

2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

DEEPLY COMMITTED. MORE THAN A SCHOOL.



letter from the CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Dear Ave Maria Academy families, alumni, and friends,

During my personal prayer time, I am often drawn to the Gospel of Luke 1:38, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” This is Mary’s fiat, her YES to God to be the mother of our Lord, Jesus Christ. As I continually ponder this verse, I look to my own life as a wife, mother, and daughter of God to find ways to emulate Mary’s YES. I am drawn to follow her example of unwavering trust and faith in God’s plan with my own YES to God and what He is calling me to do.

This past year, we experienced change with the departure of our principal, Justin Shay. He led us well for three years, and I am thankful for his time and contributions while with us. I wish him well in his new position as Director of Catholic School Leadership at the St. Paul Seminary. It is always difficult to navigate departures and changes in faculty and staff, but I know that God has great plans for our beautiful school.

I am thankful for every YES we received in 2023-2024, including our sponsors, our families that volunteer, and our wonderful staff and teachers. They all said YES to supporting a traditional Catholic education that is rooted in faith, virtue, and reason. I would like to highlight a few.

- Scott and Jill Kielty said YES to chair the Annual Fund and successfully led the way to exceed the goal.
- Ericka Walz said YES to faithfully stepping from the Assistant Principal role to lead as our Interim Principal, and Katie Danielson said YES to return as the Assistant Principal for the 2024-2025 school year. Their love and dedication for Ave Maria Academy is evident in all that they do each day.

- Joseph Betlej said YES when he began as Treasurer of the Board in 2017. I want to thank Joe for his prudence and steadfastness in overseeing our finances, growing our investments, and securing our financial future. He has given generously, both in time and financial support, over the last seven years. Please join me in thanking him for his faithful service following his recent retirement from the board.

It takes many a YES for us to continue the vital mission of educating our children in an increasingly secular society that seeks to turn us away from the light of Jesus. We need to continue to spread the light and further the kingdom with the same trust and faith as our Blessed Mother, Mary. Let us all continue to prayerfully ponder how we can say YES to God’s will for Ave Maria Academy. Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us!

In Christ, through Mary,



Kimberly Day
Ave Maria Academy Board Chair



Ave Maria Academy 2023-2024 Board Members:

Pictured from Left to Right:
Joseph Betlej, Treasurer
Steve Schmitz, Member
Kimberly Day, Board Chair
Keith Huegel, Secretary
John Jacobson, Member

Not Pictured:
Dr. Jeanne Buckeye, Member
Tracy Mader, Member
Gayle Stoffel, Member

letter from AVE MARIA ACADEMY PRINCIPAL



Dear Ave Maria families and friends,

As we reflect on another year at Ave Maria Academy, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the blessings we have experienced and the support you have provided. At Ave Maria Academy, our mission is vibrant as we form young minds, hearts, and souls through a commitment to clear thinking, academic achievement, character formation, prayer, and service. We guide children on a path of lifelong learning and service that would not be possible without your generosity and dedication.

This past year has brought incredible growth and inspiring moments. Our students have not only excelled academically, but they have also deepened their understanding and love of Christ. Through classroom instruction infused with teachings of the Church, meaningful service projects, and spiritual nourishment through the sacraments, we have witnessed students growing closer to God and becoming compassionate leaders among their peers.

At Ave Maria Academy, these children continue to inspire us as they embody the call to let their light shine for the love of Christ. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us, “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” This message has been our guide this year, encouraging students to live in a way that radiates kindness, faith and compassion. Whether they are volunteering in the community, participating in

Mass, or lending a hand to classmates, our students are learning that each act of love and service is an opportunity to reflect Christ’s light to the world.

With your support, we can provide a Catholic education that encourages students to live out their faith and to use their God given gifts to brighten the world around them. As we look forward to the year ahead, we are reminded that “for such a time as this” – now, more than ever – our world needs young people who are confident in their faith, eager to learn, and ready to serve.

Please enjoy the pages ahead to see the light of Christ in all that we do at Ave Maria Academy. Thank you for your prayers and continued support. Together, we can continue to inspire future generations to shine brightly for Christ.

With heartfelt gratitude, in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mrs. Ericka Walz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ericka Walz
Interim Principal



VIRTUE FORMATION



Ave Maria Academy's mission statement clearly identifies the formation of virtue as one of the essential aspects of the overall education we wish to provide for all of our students. The reason virtue is seen as an integral part of the formation of our students is made clear in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, which explains, "Human virtues are firm attitudes, stable dispositions, habitual perfections of intellect and will that govern our actions, order our passions, and guide our conduct

according to reason and faith. They make possible ease, self-mastery, and joy in leading a morally good life."¹ Ave Maria seeks to form students in the virtues, so our students will be able to live lives of human excellence with their intellect, will, and passions rightly ordered towards the good. Most importantly, the life of virtue that we strive to form in our students will allow them to see that "the goal of a virtuous life is to become like God."²

¹ CCC 1804.

² CCC 1803; Cf. St. Gregory of Nyssa, *De Beatitudinibus*, 1.

“The goal of a **virtuous life** is to become like **God**.”
– St. Gregory of Nyssa

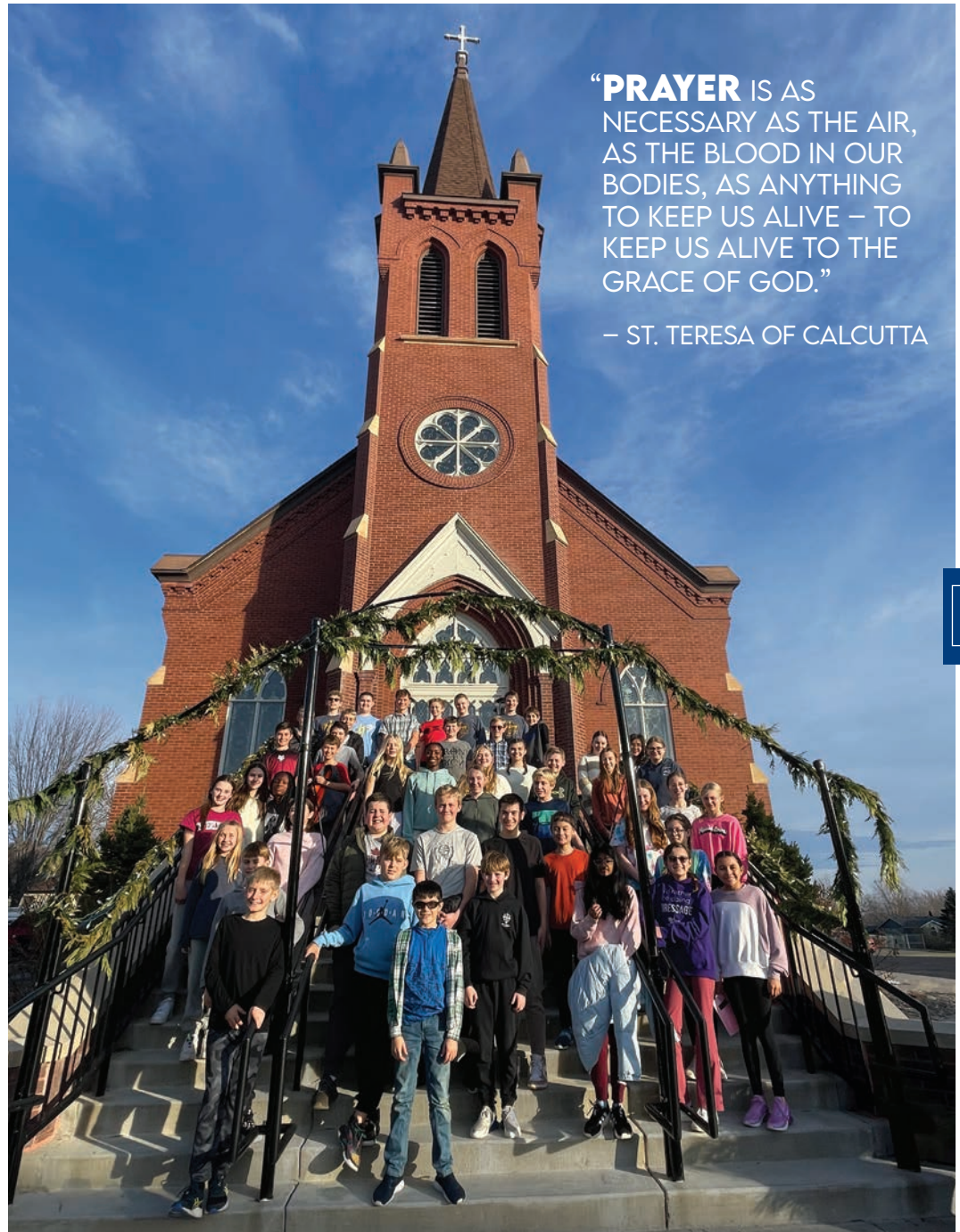
SPIRITUAL LIFE



At Ave Maria Academy, we recognize that our students are created for eternal life with God. Our students have the opportunity for weekly Mass and frequent confession.

Ave Maria's life revolves around the liturgical life of the church, with students looking forward to the celebration of many important feasts throughout the year.

Our students' spirits are formed through a daily commitment to prayer. We begin each day by praying a decade of the rosary as a school. Prayer is worked into the rhythm of the day; classes begin with prayer, we pray together at lunch, and we lift one another up in prayer during difficult times. All these practices, God willing, will help our students to one day become the saints that God desires them to be.



“PRAYER IS AS NECESSARY AS THE AIR, AS THE BLOOD IN OUR BODIES, AS ANYTHING TO KEEP US ALIVE – TO KEEP US ALIVE TO THE GRACE OF GOD.”

– ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

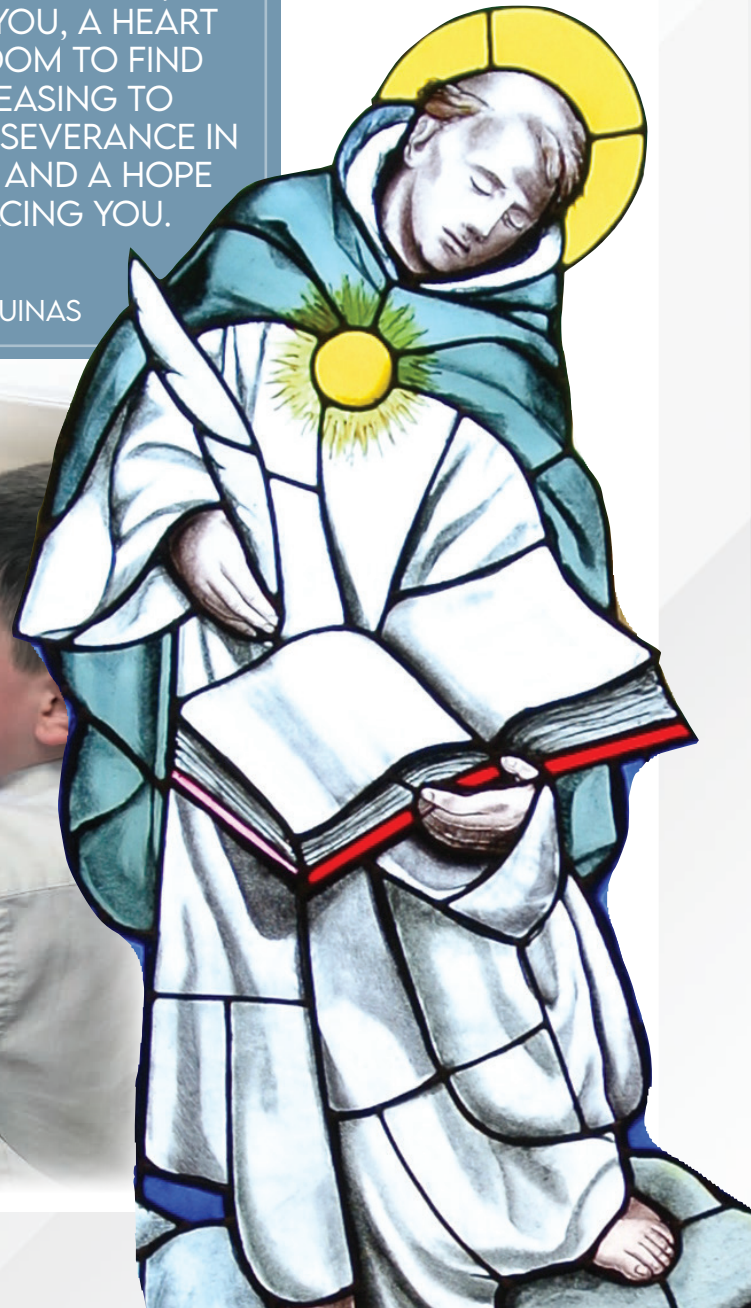
Ave Maria Academy **ACADEMICS**

As rational creatures, God gave us minds to know. It is, in fact, one of the hallmarks of being in the image of God, that, like God, we have the power to reason. We therefore take the intellectual formation of our students seriously at Ave Maria. Here, knowledge is not simply pursued as a means to the ends of utility, or power, or future material success. It is pursued, rather, as an end in itself. It is good to know—it is what our minds are made for.

Study, approached in this way, not only leads to the acquisition of helpful practical skills, but also a lifelong joy in learning. Our students experience this first hand in our classrooms at Ave Maria Academy.

“GRANT ME, O LORD MY GOD,
A MIND TO KNOW YOU, A HEART
TO SEEK YOU, WISDOM TO FIND
YOU, CONDUCT PLEASING TO
YOU, FAITHFUL PERSEVERANCE IN
WAITING FOR YOU, AND A HOPE
OF FINALLY EMBRACING YOU.
AMEN.”

– SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS



APOSTOLIC FORMATION

Apostolic Formation: “Be doers of the Word and not hearers only,” says St. James (James 1:22). Learning how to be the kind of disciples who not only hear the Word of God, but who also put it into practice in their lives, is an important task of a Catholic school. Our focus on apostolic formation helps our students to see a need in their school or the world around them and to respond in love. They show love for their neighbor and love for God. Our students dedicate themselves to their class apostolic projects with joy.

Among the highlights this year, our 2nd grade class collected hats and mittens for local children in need, and the 3rd grade class created birthday bags for CROSS community food shelves.

Our 5th grade students packed over 15,000 meals at Feed My Starving Children and the 7th grade students collected \$1,800 in change for Women’s Care Center in Anoka. We strive to show our students how to serve those in need. In these ways, they become the hands and feet of Christ.

“Be **doers** of the Word and not **hearers** only.”
—James 1:22



SCHOLARSHIPS

James T. McInnis Scholarship

Congratulations to the 2023-2024 James T. McInnis Scholarship recipients, **Clara Paske** and **Ian Newman**!

Mr. James T. “Tom” McInnis was the first principal of our academy. Mr. McInnis passed away during the summer of 2015, and we continue this fund in honor of his great example of charity and love of God. This \$1,000 scholarship is granted annually to one male and one female recipient. Students in the fifth through eighth grades are eligible, and they must complete an application to be considered.

“To me, exemplifying charity is a long range of things, but when I think of charity, I think of people helping each other, people sharing God’s love with the whole entire world, like the saints.”

– **Clara Paske, Class of 2027**

“Charity is doing what is right through any circumstance. Charity helps us to love God with our strength, mind and heart. When you do the virtue of charity, what you’re doing is loving.”

– **Ian Newman, Class of 2027**



James J. Carbonari Scholarship

Congratulations to the 2023-2024 James J. Carbonari Scholarship recipient, Genevieve Sullivan. This scholarship was established in 2018 in memory of Mr. Carbonari, long-time board member and benefactor of our beloved academy who passed away in April of 2018. Students are invited to reflect upon the parable of the talents in Matthew’s Gospel and fill out an application to be considered for the scholarship. An incoming 7th or 8th grader is then selected to receive this one-time \$1,000 scholarship.

Genevieve Sullivan, Class of 2025

“I think the moral of the parable of the talents is to use the gifts and talents that God has given you to give back and serve your master, God. When we serve God and others with our talents, we show our love, charity, respect, faith, and gratitude that strengthens and binds those relationships.”

Pictured: Genevieve Sullivan, 2023-2024 Scholarship Recipient, with Mrs. Katy Carbonari



Class of 2024

Each graduating class of Ave Maria Academy carries its own charism, and the Class of 2024 was no exception. This delightful, exceptional group of students was joyful and uniquely bonded as they grew as a class over time. The class and their families

continued their commitment to Catholic education as many of the students moved on to Catholic high schools. Proud to now call them alumni, a heartfelt congratulations is extended to the Ave Maria Academy Class of 2024!

8th Grade Awards

Aquinas Award — Solomon Becker

One who exemplifies outstanding academic ability, character formation, and generosity in service

Crusader Award — Peter Dunne

One who exemplifies outstanding formation of character and charity

St. John Vianney Award — Elaine Granberg

One who exemplifies exceptional perseverance and humility

8th Grade Virtues

Solomon Becker	<i>Magnanimity</i>
Peter Dunne	<i>Reverence</i>
Annaliese Fritz	<i>Fidelity</i>
Joseph Ganzer	<i>Trustworthiness</i>
Samantha Gee	<i>Friendship</i>
Elaine Granberg	<i>Goodness</i>
Chloe Kruger	<i>Diligence</i>
Whitney Lorenz	<i>Authenticity</i>
Claire Saverinske	<i>Responsibility</i>
Andrew Sullivan	<i>Integrity</i>



High School

Solomon Becker *Holy Spirit Academy*
 Peter Dunne *Providence Academy*
 Annaliese Fritz *Chesterton Academy*
 Joseph Ganzer *Chesterton Academy*

Samantha Gee *Providence Academy*
 Elaine Granberg *Wayzata High School*
 Chloe Kruger *Maple Grove Senior High School*
 Whitney Lorenz *Providence Academy*

Claire Saverinske *Osseo Senior High School*
 Andrew Sullivan *Chesterton Academy*

2023-2024 Ave Maria PARENTS



Ave Maria Parents (AMP) is the academy's parent association. The primary mission of AMP is to support the school by helping to provide volunteer, social, and spiritual support to our school community. There are numerous volunteer positions coordinated by AMP, each of which serve the school in an important capacity. We extend a heartfelt thank you to each and every parent who contributed to our community in this vital way, particularly those who accepted a year-long position.

Ave Maria Parents Co-Chairs

Katie Adams Erin Murphy

Room Parent Coordinators

Mary Schmitz Kristen Rizzo

Room Parents

Susan Schotanus	Tiffany Farnam
Kari Younes	Kaylee Hiatt
Danielle Baez	Angie Paske
Cara Fischer	Katie Danielson
Misty Laney	Jen Nelson
Amanda Holum	Lara Lorenz



Volunteer Photographer

Tracy Dunne

Cana Family Coordinator

Misty Laney

Father/Daughter Event

Megan Wolfe

Mother/Daughter Events (5th-8th Grade)

Angie Paske

Receptions Coordinator

Katie Danielson

Mom's Night Out

Lisa Noetzel

Parent's Night Out

Lisa Noetzel

Eucharistic Adoration Coordinator

Stephanie Jacobson

Pizza Lunch Coordinator

Megan Wolfe

Dad's Night Out

Nick Schmitz

Father/Son Campout

Brandon Paske and Justin Laney

Conference Meals/ Staff Luncheon Coordinator

Susan Schotanus

Mother/Daughter Events (Preschool-4th Grade)

Laura Clendenin, Jessica Verdoorn, Amanda Holum

2023-2024 Crusader SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship of our fundraising events, the Golf Classic, Gala and the Crusader Classic 5K, contribute greatly to the success of these events. There are four sponsorship levels (Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze). A family or business can become a

Crusader Sponsor for the entire school year. Each level offers sponsorship recognition, promotion and priority access to each event, as well as dinners, premium seating and more! Thank you to our 2023-2024 sponsors.

Platinum Sponsor — \$10,000

Terry & Debbie Kopp
The Carrie Schmitz Team
EideCom

Gold Sponsor — \$5,000

Church of St. Anne
First Class Mortgage
Guardian RFID
St. Thomas the Apostle
Catholic Church

Silver Sponsor — \$3,000

John & Stephanie Jacobson
Steve & Catherine Kucera

Bronze Sponsor — \$1,500

Anytime Fitness
Hassan Sand & Gravel Inc.
Cory & Lindsay Ziegler
Eric & Danielle Baez
Betlej Family
St. Joseph the Worker
Westside Tire
The Lorenz Family
Jon & Vera Brunsvold



“GIVE AND GIFTS WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU; A GOOD MEASURE, PACKED TOGETHER, SHAKEN DOWN, AND OVERFLOWING, WILL BE POURED INTO YOUR LAP. FOR THE MEASURE WITH WHICH YOU MEASURE WILL IN RETURN BE MEASURED OUT TO YOU.”

— LUKE 6:38

2023 Ave Maria Academy GOLF CLASSIC

The 2023 Ave Maria Academy Golf Classic was held on September 25th at Fox Hollow Golf Club. Even pouring rain couldn't dampen the spirits of our benefactors and volunteers who made the event a success! Despite the weather, over 80 golfers and 15 volunteers showed up to support Ave Maria. Though the tournament was called early due to lightning,



a great time was had by all! Congratulations to our winning team, sponsored by Anytime Fitness – Medina, that consisted of Matt and Mim Dvorsak and Jason and Bia White. Thank you to all of our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and everyone who joined us at this memorable event! We hope to see you back next year!



Funds Raised

\$22,964

Sponsors

Crusader Sponsors
Listed on Page 11

Winning Team

Matt Dvorsak
Mim Dvorsak

Jason White
Bia White

Committee

Liz Johnson

Colleen Sabers

Volunteers

John & Barb Kelley
Kim Day
Erin Murphy
Tiffany Farnam
Brenda McGrath
Anna McGrath
Lauren White
Cassie Garcia

Tim Ihlenfeld
Megan Neisius
Stephanie Sexton
Mary Schmitz
Cristina Cossio
Danielle Baez
Ginger Vance
Misty Laney

2024 Ave Maria Academy GALA

Thank you to all who participated in and supported the Ave Maria Academy 2024 Gala held on March 2nd at Rush Creek Golf Course. With over 260 guests in attendance, our Gala was a huge success. The funds raised by this year's Gala supported Ave Maria Academy's mission to provide high quality education and spiritual formation in a culture that needs sharp, virtuous leaders more than ever.

The event included 11 live auction items and 103 silent auction items, such as "Mr. Shay For A Day," which sold

for over \$1,400, and "Carpool with Miss Kohler," which sold for over \$1,000.

Ave Maria Academy Grandparents were honored as the 2024 Ave Maria Academy Legacy Award recipients. Ave Maria Academy Grandparents Steve and Carrie Schmitz accepted the award on behalf of all Ave Maria Grandparents and shared beautiful remarks with our guests. Our school was founded by a handful of then parents who are now grandparents of current students.

When our building opened in 2014, we dedicated the Ave Maria Academy Commons to Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of the Lord, as a reminder of the indispensable role of parents and grandparents in the life of a child. A special painting featuring the Holy Family with Joachim and Anne is now displayed in the entrance of the Ave Maria Academy Commons in honor of our grandparents.

Funds Raised

\$226,693

Sponsors

Crusader Sponsors
Listed on Page 11

Gala Committee Chairs

Liz Johnson
Kari Younes
Colleen Sabers
Danielle Baez

Catherine Kucera
Mary Schmitz
Stephanie Sexton
Megan Wolfe

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the auction and a special note of gratitude to our gala committee whose gifts of time and talent made this event so successful.

A special thank you for giving our students roots to grow and wings to fly!

O'Sullivan Auctioneers
EideCom, Video Production
Kaylee Hiatt, Photographer
Cory and Candy Anderson, LAD
Brothers Meat and Seafood, LAD
Brady and Kim Day, LAD
Gregg and Tiffany Farnam, LAD
Shawn and Erin Kopp, LAD
Midwest Nursery, LAD
Nothing Bundt Cakes, Maple Grove, LAD
Mike and Ginny Ogle, LAD
Barry Shay and Justin Shay, LAD
Total Wind & More, LAD

LAD - Live Auction Donor



Roots to Wings

There are two gifts we should give our children –
Roots to grow, wings to fly. Ave Maria Academy 2024 Gala

2024 Ave Maria Academy CRUSADER CLASSIC 5K



“I HAVE COMPETED WELL;
I HAVE FINISHED THE
RACE; I HAVE KEPT
THE FAITH.”

– 2 TIMOTHY 4:7



Our annual Crusader Classic 5K and Kids Fun Run was held on Saturday, May 18, 2024. This annual event is our only student-led fundraiser. Our school families gathered to enjoy a fun family activity and fellowship. Students talked to family, friends and neighbors about Ave Maria and collected pledges as well as prayer intentions. Thanks to everyone who ran, walked, strolled or rode in our race.

And a very special thanks goes to all of our sponsors, teachers, and families. What a fun day it was to bring our families and friends together. We are grateful for the students' incredible fundraising efforts! Your generous support and leadership contributed to the success of the event!

Funds Raised

\$28,420

A Special Thank You

The Carrie Schmitz Team, Bag Sponsor
Manheim by Cox Automotive Mpls.
Playground Plaza
Anthem Valuation
Maenner/Minnich

Sponsors

Crusader Sponsors Listed on Page 11

The Big Picture Consulting
Wajoko
American Karate Studio
Burn Boot Camp
Porsche
Chris and Jennie Arnett
Klein Family
Matt and Stephanie Sexton
Timberlake Family

Committee

Liz Johnson Colleen Sabers

Volunteers

Mary Schmitz	Mark Neisius	Danielle Baez
Stephanie Sexton	Barb Kelley	Tracy Dunne
Megan Wolfe	Will Johnson	Anne Sullivan
Cara Fischer	Brent Schwab	Shelley Gracia
Cassie Garcia	Marissa Anderson	Becker Family
Barb Weir	Elhard Family	Lily Sabers
Tiffany Farnam	Jessica Verdoorn	
Marilyn Dykeman	Nolan Farnam	

2023-2024 Crusader SPORTS

As a school, Ave Maria Academy wants to encourage students to become athletes and teammates. Athletics build upon our mission of cultivating excellence in students. Kids who play sports advance further academically, are more likely to go to college and earn degrees, have better overall fitness, and create memories to last a lifetime. Sports are an important part of childhood and becoming a well-rounded individual. We believe athletics, when done right, serve as an invaluable tool for developing well-rounded children.

AMA Athletic Director

Gina Rickert

Cross Country Coaches

Justin Laney
Misty Laney
David Hiatt

Girls Volleyball Coaches

Lara Lorenz
Mark Neisius
Kristen Rizzo
Marie Grande
Shawn Grande



Boys Basketball Coaches

Joshua Dudney
Marcus Schumacher
Aaron Granberg
Michael Danielson



Ave Maria Academy ENRICHMENT

In the spirit of a well-rounded education, students at Ave Maria Academy receive many opportunities to grow outside of the classroom. Art, basketball, volleyball, soccer and chess club are offered for the younger students, while drama, band, and sports are opportunities for the older students. We had over 150 students participate in extra curricular activities this year.

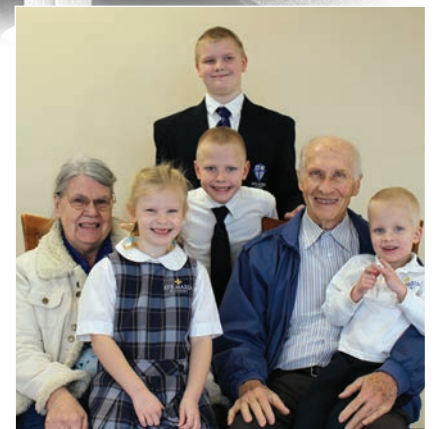


Ave Maria Academy GRANDPARENTS CLUB



At Ave Maria Academy, we recognize the essential role that grandparents play in the life of a family. In his annual letter to grandparents, in the summer of 2023, Pope Francis wrote,

“Friendship with an older person can help the young to see life not only in terms of the present and realize that not everything depends on them and their abilities.” We know that the presence of our students’ grandparents on our campus is truly a gift to our students and the entire Ave Maria Academy community.



2023-2024 ANNUAL FUND AND FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Ave Maria Academy Annual Fund is a critical component in meeting the financial obligations of our school. There is always a gap between actual tuition cost and what it takes to operate the school. The goal of the Ave Maria Annual Fund is to fill that gap. Ave Maria Academy receives no subsidies from the Archdiocese or any of its parishes, which is why our future fully depends on the generosity of families, friends, benefactors, and the larger community.

Last year, the fund went to support four main areas: tuition assistance, teacher retention and development, debt payment, and extra-curricular offerings. A big thank you is given to Scott and Jill Kielty for their leadership as the 2023-2024 Annual Fund Chair Couple.

Funds Raised

\$220,758

List of Donors

Izac & Katherine Adams
Bjorn & Marissa Anderson
Odin Anderson '31
Wayne Anderson+
David & Barb Armstrong+
Chris & Chi-Chi Ayika*
Jeffrey & Tina Bakke*
Greg & Kristen Basgall*
John & Nancy Berg+
Henry & Barbara Berger+
Robert & MaryAnn Berger+
 In honor of Caroline Shimota
Joe Betlej□
Bruce & Joan Brehm+
Ron & Carol Brostrom+
Jonathon & Vera Brunsvold
Ken & Lois Brunsvold+
Jeanne Buckeye□
Kathryn Carbonari+

Matthew & Tamara Christoff
Roberto Colin & Esperanza Aguilar
Douglas & Theresa Covert
Mike & Katie Danielson
Brady & Kim Day□
Martin & Donae Dejaco+
Andres & Monica Deming
Beau & Jessica Doboszanski
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Brian & Danice Elhard
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Gregg & Tiffany Farnam
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Ellen Foley+
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Joseph & Jennifer Frederickson

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Kimberle Hanning+
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Richard & Mary Ann Ihlenfeld+
John & Stephanie Jacobson
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Laura Janas '02
Thomas & Barbara Janas*

Robert & Rosanne Johnson+
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Katherine Kersten+
Scott and Jill Kielty^
Terry & Debbie Kopp+*
Jeff & Paula Kral*
Stephen & Catherine Kucera
Russel & Laura Lidberg
Shaun & Lara Lorenz
John & Jamie Lotzer^
Tracy and Stacey Mader*□
David & Kelly Manke
Robert & Kathleen Manke+
Maple Grove Firefighter's
 Relief Association
Bruce & Brenda McGrath*
Tim & Tricia McGuire*
 McGuire Family Charitable Foundation
Mark & Megan Neisius



List of Donors (continued)

Travis & Jennifer Nelson
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 Jeremiah & Lisa Norton
 Mark & Rosanne Petersen*
 Jeffrey & Merry Rebholz+
 Jeff & Sara Ryan*
 Nicholas & Mary Schmitz
 Steve & Carrie Schmitz+*
 Jack & Susanne Schneider+
 Mark & Terri Schoenfelder*
 Ian & Susan Schotanus
 Brent & Patti Schwab
 Matt & Stephanie Sexton
 Tom & Terry Skiba
 Christopher & Kristin Smuk*
 Soren & Nicole Sorensen
 Paul & Jane Stone*

Businesses and Organizations

Abbott Laboratories,
 Employer Match For Vera Brunsvold
 Betts & Hayes
 Boston Scientific, Anonymous Employer Match
 Boston Scientific, Employer Match For Jessica Verdoorn
 Coca-Cola, Employer Match For Lindsay Ziegler
 Doboszinski & Sons, Inc.
 Graco Foundation, Inc.,
 Employer Match For David Newman
 Marsh and McLennan Companies,
 Employer Match For Darlene Huegel
 nVent, Employer Match For Victor Bolos
 Premier Bank
 Piper Sandler Companies,
 Employer Match For Andrew Deming
 SC Johnson Giving, Inc.,
 Employer Match For Danielle Baez
 Securian Financial, Employer Match For Joseph Betlej
 Trane Technologies, Employer Match For Cory Ziegler
 UnitedHealth Group Inc., Anonymous Employer Match
 Wells Fargo

Michael & Julie Szwejbka
 Tom & Barb Teresi
 Melvin & Jean Thompson+
 Jim Tiller+
 Edgar & Wendy Timberlake+
 Kris & Ginger Vance^
 Scott & Lyn Varner+
 Wayne & Debra Waldera+
 Jiang Wu & Chenhui Hu
 David & Francine Yorck+
 Patrick & Rita Zhao

* Alumni Parent/Grandparent
 ^ Faculty/Staff
 + Grandparent
 □ Board Member

McInnis Scholarship Fund

No donations for the 2023-2024 fiscal year

James J. Carbonari Scholarship Fund

Jerry & Kay Carbonari
 In Honor of Katy Carbonari
 David Newman '10
 Joe Carlson & Meaghan (Newman) '11
 Daniel Newman '14
 Colleen Newman '16
 Katy Newman '17

School Operations — Year Ended June 30, 2024	
INCOME	
Gross tuition and fees	\$1,900,743
Less: Financial aid	(\$165,950)
Net tuition and fees	\$1,734,793
Contributions	\$339,983
Net from fund raising events	\$278,077
Miscellaneous	\$51,501
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,404,354
EXPENSES	
Program and support services	\$1,745,522
Development, admissions & fund raising	\$128,943
Capital expenditures funded by operations	\$11,988
Mortgage interest and principal payments	\$294,527
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,180,980
NET INCOME	\$223,374

Income: \$2,404,354

Expenses: \$2,180,980

Net Income: \$223,374

Giving OPPORTUNITIES



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Every generous gift from you helps us secure our future. We depend on your support for our continued success. As you consider how you might contribute a lasting and valuable gift to Ave Maria Academy, please remember the following opportunities for giving. Contact Ave Maria Academy for more information.

Annual Fund Campaign

Annual giving is the custom of making a yearly gift or pledge payment to Ave Maria Academy. Your gift allows us to continue our mission of providing Catholic education for future generations. All contributions to the Ave Maria Fund are fully tax deductible to the extent provided by law. The campaign coincides with the Academy's fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).

Matching Gifts

Many corporations recognize and are willing to support private education through a matching gift program. Your employer can advise you if your company will match your gift. It is often as much as two or three times your contribution.

Planned Giving

Planned gifts include bequests through wills, gifts of life insurance policies, annuities, real estate, or in naming Ave Maria Academy as a beneficiary of a trust. Many planned giving opportunities are beneficial to the donor as well as the school recipient.

Securities/Stock Donations

A gift of appreciated securities allows you to give more at a lower net cost. Gifts of securities and property are most welcome and offer valuable tax advantages.

Memorial and Honorarium Giving

Memorial and honorarium gifts offer an opportunity to honor a relative, friend, or business associate. Any special occasion – birthday, anniversary, graduation, etc. is a time for remembering. During a bereavement period, friends often see this as an appropriate means to express sympathy. One opportunity for memorial giving that remains open is the funding of a stained glass window depicting a saint in one of the school's classrooms. This can be a beautiful way to honor the legacy of a beloved family member or friend.

James T. McInnis Scholarship Fund

This scholarship fund was established to honor the dedicated work of the school's first principal, James T. McInnis. It is granted annually to one male and one female student in the 5th-8th grades. Each awardee receives a \$1,000 scholarship. We continue this fund in honor of Mr. McInnis and his model of Christian charity that we seek to emulate.



James J. Carbonari Scholarship Fund

This scholarship fund was established to honor the dedicated work of James J. Carbonari, AMA Board Member for 12 years and beloved grandparent. It is granted annually to one student in the 7th or 8th grade. The awardee receives a \$1,000 scholarship. Students complete an application which centers around reflection on Jesus's parable of the talents in the Gospel of Matthew, a call that Mr. Carbonari took to heart and fulfilled admirably.

Event Sponsorships

Sponsorship of our fundraising events, the Golf Classic, Gala and the Crusader Classic 5K contribute greatly to the continuation of our success. There are four levels of sponsorship (Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze). A family or business can become a Crusader Sponsor for the entire school year. Each level offers sponsorship recognition, promotion, and priority access to each event as well as dinners, premium seating and more!

Contact

www.AveMariaAcademy.org
763-494-5387
frontdesk@avemariaacademy.org



Ave Maria Academy

2024-2025 STAFF & FACULTY



Board of Directors

Kimberly Day, Board Chair
Steve Schmitz, Treasurer
Dr. Jeanne Buckeye, Secretary
Keith Huegel, Member
John Jacobson, Member
Tracy Mader, Member
Gayle Stoffel, Member

Advancement Committee

Danielle Baez Colleen Sabers
Kim Day Ericka Walz
Marie Grande Kari Younes
Liz Johnson

Staff

Ericka Walz, Interim Principal
Katie Danielson, Assistant Principal
Katie Gooley, Admissions Director;
Preschool/Pre-K Director; Afterschool Director
Lisa Noetzel, Executive Assistant
Melissa Posterick, Contoller
Colleen Sabers, Marketing Director
Anne Sullivan, Marketing Designer
Brent Schwab, Maintenance Coordinator
Matthew Pekarek, Kitchen Coordinator;
Afterschool Care Assistant
Erin Kieltly, Pre-K Support; CGS Assistant;
Afterschool Care Lead Assistant
Elizabeth Hanlin, Staff and Faculty Support
Samantha Peterson, Nurse
Mark Neisius, Athletics Director
Father Corey Belden, Chaplain

Faculty

Jessica Bronk, Preschool Teacher
Minkyung Joo, Preschool Morning Aide
Eva Schwab, Preschool Afternoon Aide;
Afterschool Care Assistant
Tania Al-Siouffy, Pre-Kindergarten Teacher (5-Day)
Jenna Morgantini, Pre-Kindergarten Assistant (5-Day)
Joni Walker, Pre-Kindergarten Teacher (3-Day)
Beth Waller, Pre-Kindergarten Aide (3-Day);
CGS Catechist
Lisseth Quezada, Kindergarten Teacher
Rhonda Kuchinski, Kindergarten Teacher Assistant
Becky Wahl, 1st Grade Teacher
Amy Hilton, 1st Grade Aide
Jill Saverinske, 2nd Grade Teacher
Tiffany Farnam, 3rd Grade Teacher
Haley Wolford, 4th Grade Teacher
Kathy Ruzsa, 5th Grade Teacher
Katie Thomas, 6th Grade Homeroom Teacher;
Middle School History Teacher

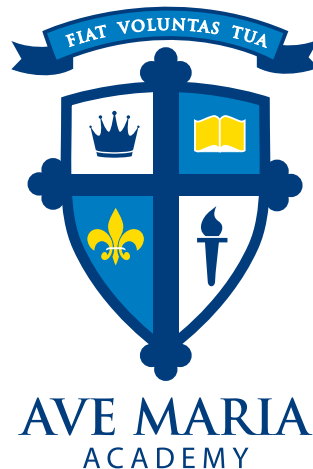
Scott Kieltly, 7th Grade Homeroom Teacher;
Middle School Science Teacher
Jacie Kohler, 8th Grade Homeroom Teacher;
Middle School Math Teacher
Victoria Franzese, 5th - 8th Grade Language
Arts Teacher
Sara Nistler, Middle School Religion Teacher;
5th - 8th Grade Latin Teacher
Marissa Carletta, Math Specialist
(7th Grade Advanced Algebra)
Laura Mueller, Spanish Teacher
Emily Schoenfelder, Art Teacher
Marissa Welsh, Preschool - 4th Grade Music Teacher
Elizabeth Kira, 5th - 8th Grade Music Teacher
Kayleigh Tynen, Catechesis of the
Good Shepherd Lead Catechist



Mission Statement

Rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition, Ave Maria Academy forms young minds, hearts, and souls through a commitment to clear thinking, academic achievement, character formation, prayer, and service.

In an encouraging and safe environment transformed by faith, reason, and virtue, each child's unique and God-given talents are nurtured through mastery of a rigorous curriculum and active participation in the Catholic faith.



7000 Jewel Lane North • Maple Grove, MN 55311
www.AveMariaAcademy.org