

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School. Don't forget to add jsavage@mysaintrose.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School

Fall 2016 Alumni E-Newsletter



Dear Friends of Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School Community, I hope this alumni newsletter finds all of you doing well and enjoying the beautiful fall we've been having. My name is Sean Slaikeu, and I am the current principal at Saint Rose. I am extremely excited about what's been done over the past several months and about what we envision for the coming years here at Saint Rose. I would like to take a second and thank my predecessor, Mark Blomgren, for all the work he and many others did prior to my arrival. Together, we have made some significant progress towards the goals that were set forth as a result of the *Jubilee* and also the *Fund-a-Need* auction last spring. Through the generosity of so many supporters, we were able to make the following improvements before school started this past September:

- The school office was renovated. If you are in the area and want to take a look, please feel free to stop in during school hours (7:30 am-2:45 pm) and *choose a complimentary Saint Rose of Lima gift!* We'd love to see you!
- The door entry and security camera systems were updated and are now fully functional with more capabilities to ensure student, faculty, volunteer, and visitor safety.
- Staff and parents are now using a new student information system, which is helping to better communicate grades, assignments, and attendance. It is a remarkable tool that we are excited to be able to provide.
- Playground equipment was repaired to assure student safety.
- The "old shed" has been remodeled, while preserving the rich history of the original copper roof.
- One of the biggest tasks this summer was improving our technology. We have updated all of the infrastructure to meet the high demands of students and staff. New Wi-Fi access points have been installed throughout the building to ensure the student ChromeBooks (purchased last year)



and our new teacher laptops can be used efficiently and without difficulties.

It's been an exciting time here at Saint Rose, and we will continue to move forward. I am extremely pleased with all the updates that have taken place in such a short amount of time. I feel confident that we are positioning ourselves very well for the future. Speaking of the future, here are a few things that might be of interest to you.

Saint Rose of Lima is an accredited school and is currently in our self-study year, a time when we evaluate everything about Saint Rose and lay out a strategic vision for the future. This vision will include the following:

- Increased PreK offerings and expansion of physical space
- Continued technology improvement (as it's always changing), potentially going to 1-to-1 devices in the middle school and a higher level of access for younger grades to support individualized learning and access to online resources
- Create a systematic and comprehensive curriculum review cycle to ensure all curriculum is rigorous and in line with state and national standards

With these areas of focus it is our goal to continue the excellence in education that so many students have received over the past 76 years here at Saint Rose of Lima and continue graduating students prepared to impact our world for the better in the next 75 years.

Please look for more information coming soon regarding how you can help Saint Rose of Lima continue the tradition of excellence in education.



Peace,

Mr. Sean Slaikeu

Alumni Spotlight - Jeannie (Bykowski) Kenevan



It occurred to me, when my fourth grade teacher from Saint Rose came to the baptism of my baby boy twenty-five years after I was in her classroom, that Saint Rose was a special place that laid a strong foundation in my life.

Time flies, it really does. I graduated from Saint Rose in 1990. I'm the youngest in my family and hadn't been back inside the school building since. Fast-forward to earlier this year of 2016. My husband and I decided to go to an open house on a Sunday in January to check out the Pre-K program for our son. I figured that by now the building might be showing it's age, but on the contrary, it looks amazing. The terrazzo hallway floors and steps are gleaming, the gym looks better than ever before, and the classroom, cafeteria, library and computer lab all in such good care.

Give to the Max Day

What if you could turn a \$10 donation into an additional \$1,000 donation for Saint Rose School? Join us on November 17, 2016, for Give to the Max Day, and you could help make that happen! [Schedule your donation](#) today on GiveMN.org and help us continue to change lives. On November 17, every gift made on GiveMN.org will be entered into an hourly drawing for a \$1,000 GiveMN Golden Ticket to be awarded to a Minnesota nonprofit or school. Your gift

Add in the people--the community--who are genuinely welcoming and interested in knowing each other. We were impressed with the ethos and fervence of the teachers, parents, and students to the degree that we enrolled and drive a half-hour to get our son to school there every day. Already, in just a month since the school year began, our son has told us of older kids being kind to him on the playground and in the cafeteria. His teacher tells us when he's been helpful. We know, for certain, that our child will not get lost in the shuffle here.

In thinking of my own experience as a bashful little girl in a red plaid jumper and pigtails, at Saint Rose I got the chance to develop leadership skills that may have otherwise not been uncovered until high school or even college. My Saint Rose education gave me confidence in my vocabulary, my spelling, science, social studies and my math. I got to play soccer, volleyball, basketball, and run track. Having been shy as a kid, I would have never raised my hand to be in a talent show, yet my teachers and classmates cheered me on like I was a TV star. I went into high school very well prepared after nine years of nurtured growth at Saint Rose.

Even though I haven't lived in the 55113 since the nineties, even though it's a small school, and even though I don't often run into former classmates, I can tell you that these milestones aren't purely coincidence: in college I ran into 8th grade classmates who, like me, could recite dictionary definitions of vocabulary words, my Saint Rose basketball coach was my first success story customer in my first "real" career job, and later as founding partner of *The Growler Magazine*, one of the first pieces of fan mail we received was from the owner of a book store who graduated from Saint Rose one year after me. With Saint Rose as a common thread, it's easy to pick up where we left off, even if it was a long time ago.

Inside and out, Saint Rose is built on rock solid foundation and is an exceptional place for the formative years of education where students get the individual attention they deserve and need to flourish and thrive.

of \$10 or more could be boosted by \$1,000! Here's the really exciting part: Two donations made on GiveMN.org during the Give to the Max Day campaign will be randomly selected to receive a \$10,000 Super-Sized GiveMN Golden Ticket! The more gifts we generate on GiveMN.org on November 17, the more our chances increase to receive that additional \$10,000 donation. Imagine what we could do with \$10,000!

Honor Roll of Donors

Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School celebrated 75 years of building education, faith, and community on September 19, 2015. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who helped us attain our \$75,000 fundraising goal. The new [Honor Roll of Donors Plaque on display in the school office](#) is one small way we can show our appreciation to our generous supporters.



Staff Spotlight

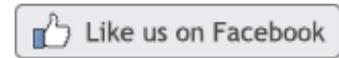


Jamie Carmody
7th and 8th Grade Language Arts & Literature; 6th Grade Religion

I began my teaching career a year ago in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Life took a turn, and I decided to move to Minnesota. I never imagined I would be lucky enough to end up in such a warm, caring, and loving environment such as Saint Rose of Lima School. I am able to bring my love for reading and my religion to school every day and share my knowledge of both with my students. I enjoy bringing books alive for students and love seeing their "ah-ha" moments when it clicks for them. I also enjoy bringing all types of learning/intelligences into the classroom - Naturalist, Musical, Logical, Existential, Interpersonal, Kinesthetic, and Linguistic. A quote that I love and try to always keep in mind while planning my lessons is by Albert Einstein, "Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid."



Check out our photos on Facebook!



Attention Alumni Parents...

We need your help to get connected with our alumni! If your children are not receiving this newsletter, please forward and ask them to provide their contact information on our website. We love hearing about the wonderful things our former students are doing! We appreciate your help!

Reconnect With Us

We are looking for all of our alumni, past parents, former faculty and friends! Please forward this email to your contacts and encourage them to provide their current contact information here:

[Alumni](#)

[Past Parents](#)

[Friends of Saint Rose](#)

[Faculty Alumni](#)

The Redhawk

Would you like to receive our weekly newsletter, *The Redhawk*, via email? If so, please send your request to Stefanie Wetzel at swetzel@mysaintrose.net and see all the wonderful things happening at Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School!



MISSION STATEMENT

FAITH FORMATION + ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE + LIFE LONG LEARNERS

The mission of Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School is to provide quality academic education, religious education and faith formation for our students. It is our goal to prepare our children as lifelong learners who will grow spiritually and intellectually as responsible Christians and citizens of our global community.

www.mysaintrose.net