



Friends of Blessed Trinity Newsletter

For all Alumni and Friends of St. Richard, St. Peter, Assumption and Blessed Trinity Catholic School

Volume 1, Issue 2

November, 2006



St. Richard's School
Now Blessed Trinity's Penn Campus



Assumption School
Facility currently being rented to an outside group.



St. Peter's School
Now Blessed Trinity's Nicollet Campus

Jo Culnane to be honored at Grand Gala with Spirit of Blessed Trinity Award

Middle School Language Arts teacher Jo Culnane is being honored at the Grand Gala on December 2, 2006 for her contributions to Blessed Trinity Catholic School. Jo will be receiving the first ever Spirit of Blessed Trinity Award.

Jo has been a part of the Blessed Trinity family for a long time. She taught at St. Peter's School and Assumption School and has been at Blessed Trinity since the three Richfield parishes merged. Many times the school leadership has been asked by alumni if Jo continues to teach at Blessed Trinity, because she was their favorite teacher.

Jo has a passion for teaching that shows through in everything she does. She places her students first and by just stepping into her classroom, it is easy to see that her students learn a lot about writing and reading from her. Teachers at the Academy of Holy Angels and at Richfield high school often comment on what exceptional writers Blessed Trinity graduates are. This is a reflection on the work Jo does with the students that she

has in her classroom.

Jo takes time to do the little things that make

learning fun. She directs the eighth grade play at Blessed Trinity each spring. This is a favorite memory for many Blessed Trinity eighth grade graduates, and the students start looking forward to this event long before the start of their eighth grade year!

Blessed Trinity would like to welcome anyone interested in seeing Jo receive this award to purchase tickets to the Grand Gala on December 2. This will be an excellent opportunity to share this wonderful evening with Jo and congratulate her on her many accomplishments.



Jo Culnane with a current eighth grader

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Blessed Trinity Generations Group Forming

As Blessed Trinity Catholic School began to gather names and addresses of alumni of St. Peter's, St. Richards, Assumption, and Blessed Trinity, an idea for a special group of alumni was formed. "Blessed Trinity Generations" will give the school the opportunity to thank and honor those families who currently have students enrolled at Blessed Trinity and parents/

grandparents who also attended one of our schools. We look forward to getting this group together for an informal breakfast this spring. So if you are a family who meets this criteria, please contact Scott Springman at 612-866-6906 or springmans@btcsmn.org so your family can be added to the "Blessed Trinity Generations" list of names.

Welcome Father Tony VanderLoop!

Blessed Trinity Catholic School would like to extend a warm welcome to Father Tony VanderLoop, the new pastor of St. Peter's Catholic Church. Father Tony was gracious to share some information about himself.

"I grew up in Elk River, Minnesota with four sisters and I am the second oldest. As a graduate of Elk River High School in 1986 my first college experience was at the University of Minnesota. I studied Chemical Engineering and earned my Bachelor's degree in 1991. Having met friends at the University who had a positive influence on me, I first began to think about some sort of full-time ministry at that point. The friends I made in college were friends who truly lived their faith and their aliveness to God really showed me how it was possible to live a life of faith."



"After college I worked in water treatment for about five years. Then beginning in 1996, I entered Saint John Vianney minor seminary for two years. After that I attended The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity for four years plus one additional year for an internship at a parish. I was ordained a priest in May of 2003 and assigned to The Church of Saint Bernard in Saint Paul. This was a great experience especially working with the grade school and high school kids. It was a great place to begin priesthood."

Father Tony will preside over school masses for the students once a month. He will also spend time in intermediate classrooms on a weekly basis at Blessed Trinity. We look forward to Father Tony's presence in our school! Welcome Father Tony!

Marathon Goal Reached

Blessed Trinity Catholic School held its annual "Marathon for Nonpublic Education" on September 29 at the school's Penn Campus, 7540 Penn Ave. South in Richfield. Students obtained donations from sponsors, and then walked a route around the school. All the money collected from this fundraiser goes directly to Blessed Trinity Catholic School to help with the expenses of the pre-school through eighth grade educa-



tion program. The goal of \$65,000 for this fundraiser was reached!

The "Marathon for Nonpublic Education" began with a prayer service at St. Richard's church at 9:00 a.m. The students' walked, had lunch, and watched a staff volleyball game. This was a great event of school spirit! The students cheered loudly during the volleyball game and had a fun day walking and socializing!

What does a Development Director Do?

By Scott Springman

As I begin my second year at Blessed Trinity Catholic School, I have been asked by many people "What does a Development Director do?"

I have many duties. One of my most important duties is constituency relations, which includes creating this newsletter. I am trying to target not only alumni, but also the many other people who are important to our school so I can bring them up to date on what is going on at Blessed Trinity.

I also have a responsibility of fundraising. I make con-

tacts with individuals, businesses, and foundations about possible donations to Blessed Trinity.

Marketing the school also falls under my charge. If you see me around with a camera, you will understand that I am constantly trying to add photos for our P.R. Boards, brochures, and for press releases.

While there are more parts of my job, these are three of the main areas that a Development Director does. If you have questions concerning these areas or about anything, please don't hesitate to ask!

Blessed Trinity Hosts Korean Students

Blessed Trinity has some visitors from Korea this year. Eight middle school students will study at Blessed Trinity for the 2006-07 school year. These students have studied hard in Korea in order to come to America and Blessed Trinity..

Some of the Korean students will stay with Blessed Trinity host families so they can experience an American household.

An additional ten Korean five and six year-olds will come to Richfield with their families in April. The students will spend a week in our school so they can experience an American school for themselves.

Blessed Trinity is excited to have these students as part of our student body. Our students gain so much by having friends of a different culture who live on the other side of the world!



The Korean exchange students are introduced to the Blessed Trinity student body before the Marathon for Non-public Education on Sept. 29th.

Thank you to the Catholic Aid Foundation for the \$500 grant that was used to buy some new laptop batteries! These batteries will help the keep the mobile computer lab at Blessed Trinity running smoothly!

The Giving Tree

Blessed Trinity Catholic School is in need of some new items. If you wish to donate, please send a check with your donation to:

Blessed Trinity Catholic School
Giving Tree
7540 Penn Ave. South
Richfield, MN 55423



Please list on the memo line of your check, which area you wish your donation to be applied:

- 1.) New mats for the Nicollet Campus Gym: \$1000
- 2.) Cubbies for the Kindergarten Rooms: \$100/section of 5. Ten sections are needed to cover all the Kindergarteners.
- 3.) A DVD player for each campus: \$130
- 4.) Telescopes for the science lab

Do you have friends that attended school at Saint Richard's, Saint Peter's, Assumption, or Blessed Trinity who did not receive our newsletter? Please let us know who they are so we can add them to our list!

Reconnecting with Alumni is important! If you know of someone who should be receiving this newsletter, let us know! There will be a prize for the person that sends us the most names! Please fill out this form, and mail it to:

Scott Springman
c/o Blessed Trinity
7540 Penn Ave. South
Richfield, MN 55423

Or e-mail information to:
springmans@btcsmn.org

Name

Address

Phone

A student at:

- St. Peter's
- Assumption
- St. Richard's
- Blessed Trinity

For all alumni and friends for St. Peter, Assumption, St. Richard, and Blessed Trinity Catholic School

7540 Penn Ave. South
Richfield, MN 55423

Phone: 612-866-6906
Fax: 612-869-0277
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FOR ALL ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF ST. RICHARD, ST. PETER,
ASSUMPTION AND BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Catholic School**

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Grand Gala to be held on December 2, 2006!

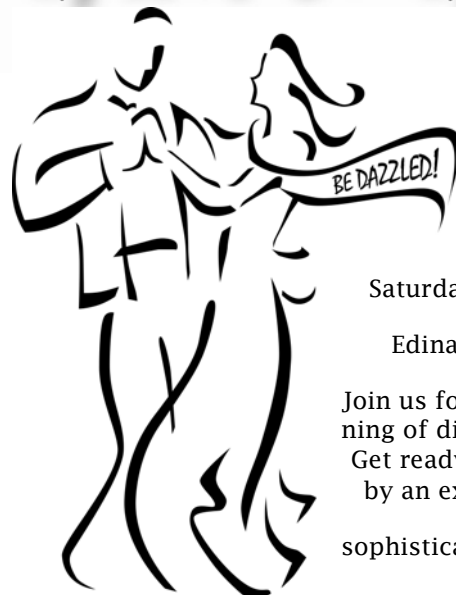
The Blessed Trinity Grand Gala planning is in full swing. It will be an outstanding evening of dinner and dancing at the Edina Country Club! Join us on December 2.

It will definitely be a night of fun including a dinner, dancing, auction, and games. This formal event will feature live music as the Mraz Brothers Band will entertain the crowd with music and dancing.

Invite others to join you at your reserved table at the Grand Gala. Renew friendships. Meet new friends. Most of all, feel good that by attending the Grand Gala, you will be helping to preserve a wonderful Catholic school education for ALL children. Mark your calendar for this first annual Grand Gala!

If you would like to purchase tickets, please call Blessed Trinity at (612) 866-6906 or (612) 869-5200. See you on December 2!

BLESSED TRINITY'S *Grand Gala*



Saturday, December 2,
2006
Edina Country Club

Join us for an elegant evening of dining and dancing. Get ready to **BE DAZZLED** by an extraordinary live auction, sophisticated silent auction

A sit down meal will be served, followed by marvelous Music provided by the Mraz Brothers Band