

Shamrocks & Shenanigans

Pacelli Catholic Schools Newsletter

March 2017

Winter Gala Honors Catholic Education in Austin Community



Five individuals were commended for their commitment to and benefit from a Catholic education on Saturday, February 27 with an evening of stories and accolades at the Four Daughters Vineyard & Winery. In recognition and celebration of achievements and contributions that have made a meaningful difference in the world, Daniel O. Adams, Scott Bissen and Michelle Morey, and Mike and Kitty Garry were honored.

Dan Adams, Pacelli Class of 1967 was born and raised on a farm just southeast of the Austin airport. He attended Queen of Angels Grade School and graduated from Pacelli High School. Dan graduated from Austin Jr College and the University of MN Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering in

1971. Dan shared at the Gala that you have to “change with the times” to keep one’s work current. Dan began his career designing gas and diesels engines for eight years at Onan Corp. In Fridley, MN. He then became Project Manager for photographic processing equipment for four years at PAKO Corp in Golden Valley, MN. As the world of film became replaced by digital technology, Dan moved on to become Manager, Director and Vice President of SiMed /Boston Scientific Inc. Cardiology Research and Product Development for seventeen years in Maple Grove, MN. The company grew from eight million in sales of Membrane Oxygenators to over one billion in sales of Angioplasty Balloon Catheters, Stents and Ancillary Equipment by 2000. Dan’s career continued as Vice President of

Research and Development of Cardiology Products for three years at EV-3 Inc. in Plymouth, MN and then as Independent Consultant to St Jude Medical divisions on Patent generation. Dan is the inventor of sixty-six U.S. Patents, all but one related to Medical Devices including balloon catheters, stents, embolic protection filters, inflation devices, vascular grafts, occlusion devices, drug delivery, spinal disk reconstruction, guide catheters and guide wires. Dan is married to wife, Sue, with a son (Ben -Atlanta) and daughter (Jessica- San Francisco) and two grandchildren. Hobbies include boating, fishing, guitar and banjo, golf, and motorcycling. Dan is currently retired and enjoying winters in Florida.

Honorees

Continues on Pg. 7

PACELLI UPDATE



*Jean McDermott
Pacelli Catholic
Schools Principal*

Dear Families and Friends,

This week we began our Lenten journey with the celebration of Mass and receiving of ashes at our All-School Mass celebration on Ash Wednesday. Together with your children we will journey through these forty days leading to Easter. Life is a journey to God. Sometimes we get lost. We need a compass to help us find our way back. Lent is a time we can reset our

compass and get back on track. Through prayer, acts of penance (the students are quick to share what they have chosen to give up for Lent!), and acts of love and service we can use these forty days of Lent to find our way back to Jesus Christ.

All of our kindergarten through grade twelve students had the opportunity to see Frank Runyeon, television and emmy-winning actor, on March 2 in performances that helped us understand more about finding our way back to God. Our elementary students attended a comedy for kids called Salt & Light. Ask your children how they can be "salt for the earth" and a "light to show the way to good." You may want to hear more about the evil queen and the twirling dancing

girl, too!

Middle school and high school students attended a performance called Hollywood vs. Faith. While we have all heard the eight beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount, there are three additional beatitudes of our consumer-driven culture that often contradict those from the gospel. This would be a great discussion starter with your young adult.

Have a blessed Lenten season.

Yours in Christ,
Jean McDermott
Interim President/Elementary Principal

Pacelli's Teacher of the Year Announced!

Stephanie writes, "I first met Linda Pulchinski as a fifth grader at Queens middle school. She was my homeroom advisor and history teacher. When I was younger I was very shy and the thought of going to big kid middle school was terrifying. But that fear was quickly squashed by Mrs. P (I assume the kids still call her that!) who didn't give any of us time to worry or be afraid. She was tough -- still one of the toughest teachers I've ever had -- but she not only kept us in line and taught us our school subjects, she also taught us how to be smart, savvy, polite individuals. Throughout the years I think I took everything from English to geography with Mrs. P. She taught me how to be a critical thinker and to always want to learn. I specifically remember her teaching my class how to write a proper essay. That skill alone got me through four years of being an English major in college. In fact, it was her way of always

presenting students with new obstacles that she knew would challenge and teach us that led me to have the confidence to go after everything I've wanted later in my life and career. The Pacelli family can't even begin to see how lucky they are to have an educator like Linda Pulchinski. She is a kind, smart human being who cares very much about giving her students the skills they need to advance in their education, and, even more importantly, she cares about her students as people and treats them with mutual respect. And believe me, her lessons stick with you long after you leave the halls of Pacelli. I doubt there are many teachers whose words of wit and wisdom still ring clear in their student's minds like Mrs. P's can. She was one of my first mentors, and not just a "teacher of the year," but a teacher of a lifetime."



Catholics at the Capital

Dear Pacelli Parents and Guardians,

On March 9th, I had the pleasure of attending “Catholics at the Capitol” in St. Paul with four of our high school students and a Pacelli parent. We were six of over 1,000 Minnesota Catholics at the event, and to say this day was inspiring and powerful would be an understatement!

Bishops, priests, religious men and women, Catholic school students, teachers, and Catholic citizens from around the state gathered to learn more about the issues that most threaten our morals, and learn how we can be advocates with our lawmakers. Our group had meetings scheduled with Senator Dan Sparks, Rep. Peggy Bennett, and Rep. Jeanne Poppe to ask for their support or opposition to three major issues.

I am calling on your help with one bill that could remove the financial barriers of attending Pacelli Catholic Schools. This could dramatically impact many of you!

WHAT is this bill?

The “Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credits” bill creates tax credits for businesses and individuals that donate to scholarship granting organizations. Basically, it is an added incentive for organizations and individuals to put their donations toward a scholarship program. These scholarships would then be available for low- and middle-income students (income up to \$89,000 for a family of 4 would qualify) to use toward tuition at Pacelli! It also creates a refundable tax credit for low-income families to apply toward tuition at Pacelli!



WHY should you support this bill?

Pacelli no longer has the funds to offer Financial Aid to our families. Over half of our families qualify for free/reduced lunch, making it nearly impossible to afford tuition. Parents should have the opportunity to choose a school where their child can thrive, and should not be limited by their income.

HOW can you help?

Call or email our MN legislators and ask them to support the “Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credits” Bill:

Representative Jeanne Poppe:
(651)296-4193
rep.jeanne.poppe@house.mn

Senator Dan Sparks:
(651)296-9248
sen.dan.sparks@senate.mn

This bill made it to the Governor’s desk last year, but was not approved by him. Please be sure to also let him know you would like his support this year!

Governor Mark Dayton:
(651)201-3400
To Email: <http://mn.gov/governor/contact-us/form/>

If Pacelli high school students were able to advocate for YOU at Catholics at the Capitol, please help us advocate for all families, regardless of their income, to have choice in their children’s education!

Thank you for being part of the Mission of Pacelli Catholic Schools: to establish in our children a lifelong foundation grounded in Christ’s love, faith in God, service to community, and academic achievement. Call, email, or stop in anytime. You can find me in the High School Office.

Blessings,
Mrs. Laura Marreel
Pacelli Catholic Schools
Middle/High School Principal
lmarreel@pacellischools.org
507-437-3278

More photos on next page.



Pacelli students share love at student-planned Valentine's Day nursing home social



Students smile after an enjoyable afternoon with the residents of St. Mark's.
 Front: (L to R): Melany Rosas, Evelyn Serrano, Iris Saenz
 Back: (L to R): Fernando de la Cruz, Getsemani Ramirez, Ed Dreyer, Pal Koak, Hope Rose Spear, Marissa McConnell, Emily Rosenthal

By: Elly Benin

Austin, MN -- While many individuals think of Valentine's Day as another Hallmark holiday and rush to purchase their romantic interests chocolates and roses, students at Pacelli Catholic Schools took a different approach to love on February 11th: willing the good of another and making a sincere gift of oneself toward the elderly in the community. Amidst the jobs, sports, and other activities high school students are involved in, Pacelli students planned every aspect of a nursing home social in which they spent quality time with the residents of St. Mark's Living in conversations, bingo games, and little acts of service.

The idea for the nursing home social



Abigail Bollingberg enjoys a quality conversation with several residents at the Valentine's nursing home social.

originated with a challenge I, as their theology teacher, issued to students the previous academic year: to find a meaningful way to share the love of Christ with others through service in the community. This challenge was re-

issued to the students preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation this year. While students remained free to choose the type of service project they needed to do in order to fulfill requirements leading up to the reception of the sacrament, the majority of them opted to work together to put together this social.

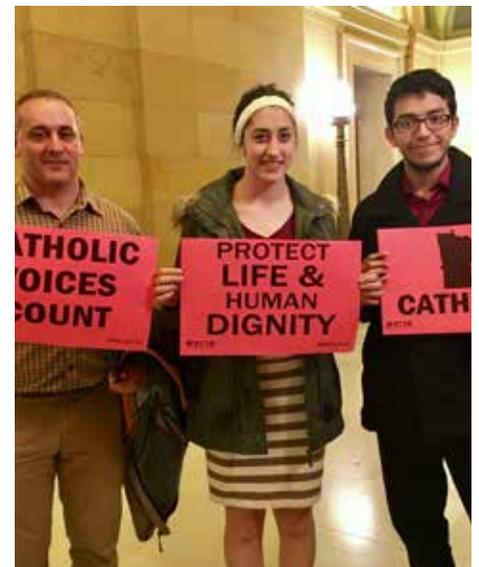
I desired them to see this as an opportunity to challenge themselves, to share joy with others, to find ways to step out of their comfort zones, and to hone some leadership skills by taking initiative. Their faith should be something that is lived beyond their trips to Church on Sundays; the good they do should not simply be done out of requirement but because it is good in and of itself and also because of their love for God and neighbor.

Some acts of love remained hidden from the residents: some students assisted in

Hope Rose Spear shares a laugh with a resident of St. Mark's while playing a round of Bingo.



Catholics at the Capital - Photos Cont.



Valentine's Day - Cont.



Students await the arrival of the residents of St. Mark's. Left to Right: Getsemani Ramirez, Melany Rosas, Iris Saenz, Marissa McConnell, Ed Dreyer, Hope Rose Spear, Kayla Christopherson, Abigail Bollingberg

setting up for the social despite being unable to attend due to other obligations while other students switched work shifts just so they could spend a little time with the residents before having to return to work. Some acts of love required the students to challenge themselves to get out of their comfort zone. A number of students had to face their anxieties about approaching a stranger and starting a conversation having no idea how he or she might respond. Sophomore, Myra Kraemer, quickly realized upon speaking with the residents, "just because the people are older than us, they aren't that different from us. I enjoyed seeing their joy over little things like bingo, prizes, and food. It taught me that projects don't have to be a lot of work to bring people a lot of joy." It did not take long for the

rest of the students to make connections, share hearty laughs, and even learn words of wisdom from their elders despite some initial shyness.

Pal Koak, a sophomore at Pacelli, commented regarding his experiences, "I enjoyed most about the Valentine's nursing home social talking to people older than [I]." He had been given some life advice by a Korean War veteran to "be kind to others and treat them as you'd like to be treated."

The event became so popular this year among the residents that the staff at St. Mark's had to set up additional seating! Many residents left smiling and some even lingered as the students began to take down decorations.



Pacelli students meet the night before to decorate for the Valentine's nursing home social.

HONOR BAND



This year's honor band event was another big success!! 31 area schools were represented, with Pacelli joining for the second year. These three students were nominated by their Pacelli band teacher, Holly Dalager: Avari Drennan, Clarinet; Ashley Mazariegos, Flute; and Nathan Schmidt, Alto Saxophone. They were part of the 5-6 Grade Band.

Everyone had a great day, and the concert at 5:00 was amazing to hear -- such beautiful music from these young kids!! Pacelli can be very proud of their talented and hard-working students!



STUDENTS *of the* MONTH



March

Kindergarten

Atong Achuoth
Ryder Hastings

1st

Misael Hernandez
Nathalie Daza
Emerei Bartlett
Jake Kiker
Elliott Cich

2nd :

Kam Lundberg
Alec Klingfus

3rd

Tommy Marreel
Diana Raya

4th

Nathan Olok

5th

Cassidy Miller
Calvin Nuss

6th:

Manuel Contreras
Othello Stone

7th:

Moses Jacob

8th:

Mariah Miller

9th:

William Kahle
Carter King
Melany Rosas

10th:

Pal Koak
Marissa McConnell

11th:

Ding Zhang
Shane DeSilva
Erika Ohki

12th:

Jacob Paul
Carlota Gonzalez





*Chelsea Brolsma
Pacelli Catholic
Schools Assistant
Athletic Director*



When people think of March, they usually think of “March Madness” and college basketball. March Madness is not reserved for just college sports however. Our high school athletes work hard to make it to March Madness. Subsections for the girls start the 21st of February and continue through until the Section finals on the 10th of March. The boys start subsections the 28th of February and run until the Section finals on March 16th. We sometimes forget that these athletes start practice back in November and have been working consistently for the past four months. So it truly is madness as they push themselves for months.

Not only do our winter athletes push themselves but all of our athletes work hard during the season and in the off season. We have multiple students everyday working in the weightroom and running the halls to be prepared and ready to start their sports. Sometimes the students don’t play a sport and are just staying in shape. These students are setting great examples for our younger athletes and visitors who come to our

school.

The term “March Madness” may define just one season but it can be expanded to show what our athletes go through each day. Whether they are playing a sport or working hard in the classroom, the student-athletes are pushing themselves to be their best everyday.

Honorees

Continued from Pg. 1

Scott Bissen, Pacelli Class of 1984, was born and raised in Austin, attended Queen of Angels Grade School and graduated from Pacelli High School. Scott and his wife, Michelle Morey founded the Pay It Forward Fund in 2005. According to their website, the Pay It Forward Fund was founded by Michelle Morey, a breast cancer survivor, and her husband, Scott as they realized the difficulty many women having maintaining essential living expenses when they are dealing with cancer treatment. At the end of Morey’s cancer treatment, she and her husband, Scott Bissen, began donating money to North Memorial Medical Center in Robbinsdale to help other cancer patients pay their bills. Some of the money went to turn a patient’s water back on, which also kept the woman’s children out of foster care. Ever since their first donation was used to turn a patient’s water back on, they have been passionate about helping other women who are undergoing cancer treatment. Since then, the fund has helped patients buy groceries, pay their mortgages, heat their homes, keep their lights and water on, and repair their cars so they can drive

to chemo. For hundreds of women in need, these gifts have made a difference at a time of crisis. It’s difficult for women to ask for help or even accept help when it’s offered. However, if a patient knows that they will someday “pay it forward” by helping another woman going through treatment, it enables them to accept the help that they need. Some recipients have paid it forward by donating to the fund, while others do so in more tangible ways like offering rides, preparing meals, volunteering to help with childcare, or making phone calls and sending cards to show their support. Now in its 12th year, Pay It Forward works with thirteen metro hospitals and has paid \$1.9 million in patient expenses. More information can be found on the Pay It Forward Fund website at <http://www.payitforwardfund.net/>

Unlike the first two honorees, Mike and Kitty Garry did not attend Catholic Schools, however they have been strong supporters of Austin Catholic Schools for over forty years. According to Jim Parlin, who nominated the Garrys for this recognition, “The Garrys have given of themselves to Pacelli for many years. They sent all of their children through the Catholic school system. They were

very visible supporters of their children at Pacelli events including athletics, theater performances and more. Mike and Kitty have been at all our fundraisers and promotional events over the years. They also operated a printing business out of their home and were always willing to print brochures, raffle tickets, school stationery and many other things when needed. Kitty was the Catholic elementary school physical education teacher for many years. She had a great influence on my own children and so many others over the years as a promoter a good physical health. I had the good fortune of coaching several of their kids over the years that they attended Pacelli. Mike and Kitty were the kind of parents that took a strong interest in their kids’ success without being pushy or overbearing. I can not think of any family that has done more to represent Pacelli and the values that Pacelli promotes.”

Congratulations to all our honorees! It is fulfilling to see the powerful and far reaching impact of Pacelli Schools as witnessed through the lives of these honorees.

JASON GLASER KEEPS THE HIGH SCHOOL ON THEIR TOES

Mrs. Linda Pulchinski

On Monday, February 27, the high school students were given the wonderful opportunity of spending their afternoon with author Jason Glaser. He kept the students' attention with his enthusiasm as he was speaking to them about writing. His examples and explanations added a lot of interest to the presentation. Abigail Bollingberg stated, "I like how he let us do activities. He expanded what he did in writing and then had us try in a simpler way so that we would understand."

Two of the activities which Mr. Glaser had the students participate in were "Two Truths, One Lie" in which they wrote two statements about themselves that were true and one statement that was a lie. It was very interesting to watch the students really think about what they would write to trip up their tablemates. It also gave them all the opportunity to share truths about themselves the other students might not have known. Another activity was "Would You Rather..." which put them in a situation which seemed simple at first, but turned into a real thought-filled challenge. Kamis Kuku explained, "My favorite part from Mr. Glaser's presentation was when he started using the "would you rather" examples and incorporated them with other writers and leading into superpowers and superheroes." Mason Holtorf shared, "He made me realize that writing a story can be fun but also challenging. He may have helped me with "lying" too; but not that I would ever lie, of course."

All in all, Monday afternoon proved to be very productive. All the teachers and students would like to extend a sincere "thank you" to the Pacelli PTCA for all the hard work put into Readathon Week.

Flurry Photos!

The Lyle-Pacelli Flurry Court of 2017 was made up of the following students from Pacelli; Rayvik Spear, Mason Holtorf, Patrick Murphy and King Jacob Paul, Sarai Sorela, Ameri Garcia, Katelyn Hansen and Queen Daisy Hernandez. The highlight of this week is on Friday when Lyle High School students join Pacelli High School students here for an afternoon of games and high jinks. With games of charades, relay races, a dunk contest (Kayla Christopherson was the winner) and minute to win it games, the Junior Class of 2018 was declared the champion.



Top: Francisco Rosas as a waiter with a ping pong ball.

Below Left: The Lyle Pacelli Flurry Court and Master of Ceremony Francisco Rosas before Coronation

Below Right: Katelyn Hansen and Ameri Garcia smile for the camera.

Bottom: Nyagoo Paul and Lyle student Caleb try to get legos out of jello in a minute to win it game.



Breakfast Menu for March 2017

Pacelli Catholic Schools

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday, March 1 | Thursday, March 2 | Friday, March 3 |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| | | Ultimate Breakfast Bar Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Breakfast Pizza Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Cinnamon Roll String Cheese Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk |
| Monday, February 6 | Tuesday, March 7 | Wednesday, March 8 | Thursday, March 9 | Friday, March 10 |
| Waffles String Cheese Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Muffin String Cheese Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Fruitel Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Egg Sandwich Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Pancakes Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk |
| Monday, March 13 | Tuesday, March 14 | Wednesday, March 15 | Thursday, March 16 | Friday, March 17 |
| No School | No School | No School | No School | No School |
| Monday, March 20 | Tuesday, March 21 | Wednesday, March 22 | Thursday, March 23 | Friday, March 24 |
| Cereal String Cheese Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Yogurt & Granola Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Ultimate Breakfast Bar Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Bagel Bar Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | French Toast Sticks Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk |
| Monday, March 27 | Tuesday, March 28 | Wednesday, March 29 | Thursday, March 30 | Friday, March 31 |
| Waffles String Cheese Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Muffins String Cheese Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Fruitel Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Egg Sandwich Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk | Pancakes Fruit Cups/Fresh Fruit Juice Milk |

Breakfast is served
everyday from
7:15-8:00am in the
cafeteria

Cost \$1.50

Students who have been
approved for
Free/Reduced will NOT
be charged.

The State of Minnesota
also currently offers
breakfast at
NO CHARGE
to Kindergarten students.

Join Your Child for Lunch!

We invite you to join us anytime for a meal, this is a great way to meet your children's friends, other parents, and encourage healthy eating habits!

Adult meals \$3.60, this charge can be applied to your family account.

Class room lunch times:

Shamrock Zone/Pre School 11:00

Kindergarten 11:10

1st Grade 11:20

Second Grade 11:35

Third Grade 11:40

Fourth Grade 11:45

Fifth Grade 11:50

Middle School 12:00

High School 12:20

Lunch Menu for March 2017

Pacelli Catholic Schools

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday March 1 | Thursday, March 2 | Friday, March 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Option B Lunch- Peanut Butter and Jelly with sides. | Fresh Veggies to include: Carrots, Celery, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Cucumbers, Squash, Tomatoes, Spinach, Romaine, Zucchini, Green Peppers. *Varies Daily * Served with Hummus | Corn Dogs Scalloped Potatoes Fresh Veggies Fruit Cocktail Milk | Crispito's Rice & Beans Fresh Veggies Applesauce Milk | Cheese Pizza Cooked Carrots Romaine/Tomatoes Apples Milk |
| Monday, March 6 | Tuesday, March 7 | Wednesday, March 8 | Thursday, March 9 | Friday, March 10 |
| Chicken Nuggets Green Beans Fresh Veggies Peaches Milk | Cheeseburgers Baked Beans Pears Fresh Veggies Milk | Chicken Fajita's Black Beans Fruit Cocktail Peppers & Onions Milk | Pulled Pork Sandwich Smiley Fries Apple Sauce Fresh Veggies Milk | Fish Sandwich Tri Tater Romaine/Tomatoes Apples Milk |
| Monday, March 13 | Tuesday, March 14 | Wednesday, March 15 | Thursday, March 16 | Friday, March 17 |
| No School | No School | No School | No School | No School |
| Monday, March 20 | Tuesday, March 21 | Wednesday, March 22 | Thursday, March 23 | Friday, March 24 |
| Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Peaches Fresh Veggies Dinner Roll Milk | Hot Dogs Sun Chips Baked Beans Pears Fresh Veggies Milk | Grilled Chicken Rice Pilaf Green Beans Fruit Cocktail Fresh Veggies Milk | Turkey over Mashed Potatoes Apple Sauce Fresh Veggies Dinner Roll Milk | Quesadillas Romaine/Tomato's Apples Refried Beans Milk |
| Monday, March 27 | Tuesday, March 28 | Wednesday, March 29 | Thursday, March 30 | Friday, March 31 |
| Meatloaf Corn Peaches Fresh Veggies Dinner Roll Milk | Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Pears Fresh Veggies Milk | Turkey Mashed Potatoes Fruit Cocktail Fresh Veggies Dinner Roll Milk | Sloppy Joes Tater Tots Apple Sauce Fresh Veggies Milk | Maxi Sticks with Sauce Green Beans Romaine/Tomato's Apples Milk |