



Student Andrew explains his Alternate Energy City

WHAT'S INSIDE?

A Note From the Principal	2	Living Stations	5
A Word From Father Bob	3	Annual Fund Update	6
Mural Legacy	4	Summerfest Silent Auction	7





A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kudos to all the students, parents, and teachers who have adapted and adjusted to the unprecedented changes in our schooling over the past year. In-person, virtual, hybrid, student quarantines, teacher quarantines, closures—through it all they have persevered and made the best of the situation. But as we move forward toward “normal,” we must recognize that even with our best efforts, some critical learning time was missed, learning was delayed, and some gaps have opened or widened.

Moving forward, we need a plan to make up for lost time. Thanks to the Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS) we have additional funds to address any “learning loss” due to COVID.

While some schools are purchasing technology or new “programs,” at Little Flower we are investing in what has always been at the core of a great Catholic education—teachers. We believe, and research shows, that the most important factor in a child’s educational growth is the teacher in the classroom. The more we can have our children in small groups with talented teachers, the more relationships they can develop, the stronger support group they

can build, the more engaged they will become, and the more opportunities for growth they will encounter.

With the benefit of EANS we will be able to add an additional resource teacher, three resource aides, a STEM teacher, and a teaching coach. Our students will have even more one-on-one attention than even our regular small class sizes provide. And we believe that attention from caring, dedicated Catholic school teachers will, as it always has, lead to great successes.

MISSION STATEMENT

Little Flower Catholic School, an educational ministry of Little Flower Parish, exists to provide quality Catholic education for the Eastside and beyond as it has since 1926. Little Flower is a compassionate, caring community for pre-kindergarten through eighth grade that celebrates the growth of each person. We welcome all families who share our philosophy and mission.

Our school provides a safe, nurturing environment, a challenging academic curriculum, with an emphasis on the arts, that prepares students for higher education and helps them develop into confident, responsible citizens. Following the words of St. Therese, our patroness, “Love is repaid by love alone,” we promote a dedication to the Catholic values of peace, justice, and service.



A WORD FROM FR. BOB

Dear Friends,

I hope you all had a blessed and happy Easter.

What a difference a year can make! Last year we celebrated our Holy Week and Easter Liturgies in an empty church except for essential ministers: Tom Costello '67, our Music Director; Mike Kanney, our Sacristan; Katie Leszcynski '07, our Lector; Angie Mackell '83, our videographer; and me '63. We did not celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation until August 29.

Although we are still required to wear masks and practice social distancing, we were able to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil this year. Despite the pandemic, 12 individuals completed RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) or RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children). Among those receiving the sacraments

of initiation this year was the family of Lindsey and Kourtney Waters. Two of their children, Aliza Bell and Avery Bell, attend Little Flower Catholic School. At the RCIA feedback session on the Tuesday of Easter Week, Kourtney said that she became interested in becoming Catholic after her children started attending Little Flower.

Recently Allesia Clegg, one of our first grade students, gave me a small piece of paper before Mass. On the paper, she had written, "I love God with all my heart. And I see God at church." Underneath what she had written, she drew a heart. I was touched!

Catholic schools have three primary purposes: to share our Catholic Christian faith with the next generation, to provide them with a quality education, and to educate the whole person. As a school, we share our faith not just by what we teach in classes but by the kind of community we are. I have always believed that a Catholic school should be a microcosm of the parish. I would like to believe that Kourtney's

attraction to the Catholic faith stemmed both from what her children were learning in school as well as from the kind of community we are. Little Flower Parish and School are both welcoming communities. Our students and school families see our school as a family and second home.

Thank you for your generosity. Your generosity helps us to continue to offer religious education and formation, a quality education, and integral human formation to our students by providing funds for financial assistance and funds to make improvements we would not otherwise be able to make. In his Letter to the Romans, St. Paul wrote, "The life and death of each of us has its influence on others" [14:7]. Your generosity enables you to profoundly influence the lives of our students.

Have a wonderful summer.

fr. Bob

**“I love God with all my heart.
And I see God at church.”**

- ALLESIA CLEGG, GRADE 1

LEAVING A LEGACY

There are many eighth grade traditions at Little Flower, starting with the eighth grade “blessing” at the beginning of the year and concluding with the dinner and dance that follow the graduation ceremony. Our eighth graders lead the school in carrying out daily jobs like announcements, flag, mail, and many others. The khakis they are allowed to wear make them stand out among all others.

They powerfully lead us in prayer through the Living Stations and May Crowning.

They celebrate with decorated lockers, a luncheon, a park picnic, and their final “walk out.”

Again this year, the trip to Washington, D.C. was canceled. However, they will get a year-end adventure with trips to Brown County/Nashville/Bloomington, Lafayette and the Tippecanoe Memorial and the Wolf Museum,

and a visit to the city with the second most monuments (behind only D.C.)–Indianapolis.

But before they leave Little Flower, they leave behind a piece of themselves. Each eighth grade class paints a mural depicting their final year at Little Flower. To date, seventeen murals (#18 is underway) line our halls–fond memories of years past and reminders of the wonderful kids that created them.



LIVING STATIONS

Stations of the Cross presented by the 8th Grade class



ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

As you know, Little Flower Catholic School typically conducts an Annual Fund, beginning in November of each year. Typically the launch of the Annual Fund is in conjunction with our annual All-Class Reunion, which was reduced to a virtual event in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

An Annual Fund is essential to the operation of Little Flower School, as it helps with the costs of sustaining programs and improving facilities that are not

covered by tuition. In addition to building improvements, the Annual Fund also supplies funds needed for technology improvements, innovation grants for teachers, and needs-based tuition assistance.

This year we plan to use the proceeds from the Annual Fund to convert some of our existing space into a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) lab and incorporate equipment to teach certain life skills. Since November 1, the Annual Fund has generated over \$77,000.00 in donations! We need to continue

in this positive direction in order to begin the renovation.

For those who are able, we invite you to increase your investment in Little Flower Catholic School through a generous donation to this year's Annual Fund. Whether you are a first-time donor or a long-time benefactor, your assistance will make a positive impact on the lives of our students and can help us to carry on the tradition and promise of Little Flower Catholic School.

Please continue to pray for God's continued blessings on our school.

MARCH MADNESS

Last March there were so many disappointed fans as the big tournament was canceled due to COVID. This year there was double the excitement as we kicked off The March Madness Book Challenge. Ms. Moore's fourth graders put together a competitive bracket, and students throughout the school read and discussed and voted on their favorites. This week brought us to the pinnacle of picture books, the Final Four.

Spork knifed past *This is a Moose*, and *Nugget and Fang* survived the attack of *Shark Lady*.

In the final read-off, *Nugget and Fang* took the gold while *Spork* ended with the silver.



Little Flower Summerfest 2021 Silent Auction

June 4th - June 6th



Exciting changes are afoot for this year's Silent Auction at Summerfest!

After serious consideration over the past couple of years, we have decided to move the Silent Auction bidding to a mobile platform. Simply stated, this means that you will use your mobile device (or tablet or computer) to place your bids instead of writing them on paper bid sheets. Alumni and friends from all over the country can participate in our Silent Auction!

All you must do is visit the website below to register as a bidder anytime from now until the end of the auction on 6/6/2021.

<https://lffway.cbo.io>

There are several benefits to the new platform worth noting:

- Mobile bidding allows bidders to bid from wherever they are—on church grounds, at home, anywhere!
- Mobile bidding will send alerts to bidders' devices when they have been outbid. Bidders can then place a new bid from wherever they are.
- You can set automatic maximum bids on the items you want to try

hardest to secure. The system will automatically keep raising your bid to the amount you set.

- Convenience - Mobile bidding makes it convenient to participate and bid on auction items throughout the entire event.
- No app download is necessary. Registration is as easy as providing your name, email, and mobile number.
- Bidders may pay on website with a credit card or choose to pay cash/check/credit at time of pick-up as usual.
- We will NOT require bidders' credit card information to make bids.
- Bidders can monitor bids anytime without having to go to the location of the item.
- Items can be viewed before the event. Bidders can come prepared and ready to bid on the items they want to take home.
- There will be volunteers on hand at the silent auction to assist and make bids for people who do not have smart phones. The volunteers can also assist bidders with bidding on their own devices.

- Winners will be texted immediately upon closing the auction with information about what they won and how much to pay. No more waiting in line at the end of the auction to see if you won something.

We are hopeful that the new bidding platform will increase revenue by increasing the volume of bids and the number of people who can participate. In light of that, our auction will only be as good as the items we can put in it. So please consider whether you have anything that you could donate for the auction. It could be as simple as an unused gift card you have laying around or a timeshare you will not have a chance to use this year, or perhaps you are a skilled artisan and want to donate a one-of-a-kind piece. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office.

Please reach out to Elizabeth Mann (edeputy1@yahoo.com) if you have any questions about the new platform or donating. We genuinely appreciate your support of the auction through donations and participation over the past years and in 2021!



St. Therese of the Infant Jesus
Little Flower Catholic School
4720 E 13th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46201
www.littleflowerparish.org/school

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 1596
Indianapolis, Ind.

SUMMERFEST 2021

Preparations are in full swing for the Little Flower Parish Festival, SUMMERFEST 2021. Our leadership team is working hard to plan a fun festival while maintaining a safe environment for all. We have high hopes that the City of Indianapolis and the Marion County Public Health Department will approve our permit applications, and we will bring Summerfest back strong! **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JUNE 4, 5, and 6, and plan to attend the festival to help make it a success!**

We have been blessed with successful festivals in the past. We are hoping for the same once again.

Festival proceeds this year will be directed to a variety of much-needed campus improvements, including parking lot resealing, interior paint within school entrances, and various areas of sidewalk renovation.

Plan now to attend, and invite your family, friends, and co-workers. Word of mouth is our best advertising. If you haven't been around the parish lately, this is a great time to come home for a visit. We encourage all alumni to gather some former classmates and stop by the festival to help make it the best one yet!

Save the Date

LITTLE FLOWER
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
ANNUAL ALL-CLASS
REUNION

**SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 6, 2021**

**5:00 P.M. Mass
with dinner following**

**Formal invitation and details
to come!
Alumni, please plan
To join us!**