

St. Vincent de Paul

Catholic Church and Academy News

September 2025

One Year Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church

A Solemn High Mass was offered on Friday, September 26, attended by the entire school and many faithful. The Mass was beautifully sung by members of the parish choir, accompanied by Ethan Sestak on organ and Phillip Holmes on trumpet.

Certain differences from the typical Sung or Solemn Mass on a Sunday or feast were:

Firstly, from First Vespers the night before the Anniversary, beeswax candles are illuminated before each of the twelve main consecration crosses, marking where the bishop anointed the walls with Holy Chrism. They burned until the end of the feast, with either Vespers



or the night office of Compline.

Secondly, after the priest incenses the offerings and the altar (which is a symbol of Christ), he is incensed by the Deacon, who then proceeded to each of the crosses, and incensed these, as he would the priest or the Blessed Sacrament. This custom originates in the East, likely from the Byzantine practice where during the Divine Liturgy, the Deacon incenses the icons throughout the church. In 1884, the Master of Ceremonies at the Cathedral of Santorini (a Greek island in the Aegean Sea), asked the Holy See if their practice of incensing the consecration crosses at Vespers and Solemn Mass was permissible. The Sacred Congregation replied that it was permitted and could be retained.



The altar is a symbol of Christ and the consecrated church building an image of the new heavenly Jerusalem, the Bride of Christ and Mystical Body of Christ composed of the saints, which receives the graces which come from the merits of Christ. It is for this reason that the bishop takes possession of the building, then within this new-found territory, first consecrates the altar, then the building itself. Similarly, after presenting incense to Christ through the incensation of the altar and priest, the Deacon incenses the marks where through the use of Holy Chrism, the Holy Ghost descended to consecrate the church building itself. Since from Christ, and through this "Gate of Heaven" that is a particular church building, the graces of God flow out to the faithful.

The liturgy is full of these kinds of doctrine and symbolism, teaching through this the goodness and mercy of God, and the reverence we should have for the means He provides, not only the Mass and Sacraments, but even the buildings where He has chosen to dwell.

The Introit of the Mass of Dedication has the clergy sing, "Fearsome is this place!" for a consecrated church should cause in devout souls a reverential fear, which naturally demands adoration and love of God who has been so good to give us such a sacred and rare gem as to have a consecrated church to call ours.

Priors' Corner

Newsletter – September 2025

Dear Friends,

Yours, in the Sacred Heart,

Fr. Gerard Beck

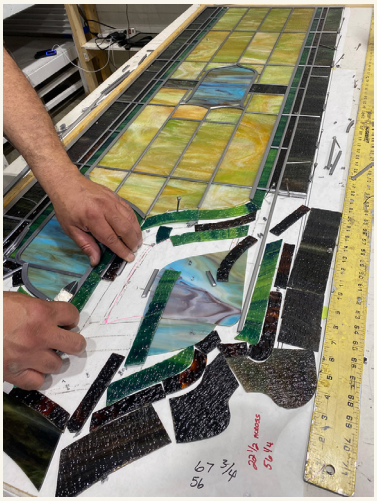
Prior

Parish News

St. Vincent's Projects

Stained Glass Windows

The project on the windows





Parish Hall

The first phase of renovations to the basement/ parish hall in the Flora Avenue school building was completed this summer by Fr. Ian Palko, Tony Wohletz, Charles Binter, Jason Greene and the Friday volunteers. This included

- Overhaul of men's restroom, adding natural light, improving ventilation, and new fixtures.
- Resizing of women's restroom, additional floor space, cleaning storage, improved ventilation, and new fixtures.

This added a bit more usable space. Pictures of St. Vincent's church history are now on display.







Harvey

The parish play, Harvey, was performed on June 27, 28 and 29 at the City Stage Theater at Union Station. The play was directed by Miss Rebecca Heatwole with Assistant Director Oscar Greene and Guest Director Stephen Sanborn.

The cast included:

Elwood P. Dowd .....Mak Booher
Veta Louise Simmons.....Mary Greene
Myrtle Mae Simmons..... Mary Bridget Spencer
Miss Johnson.....Audrey Wohletz
Mrs. Ethel Chauvenet .....Christine George
Nurse Ruth Kelly ..... Jane Massey
Duane Wilson..... Phillip Myers
Dr. Lyman Sanderson.....Dominic Brown
Dr. William R. Chumley .....Khalid Johnson
Betty Chumley..... Grace Blake
Judge Omar Gaffney..... Charlie Binter
E. J. Lofgren..... Michael Janacaro







St. Vincent de Paul Festival

Many attended the festival, which this year was held on the Feast of St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you to Miss Rebecca Heatwole, Miss Grace Blake, Mr. Kahlid Johnson and all those who helped make the festival so enjoyable for all who attended. Also to those who assisted with the contests.

Baking Contest

Cookies:

1st Place	Elena Bacquerizo
2nd Place	Emily Drumm
3rd Place	Sofia Lusterio

Pie:

1st Place	Monica Kiel
2nd Place	Meg Cerny
3rd Place	Rose Hodal

Cake:

1st Place	Elizabeth Janacaro
2nd Place	Magdalen Greene
3rd Place	Nicole Pearl

Smoking Competition:

Pork:

1st Place	Brad Miller and Tony Wohletz
2nd Place	Fr. Daniel Muscha

Chicken:

1st Place	John Roth
2nd Place	Steve Hohman

Brisket:

1st Place	Andrew Horak
2nd Place	John Roth

Mike Wylie Smorgasbord:

1st Place	Chris Stegall
2nd Place	Steve Hohman

Trivia Contest

1st Place	Francesca Cerny, John Brigg, Michael Brigg, Stephen & Summer Dubay, Emily Johnson
2nd Place	Robert & Emily Drumm, Mike & Bunny Cerny, Christine George, Emily Deister
3rd Place	Joe & Becky Gilligan, Victor Tan, Allen Sloane, Simon & Elizabeth Townshend

Guides' Summer Camp

The Guides accompanied by Mrs. Meg Spencer, Mrs. Donna Prather and Miss Maggie Drumm drove to the St. Joseph Monastery in Silver City, MN for a camp from June 23 - July 4. Father Hugues Bergez was their chaplain.

At the monastery the girls camped on the property which is surrounded by a national forest. They were able to attend the different offices with the Nuns. They hiked up the mountain with the Nuns, had lunch, sang and performed skits. They also had some work days, and went on processions with the Monks and the Nuns for two of the feast days during that time. They attended to first Masses offered by Father Kramer and Father Mayol.

On the way back, they stopped in Santa Fe and did the awards ceremony in front of the Cathedral basilica of St. Francis, and also visited the Loretto Chapel where the miraculous St Joseph stairs were built.











Welcome New Teachers and Staff

Miss Olivia Baquerizo teaches 9-12th grade literature at the Tracy campus, as well as Honors Latin (11-12th grade) and Latin I (7th grade).

A native of Miami, FL, she is pursuing a PhD in classical philology at Fordham University (NYC). Miss Baquerizo studied at Saint Mary's College and later obtained a BA in Classics (with a minor in English) from Rollins College (Winter Park, FL) and an MA in Classical Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her favorite things include murder mysteries, cooking interesting recipes, and babysitting her nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Jana Moser was raised in Overland Park, KS, and studied design in college. Since 2006, she and her husband have owned a decorative concrete company. Her five children attend St. Vincent de Paul Academy, where Mrs. Moser serves as a 3rd-grade teacher's assistant and teaches physical education for 5th-12th grade girls.

A lifelong enthusiast of the outdoors, physical activity, and sports, she finds great joy and fulfillment in her role at St. Vincents, where she combines her love for fitness with her dedication to the students.

Miss Marlene Nakelski is originally from New York, but have lived in St. Mary's for the past 15 years. She earned my bachelor's degree in education from St. Mary's college when they had a four-year program. She has been teaching for 20 years and have served as St. Mary's Lower School Department Head for 10 years. She also teaches the lower school practical section for the Catholic Teaching Seminars in the summer. Miss Nakelski has a Masters in Education from Emporia State University and a Masters In Special Education from Washburn University. Currently, she is working as a member of the District Education Team as well as teaching 3rd grade History at St. Vincent De Paul Academy.

Mr. Tobias Sickler is in his final year of studying Exercise Science with a focus on Pre-Physical Therapy at the University of Kansas. He served four years in the U.S. Navy and now works as both a physical therapy technician and a coach for group personal training classes designed for older adults. At school, he teaches 5th–12th-grade boys' PE and is dedicated to helping his students strive for excellence through fitness, discipline, and teamwork.

Mrs. Cathy Stegall finished a degree in nursing in 1995 (KU). She then worked as an RN for eight years. She has been a St. Vincent's parent since 1999. Five of her children have graduated from the school and three are still there now. More recently, she has been volunteering as a TA at the Tracy school (first grade) and assisting the school with a couple of funding programs for the last three years. This school year, she's teaching Biology for 9th/10th grade Boys. Mrs. Stegall loves science and St. Vincent's!

Miss Jenna Zuno is originally from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This year she is 5th grade boys' homeroom teacher and is teaching Math, Science, History and Religion to both the 5th grade boys and girls.

Miss Zuno graduated from St. Mary's College with an Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts, and from Western Governors University with a Bachelor of Education in Elementary and Special Education. She has worked several years, both as teacher and administrator, in various schools and grades.



Cross Country

"The boys put their best effort into their training, their races, and ultimately into attaining the unrelenting mindset that tells them they will never give up. When they run the appointed course, Fr. Graves tells the team, "We do not run alone." The Hawks run under the grateful eyes of Our Blessed Mother, and they run as a team. With this victorious outlook, the full team continues through the heart of their schedule."

CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

Sat 10/4 - KC XC Classic (HS only)
Raymond-Pecuclar HS - Peculiar MO

Sat 10/18 - West Platte Invitational (HS & JH)
Platte Ridge Park - Platte City MO

Tue 10/21 - GPAC League Championship (HS & JH)
Heritage Park - Olathe KS

Sat 10/25 - St. Michael's Fall Classic (HS only)
St. Michael the Archangel HS - Lee's Summit MO

St. Vincent de Paul Academy

2025 Jogathon

October 31, 2025 at the HyVee Arena

Please support the St. Vincent de Paul Academy by donating to our 2025 Jog-A-Thon by making either a one-time donation or a pledge-per-lap, your donation will support the Academy and it's efforts to bring classical education to a new generation.

This year's goal is $160,000. Donations can be made to sponsor Fr. Trummer or students by using the QR code or by visiting jogathon.svdpkc.org.

Jogathon.svdpkc.org





Field Trip

The 6th grade girls visited the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art on Thursday, September 11 with Sister Immaculata Mary, Sister Elizabeth and Miss Moira Quain.



HNS Golf Tournament

The Holy Name Society sponsored golf tournament was held on August 31 with 108 golfers (27 teams) participating.

Congratulations to the first place team.

Adam Getman
James Riccomini
Dominic Williams
Josie Williams

Upcoming Events

Oct. 4	Rosary March
Oct. 8-10	Starkenburg Pilgrimage
Oct.17	Angelus Press Conference
Oct.19	HNS Meeting
Oct. 31	Academy Jogathon
Nov. 6	Book Club
Nov. 7	Flora- Jubilee Cup at SMA
Nov. 16-28	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving

2025 ANGELUS PRESS CONFERENCE

Fostering Vocations

October 17 - 19, 2025

Hilton Kansas City Airport Hotel

Tickets available at

Angeluspress.org or 800-966-7733

Student pricing for groups of five and more



Annual Pilgrimage of Our Lady of Sorrows Shrine - Starkenburg, MO

Prayer and Sacrifice for Vocation

October 9 - 11, 2025

3 day and 1 day options available

for more information and to register visit:

tinyutl.com/Starkenburg2025