April 2023 setonschool.org

Seton Catholic Newsletter

Serving the Parishes of St. Elizabeth Pastorate

WHY SETON CATHOLIC?

Since starting our first child at Seton Catholic School in 2015, we are grateful for the caring and nurturing environment provided by faculty and staff. From the moment you walk through the doors, you are greeted with positive energy and smiling children. At Seton Catholic there is no limit on learning. We know our children are being challenged and their needs are being met both academically and socially. As parents, we value and look forward to weekly mass that is led by the students. Seton Catholic continues to develop a willingness to learn, deepen, and share the Catholic faith with students. The foundation being strengthened at Seton will help them continue on their educational journey. We are truly thankful we found Seton Catholic School.

-Brandon and Natalie Hedley

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS QUARTER'S ISSUE:

- Parent Testimonial
- Classroom Highlight
- Message from Mr. Ellsworth
- Seton Alumni Spotlight
- Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

Thursday, May 4- Middle School Musical
Friday, May 5 - Seton Color Run
Wednesday, May 17 - Great Give Day
Graduation Mass - evening before the last day of school. TBD.

JOIN US EVERY WEEK

Celebrate mass with us on Tuesdays at 8:45 AM in the Peosta gym and on Wednesdays at 8:45 AM at St. Joseph Church, Farley.

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHT - Mrs. Richard

Our class had a great year so far growing together in faith, knowledge, and friendship. Kindergarten allows students to engage in their faith in a variety of new ways. Our class had the chance to lead Mass in January, and students were able to show their leadership by reading, carrying up the gifts, and cantoring the psalm. The students loved learning about their heroes of the faith--the Saints! They each created a mural by drawing eight saints that they learned about including St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Joan of Arc, and St. Joseph. They added themselves to the mural and dreamed about what they would be the patron saint of if they were a Saint!

The students have been putting a great deal of effort into becoming better readers and writers. After learning the sounds that each letter makes and learning a variety of digraphs and vowel teams from our Jolly Phonics program, students are working hard this spring to learn words and map them to find what spelling patterns are in them. Learning to map words and practice it each day helps the students remember more complex words like where, from, and said. They are gaining great confidence in themselves as readers!

Watching the KinderKids grow, learn, and become a classroom community is one of my greatest joys. They gain great independence by the spring, and it is a privilege to encourage them in their problem solving and perseverance.

Our classroom has become a family, and I can't wait to see where the rest of the year takes us.

A MESSAGE FROM MR. ELLSWORTH

It is with great joy and a humble heart that I write this first greeting to you! I'm honored with the trust and responsibility of leading the Seton Catholic community in our shared mission and hope of providing a Christ-centered education to our students in the 2023-2024 school year.

My wife and I are the busy parents of four children; two who will be attending Seton Catholic next school year. Although we are originally from the Midwest, we have lived in Alaska for the past decade. We love the outdoors, books, sports, and the church.

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire." St. Therese's 'Little Way' is an antidote to our modern struggles just as it was for her world. I can't think of anything I want more for my children than for them to be fully alive in Christ, and I am certain you feel the same way. It is evident to me that Seton Catholic is a community that helps students to grow in faith, character, and knowledge. With God's grace and the loving support of your vibrant community, we will continue the tradition of educating the whole child, building the church and world leaders of tomorrow.

I am excited to get to know each and everyone of you, and to work together to continue building our students by nurturing and challenging them in mind, body, and spirit--the whole student. May God continue to bless Seton Catholic School's efforts, and guide us in all that we do.

Thank you to the parishioners of St. Elizabeth Pastorate for their support of Catholic education. We recognize that Catholic education is a huge investment for the parishioners and take the responsibility of being good stewards very seriously. Your support is appreciated and we hold you all in our prayers.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - Elijah Harbaugh

Eli graduated from Seton Catholic in 2019 and is currently a senior at Western Dubuque High School (WD). He has earned honor roll every trimester at WD while staying active with extracurricular activities and in his community. At WD, Eli participates in Track & Field—shot and disc thrower and is an officer in the school's Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter and has received various FFA contest awards.

He has milked cows for a local dairy farm since 2017, while also working at Delaney's in Farley as an auto technician, and in the summer, Eli works for his family business, Goats On The Go® Dubuque. Eli is active in his parish, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and volunteers at the annual church auction and fish fry. He stays busy in his 4-H club, the Peosta Pals, and enjoys great successes with animal projects and showmanship at the Dubuque County Fair with both beef and goats.

Eli will attend Iowa State University in pursuit of an Ag Business degree, which he believes will give him the best opportunity to excel in the ag industry. He wishes to return to northeast Iowa after graduation, buy and operate a farm of his own, have a career as an ag salesman and raise a family.

'Seton taught me that not only is it important to keep God close to you in your life, but making connections with friends in such a small, familiar setting is vital to your success. The people you meet at Seton will be the people you will see as your safe place in your future years. Friendships come and go but all kids that go to Seton have a deep connection that can't be replicated.'

– Eli Harbaugh