

## Dear St. Paul School Alumni and Friends,



*Saint Paul School*

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**Saint Paul School**  
925 East State Street  
Salem, Ohio 44460

**Phone:**  
(330) 337-3451

**Fax:**  
(330) 337-3607

**E-mail:**  
ygnpaulsalem@doy.org

St. Paul School continues to provide a high-quality education to students from Salem and the surrounding area. Various achievement test scores indicate the strong academic success of our students. A large percentage of our students achieve, and consistently maintain, honor roll status as they progress through middle school and high school. Recent statistics showed 65% of our students in grades 7-12 were on the honor rolls of their respective schools.

There are many factors that can be attributed to the success of St. Paul School. The school is blessed with competent and dedicated faculty and staff. The small class sizes are conducive to learning, as is the overall teaching environment which encourages excellence and discipline. A computer lab and a library add to the educational tools available to the students and staff. And parental involvement, which is highly encouraged, also stands out as an important factor in the school's success.

The school also receives much-needed financial assistance from a variety of sources. Notably the St. Paul School Foundation, which exists to help insure the long-term viability of the school, has provided tens of thousands of dollars over the last fifteen years to assist the school in meeting the needs of the students and the teachers. This assistance is necessary to help bridge the gap between total costs and tuition revenues.

It is no secret however, that parochial elementary schools in the 'rust-belt' area of the nation continue to struggle financially. For those schools able to survive thus far, many have enrollment figures that are vastly lower than in decades past. St. Paul, Salem, is not unlike many of these schools with respect to enrollment challenges. However, with a strong source of funding from the St. Paul School Foundation, we can strive to lessen the burden of higher tuitions which have negative effects on enrollment.

Thus we ask you, the alumni and friends of St. Paul School, to again consider a generous, tax-deductible gift to the St. Paul School Foundation. Your donation to the Foundation will, in effect, give the gift of a St. Paul School education to a deserving student, and enhance the educational prospects of all the students. Please, give the gift of a St. Paul School education, today.



## Note from Father Thomas C. Eisweirth



We have begun another wonderful year for Saint Paul School. I am sure that you know that we continue to provide quality education to the young in our community. Annually the students of our school participate in ACRE, which is a standardized tool developed by the National Catholic Education Association (N.C.E.A.) for assessing a students level of religious learning. Over the last two years, our students in Saint Paul School have scored higher than the national average in almost all areas. These are the areas of testing and the actual results:

Average Scores beginning May 2007	St. Paul Average	Dio. Schs. Average	National Average	Average Scores beginning May 2008	St. Paul Average	Dio. Schs. Average	National Average
1) God-Father, Son and Holy Spirit	98%	78%	82%	1) God-Father, Son and Holy Spirit	84%	N/A	82%
2) Church-One, Holy, Catholic, & Apostolic	83%	73%	74%	2) Church-One, Holy, Catholic, & Apostolic	81%	N/A	74%
3) Liturgy and Sacraments	88%	79%	71%	3) Liturgy and Sacraments	77%	N/A	70%
4) Revelation, Scripture, & Faith	90%	85%	80%	4) Revelation, Scripture, & Faith	79%	N/A	80%
5) Life in Christ-Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	78%	70%	63%	5) Life in Christ-Personal Morality & Catholic Social Teaching	66%	N/A	63%
6) Church History	68%	69%	60%	6) Church History	65%	N/A	60%
7) Prayer/Religious Practices	85%	75%	65%	7) Prayer/Religious Practices	68%	N/A	65%
8) Catholic Faith Literacy	86%	81%	76%	8) Catholic Faith Literacy	81%	N/A	74%
Part 1) Profession of Faith (Creed)	91%	N/A	78%	Part 1) Profession of Faith (Creed)	83%	N/A	78%
Part 2) Liturgy & Sacraments	83%	N/A	70%	Part 2) Liturgy & Sacraments	77%	N/A	69%
Part 3) Life in Christ (Morality)	81%	N/A	68%	Part 3) Life in Christ (Morality)	73%	N/A	68%
Part 4) Christian Prayer (Prayer)	84%	N/A	70%	Part 4) Christian Prayer (Prayer)	71%	N/A	69%

Thank you for continuing to support Catholic Education by contributing to Saint Paul School Foundation and also giving time and resources directly to our school. I certainly appreciate all that you do and have done for us!

## A Note from the Principal

### New Logo

It is my pleasure to inform you of the logo change of St. Paul School. As part of the events to mark the occasion of the 2000th anniversary of the birth of our patron namesake, St. Paul, we are hoping that the updated mark will allow the school to be more clearly identified with its important mission.



St. Paul faculty and staff understand what we are here to do. During the reaccreditation process which began in 2006, we revisited and revised our mission statement and belief statements. For many years we have been building our curriculum and creating programs to support similar goals of proclaiming gospel values, building faith communities, performing service to others, in addition to a top-notch academic education. We are continuing these beliefs into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and into the second century of St. Paul Catholic School education. It is our hope that by having our logo so clearly stating our task parents and the public will gain a better understanding of what we are trying to accomplish with our students.

The objective was to create a brand representing the 104-year-old school's important traditions in a current and unique manner. St Paul School is the only Catholic school in the northern Columbiana County region and the school wanted a look that helped it stand out visually the way it stands out in the community

The logo was designed by Agata Khoury of Strategic Communications. The words within a cross-like shape state the key points of the school's mission "to educate the mind body and spirit of each child," the book is symbolic of the prolific writings of the apostle St. Paul. The cross represents the school's Catholic faith-based education.

**Option C**

We are also proud to announce the adoption of an online learning management system. Beginning this school year, students and their parents are able to access school news and academic information online. With the use of Option C, ([www.optionc.com](http://www.optionc.com)), anyone can read the weekly news of St. Paul School; link to our activity website; register a new student; and access information about the Catholic faith.

Teachers are able to take attendance, transportation changes, lesson plans, homework assignments, and record student grades.

Students are also assigned a username and password which allows them to see office newsletters, classroom calendars and newsletters, activity calendars, breakfast and lunch menus, homework assignments and grades. Parents are able to communicate with teachers by email.

If you would like to see what Option C is all about go to . We are school #37.

**Thank you.**

We all know families who are facing tough economic times, and perhaps we are also experiencing some of the same hardships. We have seen a decrease in enrollment this year but still have a total enrollment of 132 students in grades PreK- Grade 6. Our statistics include 21% of our students in grades K-6 are considered low income.

The parish has committed to a Catholic education for any parishioner who wants to enroll at St. Paul School. Saint Paul School Foundation, through your contributions, is able to contribute \$12,000 in scholarship money to help about 10% of our families afford the tuition. Thank you for remembering Saint Paul School as an institution that merits your contribution.

*Mrs. Patricia Bauman*

Patricia Bauman, Principal

**Alumni Reflections - A Fine Group of Influential People**

Four generations ago, Mary Burke Lodge attended St. Paul School. Although now in a nursing home at 93, she continues to express great pride in her Catholic education. Three generations ago, Mary Lou Bryan Popa attended St. Paul's and later sends her own children to the school. As Max approaches his sixth grade graduation, our family is closing a chapter of four generations of St. Paul students. Although the teachers, staff, and administration have changed over the years, the dedication to excellence and the faith-filled environment have not at St. Paul. Kasey, Ryan, and Max have benefited from their years at St. Paul's in many ways. We want to express our sincere appreciation for your commitment to the whole child. From the cafeteria women, to the custodian, to the support staff, to the teachers, to the principals, and to the clergy each of you has influenced our children in a positive way. Kasey, Ryan, and Max have shown excellence in their academics and when times get rough they know-because of your examples-that their faith is their foundation.

As Kasey graduates from high school and is ready to continue her education at Ohio State-we thank you, St. Paul's. As Ryan concludes a successful freshman year and begins to drive-we thank you, St. Paul's. And as Max takes his last steps out the doors of the school he leaves with the same confidences to achieve and to be his own person, as his siblings-we thank you St. Paul's.

It is with tears in our eyes, hearts full of gratitude, and sincere appreciation to each of you that the fourth generation is complete while we express great pride in our family's Catholic education-and we thank you, St. Paul's.

God bless.

Sincerely,

Susan & Clyde Wolfgang



Front Row: Mary Lodge  
Back Row: Clyde Wolfgang, Kasey Wolfgang,  
Ryan Wolfgang, Max Wolfgang,  
Mary Lou Popa

## School recruitment coordinator spends her time sharing St Paul's story

Despite its proven results in character development and academics, attracting students to St. Paul School is a challenge. However, this challenge is one shared by all of the Catholic and private schools in the greater Mahoning Valley.

To address this issue, Aundréa Cika has created outreach programs for neighboring parishes so that those families begin to think of St. Paul as their school. This effort includes pulpit talks given by alumni speaking on how well the academic preparation at St. Paul prepared them for high school. It also includes bulletin inserts reminding these parishioners of different reasons why the school might work for them.

She also is reaching out to area preschools. "These young children could be some of our best future students," Cika says. "These children are ready to move on to a more structured environment." Their parents, by their selection of schools, Cika says, have already demonstrated that education is important to them and worth spending money upon. Programming that highlights our specialties to this audience is being planned.

Cika concluded by saying that it is important that each of us to talk about the value of St. Paul School to friends and neighbors.

"An endorsement from a trusted, experienced parent goes further than any advertising," she said.

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