



Fifth and Sixth Grade at JA Biztown. Thomas being sworn in as Mayor of Biztown.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

A Note From The Principal	2
A Word From Father Bob	3
2019 Graduation Speech	4
Teacher Profile	5
American Citizenship	5
Annual Fund Update	6
Summerfest 2019	6
Living Stations of the Cross	7
May Crowning	7
All in the Family	7
Camp Tecumseh	7





A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The end of every school year always brings mixed emotions. There is, of course, the pure elation that it is summer time. (Teachers don't have summers off; they are just collecting their overtime!) There is the satisfaction of another school year completed. In turn, there is a slight feeling of nostalgia and loss for a year that will never be again. (Don't cry that it is over; smile that it happened.)

At Little Flower, we have many traditions that mark our passages from season to season, year to year. There is the thrill of seeing festival tents rising on the parking lot,

signaling the end of the school year; the rides crowding us out of the parking lot on the last day of school; and summer and SUMMERFEST looming. (Summer is always the best of what might be!)

There are the yearly trips and events that students look forward to and measure their years by: Camp Tecumseh, Biztown, Leadership Camp, Washington, D.C.

There are graduations--from Kindergarten and eighth grade.

There are goodbyes to those leaving and hellos to our new friends and teachers.

In this edition of our newsletter, we highlight many of these milestones. We say goodbye to some old friends, hello to some new (and some familiar) faces. We celebrate the changes and the traditions that come with a new school year. We embrace endings and beginnings and, as we say each morning and afternoon, "This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad.

Just living is not enough...one must have sunshine, freedom, and a LITTLE FLOWER.

~Hans Christian Andersen

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,

The end of every school year is a time to give thanks to God for all the blessings God has bestowed upon Little Flower Catholic School and the Little Flower School community during the school year. We especially give thanks for the members of our 8th grade class who are leaving us to begin the next phase of their life and faith journey. They have received many blessings from Little Flower, and they have been a blessing to Little Flower.

On May 28, 2019, we celebrated their graduation Mass and their graduation. During their graduation, many received scholarships to Catholic high schools to continue their Catholic education, a testament both to them and to Little Flower School.

Scecina Memorial High School is Little Flower's high school and, therefore, an extension of Little Flower Parish and Little Flower School. I want to thank Scecina Memorial High School and their benefactors who awarded the following scholarships to Little Flower 8th grade students who will attend Scecina Memorial High School.

Sister Lavonne Long Franciscan Values Scholarships were awarded to Andrew Minton and Fatima Quintero. This \$500 scholarship is renewable for each year at Scecina for a total value of \$2,000. These scholarships are named in honor of Scecina's Franciscan values and Sister Lavonne Long, a former director of guidance who held Scecina closely in her heart. Scholarships are awarded to one male and one female graduate who reflect the Franciscan

values of reconciliation, responsible stewardship, peace and justice, and dignity of the individual.

Scecina Academic Scholarships are based upon grade point average at the end of the first semester of a student's eighth-grade year. These four-year scholarships are renewable annually based on academic good standing:

Father Thomas Scecina Scholarship: Fatima Quintero (\$20,000 over four years);

Presidential Scholarships: Isabelle Comley and Lucy Williamson (\$12,000 over four years);

Scecina Pride Scholarship: Ana Moreno-Jerez (\$8,000 over four years);

Crusader Scholarship: Faye Eskew (\$4,000 over four years);

Partner School Scholarship: was awarded to Jazmin O'Day. It is valued at \$4,000 over four years.

The **Catherine and Robert J. Dangler Scholarship** is a \$2,000 scholarship for a Little Flower student based upon a written essay. This scholarship was awarded to Adam Young. However, John and Colleen Dangler were so impressed with the essays from Little Flower students that they decided to award three more scholarships this year, ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500, to Erionna Edwards, Nolan Torzewski, and Faye Eskew.

Bob and Catherine Dangler were both parishioners and parish leaders of Little Flower. At the time of his death, Bob was the last surviving charter member of the parish. Their children attended Little Flower School and Scecina Memorial High School.

The Little Flower PTO also provided four \$500 scholarships in four categories:

Strives for Excellence: Fatima Quintero;

Serves the Community: Andrew Minton;

Puts God First: Anna Erdosy;

Makes Every Day & Moment Count: Emily Aquilar.

The Little Flower Athletic Commission awarded the **Fr. Bob Borchertmeyer Scholarship** valued at \$600, to Makayla Dulworth. The following were awarded \$500 scholarships: Faye Eskew, Isabelle Comley, Maia Dulworth, and Andrew Minton.

This year some of my classmates and a friend established a \$500 scholarship in my name. We titled the scholarship the **Fr. Bob Religion Scholarship**. This scholarship was to be awarded to the 8th grade student who had the best grades and best participated in my religion class and in Mrs. Slaton's religion class and who will attend a Catholic high school. The first recipient of this scholarship is Anna Erdosy.

Finally, Faye Eskew was awarded the \$1000 Ladies Auxiliary, Ancient Order of Hibernians **Mary Garvin Memorial Scholarship**.

If I have added correctly, this amounts to a grand total of \$75,600 that many benefactors are investing in the next phase of these Little Flower graduates' Catholic school education.

Most of us have heard the African proverb "It takes a village to raise a child." It does indeed take a community to raise a child. These scholarships speak to the success of our students and the Little Flower community. Thank you for all you do to support the students of Little Flower Catholic School with your time, talent, and treasure.

Have a wonderful remainder of the summer.

Fr. Bob



CLASS OF '19 GRADUATION SPEECH

By Anna Erdosy

Hello everyone. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Anna Erdosy, class president, and I attended Little Flower for 9 years.

I first started at Little Flower when I was just 5 years old. I remember when I was younger, I would always admire the 8th graders. I would watch them at school Mass or in the hallway and wished I could be one of them some day and for that day to come fast. Now, I wish I could go back to my younger self and have a couple more years before I would have to leave my second home, which is Little Flower. But because time machines don't exist yet, we have to keep moving forward even if the future seems scary and uncertain.

I, personally, am terrified because next year we will have to make our way in a school filled with students who have way more experience than us. We will be the "baby freshmen" and have to make new friends, walk down different halls and figure out which teachers will let us get away with not doing an assignment. For most of our class the case is this: we are leaving a school that we have gone to for many years. For some of us, we have gone here since preschool. Others since kindergarten, and even for the students who started here in seventh or eighth grade, we are all a little afraid to let go. Little Flower has been a safe haven for us these past years. And sure, there were days when we dreaded school and didn't want to get up in the morning. (Trust me, that was me all of February.) But even on the days when we didn't want to be there, Little Flower was still our second home. It was still a place where we had friends and felt secure, and that's going

to be the hard part: leaving a place of comfort and beginning a new chapter of our lives.

Whether we feel it or not, we are ready. We have taken the notes, finished the countless Religion quizzes, memorized the Nicene Creed, (my class knows about that), and if you are in my Lit class, you know that we have diagrammed enough sentences. We have made so many good memories here such as going to Camp Tecumseh, Olivia getting Destiny's teeth stuck in her forehead, my yogurt explosion in kindergarten, our trip to D.C, Club Chubbies (parents ask your kids about this later) and so many more. As Dr. Seuss once said, "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened." Sure, we can be sad that we are graduating from Little Flower, but we can't let that grief take over us. We must smile and reflect on our memories and look forward to the next 4 years of our lives. They will be exciting ones because, parents brace yourselves, we will start high school, make new friends, learn to drive, become official adults, fill out college applications and once again graduate and prepare ourselves for the next chapter of our lives.

Some say that high school is the most important time in a person's life, and if this is true, we can rest assured knowing that we are prepared for it. I would like to take this moment to thank all of our teachers who have had the patience to teach us. Our teachers have given countless hours to help our class be successful, and it is because of them that we are all sitting here today. Thank you.

I would also like to take a moment and thank our parents for the support they

Students and parents line the doors as eighth graders leave the building for the final time. IMFD Station 23 gives them a wet send off.

have given us. Whether we needed help with our math homework (I'm sure my mom remembers very vividly those nights) or if we needed them to drive us somewhere, our parents have sacrificed so much for us to send us to a Catholic school, and I think we should realize this more often. We tend to take our parents for granted, so let us now take a moment to thank you.

And now, I say thank you to the class of 2019. Over these past years, we have grown to be a family, and it's going to be hard to go our separate ways. If there is anything I want you to remember as you go on to high school, it is this: when you think of your days at Little Flower, reflect on both the good and the bad. Reflect on the lessons you learned and the memories you made, and never forget that you are not alone! You have a support system behind you. I also want you to ask yourself this question. What would life be like without change? It would be boring. Sometimes, we have to just go for it. We have to do what we are afraid to do. And sometimes that means doing things out of our comfort zone like we are doing now--leaving a place of comfort and venturing out into the unknown. I want you all to know that it is perfectly okay to be scared and not have everything figured out right now. As Malcolm X once said, "Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."

Thank you.



TEACHER PROFILE: GARY ASHER

Little Flower is thrilled to welcome back Mr. Gary Asher. Gary taught here from 1980-2005 and is now returning as our Assistant Principal.

1. When were you previously at Little Flower? What have you been doing since?

I was at Little Flower for 25 yrs, until 2005. Since then I have served as assistant principal at Holy Cross School and St. Philip

Neri School, principal at St. Philip Neri, and most recently middle school language arts teacher at Holy Cross.

2. What are some of your favorite LF memories?

My favorite memories are the many 8th grade trips to Washington DC and the annual Living Stations.

3. What initially drew you to Little Flower? What made you want to return?

Its strong values of community and family drew me to Little Flower and had a huge influence on me during my time there. It is those same values that made me want to return.

4. Briefly, how would you describe your philosophy about teaching?

All students are unique, and their individual needs and talents come first. I try to take inspiration from Mother Theodore Guerin's words "Love the children first, then teach them."

5. What are some interesting, perhaps unusual, things about you?

I sang with the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir for many years which allowed me to perform with Christopher Plummer and George Takai, and I even danced on stage with Sandi Patty.

AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP

In August 2007 Miss Anita Mendis came to Little Flower straight out of Ohio State University to teach our middle school Math and Science. Anita constantly looked for ways to grow professionally and improve our school program. She was instrumental in helping to create our Maker's Space, she greatly improved our Science Fair, and she introduced Maker's Fair to our eighth grade. She was a leader in our move to Project Lead the Way and guided students in their annual Weather Balloon Launch. Anita has become a real leader at Little Flower.

Recently, Mrs. Anita Navin (married in 2012) also took a big step in her personal life. On

Thursday, May 23, 2019, Anita took part in the Naturalization Oath Ceremony and became an American citizen. As she noted, "It was a very special moment to take the Oath, the pledge of Allegiance and to sing the National Anthem for the first time. It felt like I was sharing this moment with the immigrants who came before me at Ellis Island, a history that I am proud to now share with all of you. I was also reminded of my rights and responsibilities and embraced them as their importance was cultivated being part of the Little Flower family."



Congratulations to Anita!!!

ANNUAL FUND 2018-19 UPDATE

As you know, we are looking to increase security in our school building with proceeds from our Annual Fund. Since November 1, the Annual Fund has generated over \$90,000 in donations!



We are currently requesting estimates for a new buzz-in system and additional security cameras. We are also in the early stages of applying for a grant that could generate a matching gift of \$35,000 to be used for

security. The grant applications are accepted in the fall. Once we find out if we will receive the grant, we will begin the security project, which will also include replacing many interior doors.

Thank you to all who have donated to the Annual Fund, and we invite those who have not yet donated to consider a donation to this year's Annual Fund.

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

SUMMERFEST 2019

Summerfest 2019 – “Summerfest of Love” – is in the books!

We were blessed with great weather all three days despite a less-than-favorable-looking forecast for Saturday. The weather and excellent attendance led to a very successful festival, realizing a net profit of over \$65,000!

The festival leadership team stepped up to the plate as usual, and all of the volunteers pulled together to make it a truly enjoyable weekend. The leadership team even entertained festival goers by performing a 60's-themed flash

mob dance on Saturday night! Several different bands kept the music flowing throughout the weekend, and our friends at Steer-In once again generously supplied our inside dinner for Saturday night.

Profit from this year's festival is funding necessary repairs and improvements to the rectory. A new upper roof is being installed, and a cooling system is in the works.

Our goals for next year include increased participation in the raffle and volunteerism. We always love to see alumni who have come home for a visit!



A group of former teachers and staff gather to enjoy Summerfest 2019. Many alumni will surely recognize some of these faces!



Eighth Graders present Living Stations of the Cross



May Crowning.
First Communicants assist Eighth graders in Crowning Mary

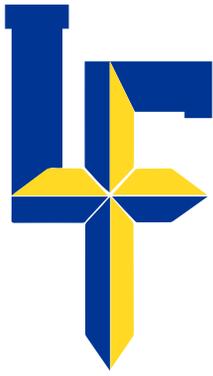
ALL IN THE FAMILY



Mya (right), a fourth generation Little Flower student, and her sister Macy (left, soon to join her). Mom, Jessica Wallpe Freudenstein (class of 2005) has returned to Little Flower as our resource teacher.

FOURTH GRADE AT CAMP TECUMSEH





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.

Save the Date

LITTLE FLOWER CATHOLIC SCHOOL ANNUAL ALL-CLASS REUNION

Saturday, November 2, 2019
5:00 p.m. Mass with dinner following

Formal Invitation and details to come!
Alumni, please plan to join us!