



SEMPER ALTIUS
"Always Higher"

**A Catholic School
of Academic Excellence**
Teaching Pre-K through 8th Grade
Since 1997

The

Flame

"Stir into flame the gift of God that has been bestowed upon you in baptism."

—Blessed John Paul II

A "New" Catholic School in Maple Grove

The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Awards Cedarcrest Academy the Designation as a Catholic School

Since its foundation in 1997, Cedarcrest Academy has had the dream, vision, and focus to be weaved into part of the fabric of the Catholic School network of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, following the direction of the Archbishop and providing a service to the local Church. This goal became reality on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 as Principal Jason Slattery shared the exciting and timely news with a standing room only crowd at our annual spring music program. Mr. Slattery started out, "Fifteen years ago a few families had the vision to help provide a Catholic education for their children. It quickly and quietly grew to a school that was way beyond just their families. Today, it is ready to provide Catholic Education for generations to come!"

It finished with the reading of the Decree from the Office of the Archbishop. (Page 9)



The task of getting this accomplished was not an easy one-step, overnight process. There were a series of meetings in St. Paul and Maple Grove that included reviewing the history and strategic plan of Cedarcrest. The operational element of curriculum and teaching were scrutinized as well as the school's policies and procedures, which needed to be in line with the archdiocese. Demonstrating how the school serves a need in the northwest metro area by working with

local parishes, pastors and faith communities was also an important element for all to understand and appreciate.

The capstone of this effort was completed just weeks ago as representatives from the Office of Catholic Education completed their evaluation of Cedarcrest Academy to the Religion Standards for Catholic Education as released by the Bishops of Minnesota in 2005. These Standards are used as a benchmark and criteria to review a school's curriculum and educational approach, similar to an academic accreditation process. The visiting team enjoyed their visit and quickly validated that the Catholic standards were met in their report to the Archbishop.

Presenting... The Granny Awards



On May 17, excitement filled the halls of Cedarcrest Academy as the students took the stage for the production of *The Granny Awards*, a fairy tale spoof on The Grammy Awards. Voices rang out clear and true, characters filled the stage and the audience responded with laughter and good cheer. The students brought to the stage all the lessons they had learned in the past several months of knowledge gained through the Cedarcrest Academy Drama Club.

More on the story on page 4

Children Helping Children: "Finding the Joy in Serving Others"

By Heidi Van De Berg



Following the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan, reports indicated that food and water supplies were low in northern Japan, evacuation centers were filled amid a nuclear crisis, and radiation was detected in some local food. It may be on the other side of the world, but the students of Cedarcrest

Academy, after hearing of the destruction, felt the need to reach out to the children of Japan. The fifth grade students responded by going to Feed My Starving Children, a Minnesota-based Christian food charity. FMSC distributes food to nearly 70 countries around the world through Christian and humanitarian organizations. Though

they are not primarily a disaster relief organization, they believed their volunteer-produced meals could be life-giving to some of the thousands of Japanese citizens now in evacuation centers. Feed My Starving Children is set to ship out 600,000 meals to Japan.

continued on page 2

Board of Directors Message

By Tom Skiba

At the Service of the Church

Why does Cedarcrest Academy exist? Have you ever asked yourself that question? I suppose there are some obvious reasons, such as providing a great education in the Catholic faith for children from grades pre-k up to 8th grade. If you are a parent of a Cedarcrest student, hopefully you can see the impact the school has on your children. But Cedarcrest should be more than just a small school in Maple Grove, shouldn't it?

I think about this a lot, especially since I am the only board member who doesn't have children or grandchildren in the school. I think it boils down to serving the local Church. By local Church, I don't mean a specific parish, or geographic area in the Twin Cities. By local Church I mean the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. The board has always believed that through the formation provided to students, we are helping the local Church achieve its mission of evangelization. We also believe that a lay run school, recognized as Catholic by the Archbishop, could be of immense value to the local Church. On May 17, 2011, we received word from Archbishop Nienstedt that he has decided to recognize the work of Cedarcrest Academy, designating it a Catholic school in the network of schools serving Catholics across the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. We appreciate the Archbishop's expression of confidence in the work of Cedarcrest Academy and pledge our prayers.

I think also that the key word here is service. The board, the faculty and staff, all the volunteers and benefactors are all providing a service to the local Church. We aren't just doing this for ourselves or just for our own children. We are trying to build up the Church in the way we know best, which is education. That is what being Catholic is all about; taking the gifts God has given us and using them to build the Church. And that is what keeps us all going, the knowledge that we are doing something important for the Church.

In closing, I would be remiss as Treasurer if I didn't take this opportunity to remind you that we are in the final stage of our annual fund drive. This is our single biggest fund raiser of the year and unfortunately we are quite a bit behind our budget. So please, if you haven't yet made a contribution to the annual fund please do so. And if you have friends and relatives that have the means to make a gift and like what they see of Cedarcrest, ask them to consider a donation also.

Tom Skiba
Treasurer and Board Member



Cedarcrest Alumnus is National Merit Finalist



Joe Janas, a 2007 graduate from Cedarcrest Academy, is named a National Merit finalist. This honor puts him in the top 1% of the more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2009 competition by taking the 2009

Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Joe will be attending the University of Houston this fall to continue his education where he will pursue a degree in mechanical engineering.

Congratulations Joe on your incredible accomplishment!

Children Helping Children *continued from page 1*

The students from Cedarcrest helped prepare some of these meals, called Mannapacks. The meals are comprised of rice, soy nuggets, dehydrated vegetables, and powder with 20 vitamins and minerals. Prepared with boiling water, a one-cup serving provides much of the nutrition needed daily by adults and children.

The students worked hard in the morning preparing a whopping 24,090 meals! Not only did the students help provide food for the hungry, but they also learned to appreciate their blessings. Some of the comments were: "I will never say I am starving again!", "I get hungry, but I always have food". The students were able to see that some children have to go without things that they truly need, not just things they really want. While visiting FMSC they were also able to see examples of the homes typical for children in many of the countries that receive food and to realize how many blessings and comforts they have here in the U.S. For many, this was an eye-opening experience and fueled a desire to help others who are less fortunate than themselves. Some children learned the joy of serving for the first time, and one child volunteered to lead the prayer over the food they had packed that day. The day even inspired one student to look forward to becoming a missionary and serve those in need. Children helping children!

The Flame is published by the Development Office at Cedarcrest Academy for students, families and friends of Cedarcrest Academy, 6950 West Fish Lake Road, Maple Grove, MN 55311 (763) 494-5387 www.cedarcrest.org Email: theflame@cedarcrest.org

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“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.”

—Margaret Fuller

By Jason Slattery, Principal

As a school, Cedarcrest Academy has received high marks in student literacy. But numbers often mask individual reading habits. Numbers are not words after all! Among the many other challenges that schools face, literacy is by far the most critical one. Not only does present and future success of our students' academic work depend upon literacy, but so, too, does their completeness as human persons. Education is concerned with liberation. Liberation is concerned with happiness. The liberal arts, or freeing arts, are ordered toward “man's freedom for excellence.” Rather than become the slave or servant of ideas, we may through education, be liberated by them.

Principally, among the tasks of education is a life informed by that which is true, good, and beautiful. God, the source of all knowledge, desires our liberty and happiness. Literacy is a fundamental building block. Habits, particularly of the mind, are formed when we are young. Cedarcrest Academy is a school that desires student literacy. Not all reading is equal. Neither are all authors good, nor are all books. The simple fact that a title might find its way onto a shelf or into a Scholastic catalogue does not mean that it is worth reading. Worth implies a sense of value. As a school, we believe that quality is more important than quantity. The mere fact that ‘students are reading,’ is not an indicator of success. Students should be well read and challenged by the literature they choose both in terms of its literary value (vocabulary, reading level, prose, use of device, etc.) and the truth of its ideas. The didactic qualities of literature in schools should be encouraged after all the lessons of life are laid out for us on the page.

Hardly anywhere in academic work can the effects of Relativism and Culturalism be more evident than the destruction of literature. (Culturalism under its many forms has been, perhaps, the most devastating. The cultural critique holds absolutely that no culture or cultural expression is of greater value than another.

Through the Siren's call we are seduced into believing that all cultures and cultural expressions must be equal. Thus, a novel is of the same merit as a comic book; a symphony of the same value as a hobo band; a Caravaggio is equal to an elephant brushing paint on a canvas. The only equality that exists in each of these comparisons is their absurdity.) If we are to assert any value or precedence in literary titles, then it is essential that we recognize, study, and engage these flawed philosophies that influence the education of students. There are works, not all of them on the scale of the *Odyssey*, the *Iliad*, or the *Divine Comedy*, that not only present the desires of the human heart and the struggles of the soul, which are in and of themselves good reading. The canon of literature may have passed into myth in the minds of some, but not all. Pleasure reading didn't always mean banal entertainment and sensual soothing. In choosing good books with families and students, we are empowering those students to choose even better books when they grow older. But we must start somewhere.

If we are not attentive, we risk becoming deaf, speechless, and foolish, unable to understand where the human family has been and where it should be going. Literature is a window, not only into the past, but more so into the human soul and the workings of grace. It is an art in its truest form. Want to ponder love and longing, read Dante; want to understand justice, read Dumas; want better friendships, read Austin; want to be afraid, read Shelley, want to understand cruelty and despair read Sinclair; want to fall asleep, well, read this column again.

Without a common literary language spanning generations and the skills to reach, neither can the past speak to us nor can we listen. Literature is an expression of culture. A culture severed from its roots will wither and perish. Yikes, huh? What is left unread on your shelf or night stand? For Heaven's sake, please read!



Students should be well read and challenged by the literature they choose both in terms of its literary value (vocabulary, reading level, prose, use of device, etc.) and the truth of its ideas.

Cedarest Academy



Accreditation

Cedarcrest Academy welcomed a team from Minnesota Nonpublic Schools Accrediting Association (MNSAA) on April 13-15, 2011. Accreditation is a process of validation. Accrediting agencies, using a set of objective criteria, seek to evaluate a school's progress in providing what is being claimed. Interviews are conducted, policies and procedures are reviewed, and thoughtful strategic planning is encouraged. Every seven years, schools accredited with MNSAA go through the process of renewal. On May 16, MNSAA finalized their recommendations and voted to approve Cedarcrest Academy's re-accreditation. As a school we were fortunate to welcome the visiting team and appreciate the positive visit.

ExploraDome Comes to School

The Minnesota Planetarium's ExploraDome is a portable, immersive learning environment where students experience “hands-on, minds-on” learning. Through a process of guided inquiry, students travel virtually from inside the subatomic realm to the edge of the known universe.

The ExploraDome brought to culmination the science department's curriculum for the school year, enhancing the student's comprehension of science in a fun and interactive way.



Three Eighth Graders Awarded Providence Academy Stanford Achievement Scholarship



Ellen Bakke, Ashley Borland, and Rebecca Schoenfelder

Cedarcrest Academy proudly recognizes eighth grade students, Ellen Bakke, Ashley Borland and Rebecca Schoenfelder, who were awarded the Stanford Achievement Scholarship from Providence Academy High School.

Providence Academy awarded ten scholarships based on the Standardized test score taken for the 2010-2011 school year.

All applicants had to achieve a score of 95% or above on complete battery scores and write an essay. These students were awarded scholarships for \$10,000 for each of the four years they will attend Providence Academy.

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A vigorous elementary education, with challenging curriculum and a faithful prayer life, formulates a strong foundation to build a solid academic future. Ellen, Ashley and Rebecca have been with Cedarcrest since PreK and 1st grade. These three students exemplify the fact that academic success can be procured through the school motto, *Semper Altius-Always Higher*. A remarkable achievement! We congratulate the students and their families!

Singing for Mass

On June 8, the 6th-8th grade girls of Cedarcrest Academy will sing for a special Mass, at the Little Sisters of the Poor, in St. Paul. This Mass will be a celebration with the Regional Superior from Chicago and several of the Little Sisters of the regional province who will be coming to St. Paul for this celebration. The date falls on the Feast of Our Lady of Grace and Bishop Lee Piché will be the main celebrant. The theme of the day will be "Living with Mary the Liturgical Life of the Body of Christ." The students will provide the Music Liturgy for the Mass and contribute to the beauty of this special occasion with their pure and joyful voices.

Presenting...

continued from page 1



The theater has been inciting thrills and chills amongst audiences of all ages for hundreds of years. The bright lights, the costumes, the music and the dramatic scenarios snare the audience into another world. All the students stood up to the challenge of choir and theater and once again filled the hearts of their parents, family members, teachers and fellow students with pride and joy at the annual spring musical. The PreK through fourth grade students preceded the show with an exciting selection of circus themed pieces and wowed the audience with their performance.

Spring Has Sprung – at Least in the Classroom

By Mrs. Cathy Lahr, Kindergarten Teacher

As one can see from the looks on the faces of these excited kindergartners, much fun happened in both kindergarten classes this spring. We studied growth and change in science and were able to watch the changes firsthand with some caterpillars. We watched them arrive as larvae, growing each day to the pupal stage, and then transform into butterflies. Students saw the chrysalides form, followed by the butterflies emerging from the cocoon in the butterfly net where they were kept until they were released. Students were eager to see this amazing process and certainly enjoy watching it happen. After watching the butterflies for several days, the students took them outside to release them to the outdoors where the butterflies began their short journey of life, just a few weeks long. It is a fun process for students as they watch these caterpillars undergo this change into Painted Lady butterflies!



Crusaders Boys' Varsity Wins Division Championship!

Every Basketball Season is a Journey

By Roger Walz, Boys' Varsity Head Coach

"Good teams become great ones when the members trust each other enough to surrender the Me for the We." —Phil Jackson

Every basketball season is a journey. The Crusaders Boys' Varsity season started with a win at Our Lady of Grace and ended with a first place victory over Blake. During the course of the season, we encountered many defeats, victories, injuries, frustrations, and jubilations.

While many teams in our league practice daily, we practiced 1.5 hours per week. Coaches and players alike were determined to make good use of our gym time. This group of boys are selfless. In my opinion, this is what led to their eventual success.

Basketball is a team sport and these boys played it well. I would also like to compliment the boys on their level of sportsmanship. Referees and coaches of other teams took notice. It makes a coach and parent proud when a referee tells you how they appreciated the attitude of our Cedarcrest team. When placed in competitive and sometimes aggressive situations, the boys consistently conducted themselves with humility. Good sportsmanship is competing with character. As a team, we held ourselves to a standard that demonstrated integrity.

The Cedarcrest Academy Girls' Varsity, Girls' Cub and Boys' Cub teams had a fantastic season as well, with each of the teams progressing, with the skills they acquired during practice, and winning some amazing games. All the teams showed integrity and sportsmanship. The Boys' Varsity Team was coached by Roger Walz and Jeff Kral, the Girls' Varsity Team was coached by Steve Pellegrine and Dan Dykhoff. The Girls' Cub Team was coached by Erick Kaardal and Andy Schmitz and the Boys' Cub Team was coached by Steve Schmitz.



Coach Roger Walz (right) and Assistant Coach Jeff Kral with winning Varsity Boys' Team



Boys' Cub Team, 4th - 5th grade



Girls' Cub Team, 4th - 5th grade



Girls' Varsity Team, 6th - 8th grade



Experience the Big Top

Cedarcrest Academy got into the 'act' at the Eighth Annual Gala on Saturday, February 5 at the International Market Square in downtown Minneapolis.

On that evening, Cedarcrest Academy welcomed over 225 guests and asked them to experience first-hand how Cedarcrest students are becoming Christian leaders for the 21st century.

With the theme of 'Experience,' the guests were also treated to the motif of 'Experience the Big Top' a circus venue atmosphere. Red and white fabric draped from the rafters, created an atmosphere of being inside a true 'Big Top.' Tables were adorned with popcorn bags filled with popcorn and encircled with small circus animals. Guests were entertained during the social hour by roaming jugglers and the magic of Matt Dunn. The main 'circus acts' included an amazing performance by Circus Juventas youth, performing on the SILKS—a fabric suspended 30 feet high with aerial maneuvers, BALANCE—a fusion of contortion and advanced hand balancing techniques. Concluding the evening of performances was the world renowned performer Paul Ponce, who made a special trip from Barcelona, Spain.

The event was an overwhelming success for the entertainment experience and the \$75,000 raised for Cedarcrest Academy.

Cedarcrest Academy would like to thank our sponsors, who helped to make the gala such a 'Big Top' success.

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Mark and Kathy Vogel



Founder Legacy Award

Cedarcrest Academy bestowed the first ever Founder Legacy Award to Karen and Jack Henschell as part of our Gala celebration in February. Karen and Jack exemplify the virtue of charity we would like all Cedarcrest students to understand and appreciate. Not only have the Henschells been great supporters of Cedarcrest Academy since its foundation, they have continued to keep the goals and dreams of our school in their prayers. Karen gained a love for students and Catholic Schools through her work at St. Jude's in Mahtomedi while raising her own five children. Karen and Jack now have 16 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Jack continues to be active in the family business, Brite Lite Electric, he runs with their son Dan. Karen was not able to attend the celebration due to her health but did get a preview of the main stage entertainment from Paul Ponce the night before at her transitional care facility. She is now home with Jack waiting for some warm weather to enjoy their backyard pool with the grandchildren. Thank you Karen and Jack. God bless you!



Jack Henschell and Family



Thank you to the fabulous volunteers

Co-chairs Kim Day and Melissa Gill, Kristen Basgall, Jo Bennett, Dena Bretz, Meghan Burgess, Katy Carbonari, Kate Charmoli, Mary Hodgdon, Joe Lahr, Stacey Mader, Elizabeth McIntyre, Tom Mills, Jennifer Newman, Rosanne Petersen, Amy Reilly, Dave Reilly, Terri Schoenfelder, Jolene Schmitz, Steve Schmitz, Karen Sester, Todd Sester, Kristin Smuk, Georgette Steeves, Kathy Vogel and all our CA teachers and 8th grade student help.



Gala Co-chairs Brady and Kim Day, James and Melissa Gill



Meaghan Newman (8th grade) with her parents Jennifer and Dave

There was no clowning around when it came to the big drawing of the night for \$10,000. The winners of the Grand Prize were from our own Cedarcrest Academy family. Dave and Jennifer Newman have been with Cedarcrest for the past 9 years. They have one alumnus of Cedarcrest, five current Crusaders and one future student. The Newmans have given generously of their time and talent over the years and continued on the night of the gala by graciously donating 20% of the winnings back to Cedarcrest Academy.

Congratulations and thank you for your continued support.



Andy and Jolene Schmitz, Terri and Mark Schoenfelder, CAPA Co-chairs

Celebrating Religious Vocations

During National Vocations Awareness Week this year the seventh and eighth grade students had a unique opportunity to encounter the priesthood and religious life in an up close and personal way.

As it was vocations week, our March field trip allowed the girls to explore the religious life. The day began by visiting the Cathedral. Miss Larson, being an expert on the Cathedral, gave us a tour. She pointed out all of the beautiful side chapels and remarkable statues all around the Cathedral. We ended our visit by offering a rosary for all those enjoying the religious life, all those called to the religious life, and for our own personal vocations. We continued our day by visiting the Little Sisters of the Poor. This order originated in France with its mission to serve the impoverished elderly. The nuns belonging to the order take the vows of charity, chastity, poverty, and hospitality. They perform household duties such as washing sheets and serving meals to the residents. Before this trip I thought that being a religious involved no fun. However, on this trip we met two of the nuns and they were absolutely hilarious! You could see they enjoyed fulfilling their vocation by serving the elderly. The joy of these two sisters made me re-examine my assumptions about the religious life. To see people happily fulfilling God's call for them was definitely motivating for us. If we took away anything from this trip it was the inspiration to fulfill our vocation whether that was to the religious life, marriage, or the single life to the best of our ability.

By Ashley Borland



This year, for vocations awareness week, the seventh and eighth grade boys went to the University of St. Thomas to visit the St. Paul Seminary (SPS) and St. John Vianney College Seminary (SJV). Both Seminary visits began with a quick tour of the facilities and the beautiful chapels the seminarians worship in every day. The tours were given by the seminarians who lived there. During the tours they were able to tell us about their daily lives and what it is like to be a seminarian. Following the tour of SPS we were able to celebrate Mass with the seminarians. It was quite inspiring to see a chapel full of young men, preparing for the priesthood, praying and worshipping together. After Mass we all went down to lunch and listened to a presentation by Fr. Troy Pryzbilla, the Vocations Director, about what the priesthood means and what a priest does. Afterwards we had a chance to hear some seminarians share their experiences of life in the seminary. They had some pretty funny stories to tell. We ended our day with a lively game of basketball and dodge ball with some of the seminarians from SJV. It turns out that the seminarians are really competitive when it comes to sports. After about an hour of sports it was time to leave. We were all having such a good time that we didn't want to go!

By Mr. Shay and Alec Spevacek



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Catholic Leadership Internship Program

Cedarcrest Academy is pleased to announce participation in the Joseph and Edith Habiger Institute for Catholic Leadership Internship Program at the University of St. Thomas. This program seeks to form a new generation of Catholic leaders for the Church and civil society. In light of this mission, the Habiger Institute quietly launched the Professional Leadership Program, which provides two opportunities for Catholic Studies students. The first is a mentorship program which currently matches business students with Catholic professionals in the Twin Cities. The second is a newly inaugurated internship program. "The internship program helps us to deepen a student's awareness of his or her vocation as well as provide opportunities for hands-on experience," states Laura Stierman, the program coordinator.

As a 501c3 nonprofit corporation, Cedarcrest Academy operates much like a business with resources devoted to admissions, marketing, development, human resources, budgeting, and strategic planning. Recently, after reviewing a slate of candidates, Matthew Kopp (UST, '13), a Cedarcrest Academy graduate ('05), was selected as our first intern. Upon graduating from Cedarcrest Academy, Matthew went on to distinguish himself at Providence Academy High School in Plymouth, serving as a captain on the varsity soccer team and being named a Minnesota Triple A (Athletics, Arts, and Academics) State Finalist. Matthew is currently majoring in Business and Catholic Studies at the University of St. Thomas with a focus on marketing. Interning at Cedarcrest Academy, Matthew will gain experience in nonprofit organizational structures, budgets, market analysis, and copy editing. As an alumnus of the school, he will offer a helpful perspective. Kopp notes, "My time spent at Cedarcrest proved essential in future success and provided a firm foundation for further education and life experiences."



Matthew Kopp

business students with Catholic professionals in the Twin Cities. The second is a newly inaugurated internship program. "The internship program helps us to deepen a student's awareness of his or her vocation as well as provide opportunities for hands-on experience," states Laura Stierman, the program coordinator.



DECREE

In nomine Domini, Amen

On May 2, 2011, the Board of Directors of Cedarcrest Academy, an independent school in Maple Grove, Minnesota, whose purpose is the education of Prekindergarten through eighth grade boys and girls in the Catholic faith, petitioned that the Academy be erected as a private juridic person according to the norms and laws of the Roman Catholic Church; and

Whereas, having given prayerful and thorough consideration to this petition, its merits, and the impact of such recognition on the Catholic faithful of this Archdiocese, and having examined and approved the statutes of Cedarcrest Academy as submitted by the Board of Directors;

Therefore, I, the most Reverend John C. Nienstedt, by the grace of God and the Apostolic See, Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, do hereby declare and decree that Cedarcrest Academy is granted private juridic personality in the Roman Catholic Church in accord with canon 116, §2 of the Code of Canon Law. By virtue of this decree Cedarcrest Academy is made subject to all the rights and obligations which belong to a private juridic person, including the right to identify itself as a private Catholic school within the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

Given at Saint Paul, Minnesota, this 16th day of May, in the year of Our Lord 2011. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Most Reverend John C. Nienstedt
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

Jennifer Haselberger
Chancellor for Canonical Affairs



Let's move some dirt!

Before one can build a house, an office complex, a school, or any building you need to move some dirt to prepare for foundations, parking lots, roads, etc. If anyone has driven by the future site of Cedarcrest Academy on Bass Lake Road recently you will notice all kinds of construction activity and dirt being moved. They have finally started the project to reconstruct Bass Lake Road into four lanes and improve the safety near our new campus. The project will disrupt traffic in this area with the construction of not only the road but a new bridge, park trails, a new twenty-four inch water main, and a new intersection at Jewel Lane.

We have recently finished the negotiations with the construction company who is responsible for building the road to create a win-win-win scenario for all involved. The road project is going to have a significant amount of excess soil left over when the final grade is done. This is a costly problem for anyone to have. The win for the construction company is that Cedarcrest can use that soil to prepare our site for our first building. Cedarcrest wins by getting our building site graded, filled, and prepared for future construction. Everyone in the community wins by keeping over 7,000 truckloads of dirt off Maple Grove streets.

Doing this mass grading project now, in preparation for our new campus building, will save over \$100,000 in future costs. Work is expected to be completed by the fall of 2011, providing Cedarcrest with the building pads, parking lot locations, seeded playfields, storm ponds, and sledding hill desired for a Pre-K through 8th grade school site. It will also finalize a permanent location for our statue of the Blessed Mother who has been moved around a few times while watching over our land!



Beatification of Blessed John Paul II

“His profound humility, grounded in close union with Christ, enabled him to continue to lead the Church and to give to the world a message which became all the more eloquent as his physical strength declined. In this way he lived out in an extraordinary way the vocation of every priest and bishop to become completely one with Jesus, whom he daily receives and offers in the Church.”

Excerpt of Pope Benedict XVI's sermon at the Beatification Mass of Blessed John Paul II

Graduates Stand Tall for Cedarcrest

Cedarcrest is like a home. The students have become like my extended brothers and sisters and the teachers, well, they are like teachers to me. They always push me for more, not because they think I can do better, but because they know that I can do better.

Kyle Walz

Cedarcrest has formed me academically by teaching me skills such as how to study and manage my time. It has formed me spiritually through the wonderful Catholic program, Mass and prayer.

Ellen Bakke

The memories I will take with me about Cedarcrest are the wonderful friendships that were formed here. I will remember the fun lunches and the freezing cold recesses.

Emily Marsh

My most cherished memory is of Mr. McInnis. He would always go outside with the students for recess and give everyone celery and apples.

Mikayla Pellegrine

Cedarcrest has helped me apostolically by having religion class every day as well as weekly Mass. It has helped me spiritually by having a virtue of the month and academically by having challenging classes.

Sarah Michal

One great memory of Cedarcrest was from Kindergarten when I won the raffle to shave Mr. Blomgren's head. Mr. McInnis had to help since I was so young.

Kailey McIntyre

Cedarcrest has helped form me spiritually by encouraging me to practice virtues and standing up for my faith and the ability to share this knowledge with others around me.

Meagen Newman

The memories I will take with me are the special days at Cedarcrest; Grandparent's Day, Christmas Pageant and the Spring Musical.

Rebecca Schoenfelder

Cedarcrest has helped to form me by the spiritual formation it provides and the ability to freely express your faith.

Maria Vogel

Without Cedarcrest I would not have the wonderful and close relationship I have with God.

Rachel Sawin



The best part of Cedarcrest is the small classes. I have known many throughout my whole education here and our class has formed a strong bond because of it.

Ashley Borland

I will always remember both our principals, Mr. McInnis and Mr. Slattery. Both gentlemen have taught me good values and morals.

Stephen Kopp

For me, going to Mass every week and having daily religion class has helped form me both spiritually and apostolically.

Isaac Schmitz

Top Row:
Stephen Kopp, Isaac Schmitz,
Kailey McIntyre

Middle Row:
Emily Marsh, Kyle Walz, Maria
Vogel, Rebecca Schoenfelder

Bottom Row:
Mikayla Pellegrine, Sarah Michal,
Meagen Newman, Rachel Sawin,
Ashley Borland, Ellen Bakke

Cedarcrest Alumni Update Class of 2003

Katie Beddor – Katie graduated from high school at Providence Academy in 2007. She was involved in concert choral, softball, and was the captain of her varsity tennis team. After graduation, she went on to continue her studies at Benedictine College, located in Atchison, Kansas. There, she played rugby for two years. She graduated this May with a B.S. in Criminology and a minor in Sociology.

Jade Joseph – Jade graduated from Osseo Senior High School in 2007. Jade was in the National Honor Society and she graduated with High Honors. Jade has one year left in a five year program to teach high school English and will earn her degree from St. Cloud State. She will be student teaching this last year. Jade currently lives in Otsego, Minnesota where she bought a townhome two years ago.

Lianna Muella – Lianna graduated with honors from Rogers High School and this spring will be graduating in Social Work from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. Lianna plans on using her knowledge and caring spirit by volunteering for a year with Cap Corps. Cap Corps volunteers work with Capuchin Franciscans in ministry and attend to basic human needs and promote justice throughout the Midwest and Latin America.

Elizabeth Schmitz – Elizabeth graduated with honors from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas on May 14. It was a busy month for her. She completed her student teaching assignment, competed in her second half marathon, earning a 2nd place finish in 1:31.50, was engaged to be married to Blake Maly (she said yes!), and accepted a position to teach fourth grade next fall at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School in Wichita, Kansas.

Andrew Stolpestad – Andrew is now Brother Andrew, LC. He is in his second year of philosophy and is studying in New York at the Thornwood Center of Higher Studies. He loves his vocation and for the time being works in the territorial directorate. Andrew entered the Legion in the ninth grade and has had his eyes set on serving Christ in the capacity of a priest ever since.

Nicole Stone – Nicole graduated from Holy Family Catholic High School in Victoria in May 2007, Summa Cum Laude. She was an AP Scholar. She participated in various choral groups, cross country and track and field, and did mission work in Chicago, Chile, and Guatemala. She was a Regnum Christi Mission Corp volunteer for one year after high school. She attended the Candidacy program for Consecrated life and took her first promises as a Regnum Christi Consecrated Woman on August 14, 2008. She had a Solemn Renewal of Promises on August 14, 2010. She is a third year student at Mater Ecclesiae College in Greenville, Rhode Island, and is scheduled to graduate in spring 2012 with a B.A. in Religious and Pastoral Studies. She is excited to attend World Youth Day in Madrid, Spain this August, and she will be chaperoning a youth group from St. Mary of the Bay, Warren, Rhode Island where she is a catechist.

Look out! The Next Van Gogh, Monet or Charles Schultz May Come From Cedarcrest Academy



Thanks to the generous benefactors at the 2011 Gala, Cedarcrest is proud to introduce the addition of Miss Amie Kieffer to our faculty for 2011-2012. Miss Kieffer was recently hired part-time as an art teacher. She graduated from the University of Saint Thomas with dual degrees in Studio Art and Art History in 2008. She has worked as a freelance artist and art teacher, accomplished in everything from political cartoons to childrens illustrations, to acrylic and oil paintings. Miss Kieffer has a great love for students and is enthusiastic about sharing her artistic skill. She will begin working with our students in the fall on a regular basis and looks forward to providing them endless possibilities to learn and express their artistic talents.



Changing of the Guard

In any organization, no matter the size, people matter. Schools are certainly no exception as they are built upon relationships that develop over time. The qualities and integrity of individuals reflect and mirror the institution. Schools work in the midst of a family's life, helping parents with the education of their children. Cedarcrest is no exception. Our school's success, where it has existed, is largely the product of faith-filled people who look to the child and see someone created in the image and likeness of Almighty God.

Considering this, it is with regret and genuine thanks for their service to our humble institution that we announce two significant changes in our staffing. First, several weeks ago, eight year employee Rosanne Petersen resigned her position as Administrative Assistant to move back into the legal profession that we effectively borrowed her from these many years. Her keen ability to continually adjust to changing tasks (per minute someday!) at the front desk will be missed. The position will be filled this summer by Nicole Roeser. Please welcome Nicole as you get a chance to meet her when school activities resume in late August.

Secondly, Jo Bennett, who has been with Cedarcrest for over two years as Marketing and Communication Coordinator, has elected to pursue other interests now that her daughters are older and nearing the end of their Cedarcrest enrollment. Jo will be missed for her countless behind the scenes tasks of marketing and making Cedarcrest shine in the local community and media. This is her fifth and final edition as editor of *The Flame*. This role and all other marketing activities will be picked up by our new part-time art teacher, Amie Kieffer.

Thank you Rosanne and Jo for your tireless dedication to Cedarcrest Academy and the young hearts and souls you helped support!



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mission Statement

The mission of Cedarcrest Academy is to provide the highest quality education to our students and to contribute to their formation as Christian leaders. The Cedarcrest Academy student should be a young person of integrity and character who commands an appropriate wealth of knowledge of their faith, the humanities, and the sciences. The student should display critical discernment and possess a disposition toward service. Cedarcrest Academy seeks:

- **To Teach** each student by transmitting a body of knowledge appropriate to each grade level.
- **To Educate** each student to love authentic values and to develop a sense of what is good, right, noble, just and beautiful.
- **To Form** the character of each student as the foundation of all virtue and integrity.

Parents, teachers, and administration share a common vision. We strive to create a community in which Christ is known and loved in an atmosphere that fosters unity with the Pope and local bishop.

Board of Directors

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Jo Bennett,
*Marketing and Communications
Coordinator*
Stephen F. Schmitz,
Development Director

\$12,000 in the 12th Month Challenge!

The "Experience Excellence in Education" Annual Fund drive needs your last minute help. We are entering the 12th and final month of our fiscal year and are about \$50,000 short of our budgeted goal. It is not too late... we have three generous benefactors who have pooled together a pledge of \$12,000 in matching funds for the final month. Each dollar you give will be doubled to help us get closer to our goal. Help us show these benefactors true Cedarcrest spirit and continue to provide our students 'Excellence in Education!'

Donations can be made online at
[http://givemn.razoo.com/story/
Experience-Excellence-In-Education](http://givemn.razoo.com/story/Experience-Excellence-In-Education)

Cedarcrest Academy School Calendar

June	2	8th Grade Graduation
	8	Last Day of School
	21	Summer Play Date at Corcoran Park
July	20	Summer Play Date at Corcoran Park
	21	Uniform Market at Main Campus
August	18	Summer Play Date at Corcoran Park
	30	Back to School Night
September	1	Kinder Campus Back Pack Drop Off
	6	First Day of School
	16	First All School Mass