

NOVEMBER, 2022

ST. PETER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Respect • Responsibility • Reverence

Collins applauded for long-time support

Beginning with October, we are recognizing a strong supporter of Catholic education along with our students of the month. Our first honoree is Mary Kay Collins, who volunteered as St. Peter's librarian for 15 years. Supporting the school handed students their certificates during our last Mass of the month.

In addition to her volunteer service as librarian, Mary Kay has taught ceramics to classes, which in turn benefitted other charities. She joins us for all-school Mass each Thursday and provides the flowers for the altar as well. Over the years, she helped with school fundraisers from the barn dance to bingo as well.

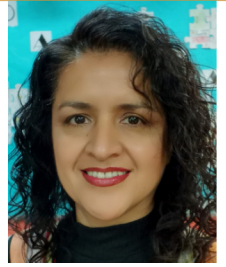
"The last two years when the world was shut down, COVID didn't stop her from continuing to bring gifts to the Lord," said Fr. Joseph, affectionately referring to her as *Saint Mary*. "We're beyond grateful to have parishioners like Mary Kay who consistently model their faith for our students."



ST. PETER STUDENTS who emulate St. Francis of Assisi were chosen as students of the Month for October. Throughout the month, students learned about this saint and the virtues he possessed. These students are leaders (loud and quiet), humble, enthusiastic, loving towards all God's creatures, and respectful. From left with honoree Mary Kay Collins are Claycee Ruiz, Devynn Lopez, Bentley Watts, Noah Mendez, Madeline Martinez, Easley Barfield, and Emery Barfield. Collins, a parishioner at Blessed Sacrament since 1967, attended Catholic schools herself, graduating from St. Luke's Catholic School in Carnegie, Pa., in 1950. She was honored by students and staff for her support of Catholic education.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM HEAD TEACHER MIRTA DÍAZ: GRATITUDE

“Give thanks to the LORD, who is good, whose love endures forever.” 1 Chronicles 16:34



November is here, carrying a basket filled with fun activities for our students and families, tons of learning in the classrooms, and kind reminders of all the gifts for which we are grateful.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the St. Peter Catholic School family for all your support these first few months of the year. There is much that you have patiently taught me and still so much to be learned, but I know that without all of your help I could not have done much these first several weeks of school.

Thanks to my colleagues, parents, SAC, PTO, Fr. Joseph, and St. Peter benefactors.



Even before the year began, I could feel the love for SPCS from the Blessed Sacrament community. It would be hard to try to name everyone who stopped me after a mass to offer their help. To all those benefactors who have loved, supported and believed in Catholic Education, I can only offer my prayers: May our good Lord bless you.

To all the St. Peter staff, thank you for pulling together as a team; whether

to problem-solve or to plan and prepare a fun learning activity for our students. Thank you for the kindness and wisdom with which you share your knowledge and care for each child who comes through St. Peter Catholic School's doors.

November is a perfect month to reflect about all our blessings and thank our Lord for all the new experiences gained, for our families' love and support, for the new people who become part of our family and lives, and for His loving presence as He guides us day by day. Let's not cease our prayers and praises to our good Lord.

CALENDAR

- Nov. 5: Barn Dance fundraiser
- Nov. 9: PTO meeting
- Nov. 10: Bookmobile visits
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day; no school
- Nov. 14: Butterbraids/Scrip begins
- Nov. 17: Student of the Month awards
- Nov. 20: SPCS hosts 10AM Mass coffee hour
- Nov. 21: PTO hosts Thanksgiving Feast
- Nov. 22-25: Thanksgiving Break
- Nov. 28: Return Butterbraids/Scrip money
- Dec. 15: Christmas program



Beaubien makes music time memorable

There's quite a bit of research on the benefits music has in learning academic subjects. For students at St. Peter Catholic School, all they know is that the time spent with Mrs. Beaubien in music is lots of fun.

Beaubien retired as a music educator in the Ontario School District at the end of the 2020-21 school year. She said she had promised previous St. Peter principals that she would volunteer at the school once she retired. Being at a small school is something familiar to Beaubien. Her first job was teaching in New Meadows, and she later moved to Burns to be a traveling music instructor, teaching in Diamond, Drewsey, and Crane.

"I love doing Christmas programs, so this is really fun," she said of the morning's classes, where students in grades K-2 then 3-6 were practicing songs for this year's program. "And, I love their enthusiasm."

Beaubien began providing music at weekly masses at Blessed Sacrament shortly after moving to Ontario in 2003, noting she "drags her husband and daughter along with her" to play guitar and flute, respectively.

"We are so grateful that she's doing this," said Head Teacher Mirta Díaz. "The kids have so much energy and look forward to her classes."



RETIRED EDUCATOR Carol Beaubien now volunteers as music teacher at SPCS. On 'Pajama Day,' different classes of students were rehearsing songs for the forthcoming Christmas program. This year's program will take place Dec. 15.



ALL SAINTS DAY found St. Peter students dressed as all sorts of saints. Home-schooled Catholic students joined in the fun with each student telling Fr. Joseph who they were!

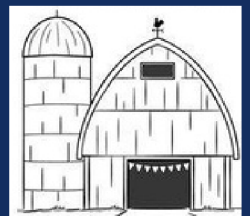


KOVICK KOUNTRY FARMS hosted St. Peter Catholic School students for an afternoon of fun and friendship at the Pumpkin Patch. Students and staff alike enjoyed games, rides, props, and, of course, finding just the perfect pumpkin in the cooler fall air! Thank you to all our parents for being so flexible with all our October activities. What a busy month, but so much fun and learning for our students.

Thank you Barn Dance sponsors & committee members!

Sponsors: Dr. Ben Peterson/High Desert Dental; S. Peterson Law, LLC; Michael Navarrete/The Soil Doc; Wiggles & Giggles Childcare

Committee Members: Shawna Peterson, Chair; Callie Schram, Jaecie López, Martha Hernández, Kelsi Wilson, Monica Landaverde, Kimberly Ruíz, Kristia Simmons, Michael & Krista Navarrete, Angie Mackenzie, Ted & Theresa Martinez, Candace Barber, Hilary Barfield, and Elizabeth Chávez.



Now you know:

Catholic school graduates are twice as likely to attend four-year colleges as graduates of public schools (44.1 percent).

