

# NORTH DEANERY NEWS

PRESENTED BY BISHOP CHATARD:

THE HIGH SCHOOL

OF THE NORTH

DEANERY























St. Joan of Arc

St. Luke

St. Matthew

St. Pius X

St. Simon

Aquinas

Welcome to the final issue of North Deanery News for the 2017/2018 school year! In the pages that follow, you will read about the exciting academic and extracurricular programs and accomplishments happening daily in many of our North Deanery grade and middle schools. As your North Deanery high school, Bishop Chatard shares in this excitement and is pleased to join in celebrating the good news!

While each parish and school community is unique, we all participate in a shared mission: to prepare our students academically, socially and spiritually to excel in school and in life. Bishop Chatard congratulates all North Deanery 8th grade students who recently graduated and we wish each and every one of you good luck and a wonderful high school experience. We look forward to welcoming many of you to the Trojan family! Superintendent of Catholic Schools Gina Fleming, Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction Jennifer McCormick, BCHS teacher Lisa Johnson, and BCHS Principal Joe Hansen at the Advanced Placement Award Ceremony on June 12.



# **SUCCESS IN ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES** gives BC grads a head start

Bishop Chatard was one of 71 Indiana high schools to receive the 2017 Advanced Placement (AP) Award from the state of Indiana on June 12. BCHS tied for 11th in the state for success on AP exams, making it the highest-achieving diocesan school in Indiana.

To qualify for this award, a school must have had at least 25 percent of its 2017 graduating class receive a 3, 4 or 5 on an AP exam. 57 percent of Bishop Chatard's 2017 graduates earned a 3, 4 or 5, placing the North Deanery high school in the top 2 percent of Indiana high schools.

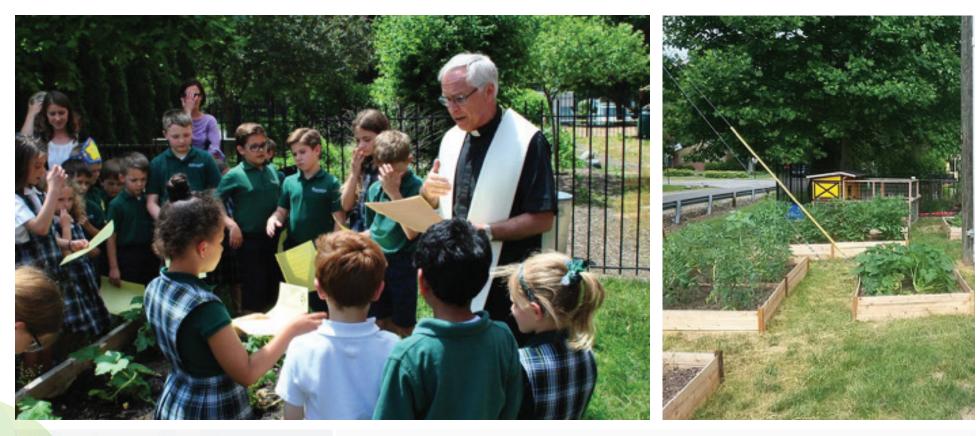
AP is a research-based program designed to facilitate student participation and success through delivery of college-level courses and corresponding exams in the high school setting. According to the Indiana Dept. of Education, qualified students who pass AP courses enroll in college at higher rates, require significantly less remediation, and have higher first-year grade point averages and credit hours earned than other groups of students.

At the majority of colleges and universities, a 3 or above on an AP exam qualifies a student for college credit.

Administrators credit Bishop Chatard's success to the dedication of its faculty and the willingness of its students to embrace the challenge and rigor of AP classes. Well over half of the Class of 2017 earned AP college credits while in high school, positioning graduates for post-secondary success.

"Research shows access, participation, and success in AP courses prepares students for the rigors of higher education," said Dr. Jennifer McCormick, Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction. A complete list of schools that received the AP award and each school's pass percentage can be found at https://bit.ly/2JLWZTD

This is the second consecutive year that Bishop Chatard has been recognized for AP success. The 2016 Advanced Placement Award, presented in June 2017, recognized the school for having 46 percent of its graduates receive a 3 or higher on the exam.





GARDENING PROVIDES ACADEMIC AND LIFE LESSONS at CKS

Father Todd Riebe blessed Christ the King's newly created St. Isidore and St. Maria Garden during the last week of school. The blessing was the culmination of a lot of hard work by students, teachers and parents. The new CKS garden consists of a raised bed for each grade level, a chicken coop, and a flower garden.

Students spent the last weeks of school planting their beds. As they planted, they identified the major parts of the plants and talked about what the plants will need to grow.

In the days, months, and years to come, CKS students will learn more about eating healthy, composting, nature, and gardening. Teachers will also tie the garden into science and math standards and help protect others with the harvest by donating fresh food to the Boulevard Place Food Pantry.

It is Christ the King's hope that its new, expanded garden inspires students to be lifelong gardeners and protectors of creation.



### IHM EXCELS IN INDY-AREA chess tournament

The Immaculate Heart of Mary school family is so very proud of the IHM Chess team!

Central Catholic hosted the first ever singles Chess tournament this spring and two of the IHM Chess team members won trophies. Jacob Rohan took home a 2nd place trophy for the 3rd grade division and Nick Elias took home 3rd place for the 4th grade division.

IHM looks forward to seeing its Chess team grow in the coming years and would like to congratulate all players, here at IHM and every other school!







# **NEW ST. JOAN OF ARC EARLY LEARNING CENTER** to open in August

About 12 years ago, St. Joan of Arc School began a small preschool program. In response to many teachers' need for onsite child care, then-Principal Mary Pat Sharpe, along with the dedication and leadership of Peggy Kline, launched the program with about 10 children. Over time, the original program has expanded to include children from the community, both parishioners and non-parishioners. The program has been operating during school hours and is certified by both the Archdiocese (as a ministry) and by United Way as an On Your Way Pre K site.

Serving children ages 6 months to 5 years, the program is now "bursting at the seams." A unique opportunity was presented to SJOA last year when neighborhood residents approached the school and parish. They had purchased the former Kaleidoscope Building, located across from the College Avenue Public Library at 4186 N. Broadway, and were intent on refurbishing the building for an educational purpose that would focus on the quality of the neighborhood and service to its youth.

Neighbors proposed that St. Joan of Arc move its Mini Monarch and preschool program to this new building, which would give it room to grow, as well as begin offering after-school, weekend and vacation care. The school would benefit by the use of the spaces vacated by the preschool, thus reducing the need for capital expenditures to continue providing competitive and quality K-8 parish school.

Construction of the new St. Joan of Arc Early Learning Center is now well underway. A new preschool director, Shelley Caldwell, was hired early this spring. With 27 years of experience in education, she brings a gentle and vibrant enthusiasm to the project. Many of the existing preschool staff will be moving to the new building down the street, which is scheduled to open its doors in August. The walls are framed and the vision is transitioning from paper to reality. A goal of the planning committee is to allow as much natural light into the new center as possible, bringing nature indoors. Warm and inviting color schemes are being planned. An early learning center should feel like an extension of one's home, and elements are being added to make this possible. Every classroom will have a sink, and students will have easier access to restrooms. The plumbing is nearly finished, and the new HVAC duct work is being installed. The construction crew has been meeting with city inspectors to ensure that all work meets code. An upgrade to the outdoor space is also in the works, and it will be an inviting place for children to play and families to gather.

St. Joan of Arc recognized the need for a quality preschool program in its local community. Offering a strong program with extended care hours benefits the school's young teachers, helps to build community among parishioners and the neighborhood, and provides the opportunity to instill SJOA parish values through service to families from early on.

Soon, St. Joan of Arc will be celebrating its 100th anniversary! What a fitting way to mark the occasion as the parish continues its legacy of leadership, service and integrity.

#### **GRADUATING 8TH GRADERS** are #stlukestrong

On Tuesday, May 29, St. Luke recognized 74 students in its annual 8th grade graduation ceremony. The festivities leading up to this day recognized the way in which these students have lived the #stlukestrong pillars of Empathy, Integrity, Faith, Commitment, and Enthusiasm during their time at St. Luke.

Demonstrating their commitment to each other, in the Fall of last year the students went to their annual overnight retreat at CYO Camp Rancho Framasa in Brown County. There they worked together to walk across rope lines, help one another scale walls and other obstacles, and reflect on their time together and prepare for the year to come. The 8th grade class further demonstrated the pillar of Commitment, as their commitment to learning more about the world around them, when they descended upon Washington, D.C., for the annual 8th grade trip. They spent dawn to dusk packed with miles of tours, monuments and laughter.

As the spring began, the class of 2018 demonstrated their Empathy for understanding the sacrifice that Jesus made for us through their powerful reenactment of the Passion of Christ. Each student had a role in the production either as a cast member, narrator or production crew. The students' hard work and dedication to telling this story allowed parents and guests watching it to feel empathy as well for what Jesus endured.

May brought further demonstration of the pillar of Faith, through St. Luke's annual May Crowning ceremony, celebrating the blessed Mother, Mary. Following the adornment of Mary, students and parents enjoyed a luncheon together and relived memories of the retreat at Camp Rancho Framasa. It was a nice time of togetherness, as students also began to recognize the different paths they had chosen as high school selections had been made.

Throughout the students' time at St. Luke, they participated in one of the school's most beloved traditions, the Buddy Program. 1st and 8th graders are paired together at the beginning of the year and participate in activities together until the end of school, such as special Buddy Masses, community service projects and crafts. The relationship culminates in their final Buddy Mass together the day before school is over for the 8th graders. Hearing the 1st grade buddies talk about their big buddies during Mass, it is clear that the pillar of Integrity had been demonstrated by the 8th graders and a lasting impression left on their 1st graders. Many of the 8th graders remember fondly when they were 1st graders paired with their buddy and some have been able to stay in touch throughout the years.

Finally, graduating 8th graders demonstrated Enthusiasm, as they all gathered together on their last day of school at their classmate's home and walked as one for a final time into school.

These are just a few examples of how the St. Luke Catholic School Class of 2018 demonstrated how they lived #stlukestrong in their last year together.

# **ST. MATTHEW CONGRATULATES** its Class of 2018

St. Matthew celebrated its Class of 2018 graduation ceremony on May 23. Special recognition to Bishop Chatard President's Award recipients James Haas and Reagan Lee, sister of BCHS graduate Micah Lee. Congratulations also go to Nick Keasey, brother of BCHS graduates Taylor and Colton, who was one of St. Matthew's Fr. Paul Shikany Christian Leadership Award winners.









# **ST. PIUS X SERVES** it's community

On May 4, all St. Pius X students participated in the school's second all-school day of service. With the help of staff members and 39 parent chaperones, every student visited one of 18 non-profit organizations where they spent time serving in a variety of ways. The non-profit organizations included Gleaners Food Bank, Down Syndrome Indiana, Changing Footprints, Public Greens Farm, Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Distribution Center, St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, St. Vincent de Paul-Noblesville, Dyslexia Institute, A Caring Place, Miracle Place, Trojan Tots, Traditions at Solana, Wheeler Mission, Epworth United Methodist Preschool, Central Catholic School, Brookdale at Castleton and Westminster Village North. The students worked hard helping the organizations in whatever way they could to make a difference.

As an example of the work that was accomplished, the 96 students and 20 adults who were at Gleaners sorted 6,452 pounds of food (enough to feed 5,376 people), sorted 4,589 pounds of non-food items, and prepared 970 bags of food to be distributed to kids for weekend food.

Bishop Chatard High School and Cathedral High School were instrumental in making this day happen by providing buses throughout the entire day transporting the students to and from their service sites.

The day of service did not stop there. Before and after their allotted time at the non-profits, the students were busy working around the St. Pius X school, church and grounds, moving through a large list of jobs and tasks. Some students

even went out to the neighborhood and helped an elderly parishioner clean up his yard and prepare for Spring.

St. Pius X School is always looking for ways to reach out into its community and serve others, and this day was a great opportunity for that to happen on a large scale. Learning to walk like Jesus is an important part of our faith and a meaningful lesson for students.



#### **8TH GRADE TRADITIONS** celebrated at St. Simon

St. Simon's Class of 2018 completed its grade and middle school career with a whirlwind of spring events! The 78 graduates the Graduating began the month of April by celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with Archbishop Thompson at the Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul

May Crowning, an 8th grade tradition re-established at St. Simon by Father John McCasslin, provided an opportunity for Kindergarten and 8th grade students to lead a beautiful school-wide Mass, including the crowning of Mary. Over 600 BACK ROW: Julia Dugan, Sully Meyer, Grace Gerdenich, Gabe flowers, brought in by students, adorned the alter and surrounded the statue of Mary.

The following week, the 8th grade students planned a lovely Mother's day Mass, and special reception to honor their moms (and special women in their lives.) This event is one that is cherished by the 8th grade moms!

The yearly 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C., took place May 21-25. 109 students and adults ventured by bus to the nation's capital. The group began the first day of the trip with Father John McCasslin co-celebrating a Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Tours of the Basilica, the Capitol building, a meeting with Congresswoman Susan Brooks, a visit to Arlington National Cemetery (with a special wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier), and enjoying a night of baseball with the Washington Nationals all took place on the first day! The next two days included visits to the national monuments, museums, a dinner cruise and tour of the White House. The final stop of the trip was to Gettysburg, followed by a long drive through the night back home to Indy.

Upon the 8th graders' return from Washington, they helped facilitate the K-5th Field Day, enjoyed the Middle School Advisory Field Day, and participated in the Middle School Awards and Recognition program.

As part of the recognition program, parents present their student(s) with a unique St. Simon alumni pin to wear during graduation. In addition, 8th grade students run through the hallways in their graduation gowns while parents and the entire student body cheer and shout! Running the halls is one of the most anticipated events for 8th grade students. A Graduation Mass and dance concluded the students' busy spring adventures as 8th graders.



Class of 2018

Sommerkamp, Carmen Caughlan, Mayan Stickel, Luke Nester, George Smith, Alexsandra Anderson, Rowan O'Connor

MIDDLE ROW: Maggie Gonzalez, Sean Delaney, Maggie Timpe, Kevin Wells, Bella Burgess, Arianna Chavis, Miles Barth, Jesslyn Santucci

FRONT ROW: Ethan Etzler, Cameron Stevenson, Luca Gurnell, Joel Anderson, Will Hudson, Henry Gebke



