



**Third Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
**January 26, 2014 A**

**What parents are saying about  
Ascension School**

As we approach *Catholic Schools Week*, Mr. Workman (our School Principal) and I invited school parents to share with us what they like about having their child/children at our parish school. The following are a few of their responses

*We are very happy at Ascension Catholic School and have been welcomed into the Community with open arms. Ascension Catholic School is very well run with a dedicated staff of teachers and administrators. This dedication can be seen in numerous ways, especially in how well the students perform academically, the challenges that the students are given, especially AR and Math, and the emphasis on Christianity and Catholic teaching.*

*We love Ascension Catholic School and are very happy here!* (Joe & Cindy Cichock & Jane Cichock, Grade 2P)  
The Cichock's moved Jane to our school this past August.

*I feel very thankful to have my daughters Mia (Grade 7) and Becky (Grade 5) go to Ascension. Starting every single day with a prayer before classes and see how they are growing spiritually always trying to do the best they can to follow God's example is very heartwarming. Having my daughters involved in religious activities, talking and feeling about the presence of God in their lives is very important to us because I feel like being close to our creator just can make us better people of what we are and that is what I want for my daughters' lives, always having God as their best friend, guiding them to the right way. And I feel that Ascension Catholic School is the best choice for my daughters' education I have made.* (Kelly Payan)

*What we like best about having our child here at Ascension Catholic School is the constant comfort of this fabulous faith community, while receiving a stellar education at the same time.*

(Michael & Meghan Swift)

*What we like best about having our grandchildren Nivea, Keyana, and Taysia at Ascension Catholic School is the comfort we feel knowing they are in a nurturing, Christ-centered environment. We like picking them up and seeing their beaming faces confirming for us that they are not just another student in a sea of students, rather that each one of them is affirmed, encouraged, challenged, and loved. We appreciate that they are being taught not simply basic skills, but are also guided toward Christian moral values and standards that will aid them in living as a child of God.*

*We like that our girls seem to know and interact with nearly every student and teacher in the school, a clear indication that they feel safe and secure with those around them. We like that the teachers tell us little things about the girls' day. We marvel at how the teachers can pay such close attention to the emotional welfare and attitude of so many children.*

*We especially like the way Father Eamon emulates the Good Shepherd, regularly interacting with students in class, making them feel they are special. When we see them at home playing "School" or "Mass" we gain a sense of how much our church and school are home to them; its people are indeed family.* [Wayne & Susan Hosburgh are raising their three granddaughters.]

*What I like best about having my child at Ascension Catholic School is the faith-based knowledge he is gaining in VPK. He has truly been shining bright since we joined the Ascension Family. I am very proud of how he is growing both educationally and spiritually. The teachers and staff are phenomenal!*

*What we like best about having our children [Grades 4th, 6th and 8th] at Ascension Catholic School is that the children are taught a Christian/Catholic perspective of the way one should live. The importance of living as a Christian is taught through example and activities such as the food pantry collections, backpacks for the homeless, and Thanksgiving baskets. The education is excellent. The teachers and administration care about the students*

*and provide a nurturing environment in which the students are able to reach their full capacity as learners.*  
(Jane Spies, M.D.)

*What we like best about having our child at Ascension Catholic School is the like-minded community in regards to faith, values, integrity and wanting the best for our children.*

(Adrian & Liz Lawhead)

*What a wonderful opportunity to share my gratitude. What is there not to like? I have so much to be grateful for. My son is blossoming into an even more loving, and genuinely considerate boy. I am so thankful for the wonderful education he is receiving. His knowledge of the church has grown at such an awesome pace. Two years ago, I was very concerned about his acceptance to religion. He has grasped it so nicely with the love and direction all around him. I could not possibly be happier on how the school has educated my son and taught him to be accountable. Thank you again for allowing him the possibility to attend through scholarship. We are truly grateful... With love and respect, Debbie Griffin*

## Technology

It is imperative for students in today's world to be able to use the latest technology to become creative and critical thinkers who will make a positive impact on the world. In support of this goal, our school has a wide variety of tech tools available for student use.

- ⇒ Projectors and Interactive SMART boards in most every room (projectors are now being upgraded to wireless projectors)
- ⇒ Document cameras in selected rooms (as needed); audio enhancement and security systems for Grades K-4, with plans to equip the rest of the school before next year; computers for Grades PK-5 (Grades 3-5 will be getting six brand new touchscreen laptops in each room)
- ⇒ 4 mobile carts, each with 30 touchscreen *Windows 8* devices for use in all rooms, including PK; Grades 4-8 have *Office 365* accounts which allow them to download full versions of Microsoft Office for use at home on 5 devices; a specific curriculum targeted at teaching ethical and fair use of technology, including social media

## Eight Thank You's

I thank all the *parents* in our parish who have made an excellent choice in giving their children a Christ-centered education.

I thank *grandparents* who are helping their grandchildren have a Catholic education.

I thank our Principal, *Doug Workman*, our *teachers* and *administrative staff* for their dedication to making the school a wonderful environment where children can develop in mind, body, spirit and socially.

I thank *all of you* who contribute to the special *school envelope* found in your monthly package. This past calendar year of 2013, donations totaled \$64,000 from 300 families. If you presently do not participate in this form of support for our school but are in a position to contribute, I invite you to consider doing so. Subsidizing Catholic school education is an investment in the future of Catholicism.

I thank *Hank Laneville* and all our *bingo workers* for their dedication to our parish. Thursday night bingo revenue goes to the school. This year, bingo will contribute \$100,000 to the operation of the school.

I thank *Sr. Joseph*, our school Development Director, and all the dedicated *school parents* who work with her. Each year, their main fundraiser is the annual *Gala Event* which last year netted \$106,000. This year's *Gala Event will be held on Saturday, March 15, 2014* in our school. Last year's *Casino Night* turned out to be great fun and netted \$20,150. I thank all those individuals who make *special donations* to our school to help with miscellaneous special projects.

I thank the *Thrift Store volunteers* for their wonderful work in raising funds to serve the needy in our area. This year they are contributing \$48,000 to our Tuition Assistance program.

I thank *John Kelly and his committee* for coordinating the annual Parish Festival, the proceeds of which benefit the school. This year \$9,600 was raised.

**PLEASE**—help us get the good word out about our school. We depend on **YOU** to share the Good News about our school with parents who have children ages 2 to 14, but especially those with children 2 to 5 years old—Catholic and non-Catholic.

Have a blessed week,

