

# The Rambler Report

REGIS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MAGAZINE FOR FAMILIES, FRIENDS & ALUMNI

SPRING 2021

## A Giving Heart

Regis High School senior shows her support for those in need



**Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow**

# The Rambler Report

SPRING 2021

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## Ash Wednesday

*Remember, you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.* | Genesis 3:1

In February, our students participated in Ash Wednesday services as they began a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

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See how students at all of our schools celebrated the gift of a Catholic education during this special week!

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## CONNECT

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*Cover Photo by Meghan Kulig*

# Report From the Dean

## Do Catholic Schools Matter in Matters Of Faith?



My seventeen years of priesthood have been blessed with Catholic schools. Whether it be the grade school programs at Durand, Lima, and Menomonie or our own Regis Catholic Schools, I have seen, first hand, the difference Catholic schools make in the lives of our youth.

Some, however, will question the importance of Catholic schools citing decreasing pew numbers and the perception of faithlessness by the time young people attend college. I often get frustrated when people make these presumptions about Catholic schools and the decline of pew counts in Churches. Some of that frustration stems from the faith I saw on our college campuses, ministering to the students of UW-La Crosse and UW-Stout. The other source of that frustration is from seeing how Catholic schools have helped build up faith in many young people both as a former Regis chaplain and now as Dean. In light of this, I felt a need to offer a sober, yet hopeful reflection on the faith of our youth and the role Catholic schools play in that faith.

The research group called CARA did a study on what age Millennials and Generation Z are deciding whether or not they will continue the practice of their faith. When I started my priesthood in 2003, the study identified that youth by their sophomore year of high school made that decision. In 2016, the study was done again and it found that this age had dropped to as young as 10 to 13 years of age.

What does this mean? It means that in late grade school to early middle school, youth are making life decisions about their faith. If ever there was a statistic that emphasized the importance of strong Catholic grade schools and middle schools, this would be the statistic. This is why I am so thankful for the work our

staffs do at our Regis campuses of St. Mary's Elementary School, Immaculate Conception Elementary School, St. James Elementary School, and Regis Middle School. Their influence not only advances our student's reading, writing, and arithmetic, but also sets foundations of helping our young people make these life decisions.

Unfortunately, these numbers can also be used to question the value of Catholic high schools and universities. The argument goes, "If faith is determined in grade school, why have high school?" I would strongly argue against this mentality. To justify a "primary school only" Catholic school model reduces faith formation to a type of Swiss watch that you just wind up and let it go, presuming that once they make their faith decision that there is no more formation needed. People do not operate that way and neither should Churches and schools. Faith is ongoing and formation is needed at every stage of life.

At the same time, I do think we should reflect on the question, "Do we treat faith formation as a type of Swiss watch that once we wind it in our youth there is no need of a 'rewind?'" To state this differently; How much of Catholic education (both in schools and parishes) has become overly "informative" and not "formative"?

Given the blessing of my years of college ministry at UW-La Crosse and UW-Stout, I sometimes get asked, "Father, do you see a difference between Catholic school kids and public school kids at the college level?" The answer I can easily give is yes, but not the way that many people would presume. What I saw at UW-La Crosse and Stout were two, clear realities.

Many Catholic school students came to state colleges with a very good grounding in their Catholic faith, but the integration of what they knew about faith and how they lived faith was, at times, not quite there yet. This often led to an initial "freshman drift" where Catholic youth would let go of their faith at first, but then start to realize, from their Catholic school foundation, that something was missing and returned with a heart ready for spiritual integration.

On the other side of the spectrum, public school students would come to Newman

Centers with deep zeal and passion for many things, including their faith, but it was often a "ready, shoot, aim" approach to their passions. What I mean is that Catholic youth from public schools would be willing to lay in front of a bus for a cause and their faith, but they didn't always understand why they were doing so. They wanted to be integrated in word and action, but the "word" piece was sometimes a little behind the "action" piece.

The commonality I would see in college youth regardless of school background was a longing for authenticity. Whether it be the Church they attend, the field of study they pursued, or the life they lived, they didn't want something that was fake or superficial. They wanted something that was real and lived. And if they experienced Church as fake or superficial, then they leave in droves. If they find a Church that lives the Gospel, faith became like water to a dry sponge - They soaked it up immediately.

So, what does this mean for Regis Catholic Schools? As your Dean, I would like to ask all of us a simple question of discernment: Do we approach Regis as informative, formative, or both? No Catholic school is perfect and a school that proclaims to be such is buying into the fake and superficial aspects of society our youth detest. We are a good school with moments that are both spectacular and trying. Are we an authentic school? That is the question that is at the heart of helping our youth both grow in knowledge and faith. And how does your Dean answer this question? I think we are an authentic school, but, as with all things in faith, we also have a lot of areas of growth to embrace. Welcome to the process of growing in holiness. Welcome to the process of becoming the Catholic School Christ desires us to become.

Fr. James Kurzynski  
Dean, Eau Claire Deanery

# Report From the President

Dear Current Families, Alumni, Stakeholders, and Friends,

Springtime is here and is such a blessed, beautiful time of the year. During the Lenten season, my favorite time of the year, I hope you will join me in deep self-reflection. This is so good for our soul and will help us find a true Christ-driven purpose for our life. We are so blessed as Catholic Christians to have the Easter celebration knowing Christ died for us and for our sins.

As we continue our safety measures in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we can see first-hand that they are working. Since November, our reported cases COVID-19 have continued to decline. I am continually impressed as our families rise to the challenge and put the safety of our entire community first. We thank them for partnering with us on this important mission.

During a school year like no other, our teachers have continued to maintain high standards while following all of the new protocols. We know you will understand us when we say this has not been an easy feat. I am so encouraged by our teachers who have made every effort to make in-person learning happen in a positive, productive manner. Their hard work and dedication is a blessing to us all.

Speaking of our great schools, if you know anyone interested in attending, we are in enrollment season! We welcome families of all faiths to join us as we learn in mind, body, and spirit. This year, we created virtual tours for each of our schools to allow interested families to "see" our outstanding facilities from the comfort of their home. We invite you to check out these virtual school tours at [www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/schools/virtual-school-tours/](http://www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/schools/virtual-school-tours/).

We know you are familiar with our Catholic educational opportunities for grades K-12, but we also want to remind you about our faith-filled preschool programs. Enrollment

is also open for our 3-year-old and 4-year-old preschool programs at St. James Elementary School and St. Mary's Elementary School. Our preschool classrooms are bright and engaging, offering play-based learning as our youngest learners prepare for kindergarten. We invite you to explore this opportunity for your young children or grandchildren who live in the Eau Claire and Altoona area. What better way to begin the learning process than in preschool classrooms where God is at the heart of everything.



As we look forward to warmer weather, our three elementary schools - Immaculate Conception Elementary School, St. James Elementary School, and St. Mary's Elementary School - are planning their annual Walk for Virtues fundraisers that were so missed last year. Although they will be modified slightly due to the pandemic, we cannot wait to see our students celebrate their Catholic education and

the virtues they study throughout the year at these special events. We welcome donations from the community in support of this event and our elementary schools at [www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/events/walk-for-virtues/](http://www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/events/walk-for-virtues/).

As we grow through this Lenten season toward Easter, let us all remember the true meaning of Easter and its importance and great significance in our Catholic faith. I hope you all find time to enjoy and embrace this faith-filled time of year with family and friends.

Kelly K. Mechelke  
President

*"Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me."*

- Psalm 15:10

# GOLD MASS

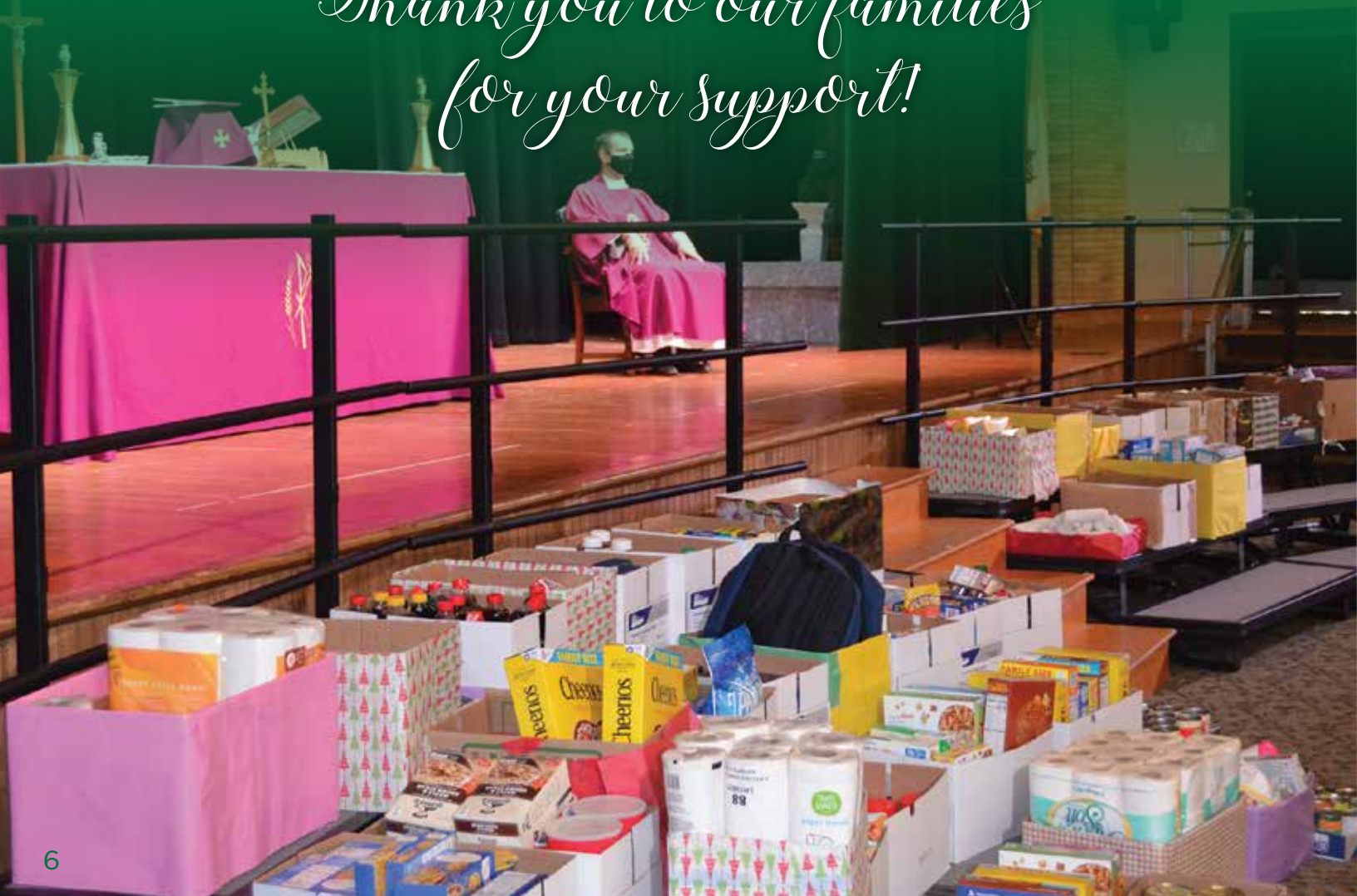
*In December,*



Regis High School and Regis Middle School hosted the annual Gold Mass. The celebration of the Gold Mass is a long-standing Regis tradition dating back to the beginning of Regis in 1953. Students bring in donations of non-perishable food items and cash in support of the St. Francis Food Pantry and the Sojourner House.

While we had a smaller crowd in the Fr. Dowd Auditorium than normal, we are happy to report we gathered \$800 and approximately 1,600 pounds of non-perishable food and toiletry items for these two charities.

*Thank you to our families  
for your support!*





7<sup>th</sup> Grade



8<sup>th</sup> Grade



9<sup>th</sup> Grade



10<sup>th</sup> Grade



11<sup>th</sup> Grade



12<sup>th</sup> Grade

# Knights of Columbus Essay Contest

This past fall, students from Regis Middle School and Regis High School participated in a local Knights of Columbus essay contest. They wrote about ways they can work to counter bullying and social marginalization, which in society has led to increased rates of depression, substance abuse, and suicide among teens and young adults. They also wrote about how these efforts can help promote a culture of life.

The Eau Claire and Altoona Knights of Columbus councils selected the following Regis students as winners and provided them with a monetary award for their well-written essays.

## From Regis Middle School:

Evelyn Market, Ryder Hadt, Maya Ridenour, Sydney Marx, Lauryn Eckloff, and Fifi Arbelaide

## From Regis High School:

Brittany Martin, Luke Betcher, Lucas Kovacevich, Christiana Niedzwiecki, Olivia Miller, Maggie Chilson, Kendall Alexander, Maddie Olson, Sofia Merrick, John Merrick, Sara Postl, and Payton Kostka

*Congratulations!*

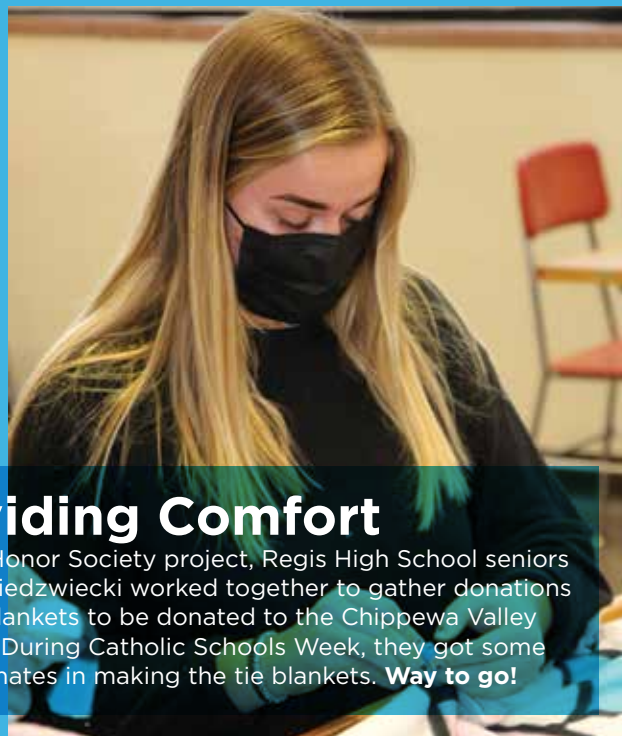
# Catholic Schools Week 2021



Thank you for your support of  
Catholic education!

January 31 - February 6

**Happening since 1974**, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Through various events, our schools focused on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities, and our nation.



## Providing Comfort

As part of their National Honor Society project, Regis High School seniors Sara Postl and Michaela Niedzwiecki worked together to gather donations of supplies for fleece blankets to be donated to the Chippewa Valley Child Advocacy Center. During Catholic Schools Week, they got some help from their classmates in making the tie blankets. **Way to go!**



## Bump...Set...Spike!

Our 5th grade students at Immaculate Conception Elementary School played a fun game of volleyball against teachers and staff members at the school.





## Pajama Day

Thumbs up for pajama day! Our students at Immaculate Conception Elementary School enjoyed feeling super comfy and cozy in celebration of Catholic Schools Week!



## Sharing the Love

Our students at St. James Elementary School enjoyed making Valentine's Day crafts for their friends at Good Shepherd Assisted Living in Eau Claire.



## Praying Together

Thank you to Fr. Peter Kieffer for holding Mass on the Regis campus multiple times each week to allow for our students to attend in a socially distant and safe manner. This included Catholic Schools Week, as our students gathered to spend time in prayer.



## Celebrating our Students

In celebration of Catholic Schools Week, our students at St. James Elementary School created individual displays that were hung all around the cafeteria. They enjoyed being traced and were able to decorate their "person" to show just how special they are. We thank God each day for blessing us with such wonderful students!



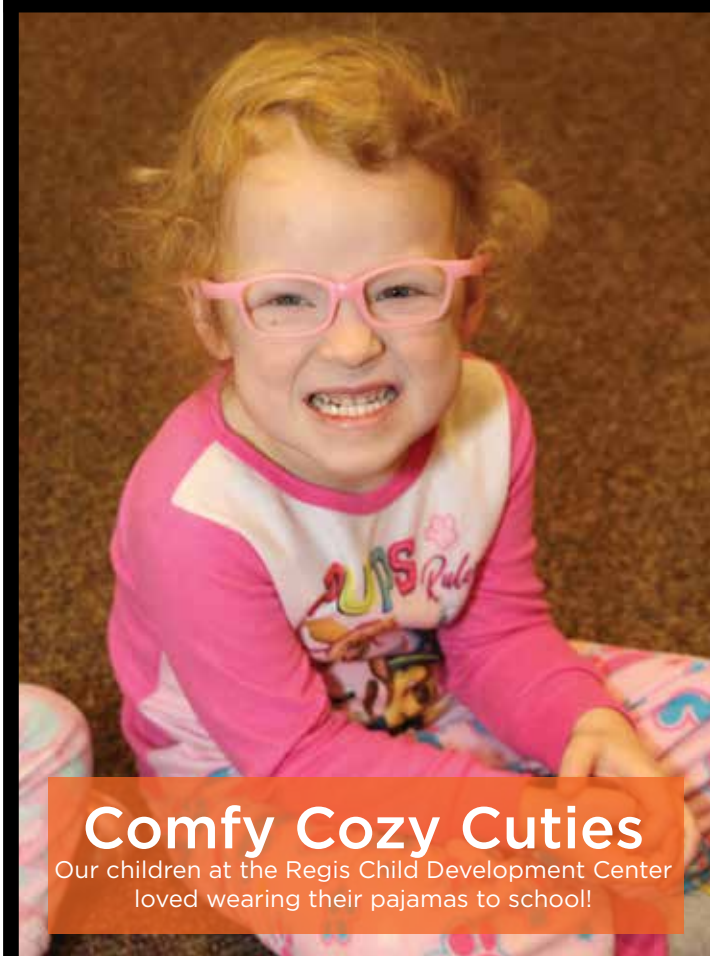
## Warm Hands...Warm Hearts

Warming up Catholic Schools Week...one cup at a time! Students at St. Mary's Elementary School enjoyed a hot cocoa bar, complete with whipped cream, sprinkles, and cookies!



## Western Day

Yee haw! Our students and staff at St. Mary's Elementary School were able to round up some fun in celebration of Catholic Schools Week!



## Comfy Cozy Cuties

Our children at the Regis Child Development Center loved wearing their pajamas to school!



## Sensory Fun

Children at the Genesis Child Development Center enjoyed lots of messy activities in celebration of Catholic Schools Week!



**“Every single teacher from elementary school all through high school deserves a thank you for not only their hard work and dedication, but also the role they played in helping me become a better person in and outside of the classroom.”**

Anna Allen

# All teenagers have something they are passionate about; be it athletics, music, or art. For Regis High School senior Anna Allen, helping others is at the heart of who she is.

**A**нна has been a student within the Regis Catholic Schools system since her early years at St. Mary's Elementary School in Altoona. When she was in 6th grade at Regis Middle School, Anna began organizing and hosting thrift sales in support of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

"I chose St. Jude Children's Research Hospital because of its mission statement, which says no child should be denied treatment based on race, religion, or a family's ability to pay," Anna said. "Families should not have to worry about financial burdens when they are going through the stress of possibly losing a child."

Anna says she started small, using only a portion of her family's garage for her first few thrift sales. Year after year, her efforts grew, thanks in part to generous donations of items from members of the Regis Catholic Schools community and beyond.

"Without the support and donations from members of our Regis family, I would not have been able to raise the amount of money that I have," Anna said. "Those donations have made a huge difference and I would like to thank every single person and family who donated, shared Facebook posts about my events, or even just supported me throughout my journey."

In fact, Anna eventually received so many donations she started using the whole garage for her thrift sales, with her father adding special storage and shelving to help expand her efforts.

"I am beyond proud of Anna," said her mother, Julia Allen. "I know she will continue to help raise money in support of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital as long as the donations come in, even after she leaves for college in the fall."

Just how much has Anna raised in support of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital so far? \$28,115 and counting!

## IMPACT OF COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic began, Anna quickly realized she would not be able to continue to host her fundraiser thrift sales in the same way. Rather than slowing down, she worked even harder, moving things online.

"Because hosting thrift sales in-person was not a safe option, I utilized things like Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist, and Sold 4 U Auctions," Anna said. "My sales have continued to be successful!"

"Anna has gone the extra mile so many times," added Julia. "She continues to go strong with selling, even during the pandemic. We have both been witness to so much need in our community over the past year, and Anna continues to work hard to do what she can to show her support."

## VOLUNTEER WORK

Anna's impact doesn't stop at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Throughout her time as a student at Regis Catholic Schools, she has volunteered countless hours to help others right here in the Chippewa Valley.

"I enjoy doing volunteer work at both Mayo Clinic Health System, HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital, Feed My People Food Bank, Beacon House, Can Do Canines, and more," she said. "Can Do Canines has been one of my favorite opportunities, as I've had a chance to help foster dogs that are being trained as autism assist dogs, mobility dogs, hearing assist dogs, seizure assist dogs, and diabetes assist dogs."



# “I can’t thank Anna enough for her efforts in supporting St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, but I can tell her

“Anna is very modest and somewhat private in her giving and volunteering,” her mother said. “She has many young girls and boys who look up to her as she continues to make a difference.”

Those in the community have also taken note of the difference Anna is making through her service work. In 2015, she was selected as a local winner in the Kohl’s Cares® Scholarship Program. Then, in 2018, she was recognized as the American Red Cross - Northwest Wisconsin Chapter Youth Good Samaritan.

## REGIS PRIDE

In addition to her volunteer work, Anna has also been a very involved member of the student body during her time at Regis Catholic Schools.

“I have participated in various clubs, student council, and choir,” she said. “I also played soccer all four years of high school and basketball during my freshman and sophomore years. I will always fondly remember our trip to the WIAA State Girls Soccer Tournament during my freshman year!”

Anna also says she has great respect for all of the teachers she has had over the years, highlighting former Regis Middle School teacher Jill Klotz’s help in getting her thrift sales started.

“Every single teacher from elementary school all through high school deserves a thank you for not only their hard work and dedication, but also the role they played in helping me become a better person in and outside of the classroom,” she said. “Even though Mrs. Klotz is no longer at Regis Catholic Schools, she is the one who helped me get my St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital fundraisers started, and I could not have done it without her.”

“Mrs. Klotz was such an inspiration for Anna,” her mother added. “Her support went above and beyond just teaching in the classroom. She was very hands-on when it came to volunteering and service hours for her students. Mrs. Klotz ignited Anna’s passion for helping others, allowing her to see how small actions can make a big difference.”

“Being a student at Regis has meant more to me than just education,” Anna added. “It has meant friendships, learning experiences, lifelong lessons, and growth in my faith. Without Regis and its community, I would not be where I am at today.”

## FUTURE PLANS

Following graduation from Regis High School in May, Anna will attend the University of Minnesota Rochester to pursue a career in the medical field. It is a decision she says she made soon after she began her thrift sales.

“As I learned more about St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and the impact it has in the lives of patients and families, I realized I wanted to be a doctor myself,” Anna said. “I have a drive and a passion to help others and this feels like the perfect path for me.”

“Anna truly is a wonderful young lady, daughter, sister, student, neighbor, and friend,” her mother

**St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital** treats children from all 50 states and from around the world. One of those children is also a student here at Regis Catholic Schools.

In October of 2017, just one day after her 9th birthday, current 6th grade student Sascha Stephens was diagnosed with medulloblastoma.

*Finding cures.  
Saving*

“The oncologists who originally diagnosed Sascha were not giving us a lot of hope for her survival in the days immediately following her emergency surgery,” said Sascha’s mom, Deborah Becker. “They pegged her chances of living 5 years at 30 percent.”

After also hearing about the possible side effects of the treatment suggested and knowing about experimental treatments being run all over the globe, Deborah says her husband, Casey, reached out to St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

“Within hours, we received word that, pending verification of Sascha’s diagnosis, St. Jude would accept her into their cutting-edge SJMB12 medulloblastoma trial,” Deborah said.

# she is changing the world.”

Deborah Becker

added. “She has made my blessing as a parent truly a gift from God and I know she will succeed in whatever path she chooses.”

As she prepares for what’s next, Anna says she will continue to focus on hope, which is at the core of what inspires her to give back to others.

“Hope that someday I will make a difference in someone’s life, hope that others will want to give back in little or big ways, and hope that this world isn’t always as bad as it seems. My hope is that we all support ourselves and each other so we can get to a place where politics, race, and religion will help build us up and not break us down.”



Deborah said the family’s prayers were answered as Sascha began receiving world-class treatment. Thanks to the generosity of those who support St. Jude Children’s Hospital, families never receive a bill for treatment, travel, housing, or food. Sascha’s family received an apartment in Memphis to live in during her outpatient treatment, a grocery stipend, and child-first care.

hospitals, providers, and countries. Because of St. Jude, children across the globe with Leukemia and Sickle Cell disease can now be cured.”

We are happy to report that Sascha is currently thriving at Regis Middle School. Her mom says she thinks of herself as a normal kid who just visits sunny Memphis, Tennessee a lot. Sascha’s hearing is intact and her strength, stamina, balance, and hair are all growing.

“In fact, with the help of growth hormone, Sascha herself is once again back in the normal range on the growth chart,” Deborah said. “We are buried in normalcy and couldn’t be happier!”

“I can’t thank Anna enough for her efforts in supporting St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, but I can tell her she is changing the world,” said Deborah. “St. Jude freely shares the results of its findings with all

*children.*

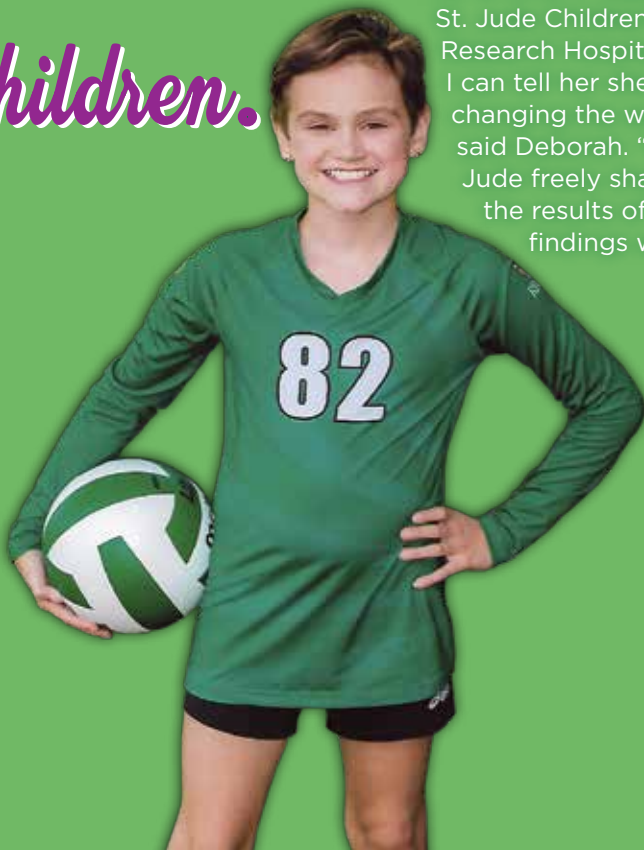




Photo Courtesy: Sacred Heart of Jesus - St. Patrick, Eau Claire

# Saying Farewell to St. Patrick's School

Last year, the city of Eau Claire said a final farewell to St. Patrick's School on the corner of 5th Avenue and Fulton Street.

The decision to tear down the building came following increased maintenance and utility costs at the closed school and parish center. The razing of the building began in November of 2020, with plans to use the empty lot for a larger parking area. When finished, this new parking lot will have 260 parking stalls. The parish rents parking spaces to the neighboring Mayo Clinic Health System Luther campus and expects an additional revenue of approximately \$93,000 per year thanks to the expanded lot.





Photo Courtesy: Leader-Telegram

In 1906, the first Catholic grade school in Eau Claire, St. Patrick's School, was built as part of St. Patrick's Parish. The building soon housed even more students, when Father A.B.C. Dunne added a two-year high school to St. Patrick's grade school. A third high school year was added to the building in 1919.

Casper Dowd, Father Dunne's successor, began the construction of St. Patrick's High School and gymnasium in 1927, which housed a four-year high school program. The first class to graduate at St. Patrick's High School was in 1932.

As the demand for Catholic education grew by the early 1950s, the four-year school was not large enough to serve the number of prospective students in the four relatively new Eau Claire-area Catholic parishes. (St. Patrick's Parish, St. James the Greater Parish, Immaculate Conception Parish, and St. Olaf Parish) On September 24, 1951, Principal Father John Paul (Bishop John Paul) made the commitment to begin a fundraising drive for a new central Catholic high school, which would meet the needs of all the parishes in the area.

At the same time, St. Patrick's High School was made a central location and the name was changed to Regis,

which is Latin for "Christ the King". Principal Father John Paul was instrumental in the construction of the present Regis High School and Regis Middle School. Building began on September 24, 1952 and the new school was in use by the 1953-54 school year.

Prior to the razing, St. Patrick's School opened its doors for the public to get a final look of the building and to take home some mementos. People claimed things like furniture and books, and even doors, tiles, and pieces from the gym floor!

We know this building held special memories for many of our alumni and it will be missed. Thank you, St. Patrick's School, for the role you played in the history of Catholic education in Eau Claire.





# Sports Report

## Girls Basketball

The Regis Girls Basketball team battled to a final record of 12-9, including a tie for 3rd place in the Cloverbelt-West with a 6-5 conference record. This was a major improvement from the previous season's 3-21 record. The team played best when it mattered most, including a single game, school record of 40 points by Makenna Rohrscheib against the conference champions Osseo-Fairchild. The team also welcomed new Head Coach Teddy Joas to the Regis Girls Basketball program.

The team had a four game winning streak in the middle of the season and won its final 3 games (all conference games) to end the regular season. The playoff opener was at Colfax, and thanks to a game winner by Rohrscheib at the buzzer, the Ramblers propelled their way into the regional semifinal game at Fall Creek. The Ramblers would lose a very close, physical game by the score 36-30.

The team had contributions from two freshmen, Ashley Chilson and Ava Highman, but were ultimately led by the five seniors. Caitlin Klink, Katie Andrews, Adrienne Morning, Ally Leis, and Jessica Sabbagh provided great leadership throughout the season and undoubtedly have left their legacy while laying a great foundation for future Ramblers in the program. Special congratulations to our players named to the 2020-21 Cloverbelt Conference Girls All-Conference Team! Makenna Rohrscheib was named to the First Team and was also recognized as Player of the Year. Katie Andrews was named as an Honorable Mention.

## Boys Basketball

The Regis Boys Basketball team was able to play 20 games this past season, compiling a record of 12-8. The season started off slow, as the team played some very good competition early on and took some time to find its stride. After starting the season 2-7 and having to take a mid-season quarantine break, the team finished with a 10 game winning streak before losing to Spring Valley in the 2nd round of the playoffs. During that 10 game winning streak, the team was able to have two great road wins vs. Fall Creek and Altoona, being the only conference team that beat Fall Creek this season.

The team is extremely thankful for the contributions of its five seniors. (JP Wolterstorff, Aaron Haselwander, David Haselwander, Devin Dykes, and Aiden Ritger) JP had an outstanding senior campaign, leading the state in Division 4 in 3-point percentage at 49.5%. He led the team in scoring with 20 points per game. He was also named 1st Team All-Conference and was selected as Conference Co-Player of the Year. Other All-Conference selections were Kendon Krogman (2nd Team) and Jeffrey Ritger (Honorable Mention).

## Wrestling

This year's Regis-Altoona Wrestling season brought many challenges that were different from any other year. As a team, its participants rose to the occasion, adapted, and conquered for the love of the sport.

This year's team was the biggest yet, with 19 wrestlers. They gave their all during practice and especially at meets. RAW ended the season 7-3, turning many heads, and giving our wrestlers the recognition they deserve. The team excelled individually at regionals with four champions (Payton Kostka, Chase Kostka, Brayden Albee, and Caden Weber), as well placing 2nd as a team. In addition, Deaglan O'Connell and Noah Knowblock were also sectional qualifiers. At sectionals, Payton Kostka took 1st place, with the team taking 5th place.

At the state tournament in Adams-Friendship, Payton Kostka took 3rd place, wrestling tough to close out his high school career. Years ago when the program restarted, Payton was its only wrestler and this year, he was the leader of the team of 19. We congratulate him on an amazing career!

## Hockey

The RAM Hockey team started the season with a win against Wisconsin Rapids. After being down 5-0 in the second period, the team came from behind to win 7-6 and went on to win the next game by a score of 8-2 to start the season with a 2-0-0 record.

RAM Hockey had its ups-and-downs over the next few games, but was able to end the first half of the season with a 5-4-0 record. The team had an extremely tough schedule the second half of its season, including six conference games, ending the season with a record of 8-11-0 and seeded 5th heading into the playoffs. The team started the playoffs with a 5-4 win against the 4th seed, West Salem. The next game was against the 1st seed, Baldwin-Woodville. After being down by two goals late in the second period, RAM Hockey was able to come from behind and win 7-6 in overtime. After upsetting the top seeded team in the section, the team went on to play the 2nd seed, Somerset, in the sectional final game for a chance to go to the state tournament. After the first period, the two teams were tied 1-1 and it stayed that way for the majority of the game. But, with a little more than a minute left in the third period, Somerset scored and the team lost 2-1.

In addition to a much improved overall record of 10-12-0 and a great playoff run, the team also had two players earn conference awards, Drew Goettl (Regis, Senior) 1st Team All-Conference and Evan Gustafson (Altoona, Sophomore) All-Conference Honorable Mention.

## Dance Team

The Regis Dance Team was lucky, as a team of three, to be able to compete its full 2020-21 season!

With two graduating seniors, Chelsea and Ella, and the captain, Kendall, the team was able to prepare for Badgerette Dance Regionals. At Regionals, the team scored 7th place in its category, which opened a spot for the team to attend Bagerette State Showdown. The dancers worked for the next few weeks to quickly pull together a new dance, and placed 7th at State. Although it was a unique year, our three dancers managed to work hard, stay together as a team, and show up at every practice!



**Congratulations** to Regis High School senior Drew Goettl for signing his letter of intent to play football at Winona State University!

# Congratulations!

## *Recognizing Jumpin' Johnny's accomplishments!*



In February, Immaculate Conception Elementary School Principal Kayla Bahnub presented 5th grade student Johnny Joles with a trophy to recognize his rope jumping records. He is the current school record holder and has been the school's top jumper for several years.

Immaculate Conception will sure miss his fast feet when he moves on to middle school!



*Congratulations to the Regis High School students named to the 2020-21 Cloverbelt All-Conference ensembles!*

The Regis choir students recognized were Kendall Alexander, Chiamaka Kanu, Isabella Larsen, and Chelsea Schaf and the Regis band student recognized was Teigan Petersilka. (Kendall was also nominated as a band student, but could only be assigned to one ensemble.)

Even though this year's Cloverbelt All-Conference Music Festival was canceled due to COVID-19, we are so proud of your accomplishments!

Go Ramblers!

# New Trophy Case



**In late December 2020**, construction began on a new trophy case located outside of the gym in the Regis building. The space previously housed our Hall of Fame plaques, which we relocated to a different area outside of the gym. Leslie (Jacques) Bates '77 and Laurie Zukaitis '75 helped kick-off the project as representatives of the support from both families.

# Go Ramblers

## The trophy case is dedicated In Loving Memory of Charlene Zukaitis, and Jerry and Evy Jacques.



Under the general contracting of Hoeft Builders, Inc. (Peter Hoeft '95) and masonry work by Rock-N-Stone Masonry (Ryan Kostka '93), the trophy case project wrapped up at the end of the first week in January 2021. Thank you Peter and Ryan for a job well done.



# Ramblers!

**Special thanks to those who generously contributed to the trophy case project. They include:**

- The Zukaitis and Jacques Families
- Regis High School Booster Club - Scott Alexander
- Hoeft Builders, Inc. (Peter Hoeft '95 and Perry Dunlap)
- Rock-N-Stone Masonry (Ryan Kostka '93)
- Cutting Edge Concrete & Drilling
- Cherry Drywall
- Chippewa Valley Electrical Contractors
- Accent Paint Store & Accent Finishing
- Larson's Custom Cabinets



Time to bring home **even more hardware** to fill up this new display case.



## LEAVING A LEGACY

The Regis Catholic Schools Foundation is committed to take the lead in advancing the mission of Regis Catholic Schools through funding various system-wide Catholic school initiatives.

As part of the Comprehensive Guide for Advancement, the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation is responsible for the Annual Regis Fund, the Tuition Partnership Program, Major Gifts, Planned Giving, Scholarships, Donor Recognition, and Managing the Endowment.

Supporting parishes, current families, the Regis Catholic Schools Education Commission, Regis alumni, community supporters, and the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation all help shape the future of our Catholic schools.

Regis Catholic Schools has asked all of us to come together through prayers, the spirit of volunteerism, words of support, or through donations to help endure the viability, sustainability, and growth of our system.

### Regis Catholic Schools Foundation Legacy Society and Planned Gifts

Our planned gift society was created in appreciation of the generous donors whose legacy will live on through their planned gift to the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation. These gifts strengthen the future of faith-based educational excellence at Regis Catholic Schools. Regis Legacy Society members can choose to be recognized for their generosity in the main entrance at Regis and on our planned giving website.

### Will you include Regis Catholic Schools Foundation in your estate plan?

There are a number of ways to remember Regis Catholic Schools through the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation in your estate plan. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that allows you to enjoy all the benefits afforded by the US Tax Code when making financial gifts.

## HOW TO GIVE

**WILL OR TRUST:** Leave a gift of a set amount, a percentage of your estate, property, or the residual amount. These gifts can reduce or eliminate estate taxes.

**LIFE INSURANCE:** These are gifts that can offer welcomed tax savings today and significant savings in the future.

**RETIREMENT PLANS:** Amounts withdrawn for retirement accounts can be taxable to you and your heirs. Enjoy little or no tax with an offsetting charitable deduction.

**CASH:** Through checks and electronic transfers, gifts of cash outside of an IRA have no limit and can reduce income tax liability. IRA gifts have generous limits.

**SECURITIES:** Donate appreciated stocks or bonds. The current market value is the value of your gift and you pay no capital gains tax.

**BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS:** Name Regis Catholic Schools Foundation as the beneficiary on life insurance, annuities, RAs, bank accounts, assets or others.

The Regis Catholic Schools Foundation has many legal and financial advisors who can guide you through the estate giving process. For more information on joining the Regis Legacy Society, please contact:



**Mark Golden '83**

Advancement Director  
Regis Catholic Schools  
(715) 830-2273, ext. 1407

[mgolden@RegisCatholicSchools.com](mailto:mgolden@RegisCatholicSchools.com)

The most common and simple way to include the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation in your last wishes is to include a bequest in your will or trust. There is an unlimited estate tax deduction for amounts left to charity. Including the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation in your estate plan may substantially decrease the taxes owed. Bequests can be made of specific property, specific dollar amounts, or a percentage of your estate. We are very grateful for all the support you provide our Catholic schools.

# What will your legacy be?

Matthew 6:21

“For Where Your Treasure Is,  
There Your Heart Will Be Also.”

2020-21  
REGIS FUND  
GOAL  
\$340,000

\$300,000

\$279,620

\$250,000

\$200,000

\$150,000

\$100,000

\$50,000

\$0

## We need your help!

Thank you for your continued support of Regis Catholic Schools. The 2020-21 Annual Regis Fund will conclude on June 30, 2021. At this point in our annual appeal, we have received donations totaling \$279,620. Please help us to reach our goal of \$340,000.

It is humbling to know that we rely on the generosity of our loyal alumni, parents, and friends for support. We are grateful for your past support and ask that you consider contributing this year if you have not done so already. Your donations help the Regis Catholic Schools Foundation support the annual budget as we pay our teachers and purchase textbooks, technology, and classroom supplies.

There is no greater gift we can offer our young people than a Catholic education. We

ask you to prayerfully consider making a tax-deductible donation to this year's campaign as a personal vote of confidence in the quality and mission of Regis Catholic Schools.

It is not too late to make a difference! We invite you to make a donation today by returning the enclosed envelope or visiting [www.RegisCatholicSchoolsFoundation.com](http://www.RegisCatholicSchoolsFoundation.com) and clicking DONATE NOW. Thank you in advance for your investment and continued support!

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Golden '83, Advancement Director, at (715) 830-2273, ext. 1407 or [mgolden@RegisCatholicSchools.com](mailto:mgolden@RegisCatholicSchools.com).



**SUPPORT REGIS TODAY,  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOMORROW**

# Alumni Report

**Anne (Rud) Miller '68** "One of the blessings I've experienced during the past year of dealing with COVID-19 is the increased contact among Regis alumni through emails, social media activity, and phone calls. So many in my fabled Class of '68 have reached out to one another during times of loss, to share a joke, or to comment on their families. They've included photos of their kids and grandkids, respectfully offered comments on politics, encouraged me to finish novel #2, did some reminiscing, and recommended good books to check out. Proof indeed we can get through this together!"

After spending seven years teaching in China, **Roxie Owens '69** and her husband, Ed Tuite, decided to move to an American school near Karjat, India, about 40 miles west of Mumbai. Because of COVID-19, they finally arrived on January 5 and have been getting to know the kids. Roxie reports the scenery is lovely, the food is spectacular, and the students are awesome. The two do not know for sure if they will get home this summer due to COVID-19, but hope to be able to! They sent love to all of their friends back home.



**Kirk and Cindy Zukaitis Dahl '71** of Eau Claire were named the Wisconsin Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year by the Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee. The award is presented annually to owners of woodland property who have demonstrated an outstanding level of commitment to woodland ownership and forest management.

**Theresa Wallace Gutsch '74** retired on March 4 from the Medical College of Wisconsin. She spent the last 6 1/2 years as the Campus Director for the regional medical school campus in Wausau, Wisconsin. Theresa was employed at the location since 2014 and was responsible for getting the school started in Wausau, getting a new campus built and outfitted, and overseeing day-to-day operations. The school will have admitted six classes of medical students

and graduated 57 physicians as of May 2021. "This has been a dream job - very exciting and fulfilling work! But, I'm ready for my next chapter and hope to travel a bit, spend more time with my grandkids, and learn to play the hammered dulcimer!"

**Tim O'Brien '79**, and his law firm Bakke Norman, S.C., have opened a new office at 130 S. Barstow Street, Suite 1C, Eau Claire. Tim will work primarily out of the new Eau Claire office. He is an AV-rated attorney, certified as a Civil Trial Specialist, and has been named a Wisconsin Super Lawyer 12 times. For further information, see [www.bakkenorman.com](http://www.bakkenorman.com).

**Debra Mercer '91** works as a Healthcare Navigator with the Center For Veterans Issues. She earned a B.S. in Vocational Rehabilitation in 1996 after earning an Associate Degree in AODA Counseling in 1994. Debra has two amazing children; Tyler is a junior at UW-Stout where he also plays football and JoJo is a 4th grade student at St. Mary's Elementary School in Altoona.



**Quinn Petersilka '20** was recently featured for her work as a freshman research assistant as UW-Eau Claire collaborates with Mayo Clinic on research about the effects of alcohol on aging brains. Petersilka is among the first Blugold Biomedical Innovator Scholars.

We invite you to visit [www.uwec.edu/news/news/uw-eau-claire-researchers-study-effects-of-alcohol-on-older-people-4577/](http://www.uwec.edu/news/news/uw-eau-claire-researchers-study-effects-of-alcohol-on-older-people-4577/) to read the full article about her work on the research team.





**It is with great sadness** that we share with you Kylie Pope, a 7th grade student at Regis Middle School, died unexpectedly on Friday, March 5. During this difficult time, please remember Kylie's immediate family members including her mother Janet and her father Daniel, her twin sister Natalie (7th grade, Regis Middle School), and younger sisters Isabella (3rd grade, St. Mary's Elementary School) and Julianna (4K, Altoona).

As we come together as a community to support the Pope family, Regis Catholic Schools has set up a memorial fund in Kylie's honor for those who would like to make a financial donation.

Please visit [www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/community/kylie-pope-memorial/](http://www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/community/kylie-pope-memorial/) to show your support. (You will have the option to indicate your willingness to offset the cost of the PayPal processing fee as you make your online donation.)

Donations will be accepted through April 30 and all will be directed to the Pope family.

*We ask you to please keep the Pope family in your prayers during this most difficult time.*

*Saints of God come to Kylie's aid.  
May the angels carry her to God's loving arms.  
Eternal rest grant to Kylie O Lord,  
And let perpetual light shine upon her.*

## IN MEMORIAM

*Eternal rest, grant unto him/her, O lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him/her.  
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

### ALUMNI

#### ST. PATRICK'S HIGH SCHOOL

Betty L. McInnis '39  
Sr. Dale (Lenore) Wollum, OSB '42  
Marilyn (Lassek) Loechler '43  
Bernadette (Christenson) Fisher '47  
Richard Rathke '47

#### REGIS HIGH SCHOOL

Edith (Price) Glomski '52  
Joseph Modl '53  
Richard Holdorf '53  
Kenneth Schoettle '53

William "Bill" Wolf '53  
Gordon Kelley '54  
June (Benedict) Goethel '54  
Dennis Brandl '56  
Dr. Stephen Kurth '57  
Doreen (Schlewitz) Bauer '58  
Charles "Charlie" Martenson '59  
Daniel Ausman, Jr. '59  
Robert "Bob" Flynn '63  
Christine (Warteman) Enger '67  
Linda (Lancour) Boehm '70  
Anne (Robertson) Flahive '75  
Denise (Duerkop) Schendel '79

### FRIENDS OF REGIS

Bob Brown  
Enid Cota  
Dennis D'Jock  
Ronald "Ron" Hunter  
Donald "Pat" Kern  
John Kircher  
Mary Ann Wilkinson  
Theresa Maenner  
H. Tod Culver

*Thank you to the families who  
named the Regis Catholic Schools  
Foundation for their memorial gifts.*



## *Regis Catholic Schools Virtual Wellness Room*

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we invite you to experience our Regis Catholic Schools Virtual Wellness Room at <https://sites.google.com/case.k12.wi.us/virtual-wellness-room/home>.

This is a space for students, staff, families, and members of the community to find tools, strategies, and resources to help manage stress, anxiety, and emotions by integrating purposeful pauses throughout the day to calm the mind, body, and soul.

*Explore and enjoy!*



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**29th Annual**  
**Regis ScRambler Golf Outing**  
**Saturday, June 19, 2021**

Watch  
[www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/  
events/scrambler-golf-outing/](http://www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/events/scrambler-golf-outing/)  
for more details closer to the event.

For registration and sponsorship information,  
please email the Regis High School Booster Club at  
[ScAlexander@FDIC.gov](mailto:ScAlexander@FDIC.gov).

# GRAB GEAR TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT OF THE REGIS RAMBLERS!

The Regis High School Booster Club is now selling a selection of Ramblers clothing and merchandise at the Central Office, located at 2728 Mall Drive in Eau Claire!

Stop by to shop youth, women's, and men's clothing items including t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, and jackets. There are also stocking hats, caps, mugs, coffee cups, water bottles, duffel bags, and stadium chairs available for purchase. Cash or check payments accepted.



**Regis Catholic Schools Central Office Hours**  
Monday - Thursday | 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Friday | 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
(Closed on Fridays in the Summer)



REGIS  
Catholic Schools  
*Auction*

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021**  
**The Florian Gardens | Eau Claire**

Enjoy an evening of fun, expression of community,  
and a commitment to the future of Regis Catholic Schools!

[www.RegisCatholicSchools.com](http://www.RegisCatholicSchools.com)





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#RegisPride  
#GoRamblers

Regis High School - Regis Middle School  
Immaculate Conception Elementary School - St. James Elementary School  
St. Mary's Elementary School  
Regis Child Development Center - Genesis Child Development Center

## Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Regis Catholic Schools is dedicated to educating students of all faiths in a Catholic, Christ-centered environment. We are united by Our Core Values of *Living Faith, Accepting Responsibility, Promoting Teamwork, Achieving Excellence, and Inspiring Leadership.*

ACTIVITY SPIRITUAL  
HEALTH MENTAL DISEASE PREVENTION  
HYGIENE MIND SPIRIT BODY  
PHYSICAL NUTRITION HABITS  
HEALTHY Habits  
REGIS Catholic Schools  
ALL TOGETHER