



# St. Joseph's Today

Nurturing Excellence for More Than 110 Years!

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

SUMMER/FALL 2014

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## Message from the Principal

Dear St. Joe's Community,

I look forward to meeting all of you and working with you in the coming weeks, months, and years. After serving at several educational institutions, I am excited to work at St. Joseph's school.

I was raised in the Treasure Valley; my father is still an active mint farmer. My husband, Tony Quilici, is also involved in Catholic education, as he is an assistant principal at Bishop Kelly High School. We have three children: Joseph Drew, who will be in 1st grade at St. Joe's this year; Evelyn, who will be in kindergarten at St. Joe's next year, and Felicity, who will just be turning 3 in September. Tony and I look forward to their development as they attend St. Joe's School.

In 2014, parents have many

options when it comes to educating their children. St. Joe's is an excellent choice for parents because the school educates the whole child. This is my analogy for the education that St. Joe's provides: When I get up in the morning, I don't do my faith tasks from 7 to 8 a.m., and then my educational tasks from 8 to 11 a.m., and then my family tasks from 11-4, and my physical tasks from 4-5 p.m. Instead, all of these tasks are woven throughout my day. St. Joe's school combines faith, education, family, physical and social-emotional well-being into the complete education of the child. The community is an integral part of this process through the investment of their time, talent, and treasures.

As a principal, I have two primary missions: make sure



Dr. Sarah Quilici and family

students are safe and make sure students are learning. I want the school to partner with the parents and the parish to educate the whole child. Please contact me, if you have any questions about St. Joe's School: [quilicis@stjoes.com](mailto:quilicis@stjoes.com).

Blessings,  
Dr. Sarah Quilici

## Message from Fr. Gerald Funke

The new academic year of 2014 – 2015 looks to be an exciting year. After eleven years under the outstanding leadership of Mrs. Toni Bicandi, we welcome St. Joseph's new principal, Dr. Sarah Quilici. Dr. Quilici comes to St. Joseph's through the Boise School District; previously she was an administrator at Bishop Kelly High School. In addition, I now follow Fr. Henry Carmona as the Rector and Pastor of St. John's Cathedral Parish.

The sign along North 9<sup>th</sup> Street says St. Joseph's School was established in 1900. I am pleased and excited to now be part of the 114 year history of our

school. You, too, are a part of this long history as students, alumni, teachers, staff, school parents and grandparents, friends and supporters. Each of us has played a unique part in this history; each helping to make St. Joseph's School fulfill its mission—providing a Catholic and top academic education to the young people of St. John's Cathedral Parish and the wider community of Boise.

Please pray for St. Joseph's School—its students, families, faculty, staff, and the success of its mission. Please support the school through participation in its events and programs—mark

your calendars for Oktoberfest on Sunday, September 14 and the 50th Annual Crab Feed on Saturday, February 7, 2015, and spread the good news about St. Joe's to everyone you meet!

Finally, we could not do the great work we do without your continued financial support for St. Joseph's School and St. John's Cathedral Parish, so I thank you for that and urge you to continue your strong support for both parish and school.



Fr. Gerald Funke,  
St. John's Cathedral

## SPRING MAPS\* PROFICIENT/ ADVANCED

**97.4%**  
Language

**95.5%**  
Math

**97%**  
Reading

**\*Measure of Academic  
Progress Tests**

## STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

- 36 2nd graders received the sacrament of First Holy Communion, as did one 3rd grade student and three 4th graders.
- 18 middle school students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society, which requires a 3.75 GPA plus outstanding service, leadership, citizenship and character.
- Honor Roll (3.3-3.74 GPA) 6th Grade - 12 students, 7th Grade - 14, 8th Grade - 6
- High Honors (3.75-3.99 GPA) 6th Grade - 11 students, 7th Grade - 10, 8th Grade - 9
- Highest Honors (4.0 GPA) 6th Grade - 2 students, 7th Grade - 2, 8th Grade - 9

# Student Achievements



Eighth graders **Liam Marchant** and **Nate Mesplay** won 4<sup>th</sup> place at the **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Science Olympiad National Tournament** held at the University of Central Florida May 16-17, 2014. The two were part of a team of 15 talented 7th and 8th graders, coached by science teacher **Mary McClure**, who represented Idaho at the National Tournament. More than 7,000 students, educators and parents from 48 states – plus a team from Japan – attended the event.

Marchant and Mesplay competed in the “Sounds of Music” category, building two instruments based on a 12-tone tempered scale. They also needed to be prepared to describe the principles behind the operation of both instruments and be able to perform a major scale, a required melody, and a melody of choice with each instrument. Liam Marchant made an organ with PVC pipes, garden hose nozzles and a large balloon. Nate Mesplay built an acoustic guitar from scratch. We are so proud of these students for this impressive accomplishment!



**Andoni Bieter, Peter Oliver, Nikita Rubocki and Keelie Sirhall** won the Outstanding Citizen Awards. These four students exhibit the qualities of spirituality, academics, social skills, citizenship, and physical activity that we hold as our school-wide learning expectations. These students' names will be added to the perpetual plaque honoring the Sisters of the Holy Cross, who ran the school until the 1970's.



**Grace Gonzalez** received the Sterling Humanitarian Award.



**Aubrie Rosenkoetter** received the Annual Mayors Award to Youth.

# School Announcements

St. Joe's has received another wonderful grant from the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation. Thanks to the grant writing skills of teachers Julianne Russell (middle school) and Kelly Weaver (5th grade), we have been awarded another **\$70,000** to provide over **100 new Google Chromebooks** and Khan Academy training for our 3rd and 4th grade classrooms.

We were offered this new grant based on the success of our previous \$50,000 grant awarded in 2013. Data from the 2013-14 year showed that Khan Academy helped improve our 5th grade and middle school students' performances. Those results proved that combining great teaching with Khan Academy can produce great results. Thanks to this grant, each student will be able to use a Google Chromebook not just for math, but for all subjects and research purposes. We are exceedingly grateful to the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation for their commitment and generosity to education in our state!



## Welcome New Faculty and Staff!



**Robert Dottaviano** has joined St. Joe's staff as a teacher's aide.



**LeAnn Mora** is our new part-time counselor. A St. Joe's parent herself, Ms. Mora brings a wealth of experience to this position from her work in the Long Beach Unified School District.



**Lisa Wood** will be a long-term 5th grade substitute teacher while Kelly Weaver is on maternity leave.



**Mary Ellen Violette** is excited to return to teach 4th grade. Mrs. Violette's own children attended St. Joe's, she volunteered here for many years and taught 4th and 5th grades for eight years.

**Staffed with dedicated, experienced teachers, St. Joseph's students receive a strong foundation for future academic success. Integrated into the core curriculum are Catholic and Christian beliefs and values.**

**Many thanks and a fond farewell to these departing staff. You will be missed!**



**Kathleen Curtis** will work full time as counselor at Sacred Heart Catholic School.



**Jane Oliveri** has retired. She taught 1st and 2nd grades from 1989-2006, and returned to St. Joe's working as a teacher's aide for the past several years.



**Kristi Walter**, 4th grade, will teach 3rd grade at Desert Sage Elementary School in Meridian, Idaho.

## Support St. Joe's with Tax Benefit Donations!

*The future of St. Joseph's has been entrusted to us and depends on each of us to contribute our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure. In order to keep tuition as affordable as possible, we rely on donations to enable our school to continue to provide an exceptional Catholic education to the children of our community. Please remember St. Joe's in your donation plans for 2014. You may donate up to \$2,000 per couple any time during 2014 and receive at least 50% back in tax benefits. For those in the higher tax bracket, it costs the donor nothing! Go to [www.stjoes.com](http://www.stjoes.com) for more information on various giving opportunities, or call 208.841.9591.*





# HSA Corner



**Stephanie Westermeier,**  
**2014-15 HSA President**

*"For where your treasure is, there [is] your heart...." Luke 12:34*

Like so many of Jesus' statements, this one holds special meaning for each of us. I fondly recall my mom frequently saying this to me when I was growing up. As we embark on a new school year and I write this HSA welcome message, I again drew inspiration from Jesus' simple but profound statement. I

hope all of you reading this do too.

My husband, Steve Hippler and I are parents of two St. Joe's students, Brady Hippler, Grade 5 and Jack Hippler, Grade 2, who have attended St. Joe's since kindergarten and truly love St. Joe's. Our two boys hold first place in our hearts. Also, like all parents of St. Joe's students, current and past, we have invested financially to ensure that our children get the excellent and values-based education that St. Joe's provides. None of us who sends a child to St. Joe's has to do so—it is a choice, and for many

a deep financial sacrifice. We all make this choice and sacrifice because our hearts are with our children. We all put our treasure where our hearts lie.

Involvement in the HSA is another example of trying to put Jesus' phrase in action. When I personally became involved with St. Joe's HSA Board a couple years ago, it was based on the ask of a friend and neighbor, Lisa Duplessie, who was the HSA President. Lisa inspired me by her infectious spirit and tireless dedication to St. Joe's. Her timing was good because I had just finished a six-year term on the Bishop Kelly High School Foundation Board of Directors. I saw how much a school board and fundraising board of a Catholic institution matters to the viability and ongoing success of the school. I knew St. Joe's would be no different. It is so easy to take these wonderful schools for granted, but we can't! Contributing our time, talent and treasure, to whatever degree we are able, is vital to school success.

Once I became a part of St. Joe's HSA, I noticed that Lisa's energy and dedication was shared by other HSA officers, teachers and the many parent volunteers who actively participate in the HSA. What a fantastic group of parents, teachers, alumni, and other supporters from the community we have who work tirelessly for St. Joe's! What all have in common is they believe in the mission of St. Joe's and they value St. Joe's and what it gives—whether they teach, have children here,



**From left: Secretary Rebecca Hupp, President-Elect Elizabeth Barry, President Stephanie Westermeier, Past-President Maria Borders, and Treasurer Nicola McIntosh (not pictured: Andrea Arana-Anderson, new family mentor coordinator, Stephanie London,**

whether they or someone they know went to St. Joe's, or whether they don't have any such ties at all.

So I am very honored to serve the HSA and the school this year, along with an amazing group of officers. While the Board leads the HSA's volunteer and fundraising efforts at St. Joe's, every single parent at St. Joe's is automatically a part of the HSA. It is up to each of you to decide what treasure you can contribute – and there is no "wrong" way or "too small" way to contribute to HSA. Please approach me, or any of the HSA officers at any time, with any questions.

## Volunteering FAQ

**Who oversees the volunteer and fundraising activities and why do we volunteer?** St. Joe's has a vital volunteer program coordinated through the Home and School Association Board, which organizes and oversees the school's volunteers and fundraising efforts. All parents are HSA members automatically. The HSA's requested fundraising goal from St. Joe's

and pledge to the school this year is \$150,000. The money raised is used for general school operations and identified operational needs. The two biggest fundraisers to accomplish this goal are the Fall Dinner and Carnival (Oktoberfest) on September 14, 2014 and the Crab Feed on February 7, 2015. We will be publishing more about these great events as well as our progress to our goal, so that families will see and monitor how we (you!) are doing.

Each family is expected to give at least 25 hours of volunteer service to the school during the year, five hours of which are directed toward fundraising activities, such as Oktoberfest and Crab Feed. To record and track hours, click on "Volunteer Hours" at stjoes.com, then click "Log Volunteer Hours." Users will be directed to the Auction Frogs website where you will be asked to create an account.

**How do I volunteer?** Volunteer packets were sent in the registration packets for school. If you didn't volunteer at registration or you would like to add to what you already signed up to do, please log onto [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com), review the volunteer opportunities and sign up for an activity of your choosing. If you have already signed up at registration, you do not need to do so again.

**What happens after I volunteer to help with an event or activity? How do I get assigned something specific to do?** Each event or activity has a Chair or Room Parent who coordinates the associated volunteer efforts. As the event draws closer, an email will be distributed with details about specific volunteer tasks and assignments.

**For further questions, please contact** Jan Noriyuki, Volunteer Coordinator—[jkukal@yahoo.com](mailto:jkukal@yahoo.com) or Maria Borders, HSA Past President and [signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com) administrator—[mariaborders@gmail.com](mailto:mariaborders@gmail.com).

Welcome 2014-15 school year! Let's make it the best ever. And a special welcome to Mrs. Quilici, our new Principal, and Fr. Jerry.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS! OKTOBERFEST—SEPTEMBER 14, 2014**  
**50TH ANNUAL CRAB FEED DINNER AUCTION—FEBRUARY 7, 2015**

