## The Torch

## www.aquinas-catholic.com

Aquinas Families,

## August 2023

Welcome back! The $62^{\text {nd }}$ Academic School Year is off and running! It is a joy to have your sons and daughters back in the building. The summer was too quiet without them.

Holy Family ELC Openings - On August $4^{\text {th }}$, sadly we had to reduce our numbers at Holy Family due to a lack of employees. The Center is required by Nebraska State Law to follow ratios (employees to children) or Holy Family could be shut down. We have hired two full-time employees and a part time employee. We continue to need both full-time and part-time workers at Holy Family. Again, even if your availability is only a couple of days a week, please consider putting in an application. Online applications can be submitted on the Aquinas website: https://aquinas-catholic.com/careers/.

Cheerleading - For the first time in twenty years we have a Spirit Coach and Cheerleaders for the 2023-2024 school year. Last Friday, we had an awesome Pep Rally teaching the students the new cheers and getting them out of their seats. Let's build up the school spirit this year.

Security - We are in the process of completing some much-needed security upgrades for both the Elementary and $\mathrm{MS} / \mathrm{HS}$ buildings. The hope is to have these projects completed during the month of October.

First Vows - Just a few weeks ago, Sr. Guadalupe (Marissa DeWispelare, Class of '13) took her first vows as a Marian Sister of the Diocese of Lincoln. Sr. Guadalupe has completed an initial year as a postulant and a year as a novice (this is the year she actually wears a habit and takes a religious name). This begins the next stage of discernment in preparation for her final vows. As a professed member of the community she will be assigned to duties at the Motherhouse or elsewhere in the Diocese.

Thank You - As I mentioned last month we had many projects that we worked on this summer. A big thank you to Jason Campbell (tearing out broken concrete on the north side of the building), Craig Svoboda (drywalling and modding of the new counselor office), Scott Samek (wiring for the new counselor office and new principal office), Custom Edge Curbing (new flower beds around the chapel and curbing) and Tom Pohl (cutting our old water tank into pieces to be scrapped). Their time and generosity is greatly appreciated.

Food - Thank you to Amanda Stutzman and Becky Romshek (feeding teachers and providing donuts the $2^{\text {nd }}$ day of school), Bobbi Schmid (providing chicken and beverages for our teacher back to school dinner) and El Centenario (lunch for new teacher orientation and lunch for teacher in-service).

Counselor - I cannot stress enough how important this new position is to our school. As I said back in May, the new school counselor is there to be a bridge for your student to his teachers and a bridge for parents with any issues both academic or personal. Please utilize Mrs. Miriovsky's skills and time as we try to better serve our students and you the parents.

Thank you for sending your children to a Catholic School. Enjoy the Labor Day weekend!


## Fr. Michael Ventre

Middle/High School Principal update- September 2023
And just like that, the 2023-2024 school year is off and ruming. There was no proverbial dipping of the toe into the water this time around, it seems more like we were collectively picked up and dumped straight into the deep end with no choice but to swim. We've got stodents in the building, we've got an actual bell system to signal the beginning and end of class periods, we've got athletic contesta being rescheduled due to $110+$ degree heat indexes, we've got education happening. It feels like we've got it all. But most importantly, we've got Jesus. This year's theme of Truly Present obviously references the True Presence of Jesus Christ sacramentally in the Eucharist, but it doesn't end there. I have challenged our teachers and our students, and I now extend the same challenge to our parents. As we go through this school year, take advantage of the dioceae-wide Eucharistic opportumities to deepen your relationship with Jesus. But my challenge to you is to also make a concerted effort to be truly present to those around you; your families, your coworkers, your friends. Enjoy gpending intentional time with others growing in Catholic camaraderie Put down the phones, turn off the TV, and have meaningfil conversations. Get to know something new about a coworker you didn't know before. Have a heart-to-heart conversation with your children. Plan an activity for the family not inwolving technology. Be truly present to those around you, and avail yourself of the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

## Current news

- Community service hours requirement- This year we will be reinstituting a community service hours requirement for students. This program is intended to instill a service-oriented mindset in our students; service for their school, service for their parishes, and service for their community. A quick summary of the service program: high school students will complete 15 hours of service each year, for a total of 60 hours to be eligible for graduation, middle school students will complete 10 hours of service each year, for a total of 30 hours to be eligible for promotion to high school. The required totals for graduation or promotion will be prorated (i.e. current $7^{\text {th }}$ grade students will need to complete 20 total hours- 10 in $7^{\text {h }}$ grade, 10 in $8^{\text {th }}$ grade- to be eligible for promotion to high schooll. Service may not be done for relatives, a for-profit business, or a business/organization by whom the student is also employed. Service hours will be submitted to a student's House teacher(s), who will hellp the student track their hours year after year. Forms to submit service hours will be available from House teachers.
- Contact info request- Parents, please make sure to log on to the Powerschool Parent Portal and make any updates necessary to your contact information so we are able to contact you. Phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses sometimes change but don't get updated on Powerschool, so we are unable to get in contact with you until we become aware of the change. This is also how we create the School Messenger notices that go out (i.e. texts emails and phone calls in case of a snow day), so it is very important we have the correct contact information. If you have questions about how to do so, please contact Laura Adair by either calling the school or emailing laura-adaireicdolinc. net. Thank you!


## Upcoming events

- Retreats- HS-Wed. Sept. $6^{\text {th }}, 6^{\text {th }}$ grade- Wed. Sept. $13^{\text {th }}, 8^{\text {th }}$ grade- Thur. Sept. $21^{1 \text { m }}$
- Homecoming week- September $11^{\text {th }}-16^{\text {th }}$


## Schedule reminders

- No schooll- Monday September $4^{\text {th }}$ (Labor Day)
- No school- Monday September $18^{\text {th }}$ (Teacher professional development)
- 1pm dismissal and 5AT Day-Wednesday September 20 ${ }^{\text {th }}$

God Bless!


## Aquinas Cathalic Schaals!

## Thank you to the Home and School Group for the donuts the first week of school!



Thank you to everyone that helped get the schools ready for the school year!!

A lot of things were moved around and changed!
Thank you to the Frasher
Family for the supplies for the Botany Class!

Thank you to Erin \& Melissa Hotovy at ACE Hardware for the Response Buckets in case of emergencies!


Aquinas Catholic Elementary School Picture Day is Friday, September 1.
You have the choice of over 60 backgrounds, and you may also use more than one background (and pose) in your package. This can all be previewed online when you receive your proofs. If you prefer the traditional blue background, that is one of the choices. Due to the variety of choices, all orders must be placed online, but if you prefer to pay with cash or check, that option is available.

Proofs: About 2 weeks after Picture Day you will receive a Proof of your student's 2 poses. The Proof has the Website and Password to place your order online.

If you do not wish to pay with a credit card: Still place the order online and select Cash or Check as the method of payment upon checkout. Place cash or check in the Payment Envelope that came with your Proof. Write your Order Confirmation Number from your online order on the Payment Envelope.

Family Plan: When you pay for two children in your family, this qualifies you for a FREE package of equal or lesser value for all other children in your family. If you qualify for the Family Plan, here is how to obtain your FREE packages: After placing your two paid orders, you may place your additional orders online, but instead of paying, choose payment type: FAMILY, and click APPLY, and submit. Then simply email info@pegasus-si.com with the two Order Confirmation Numbers that have been paid in full along with the Order Confirmation Number for the order that is FREE. Please be sure to order and send email prior to the Due Date on the proof to avoid any late fees - Do NOT wait for all student's proofs as deadline dates may vary if they attend another school or are a Retake. Your FREE order is ON HOLD until you email the Confirmation Numbers.

Retakes: If you prefer to have a retake, you may do so for any reason on Retake Day. Wait until you get your RETAKE Proof to place an order at that time. If you decide to order from your original Proof rather than the Retake, you'll receive a late fee, as it is past the Order Due Date.

Due Date: On your proof is an Order Due Date. If you submit your order AFTER the Due Date, you'll have a \$10 late fee and late orders can take up to $6-8$ weeks after ordering.

Pegasus School Images
Cut here-
Note to separated or divorced parents: Mom and Dad may receive different PASSWORDS/Proofs ONLY IF your student tells the photographer: "I need 2 sets of proofs"
To help your student remember to request this, you may use this Reminder Slip.
ONLY For parents living separately: Fill out information below \& have your student give this note to photographer while sitting at the camera for school pictures on

Aquinas Catholic Elementary School Picture Day is Friday, September 1.
Please provide TWO Order PROOF FORMS for:
STUDENT'S NAME: $\qquad$ Grade $\qquad$
to allow Mom and Dad to order separately.


## Kindergarten

Kindergarten is off to a great year of learning! We were very excited to have our first guest reader Mr. Fontenot who makes stories come alive through different Character voices! Looking forward to a great year!!

Mrs. Fozzard $\ddagger$ Mrs. Miller


# MONARCH STREAMING Sponsor Form 2023-24 

## Business Information

Name $\qquad$
Address $\qquad$
City, State, Zip $\qquad$
Contact Person
Name $\qquad$
Email $\qquad$ Phone $\qquad$

## Sponsorship Opportunities

$\square$ *PLATINUM: \$150/YR
$\square$ MONARCH SUPPORTER: $\$ 100 /$ YR*GOLD: \$500/YR
*BLACK: \$250/YR
*All video commercials, logos, etc. for your business can be emailed to Mr. Tony Smith at tony-smith@cdolinc.net. Please include HD or high-resolution copies of each item

Signature $\qquad$ Date $\qquad$

Please return completed form to Aquinas Catholic MS/HS Office, mail to PO Box 149 David City, NE 68632, or email the form to michaela-moravec@cdolinc.net

Please make checks out to "Aquinas Catholic Schools"
Orders are due before September 30th


The fourth graders were all smiles on their first day of school. The students were excited and ready to kick off another school year. We are off to a great start!

Ms. Koranda \& Mrs. Romshek


## Science Olympiad

Any 6th - 8th students interested in Science Olympiad need to write a paragraph about why they want to be in Science Olympiad and why they would make a great team member, and then give to Mrs. Mayo. Practices will be 3:30-4:00 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Any High Schoolers interested can also let Mrs. Mayo know so we can try to get a High School team put together. Attend whatever practices you can but mostly will be responsible for all preparations on your events.

Competitions will be Sat. Feb. 17 at Henry Doorly Zoo, Sat. March 16th at Brownelle Talbot School, and Sat. April 27th and UNL East Campus which is State competition.


Middle School Science started with a get to know you consensogram activity where student voted for favorite subjects, food, sport, and their feeling about starting back to school. We discovered most of us were feeling "just OK" about school, and the subjects were pretty evenly favorited, while PE was the favorite Specials class. The one that surprised Mrs. Mayo and other teachers was that students like working with a partner or alone more than working in groups. All grades are learning the 7 steps of Scientific Method and Claim Evidence Reasoning (CER). We did an experiment to see if we could remove the $M$ from an $M \& M$. You would be amazed that the $M$ will float on water as the M\&M dissolves in water. We did more practice of writing a CER by watching short videos that were trying to prove something, like Can penguins fly? , Are there shoes that can make you walk on water? , Does drinking Gatorade make you a baller like Michael Jordan? and more. Soon the 6th graders will be growing mold and the 7th graders will be learning about types of rocks and the rock cycle. Finally the 8th graders are going to learn about cells and all their organelles and their functions. We will be starting the Tower Garden again this year as soon as we purchase new grow lights, nutrients, and seedlings. If you wish to support the process contact Mrs. Mayo to see what you can do. Come in and visit to see all the fun we are having learning about our scientific world.

This is my body
which has been given up for you.
Luke 22:19

## Aquinas Catholic Schools

 September 2023USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider

TRULY PRESENT

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Milk \& water offered Daily Fruit/Veggie/ Salad Bar Offered Daily | Menu is Subject to Change and will be posted for students knowledge |  |  | 1 <br> Cheese Omelet Mini Donuts Yogurt Parfait Oven Potatoes Banana |
| 4 <br> No School Labor Day | 5 <br> Walking Taco Tater Tots Corn Churro Grapes | 6 <br> Chicken Nuggets Jo Jo's Green Beans Roll Apple Slush | 7 <br> Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap Sun Chips Cucumber Salad Pineapple | 8 <br> Bosco Stick Marinara Cup Baby Carrots Rice Krispy Bar Strawberries |
| 11 Fiestada Pizza Tri Tater Corn Tropical Fruit | 12 <br> Meatball, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Green Beans Roll Oranges | 13 Chicken Alfredo Rotini Noodles California Blend Veggies Garlic Breadstick Pineapple | 14 <br> Pulled Pork Sandwich on WG Bun BBQ Sauce Baked Beans Cooked Carrots | 15 <br> Cheese Pizza <br> Tri Tater Baby Carrots Cookie <br> Watermelon |
| $\begin{gathered} 18 \\ \text { No School } \end{gathered}$ | 19 Bacon Cheeseburger French Fries Baked Beans Pears | 20 Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes Gravy Corn WG Roll Apple Slush | 21 <br> Hot Ham \& Cheese <br> Hash Brown Sun Chips Tropical Fruit | 25 <br> Meatless Chili WG Cinnamon Roll Baby Carrots Crackers Apple Crisp |
| 26 <br> Creamed Chicken Mashed Potatoes Mixed Veggies WG Roll Mandarin Oranges | 27 <br> Turkey Sub Condiments Chips Celery Sticks w/ PB Grapes | 28 <br> Beef Taco Salad Condiments Roasted Corn Relish NC Doritos Rice Krispy Bar | 29 <br> Scalloped <br> Potatoes and Ham Garlic Breadstick Peas Peaches | 30 <br> Lasagna Roll Up Marinara Sauce Corn Garlic Toast Fruited Jell-o |

AQUINAS FIRE NIGHTS will be the second SUNOAY of each month from 6 p.m. to 8p.m. The first FIRE NIGHT will be September $10^{11}$ with a campfire Smores, outdoor games and NOREI

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION (accompaniment) is offered for all faculty, staff and students and is required for all $10{ }^{\circ}$ through $12^{\text {n }}$ grades.

CHAPEL TIME during the school day for confessions and prayer time will be available during HouSE time on Mondays and Wednesdays! Father Graeve will be aviilable for Confessions.

MARCH for LIFE in Washington D.C. trip will be January $16^{4}$ to January 27". The Diocese of Lincoln will have the registration open within the next couple of weeks! MORE information will follow!

ROME Pilgrimage Nebraska High School Pilgrimage | June 8-18, 2024 Cost: \$3500. Please contact Mrs. Nemec for more information.


## Dear Parents,

TEC Retreats are very impactful for Juniors, Seniors and second semester Sophomores! Students literally never regret going!

In a meeting with Campus ministers from around the diocese, it was said that the retreats will fill up quickly as many students are excited to attend!

Take a look at your student's calendar and register early! Ask your student to INVITE a friend to go the same weekend! God bless you!

With prayers for you and your family, Beth Nemec

| TYPRS OF <br> For Coun | ing Services |
| :---: | :---: |
| Self <br> A student may ask to visit the counselor if he or she is regularly: <br> - Feeling very upset and can't concentrate on school <br> - Dealing with a difficult social, behavioral, or emotional concern | Administration <br> The principal may refer a child to the counselor if they feel that the student is referred to their office due to social/emotional issues that may be better resolved in counseling than through the disciplinary process. |
| Teachers <br> A teacher may refer your child if he or she is: <br> - in an agitated state <br> - Frequently having a difficulty socially or emotionally <br> - Regularly exhibiting emotions or behaviors that are keeping him or her from being able to focus on school | Parents <br> You may request that your child visit the counselor by calling or sending in a note. Some reasons that you might request a meeting are: <br> - Your family is going through a difficult life event (a loss, conflict, recent move) <br> - Your child is going through frequent, recurrent distruptive emotions (anxiety or sadness) <br> - Your child is having difficulty forming friendships |



## Dear 2024 Seniors and Parents of 2024 Seniors,

Next year your son/daughter will be a senior. One of the most lasting and treasured reminders of this year will be the senior pictures which will be taken over the summer or the first part of the school year. You will be responsible for getting the following senior pictures to Mrs. Pokorny by November 1, 2023.

You need to have your photographer email your colored formal pose picture in a vertical billfold sized JPEG file at $\mathbf{2 5 0}$ dpi to me for the yearbook, composite, alumni board, press releases, and class video. This picture should be the colored formal indoor pose with a plain background. (This should be a head shot with no hands or lower arms visible please.) You are responsible for making sure the school has this by November 1st. They may email this to Mrs. Pokorny at
teresa-pokorny@cdolinc.net
If we do not have your print by November 1st, you may miss out on being in the composite, yearbook, etc. or have to pay for the late fee to be included. Be sure to schedule your pictures to be taken by September $1_{\text {st }}$.

As we at Aquinas should always strive to live up to Christ's example of modesty and Christian decency, we ask that no inappropriate pictures be submitted for publication.

This would include:
Females-no off-the-shoulder dresses or blouses
Females-no tops with an immodest/low cut (cut of the top must be 1 inch above the line of cleavage); no spaghetti or thin straps on shoulders for dresses or blouses

Males-wear a collared shirt and tie. (A jacket is preferred but optional.)
Nothing that goes against the current dress code, for example-tattoo/
body piercing, hair length (MUST be above the collar of the shirt), 'fad' hair styles, facial hair, etc.
*Remember that by a colored formal pose, we are asking for a head shot with no hands or lower arms visible in the picture. The background should be plain/one color and NO outdoor shots.

Again, remember to have your photographer email your colored formal vertical pose picture in a billfold sized JPEG file at $\mathbf{2 5 0}$ dpi to Mrs. Pokorny by November 1st.

The administration reserves the right to refuse any portrait deemed unacceptable or immodest. Please read and follow the instructions we have provided and there should be no problems.

Please note that you MUST sign the publicity permission form in PowerSchool (under Forms) when you register your student at the beginning of the school year in order to have the senior picture as part of our composite, yearbook, and any other publications who might ask for the formal shot.

If you don't plan to have senior pictures taken, Ms. Brown will take a formal head shot picture, but this must be arranged with her before November.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pokorny at 367-3175. Best wishes and have an enjoyable summer.
Sincerely,
Teresa Pokorny
Senior Class Moderator Aquinas High School

## 2023 Booster Club Membership Drive

In the coming months you have a chance to become members of the Aquinas Booster club by using this sign up sheet that you can send back to Aquinas, or you can contact your parish representatives.

Business Membership Price- \$40,00

Monarch Membership
Price- $\mathbf{\$ 1 8 0 . 0 0}$

Individual Monarch Card Price- $\$ 90$

Gold Card Price-Donation

Schedule poster, booster sign. Members printed on back of basketball programs.

Immediate family members get into all Aquinas events for the year.
GREAT Deal, admission prices are $\$ 6.00$ \& $\$ 4.00$

Gets one adult person into all Aquinas events for the year.

Any Aquinas Patron over 65 can get one.
Send in name and address.

Detach along the dotted line and send to Ron Mimick, Aquinas High, PO Box 149, David City, NE 68632

Name(s)
Gold Card
Business Membership $\qquad$ Price $\$ \mathbf{4 0 . 0 0}$

Monarch Membership $\qquad$ Price $\mathbf{\$ 1 8 0 . 0 0}$ or $\mathbf{\$ 9 0 . 0 0}$ for an individual.
Family members names needed for individual cards (these will be sent)

## Mailing Address

## Detach along the dotted line, include check or money \& send to:

Ron Mimick, Aquinas, PO Box 149
David City, NE 68632

## TRULY PRESENT



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Change in schedule |  |  |  |  | 1 <br> ELEM Baptism Mass \& Picture Day 7:00PM FB vs Cedar Catholic | 2 <br> 9:00AM SB Catholic Invite @ Wahoo |
| 3 | 4 <br> LABOR DAY <br> NO SCHOOL <br> Band <br> @ Schuyler Parade | 5 <br> 4:30PM SB <br> vs Crete/FCEMF @ Crete 5:00PM MS FB <br> @ Archbishop Bergan 5:30PM VB vs Logan View <br> 5:30PM JV FB Archbishop Bergan | $6$ <br> High School Retreat | 7 <br> 4:00PM CC <br> @ Archbishop Bergan 5:00PM SB @ GACC (West Point) | 8 <br> 7:00 PM FB vs L. Lutheran @ Pius X HS | 9 <br> ACT Testing 9:00AM SB <br> Cass County Invite @ Louisville 9:00AM V VB <br> @ Friend Invite |
| 10 <br> Ulysses Immaculate Conception Parish Dinner <br> 6-8PM HS FIRE Night | 11 4:30PM MS VB <br> vs Centennial <br> 6:30PM JV FB <br> vs Battle Creek <br> 6:30PM MS/HS Council Meeting <br> 6:30PM ELM Council Meeting | 12 <br> 5:00PM SB vs Lakeview 5:00PM VB @ Scotus | 13 <br> 6th Grade Retreat Activity Pictures | 14 <br> Mid Quarter <br> 4:30PM MS VB vs Archbishop Bergan 4:30PM CC @ Scotus 5:00PM MS FB vs Scotus 5:00PM SB vs Pierce | 15 <br> ACT Registration Due | 16 <br> 9:00AM SB @ DCHS Inv. 9:00AM JV VB <br> @ North Bend Invite 9:00 VVB @ Central City 12:00PM FB <br> vs Grand Island CC (Homecoming) |
| 17 <br> Shelby Sacred Heart Parish Dinner and Auction | 18 NO SCHOOL <br> Teacher In-Service 4:30PM MS VB <br> @ Schuyler <br> 6:30PM JV FB @ Wahoo <br> 7:00PM Board of Advisors Meeting | 19 <br> 5:00PM SB Highway 91 @ Leigh <br> 5:30PM VB vs GICC | 20 <br> 1:00 Dismissal for SAT (Student Assistance Time) | 21 <br> 8th Grade Retreat 4:30PM CC @ North Bend 5:00PM SB@ North Bend 4:30PM VB <br> @ Friend/EB Tri | 22 <br> ELEM Spirit Day 4:00PM Youth Cheer Camp <br> @ AHS <br> 7:00PM FB vs Louisville | 23 <br> 9:00AM SB <br> @ Central City Invite 9:00AM VB <br> @ DCHS Invite |
| 24 | 25 4:30PM MS VB <br> @ Bishop Neumann 5:00PM Res. VB vs Clarkson-Leigh 5:00PM MS FB vs Lincoln Christian 6:30PM JV FB vs Lincoln Christian | 26 <br> 4:30PM SB Polk County vs Osceola (Senior Night) | $27$ <br> Penance Service | 28 <br> 4:30PM CC AHS Invite 5:30PM VB vs Neumann (VB \& CC Senior Night) | 29 <br> 7:00PM FB @ David City ELEM Spirit Day | $30$ <br> 9:00AM VB <br> @ Clarkson-Leigh Invite |

## TRULY PRESENT

 Aquinas Catholic SchoolsHave you ordered your 2023-24 yearbook?
September 1 - September 30 à $\$ 60$
October 1 - November 30 à $\$ 70$
December 1 - January 31 à $\$ 80$
February 1 - Mareh 31 ~\$85

Please list each student \& grade separately, and return to the school. If you have questions please contact Ms. Brown at (402) 367-3175 or jean-brown@cdolinc.net
$\qquad$ Grade $\qquad$

Student $\qquad$ Grade $\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$


## Aquinas Catholic <br> Elementary <br> 1026 5TH ST <br> David City, NE 68632 <br> 402-367-3669 <br> Aquinas Catholic MS/HS <br> 3420 MN Rd. PO Box 149 <br> David City, NE 68632 <br> 402-367-3175 <br> www.aquinas-catholic.com

Holy Family Early Learning Center
622 J Street
David City, NE 68632
402-367-3062

