

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Parish

1910 - 2010

No. 119 of a Series on Our Parish's First 100 Years

With the completion of the new Activity Center, the St. Charles School basement, which had been used as a gym, was converted to a media center, which featured both a library and a computer lab. In March 2003 the students and school staff dedicated the new media center with the help of a friend who had been introducing students, including those at St. Charles, to the magic of books for nearly two decades.



Reading teacher Mrs. Phyllis Prochacka, wearing a Cat in the Hat prop, prepares to read to St. Charles students from the Dr. Seuss book "Fox in Socks."
(St. Charles School photo)

Mrs. Phyllis Prochacka, who had served as a special reading teacher at St. Charles School since the mid-1980s, donned a distinctive striped chapeau and gave first-, second-, and third-graders her best impersonation of the Cat in the Hat as she read to them from the Dr. Seuss tongue-twister "Fox in Socks."

The event not only tied in with Read Across America activities, which featured the works of Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel), it was also a way to honor Mrs. Prochacka for her commitment to helping students make reading an important part of their lives. St. Charles principal Sister Margaret Pietsch said that the staff decided to name the new media center after Mrs. Prochacka following a donation of carpeting in her honor from parents whose

children she had helped. "Phyllis is such a promoter of reading – we thought, who better to name our center after," Sister Margaret said. "She has turned so many kids on to books."

The honor was a total surprise to Mrs. Prochacka who, in addition to working at St. Charles, had served as a special reading teacher at St. Mary's Grade School and at Dover Center School. Mrs. Prochacka had also served as head of the Reading Recovery program at Dover Center, and was instrumental in bringing the annual 600-minute reading challenge to St. Charles.

The parish held its 26th annual spaghetti and meatballs Italian dinner on March 1. There were also several special chance items offered to those who attended. The proceeds from the event were used for parish improvements. Mrs. Karen Middlecamp again headed the kitchen volunteers and Mrs. Donna Martin, the dining room volunteers.

The St. Charles sixth grade girls and boys basketball teams both brought home first place trophies from the St. Joseph Big Bend sixth grade basketball tournaments early in 2003. Players on the girls team, coached by Jeffrey Behrens and Timothy Bartz, included Raegan Kerkman, Anna Bartz, Callie Coshun, Keena Schneider, Kelsey Behrens, Samantha Oldenberg, and Katherine Votry-Kundich. Members of the boys team were Matthew Grulich, George Whitehead, Ethan Caliva, Matthew Ploch, Eric Weiler, Joseph Spiegelhoff, Logan Winker, Jared Wieners, David Korab, Jacob Kumba, Nathan Koch, Alex Martin, and Daniel Peterson. Team helper was Andrew Ploch. The sixth grade girls team also won first place during the season in the Waukesha Area Catholic Conference with an 11-1 record.

The girls and boys eighth grade basketball teams both played in the Padre Serra Invitational Tournament in March in Milwaukee. The St. Charles boys won over St. Catherine's

of Milwaukee in the first round, but lost to Blessed Sacrament in the second round. The girls team lost in the first round to St. Gregory the Great.

At the 2003 Masterpiece Art Show in April, Olivia Leuck placed first in her grade level competition. She received a ribbon and art supplies. Other St. Charles students who received ribbons for their accomplishments included Eli Miller, Lyndsey Martin, Taylor Sterling, Daniel Levandowski, Robert Whitehead, Abby Krismer, Lauren Dériaz, Andre Jacobsen, Shannon Fallon, Kayla Hynous, and Kyle Hockman.

Thirty-five St. Charles children received First Holy Communion from the pastor, Rev. Jan Kieliszewski, on Sunday May 3. An additional 12 children received First Holy Communion from Rev. Ernesto Moyano, OFM, on May 25. The 47 children were:

Eder Aguirre	Hannah Hayes	Miriam Mata	Jordan Sayre
Mark Bittmann	Matthew Heiligenthal	Zachary Mehring	Teresa Schiltz
Dulce C. P. Castaneda	Ryan Kolczaski	Edgar Orozco	Michael Sippel
Gabriel Chavarria	Abbey Krismer	Guzman Orozco	Kali Splan
Abbey Daniels	Daniel Kry	Lauren Otter	Morgan Tully
Kelly Dinh	Jeremy Kuta	Celeste Paniagua	Erin Urness
Alan Estupinan	Daniel Levandoski	Jorge Luis Paniagua	Cullen Vos
Emily Fliess	Austin Loppnow	Michael Pinter	William Weidert
Bryce Gauger	Brett Maerzke	Lucas Remer	Audra Weis
Emily Goetz	Austin Marema	Ethan Robers	Robert Whitehead
Emily Golon	Brittany Martin	Haley N. Sanchez	Zachary Zenner
Kelly Gould	Jose Edgar Mata	Gabriela R. Santos	

Two St. Charles graduates who earned Gold Awards were recognized at the Racine County Girl Scouts recognition dinner May 12. For their Gold Award project, Elizabeth Middlecamp and Kimberly Johnston, both seniors at Catholic Central High School, constructed six miniature buildings for the Burlington Jaycees' Safety Town program. The program taught preschoolers about safety by participating in fun activities in a miniature town. In addition to soliciting lumber and hardware, the girls wielded saws, hammers, and paintbrushes to construct the four-by-four foot buildings. Their Gold Award advisor was Mrs. Margaret Johnston.

Also earning Silver Awards, the highest recognition for Cadette Girl Scouts, were St. Charles graduates Brooke Aldrich, Lauren Aldrich, Kristen Hoff, Marci O'Neill, Maria Sippel, and Kristen Wieners.

On Pentecost Sunday, June 8, Father Kieliszewski confirmed three adults and 42 young people. He also confirmed two adults on August 17. The 47 confirmands in 2003 were:

Geoffrey Albrecht	Elizabeth Fincutter	David Lebak	Erica Rios
Erin Aldrich	Jenna Gebauer	Ashli Ligocki	Amanda Robers
Bret Beaster	Jeffrey Hintz	Andrea Literski	Stacy Robers
Jessica Behrens	Robert Hoff	Jason Ludwig	Stephanie Scherrer
Kara Brehm	Tracy Holst	Brianna McCarthy	Luke Smith
Kyle Brown	Gregory Jarosz	Ali McCormick	Michael Spiegelhoff
Laura Cramer	Erin Ketterhagen	Scot Moe	Gregory Trimmerger
Marie Daniel	Corina Kretschmer	Erin O'Dea	Jessica Whitehead
Elyse Ehlen	John Kriva	Ryan Ogrizovich	Daniel Winters
Heidi Ehlen	Jennifer Kukowski	Mandy Onstad	Alyssa Wyatt
Jessica Ehlen	Chelsey LaBadie	Michael Oster	Erik Zlevor
Brian Erickson	Victoria Langley	Ryan Reilly	

Pentecost Sunday also marked Rev. Colman Majchrzak's final 8 a.m. Mass at St. Charles. Father Colman, a Franciscan friar who had assisted at St. Charles for several years, was going abroad for a teaching position in the Philippines.

Graduation ceremonies for 19 St. Charles eighth graders were held the first week in June. The graduates are shown in the following photo:



CLASS OF 2003

Row 1 (l to r): Erin Wasilevich, Molly O'Neill, Piper Tess, Jenneca Galvan, Abigail Robers, Margaret Henningfield, Shauna Riggs, and Rev. Jan Kieliszewski (pastor).

Row 2: Ms. Kelly Stanard (teacher), Kolin McCormick, Lindsey LaBadie, Rachel Oldenburg, Kali Elderbrook, Rebecca Hartmann, and Michael Ploch.

Row 3: Sister Margaret Pietsch (principal), Sean Sippel, Matthew Kuchenbecker, Phillip Markiewicz, Steven Middlecamp, Johnathon Wiemer, and Patrick Weis.

The Home and School Association held its second annual pig roast, auction, and dance on June 14. Live music was provided by The Rockefellers. Among those heading the various aspects of the event were Mrs. Laurie Tess, Mrs. Victoria Lueck, and Mrs. Mary LaBadie. Proceeds from the pig roast and other association events benefited the association's activities on behalf of the school and the parish. In July Father Kieliszewski announced that, at the suggestion of Sister Margaret, the association had contributed \$10,000 to the parish.

Later in June, the school students and staff, as well as the larger community, learned that Mrs. Phyllis Prochacka, after whom the school's media center had been named earlier in the year, had passed away following a four-year battle with cancer.

On July 13 Milwaukee Archbishop Timothy Dolan returned to St. Charles as the main celebrant of the renewal of the Covenant for the Western Racine County Hispanic Community. Representatives of the seven supporting parishes attended the bi-lingual Mass, which was followed by a reception in Andre Hall.

During July, Mrs. Connie Kundsvig, R.N., a parishioner at St. Andrew's in Delavan, began serving as parish nurse at St. Charles, being available two days a week. She also spent one day a week at one of Burlington's Lutheran churches. Working with the parish's pastoral team and lay leaders, Mrs. Kundsvig sought to link the needs of those seeking her services to the resources of the congregation, the health care system, and the local community.

In August Father Kieliszewski announced that Mrs. Mary Ann Lara, who had recently moved to the area with her husband Lon, would be leading the congregation in song and directing the choir at the 10 a.m. Sunday Masses and on major feast days.

When classes began on September 2 for the 2003-2004 school year, there was one new teacher, Robert Abshire, on the St. Charles faculty. In addition, Mrs. MaryBeth Buschel, who had been on the faculty two years earlier, returned to St. Charles after a year's absence. Other returning faculty members included principal Sister Margaret Pietsch; teachers Mrs. Laurie Leach, Mrs. Sharon Wolf, Beatrice Jacobson, Mrs. Barbara Davis-Witt, Peter Pappa, Mrs. Mary Hegeman, Mrs. Marilyn DeGreef, Mrs. Virginia Hegeman, Mrs. Dawn Raufman, David Lindow, Jeffrey Ingersoll, and Scott Schlesner; computer coordinator Mrs. Julie O'Neill; librarian and computer assistant Mrs. Theresa Lancour; and teacher aides Mrs. Robin Monteith and Mrs. Debra Manthei.

On September 8 the Home and School Association held its second annual golf outing at Hillmoor Country Club at Lake Geneva. Proceeds from the event, which was coordinated by Mrs. Laurie Miller, benefited St. Charles School and the Activity Center.

On Catechetical Sunday, September 21, parishes across the nation honored and prayed for those who shared in the teaching mission of the Church. In addition to the grade school teachers, the catechists honored by St. Charles included RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) instructors Jeffrey Albrecht, Mrs. Louan Luetten, and Mrs. Luella Hancock; and religious education instructors Mrs. Anita Phillips, Mrs. Mary Grube, Mrs. Therese Whitehead, Mrs. Kristine Briggs, Mrs. Roberta Robers, Trish Miller, Mrs. Marci Morrison, Mrs. Susan Weiger, Paul Ogrizovich, Rob Derus, and George Whitehead.

The parish held its annual fall festival on Sunday, September 28. It was the first festival in which some of the activities took place in the Activity Center. It was also a "first" for long-time parishioners, Harvey and Rosella Rutkowski, whose winning ticket was picked in the automobile and cash raffle. The Rutkowskis chose an automobile, the first new car they had ever owned.

At a ceremony at the Archbishop Cousins Catholic Center on October 1, St. Charles parishioner Román Alberto Orozco received the 2003 Archbishop's Young Adult Vatican II Award for Distinguished Service in Education. The award recognized Román's work with youth at St. Charles. He led the Hispanic youth group and also participated in the Hispanic prayer group. He had recently graduated from the Hispanic leadership course offered through the Milwaukee Archdiocese and was enrolled in the certified lay ministry program at St. Francis Seminary. Román was one of ten award recipients in various categories, who were chosen because they embodied the Second Vatican Council's vision of laity and clergy who had made unique contributions to the mission of Christ.

(to be continued)