

CCS LINES

MARCH 2025



A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Financial Assistance Available:

As the calendar turns to March it is time to register for the 25-26 school year. I highly encourage our families to apply for financial assistance. In the last two years new sources of revenue have emerged with the Opportunity Scholarship Nebraska and LB 1402 that appropriated dollars to school choice here in Nebraska. We also have several scholarship opportunities and financial assistance programs with all four schools in the CCS. A link to that financial aid registration has been sent to all families.

If you know families that are considering sending their children to our schools please encourage them to reach out to me or the building principal to set up a time to visit.

I also want to welcome Mr. Terry Kathol to Scotus Central Catholic. Mr. Kathol will be the new principal at Scotus and Mr. Vancura will move into the Assistant Principal/Activities Director role. Mr. Kathol is currently the principal at Lincoln Pius X High School and will bring a high level of experience with him to our school. I look forward to working with him.

Have a great March and here's to warmer weather!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Matt Niedbalski, Chair
Sarah S. Pillen, 1st Vice Chair
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Peg Niedbalski
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jeff Ohnoutka

PRINCIPALS

Amy Evans
Amy Sokol
Brady Vancura
Cheryl Zoucha



April 12th,
2025

Gala Help Needed

Check-in & Check-out Clerks
Auction Fulfillment
Kitchen Help
Student Server Supervisors
Email: eschmidt@colcath.org

Donations & Fundraising:

- **Annual Appeal 2024-25:** An additional \$2,450 in support received.
- **2025 CCS Gala:** 145 seats filled so far with 9 tables with advertising benefits, 8 general tables, and 9 single tickets. Our goal is to fill 400 seats. Sponsorships & underwriting total \$40,045.
- **CCS SEF 17:** Recent receipts of \$9,927.92, bringing the total to \$776,694.10. The campaign began in 2024, with pledge collections continuing through 2026.

**2025 Gala
Co-Chairs:**

Mike & Kim Dreesen
Fred & Carrie Maguire
Jack & Lisa Meers

**2025 Gala
Vice-Chairs:**

Anthony & Jennie Krueger
Chad & Julie Urkoski
Travis & Tami Weber

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Directors**

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Dennis Grennan, 2VC
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**CCS Executive
Director**

Jeff Ohnoutka

CCS Principals

Amy Evans
Amy Sokol
Brady Vancura
Cheryl Zoucha

**CCS Advancement
Department Staff**

Amarha Bridger
Erin Schmidt
John Schueth

Join Us for Gala 2025!

Gala 2025 is more than just an event, it is a vital part of how we provide an exceptional, faith-based education at an affordable cost.

Tuition vs. Actual Cost

Did you know tuition at Scotus is just under \$4,000, but the actual cost to educate each student exceeds \$10,200 annually? The difference is covered through parish support, endowment support, and fundraising, with our largest fundraising event being the Gala. Your involvement helps bridge the gap between tuition and the actual cost of education, ensuring every student continues to receive a top-quality education.

Supporting Our Schools

This year, the Gala will provide \$10,000 to each Columbus Catholic elementary school. The remaining funds will support the budget at Scotus Central Catholic, helping to maintain and enhance the educational experience for all our students.

A Community Event

The Gala is more than a fundraiser, it is a chance for our school community to come together, celebrate, and support our mission. Attending, donating, or volunteering shows your commitment to every child in our schools.

Making a Difference

Funds raised at the Gala enhance curriculum, improve technology, and provide essential resources for our students. This is our opportunity to invest in their future.

Be part of something bigger - Join us for Gala 2025 and make an impact!

JOIN US AT GALA 2025!
SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025

SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC

BOYS AND GIRLS SUB-DISTRICT BASKETBALL



The Scotus **girls basketball** team is celebrating a huge **accomplishment** as **C-1 6 District Champions**, securing their spot at the **NSAA State Tournament!** The **Shamrocks** showed grit and **determination** throughout the season, overcoming tough opponents and **rising** to every **challenge**. With strong defense, smart play, and **relentless teamwork**, the Shamrocks are ready to make their mark at state. They will take the court in **Lincoln** on **Wednesday, March 5**. Let's pack the stands and show our **Shamrock pride** as they begin their state tournament journey. Congratulations and good luck, Shamrocks!

The Scotus **boys basketball** team is preparing for a thrilling challenge as they play in **Cozad** on **Monday, March 3**, at **6PM** for the **final district** round. A victory would secure the Shamrocks a spot in the **NSAA State Tournament**, and they're determined to make it happen. After a season filled with **hard work** and **progress**, the team has demonstrated their dedication and teamwork, proving they're ready to compete. As they gear up for this critical game, their **passion** and determination will be on full display. Let's **rally** behind them and cheer them on as they fight for a spot at state! Good luck, Shamrocks!



STATE WRESTLING

The **Scotus Central Catholic wrestling team** wrapped up an impressive season, showcasing their talent and determination on the mat. **Seven Shamrock wrestlers** qualified for the state tournament at **CHI Health Center** in **Omaha**, proving the strength and depth of the program. A special congratulations goes to **Favio Rivero**, who battled his way to the podium and earned a **6th place** medal at state! While the other **six wrestlers** battled fiercely against tough competition, representing Scotus with grit and determination, their hard work and perseverance throughout the season were truly commendable. Though they didn't medal, their efforts on and off the mat showed the **heart of a Shamrock**. We are proud of each athlete for their dedication and effort. Great job, Shamrocks!



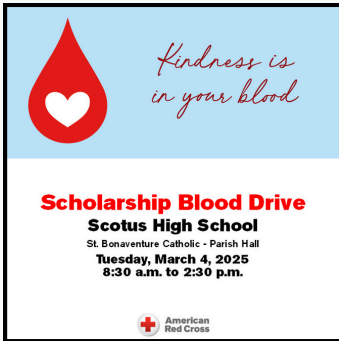
STATE CHEER



The **Scotus Central Catholic cheer team** had an outstanding performance at the state tournament held at the Heartland Event Center in Grand Island. Competing against strong teams from across the state, the team secured an impressive **4th place** in the **Non-Tumbling** division and **6th place** in the **GameDay** category. In addition to their impressive placements, the **team** was also **honored** with the **Academic Excellence Award**, recognizing their commitment to both athletics and academics. Congratulations to the team for their hard work and outstanding achievements!

SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC

NHS: RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



The National Honor Society is hosting a blood drive with the American Red Cross on **March 4th**, from **8:30 AM to 2:30 PM** at the **St. Bonaventure Parish Center**. Donating blood is a simple way to save lives in our community and make a meaningful impact. Whether you're a first-time donor or a seasoned pro, your contribution is invaluable and can help countless individuals in need. We encourage you to sign up in advance to secure your preferred time slot. Remember to bring a valid ID, eat a healthy meal beforehand, and drink plenty of water. To sign up for a time, please contact Wendy Shotkoski at [email]. Let's come together as a community and make a difference—your donation could help save a life!

STUDENT COUNCIL: MR. SHAMROCK CONTEST

Get ready for the annual Mr. Shamrock pageant, sponsored by the Student Council, happening on **March 2nd at 7 PM in Memorial Hall!** This exciting and spirited event will feature contestants showcasing their talents, creativity, and school pride in a fun and engaging pageant format. **Entry** is just **\$2 or two non-perishable food items**, which will be donated to the Simon House to help those in need. Your contribution will make a real difference, so bring your donations and spread the love! It's a great way to enjoy some entertainment, support a worthy cause, and have a fantastic time with your school community! Don't miss out—bring your friends and come enjoy the show!

2025
Mr. Shamrock
Contest
Sunday,
March 2, 7:00 p.m.
Memorial Hall
Cost: \$2 or 2 food items
(food for the Simon House)



ONCE UPON A TIME: A MAGICAL EVENING AWAITS!

Get ready for a night to remember! We are excited to invite you to **Once Upon a Time**, this year's **Prom**, where elegance and enchantment come together for an unforgettable evening with friends, food, and dancing. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 5th!** The evening will begin with **Mass** at **4:30 PM** at **St. Bonaventure**, followed by **dinner** at **6:30 PM**, and **dancing** from **7:30 PM to 10:30 PM**. Please **RSVP** by **Wednesday, March 26th** to ensure your spot at this magical celebration. We can't wait to share this special evening with you – a night straight out of a fairytale!

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION OPEN

Columbus Catholic Schools is excited to announce that **financial aid applications** for the 2025-2026 school year are now open! The process takes just 15-25 minutes, and there is a \$45 fee.

CCS Financial Aid (Grades K-12) – Due by **May 2**

Opportunity Scholarship Nebraska (Grades K-12) – Due by **April 10** (apply through your same FACTS account to avoid a second fee)

Children's Scholarship Fund (Grades K-8) – Due by **May 2** (returning applicants, please use your existing account)

Apply now: <https://columbus-catholic.org/tuitionassistance/>

No late applications accepted!

Columbus Catholic Schools

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR
FINANCIAL AID!

NEED TO KNOW:

- ✓ For the 2025-2026 School Year
- ✓ Multiple Opportunities
- ✓ Completely Online
- ✓ No Late Applications Accepted

SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It feels like we are finally turning the corner into spring weather which means that Lent is upon us. Lent is a great time for us to reflect on our own personal faith journeys, as well as to help others find their path as well. We get the opportunity to walk alongside the Lord through His suffering, death, and Resurrection. During Lent, students at Scotus will participate in the Stations of the Cross 3 different times. The first two times will take place at St. Bon's, and the third time will be the Living Stations of the Cross in our gym, which are acted out by our students. All students will also receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on either April 1st or 2nd during the school day. We also have a group of students who will participate in the Lenten Retreat at the Cloisters on the Platte and the Holy Family Shrine. This retreat provides students with dedicated time for prayer and reflection on Jesus' journey of Holy Week.



On March 7th, we close the door on the 3rd quarter, which means that the final stretch of the school year is upon us. Course registrations for next school year are nearing completion and students are anticipating the arrival of spring activities. Our winter activities have seen great success whether that is our band hosting another successful dinner concert, our vocal program showing their talents during their spring concerts, our cheerleaders having a great showing at their state competition, both basketball teams are pushing for the state tournament, or our wrestling program sending 7 athletes to the state meeting which is the most since 2016. Scotus also showcased another successful musical by performing "Little Shop of Horrors," and our speech team has shown great success in their competitions as they prepare for the upcoming district and state competitions.



**Parents are needed to donate
Gala Silent Auction Baskets!**

Donations & Fundraising in January:

- **Post Prom Collections:** \$5,500 Total
- **Unrestricted Memorial Gifts:** \$860

Gifts to the Scotus Endowment Fund:

Contributions to the Endowment Fund are invested to generate long-term income. Annual dividends, typically yielding around 5%, support current needs while preserving the principal, ensuring lasting support for Catholic education and future generations.

- Endowment Scotus – no new gifts this month.
- Endowment Scotus Scholarship – no new gifts this month.



SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Mar. 1: **Speech** @ GICC
- Mar. 10: District **Quiz Bowl** @ CCC
- Mar. 10: **Speech** @ Riverside
- Mar. 18: Conference **Band/Music** @ Omaha/Concordia
- Mar. 20: **Baseball** vs. Norfolk @ Veterans Park/ Memorial Field
- Mar. 20: **G Soccer** vs. Bennington @ Wilderness Park Soccer Complex
- Mar. 21: **Baseball** vs. Seward @ Pawnee Park
- Mar. 22: District **Speech** @ Scotus
- Mar. 22: **Track** @ Wayne State College
- Mar. 22: **B Soccer** vs. Multiple Schools @ Wilderness Park Soccer Complex
- Mar. 22: **Baseball** vs. Omaha Burke @ Burke High School
- Mar. 22: **G Soccer** vs. Lexington
- Mar. 24: **Baseball** vs Lincoln Southwest @ Pawnee Park
- Mar. 25: **G Soccer** vs. Holdrege
- Mar. 25: **Baseball** vs. Skutt Catholic @ Skutt High School
- Mar. 25: **B Soccer** vs. Holdrege
- Mar. 27: **G Tennis** vs. Lincoln Northwest @ Pawnee Park
- Mar. 28: **B Soccer** vs. Omaha Burke @ Wilderness Park Soccer Complex
- Mar. 29: **Baseball** vs. Lincoln East @ Den Hartug
- Mar. 31: **Baseball** vs. Kearney Bearcats @ Memorial Field
- Mar. 31: **G Soccer** vs. Concordia @ Wilderness Park Soccer Complex
- Mar. 31: **B Soccer** vs. St. Alberta Catholic @ Wilderness Park Soccer Complex

OTHER NEED TO KNOW INFORMATION:

- Mar. 2: **Mr. Shamrock** @ Memorial Hall
- Mar. 3: First Day of **Spring Sport** Practices
- Mar. 4: **Blood Drive** @ St. Bon's School Social Hall
- Mar. 7: End of **3rd Quarter**
- Mar. 12-14: **NO SCHOOL Spring Break**
- Mar. 26: **Faith Rally**
- Mar. 28 & 29: **Alumni Basketball** Tournament

ST. ANTHONY ELEMENTARY



ST. ANTHONY KINDERGARTEN CELEBRATES 100 DAYS OF SCHOOL!

On **February 4**, the **kindergarten** class at St. Anthony Elementary celebrated an exciting milestone—**100 days of school!** The students enjoyed a fun-filled day with a variety of activities, including building towers with cups, putting together puzzles, and crafting creative projects. The day was filled with laughter, teamwork, and a great sense of accomplishment.

FIRST GRADE TAKES A BREAK WITH A FURRY FRIEND!

On **February 21**, the **first-grade** class at St. Anthony Elementary got a special treat—a **visit** from a **furry friend!** After all their hard work and learning, the students were excited to take a break and enjoy some time with a friendly dog. It was a **joyful** and calming moment that brought **big smiles** to the kids' faces, reminding them of the simple pleasures of taking a break and enjoying the company of a lovable pet. A perfect way to balance **learning and fun!**



FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION OPEN

Columbus Catholic Schools financial aid application is now open! The process takes just 15-25 minutes, and there is a \$45 fee.

CCS Financial Aid (K-12) – Due by May 2
Opportunity Scholarship Nebraska (K-12) – Due by April 10
Children's Scholarship Fund (K-8) – Due by May 2

Apply now: <https://columbus-catholic.org/tuitionassistance/>

No late applications accepted!



- **Scrip Gift Card Fundraising (As of January)**
 - Total Sales: \$432,876.55
 - Total Profit: \$17,356.44
- **January Restaurant Night Profit: \$291.29 (Godfather's)**



ST. BONAVENTURE ELEMENTARY

ST. BONAVENTURE PRESCHOOL HOSTS MOVIE TRIVIA NIGHT!

On **February 15**, St. Bonaventure Preschool hosted a lively **Movie Trivia Night** to support its preschool and childcare programs. **Families** gathered for an evening filled with fun as they tested their movie knowledge, enjoyed some **friendly competition**, and **raised funds** to benefit the school's educational efforts.

To further enhance the **success** of the event, **Anthony and Tony Owens**, representing the **Catholic Order of Foresters**, generously presented a **\$1,500 check** to **match** the **funds** raised during the trivia night. The preschool and childcare staff are **deeply grateful** for his generous support and for the continued partnership with the Catholic Order of Foresters.



It was a **memorable** and **meaningful** way to **support** the school and ensure its programs continue to thrive!

Thank you Catholic Order of Foresters!

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No late applications accepted!



- **Scrip Gift Card Fundraising (As of January)**
 - Total Sales: \$721,020.00
 - Total Profit: \$27,973.28
- **January Restaurant Night Profit: \$277.16 (Big Apple Bagels)**

VALENTINE'S DAY AT ST. BONAVENTURE



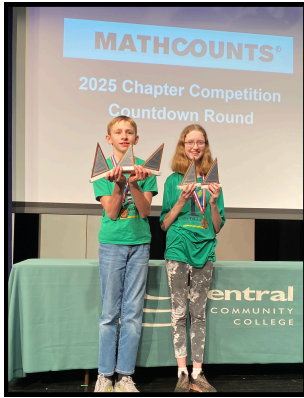
Love and creativity filled the halls of **St. Bonaventure Elementary** on **February 13th** as our students celebrated Valentine's Day in a special way.

Continuing a cherished tradition at our school, students **decorated** their very own **Valentine's boxes**, showing off their **creativity** and personal flair. From bright colors and glitter to clever themes and unique designs, each box was a wonderful reflection of the **care** and **imagination** our **students** put into making **Valentine's Day** extra **special**.

With their decorated boxes in hand, **students** enjoyed **exchanging Valentines** with classmates, spreading **messages of friendship**, kindness, and joy. It was heartwarming to see the **smiles** and **excitement** as they opened their cards and notes.

LUCK

ST. ISIDORE ELEMENTARY



ST. ISIDORE 6TH GRADERS SHINE IN MATHCOUNTS

We are so proud of St. Isidore's **6th grade MathCounts** team for their outstanding performance at the Chapter competition on **February 22nd**! In their very first year competing, our students brought home the award for **Best Rookie School** and placed **3rd overall** – an incredible accomplishment!

A special congratulations goes to **Cooper** and **Lizzy**, who placed **5th** and **7th individually**. Their strong

performances have **qualified** them to compete at the **State MathCounts competition**, representing **St. Isidore School** at the next level. This was **St. Isidore's first-ever MathCounts team**, making these achievements even more exciting. We extend a **huge thank you** to **Steve Wadas**, our **dedicated coordinator** and team **coach**, for his time, guidance, and support.

We can't wait to see what the **future** holds for our **talented mathletes** – great job, team!

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW FOR THE 25TH ANNUAL ST. ISIDORE SHRIMP PEEL!

Mark your calendars and bring your appetite – St. Isidore Elementary is hosting its 25th Anniversary Shrimp Peel on Friday, March 7th at the St. Isidore Parish Center!

Doors open at **6PM** and the **meal** starts at **7PM**. For just **\$30 per ticket**, guests will enjoy All You Can Eat shrimp, plus soup, salad, and dessert. This is a BYOB event, so be sure to bring your favorite beverage (**21+ only**). **Tickets** can be **purchased** at https://onecau.se/_7ryuy1 or through a **flyer** coming home in this week's **Thursday** folder.

Come enjoy an evening of fellowship, food, fundraising, and fun!

ST. ISIDORE ELEMENTARY

ADMIT ONE

\$30

SHRIMP PEEL

Purchase your tickets now for the 25th Anniversary of St. Isidore's Shrimp Peel
FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH ST. ISIDORE PARISH CENTER
DOORS OPEN AT 6PM MEAL STARTS AT 7PM
All You Can Eat Shrimp, Soup, Salad & Dessert. BYOB - Must be 21+

https://onecau.se/_7ryuy1

Tickets can be purchased online or through a flyer coming home in this week's Thursday folder.

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No late applications accepted!



- **Scrip Gift Card Fundraising (As of January)**
 - Total Sales: \$1,091,777.31
 - Total Profit: \$31,808.39
- **December Restaurant Night Profit: \$181.30 (DQ)**

