



St. Francis Xavier Catholic School
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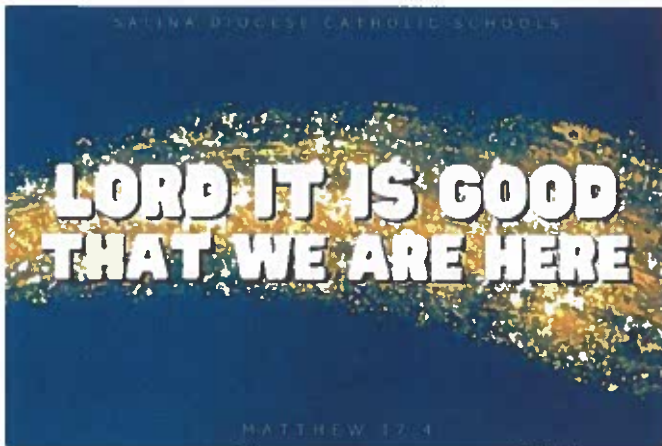


September 6, 2022

Fr. Gnanasekar Kulandai, Priest/Superintendent
Fr. Joseph Michaelsamy, Associate Pastor
Shawn Augustine, Principal

Welcome to St. Xavier Catholic School's Newsletter published by the High School Mass Communication Class. The Newsletter will be published several times a year with our purpose to inform you concerning personnel, students, and events at St. Xavier Catholic School.

It is Good!



This is the motto for the school year for the schools in the Salina Diocese.

At St. Xavier, this Bible quote is inspiring us daily. From the daily announcements, to the posters in the classrooms, to the mentions during daily lessons, all of us are reminded of the motto many times a day.

Mr. Augustine stated, "It is good that God has given us life and the opportunity to be at St. Francis Xavier Catholic School. With the help of God and our St. Xavier Family, we have the opportunity to grow in our faith as we support each other every day in our journey to be closer with Christ." --Mrs. Becker

St. Xavier Welcomes Father Joe to our School and Parish

The Saint Xavier Catholic School and Parish recently added a new priest. Father Joe Michaelsamy is from Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. He came to the

United States on July 8th this year. He has been a priest for a total of eight years. Father Joe became a priest to spread the good word and to live according to it.



One of Father Joe's favorite things about the Saint Xavier Catholic Church is the great community that the church has. Another thing he really enjoys is the choir; he thinks they sound amazing. Some of his favorite things about the Saint Xavier Catholic School is the great education it offers and the facilities. He also likes how friendly and kind the students and staff are. He believes that the school has a great system and routine.

Father Joe was asked if he had any ideas on what he would like to do, or what he would add at Saint Xavier. He replied that for now the school and church are good as is but that he would love to share ideas for the church and school when he has more experience.

The school and church are very glad to have another wonderful priest. –Sierra S.

Rosary Club Contributes to Growth in Faith



The St. Xavier Rosary Club is a place where students can pray the Rosary and reflect on their faith in peace and in prayer.

The purpose of the Rosary Club is to create a space for spirituality among students and to develop a reverence for the Rosary. Students also learn to appreciate the role of Mary in the

Catholic Church.

The club meets on Fridays at 7:45 am before School Mass in Mr. Culbertson's Theology Room. This Club is important because we are a Catholic school; the Rosary is an important part of our faith.

Ms. Serpan, one of the Club's sponsors, stated that, "My hope is that the students here at Saint X can grow and appreciate their spirituality and obtain the ability to express it." –Noah F.

Leading to New Year!

A traditional St. Xavier club that we have the opportunity to participate in every year is the FBLA organization. FBLA is always an exciting and educational experience for all high school students. FBLA stands for Future Business Leaders



of America and lives up to its name! The goals of FBLA are to “Familiarize students with career paths and teach soft skills for the work force.”

FBLA’s sponsor, Mrs. Becker, hopes to “engage students in an organization that is beneficial to them.” This year, FBLA has an amazing 23 members. We are so excited for all we have planned. Some of those plans include having a guest speaker Wyatt Thompson--Voice of the Wildcats, a CPR instructor who will lead us in training, and taking a trip to Hutchinson, Kansas, to hear Kevin Lockett speak.

“This is my 10th year as FBLA sponsor; I feel it is a great organization for students to participate in.” --Mrs. Becker.

FBLA members are excited and eager to see what the 2022-2023 school year brings for them! –Casey S.

Go Big Blue!



Saint Xavier may not be a big school, but what we lack in size we make up for with school spirit. A large part of our school spirit is due to high school cheer coach, Jaime Richling. As a former student, her Ram Pride runs deep. Thanks to her commitment, the cheer team is prepared to cheer on our high school rams.

This year, there are six individuals that make up the cheer team: Grace L., Crissy S., Hana M., Sierra S., Annabelle H., and Kaycie G. This year's captain of the cheerleading team is Grace L. When asked to summarize their feelings about the team, Coach Richling said, "Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid, do not be discouraged for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joseph 1:9

Cheer captain Grace L. responded, "Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure." Psalm 16:5

With the support of our faith and their coach, the cheerleaders are ready to continue growing as a team. Many goals were set for the year including the Spirit Spreader Cheer Clinic on August 29th. While there, the cheerleaders learned a few new chants, a stunting technique, and a band dance. The whole team looks forward to a great year filled with lots of school spirit. –Sierra S.

“Cool” New Improvements



As the school year starts, the St. Xavier staff and faculty try to add many new improvements to our school to create a better learning environment. To start the 2022-2023 year, one of our main improvements is the air conditioning in the school’s gym!

“The HVAC portion of the project started about 7 years ago

with the funds from the school's annual auction. This allowed us to start the process of creating a better experience for everyone that walks into the gym.” –Mr. Augustine. This project took 7 years to complete because the funding for the project was very pricey.

The staff can now enjoy the improvements the AC brings. “The school staff would like to thank everyone who helped and contributed with the process and making this dream a reality, as well as the families for their incredible patience to see this through.” –Mr. Augustine
–Casey S.

Cross-Country is in Action!



The St. X cross country team started their season on August 16, 2022. They had their first meet on September 1st at Tescott.

There are six cross country team members. Members are Sean C., Janis C., and Toby M. who are in high school. In middle school, the members are Matt W., Josh W., and Jacob P.

They have set a goal where they want to excel during the cross country season. Some of the team leaders are Sean C. and Jacob P. They are the team leaders because they are enthusiastic and have team spirit. They are excited to have a larger team and are ready to start the season off well.

One of the quotes from all of the team members is “Just keep on running.”
–Hana M.

Melon Mania



This year's Watermelon Festival, organized by Mrs. Mohr, was a great success. One of the goals of the Festival was to teach students from PreK to 6th grade how to estimate length, width, circumference, and weight of watermelons.

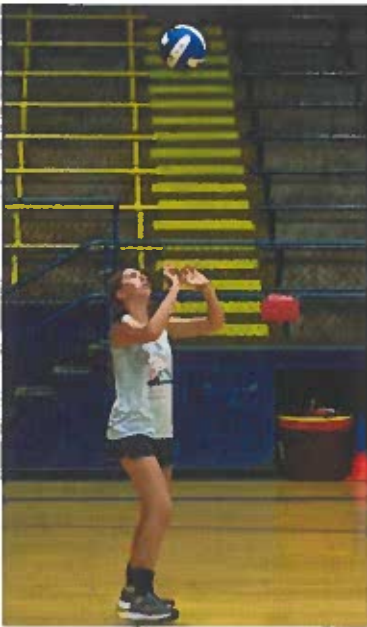
It took place on the 19th of August. A second goal of this year's festival was to kickoff

the start of a new school year.

All the students enjoyed the watermelon eating contest. Second grade ate the most and was able to pie Mr. Augustine. Second grade was also able to estimate the closest weight of a watermelon earning cupcakes as a reward.

Mrs. Mohr plans to put on another festival at the beginning of school next year. –Jakob B.

Volleyball is back in Season!



High school and middle school volleyball started on August 16, 2022. High school volleyball has nine team members and middle school volleyball has eight members on their team.

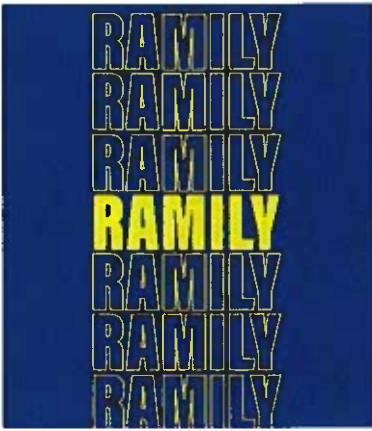
The volleyball teams have set a goal for no one to get hurt this season and to win games. Some of the leaders on the team are Grace L. and Rebecca P. They are considered team leaders because they are respectful to other team members, have team spirit, and do what is asked of them. Their first volleyball game was on August 30, 2022.

The team is very excited for this season and are looking forward to the upcoming games. Captain Grace L. said, "The girls have been working so hard. We have some new players who have never played before who are working hard with the returning players. The returning players are improving daily. The team members love everything about volleyball!" –Hana M.

Salina Diocese Motto for this School Year:

"Lord it is good that we are here." –Matthew 17:4

New Saint Xavier Staff Joining the Ramily



This year, Saint Xavier is very fortunate to have five new staff members. The new staff members joining us are Ms. Morgenstern, Mrs. Girardot, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Rushen, and Mrs. Quinton.

Ms. Morgenstern is the second grade teacher. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Kansas State University. She enjoys yard games with her family, painting, working out, getting coffee with friends, and praying in the church. She is originally from Clarinda, Iowa, but plans to stay in Kansas for the time being and is excited to share her love for education and the faith with St. Xavier students.

Mrs. Girardot is the cafeteria manager. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, an Associate's Degree in Paraprofessional Education from the University of Phoenix, and a Masters in Justice Studies and Public Administration from Southern New Hampshire University. She enjoys reading, watching her children play sports, hanging out with family, learning new things, and spending time with her five dogs. She previously served as a substitute teacher at St. Xavier.

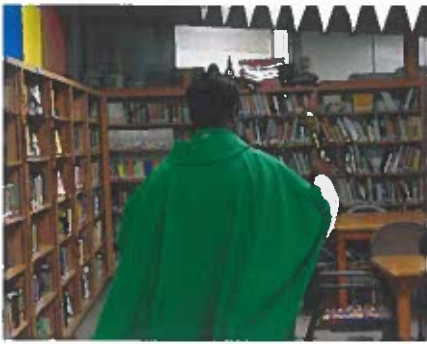
Mrs. Ellis is the cafeteria cook. She studied business management marketing at Central Oregon Community College and holds a medical transcription certificate from Martinsburg College. She enjoys camping, hunting, fishing, baking, cooking, writing, drawing, horseback riding, and other outdoor activities. She attended a Catholic school growing up. In recent years, she has traveled the country as an army spouse and a stay-at-home mom of four. Faith, family, and friends are the things she holds most dear.

Mrs. Rushen is the PreK and Kindergarten Aide this year. She has an Associate's Degree in Applied Science and is a Certified Pharmacy Technician. She enjoys traveling, reading, hiking, and spending time with family and friends. She taught preschool for over 5 years, is a military spouse of 22 years and has lived and traveled all over the world. She volunteered as the kindergarten teacher's aide for the 21-22 school year.

Mrs. Quinton is the aftercare teacher for PreK-6th children this year. She has a Bachelor's of Art and Bachelor's of Communication from Northeastern State University and studied commercial arts at the Colorado Institute of Art. She enjoys photography, graphic design, and art. She is an Air Force veteran and has been a part of the St. Xavier family for over 50 years, including her time here as a student and having a son who currently attends St. X.

We would like to wish a warm welcome to all the new staff joining us this year. –Jakob B.

Saint Xavier is Blessed with the Blessing of the School Ceremony



On August 19, 2022, Father G., and Father Joe conducted a Blessing of the School Ceremony.

The purpose of the Blessing of the School is to feel safe in knowing that God is always here with us to keep us safe. Students said the Rosary while the priests were blessing the school. It is another way to reach out to Jesus's mother, Mary, to help and be with us during this school year.

Father G. had a special blessing book he used with prayers that can be used for different occasions or events, such as the Blessing of the School. Also, the Blessing of the School is something that Saint Xavier is planning to continue and make a yearly event.

Mr. Augustine stated, "The School Blessing Ceremony is an important event because as Catholics we are taught to pray and voice our concerns to God. So this is an opportunity for us to pray, and ask for God's protection, and for help through the school year." –Noah F.

Our August Honorees



Congratulations to our August teacher of the month, Mrs. Haines! Colleagues and parents shared that Mrs. Haines is a great teacher! She goes above and beyond and always has a smile on her face. Mrs. Haines is loving, caring, and patient with her students and has really helped and supported new teachers and staff in finding their niche. Mrs.

Haines' knowledge and experience has been invaluable to setting up a cohesive elementary community. She's a beautiful soul inside and out, and we are so blessed to have her in our lives. Thank you, Mrs. Haines. You rock!

Congratulations to our August middle school student of the month, 8th grader, Mathew Welter! Mathew may be new to St. Xavier, but he has wasted no time

getting involved. He is a friendly, funny, and outgoing student. On the cross country team, he has stepped up as a leader with endless determination and optimism. Way to go Mathew!

Congratulations to our August high school student of the month, senior Casey Sexton-Snow. Casey is an excellent student who consistently focuses on his academics. He is leading student council this year and works to help St. Xavier School in so many ways. Casey spearheaded the refurbishing of the weight room and is a dedicated photographer and yearbook staff member. Nice job, Casey!
–Mr. Augustine

St. Xavier Catholic School's Photo Gallery



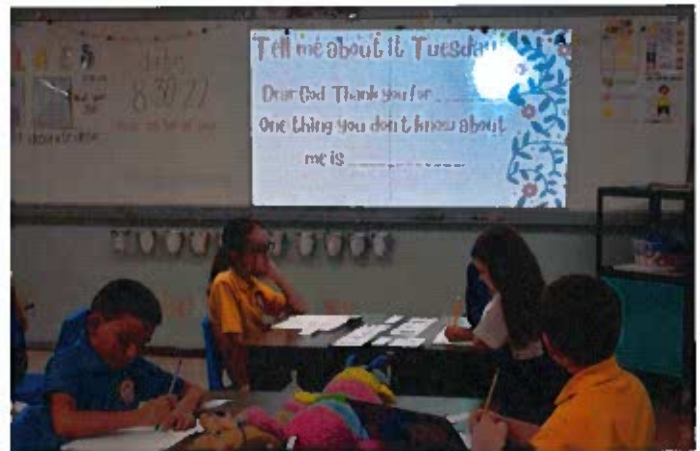
Working very hard on our worksheets.



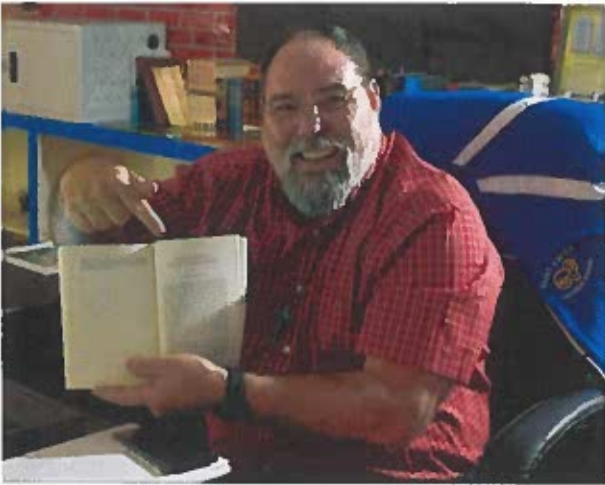
Practicing those chess skills.



A is for ...



Dear God. Thank you for _____



Mr. Culbertson excited to teach students theology.



Mr. Augustine explaining the rules and guidelines to high school students.



Mr. Stramel and Father Joe at the Blessing Ceremony.



Father Joe blessing the Computer Lab.



Grace L. ready to lead the FBLA meeting.



Casey S. taking pictures for yearbook.
Heston J. supervising.



Heading to aftercare.



Discussing the upcoming basketball season.



Rosary Club leading the assembly during the Blessing of the School ceremony.



Grade 4 STREAM project.



Waiting for the Watermelon Festival to begin.



Mr. Augustine getting pied in the face.



Who is winning in the watermelon eating contest?



High school and middle school cheerleaders leading a chant during the pep rally.



Rowdy greeting the students as they enter the pep rally as the cheerleaders form a run through.



The high school cheerleaders learning new stunts at the cheer clinic in Salina.



First volleyball matches in the air-conditioned gym! So cool!

**EDUCATING FOR ETERNITY THROUGH
FAITH & REASON**

September 2022

Religious Theme: The Lord's Prayer

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 *MAP Reading Assessments *7:45am- Staff Meeting *8:20am- StuCo Meeting *3:00pm- CC Meet @ Tescott *5:00pm- MS VB @ FHCS	2 *MAP Reading Assessments *7:45am- Rosary Club *8:30am- Mass & Adoration	3
4	5 *No School- Labor Day	6 *MAP Math Assessments *6:00pm- HS VB @ Rural Vista	7 *MAP Math Assessments	8 * MAP Math Assessments * Papa John's Fundraiser *8:20am- Class Meetings	9 * MAP Math Assessments *7:45am- Rosary Club *8:30am- Mass	10 *9:00am- MS VB Tournament @ Chapman
11	12	13 *4:30pm- MS & HS VB @ Heritage Christian	14 *3:45pm- Activities Meeting	15 *8:20am- Art Club *4:00pm- CC Meet @ Northern Heights *4:30pm- MS & HS VB vs. FHCS	16 *7:45am- Rosary Club *8:30am- Mass *2:00pm- Reading Marathon *Ice Cream Friday	17
18	19 *3:30pm- Math & Reading Club Begins	20 *10:30am- FBLA Trip to Hutchinson *4:30pm- MS & HS VB @ Smoky Valley	21	22 *8:20am- FBLA Meeting *4:00pm- CC @ Wabaunsee *4:30pm- MS & HS VB vs Chief	23 *7:45am- Rosary Club *8:30am- Mass	24 *9:00am- HS VB Tournament @ Wakefield *6:30pm- MS & HS VB Trip to K-State VB Game
25	26 *Safety Week *4:00pm- MS VB @ Onaga	27 * Safety Week *5:00pm- Taco Feed	28 *Safety Week *Jeans & Spirit Wear Day *5:00pm- PTO Meeting	29 *Safety Week *4:30pm- MS & HS VB vs. Heritage *5:00pm- Recruitment Meeting *5:30pm- School Council Meeting	30 *Safety Week *7:45am- Rosary Club *8:30am- Mass *Trash Bag Fundraiser Ends	

