



S·P·I·C·E

SPECIAL PEOPLE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

St. Catharine Parish • Spring 2020 • Issue 19

THANK YOU MRS. WEISNER!



We all know thousands of people in our lifetime, but over the years there are only a few that really touch our lives closely for many years. Those special people in our life are a true blessing and a real gift from God. We have had one of those people in our lives here at St. Catharine for the last 20 years – a person who has touched thousands of lives and families. Mrs. Weisner has not only been our principal here at St. Catharine for the last 20 years, but she has been integral in the foundation and growth of SPICE. Without her guidance and leadership, SPICE would not be where it is today.

How do you thank somebody who has dedicated their life to helping our children and families – nothing we could do would equal what you have done for all of us. However, to honor your legacy, we are instituting a scholarship to be awarded to an 8th grader here at St. Catharine who embodies the Spirit of SPICE – every year in your honor there will be awarded the Janet Weisner Spirit of SPICE Scholarship. Thank you for all you have done for all of us, St. Catharine School and parish, and SPICE!

SPICE IS ABLE TO HELP DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.

During this time as we deal with the pandemic, St. Catharine School has continued with instructing our students during this last quarter in the school year. It has certainly challenged our school community.... parents, teachers and students. This can be a really difficult time for our students, especially those who are used to intervention or tutoring or just support within the classroom by the teacher. In addition, we continue to be aware of the potential for social and emotional health concerns that can become an issue with children who can't be around their peers or are anxious about what is happening in their lives or are struggling to learn without the teacher in their academic life. Fortunately for St. Catharine School we have the SPICE program to provide funds for additional intervention during this time away from the building, provide tutoring for those students who might need some extra support during the summer, or work with a counselor for anxiety or emotional health concerns that have been triggered by this time away from the structure of school. To know that St. Catharine School has these SPICE funds available to support our students and their families during this difficult and unknown times has been invaluable to our students, their families, and our teachers.

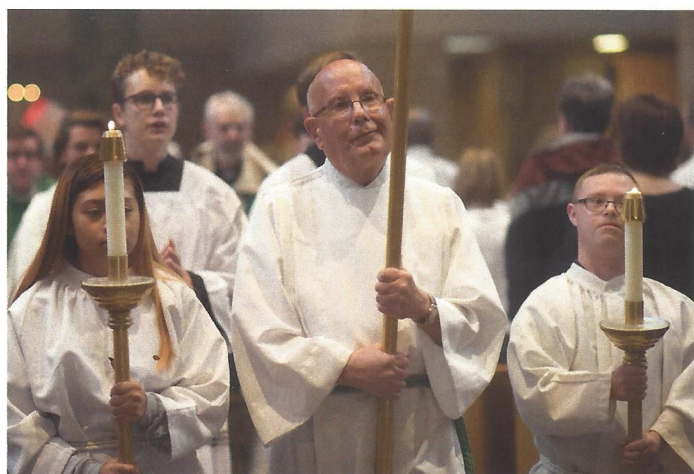


SPIRIT OF SPICE AWARDS – A NEW LOOK AT GOOD ACTS!

This past Lenten season, the students of St. Catharine School were given the opportunity to not only “be the good” in their school community, but also to “see the good” in those around them. The Spirit of SPICE awards allowed students to recognize and reward one another’s acts of charity and kindness. The responses were overwhelming! Students from each of the grades filled a bucket in the front office with handwritten reports on classmates they had “caught being kind”. At the end of each week, two students’ names were drawn from the bucket and given a small prize. However, the delight in recognizing others’ good works, and the humbling, sweet surprise of being recognized for kindness were the true prizes, and ones which all of St. Catharine’s students will hopefully carry with them always.

ST. CATHARINE’S ST. PAT’S DINNER POSTPONEMENT - BUT A GREAT SPICE AWARENESS AND FUNDRAISER WAS HELD IN ST. LOUIS!

Despite this new era of quarantine and social distancing, the Spirit of SPICE is no longer contained to the pews and classrooms of St. Catharine! Like a city set upon a hill, SPICE’s mission of inclusion in education cannot be hidden, but rather it shines brighter than ever across the Diocese of Columbus and beyond. This year’s SPICE St. Patrick’s Day Dinner sadly had to be postponed due to the pandemic, though we are all praying that a fun, safe celebration can be had in the coming months!



In February, however, an exciting night of SPICE awareness-raising and celebration was held in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Monsignor Jack Costello (uncle to sisters and SPICE board members, Marin Santorsola & Ginna Springer) has established a SPICE program at his parish and school, St. Peter’s, in suburban St. Louis. “This is hugely personal for me,” Msgr. Costello said. “I’ve seen what SPICE does for St. Catharine. And I know the incredible community of people we have, the great school and PSR program... this is a great marriage, to bring SPICE here.” The “Roaring 20s”-themed fundraiser dinner raised an astounding \$200,000+ to support the unique learning needs and special needs resources for the St. Peter’s community.

“It was truly a blessing to witness the enthusiasm and generous support for SPICE in a new community,” said Marin Santorsola. “The path paved by the St. Catharine community and SPICE program should be an incredible source of pride for all of us.”

*Thank you for putting
SPICE
in our lives!*

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Marian Knox
Fr. Brogan Ryan, C.S.C.
Peter Santorsola

IN MEMORY OF:

Joe and Ellen Brosmer
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Willis & Nancy Fitchelman
William & Loretta Stanton
Mary Thompson
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*Donations listed are from
May 1, 2019 through April 30,
2020.*



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LAST YEAR'S SPICE AT A GLANCE!

- SPICE continues to touch countless lives of students and families with special needs
- the awareness of special needs and the culture of accepting them continues to grow and spread
- 3rd Diocesan Mass of Inclusion at St. Catharine with Bishop Robert Brennan celebrant
- Schools and Parishes in Licking County start their own SPICE Ministry
- St. Peter Parish, St. Louis, MO. starts it's own SPICE ministry
- Columbus Dispatch does a feature article on SPICE Oct. 14, 2019
- SPICE is featured by the Catholic Times Jan. 26, 2020
- SPICE 's matching pledge brings elevator to St. Catharine's new capital project



AS WE MOVE INTO OUR
20TH YEAR OF SPICE,
HELP US MAKE THE
VIRTUAL LEAP!

We would like to build our electronic database – please share your e-mail address with us at
www.SPICEatStCatharine.com
or complete the enclosed envelope.

