

Spring/Summer 2023

# From the Heart



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**Sacred Heart School and  
Sacred Heart Foundation**

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**Sacred Heart School Administration  
2022-2023 School Year**

**Fr. Joseph Corel**  
Pastor

**Fr. Cesar Anicama**  
Associate Pastor

**Dr. Mark Register '75**  
President

**Nancy Manning**  
Principal

**Dr. Amanda Burdick**  
Assistant Principal

**Sacred Heart Foundation Members**

Kyle Herrick '82, President  
Paul Beykirch '73, Vice President  
Steve Ellebracht  
Joe Fischer  
Jorge Guevara '03  
Virgil McDonald  
Dr. Mark Register '75  
Beverly Rollings  
Susie Thompson  
Bill Turner

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by the Sacred Heart Foundation.

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Beverly Rollings - Proofreader  
Sacred Heart School Yearbook  
Committee - Photography  
Nikki Howell - Photography  
Marlo (Boots) Siron '91 - Photography  
Kevin Lujin '91 - KLUE Photography  
Cory City '04 - Photography,  
magazine design, and layout

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Well, it looks like I am writing 'From the President's Desk' one last time! What a beautiful, glorious, blessed way to spend a career. I consider myself a very fortunate man to have been able to be in the service of the students, families and parishioners of Sacred Heart School and Sacred Heart/St. Vincent de Paul Parish for more than 35 happy years.

There are just so many things to be thankful for. First and foremost, I am thankful to my wonderful wife Julie. She made many sacrifices over the years to allow me to put in the time necessary to make our school successful.

The people you work with can make or break a job. It goes without saying that I am eternally grateful for the many outstanding colleagues I was blessed to work with over the years. I find myself wishing that I could list them here to recognize the faculty and staff members that made my job so fulfilling but there simply isn't enough room to adequately list them all. Hopefully, I have been successful in letting them know over the years how much they have all meant to me.

As a school community we have experienced the blessings of being able to accomplish a few things over these past few decades. Probably the crowning achievement was getting the new building financed, built and opened between 2005 and 2009. We have been able to make tremendous strides in technology in the school. Our athletic programs have excelled with eight state championships and 22 final four appearances since 2002. The school's response to the Covid pandemic was also a tremendous source of pride and accomplishment for the professionals working here.

Now it is time to pass the torch. Our new President, Mrs. Nikki Howell, brings an impressive resume and great skills to the position. Mrs. Nancy Manning, the school principal, is a talented veteran educator who is committed to the success of Catholic education in the Sedalia area. Fr. Joseph Corel, our pastor, is also committed to quality Catholic education. My prayers will be with this excellent team as they lead Sacred Heart School into a bright future.

Julie and I will be keeping a close eye on developments here at the school in the years to come. As faithful parishioners we will be watching for what we can realistically do to help. As grandparents of SHS students we will be here to celebrate the future joys and successes of our beloved school and the beautiful young people who will be attending here, keeping the awesome Sacred Heart Gremlin spirit alive.

May the Lord continue to watch over us and shower the SH family with a multitude of blessings!

Joyfully In His Service,

Mark Register EdD

Dr. Mark Register '75  
President  
Sacred Heart School



# PASTOR'S GREETING

On June 31, 2023, we said "Congratulations on your retirement!" to Dr. Mark Register.

School days can be unpredictable, but a constant for Dr. Register is daily Mass. He and his wife Julie are witnesses to sacramental married life. They have a wonderful family with children who embrace their values of being good neighbors and citizens. Mark's faith in action exemplifies how the gifts of the Holy Spirit received at Confirmation can work through us to achieve God's honor and glory.

Dr. Register is the epitome of a servant leader, and we are abundantly blessed and grateful that he said "yes" to serving on our Sacred Heart School leadership team for nearly 30 years. His dedication and enthusiasm for advancing Catholic education certainly resound within our new leadership team.

On July 1, 2023, we welcomed Mrs. Nikki Howell as president. As president, Mrs. Howell serves in an outward-facing role, taking the good news of our school to the broader community. Her primary responsibilities are to advance the stewardship model of Catholic education, foster Catholic Identity, build community relationships, implement and expand strategic plans, and provide business management to ensure the financial stability of Sacred Heart School.



Mrs. Howell was born and raised in La Monte, Mo. She attended Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo., earning a bachelor's in communications with an emphasis in journalism. She has spent over 20 years in the business-to-business and business-to-consumer markets, successfully serving in leadership roles focused on financial management, strategic planning, operation vitality, new revenue generators, and building relationships. In 2016, Nikki formed her own business as a leadership and media advisor, serving both the for-profit and non-profit sectors. She returned to the Sedalia area that year to be closer to family. She has been a valued member of our faculty since 2017. To quote Ms. Jane McMullin, a 1987 graduate, SHS Hall of Fame Inductee, and veteran faculty member, the president position is tailor-made for Mrs. Howell.

Mrs. Howell will work in partnership with our principal, Mrs. Manning, and both will report directly to the pastor of St. Vincent de Paul. Mrs. Manning continues to serve in an inward-facing role, responsible for daily school operations. Her primary focus is fostering an environment of spiritual growth for students, faculty, and staff, and implementing an effective educational agenda for continued faculty and student success.



Mrs. Manning was appointed principal for the 2022-2023 school year. She comes to Sacred Heart after nearly 30 years of success in the Missouri public school system. Mrs. Manning attended and graduated from St. George Catholic grade school and Herman High School in Herman, Missouri. She earned a bachelor's in education and a master's in curriculum and instruction from the University of Central Missouri. She served for 25 years in the Warrensburg School District, while also being actively engaged with parish life at Sacred Heart Catholic Parish in Warrensburg.

Following retirement, Mrs. Manning actively researched how she might be able to contribute to Catholic Education, specifically at Sacred Heart School. For the past two years has successfully implemented and led our Family and Consumer Science courses and our Family, Career and Community Leaders of America offerings.

The Lord has richly provided Mrs. Howell and Mrs. Manning with the experiences and vision to guide our school through this new chapter of growth. Please join me in praying for them as they make this important transition.

As Pastor of Sacred Heart School, I ask everyone to visit with our Lord God about our school and to keep us in your daily prayers. Sacred Heart is His school. Sacred Heart is His gift to us. We have the responsibility, in cooperation with his graces, to be the heartbeat that keeps Sacred Heart thriving now and for many more generations to come.

Thank you for your prayers and support in all you have done, do now, and will do in the future for our school!

Fr. Joe Corel  
Pastor

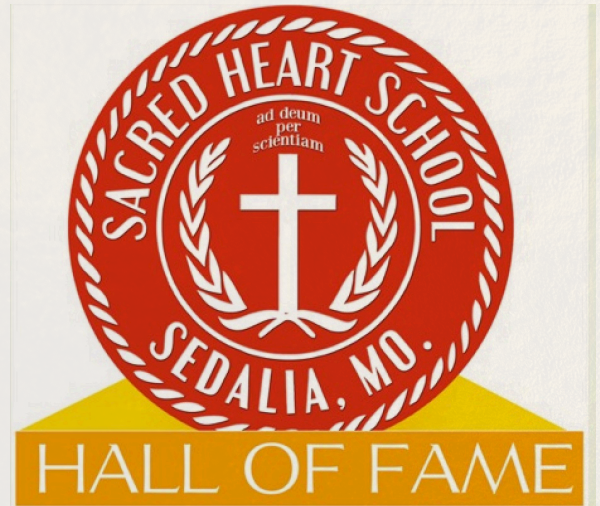


# 2023 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Sacred Heart School honored its sixth class of inductees into the Sacred Heart School Hall of Fame on April 29, 2023. Festivities began with Mass at St. Patrick Chapel with Fr. Mark Miller and Fr. Joe Corel presiding. Guests were then invited to Sacred Heart School for a reception and school tours, followed by dinner and the official induction ceremony.

The 2023 Hall of Fame class is represented by Patricia (Ryan) '53 and James Fall '53; Tom Jennewein; Ken Mosier '70; Dr. Mark Register '75; Karolyn (Lamb) Spears '65; and the founding members of the Sacred Heart School Foundation.

The 2023 class is represented by the Hall of Fame inductees and their biographies are available online on the Alumni page at [www.gogremlins.com](http://www.gogremlins.com)



Scan the QR code to watch the Hall of Fame Inductee video tributes



The Sacred Heart School Hall of Fame selection committee is seeking nominations for the next class of inductees. Nomination forms are available online under the Alumni page at [www.gogremlins.com](http://www.gogremlins.com). For more information, email [HallofFame@gogremlins.com](mailto:HallofFame@gogremlins.com).

## Coach Tom Jennewein

"As a past student and player for (Coach) Tom I can say I have been taught by one of the best! Tom and his no nonsense approach were what I needed in high school. On and off the court Tom always led by example. If you work hard and give it 100% you can accomplish anything. Because of his leadership I was well prepared to take on the challenges that life would throw at me as an adult." - Kyle Herrick '82

This sentiment echoes the thoughts and feelings of several generations of Sacred Heart students and student athletes. Students from the 1970s through current day Gremlins have benefitted from the knowledge, experience, dedication and outstanding work ethic displayed by Coach Tom Jennewein.

Coach Jennewein was born and raised in St. Louis County, coming from a large Catholic family of 10. After graduating from DuBourg High School in St. Louis in 1969, Tom attended State Fair Community College (SFCC) on a basketball scholarship. Tom often tells the story that, when he first came to Sedalia, he entered from North 65 with a friend. He remembers telling his friend, "we'll be here for a couple years then we'll never see this place again." Little did he know he would meet the love of his life while at SFCC, Patrice Hewitt.

After SFCC, Tom went on to the University of Central Missouri to complete his degree. He and Patrice were married in 1973. He joined the Sacred Heart School faculty in the fall of 1974. After five years at SHS, Coach Jennewein stepped away, but his time at SHS was far from finished. From 1981 to 1986, Tom returned to serve as a teacher and as head coach for the high school boys basketball and baseball programs. Circumstances transpired to bring Tom back a third time from 1991 to 1999. During that time, he taught PE and he served as head coach of the girls basketball program (1991-1992) and as head coach of the boys basketball program (1992-1999). A memorable moment for Tom was being able to coach his sons Jeff '97 and Joe '99. In the spring of 1998 Tom received an offer he couldn't refuse. He left SHS for a boys basketball coaching position at North Central Community College in Trenton, Mo. In 2013, Coach Jennewein returned to SHS for the final time to wrap up his teaching and coaching career.



"I loved my time at Sacred Heart," said Tom. "I loved getting up and going to work everyday. The other teachers and I always tried to treat the students like they were our own kids. I hope the parents and students will remember me as a coach who taught kids how to be better players, to work hard and to be better people."

Tom's favorite thing to do these days is watch his two grandsons play basketball and baseball.

"At a time when the world seems to be spinning hopelessly out of control, there is one constant that serves as the North Star - and that constant is Tom Jennewein," said Lenny Freund '78, former player and lifelong friend of Tom. "If you look up the definition of honor and integrity, you would see Tom's picture. You would be hard-pressed to find a better example of what a man should be. Throughout my life, Tom has been a teacher, a coach, a mentor and most importantly a friend."

## Karolyn (Lamb) Spears '65

If there was an award for the parish's most dedicated volunteer, Karolyn Spears would most certainly be in the running for the prize. Loyalty, diligent, faith-filled, and steadfast service are frequently used to describe Karolyn.

Karolyn attended Sacred Heart School from second grade through graduation in 1965. She was involved in a wide array of activities including cheerleading, pep club, softball, volleyball, bowling, student government and yearbook. She was also in mixed chorus and choir all four years of high school. Her love of music has remained with her. You can still find Karolyn in choir at 10 a.m. Sunday Mass.



"We were classmates and teammates in a great many activities over our years together in school," said Evelyn (Stohr) Hansen '65, Karolyn's classmate. "I always admired Karolyn's dedication and willingness to work hard. I know that continued long after high school as she worked tirelessly for different fundraising activities, sporting events for her boys, parish committees and anywhere else her school and parish needed her to be of service."

Karolyn and her husband Bob celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary this past February. They have two sons, Chris '89 and Travis '95. When the boys were in school, she and Bob dedicated much of their time to SHS to help provide the boys and their classmates with a great experience. Karolyn also spent 35 years working in the office of Dr. Kenneth Azan.

"Karolyn was a model of efficiency and consistency," said Dr. Azan. "She was extremely loyal, dependable and diligent in her work. She was devoted to the welfare of my practice. She was indispensable and her retirement in 2014 was a significant loss to me personally and my practice overall. I am confident that she was just as devoted to Sacred Heart, with an exemplary commitment to her church and school!"

And devoted she is! Karolyn's life in the parish and school took many forms. She spent many years as a member of Parish Council, School Advisory Board, Booster Club, and Worship & Spiritual Life Commission. She has been an integral part of nearly every Sacred Heart Bazaar from the beginning. She continues to sing in the choir, plan, prepare and serve funeral dinners, sew and crochet items for local nursing homes, and give an hour every week to adore the Blessed Sacrament in the Adoration Chapel. When there is a need, Karolyn is there.

One of the things that was commonly mentioned in Karolyn's nomination and letters of reference was that she experienced the loss of her mother at a young age, precipitating a difficult time in her young life. Those who know her well are inspired by the fact that she turned tragedy and adversity into strength. That is the strength of character that has allowed her to be a great wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, a loyal and indispensable employee and an active and dedicated member of her parish over the course of a lifetime.

Karolyn is a "Soldier for Christ, a true service warrior and the type of role model we all might look to when we wish to see what it means to be a faithful member of a Catholic parish.

## Founding Members of the Sacred Heart Foundation

The Sacred Heart Foundation was created on June 14, 1979 with the singular purpose of generating financial support for the immediate and long-term sustainability of Sacred Heart School. A charitable foundation was still a relatively new concept in the 1970s. The foresight and dedication to create one on behalf of our beloved school was, no doubt, driven by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

"The founding members of the Sacred Heart School Foundation had a desire to leave a legacy so that Catholic education would always be available to those who wished to participate," said Fr. Mark Miller, C.P.P.S. "They did not do this for themselves but for future generations which can serve as an example for all of us, knowing that what we do is not just for today but for the many tomorrows that others can enjoy."

The seeds planted by the Sacred Heart Foundation over 40 years ago have been well tended. Since its founding, the Foundation has cultivated philanthropic relationships and conveyed school needs to a global audience, resulting in gifts of well over 5 million dollars. The Foundation leads the Annual Fund Drive which is the largest single development effort on behalf of the school. Each year, the Foundation gives 5% of the investment corpus and 50% of the Annual Fund Drive proceeds in the form of need-based student scholarships. Last year alone, the Foundation generated or facilitated over \$700,000 in gifts, including endowed scholarships, grants, real estate, and special projects.

The Sacred Heart School community owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to Fr. Vince Hoying, Art Borgmeyer, Donald Miller and Bill Register for recognizing the tremendous value and impact a Sacred Heart Foundation held for generations of families seeking a Catholic education in Sedalia, Missouri.

Here is a little bit about each of these founding members:



### Art Borgmeyer

Art Borgmeyer and his wife, Olivia, moved their family to Sedalia in February of 1976 from Holts Summit, Mo. Art worked in the shipping department of McGraw Edison Industries and the company transferred him to the Sedalia facility.

All six of Art and Olivia's children (Kevin '79, Karla '81, Karen '83, Kristie '85, Kurt '86 and Kyle '88) are graduates of Sacred Heart School. Art and Olivia were active and involved parents throughout the course of their children's time at the school. If there was a project or a program that needed parent volunteers the Borgmeyers were available to make sure their children and other students had the best opportunities possible. One of those projects was the creation of the Sacred Heart Foundation and Art was instrumental in the endeavor.

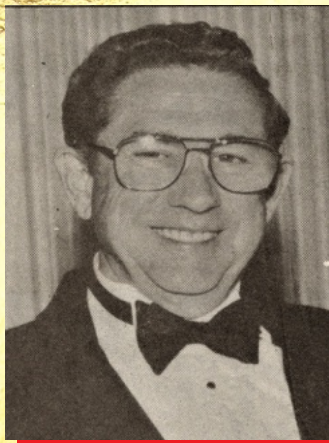
Art and Olivia Borgmeyer remained active parishioners after their children graduated. Olivia can still be found as a regular at weekday morning Masses in the Sacred Heart Chapel. Art passed away Jan. 22, 2022.



### Bill Register

Bill Register and his wife Carol brought their four children to Sedalia from Jefferson City, Mo. in the summer of 1972. Bill and Carol immersed themselves immediately into school and parish life. They were involved with the Booster Club, School Board, Active Parents Club, the Bazaar and whatever else school and parish life had to offer.

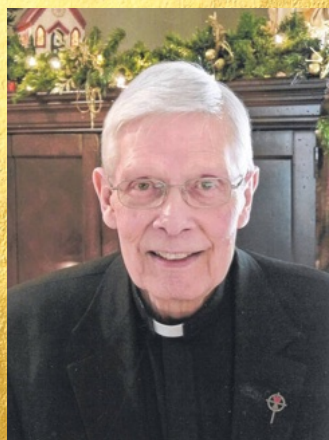
Bill and Carol instilled a love of Catholic education in their children that endures to this day. Bill passed away in 2010 and Carol passed away in 1999. The Registers leave a legacy of four children (Mark '75, JoLynn '77, Lisa '80 and Shelly '81) and eight grandchildren and great-grandchildren (Tasha Langford Schlittenhart '99, Brandi Turley Webb '01, Andrew Turley '04, Nick Kelley '05, JG Kelley '07, Will Register '08, Wes Register '11 and Easton Webb '19) who are now Sacred Heart alumni. Brielle Register is currently in the preschool and, good Lord willing, will be a member of the SHS Class of 2037.



## Donald V. Miller

Don was born in Chicago on July 29, 1937. Don had a master's degree in business from Harvard University and was a U.S. Navy veteran. He became President and General Manager of The Sedalia Democrat in 1977. An active Catholic and forward thinker, Don was involved in various church and civic activities during his tenure at the *Sedalia Democrat*.

The community will perhaps best remember Miller for his focus on revitalizing the local economy. This, too, would be consistent with his interest in being involved with the creation of the Sacred Heart Foundation. Miller left the *Sedalia Democrat* in 1984. After a long career in the newspaper industry both as publisher and writer, Don passed away in Creve Coeur, Mo. in 2018.



## Rev. Vincent Hoying, C.P.P.S

Fr. Hoying was serving as the pastor of Sacred Heart Parish at the time the Sacred Heart Foundation was created. His faith-filled leadership, and his love for the families and children of the parish are only a few of the reasons Fr. Hoying was inducted into the Sacred Heart School Hall of Fame as an individual in 2018.

Fr. Hoying was born and raised in Ohio. He was ordained a priest to the Society of the Precious Blood on June 1, 1958. Fr. Hoying served as pastor at Sacred Heart in Sedalia from July of 1971 until July of 1980. He returned to Sacred Heart to serve as a retired priest in residence in the early 2000s. He passed away at the age of 90 on November 17, 2020 but will always be a beloved figure in the annals of Sacred Heart School and the St. Vincent de Paul Catholic community.

## Patricia (Ryan) '53 and James Fall '53

Jim and Patricia Fall are devoted lifelong members of St. Vincent de Paul Parish (previously Sacred Heart Parish). They both attended and graduated from Sacred Heart School. Patricia moved to Sedalia from Houstonia, Mo. with her mother (Catherine Ryan LaVelle) and her two brothers Patrick Ryan '53 and Jack Ryan '54. Patricia's family later welcomed her sister Linda LaVelle '68.

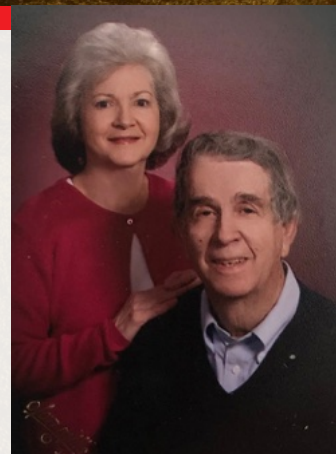
Jim shared the story of when he first met his future wife. It seems that Jim and Patricia were approximately six years old. It was a Sunday morning during Mass at Sacred Heart Church. Jim was sitting with his Mom and his brother Ralph Fall '49. Patricia was in the same pew with her family. Jim immediately noticed Patricia, even remembering the outfit she was wearing at the time. He recalled it was a white fur coat with a matching hat. Jim and Patricia are now 88 years old and will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary in November 2023.

Jim and Patricia were high school sweethearts. Jim played baseball and was captain of the basketball team. Patricia was Activity Queen, captain of the volleyball team and vice president of her class. Jim recalled that the first song the couple danced to was *The Tennessee Waltz* during the Sacred Heart prom.

Jim and Patricia were both baptized and received all of their first sacraments at Sacred Heart Church, including the sacrament of matrimony administered by Father Andrew in 1953.

After high school, Jim attended Central College in Fayette, Mo. on a basketball scholarship. He played semi-pro baseball and was named All-State five times. Later on in the 1950s Jim served as a high school boys assistant basketball coach at Sacred Heart under Missouri Sports Hall of Fame Coach Palmer Nichols. Jim eventually followed in his father's footsteps and went to work at the Missouri Pacific Railroad shops, retiring from the railroad after 40 years of dedicated service.

Jim was active in the Sedalia community. Among many other activities, he was a little league coach and member of the booster club for many years. He eventually established the Ralph Fall Memorial Scholarship in honor of his brother to help young families gain access to a Catholic education for their children.



Patricia was a dedicated and active work-at-home mom. In addition to being a room mother, scout leader and member of the Altar Society, she was a very good seamstress. She sewed a great deal of the clothing for her big Catholic family. She really seemed to excel at just about everything she did, whether it be cooking, baking, sewing, painting, and pottery but most of all as an incredible and loving mother.

In her late 60s Patricia began taking pottery classes at State Fair Community College before transferring to the University of Central Missouri where she eventually became a professor's assistant. She ultimately taught herself how to do a rare crystalline glaze over her porcelain pottery pieces.

Although they both worked hard all their lives, the Falls took Sundays very seriously. They didn't do household chores on Sundays. Instead, they reserved the day for Mass and family dinners, usually fried chicken. Jim and Patricia still faithfully attend Sunday Mass as well as weekday Masses as often as possible.

In the first pages of the 1953 *Spectrum* Yearbook there is a quote that reads: "O Sacred Heart, whose virtues our Alma Mater has ever instilled in us throughout our years, may we leave as men and women ever devoted, ever true to Thy Heart, ever exemplifying in our lives the characteristics of true apostles of Thy Sacred Heart."

Patricia and Jim Fall clearly took those words to mean something special. They will be celebrating the 70th anniversary of their graduation from Sacred Heart High School this spring knowing that they have been truly devoted to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus just as their parents, teachers and pastors asked them to be back in the spring of 1953.

Fall children that attended Sacred Heart School

Mary Ellen Davis '72, Catherine Fall, James Fall '75, Michael Fall '77, David Fall '78, Daniel Fall '78, Julie Fall '84

Fall grandchildren who attended Sacred Heart School

Joshua Bishop, Sarah (Bishop) Tippie '98, Jennifer (Fall) Denham '02, David Fall II '05, Caitlin (Fall) Grose '09

Fall great-granddaughters who currently attend Sacred Heart School

Abigail Tippie '23, Charlotte Tippie, Lorelei Grose, Audra Grose

## Ken Mosier '70

Ken attributes wonderful lifelong friends and a learned joy that comes with service to others to his time at Sacred Heart School.

Ken was born and raised in Sedalia. He attended Sacred Heart School all 12 years, graduating in the class of 1970. He was an honor student and served as the *Spectrum* Yearbook editor-in-chief his senior year. Like most Gremlin students, he was involved in a wide array of activities including scouting, 4-H, athletics, student government and theater. Ken had the ability to think on his feet and was always willing to speak in public, which served him well as a go-to spokesperson for the school and student body.



Ken particularly enjoyed serving at Mass and was often chosen to take a lead role in the solemn liturgies during the course of the liturgical year. Ken made a particular commitment to the ecumenical mission group "E5" formed in the late '60s. He accepted an active role in the group's missionary trips and efforts both distant and within the Sedalia community.

Following high school, Ken attended State Fair Community College then the University of Missouri. He earned an MBA from Rockhurst University in 1984. He started his professional career in sales and advanced quickly to regional sales manager and technical consultant. His name is included in several patents and many consider him an expert in the field of plastics and customer relations. Ken's customer base spanned the entire United States. Those who worked with and for Ken consider him, above all, to be a man of integrity.

"Ken makes an impact wherever he goes," said Richard Bahner '70, friend and classmate of Ken. "I recall being impressed when he was elected Student Government President at State Fair Community College and in the same year accepted one of the lead roles in the school's production of *Fiddler on the Roof*."

Ken and his wife, Joanne, live in Lakeville, Minnesota. They have three children: Christopher, Jonathan and Sarah.

Ken and Joanne are very involved in their parish in Lakeville. Ken has served as a parish council member and parish council president. He is a Eucharistic minister, lector and serves as a Word Service provider when the priests are not available. Ken is also a member of Rotary Club. He has served as club president, and is currently an assistant district governor.

Despite the distance, Ken has never lost touch with his Sedalia and Sacred Heart School roots. Upon his retirement, Ken's family knew the perfect retirement gift: a scholarship in Ken's name to provide tuition assistance to Sacred Heart School

## Dr. Mark Register '75

Dr. Mark Register keeps a quote posted in his office that reads:

"To accomplish great things we must not only act but also dream, not only plan but also believe!" -Anatole France

This quote seems to say a great deal about his tenure as lead administrator at Sacred Heart School. According to Mark, "Administration at Sacred Heart School over the past four decades has been a true journey of love and faith."

Mark Register came to Sacred Heart School as a sophomore in the fall of 1972, graduating in the class of 1975. During his three years at Sacred Heart he played basketball, baseball, and golf. He served on the Student Council and was inducted into the National Honor Society as a senior. One of the highlights of his high school career was appearing in the school's three-act plays his junior and senior year.

Upon graduation from SHS, Mark attended Central Missouri State University (CMSU) in Warrensburg and earned teaching credentials in physical education and special education. Register earned a master's degree in secondary administration from CMSU in 1993 and went on to gain his doctorate in educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University in 2001.

Mark began his teaching career serving for three years as a special education and physical education teacher in the Clinton, Mo. school district. He returned to Sedalia and worked at the Center for Human Services as a trainer in the Sheltered Workshop. Dr. Register's professional career at Sacred Heart began as an assistant basketball coach with Tom Jennewein (1983-1985). From the fall of 1985 through spring of 1992, Mark was full-time faculty, teaching religion and PE. He also coached varsity basketball, and brought back the varsity baseball program after a short hiatus.

Mark left for the 1992-1993 school year to assume his first administrative role, serving as principal at Ss. Peter and Paul School in Boonville. The very next school year (1993-1994) Mark returned to serve as principal for Sacred Heart School. This began a labor of love that, with only one short break, has lasted to the present day. Mark retired in July 2023. Thirty-three of his 43 years in education have been in joyful service to the children and families of Sacred Heart School and Sacred Heart/St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

"None of this would have been possible without the tremendous love and support of my wife Julie," said Mark. "She made many sacrifices over the years and took on a great many extra responsibilities in raising our children so that I could do my best to fulfill my role at Sacred Heart."

Mark is an active member of St. Vincent de Paul parish. He's a regular at daily Mass, and has served the parish in a variety of capacities. In retirement he looks forward to the opportunity to continue to contribute time, talent and treasure to the St. Vincent de Paul and Sacred Heart School community for as long as the good Lord sees fit.

"Mark has served Sacred Heart School with tremendous leadership, passion, conviction and strength," said Fr. Joe Corel, Pastor, St. Vincent de Paul. "I am so grateful for him and the many ways we have ministered together."

Mark and his wife Julie have four children: Bronwin Heskin, Tasha (Langford) Schlittenhart '99, Will '08, and Wesley '11. They are also blessed with 10 grandchildren.



# CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2023

Sacred Heart High School's 79th commencement ceremony, held May 21, 2023, celebrated the 23 seniors of the Class of 2023. Mrs. Debbie Bolin, retired SHS Campus Minister, who gave the commencement speech, referenced Luke 12:48: To whom much is given, much will be required. "If you know that line of wisdom, you know it means that we will be held responsible for what we have," said Bolin. "If we have been blessed with talents, wealth, knowledge, and time, we are expected to use these well to glorify God and to benefit others ... Seniors, you have done that in so many different ways this year. You are a true gift to our community and are leaving this school a better place."

**Miguel Alejo**

Northwest Missouri State University  
Undecided

**Abigail Arnold**

State Fair Community College  
Animal Sciences

**Carson Bell**

State Fair Community College  
Undecided

**Stephen Belles**

State Fair Community College  
Forestry/Conservation

**Cade Brown**

University of Central Missouri  
Undecided

**Kate Carney**

Kansas State University  
Secondary Education/Math

**Caitlin Carrico**

University of Central Missouri  
Speech/Language Pathology

**Alexis Chappell**

State Fair Community College  
Early Childhood

**Tanner Damlo**

University of Central Missouri  
Undecided

**Laura Granados**

University of Missouri  
Nursing

**Jordan Hill**

Brigham Young  
(Following two years of  
mission work)  
Undecided

**Michael Marquez**

University of Missouri  
Nursing

**Zoe Martin**

Central Methodist University  
Marine Biology

**Christian Martinez**

Entering Workforce

**Oswaldo Martinez-Garcia**

University of Missouri-Kansas City  
Finance and Business  
Management

**Eric Mercado**

Missouri Valley College  
Lineman

**Mariana Restrepo**

University of Missouri  
Business

**Emma Siron**

University of Central Missouri  
Undecided

**Eli Smeltzer**

Truman State University  
Undecided

**Ian Smith**

United States Marine Corps

**Abigail Tippie**

University of Missouri  
Biology/Pre-Med

**Jaden Velando**

State Fair Community College  
Nursing



## Class of 2023 Highlights:

- 100% graduation rate
- Average GPA is 3.5 on 4.0 scale
- Three graduates signed to play collegiate sports
- Twelve of the 22 graduates posted a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher
- 19 of the 22 graduates completed one or more college courses
- \$1,638,064 offered in scholarships and \$528,084 will be utilized



# ALUMNI NEWS

**Reverend Mr. Christopher Hoffmann '11** was ordained a transitional deacon for the Diocese of Jefferson City on June 3, 2023, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City. As a transitional deacon, he promises to live a life of celibacy, pray the liturgy of the hours for the Church, to be obedient and respectful to the bishop and his successors, and model his life on Christ. He will be able to witness marriages, perform funeral rites, baptize, and function as a deacon at the Mass.

Christopher celebrated his first Mass as a transitional deacon on June 4 in Sedalia at the 8 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Chapel and the 11:30 a.m. Mass in Spanish at St. Patrick Chapel. A reception followed at the Knight of Columbus Hall.

This summer, Christopher assisted the pastor of St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City while working with the diocesan director of religious education, youth and young adult ministry, and the diocesan director of marriage and inter-cultural ministries. He will begin his final year of seminary studies at the Josephinum seminary this fall. He hopes to be ordained a priest of this diocese next spring.

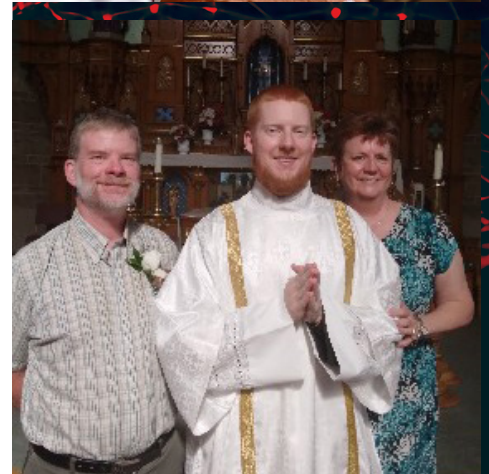
Christopher said his story began at Sacred Heart, where he attended from kindergarten until his graduation in 2011. Throughout high school, he actively participated as an altar server and served as an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion. However, it wasn't until his college years that Christopher began considering the seminary as a potential path.

Following graduation from SHS, Christopher enrolled in the Agricultural Engineering program at Iowa State University (ISU). He remained active in various student organizations on campus, including the Catholic student center. He had the opportunity to study abroad in Brazil twice, including a memorable experience at World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro. Christopher recalls a pivotal moment during his third year of college when he was academically dismissed from ISU. This setback made him realize the importance of trusting in God's plan rather than solely pursuing his own desires. He subsequently returned to ISU after a semester at SFCC, where he completed his Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Systems Technology.

During his time at ISU, Christopher joined a priesthood discernment group at the Catholic student center. Over the course of three years, he engaged in discussions, retreats, and visits to seminaries. He began to sense that God might be calling him to the priesthood, leading him to apply to seminary in 2017. This journey took him to several seminaries, including Conception Seminary (CSC) in Northwest Missouri and Kenrick in St. Louis. He eventually settled at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, where he began formation in August 2020.

Reflecting on his path, Christopher emphasized that his calling to the priesthood was not marked by grandiose moments but rather by gentle nudges encouraging him to take the next step.

"I'm overjoyed that God has called me to enter Holy Orders and to serve in my home diocese," said Christopher. "I thank my parents, my brother, Patrick ('13), and my friends, classmates, teachers, and formators who have supported me. Know that you all will continue to be in my prayers, and please continue to keep me and all those who are discerning their Vocation to Matrimony, Religious Life, or Holy Orders in your prayers."



**Rachelle Simon '02** is the Executive Director of United Way of Pettis County. She has a professional background in counseling, higher education, non-profit work and religious ministry. After graduating from Rockhurst University in Kansas City, she served as a Jesuit Volunteer in Montana working as an Assistant Houseparent at St. Labre Youth and Family Services. Rachelle has a master's degree in counseling from Villanova University and a Master of Divinity from Boston College. Over the past 15 years, Rachelle has worked in campus ministry at Villanova University, Boston College, and Westminster College, as well as serving at the Catholic Newman Center at the University of Missouri - St Louis. Rachelle also worked at the University of Notre Dame in the areas of residential life, service learning, and student conduct. In addition to her role at the United Way, Rachelle currently serves on the board of Bethlehem Farm, a Catholic nonprofit in Appalachia that transforms lives through service with the local community, the teaching of sustainable practices, and living out the Gospel cornerstones. In her free time, Rachelle enjoys cooking, hiking, and spending time with her family.



**Bev (Couhig) Schuetz '54** is a retired marketing professional who has spent the last 15 years combining all of her passions and interests into her business History Talks; a series of 42 unique and entertaining live presentations researched, written, and performed by Bev. She has delighted audiences across the country, but these days Bev stays within the greater St. Louis area. She lectures on such diverse historical topics as the controversial story of the Veiled Prophet; the father of modern journalism and founder of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Joseph Pulitzer; plus two fascinating and humorous histories – the history of makeup and bizarre beauty practices throughout the world, and the history of undergarments including bras, corsets, and girdles. Scan the QR code to watch one of her recent performances titled *Frank Lloyd Wright: Impossible Genius* and view her website at [www.historytalks.info](http://www.historytalks.info).



**Jacob K. Dey, M.D., F.A.C.S.** is a Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, providing "life changing" surgery to individuals with facial paralysis. He is a leading expert in the rare subspecialty of facial reanimation. Scan the QR code to view a video capturing Jacob at work.



**Garrett Kelchner '11** is a senior product manager at Price Waterhouse Cooper (PwC) Digital. In this role, he leads the product strategy, new feature prioritization and organizational staffing needs to drive firm-wide adoption of PwC's Concourse software platform. The service helps PwC clients automate project management tasks and track deliverables. Garrett and his wife, Lacy, live in Manhattan Beach, California, and are expecting their first baby in September.



**David Curry '58** became the first recipient of the Pioneer in Economic Development Award, presented to him during the Economic Development Sedalia-Pettis County (EDSPC) awards banquet in May 2023. Governor Mike Parson wrote to David: "Since 1965, when EDSPC's original articles of incorporation were proudly signed by you, you have led efforts that have been decades in the making. You are known as one of the founding fathers of economic development in the region, and we are beyond grateful for your contributions." EDSPC has experienced significant achievements during David's 50 years of leadership and tenure, including the planning and building of four industrial parks, the establishment of the county's first enterprize zone, and many other notable accomplishments. David has had an impact on other organizations through these years with a goal for each. He is one of the central founders who established the State Fair Community College district in the 1970s. He served on the Children's Therapy Center /Center for Human Services board for 25 years. In 2002, David created the idea for the UbiDuo, a communication device enabling deaf and hearing to communicate without a sign language interpreter. To fulfill a personal goal, for his 75th birthday, he did a tandem skydive jump from a Cessna 206 airplane and he has more goals for his future.

**Mary Simon Leuci '74**, associate extension professor emerita, has been leading University of Missouri's Technical Educational Development for Modernizing Agriculture in Ghana (TEDMAG) project (a partnership with the University of Saskatchewan and a nonprofit in Ghana) since 2017. The project has developed and conducted agribusiness training for extension and farmers in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture in Ghana that is reducing post-harvest losses, increasing ag processing, and opening new markets for small farmers, many of which are women. Before that, she was director of engaged scholarship for MU and director of Missouri Campus Compact for three years after serving as assistant dean in the College of Food Agriculture and Natural Resources and MU Extension Community Development Program Director and faculty member for many years. She was involved in founding and supporting several programs that benefited many across the state and country--most notably MU Extension's Community Emergency Management Program and collaborative community development work with the University of the Western Cape, South Africa. She lives in Columbia with her husband, Victor, and daughter, Lena. In her semi-retirement, she is active in the St. Thomas More Newman Center parish and enjoys gardening and cooking.



**Rachel (Ulbrich) Schuler '17** is a third-year medical student at the University of Missouri School of Medicine. She will be graduating with her M.D. in May 2025 and plans to pursue a residency in Emergency Medicine. She graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with her bachelor's degree in biology with a research emphasis in December 2020. Rachel married Paul Schuler May 27, 2023.

Both currently work in EMS and are volunteer firefighters with Boone County Fire Protection District. In their free time, they enjoy reading, cycling, rock climbing, and exploring new restaurants.



**Britten Mergen '17** and Mattie Green were married on June 10, 2023. Britten graduated from State Fair Community College with an associate's degree and is currently helping manage the family cattle operation with his grandfather, William Mergen '68. Britten plans to take over the business as his grandfather begins the process of trying to retire. Mattie recently graduated from State Fair Community College and is working at Bothwell Hospital as an ICU RN, and is continuing her studies at Central Methodist University to gain her BSN. The couple recently built a house on the family farm outside Sedalia.



**Clint Trautmann '92** is a senior IT project manager for Centene. He and his wife Theresa live in Brentwood, Missouri. They say they enjoy traveling to whatever country Eric Bopp '92 is stationed in next! A recent memory he shared of SHS is: "a few years ago I purchased some Sacred Heart paraphernalia and decided to pick it up from the school when I was in town visiting my mother. Fast forward to the day of, and in a hurried pace, I gathered my items and hopped back in the car to return to St. Louis. It was later that evening that I unpacked some things and I found a handwritten note from Mark Register thanking me for the purchase along with a couple of pleasantries. It brought tears to my eyes. In a moment like that I'm reminded of the impact the teachers and administrators had on me and my peers. Sacred Heart will always be much more of a home than a school."



**Reese (Twenter-Morris) Fraley '18** graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. She is currently working as a Fine Arts/General Admissions Representative for Missouri Valley College

and dance instructor at Studio A Dance Conservatory. Starting in Fall 2023, Reese will begin teaching dance courses at Missouri Valley College. She and Seth Fraley were married March 18, 2023, in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The couple lives in Sedalia with their two Australian Shepherds, Rosie-June and Cookie.



**John Smothers '18** and **Alexandria Finney '22** were married March 11, 2023. John graduated from State Fair Community College with an associate's in construction management. He will continue his education at the University of Central Missouri. He currently travels around the country building power plants. Alexandria is pursuing a degree in early childhood education. The couple resides in Sedalia, but are spending the summer in Houston for John's work. Despite missing home while they are away, they appreciate the opportunity to grow and love one another more each day, and can't wait to see where life takes them. They give all the praise to God. Every day they see Him and His blessings in their lives.



## We Remember

### Mary Lou (Moran) Mergen '64

(April 22, 1946 - February 15, 2023)

Our pioneer freshman class of 1941 was asked to choose a mascot for Sacred Heart School. Their selection? The Gremlin. Aviators would blame plane malfunctions on these mythical and mischievous aerial pixies. While a few variations of the Gremlin popped up from time to time, the identity of our school mascot was equally mythical and mysterious for over 20 years. Then, inspired by a sketch assignment for the 1963-1964 yearbook, Mary Lou brought to life the first couple drawings that have been the inspiration behind the Sacred Heart Gremlin, and the rest is history. Her creative imagination and artistry captured the spirit of our beloved Gremlin as we know it to this day. With much gratitude and appreciation, Mary Lou, we honor and remember you.



Gremlin from 63-64 yearbook



Gremlin from 64-65 yearbook



# SPRING SPORTS RECAP

## Baseball

Returning most of its lineup from last season the Gremlins and its new head coach Nick Brashear came out in full swing. The team wrapped up the season 20-10, and earned fourth in the Kaysinger conference tournament. In postseason play, the Gremlins were the Class 1 District 9 and the Class 1 sectional champions, and a Class 1 State Elite 8 qualifier. With summer underway, so is baseball for the Little Gremlins elementary and junior high teams. They are learning the fundamentals and having lots of fun along the way.  
Coach: Nick Brashear (HS Boys)



## Softball

In its third year co-op with LaMonte, the Gremlins relied on pitching and defense to achieve a 13-7 season record. Teamwork and determination carried LaMonte with Sacred Heart to the conference finals and the semifinal round of districts. In addition to setting a few offensive school records, several Lady Gremlins were recognized individually with post-season honors for athleticism and academics.  
Coach: Candice Young



## Golf

A strong season was expected and the nine-member Gremlins team delivered. Junior Luke Jenkins and sophomore Zander Jackson clinched first and eighth place respectively, helping to capture second place as a team in the Kaysinger Conference Tournament. Jenkins and Jackson continued to shine with both advancing to districts and then to the state championship. After reaching sixth place last year, Jenkins earned an impressive second place finish among the state's top golfers. Jackson also held his own, placing 65th out of 120 competitors.  
Coach: Steve Goodwin



Team	Player	Score	Points
Cole Camp	3 Gage Oelrichs	41	43
	2 Matthew Bright	46	38
	Wyatt Hesse	41	38
Kaysinger Boys Conference	Sam Verbosvchuk	39	45
	Kamryn Hoos	49	51
	Shane Meyer	62	58
	10 Logan Dove	58	48
Green Ridge	Ryan Hagedorn	59	55
	Team Score	114	133
		39	324
Kaysinger Boys Conference	By Tolliver	50	49
	1 Bryce Kroll	44	42
	Benjamin Lines	52	52
	Kyle Eckhoff	59	65
	Mack Hesse	64	68
Lincoln	Team Score	411	
Kaysinger Boys Conference	Thomas Jenkins	61	59
	Spencer Auerbacher	63	57
	5 Eli Smetlas	44	50
	6 Zander Jackson	47	41
Sacred Heart	1 Luke Jenkins	39	40
	Team Score	181	133
Kaysinger Boys Conference	Ethan Greene	77	75
	Hayden Grose	70	67
	Cole Hoehes	59	59
Smithton	Wyatt Gilbert	74	73
	Lilly Stevens	78	74
	Team Score	147	154
Kaysinger Boys Conference	Brett Rowland	57	57
	Jimmy Black	59	59
	Langston Ediger	56	56
	Garin Weigman	54	55
Tipton	Nicklaus Wolf	56	55
	Grady Class	73	73
	Team Score	138	138
Kaysinger Boys Conference	Ben Bestgen	57	57
	Dane Schalthauer	59	59
	Black Battles	54	54
	Nicklaus Wolf	56	55
Windsor	Grady Class	73	73
	Team Score	138	138



## Track

The Sacred Heart track and field team had 14 on the roster this season with almost half of the athletes qualifying for the Missouri Class 1 State Track and Field Championships. The season was packed with personal bests and school record-setting performances. The highlight of the season was the State meet. Senior Kate Carney placed sixth in the shot put with a 10.76 m (35' 4") throw and junior Jackson Manning placed seventh in the 1600 m run, shattering his previous best by 11 seconds, running 4:36.13.

The 4x400 relay team comprised of juniors Reuben Smith and Jackson Manning and freshmen Jared Owens and Max Van Leer placed sixth with a school record-setting time of 3:36.38, beating their previous record by six seconds. The 4x800 relay team represented by freshmen Logan Howell, Jared Owens, Max Van Leer, and junior Jackson Manning placed third with an exciting come-from-behind race to nearly place second but nevertheless achieving another school record-breaking time of 8:34.94.

The 26 member JH team represented the Sacred Heart community well. Many of the contestants ran, jumped, or threw in their events for the first time in many of the meets. Their enthusiasm was superb, and their effort was top-notch, resulting in numerous medals.

Coaches: Carrie Smith (HS), Michael Schwartz (JH)



## Girls Swim

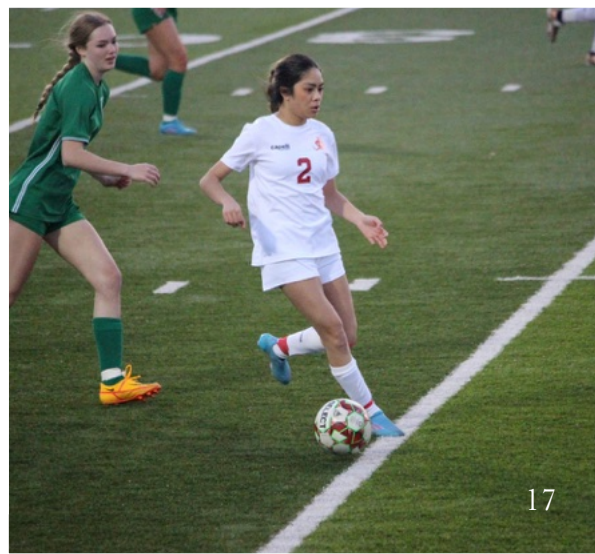
The fourth season of swimming welcomed seven athletes to the team, doubling last year's roster. An injury sidelined back-to-back state qualifier and co-op teammate Camille Schear, but she was a helpful and supportive presence for the team, most of whom were new to competitive swimming. All the swimmers jumped in with both feet, hitting new personal records and entering events that they had never tried before.

Coaches: Allison Burkholder and Victoria Linderman



## Soccer

Spring 2022 marked the return of girls soccer at SHS. The shortened season paved the way for this year's first official season since 2017. To field a complete roster with reserves the Gremlins partnered in a co-op with LaMonte. The road to rebuilding was met with a tough schedule, but the young team showed great character by working hard and persevering. They are already hard at work in the off-season to come back stronger than ever.  
Coach: Nick Turner



# Basketball

Boys basketball placed second in Districts to finish the season 19-10 overall. The year 2024 will mark the 10th anniversary of Coach Steve Goodwin and his 2014 team going undefeated and earning the Class 2 State Championship Title. Goodwin and the Gremlins will be looking to make some history of their own as the team returns four of its starters who are eager to make it back to the Elite 8 and beyond.

Sacred Heart and Otterville partnered in co-op play for girls basketball. This made it possible for student-athletes to field a competitive team, and the girls certainly seized the moment, closing the season with a solid record of 18-9. A highlight was knocking off the number two seed in a nailbiter game leading to second place in the Kaysinger Conference Tournament.

Junior High boys and girls basketball programs both enjoyed successful seasons, finishing 11-7 and 12-5 respectively. The love of the game continues to grow with an enthusiastic cohort of Gremlins taking the court at the elementary level.

Coaches: Steve Goodwin (HS Boys), Mike Schwartz (HS Girls), Wes Register (JH Boys), Desmon Carl (JH Girls)



A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR COACHING STAFF: Your knowledge of the game and your leadership skills help define who we are as The Sacred Heart Gremlins. Thank you for inspiring me to serve you and our students to the best of my ability. Our unity as a school family never ceases to amaze me. Unity is strength. When there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.

While we continue to train physically in the hopes of achieving personal and team success, remember we are also in spiritual training. The virtues you gain as coaches and athletes are truly unique in spiritual growth through team and competition.

Amanda Blackburn  
Athletic Director

"Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all to the Glory of God."  
1 Corinthians 10: 31

# Post Season Awards

## Highlights

- Zoe Martin garnered 200 season and 395 career strikeouts (in three seasons due to Covid)
- Tanner Damlo exceeded 1,000 career points
- Gavin Caldwell reached 100 career strikeouts
- Reuben Smith, Jackson Manning, Jared Owens and Max Van Leer set new school record in 4x800
- Jackson Manning, Logan Howell, Jared Owens and Max Van Leer set new school record in 4x400
- Kate Carney signed to join the rowing team at Kansas State University
- Emma Siron signed to play volleyball at the University of Central Missouri
- Zoe Martin signed to play softball at Central Methodist

## Academic All State

2022-2023 Varsity Volleyball

2022-2023 Varsity Baseball

Sammy Altena (JR), Softball -

Highest GPA for Academic All-State in Softball Class 1

Kate Carney (SR), Basketball, Track

Abby Arnold, (SR) Softball

Carter Rice (JR), Baseball

Mariana Restrepo (SR), Track

Jaden Velando (SR), Track

Jackson Manning (JR), Track

Reuben Smith (JR), Track

Max Van Leer (FR), Track

Logan Howell (FR), Track

Margarita Karpenchuk (SO), Track

Ebrinn Cahill (FR), Track

Cassidy Bentch (FR), Track

## All State

Carter Rice (JR), 1st team, Baseball (catcher)

Connor Rice (JR), 2nd team, Baseball (infielder)

Tanner Damlo (SR), Honorable Mention, Baseball (infielder)

Gavin Caldwell (JR), Honorable Mention, Baseball (utility)

Zoe Martin (SR), 2nd team, Softball (pitcher)

## All Region

Zoe Martin (SR), 1st team, Softball

All District

Tanner Damlo (SR), Basketball

Carter Rice (JR), Basketball

Connor Rice (JR), Basketball

Zoe Martin (SR), 1st team, Softball (pitcher)

Sammy Altena (JR), 2nd team, Softball (catcher)

Nick Brashear, Coach of the Year, Baseball

Carter Rice (JR), Player of the Year, Baseball

Tanner Damlo (SR), Baseball

Gavin Caldwell (JR), Baseball

Connor Rice (JR), Baseball

Shea Smith (JR), Soccer

Mariah Van Leer (JR), Soccer

Ebrinn Cahill (FR), Soccer

## All Conference

Connor Rice (JR), Basketball

Carter Rice (JR), Basketball

Tanner Damlo (SR), Basketball

Conner Brown (SO), Honorable Mention, Basketball

Zoe Martin (SR), Softball

Sammy Altena (JR), Softball

Connor Rice (JR), Baseball

Carter Rice (JR), Baseball

Tanner Damlo (SR), Baseball

Gavin Caldwell (JR), Baseball

George Bain IV (JR), Honorable Mention, Baseball

Kate Carney, (SR), Basketball

Mariana Restrepo (SR), Honorable Mention, Basketball

Academic All-State Honors are managed by the coaches association of each sport. Criteria for Academic All-State are as follows:

Baseball: Athletes must have a 24 or higher on the ACT or be ranked in the top 25% of the class. Team awards are based on the GPA and ACT scores of sophomore, junior, and senior players.

Softball: Varsity athletes must have a cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.7 or higher. Varsity teams must have a cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.3 or higher.

Basketball: Athletes must be a senior, in good standing with the team, possess outstanding moral character, and have met one or more of the following: 27 or higher ACT, 1280 or higher SAT, PSAT of 185 or higher, and or 3.25 or higher GPA.

Volleyball: Varsity teams must average a 3.30 GPA on a 4.0 scale or better for the entire 2022-2023 academic year.

Track: Athletes must have competed in a state series meet and have met one or more of the following: 25 or higher ACT, 1150 or higher SAT or 3.6 or higher GPA.

Girls Soccer: Only seniors qualify. There were no seniors on the 2023 SHS roster.

Swim: Academic All-State is not awarded.

# SCHOOL NEWS

Gremlins took over Liberty park for the traditional Elementary Field Day. The day began with the annual Living Rosary in the McGremlin Gym. God provided the beautiful weather for the end-of-year celebration hosted by Active Parents Club and the eighth grade class.



Student Council organized a memorable High School Field Day with lunch, sports activities, and a water balloon battle, fostering camaraderie and celebration of the seniors before graduation.

Sophomore Sophie Anderson received a gold rating, the highest level of achievement, on her two solos at the Missouri State Music Contest at the University of Missouri, Columbia.



Mrs. Hagebusch's classroom Sulcata turtle "Ted" is living his best life! Who wouldn't want to be adored by our sweet preschool friends!



Mrs. Dove continued her tradition of hosting a celebration in her classroom honoring the nine SHS seniors who were once her kindergarten students. Mrs. Dove played a video that highlighted many moments from their kindergarten year. She also gave the students a packet that included a letter from her, a paper the students wrote the last week of kindergarten about their favorite part of the year, and artwork they had created and given to Mrs. Dove while in her class. It was a treasured memory for all.

Students in Mrs. Fulcher's freshman religion class carved out time to serve as the hand and feet of Jesus all around campus. The class created hundreds of cards throughout the school year to send to members of our St. Vincent de Paul parish who are 80+ years young. On one occasion, the students served the kindergarteners during snack time. The littles liked the help but they loved the visits with the big kids even more!



Four SHS students attended the 2023 Missouri Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) State Leadership Conference held March 3 in Osage Beach. Around 1,500 delegates from across the state represented 8,603 members of Missouri FCCLA. On Monday, more than 700 students participated in 32 competitive Students Taking Action with Recognition (STAR) events. Seniors Abby Arnold and Eli Smeltzer, and junior Faithlynn Parks competed in the Students Taking Action with Recognition (STAR) events earning a bronze medal in the Level 3 Repurpose and Redesign event.



Junior Faithlynn Parks was elected to the Missouri Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) State Executive Council as vice president of public relations for Missouri for the 2023-2024 school year, making her the first SHS FCCLA member to be elected to a state-level position. As an elected Missouri officer, she was given the opportunity to attend the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in Denver, Colorado, in July. Throughout the conference, Faithlynn networked with other state members and advisers from across the nation, attended leadership workshops, explored career pathways, learned from industry experts, and made memories with people who share similar interests.



Faith, food and finals! Fr. Joe and Fr. Cesar distributed prayers and goodie bags for students during Finals Week.



The spring musical played to a full house as the cast and crew presented *The Sound of Music* March 24 and 25 at the Hayden Liberty Center. The musical featured a stellar cast that included elementary and junior high students performing with the high school talent. The musical was directed by Ms. Chelsea Turner and Mr. Darrin Hartman.



The National Theatre for Children presented *Land of Smiles!* to students in preschool through third grade. Students had fun learning about the importance of properly caring for their teeth through this entertaining and interactive presentation.

The Sacred Heart JH Speech team participated in the JH Diocesan Speech meet in March. With over 35 teams competing, this last meet of the year is the largest of them all and it's the only meet where a performer can earn gold with a perfect score. Sixth graders Madison Hill and Sofia Guevara were only one point shy of a perfect gold score, earning a blue with their duet titled "Third Mouse from the Left."



Gremlins baseball hosted a special game night celebrating all SHS youth baseball, softball, and teeball players. All youth players were invited onto the field with the high school varsity team for the anthem and to play catch. Go Gremlins!



Over 50 band students entertained audiences for the first exclusive Grammy Band Concert. Band class, offered for students in fifth through twelfth grades, is directed by Mrs. Lisa Yonce.



Retired faculty and SHS Hall of Fame Inductee Mrs. Bonnie Diefendorf, a passionate advocate for life, gave a compelling presentation to seventh grade religion students. Using gestation models, she emphasized the importance of life from conception, leaving a lasting impression and inspiring the students.



SHS fifth graders welcomed Airman Zachary Strickland from the 509th Operation Support Squadron at Whiteman Air Force Base for a wonderful weather presentation. It was a fantastic supplement to the science curriculum and the children enjoyed the presentation and experimenting with the various weather forecasting instruments that he shared.



The 2021-22 Sacred Heart Yearbook Staff received national recognition as a recipient of the Jostens National Yearbook Program of Excellence Award at the gold level, which is the highest level possible. Sacred Heart's student yearbook staff, under the direction of faculty member Nikki Howell, was among the two percent of schools nationwide to receive the award. The *Heart of a Gremlin* yearbook was dedicated to Campus Minister Mrs. Debbie Bolin, who retired at the end of the school year.



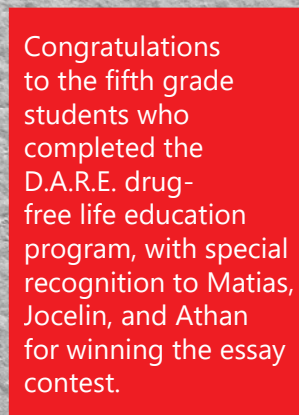
Congratulations to Delilah (second grade) and Auggie (third grade), winners of the Drone Prize Patrol contest! The Sedalia Police Department Drone Unit and The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 16 sponsored the coloring contest for elementary students in kindergarten through fourth grades. The contest fostered good relations with the community and showed the children the cool technology our police department uses to serve and protect our communities.



Gremlins had a strong showing at area math competitions, like the one hosted by Warrensburg Middle School, where every student who competed earned one or more awards.



Congratulations to Mrs. Robin Williams, our 2023 SHS Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Williams has spent nearly 40 years in education. The past eight years have been at Sacred Heart School teaching our third grade students. Mrs. Williams has a special way of making each child feel loved and important. Her positive impact doesn't stop within the classroom. Her door is always open to help her fellow colleagues and offer words of encouragement to others. Congratulations, Mrs. Williams!



Congratulations to the fifth grade students who completed the D.A.R.E. drug-free life education program, with special recognition to Matias, Jocelin, and Athan for winning the essay contest.





Eighth graders promoted teamwork and solidarity as they climbed, ziplined and tackled obstacles at the Tucker Leadership Lab on the campus of William Jewell College. Afterwards, the students had the opportunity to reflect on what they learned and connect it to our Catholic values, especially in the spirit of stewardship.

Ready ... Set ... READ! Our kinders are on the inside track for reading thanks to Hot Rod, a character in their SuperKids reading program. Inspired by Hot Rod, students built their very own hot rods to race around the gym. They had to make a pit stop to visit the fifth graders who were situated at 20 different locations, each holding a sentence. Once the sentence was correctly read, the hot rods could race on to the checkered flag finish line!



The JH girls basketball team scored big by volunteering at the Community Cafe to provide over 80 hot meals for members of our community in need.



Our sixth graders participated in the Diocese of Jefferson City's sixth Grade Vocation Day, where they prayed, reflected, and worked to embrace God's call. The day emphasized the importance of being close to God and saying "yes" to His will for a successful path of stewardship. We hope all students left with a renewed commitment to seeking God's will and remaining faithful to their calling.



Junior Mariah Van Leer represented SHS for the second year in a row at the Missouri State Speech Competition held at Missouri State University in Springfield.

The Class of 2027 celebrated its eighth grade Mass and graduation ceremony on May 22 at St. Patrick Chapel. This 20-student strong class accumulated numerous accolades in the areas of academics, activities, and attendance. The current seventh grade class cantored the Mass and hosted the reception. It was a wonderful celebration full of faith and family.



Crowning of Mary is a highlight of the Kindergarten religion year. We look forward to this special day!



SHS Key Club Members Sarah Hill, Ximena Lopez, and Laysha Lopez attended the Key Club Mo-Ark District Leadership Conference in Springfield, Missouri. This three-day conference was filled with workshops and programs ranging from leadership training to social issues and charitable activities. Key Club is a student-led service organization. Any high school student at SHS is welcome to become a member.

At first glance, the SHS carport is a typical canopy providing shade and lighting, but there is much more that meets the eye. Since its installation four years ago, the solar array has soaked in some great stats:

- Total value of electricity produced to date: \$51,557.00!
- Environmentally: The CO2 savings was greater than 200 tons, equivalent to 5,700 trees, or driving 900,000 miles.
- Educationally: Over the past four years, the solar array and semiconductor information have been the subject of 10 high school science and chemistry classes.

Total cost of the project, estimated at \$330,000, was funded entirely through grants and a private donation from long-time Catholic education supporters and St. Vincent de Paul parishioners, Steve and Karen Ellebracht. Steve is also a member of the Sacred Heart School Foundation and a frequent guest chemistry teacher.

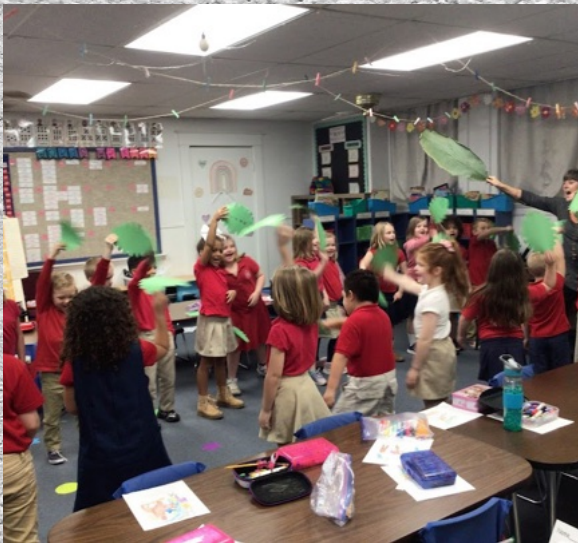
"When Karen and I moved to Sedalia a few years ago, we wanted to get involved with education," said Steve. "Karen and I have five children and education was a key part of wherever we lived, and we've lived in a number of places around the world. One of the real gems we found in Sedalia is Sacred Heart School. We wanted to give something to the school that would continue to give, and a solar array will certainly do that."



Math is delicious! Third-grade students concluded their fractions unit with a creative pizza box project. With the instructions of having at least eight slices, students used a variety of craft materials to design their "master-pizzas." They then had to indicate the fractions each topping covered along with equivalent fractions for each. Their brilliance and creativity was celebrated with a pizza party, showcasing that learning is contagious.



Mrs. Hagebusch's freshman and sophomore science students traveled on two different occasions to the University of Missouri. Tour stops included the engineering department, school of veterinary medicine, veterinary hospital, the food animal facility, equine facility and recreation center.



Student Council members and friends spent several weeks painting and designing the Gremlin Corridor to give it a vibrant new look full of school spirit. Profits earned from the Gremlin Student Store and Cafe made this fantastic transformation possible.



In preparation for Holy Week, SH kinders learned about the Passion. One of their favorite lessons was learning about Jesus entering the city of Jerusalem. They made their own palms, lined the "streets" outside the city, waved their palms as they saw Jesus coming, and shouted "Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"



Students in first through fifth grades prepared Christmas blessing bags again this year for our parishioners who are 80+ years young. They assembled and delivered 120 bags. Some Gremlins were even able to sneak in hellos and hugs during the delivery!

# FOUNDATION NEWS

As I'm writing this message, the Fr. Hoying Gymnasium is filled to the brim with used school items ready to be auctioned off in what I think is the largest public auction in our school's history. This surplus auction marks a significant milestone, as thanks to some terrific grants, we are able to welcome our students back to school with new desks, chairs, tables, AC units, and more. For those of us who have been part of this community for a long time, we know firsthand the lengths we've gone to in order to respectfully stretch and maintain the resources we have. Our talented and dedicated faculty can successfully teach in any situation, but it sure is nice to be able to welcome them and our students back in the fall with some well-deserved upgrades. I extend a huge thanks to our administration for seizing this opportunity.

Meanwhile, the Sacred Heart School Foundation has significant developments in the works, which we hope to share soon. The enrollment growth, academic accolades, and campus improvements make me wonder what our dearly departed founding Foundation board members would think. In April, this group which included Fr. Vince Hoying, Art Borgmeyer, Bill Register, and Don Miller, was rightfully inducted into the SHS Hall of Fame. Nearly 45 years ago, these visionary individuals brought together their gifts, visions, ideas, and resources, laying a foundation for our school's sustainable success. Their foresight has been a lifeline for Sacred Heart School, and with your continued help, resources, and support, we are able to carry their legacy forward, fueling SHS with the life and energy they envisioned all those years ago.

Our Foundation's Annual Fund Drive remains the number one avenue through which you can contribute to support the immediate and long-term needs of Sacred Heart School. Our goal for this year's Annual Fund Drive is set at \$255,000 by December 31. Tuition dollars alone do not fully cover the cost of educating a Sacred Heart student. Your gifts help fund the gap with need based scholarships as we are not just a school for the economically elite. Your generous contributions to the Annual Fund Drive have a direct and lasting impact on Sacred Heart's ability to provide an exceptional Catholic education to a diverse body of willing and able students.

Please use the enclosed envelope to make your gift to our Annual Fund Drive. Thank you for your continued support!

Kyle Herrick '82  
President  
Sacred Heart School Foundation

P.S. Thank you to our friends at Inter-State Studio, Inc. for helping offset some of the printing costs of *From the Heart*! We are grateful!



## 2023 Annual Fund Drive Goal \$255,000 by Dec. 31, 2023

Gifts to the Annual Fund support essentially every aspect of the school, including:

- **Student Scholarships:** More than 90% of our families seek tuition assistance. Gifts to the Annual Fund Drive help bridge the gap between the actual cost of education and what a family can afford.
- **Faculty Recruitment and Retention:** Fair and competitive salaries are essential to be able to continue to provide the best education for our students.
- **Facilities and Resources:** Funding to address immediate needs and future capital improvements is necessary to keep our 140-year-old campus healthy, vibrant, and poised for the next generation of scholars.

A gift from you in any amount will be honored by placing your name in a future publication of a *From the Heart* magazine. Scan the QR code, use the enclosed envelope, or give online at [www.gogremlins.com/donate](http://www.gogremlins.com/donate).





**\$223,645.02**

# 2022 ANNUAL

*Thank You*

A special thank you to everyone listed below for your support of our 2022 Annual Fund Drive. Your continued support each year is the lifeline to our school and foundation.

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Our Many Anonymous Donors

## A note to our donors:

Publishing a list of donors is a small way we can recognize and publicly thank those who have made a gift to our Annual Fund Drive. We make every effort to acknowledge all gifts. If there is an omission of your name or an error in naming recognition, please contact Liz Van Leer at [shfoundation@gogremlins.com](mailto:shfoundation@gogremlins.com) or (660) 827-2311. Thank you for your support and understanding.

# PLANNED GIVING

## *Generosity that Extends for Generations*

Planned giving is a profound testament to the enduring power of generosity and foresight. Developing a plan now represents a thoughtful and deliberate approach to philanthropy that transcends time, leaving a lasting legacy for your loved ones and the causes you value.

By carefully considering how to allocate assets, you can ensure your life's work continues to impact the world long after we're called to our heavenly home. There are many creative approaches to planned giving that benefit charitable causes and your loved ones simultaneously without impacting your current lifestyle or your family's security.

We invite you to contact your trusted advisors to learn more about planned giving methods that work for you. To speak about your planned gift to Saint Vincent de Paul Parish or the Sacred Heart Foundation, please contact Liz Van Leer in the business office at (660) 827-2311.

**Have you already planned a legacy gift to Sacred Heart Foundation or St. Vincent de Paul? Please share your story with us to inspire others to give!**

## *Scholarship Spotlight: Don and Bonnie Brown Legacy Scholarship*

Don and Bonnie Brown dedicated over 70 years of faith-filled service to Sacred Heart and St. Vincent de Paul Parish. They made many sacrifices to ensure that their six children (Peggy '66, David '68, Bill '70, Greg '72, Jeff '75, and Julie '83) attended Sacred Heart School from first grade through graduation. Any downtime was invested back into the life of the school and parish. Don was a member of the Knights of Columbus. While the kids were in school, Don was active in scouting and little league sports. He was the go-to guy for maintaining the school-wide clock system. Bonnie was a member of the Daughters of Isabella and worked in the school cafeteria for a number of years. Later in life, the couple tended to the flower gardens around campus.

In 2022, Dave and Greg established the Don and Bonnie Brown Legacy Scholarship as a tribute to their parents. The scholarship, managed by the Sacred Heart Foundation, will provide tuition assistance to Sacred Heart students who are members of St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

"Our parents made many sacrifices to send us to Sacred Heart School," said Dave. "I have fond memories of my teachers, like Joe Biter, Jeanette Eckerly, Mrs. Elemburger, Bea Maple, and Sister Rosella. Our brother Bill attributed much success at State Fair Community College to special tutoring from Sister Eileen."

Dave said he and Greg decided to establish a scholarship in memory of their parents to help SHS live on.

"Our parents set the example to follow", said Dave. "We think the legacy they started with us should continue through other families in the St. Vincent de Paul parish. The endowment is a good way to do that."



# BRIGHT MINDS, BRIGHT FUTURES

## *Thank You, Scholarship Donors*

With grateful hearts, we recognize those who have chosen to sponsor a Sacred Heart School student with a named scholarship. By doing so, these donors have chosen to reach out to meet the needs of a deserving student or faculty member in a very special and specific way. Contributors to a named scholarship have the opportunity to meet the individuals they have sponsored and watch them grow throughout that student's education at Sacred Heart School. If you would like to learn more about contributing to an existing scholarship or creating a new scholarship for you or a loved one, please contact Liz Van Leer at [shfoundation@gogremlins.com](mailto:shfoundation@gogremlins.com).

### **Sacred Heart School Tuition Scholarships**

Don and Bonnie Brown Legacy Endowment  
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Jim Dick Memorial Scholarship  
Elizabeth Menefee O'Dowd Scholarship  
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### **College Scholarships for SHS graduates**

McCarthy Toyota Scholarship  
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Betty Hopkins Legacy Scholarship

### **Sacred Heart School Professional Development Scholarships**

Sharon Dey Scholarship

# DECADES OF DEDICATION

## SHS PAYS TRIBUTE TO DYNAMIC, INSPIRING TRIO

Our faculty and staff are comprised of remarkable and dedicated talent. While career beginnings naturally come with endings, it's not easy saying goodbye, especially to the phenomenal veteran trio that is Esther DeGraff, Jeannine Dove, and Marlo (Boots) Siron '91. Mrs. Dove, our beloved kindergarten teacher, led her students in whimsical melodies and imparted classroom procedures, organization, and self-discipline with unmatched creativity. As administrative assistant, Mrs. DeGraff ensured the smooth functioning of our school behind the scenes and was always one of the first to greet you with a smile when you entered the school. Mrs. Siron's successful run as head volleyball coach is just the start. For years, her vision and leadership kept our campus on pace with the latest security and technology advancements.

While these wonderful members of our family said goodbye to their full-time positions at SHS, their hearts (and ours!) are filled with a treasury of cherished memories. A few of these memories are shared in the following pages.

### Top Missouri teacher

## Positive attitude helps '81 grad win award

By Cindy Show  
Staff Writer

"We are the people that are training tomorrow's future leaders," says Jeannine Dove, an SFCC graduate and one of three Missourians to be named to the 1982 Teacher of the Year award.

As a fifth grade teacher at Knob Noster Elementary School, Dove, 27, is doing her part in training tomorrow's leaders. Her school principal Ben Lowry nominated her in January for this award, which is given by the Sallie Mae Corporation (a student loan marketing association). Dove is one of 10 elementary and secondary teachers in the nation to receive this award, which consists of a \$1,000 check and a certificate of recognition. It was the last week in May that Lowry approached Dove with his congratulations. "I did not know what he was congratulating me for," laughs Dove. "Finally he told me that I got it and I became ecstatic and started

shaking. I couldn't believe it! I feel like a lot of this award goes to Mr. Lowry because he wrote the application."

The nomination included a letter of recommendation from Lowry, and required the nominee to be a first year teacher, and have academic honors and leadership abilities and commitment evident in participation in extra-curricular activities.

"She is a very positive teacher who is concerned for her students. She is energetic, and spends a great deal of time in planning and preparing for class. Jeannine did an outstanding job as far as her first year teaching," says Lowry.

Dove, whose maiden name was Hincken, earned a secretarial science degree from here in 1981. While she was working toward this degree, she also worked for Dr. Marvin Filding, then vice-president of SFCC, was the state secretary for Phi Beta Lambda, and served on the Northeastern Steering Committee. Dove returned to SFCC



Jeannine Dove teaches her fifth grade class current events from a newspaper.

in the summer of 1985 to take some additional courses in education, which counted toward an elementary education degree in August of 1987 from Central Missouri State University. "I took a lot of basic education classes here at SFCC," she says. "I got a lot of classroom experience from Dixie Byrum's Physical Education for Elementary Children course, along with a lot of writing skills from my English courses." She adds that SFCC teachers are very personable and will work with students on a one-to-one basis. "They are not real 'high and mighty,'" she says. Dove attended school in Green Ridge, where she and her husband Joe live. "I thought about being a teacher all through high school," she says, adding that her grandmother, mother and sister are teachers. "My mother had a big influence on me. I had seen my mom come home happy and at other times frustrated. I knew teaching would have its ups and downs."

See TEACHER, page 2

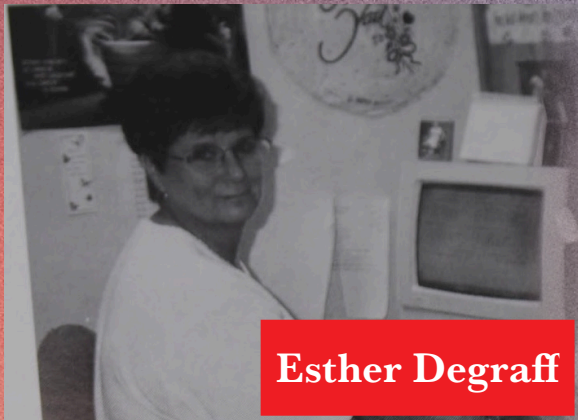


### Q: When did your journey with SHS begin?

**Jeannine:** My husband and I are blessed with two daughters, Ciara and MaKayla. After much prayer, God led us to enroll Ciara at SHS for kindergarten in 1995. From the moment she entered Mary Ellen Bishop (Davis)'s kindergarten room, Ciara was happy and we knew she had found her school "home."

**Esther:** We enrolled our two boys at SHS in January 1995. Nathaniel was in eighth grade and Cliff was in fifth grade. I joined the SHS staff in 1997.

**Marlo:** I joined SHS as a kindergarten student in 1978. I graduated as a Gremlin in 1991 and returned as an employee in the fall of 1997.



Esther DeGraff





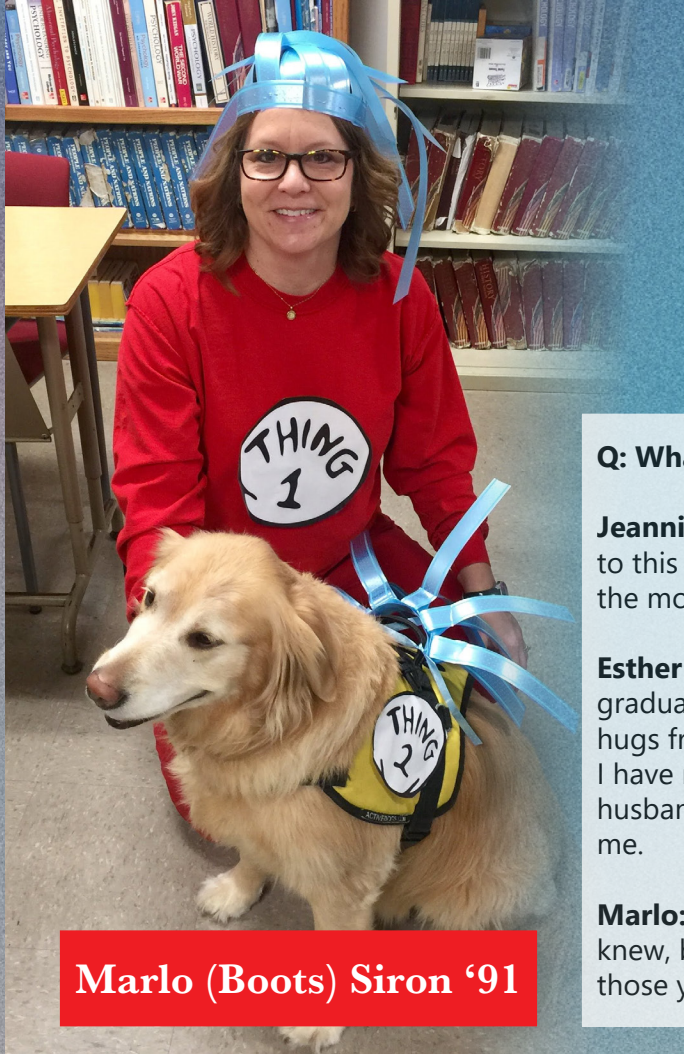
**Jeannine Dove**

**Q: What drew you to SHS?**

**Jeannine:** I had every intention to teach at Green Ridge School, just like my family members, but God had other plans. In 1995 (the same year my daughter started at SHS), I applied and was offered the position to teach the half-day kindergarten program. Little did I know that God had helped me find my school "home."

**Esther:** Mrs. Jinny O'Donnell was a contributing factor. She was going back to teach at SHS and mentioned that a bookkeeper position was open. I had been a library/media assistant when I lived in Woodard, Oklahoma. Jinny thought I might enjoy getting involved again in school life, and the rest is history.

**Marlo:** Dr. Register asked me to join SHS as the guidance counselor. I also served as senior moderator and coached JV volleyball and boys golf. He definitely had more faith in me than I did in myself at that time.



**Marlo (Boots) Siron '91**



**Q: What has kept you at SHS?**

**Jeannine:** I love Sacred Heart School! There is such a magical "family" feel to this school and this is where I feel I belong. God has blessed me with the most wonderful parents and students to work with.

**Esther:** At first, it was being at school with our boys, but once they both graduated, it was the faculty, staff, and students. I love all the love and hugs from the students, and what a special second family we are at SHS. I have met wonderful families and have made lifelong friends. When my husband Mike passed away in 2020, my SHS family was there to support me.

**Marlo:** I have loved Sacred Heart Church and School as a student and knew, based on my wonderful teachers and memories that I made over those years, that SHS was the right fit for me professionally.

**Q: Favorite memories at SHS?**

**Jeannine:** Some of my most vivid memories did not start out as happy ones. My classroom experienced so many floods that I have been known as "Noah" and my classroom was named the "The USS Dove." We have survived the New Addition Mini Floods, the New Addition Homecoming Flood, the Speech Meet Flood, the Water Fountain Flood, the Busted Main Flood, and the Third Floor Bathroom Flood.

I love the blending and harmony of singing with the faculty choir. My colleague Ms. Gloria Close and I sang together in high school and it has been so enjoyable to sing with her rich alto voice again. I treasure listening to Mr. Hartman play the piano.

I also treasure the memories of being the master of ceremonies at the elementary Christmas and Spring concerts. It has been so much fun to watch our music department grow and flourish. It was an honor to be a member of the building board for the new school addition. I will always remember how the Sacred Heart faculty came together to provide quality instruction for our students during the Covid shutdown. I will always be indebted to my co-teacher Sarah Kramer for teaching me how to use Google Slides and to Marlo Siron for teaching me how to record lessons.

**Esther:** The wonderful faculty and staff members over the years all have a special place in my heart. I have fond memories of our sons' graduations; being with my granddaughter during her three years at SHS; starting the Scrip/Raise Right Program in 1999; helping Sue (Keller) Wise-Hoersten '58 with the Foundation/Campaign for Quality (Annual Fund Drive); doing the lunch check off when students went through the line; and the planning and building of the new addition.

I loved seeing what the high school kids would come up with for hallway decorating and other functions that went along with homecoming. The interaction between the older kids and the younger ones is so special, especially when they were prayer buddies for one another.

**Marlo:** Mrs. Marcia Turner being voted faculty Homecoming queen at a pep rally; principal Dr. Gary Manning kissing a pig; boys basketball winning the 2014 state title; development director Liz Van Leer and her creative spirit winning the school \$100,000 (a new BUS) with a video 2015, and so many more!



**Q: Favorite traditions at SHS?**

**Jeannine:** The Crowning of Mary, led by the kinder students, is my favorite tradition! I get a lump in my throat every year as I watch the students bring forth their items to the altar, bow, and place their items at Mary's statue. I also look forward to the Christmas Eve dinner, pep rallies, the Advent wreath prayer services, and the Living Stations of the Cross.

**Esther:** Such wonderful ideas went into the banners the students made for the homecoming hall decorating and the games they came up with for the bazaar. I have fond memories of celebrating Catholic Schools Week. One of the most heart-warming traditions is the NHS Christmas Eve Dinner. Being able to help in any way to help with this function and to see the alumni and families come to help is just wonderful.

**Marlo:** My mother (Sherry Shanahan Walker '65), me and my sister (Holly Walker Dow '98), and then my daughters (Taylor '19 and Emma '23) were able to participate in some of the same traditions like winter homecoming, the crowning of the Senior queen, the cheerleaders chanting the "Yay Queen" cheer, Senior Night and senior trips. I love our Gremlin traditions.



**Q: In your years at SHS, what areas of change stand out to you?**

**Jeannine:** Air conditioning! The 2005 addition which included a new gym and extra classrooms used to be just a dream. I still marvel at the size of my current classroom. When I started teaching at SHS, we crossed Vermont Street to a small grass lot with swings and a wooden playset. I was thrilled to be part of the committee that chose the new big playset. Now that playground has transformed with more new equipment and a soft mat surface. The growth of technology in the last 15 years has been phenomenal. I use the smart panel every day. I cannot imagine teaching without this technology. It has so enriched my lessons!

**Esther:** The many capital improvements really stand out. Harris Hall (the old Boy Scout hut) was converted into the school library, which was redesigned to serve as our preschool facility. The conversion of our library into an interactive classroom for online dual credit courses was a big deal. The many tech updates, especially our computer labs, have advanced our class offerings. Expanding our campus to include daycare and preschool has been wonderful. The biggest change has been the new addition (2005). It was a huge undertaking and has been a blessing to our school.

**Marlo:** I've witnessed the new addition to our school, I watched our solar array develop and be installed, and I've served and survived many school self-studies to set our school up for future growth and success.

**Q: In your years at SHS, has anything notable stayed the same?**

**Jeannine:** I admire the dedication of legendary teachers that have come before me that have fought to keep this school alive and have pushed students to succeed at exceptional levels. I love being part of the rich history of this school.

**Esther:** The passion of our faculty is what comes to mind. So many have dedicated their teaching career to SHS. They are there for the students. Being able to start and end the day in prayer has always made my heart happy. To have religious personalities in our lives is wonderful and has been such a comfort to me and many more.

**Marlo:** The saying "We are SH. We are FAMILY!" is something that has always stuck with me. I think once you get to SHS you don't want to leave. We have great students, wonderful parents, and the best teachers!



**Q: Words of wisdom for staff, alumni, students, parents, and friends of SHS?**

**Jeannine:** Every person needs to read the wise words written by Robert Fulghum, *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*. Though the words seem simple and elementary, they are truly timeless and can be used to guide us during all phases of our lives. How wonderful our world would be if we would "share everything, play fair, don't hit people, put things back where we found them, say we're sorry when we hurt someone, and hold hands and stick together when we go out into the world." I have tried to instill the lessons of these words into each of my kindergarten students. I hope they have taken these lessons and passed them on to everyone they meet.

**Esther:** These words were from my mom long ago: Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil. It has no point.

**Marlo:** Don't be a stranger! Come back and see your teachers, come to games, stay connected because we miss you terribly when you are gone!





**Q: What is in store for your future?**

**Jeannine:** I plan to spend more time with my family and friends. My husband and I plan to travel and update our home. I plan to find ways to give service to others by substitute teaching and doing volunteer work. I will exchange "Mrs. Dove" for "Nini" as I spend a lot of time being grandma to our four grandchildren.

**Esther:** I want to be able to be involved with our granddaughter's senior year, then my goal is to move to Olathe to be around our twin grandsons for their school career.

**Marlo:** I am unsure what my future has in store but you can guarantee I will always hold Sacred Heart church and school in my HEART!



**Q: Anything else you would like to add?**

**Jeannine:** I have been so blessed to have had a career where I could make an impact on the lives of so many young lives, and in return, have received an imprint of their lives upon my heart!

**Esther:** What a wonderful 26 years I have had at Sacred Heart School. Our boys were immersed in the Catholic faith, which we were missing. Mike joined the church with the help of Dr. Register and the O'Donnell family and Fr. Mike Volkmer. Our world is better by being involved and part of SHS and St. Vincent de Paul Parish. My heart is full of lovely memories to cherish forever. I want to thank everyone for all the wonderful memories from all over the years.

**Marlo:** I miss the students, the alums, their parents, and my colleagues already!

**Elementary teacher wins national award**

by Susanne Engelby  
Staff Writer

**KNOB NOSTER** — Jeannine Dove set high standards for herself while he was in school and then for her fifth-grade students when she began teaching. Now those standards are paying off.

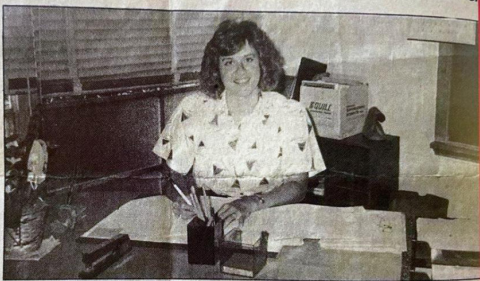
Dove, a teacher at Knob Noster Elementary School, recently received the Sallie Mae award, which honors 100 outstanding first-year teachers annually throughout the nation.

Dove, 26, Green Ridge, was nominated by the school's principal, Dan Lowry, and the Knob Noster school district. Along with her recognition, Dove received \$1,000.

The award was made by the Student Loan Marketing Association of Washington, D.C., a corporation that funds student loans. The awards program is in its fourth year.

Dove, a third-generation teacher, said she has always taken education seriously, and she always expected herself to do well while she studied at State Fair Community College and Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg.

She finished her studies in August at CMSU and began teaching that fall. "I still have high expectations of myself, but they're different," she said. "Teachers are a different



Jeannine Dove, a fifth-grade teacher at Knob Noster Elementary School, recently won a Sallie Mae Teacher Award, which honors outstanding first-year teachers throughout the nation.

"I'm me, and I'm O.K.," she said. "No one in here is any better than anyone else," she said. Having one year of teaching under her belt, Dove said she has learned a great deal and continues to learn

very strict; start out very stern." Dove said she plans to be strict in a nice way. Instead of pointing out failures, she likes to draw attention to a student who is doing something

here, they'd have a good base to on," Dove said. She thinks of teaching fifth-grade as an exciting challenge, because the still are young enough that they can influence positively, she said.

**Our HEARTS are full of gratitude for your dedication and service. As the day dawns on the next chapter in your lives, may God continue to richly bless you and watch over you. Thank you so many times over.**



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