worn in the late 1800's. Students bring their lunch in a tin pail or basket.

The day consists of penmanship, orthography, reading, Nebraska History, arithmetic, and a spelling bee. The students also have the opportunity to help make butter and grind corn, to use a slate and chalk, and to write with a quill and ink. Unfortunately, the 4th grade classes this year were not able to attend Heritage School due to the Coronavirus. While at home, they had the opportunity to take a Virtual Field Trip to all the sites mentioned in the Little House book series. Students also continued their learning about moving West and Pioneer Life. The students have done a great job completing their log cabin diorama! It has been refreshing to hear how much they have enjoyed doing this project and to see the variation of creativity in each log cabin!

Mrs. Sullivan



### St. Teresa's Chess Club

St. Teresa of Avila—Patron Saint of Chess, Pray for Us!

"St. Teresa advised her nuns to 'checkmate the Lord...' A person who wants to play chess must do a great deal of study and then a great deal of practice to become a champion. The same is true of a person who wishes to approach God through prayer in order to receive contemplation... this King does not allow Himself to be taken except by one who surrenders wholly to Him."



Congratulations to our top 3 players in both the Open & Reserve Sections and all other players for this season.

Isaac Minchow - School Champion

Sophie Davis - Runner Up

Steven Krueger - 3rd Place

Brendan Butler - 1st Reserve

Joseph Fitzpatrick - 2nd Reserve

Isaiah Potter - 3rd Reserve

### Junior High Science Fair Award Winners



**"We are all one body in Christ!" Romans 12:5**

St. Teresa staff members uniting with a fun dress alike day.







## St. Teresa School

616 S. 36th Street

Lincoln, NE 68510

(402) 477-3358

[www.thelittleflower-lincoln.com](http://www.thelittleflower-lincoln.com)

Submissions for the newsletter:  
clarkkl@gmail.com

***We are a faith-filled Catholic community called by God to teach, nurture and guide our children to achieve their God-given potential on life's journey to heaven.***



THE SAINT TERESA TIMES

## The Domestic Church

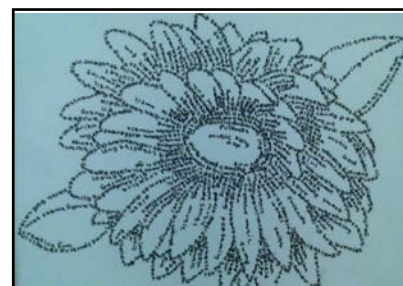
Let us order our days, such that we prioritize family prayer during this time of social distancing. Stop for the Angelus prayer midday. Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 with the Christ the King Sisters. Take a family Rosary walk in the evening. Many are adding chalk stained glass to their domestic churches and homeschools. Be Light to one another and our neighbors! Listen for the toll of the monastic bell. Place the Divine Mercy Image on your front door. "But for you, the blood will mark the houses where you are. Seeing the blood, I will pass over you." Exodus 12



## Junior High Beyond Words

By Mrs. Pokojski

The junior high completed Beyond Words, a project that at first glance appears to be a pen and ink drawing. However, each drawing is actually comprised of approximately 60 words that the student chose to describe themselves. Words often included family, faith, hobbies, favorite foods, friends, pets, etc. Students could trace a picture or create an image in free hand. Additionally, students used a variety of pens and fonts to show value and/or texture within their piece of artwork. It was worth the time to read each piece of artwork; I learned a lot about my students and got lost in their artwork and learning about them.



## Student Council Dodgeball Tournament

The family that plays and prays together, stays together!



"Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi, Lex Vivendi" As we Worship, so we Believe, so we Live