



The Saint Teresa Times

“Pray, Serve, Learn”

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 3



MAY 2021

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, SISTER MARY CECILIA, C.K.

What a year we have had! From August 17 until May 26 we have been blessed to have children in our classrooms and our teachers teaching in person. We started the year with our Jayhawk Jumpstart and Kona Ice. Our first day of school was a learning experience in how to teach in person, wearing masks and getting to know every student even when we couldn't see their beautiful smiles! We have had our 5th & 6th graders receive Confirmation. Our 2nd graders received their First Penance and First Holy Communion. We had our Walk the Little Way. The students built a 'diaper office' for me with the diapers brought in by the students. Our Preschool – First Grade teachers created a pumpkin patch for their students. We adjusted our normal traditions – our Christmas sing-a-long, Living Stations, Living Rosary – to be able to do them 'virtually' while still being able to perform them. Our Catholic Schools Week events were different, but still engaging for the students. We were able to have our spring concerts – outside – and they were beautiful! Our students were able to engage in meaningful learning within the classroom, make significant progress academically, and have learned a lot about themselves and others this year.

While no school year is perfect, and this one is far from it, the blessings from this year are what I want to hold in my heart moving forward. As this school year comes to a close, thank you for sending your children to St. Teresa School. I will continue to pray for you and your family over the summer – and look forward with joy to our 2021-2022 school year!

THANK YOU AND GOOD BYE FROM FATHER RAMINEDI

Hello Everyone! I hope everything is good with you all!

I have been reflecting on the four years of my life here at St. Teresa's. It became truly my home. I came with lot of questions on my mind, like: How are things going to be with me? Are people going to accept me? How will I be able to handle things in a different culture? And many other questions. But when I started to encounter people, all my doubts were gone. You accepted me unconditionally, as I am. The friendship of the priests, the love, support, and care they gave me made my life comfortable and pleasurable from day one. I cherished their friendship. Of course, it was the same with all the staff members of the rectory and school, and families of our parish. They are there for me always. I enjoyed my time with the children. I enjoyed the children's Masses and their singing. My class visits were amazing and sometimes thrilling; the children surprised me with their questions. I enjoyed your presence. You enriched my life in many ways. You helped me to live my vocation as a priest in a better way. Your love and support humbled me always. The list goes on and on. You will continue to be my family. I would like to thank you for all the ways you loved me and supported me all these years. Thank you very much indeed! I continue to pray for you all. Continue to remember me in your prayers.





Let us pray:

At the end of this school year we give thanks to God:

For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our school, both in and out of the classroom. For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced. For the burdens that have been lifted and the hurts that have been healed. For the respect and care that has been given. We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun and for those that have grown. For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles. Bless us as we take our break. Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Joseph, Pray for Us.

All years are memorable, but this year is one for the memory books! We did it! With the abrupt switch to remote learning last spring, many of us began the school year unsure of how long we would be in school before returning home. We began the school year in trepidation, but willing to move forward for the education, social and emotional well-being, and the spiritual growth of our children. In an elementary school setting, social distancing posed its challenges. There were many opportunities to grow in patience and virtue. And, here we are; the Lord has been with us every step of the way! There have been great challenges, sacrifices, and tremendous blessings, too. What has been confirmed is what a precious gift our faith, church family, and school community are to us. We realized that “we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.” Phil. 4:13 In this, we also learned the scriptures are indeed Living Word: “I am with you.” Matt. 28: 20, “Be not afraid!” Isaiah 41:10 and, “take courage!” Dt. 31:6-8 Thank you to the administration, teachers, staff, students, and parents for everything this year. It has been a memorable year, as well as a great blessing. Thank you, Heavenly Father and thank you all of you! The Clark Family

Congratulations Graduates



PreK-B Graduating Class of 2021



In August we were nervous about the school year. We worried we would see more disruption, more chaos. Instead, our kids have had a full year of excellent care and education from St. Teresa's School. The teachers walked through all the changes and uncertainty with tremendous grace and patience. Being back in the classroom with the thoughtful attention of these teachers has lead to a lot of growth. We are so grateful for this school year!

The Cunningham Family



8th Grade Graduating Class of 2021



Just a few Fantastic Fourth Grade happenings...

- learning all sorts of things about Nebraska
- the Newsies Concert
- I like how everyone tries to keep us safe
- Being with friends
- Going to Mass
- This year was awesome, even though wearing masks was tough
- Consecration to St. Joseph
- JA with Mr. Temme
- Heritage School
- Book reports
- Praying together
- So thankful to be together
- I really liked my teacher, she helped me through so much even with Covid



How truly blessed we are to have such dedicated school leaders and staff! At this point our family has really only suffered inconveniences during the last year and not true hardship or loss. If it were not for their tremendous sacrifice and guidance during this historic time, I do not think I could be saying that.

Although we adults had the same responsibilities to keep us focused, the same could not be said for the kiddos. Thanks for school-wide efforts, we were able to keep at least the school aspect of our lives a lot closer to normal. When you hear the news of all the schools that have closed across the country, we know we have something special here!

Karen Bentz

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!



We did it!

While on a field trip to Woods Park, some of the 5th graders created a colorful stained glass image with sidewalk chalk .

Congratulations to the students who received the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation!

First Holy Communion - April 24, 2021

Confirmation - March 27, 2021



"The Sacraments are the manifestation of the Father's tenderness and love towards each of us" ~ Pope Francis



**Cross Country-Track Season
2021 1st Place Overall**



**Saint Teresa Girls Golf
2021 2nd Place**

Saint Teresa School

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Submissions for the newsletter to:
TAEL-AA@cdolinc.net

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.

2020-2021 All School Photo



Thank you, St. Teresa's staff, for truly modeling the Catholic virtues of selflessness, compassion, and heroic trust during these past uncertain times. St. Teresa Catholic School has educated five of our six children. As parents of teenagers and young adults, we are now in a position where we can truly see the fruits of their Catholic education. Perhaps the best summary comes from our 21-year old son's recent words when asked if there is anything that would prevent him from remaining Catholic. He thought for a moment before confidently responding, "No, there is NOTHING." We keep you in our prayers and we thank you all for your many unseen sacrifices.
The Koenig Family

Music In The Air

Students made up for the restrictions in the first semester by performing in several exciting musical events this spring.



Newsies Musical Revue

4th - 8th grade students sang and danced to the music from the Disney movie and Broadway show "Newsies," in an outdoor concert that featured many students singing solos and performing high-energy dances.

Junior High Choir

After singing as a group for only two months, our students sang at an inspiring holy hour as well as the local Law Enforcement Memorial Week ceremony at the Hall of Justice.



Spring Strings Concert

The 42 students involved in our school's strings program performed a concert that included solo and chamber group pieces, plus three larger ensembles. "Fiddles On Fire," "Tango Espana," and "After Recess Blues" were all highlights.

Outdoor Praise & Worship Holy Hour

Our Kindergarten - 3rd grade students hosted a time of prayer, music, and adoration on the playground. They were excited to proclaim Jesus' kingship to the whole neighborhood, and being able to worship and pray as a school family was especially meaningful this year.



Band Concert

Band students from St. Teresa, St. Patrick, and St. John Grade Schools combined to perform a much anticipated and long awaited concert at St. Teresa School Gym in May.