



# St. Eugene SPIRIT

For the family and friends of St. Eugene School

Fall 2019



## Celebrating Beloved Teachers

Our teachers are our greatest asset at St. Eugene School. Their talent and dedication lead our students to academic success, while their compassion creates the family feeling that sets our school apart. With bittersweet emotions, we celebrated the following teachers at a retirement party following their final school Mass in June. Principal Rebecca Jones praised their contributions as educators and role models. Students, parents, and alumni contributed to memory books and socialized with the retirees afterward.

**Mary Jane Tulley** is a legend at St. Eugene School! Beginning in 1970, she taught hundreds of students, and even the parents of some current students, at the intermediate and middle school levels. Her special focus was social studies. When guiding our students to draw maps, construct Egyptian tombs, and create Revolutionary War news broadcasts, she brought history to life. She also moderated Math Olympiads as an after-school co-curricular, regularly leading our contestants to score in the top 2%-10% of the nation.

**Joe Mirasola** taught third grade at St. Eugene for 20 years. For the annual science fair, he motivated students to dream up a project idea, run an experiment, record results, and present their findings to the school community. Field trips to the EAA were another highlight, and he logged many happy hours with our after-care students.

**Karen Prendergast** spent 15 years as our 8<sup>th</sup> grade homeroom and middle school English, language arts, and literature teacher. Affectionately nicknamed “The Grammar Police,” Mrs. P. made it her mission to ensure our students are well spoken and know the many rules of comma usage. Students will remember her love of her favorite book, *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

**Margy Slattery** has served our school for 15 years. She initially shared the role of school secretary and introduced Worship Circle as a supplement to our religion curriculum. In recent years, her role evolved to include Christian service coordinator. Mrs. Slattery trained older students to lead Worship Circle, organized service projects for all grade levels, facilitated the Living Rosary and Living Stations of the Cross, and created the Shining Light Service Club.

We thank these retiring teachers for their many gifts to our school community and ask God to bless them on their next adventures. They will be missed.



**OPEN HOUSE**  
 Sunday, January 26, 2020  
 9:30 am - 1:00 pm  
 Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year begins at this event

- A foundation of academic excellence
- Every student known by name
- A supportive and involved community
- An education you can have faith in

  
**St. Eugene School**  
 Guiding hearts, growing minds

  
**Exemplary Recognition**  
 Archdiocese of Milwaukee  
 Catholic Schools  
 Mission and Catholic Identity  
 Academic Excellence  
 Innovative Programs  
 Educating the Whole Student

## Annual Fund Exceeds Goal in 2018-19

Thank you to all of our 2018-19 Annual Fund donors for so generously helping us to provide an exemplary, Catholic education at St. Eugene School. The 2018-19 Annual Fund raised \$120,373.00, exceeding our goal of \$105,000.00. The Annual Fund contributes to the annual school budget, the school endowment fund, and the tuition assistance fund.

Congratulations and thank you to our 2018-19 Annual Fund Chairs, current school parents Josh and Tricia North, for guiding our campaign. In addition to current school parents, our Annual Fund donors include St. Eugene parishioners, grandparents of current students, alumni and their parents and grandparents, and friends of families who graciously designate St. Eugene School as the recipient of memorial gifts. Several corporations and foundations also donate, primarily through programs matching their employees' gifts to the Annual Fund. We sincerely appreciate the Norths and all of our donors for being invaluable partners in our mission.

## St. Eugene School Class of 2019



Third row: Fr. Paul Hartmann, Jacob Williams, Peter Manning, Andrew Pienkos, Ethan Zentner, Hugo Vosmaer, Ethan O'Neil, Fr. Andrew Linn  
Second row: Principal Rebecca Jones, Patrick Firsan, Ellie Repinski, Jack Vopal, Imani Peterson, Rylan Siwicki, Mrs. Karen Prendergast  
Front row: Molly Quinn, Caroline Denton, Leo Langerman, Michael Wirth, Thomas O'Byrne, Tristan Rouse, Arianna DePaolo, Imogen Croft

Excited graduates, proud teachers, and beaming parents and friends filled the pews for the Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation on May 31st, 2019. Our newest alumni will attend these high schools: Divine Savior Holy Angels, Dominican, Marquette, Homestead, and Nicolet.

VALEDICTORIAN AWARD ***Ellie Repinski***

SALUTATORIAN AWARD ***Patrick Firsan***

Presented to the students with the first and second overall grade point average during 7th and 8th grade.

MACKIN AWARD ***Ellie Repinski and Thomas O'Byrne***

Presented to one female graduate and one male graduate in honor of founding pastor Fr. William H. Mackin. The recipients must demonstrate positive attributes in academic effort, athletic skill, and overall attitude.

FR. KROLL AWARD ***Peter Manning***

Presented in honor of Fr. Robert Kroll, S.J., a 1979 graduate of St. Eugene School, to the student who best exhibits a respect for our Catholic heritage, takes an active role in the parish community through service to others, and exemplifies Christian values.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP ***Patrick Firsan***

Council 6646 offers a \$500 scholarship to a student who will attend a Catholic high school, with selection based on character, leadership, service, and academics.

## Our Mission

Within a Catholic community, St. Eugene School helps children grow in faith, character, and service, builds a foundation of academic excellence, and promotes the development of the whole child.

# Thank You St. Eugene School Annual Fund Donors

## **MACKIN SOCIETY**

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**With gifts to the Annual Fund, the following individuals have been honored or memorialized for their positive impact on others.**

## **IN HONOR OF**

Virginia Junk  
Rev. Jerry Herda  
Peter, Joseph, & Kenneth Manning  
Susie Nettesheim  
St. Eugene School Teachers  
Margy Slattery  
Mary Jane Tulley

## **IN MEMORY OF**

Katherine Denton Almond  
Joan Steffes Birkholz  
Julia Brahm  
Anne Butrym  
Joseph Butscher  
Thomas Butscher  
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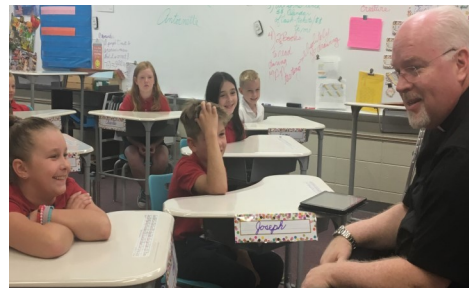


# GUIDING HEARTS AND GROWING MINDS FOR SIXTY YEARS

Our commitment to raising children in the Catholic faith while providing exemplary academics has been steadfast since the first students entered in September of 1959. Some methods have changed; others have stayed the same. As founding pastor Fr. Mackin would say, the spirit of St. Eugene endures.



Students of all generations have enjoyed classroom visits by our priests. Today, Fr. Paul Hartmann deftly handles Q & A on sometimes unexpected topics. Homilies at weekly school Masses are always child-friendly.



Technology is an ever-changing tool for educators, and we've been on the cutting edge for decades. Our current 1:1 iPad program, with techbooks replacing some textbooks, facilitates differentiated instruction to challenge all learners.



Educating the whole child involves learning support programs, co-curriculars, and specialty classes. Pitch pipes may have been replaced by Orff instruments and African drums, but the thrill of making music together hasn't changed.



During Advent, today's 8<sup>th</sup> graders conduct weekly candlelit prayer services and take the lead in the annual Christmas concert. A shepherd's robe has always been appropriate attire on the altar.



Service projects still include Thanksgiving collections. Today's students also perform on-site tasks at food banks, senior homes, and literacy centers.



The church interior has been remodeled, and another facelift is in the works now, thanks to the recent parish capital campaign. In October, school families and parishioners experience a Living Rosary with students in sashes representing the beads and speaking the prayers and reflections aloud. The heart of our St. Eugene School community will always be found in our shared worship experiences.





## Make Way for the STEAM Rollers!

What's trending at St. Eugene School? Four new STEAM Rollers! These mobile carts are filled with ideas and supplies for developing science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) skills. Our students are now taking their STEM education to the next level, appreciating how the arts contribute to the inventions of today and tomorrow. In some cases, they're even teaching their teachers a thing or two.

This fleet of STEAM Rollers is the brainchild of Sharon Webster, the St. Eugene STEAM Director and algebra teacher. Mrs. Webster applied for and received a grant from the G.I.F.T.S. program - *Grant Initiatives for Today's Students* - which was created in honor of the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. That grant funded the creation of three carts. A generous gift from the Class of 2019 allowed the addition of a fourth cart.

Each STEAM roller has a focus area. The builders cart is stocked with a wide variety of art and building supplies including Legos and recycled household objects. Recently, the builders cart rolled into the first grade classroom where students designed and built musical instruments.



The robotics STEAM roller facilitates exploration of programming and robotics. It houses several Sphero robots and rovers programmed with iPads and iPods. Eighth graders are learning to program in TI Basic on their graphing calculators, including writing code for rover cars. Middle school students used Spheros to demonstrate coding during a faculty meeting in October.

The 3D design STEAM roller holds geometric solids and manipulatives for transformation, a 3D printer, and sample projects. During the spring Business Fair, Tinkercad designs will now truly take shape. The VR/AR cart contains materials for virtual and augmented reality projects such as learning about plate tectonics using merge cubes in sixth grade science class. Exploring ancient Egypt on a virtual field trip makes for a unique social studies class as well.

Mrs. Webster guides our teachers with integrating the STEAM Rollers into the curriculum. Middle school members of the "STEAM team" are trained to assist during power hour sessions. Many STEAM books have been added to our library. Using the Seesaw app, students from fourth through eighth grade share their creations to inspire makers in every grade.

Collaborative, imaginative, instructive...the possibilities are endless with the St. Eugene STEAM Rollers!



## We Welcome New Teachers

Mr. Eric Blaufuss teaches 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade math and science, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading and language arts.

Mrs. Stacie Conery teaches 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies.

Ms. Laura Dobroth teaches 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade English, language arts, and reading.

Mrs. Jennifer Luna teaches 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

Ms. Kailey Taebel teaches Spanish for 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mrs. Tricia North teaches Worship Circle and leads the Living Rosary and Living Stations of the Cross.

Fr. Jordan Berghouse, new associate pastor for St. Eugene, visits all grades for religion classes.

Keep Up With St. Eugene School News  
Bookmark [www.steugene.school](http://www.steugene.school) as one of your favorites. Click on "alumni" to read past issues of SPIRIT and other school news.



Saint Eugene School



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Saint Eugene School



## In Memory

St. Eugene School community extends our sympathies to the family and friends of our alumni and teachers...

Mark Briski Class of 1971

Glenn Lewis Class of 1977

## Alumni Updates

**Mary Ritter Zaharias '66** is a realtor with North Shore Homes, Inc. in Milwaukee. In 2019, she was named one of America's Top 100 Real Estate Agents and a Milwaukee Magazine Five Star Real Estate Agent.

**Stu Desmond '70** joined investment firm Operose Advisors in Milwaukee as a Director in early 2019 after spending 24 years at Robert W. Baird in the Institutional Division.

**Anne Butscher Rice '73** is the new Director of Stewardship and Communications at St. Eugene and St. Monica Parishes.

**Mary Mulcahy Muth '78** is a substitute teacher in several schools, including her alma mater, St. Eugene School. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Al Hurvis/ADAMM Education Foundation.

**Rob Wolfe '80**, is regional sales manager for Keiser Fitness. He's also co-owner of Delta Sports Performance which recently opened a new facility in Glendale for baseball and softball player training.

**Beth Mulcahy Elardo '84** lives in Coronado, CA. She practices community association law at the Mulcahy Law Firm, P.C.

**Ryan Webster '95** performs at Summerfest and local venues. His vocals, guitar, and harmonica feature acoustic rock and folk cover songs from the 60s and 70s. Learn more on Facebook@ryanwebstermilwaukee.

**Chris Keuler '99** and his wife Rachel live in San Francisco with their three sons. Chris works at Google in their Treasury department.

**Tina Sanfilippo Weber '99** is executive planner and operations manager at family-owned Villa Filomena. She's married to Steven and the oldest of their three sons attends 4K at St. Eugene School.

**Emily Fons '03** is an attorney with Quarles & Brady in Milwaukee. During 2019, she was named a Top 100 Legal Influencer in the Nation by the Business Journals and a "40 Under 40" honoree by Milwaukee Magazine. Emily married Joe Krause in September.

**Madeline Jones '07** is an adjunct professor at SUNY-Purchase, having earned her MFA in creative nonfiction from Sarah Lawrence College in May. She also manages a stationery store in Soho.

**Charlie Hoffmann '08** started law school this fall at Marquette University. His UW-Madison degree in journalism and economics led to previous positions in Washington D.C. at the Washington Free Beacon and Republican State Leadership Committee.

**Bridget Jones '08** lives in NYC and travels the world as a consultant for IBM. She graduated from Lehigh University in 2017 with degrees in finance and supply chain management.

**Henry Moroder '09** earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering from MSOE in 2017 and is a manufacturing engineer at Vilter Manufacturing in Milwaukee. Henry and his wife Haley are serving as the volunteer leaders of the St. Eugene School FIRST Lego League team, a co-curricular supplementing our STEAM initiatives.

**Joey Hoffmann '10** earned an M.S. in finance, applied security analysis program, from UW-Madison in May. He joined Camber Capital Management in Boston as an analyst.

**Joseph Gabler '11** graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in May of 2019. He is a quality engineer at Altec Industries in St. Joseph, Missouri. He was a collegiate member of the Catholic fraternity Phi Kappa Theta and active in the Newman Center.

**Chris Jones '11** is a geology major at UWM and runs rock climbing and camping trips in the UP with the outdoor pursuits club. He is a Leave No Trace master educator for classes throughout the Midwest. During the summer, he is a counselor at Camp Manitowish.

**Audrey Gabler '13** is majoring in neurobiology at UW-Madison. She has worked as a lab assistant researching ALS and a nursing assistant on a cardiovascular floor at Meriter Hospital. She leads retreats with the campus Newman Center.

**Bobby Albrightson '15** graduated in the top ten of his class at Brown Deer HS. He received two college merit scholarships and an award for the athlete with the highest gpa. He attends Concordia University.

**Caroline Ferrero '15**, a 2019 graduate of Homestead HS, attends Milw. Institute of Art & Design. She received a four year merit scholarship based on her portfolio of drawings and digital graphics.

**Jarred Manista '15** performed the role of "Jet" Baby John in West Side Story at the Lyric Opera of Chicago last spring. He is appearing now in West Side Story on Broadway. He graduated from Dominican HS and will attend New York University.

**Jack Manning '16** won 1st place in the Wisconsin 2019 Econ Challenge. With fellow students at Marquette High, he created crystals to grow aboard the International Space Station U.S. National Lab. His work was recognized by the 2019 WI Space Crystal Mission, part of the UW-Madison Chemistry Dept.

**Alia Melloch '16**, a senior at Dominican High School, was the Dolores Kowski Faith Commitment Award winner in the spring of 2019.

St. Eugene SPIRIT is seeking alumni updates. Help us locate your siblings and classmates. We are also honored to publish memorials. Please share notices and information with Susie Desmond Nettesheim at nettesheims@steugene.school, 414-918-1120, or St. Eugene School, 7600 N. Port Washington Rd, Fox Point, WI 53217