



# St. Vincent de Paul

## Catholic Church and Academy News

---

January 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Inspired by an article I read recently on dedication, I share a few of the points from that reading. As an aside, the word 'devotion' could also be used in place of dedication. The points are as follows: our society is one that assumes that man is motivated principally by self-interest. However, this is a very limited view of man. He is reduced to a self-seeking animal with nothing more than to navigate his way through the social structures and even to challenge them in order to get his way.

The reality is that he is meant for a life of charity, a real friendship with God and man. This is a very different and opposing understanding of man and, needless to say, a much more elevated view of man. Instead of negotiating his self-interests with the rest of human beings, his life is directed by virtues which are motivated by charity.

Good education in the home and the school will instill good habits, or virtues of life. Qualities such as honesty, attention to others, promptness, industriousness among others all rest upon charity and therefore have another outside of self as an object. In more common terms, these virtues would not suffice unless they rest on the fundamental disposition of dedication.

Parents need to be dedicated to their children, teachers to their students, professionals to their job, priests to their faithful, police to the public order, politicians to the common good, medical professionals to the sick etc., or else society will cease to function or at least function well. A teacher would not be good if their sole purpose was to pull a paycheck. If, as soon as the school bell rings, they lose all interest in their student and their profession, the results in the student will be very poor. In terms of the gospel, they are a hireling. It is dedication and not self-interest, although it has its place, which structures and maintains a healthy human society and consequently a healthy body and soul of each individual.

I encourage you to stay dedicated to the important things in life. Many personal interests will seek to insert themselves, but a spirit of simplicity will help to remain devoted to Church, to school and to family.

In the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,

*Fr. Michael Goldade*

Fr. Michael Goldade

# Parish News

## Welcome



We would like to welcome Mr. Tony Wohletz as the new head of maintenance for St. Vincent's church and academy. Mr. Wohletz is a long time parishioner, and has been a member of the Friday volunteer crew for the past 10+ years.



Christmas midnight Mass

## 2022 Sacramental Records

Baptisms ..... 32 children  
..... 5 adult converts  
received into Church  
First Communions ..... 37

Confirmations..... 2  
Marriages ..... 8  
Funerals ..... 7

# Academy News



## Flora Sports

The Fifth annual North American Martyrs Intramural Wiffle Ball Tournament was won by the Rabid Rabbits (pictured).

The 5th and 6th grade boys kick ball tournament, refereed by Joseph Foley, was won by the 6th grade boys.



## Pancake Breakfast

A former academy tradition was rekindled this year with the St. Nicholas day pancake breakfast. Miss Parisa Tahari and her helpers made pancakes, eggs and sausage in the Tracy kitchen. Breakfast was transported to the Flora campus by a parent, for the boys to enjoy as well.

## Christmas Concert

The annual academy Christmas concert was held in the Tracy gym on December 16. The K - 12 grade students performed, and the upper grade girls baked and distributed cookies after the concert. Thank you to Mr. Sestak for his video of the concert which can be found here: <https://youtu.be/5qNa8RUUUUY>.



## Visit from State Senator



On December 7 Missouri State Senator Cindy O'Laughlin visited the Tracy campus. She addressed all of the Tracy students, and the 5 - 7 grade boys from Flora, in the gym.

She posted the comments below following her visit:

Two days ago I visited a Catholic school in Kansas City. I was so impressed with the students and staff. There are no electronic devices in the school. The students use paper and pencil. When we visited classrooms the students stood up as we entered the room in a sign of respect. They were gracious in person and cordial in conversation. The high school class was reading Shakespeare. An assembly was held where I was given the opportunity to speak about my service in the senate and afterwards the high school girl's choir sang two songs that were beautiful. Afterwards the group applauded and one rambunctious little guy kept clapping long after the applause had ended. The teachers are nuns and I watched to see what would happen here. The teacher turned and looked at the little guy not saying a word and he immediately sat still.

The students all learn Latin and they also learn life skills including sewing and cooking. There were students from Lee's Summit, Raytown, Parkville, Independence and all points in between. The tuition currently is \$5,000 per year with discounts for multiples. If I lived here in Kansas City this school would be my choice. It was an incredible experience.

## Upcoming Events

- Jan. 13 Scripps National Spelling Bee
- Jan. 13 ARS Women's Conference
- Jan. 14 Serving practice
- Jan. 14 Adult Catechism
- Jan. 28 Adult Catechism
- Feb. 3 No school - Parent/Teacher conferences
- Feb. 4 Auction Kick-off party
- Feb. 9 - 13 Winter break
- Feb. 10 - 12 Alice in Wonderland
- Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday
- Feb. 22 SSPX Perpetual Adoration

Magnificent Theater Company

# Alice in Wonderland

**February 10 & 11, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.**  
**February 12, 2023 - 2:00 p.m.**

**Tickets: \$10 in advance • \$15 at the door**  
 • 10 for \$70

**H & R Block City Stage Theatre at Union Station**  
 30 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri



## St. Vincent's Church & Academy News

Visit [www.stvincentkc.org/media](http://www.stvincentkc.org/media).