

First Graduating Class of St. Mary's High School \sim The Class of 1918 \sim

Life was vastly different in the United States one hundred to the assembly from the southeast room. The northeast years ago. Pope Benedict XV was head of the Catholic Church, Woodrow Wilson was the President, Congress established time zones and daylight savings time, and World War I reached its conclusion. You could buy a new Model T Ford for \$500 with gas costing you \$0.43 per gallon. Milk was \$0.56 a gallon, a loaf of bread was \$0.10





and a first class postage stamp was \$0.03. And, in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, St. Mary's Catholic School celebrated its very first graduating class!

The following excerpt written by Orline Raverty ('18) is taken from the Ten Year Book 1928:

Spring of 1914 witnessed an eager group of eighth graders watching what to them was the slow progress of the new edifice being erected on the hill at the north end of Fifth Street. When the temptation became too strong and the wistful eyes gazed out of the windows of the north upper room of the "old school," Sister Fredrica required the guilty party to use his coat, in lieu of a curtain, to shut out the view opposite. Even then the sound of construction thrilled their young hearts.

During the fall of our Freshman Year we still occupied the "little red school" and it was with the self-reliance and initiative of trail-blazing pioneers that we took possession of the new domain at Christmas time.

....Junior year marked the progression of three classes

room was equipped as a science laboratory. Further dramatic attempts - Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" was portraved with considerable skill.

We then entered on our Senior Year which marks an event in the history of our parish- the graduation of the first class of Saint Mary High School. Eleven opinions clashed in the decision on - Class Rings versus Class Pins. Another unprecedented event was the Junior-Senior Luncheon, which has became a school tradition. Class Day dawned with the planting of the class vine, the reading of the class will and prophecy. The latter has not been wholly fulfilled, but each member has been quite successful in his own way. Each of the eleven continued his education in some institution of higher learning; four of the eleven receiving scholastic degrees; three of these awards came from Catholic Colleges.

Much has changed since the Class of 1918 graduated from St. Mary's. However, the spirit of dedication, commitment, and faith that made it possible to offer a Catholic education in Sleepy Eye remains as strong today as it did one hundred years ago. As we remember the eleven members of the Class of 1918, we are reminded of all those who so generously gave of their time, talent, and treasures in order to build St. Mary's Catholic School so that, a century later, the Class of 2018 can proudly be the one hundredth graduating class!



2018 High School Musical Production "BYE BYE BIRDIE"



The year was 1958. Trouble was brewing for agent and songwriter Albert Peterson (**Kyle McKeown**, son of **Mike** and **Gina**). His rock and roll superstar, Conrad Birdie (**Dalton Meyer**, son of **Ernie** and **Missi Meyer**),

had just been drafted in to the Army. Albert's secretary and sweetheart, Rosie Alvarez (Lyndsey Goblirsch, daughter of Rob and Kathy) devised a final publicity stunt to have Con-

rad Birdie record and perform a song before he is sent overseas. They plan to have Birdie sing Albert's new song "One Last Kiss" and give one lucky girl from his fan

club a real "last kiss" on The Ed Sullivan Show. However, when Conrad town of Sweet Apple to kiss the winner, Kim (Kira DeMaris, daughter



arrives in the small of **Scott DeMaris** and

Mary Kay Bougie), misunderstandings and mishaps abound! However, Albert and Rosie find their happy ending as the town of Sweet Apple wishes "Bye Bye Birdie" to Conrad. Directed by Geri (Carr '02) Pelzel, this musical production was filled with fantastic music, dancing and an impressive cast and crew. In addition to Pelzel's talent as the show's director, she was assisted by a gifted group of volunteers. According to Pelzel, "We were privileged enough to have the opportunity to work with choreographer, Gary Sassenberg again, and as always, he did not disappoint." Vocal directors, Rachel Moldan and Sean Connolly, also offered their time, talent and dedication to the students in order to produce an amazing show. Bye Bye Birdie was performed at St. Mary's Catholic School on March 23-25 which once again included the Dinner Theater Saturday evening.

CARIBBEAN KNIGHT PARTY - EXCEEDS LAST YEAR with proceeds of \$124,569.55! These funds will be used to increase enrollment and maintain affordable tuition. Thank you to all those who purchased items made by the elementary students which provided additional proceeds of \$28,345.00 to be used for new security doors. Thank you to the planning committee Tim ('99) and Cassie Schwartz, Brent and Rachel (Mathiowetz '02) Kucera, Sam ('00) and Jessica Bloedow, and Judd ('98) and Jen Walter. Thank you to those who donated to the live and silent auctions, to those who volunteered to help set up and work, to those who attended, made purchases, and enjoyed the festivities. Congratulations to the raffle ticket winners: \$4,000 - Dr. Robert Rubey ('65); \$1,000- Becca

(Sellner '08) Pierson; \$500- Vickie (Wurtzberger '93) Larson and Julie Lilleodden; \$100- Janae Theisen, Andrew Woitas ('06), Jay Van Sickle, Nettie Treml, Scott Meyer ('89), Mike Prigge, Mark ('80) Schwartz, Dusty Mangen ('02), Phyllis (Jemmings'51) Schouvieller, and Victoria (Steffl '81) Kral. This event is a true testament to the love that people possess for St. Mary's School. May God bless you for your generosity. Mark your calendar to attend next year: February 16, 2019. *Thank you to Jacki (Hillesheim '96) Kyllonen for taking photos*.

Congratulations Newlyweds



Dillan Meyer ('10) married Kahley Pelzel ('11) on April 7, 2018. John Schmid ('04) married Elizabeth Chua on May 11, 2018. Jacob Mangen ('09) married Cristiana Schewe ('09) on May 19, 2018.

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From the Development Director, Chris (Berkner '81) Heiderscheidt



As depicted on the front cover of this issue, the class of 2018 marks 100 years since our first graduating class of 1918. I find it interesting that the two students who were selected homecoming king and queen are also the valedictorian (Crystal Portner) and salutatorian (Luke Miller), as

determined by their GPA. I do believe this may be a first for our school.

Our school exists to assist parents in passing on the Catholic faith. Our teachers work hard to do this in addition to providing a quality education. We need to increase their salaries without a drastic increase to tuition. Your gift to the annual appeal fund makes this possible. Please help us to reach our goal of \$100,000 by June 30. We truly appreciate all you do for St. Mary's Catholic School!

STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2018



Congratulations to the following students who competed in the 81st Annual Minnesota State Science and Engineering Fair in Brooklyn Park, MN on April 8-10, 2018. Pictured in the front row (left): 7th graders Kenadi Steffl, daughter of Alan and Marie; Kaden Ryer, son of Cameron and Christin; 8th graders Sophie Kyllonen, daughter of Bruce and Jacki (Hillesheim '96); Natalie Marti, daughter of Dell and Cindy and Elizabeth Schwint, daughter of George ('97) and Deanna (Fuchs '98). All of the students were awarded medals for qualifying to compete at the State Science Fair. Natalie Marti and Elizabeth Schwint were awarded the Bronze Grand Award which recognizes excellence in scientific research. Natalie's project was Does the Type of Wood Affect Heat Value and Other Qualities? Elizabeth's project was Does Saturation Affect Turbidity When Using Different Types of Buffers? Elizabeth also received the Seagate Emerging Scientist Award which recognizes excellent scientific research conducted by students competing for the first time. The Gold is awarded to the top 5% of projects presented at MSSEF, the next 10% receive Silver Awards, and the next 15% of projects receive the Bronze Award. We are proud of these students and their instructor Mrs. Patti Braulick.

MISS SLEEPY EYE 2018



Congratulations to Miss Sleepy Eye Jody Hansen and to her princesses, Brianna Polesky and Courtney Dittbenner. Jody is the daughter of Craig ('74) and Linda, Brianna is the daughter of Brian and Carol

and Courtney is the daughter of **Craig** and **Joleen**. Congratulations to these wonderful representatives of Sleepy Eye.

BELTZ SIGNS D-1 LETTER OF INTENT



Ali Beltz was four years old when she first laced up her skates and stepped onto the ice. Now a St. Mary's High School senior, Beltz led her New Ulm Eagles team to a 23-6-1 record, a Section 2A title

Photo credit: Sleepy Eye Herald Dispatch

and a trip to the Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament. She also led the state of Minnesota (boys and girls) in scoring this season with 61 goals and 32 assists. Beltz earned the Herb Brooks Award, given to the best Minnesota hockey player.

Her success on the ice led the University of Maine, ranked 13th overall for all D-I hockey teams, to invite Beltz to visit their school. Beltz liked the D-I college so much that she verbally committed to play for the Black Bears next season, becoming the second girl in the history of the New Ulm hockey program and the first from Sleepy Eye to play D-I hockey. On April 17, 2018, Beltz officially signed her letter of intent for the University of Maine in front of her parents, **Jody** and **Vicky**, and her Eagles hockey coach, **Kristin Faber**. In addition to playing hockey, she plans to major in pre-physical therapy.

Beltz's career high school marks include 123 goals and 89 assists for 212 points. It will be thrilling to follow her career as a University of Maine Black Bear and watch as Beltz accomplishes even more of her "goals," both on and off the ice. Congratulations Ali!

CLASS REUNIONS IN 2018

Class of 1953 - 65 year reunion: Sat., Sept. 22, at the Railway Bar & Grill, Sleepy Eye. Contact Arlene (Pelzel) Tauer: 507-794-6156

Class of 1956 - 62 year reunion:Fri., Aug. 17, at the Sportsmen's Park, Sleepy Eye. Contact Tom Johnson: thmsjohnson44@gmail. com

Class of 1958 - 60 year reunion: Sat., Aug. 11, at the Sleepy Eye Golf Club. Contact Mary Frances (Wilms) Peterson: 218-371-8828

Class of 1963 - 55 year reunion: Sat., Aug. 4, at the Sleepy Eye Golf Club. Contact Jerry Peichel: 952-466-9818

Class of 1968 - 50 year reunion: Sat., July 21, at the Sleepy Eye Golf Club. Contact Bob Weiss: 507-794-6164

Class of 1978 - 40 year reunion: Sat., Aug. 4, at the Railway Bar & Grill, Sleepy Eye. Contact Pat Riederer at 507-794-6738

Class of 1993 - 25 year reunion: Sat., August 4 at Greg Rosenhammer's farm, Sleepy Eye. Contact Scott Schroepfer: scott_572@msn.com

Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them...

(Includes obituaries received through April 21, 2018)

Richard Hirsch, 78, died on February 27, 2017. Richard graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1957. He is survived by his wife, Vonnie and children, Jacque (Larry) Gavuzzi, Arlen (Johanna) Hirsch, Craig Court, and Brian (Teresa) Court.

Thomas Hentges, 79, died May 26, 2017. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1955. He is survived by his wife, Sandra and his children, Todd (Janet), Jamie (Tracy), Pegeen (Jeff) Holtane, Peter (Jennifer) and Meghan (Bill) Wirtz. Thomas is a member of St. Mary's 2017 Hall of Fame.

Alice (Earl) Mattson, 88, died on July 2, 2017. Alice graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1946.

Diane (Marti) Hemmeter, 71, died on December 2, 2017. Diane graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1964. She is survived by her sons, Todd and Scott.

Dolores (Mertz) Regimbal, 97, died on October 29, 2017. She graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1937. **Agnes (Fink) Wensauer**, 90, died November 1, 2017. She attended St. Mary's School. She is survived by her children, Joseph (Laura), James (Patricia), Kathy (Ivan) Radloff, Mary (Dale) Wiegmann, David (Valerie) and Barbara (Joel) Lingbeek.

Mildred (Sellner) Baker, 92, died on November 3, 2017. She attended St. Mary's School. She is survived by her son, Jim ('68) (Bunny Haas '69).

JoAnn (Zollner) Lochner, 74, died on November 14, 2017. JoAnn graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1961. She is survived by her husband, Willis and their daughters, Linda ('82) Newman, Karen ('84) (Kurt) Schwacke and Amy ('93) (Nick) Taulelle.

LaDonna (Schroepfer) Mathiowetz, 84, died on November 16, 2017. She graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1951. She is survived by her husband, Alphonse and their children, John (Cheryl), Joel (Terri), Julie (Corey) Schmid.

Ralph Jon Fritz, 78, died on December 6, 2017. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1957. He is survived by his wife, Debra and his children, Shelly (Tom) Crowley, Jon, and Brad (Laura).

Leona G. Sellner, 99, died on December 8, 2017. She is survived by her children, Janet ('59) (Reynold) Evenson, Gerald ('62) (Mary), David ('64) (Kathy), Grace ('66) (Dale) Hoeper and Vincent ('69) (Judi).

Joseph Huiras, 33, died on December 17, 2017. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in 2002. He is survived by his wife, Stacey and two daughters, Maddie and AJ.

Robert Augustin, 84, died on December 17, 2017. He is survived by his wife Angela (Goblirsch) and their children, Debra (James) Gorres, Brian (Kim), Brad (Debra), Nancee (Dave '80) Riebel and Kurt (Cathy).

Lillian Riebel, 90, died on January 7, 2018. She is survived by her children, Diana (Wensauer '65) (Robert) Sellner, Marjorie (Wensauer '68) (Daryle) Fischer, Charlene (Wensauer '70) (David) Forsyth, and Michael Wensauer.

Jon Frederickson, 76, died on January 8, 2018. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1959. He is survived by his wife, Patricia and step-children, Chaz Hernandez, Ken Flores, Nicole (Scott) Steiner and Mark Flores.

Lynn T. Soukup, 62, died on January 10, 2018. Lynn graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1973. He is survived by his children, Nicole ('02), Ryan ('06), Sara ('08) and Jenna ('13).

Gary M. Gehrke, 68, died on January 14, 2018. Gary graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1967. He is survived by his daughter, Dawn (Jason) Snow.

Gordon Charles Moosbrugger, 91, died on January 19, 2018. He is survived by his wife, Rita and their children, Philip (Karen), Catherine (Darrell) Reece, John (Karen), Stephen (Lisa), Elizabeth (Dave) Upgren, Christopher, and Kristin (Greg) Johnson. John and Karen are teachers at St. Mary's High School.

Francis "Pat" Augustin, 93, died on January 19, 2018. He is survived by his wife, Mildred (Helget '48) and their children, Alan (Julie), Dale, Kent (Eileen), Mark (Monica) and Beth (Alan) Zuhlsdorf.

Margaret "Maggie" (Sellner) Mages, 66, died on January 21, 2018. She graduated from St. Mary's High

School in 1969. She is survived by her husband Larry ('69) and their children, Theresa (Randy) Wagner, Amanda (Adam) Bemmels, Emily (Brennen) Rath, Edward (Monica), Matthew (Sarah Mangen '95) and Joseph (Imia).

LaVern J. Wesselman. 94. died February 6. 2018. LaVern attended St. Mary's High School. He is survived by his wife, Lois and their daughters, Lynn (David) Hansen and Karen (Ken) Emmeck.

Rita Schmitz, 89, died on February 18, 2018. She is survived by her children, David (Natalia), Joseph ('71) (Pauline), William (Suk), Marita, Tina (Steve) Smith, Peter (Peg), Clare ('79) (Kevin) Bjork, Paul ('81) (Deb Krzmarzick '80), Anthony ('82) (Lisa Mages '84), Ann ('84) (John '84) Schotzko, Carmella ('85) (Robert) Leggon, Daniel ('86) (Amy) and Jonathon ('90) (Amber).

Patrick Dietz, 59, died on February 20, 2018. Patrick graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1977. He is survived by his wife, Faye.

Milo "Pete" Goldschmidt, 87, died on March 11, 2018. He is survived by his wife, Rose (Braun '53) and their children, Linda Morgan, Mike, Patty Mayer, Dan, Doug, Judy Heimer, Ron and Rick.

James J. Broich. 90. died March 11. 2018. He attended St. Marv's High School. He is survived by his wife. Mary Ann and their children, Jeanne ('69) (Dave) Wass and Bob ('71) (Annette).

Mary B. (Mangen) Steffl, 96, died on March 13, 2018. She attended St. Mary's School. She is survived by her children, Jeanette ('63) (Robert '62) Bruckbauer, Mary Jean ('65) (Charles) Bischof, Carole ('67) and Joseph ('75) Cindy.

Rosemary Riederer, 77, died on March 16, 2018. She graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1958.

Phyllis (Kral) Juni, 74, died on March 22, 2018. Phyllis graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1961. She is survived by her husband, Fred and their sons, Lowell (Holly), Michael (Kari) and Scott (Jody).

Barbara (Steffl) Riebel, 84, died on April 11, 2018. Barbara graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1952. She is by her children, Rebecca (Dale) Ronning, Rachel Kuppe, Robert (Peg), Rick, Roxanne (Tom) Heino, and Russ (Deb).

Leo Kral, 82, died on April 17, 2018. He is survived by his wife, Anna and their children, Doug ('76) (Vickie Steffl '81), Duane ('79) (Eileen), Bonnie ('80) (Brad) Portner, Connie ('82) Landkammer, Donna ('84) (Kevin) Kielshus, Dean ('85), Darrell (Stacey), Jolene (Jason) Rohlik, Colleen (Robert) Phillips.

Les Haala,78, died on April 18, 2018. Les graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1957. He is survived by his wife, Melva (Prescott '65) and their sons, Brent ('92) (Pam) and Tim ('94).

Melvin Pelzel, 95, died on April 21, 2018. He is survived by his sons, Wayne ('68) (Pattie Pietig '70), Tom ('73) (Lisa Peichel '79) and Steve ('78) (Lynnae).

REMEMBER ST. MARY'S SCHOOL IN YOUR WILL—Leaving a special gift for your alma mater in your will allows you to make a difference after you're gone. Please remember St. Mary's Catholic School in vour will.

Dear Alumni and Friends of St. Mary's School,



In this message I would like to highlight the importance of all those who work in our school. Each one of them is important and valuable to our school. They work hard and are dedicated. They care deeply

any one of us is perfect; we make mistakes. One of the things that we need to do as parishioners, alumni and parents is support them. I am sure they are not looking for affirmation, but everyone likes a "thank you," a personal note or a telephone call expressing appreciation. Let us strive to be supportive. A fund was set up to show our appreciation to the teachers and staff whereas 80% of the interest is distributed annually to the staff as a sign of appreci-

ation and to augment an income that was less then what they could make in a public school or other school. This fund (Staff Endowment Fund) has grown to \$1,300,000. While that seems like a handsome sum, when all is said and done that only generates about \$25,000 a year to be distributed on a pro-rated about the students. That doesn't mean that basis to the staff. For a number of years I have been advised to cap that fund so that the money donated could be used to increase the present salaries of the teachers and staff that lag increasingly behind more and more in the public sector.

Therefore, as of July 1, 2018, gifts to the Staff Endowment Fund will be directed to the Annual Appeal Fund which goes directly to the budget to increase the salaries of the personnel.

Msgr. Eugene Lozinski, Pastor-Superintendent

St. Mary's Catholic High



Alexandra Beltz Jody & Vicky Beltz University of Maine - Orono, ME



Libby Coners Paul & Sue (Schroepfer '82) Coners Ridgewater College - Hutchinson, MN



Robert & Kathy Goblirsch University of Minnesota - Duluth, MN



Jody Hansen Craig ('74) & Linda Hansen Minnesota State University – Mankato, MN



Max Heiderscheidt Terry ('86) & Shelly Heiderscheidt South Dakota State University – Brookings, SD



Mallory Helget Terry & Tammy Helget University of St. Thomas – St. Paul, MN



Todd ('87) Ibberson Minnesota State Community & Technical College – Wadena, MN



Abby Johnson Carly & Deanna Johnson Minnesota State University – Mankato, MN



Kelsie Kosak Gary ('88) & Shelly (Groebner '89) Kosak Minnesota State University – Mankato, MN





Kailey Larson Chris & Vicky (Wurtzberger '93) Larson Stewart School - Sioux Falls, SD

Nicholas Nelson

Joey ('87) & Stacy Nelson

Ridgewater College – Willmar, MN





Tom ('86) & Mary Portner University of Mary - Bismark, ND



Logan Lux John ('87) Lux & Krista Gent Alexandria Technical & Community College -Alexandria, MN



Sarah Reinarts Randy & Deb Reinarts South Dakota State University - Brookings, SD



Dalton Meyer Ernie & Melissa Meyer College of St. Scholastica – Duluth, MN



Andrick Sanchez Sara Sanchez & Alejandro Luna Alexandria Technical & Community College -Alexandria, MN



Luke Miller Ron & Melissa Miller University of St. Thomas - St. Paul, MN



Zachary Schumacher Ken & JoAnn (Sellner '83) Schumacher Valley City State University - Valley City, ND







Crystal Portner

h School - Class of 2018



Courtney Sellner Gary ('88) & Rebecca (Hoffmann '90) Sellner South Dakota State University - Brookings, SD



Jaden Sellner Eugene & Jill (Haala '88) Sellner Lake Area Technical Institute – Watertown SD



Melanie Sellner Michael ('78) Sellner Undecided



Brandon Wait Tim & Jill (Hoffmann '92) Wait Full-Time Apprenticeship – Mankato, MN

"Sometimes you find out what you are supposed to be

doing by the things you are not supposed to do."

- Oprah Winfrey



Danielle Weiss Michael ('86) & Lori Weiss University of Wisconsin - La Crosse, MN

Sunday, May 27, 2018, 2:00 PM, St. Mary's Catholic Church Class Color: Black & Gold Class Flower: Sunflower Class Saint: St. Jude

Class Verse:

Class Motto:

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:9

St. Mary's Parish Service Award: Crystal Portner Christian Award: Luke Miller, Crystal Portner John Philip Sousa Award: Crystal Portner National School Choral Award: Lyndsey Goblirsch Sue Windschitl Memorial Scholarship: Crystal Portner American Legion and VFW Award: Jody Hansen Lion's Club Student of the Year: Jody Hansen Rick ('77) Losleben Memorial Scholarship: Nick Ludewig Charlie Hale Scholarship: Luke Miller Miss Sleepy Eye Scholarship: Jody Hansen Kaylie Hogue Scholarship: Danielle Weiss Payton Adams Hustle Award: Jody Hansen, Brandon Wait John Mangen Scholarship: Jody Hansen, Andrick Sanchez Tyler Hadley Athletic Achievement Award: Jody Hansen Neubauer Family Award (from Mike Maurer): Michael Ludewig Denis ('62) and Lynn Goblirsch Memorial Scholarship: Libby Coners Neubauer Spirit Award (from Dee Dee (Sellner '83) Fried): Mallory Helget



Congratulations to salutatorian Luke Miller and valedictorian **Crystal Portner.**

New Ulm Area Sport Fischermen EE Mecklenburg Environmental Scholarship: Zach Schumacher Esther "Sis" (Wagner '39) Dey Soukup Scholarship: Kira DeMaris, Carter Currans Richard ('53) & Mary Lou Mathiowetz Family Scholarship: Kelsie Kosak, Crystal Portner, Courtney Sell-

ner, Lyndsey Goblirsch

Charles "Chisey" Hansen ('42) Family Memorial Medical Scholarship: Jody Hansen Schwartz Farms Scholarship: Nick Nelson Murthy Medical Scholarship: Jody Hansen Minnesota Driffters Memorial Scholarship: Cole Krzmarzick Pathways to Children Scholarship (Grace (Sellner '62) Strangis): Mallory Helget

> Mission Statement: St. Mary's Catholic School exists to assist parents in passing on the Catholic faith while providing a quality education in a safe and positive environment.

St. Mary's Recall St. Mary's High School 104 St. Mary's Street NW Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

507-794-4121 www.sesmschool.com cheiderscheidt@sesmschool.com

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