



The Saint Teresa Times

“Pray, Serve, Learn”



VOLUME 25 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2022

The 3rd graders each researched a saint and dressed in costume for their annual Saint Parade in November. Members of the Student Council narrated and assisted with the parade.



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

by Mrs. Beth Ruhl

The afternoon pre-kindergarten, kindergarten classes, and the second grade classes attend Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) weekly during the school day. Originally started in Rome over 60 years ago, CGS is based on the belief that the child is already in relationship with God. The room prepared for the children is called the atrium. Each week, the children hear a presentation from the Bible or Liturgy expressed in ways that lead to silence and study, contemplation, and prayer. Each presentation is accompanied by physical materials to help the child further contemplate. The children are given time to work

with the materials of their choice.

The beginning of the year focused on presentations of Practical Life - parents may have heard their child discussing pouring beans or water, grating soap, or polishing metal. These activities allow the child to calm and focus. This ability is essential for the child to develop a capacity for prayer and contemplation. The disposition learned in these activities will aid in the future scriptural and liturgical presentations. Introductory liturgical works for the pre-K and Kindergarten included preparing a child-size altar, and learning about vestments in the four main liturgical colors, and the gesture of Epiclesis. These works are accompanied by songs that engage the children and were often reported to be sung spontaneously during the rest of the school day and at home!

During Advent, the children reflect on waiting, as people did for hundreds of years before Christ, and heard the words of the prophets. They wondered who the promised Savior would be. The children listen and wonder about the events of the Annunciation and Visitation. During Christmastime, the children wonder about the birth of Christ and adoration of the shepherds, the visit of the Magi, the Presentation

in the Temple, and the Flight to Egypt. During Ordinary Time, the parables of the Kingdom of God – the Mustard Seed, the Precious Pearl, and the Leaven are presented. For the younger children, the parables of the Good Shepherd are central. Most importantly, the work of the atrium aids in the child learning the love God has for him or her - and growing in his or her relationship with Him.



Early in the fall, a rambunctious kindergartener told Sister Mary Chiara a “toilet” themed joke at recess. After a couple of experiences of CGS, he approached Sister and wanted to sing songs from the atrium to her. We pray for Christ to work more transformations in the hearts of these little ones through their time in the atrium and in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.





Fr. Samuel Beardslee writes the Epiphany blessing above the 2nd grade classroom door on January 6.

Jayhawk Introduction

My name is Rochelle Senkbeil, and I am delighted to be part of the Saint Teresa's school family! I recently retired from LPS where I taught for 32 years. I am very excited to stay green and growing as I work with students and staff in this new journey. I have a wonderful husband and daughter, and we are in the beginning stages of wedding planning as she recently got engaged. Spending time with family and friends is one of my most cherished pastimes and being outdoors is an added bonus. When I have free time, you will find me reading, gardening, golfing, or out walking. I am so happy that spring is almost here!



Illuminated Gospels

by Mrs. Susan Pepino

Books are everywhere. They are relatively inexpensive and we take them for granted. That, of course, wasn't always the case. In the library, the 5th grade explored how books used to be made. Books were expensive and, for most people, rare. In ancient times, from roughly 3000 BC to the 4th century AD, papyrus was the predominate paper. It was often put together in scrolls and the scribes who copied works of literature or philosophy—or the bible -- had to be skilled. For our exploration, we created "papyrus" from paper lunch sacks and a glue/water mix (due to a fortuitous mix-up in supplies, the 5th grade ended up with a lot of glue). After the "papyrus" dried, the kids used markers to copy a portion of Luke's gospel and to



create images on the paper in order to create illuminated pages. It was a delight to see the 5th graders at work. They practiced and planned what they were going to make and did an excellent job!

Heritage School

by Mrs. Shelly Sullivan

Although the 4th grade class was not able to attend Heritage School in person, the students did experience a day in the life of a Pioneer Child in 1892. School room activities included penmanship, orthography, math, history, and reading out of the McGuffey Readers. The students used ink and quill, chalk and slates. They experienced grinding coffee and churning butter, with a real grinder and butter churn! We played games like Find the Thimble, Drop the Hankie, and enjoyed our 1892 lunch in the classroom. Our day ended with a Spelling Bee! Everyone will agree that it was a wonderful day!



On January 19th, members of the Lincoln Stars Hockey team visited our afternoon 3rd and 5th grade PE classes as part of their hockey unit.



4th Grade Performs at Quilt Museum

The 4th grade class were featured singers on a collaborative Christmas piece with Coro di Flauti – a Lincoln-based flute choir of which past band teacher Karen Murphy was a founding member. The concert was held on December 3rd at the Quilt Museum, and over 300 people were in attendance! The students sang “Lovely Child, Holy Child” and played handbells with the 20+ member flute choir. The concert received rave reviews and the children sang beautifully!



5th Grade Sings at Rotary Club Awards

On October 26, TMCO – a local business who has had long-standing ties to St. Teresa School – received the Lincoln Rotary Club Business-of-the-Year Award. St. Teresa’s 5th graders were invited to attend the award ceremony luncheon to sing the National Anthem and another patriotic song. They did a great job performing at the Cornhusker Hotel in front of a large crowd. They represented our school well and it was also fun for them to tour the hotel and be treated to a catered lunch!



5th-8th Grade Band Concert

St. Teresa band teacher Mr. John Kosch conducts 6th-8th graders in the Advanced Band at their December concert at Pius X while the 5th grade Beginning Band looks on.

5th-8th Grade Christmas Program

Students line the aisles and sing by candlelight at the December concert (top right). The advanced strings ensemble plays under the direction of Mrs. Terri Schilmoeller (bottom right).



Junior High Honor Choir

On November 12, St. Teresa School brought thirty-five 7th and 8th graders to Pius Honor Choir. Students spent the day at Pius High School with choral teachers, Shani Sorenson and Todd Krier. They attended Mass, saw Pius choirs perform, and learned music for a live-streamed performance of their own. It was a great opportunity to meet kids from other schools, meet their future choir teachers, and spend a day at the high school most of them will attend.

by Mrs. Terri Schilmoeller



Above: Girls Cross Country

Below: Boys Cross Country



Above: 8th Grade Volleyball

Below: 7th Grade Volleyball



Above: 8th Grade Basketball

Below: 7th Grade Basketball

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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.

