

# Good News <sup>2013</sup> *Spring*

Salem Catholic Schools Foundation



Queen of Peace students Zach Gander (4th grade), Nick Unger (4th grade) & Dane Hayase (kindergarten) at All Schools Mass on May 1.

# Good News

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Foundation

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2009 State St.  
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## *President's Message*



**Kevin L. Mannix,**  
President

We should all reflect on how we affect other people when we put in some extra effort to support Catholic education. Let me give an example: a short while back, I met with a woman who is very involved in supporting St. Vincent de Paul parish and its school. She reminded me that she was in the sixth grade at St. Vincent de Paul School back in 1984, when Sacred Heart Mid-High and High School closed. She was able to continue her schooling at a Catholic mid-high because St. Joseph School, with the help of the Salem Catholic Schools Foundation, opened up a community mid-high in the fall of 1984. I happened to be Chairman of the St. Joseph School Board at the time.

Now, this woman, remembering her wonderful experience in Catholic education, is actively engaged in supporting that system and has two children at St. Vincent de Paul School. One of those children will go on to Blanchet Catholic School for seventh grade this fall.

Let me give another example: in this edition of the Good News, you will read about Paul Kennedy, who attended St. Vincent de Paul School and graduated from Serra Catholic High School in 1959. He went on to college at Oregon State University and then became a banker. He and his wife have done well, and they both fondly recall how they benefitted from Catholic education. The Kennedys have now included the Salem Catholic Schools Foundation in their wills, so future generations can continue to benefit from Catholic education in the Salem area.

Please take a moment to reflect on how Catholic education makes such a big difference in our community. Then, do what you can to help a particular school or to help all of the schools through the Salem Catholic Schools Foundation. This is how we all can continue to make a difference for future generations.



Kevin L. Mannix  
President

# Queen of Peace School

Debilyn Janota, Principal

## *Fine Arts Focus*



Students at Queen of Peace let their voices sing with praise for our country in this year's spring concert on May 5. The theme was God Bless America. From the beginning strains of "The Star Spangled Banner" to the ending notes of "God Bless the USA", the audience was awed by the sense of patriotism in the air. Susan Wiley joined the school staff this year and has taken the music program in many new directions. Recorder, tambourines, boomwhackers, drums, castanets, and xylophones were played with skill and enthusiasm.

It was with great pride that the evening ended with recognition of the many veterans who were in the audience.

A fine arts night will be held on the evening of June 5 beginning at 5:00 p.m. Students will display original pieces of art created under the direction of art teacher Bethany Ayres. Students have learned about famous masters such as Picasso, Monet, Matisse, and Van Gogh and been inspired to create their own masterpieces. Third graders will take part in the evening with their presentation of the play "Treasure Island." Ziba Mokalla, Luke Holland, Kyle Fromwiller and Sam Schindler all agreed that playing pirates was the most fun ever! The class has worked hard memorizing lines with lots of help from parents at home. The evening performance will be held on June 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Center.

Queen of Peace School hopes to continue to focus on the arts in the coming years. The school is off to a good start.

## *An added note:*

As we headed to press, we received word of the death of Jeanette Epping. Jeanette and her husband, Larry, have been outstanding supporters of Catholic education throughout their lives. Jeanette will always be an exemplar for a person devoted to faith, family, and community. Raised in Mount Angel, she stayed connected to that community, even as she was deeply involved with the Salem community, where she and Larry made their home. She involved herself heavily with St. Vincent de Paul Parish and stayed connected with community and school activities relating to her children, as they grew up. She helped Larry as he built his business, even to the point of drawing up blueprints for him. But, she remained fully engaged as a wife and mother and followed her children's activities throughout their schooling and their adult lives. Jeanette did not boast of her accomplishments as a supportive wife, mother, and community volunteer, but the effects of her work are all around us, and we are grateful for a life well lived. We know she is with the Lord, and we wish consolation to her family at this time of loss.

*Kevin L. Mannix*

Kevin L. Mannix, President

*The Epping family has requested that contributions in Jeanette's memory be made to the Blanchet Catholic School library.*

# St. Joseph School

Stephen Lynch, Principal

## *Spring is Filled with Activity at St. Joseph School*

Spring is an exciting time at St. Joseph School. In addition to our daily school work, many of our students have had some extra excitement! Fifth grader Elio Carella was our school champion in the Geography Bee earlier in the year. Next, he took a written test to see if he qualified for the state competition, sponsored by National Geographic and Google. This was sent to Washington, D.C.

for review, and we received word that Elio was one of 50 students in Oregon grades 4-8 who did qualify for the state competition. Although he was competing mostly with seventh and eighth graders, he did an admirable job answering very difficult questions. We are very proud of him!



We were also proud to send two students to the University of Portland to witness the installation of our new Archbishop Sample. Both Henry Sanders (grade 3) and Julia McLaughlin (grade 4) were chosen on the strength of an essay that each wrote on why they wished to attend the installation. It was a beautiful event, and we enjoyed seeing and hearing from our Archbishop.

Spring is also a time for science. St. Joseph School's Science Fair took place in our parish center on April 12. All students participate by creating a science project



Bailey Hittner, 6th grade

that includes the topic, a hypothesis as to what the student expects will happen, and then the results of the experiment. Older students provide more details on the scientific method. Visitors tour through the exhibits and students explain what they did and what they learned. It is a time to celebrate with lots of

enthusiasm, and students deservedly take great pride in displaying and explaining their work.



Also, St. Joseph School participated in the FIRST LEGO League, and our junior team (ages 6-9) recently took part in the regional challenge. It was a wonderful learning experience in science and engineering as well as learning to work together on a project.

The sixth grade attended Outdoor School at Camp Magruder on the Oregon Coast for four days. This is an opportunity to study life science and ecology outside of the classroom. Students learn about the forest ecosystem and coastal tide pools, as well as the popular class in dissecting squid. For the students, this is a time of building up existing friendships and making new friends from other schools.

Of course, life isn't all about science! The fourth and fifth graders travelled to Champoeg State Park recently and learned about life in the pioneer days. They made wooden toys, dipped beeswax candles, went to school in a one room schoolhouse, and enjoyed learning more about Oregon history. Our third graders headed to Portland to study transportation and communities. They travelled by train in the early morning and found their way through the city using buses, light rail, street car, and even a trip up to OHSU via the tram. They also managed to spend time at OMSI. Each student wrote their observations in a journal and then shared their experience with other students. They arrived back in Salem happy but a little tired.

And last, but not least, St. Joseph School has been recognized again as an Oregon Green School thanks to the efforts of our St. Francis Green Team! What a busy school!

# St. Vincent de Paul School

Maria Palacio, Principal

*With God, Everything is Possible*



Sofia Magana, Iesha Brown, Pooja Prasad, Sophia Smith & Pika Araiza, fourth & fifth grades.

If we look back at this school year through the eyes of the children at St. Vincent School, this was a year of learning and discovery. It was a year of laughter, a year of fun, a year when we learned first hand that with God, all things are possible, and a year of music and song. All our students came in each day with a smile on their faces, eager, enthusiastic and happy to be coming to school. Our Pre-K's learned their colors, shapes and sounds, and best of all, to write their name. The students in kindergarten learned their sounds, their letters, and to read and write simple sentences. The first graders are now readers and writers. They learned how to do research, and with bright, expectant and puzzled eyes discovered that some penguins can be taller than they are now - wow! Our 2nd and 3rd graders were spell bound when they studied about temptation and sin. "Jesus was tempted by Satan?" Oh my.... They eagerly learned their prayers, and their favorite is the Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel. The students in the upper grades learned about responsibility, self motivation, and that actions are louder than words. They learned that reading is not just fun, but a vehicle for learning and growing as people.



Leonardo Magana, first grade

We had many events this year, and some of the more memorable are our music programs. In December we joined St. Joseph and Queen of Peace for a day of Christmas celebration and song at the Capitol. It was great to sing together as Catholic schools. Singing to God in celebration of Jesus's birth - what a joy it was! Our school's Christmas music program came a few days after. It was a time for parents and community members to see the growth and progress of our children. Ms. Romine, music teacher at St. Vincent, had the students singing like angels.



On April 4, St. Vincent de Paul School had a benefit "Kid Concert" with the goal of raising \$3,000 to buy a classroom set of ukuleles. The setting was in the style of the old Peter, Paul and Mary/Limelighter children's concerts....lots of children singing with audience participation. The event was a no expense concert with 100% of ticket sales and donations going to the music program. Thanks to our fabulous performers (Marcia Christensen, Ron Relaford, Steve Yant and St. Vincent de Paul K-6 students), we took in \$1,847 the night of the concert. Through continued donations from families, friends and Center 50+ senior citizen ukulele students, we have currently raised \$3,400. We are still accepting tax deductible donations. Any excess funds will go towards the purchase of a digital piano that the school desperately needs. Send donations to St. Vincent de Paul School, 1015 Columbia St. NE., 97301 with "for music program" in the memo field.

Blessings to all our readers! With God, everything is possible.

# Blanchet Catholic School

Charles E. Lee, President

## *Congratulations, Class of 2013!*

On Saturday, June 8, Blanchet Catholic School will honor the members of the class of 2013. Each of these seventy students has been a valued member of the Blanchet community, contributing their own unique talents and gifts in the classroom, theater, on the athletic fields, in service and much more. The class has been offered an amazing \$6.2 million in scholarship funds.

Special recognition goes to our three valedictorians – Samantha Belleque, Nicholas Ditzler and Kelsey Nanneman, and our salutatorian – Cassandra Farrell.

### ***Valedictorians:***



Samantha Belleque is a 4.0 GPA student and a Blanchet “Twelve-Sport” athlete who helped lead her teams to the 2009 volleyball and 2012 softball state championships. Samantha is a member of the National Honor Society and has been an active member of the Friends of Benedictine Service Club, Spirituality Team, Outdoor Club and

Campus Ambassadors. She plans to attend Gonzaga University next fall.



Nicholas Ditzler has earned a 4.0 GPA while active in many co-curricular activities including National Honor Society, Campus Ambassadors, Friends of Benedictine Service Club, Math Club, DECA and Science Olympiad. Nicholas is a very talented member of the boys varsity golf team, earning the

championship title in both 2012 and 2013. Nicholas will attend the University of Michigan to study biomedical engineering.



Kelsey Nanneman maintains a 4.0 grade point average and is a 2013 National Merit Commended Scholar. She is a member of the National Honor Society, the National Society of High School Scholars and is a Johns Hopkins Academic Excellence Award winner. Kelsey is an outstanding athlete on the varsity

volleyball and swim teams and has also appeared in several Blanchet drama productions. Kelsey will attend Rice University this fall and will study bioengineering.

### ***Salutatorian:***



Cassandra Farrell is the class of 2013 Salutatorian with a 3.998 GPA. She is a National Honor Society member and a competitive athlete who has participated in varsity soccer, track and swimming. She plans to attend Pacific University next fall to study physics.

The class will have the honor of hearing one of their most admired and respected teachers, Ms. Barb Schreiber, deliver their commencement address.

Ms. Schreiber has taught upper division math courses at Blanchet for the past sixteen years. In her address, she will not only say farewell to this class of seniors but also to the Blanchet community as she retires from teaching this spring.

Ms. Schreiber, originally from Pennsylvania, graduated magna cum laude with a BS in mathematics and a minor in French and teaching certificates in both subjects. She taught for five years in public school in West Chester, PA while she completed her Masters in mathematics at West Chester State.

Her love for cycling and exploring the outdoors eventually led Ms. Schreiber to the west coast. After teaching at two community colleges and three high schools both in California and Oregon, Ms. Schreiber accepted a position at Blanchet and looked forward to building a math program in a new school. It was a perfect fit.

Ms. Schreiber has been dedicated to Blanchet and its students for a wonderful sixteen years. Her commitment has shown, not only in the expert way she teaches her daily classes, but in the countless hours of her own time that she has dedicated to helping students with math on early mornings before school, late afternoons after school, lunch breaks and even weekends. “The students feel like family to me,” Ms. Schreiber says. And the entire Blanchet community feels the same way about her.

# Why We are Including the Salem Catholic Schools Foundation in Our Wills

When my parents came to Salem in 1942, they looked to the Salem Catholic schools to educate their growing family-to-be of five children. Generations of Catholic families before them supported their parishes in Salem so that couples like the young Kennedys could have Catholic schools available for their children. All five of their children attended St. Vincent de Paul School, and three of us attended Serra Catholic High School.

What can we do now to support Salem Catholic schools to ensure that future young families can have the same educational option for their children as you and my parents? Including the Salem Catholic Schools Foundation in your will is a proven way for you to help. That is our choice even though we don't live in Salem anymore. The gift is a long-term proposition, but institutions like Catholic schools are a long-term proposition. Universities rely on estate gifts, so why can't Catholic grade and high schools?

Please join my wife and me by including the Salem Catholic Schools Foundation in your estate plan. It is simple to do, and the Foundation is very helpful, professional, and discreet. We urge you to call the Foundation at 503.371.9068 with your inquiries. The Foundation and its predecessor has been there since 1978 to help donors make contributions to our schools. It is the right thing to do to make a lasting change for the education of our wonderful children.

Thank you.

*Paul and Susan Kennedy*

(Paul: St. Vincent class of 1955 and Serra Catholic class of 1959)

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## Your Support of Salem Catholic Schools Foundation is an Investment in Catholic Education

The mission of Salem Catholic Schools Foundation is to manage and increase the Endowment Fund for Catholic education in Salem. Each year grants are given from the annual earnings of our investments to each of the four Salem Catholic schools in support of their programs, tuition assistance or special projects.

The Salem Catholic Schools Foundation accepts gifts of any amount through:

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Your gift to Salem Catholic Schools Foundation ultimately benefits our four Catholic schools in Salem. All gifts to the Foundation provide positive current and future estate tax considerations. For specific tax benefits to you or your estate, please consult your financial or legal advisor.

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St. Vincent de Paul students Matthew Araiza (third grade) and Aiden McNicholas (first grade) at All Schools Mass on May 1.



St. Vincent de Paul students Karl Untalan, Pika Araiza & Hector Chavez.



Students from Blanchet Catholic, Queen of Peace, St. Joseph and St. Vincent de Paul Schools at the May Crowning of Mary.