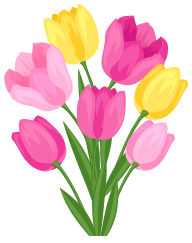
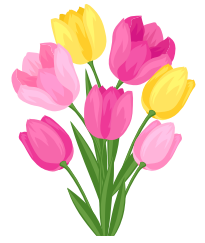


MAY 2025



# CCS LINES



## A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We have come to the last month of the school year. It has been a great year in all four of our schools and I appreciate the hard work of our principals, teachers and students to make that happen. We are blessed to have such a strong commitment to excellence in all of our schools.

I want to congratulate our graduating seniors and wish them all the best as they take the next step in life. This class has seen success in all areas of the student experience at Scotus Central Catholic. They have made a positive impact on the culture of the school and have set an excellent example for our younger students to emulate. I pray that their faith will continue to grow and they will allow it to be a guide to them during

this transition. May the Lord continue to bless them and their families and I pray that they realize they always have a home in our community.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Matt Niedbalski, Chair  
Sarah S. Pillen, 1st Vice Chair  
Dennis Grennan, 2nd Vice Chair  
Peg Niedbalski  
Jordan Paitz  
Jay Pelan  
Tara Sjuts  
TJ Thiem  
Paige Young

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jeff Ohnoutka

### PRINCIPALS

Amy Evans  
Amy Sokol  
Brady Vancura  
Cheryl Zoucha



## GRADUATION DAY IS ALMOST HERE!

Join us as we celebrate the incredible achievements of the Class of 2025 at our graduation ceremony on Sunday, May 11 at 1:30 PM in the Dowd Activity Center. It's a momentous occasion to honor the hard work, dedication, and bright futures of our graduates. Family, friends, and community members are warmly invited to share in this proud and joyful milestone. Let's send off the Class of 2025 in style!

### Donations & Fundraising:

**Annual Appeal 2024-25:** No new gifts for April

**CCS SEF 17:** April payment collections \$9,382.50

**2025 CCS Gala:** \$225,586.00

# Scotus



## COLUMBUS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS 2025 GALA RECAP

On Saturday, April 12, the Columbus Catholic Schools community gathered for the 2025 Gala, marking a historic evening for Scotus Central Catholic, St. Anthony, St. Bonaventure, and St. Isidore. For the first time, funds were raised to benefit all four schools, highlighting the strength and shared mission of the Columbus Catholic Schools system.

The Gala raised vital funds to support academic programs, tuition assistance, and campus improvements, helping bridge the gap between what parents pay and the actual cost of education. The event featured a festive dinner, auctions, student testimonials, and remarks from school leaders.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and sponsors, the Gala exceeded expectations, setting a new fundraising record. This success ensures that faith-based education will continue to thrive in our community. Thank you to everyone who made the night possible. We look forward to next year!



### 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  
**One Time Gifts** – \$30,882.89

### Gala 2025 Recap – Thank You!

Thanks to your incredible support, Gala 2025 was a huge success! Here's a quick look at what we raised:

💰 Total Income: \$461,145  
Tickets & Tables: \$43,375  
Sponsorships & Underwriting: \$86,949  
Online & Grand Auctions: \$208,986  
Fund-a-Need: \$35,735  
Raffle & Lottery: \$76,375  
Extras (Koozies, Jewelry Boxes, Signs): \$9,725  
💵 Estimated Expenses: \$60,230  
A full financial report will be completed later in the year when actual income and expenses have been compiled. Here's an estimated breakdown of key areas:  
Food & Drink: \$10,170  
Raffle & Lottery Prizes: \$15,650  
Decor, Rentals, & Set-up: \$5,000  
Auction Package Costs: \$18,160  
Entertainment & Licensing: \$1,250  
Misc. Fees / Credit Card Processing: \$8,000  
✅ Estimated Net Proceeds: \$402,915

Every dollar goes directly back to support our students and schools.

Thank you for helping make this year's gala such an impactful and memorable night!



# Scotus



## EMMA BREZENSKI HITS 100 GOALS

Congratulations to senior Emma Brezenski on reaching an impressive milestone—scoring her 100th career goal for the Scotus Central Catholic girls soccer team. Emma has been a consistent offensive force throughout her high school career, and her achievement reflects years of dedication and hard work.

Emma will continue her soccer journey next fall at South Dakota State University, where she'll compete at the Division I level with the Jackrabbits.

Way to go, Emma!



## FUTURE SHAMROCKS VISIT SCOTUS!

We were excited to welcome 6th grade students from St. Anthony, St. Bonaventure, and St. Isidore to Scotus for their 7th Grade Orientation!

The day was filled with laughter, curiosity, and a first look at the place they'll soon call home. These future Shamrocks spent the day touring the school, meeting teachers and current students, and getting a feel for what's ahead.

Along with learning about life at Scotus, they also took part in some fun activities and even got to snap photos decked out in Shamrock swag! It was a great day full of energy, smiles, and green pride.

We're looking forward to seeing these students back in the fall as they officially join the Scotus family.

Welcome, future Shamrocks!





# Scotus



## CONGRATULATIONS COHEN PELAN AND ELLA HASH!

A heartfelt congratulations to seniors Cohen Pelan and Ella Hash, who were honored today at the Optimist Club Recognition Lunch for their outstanding achievements and contributions during their time at Scotus. This prestigious recognition is a reflection of their exceptional leadership, academic success, and dedication to making a positive impact on their school and community.

Cohen and Ella have both been exemplary role models, demonstrating a strong work ethic, kindness, and a commitment to excellence. Whether in the classroom, on the athletic field, or through extracurricular activities, they have continually gone above and beyond to inspire others and make the most of their high school experience.

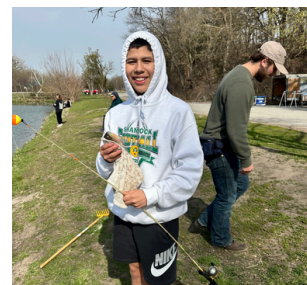
The Optimist Club Recognition Lunch is just one of many honors Cohen and Ella have earned, and it's clear that their hard work has not gone unnoticed. As they prepare to take the next steps in their journeys, we are confident they will continue to achieve great things. Scotus is incredibly proud of them, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Well deserved, Cohen and Ella!



## SCOTUS 7TH GRADERS EXPLORE NATURE AT SCHRAMM PARK

On Wednesday, April 9, Scotus 7th graders took their learning outside the classroom with a hands-on field trip to Schramm Park. Students spent the day immersed in nature, enjoying activities like fishing, nature journaling, and exploring the outdoors.

A highlight of the day was the unique opportunity to release trout they had raised from eggs—a powerful way to see their classroom lessons come to life. It was a fun and meaningful experience that connected science with the natural world in a memorable way! The trip left students with a deeper appreciation for the environment and the importance of conservation. Overall, it was an unforgettable experience that combined education, fun, and environmental stewardship. Students also bonded with their peers through group activities and developed a stronger sense of teamwork. The day was a great reminder of how hands-on learning can inspire a lasting connection with the world around us.





# Scotus



## SCOTUS ROBOTICS SHINES AT NATIONALS!

From April 3–5, the SCOTUS Robotics team competed at the National Tournament in Council Bluffs, showcasing skill, teamwork, and innovation. Team member KYLE had an outstanding performance, earning a spot on the winning alliance and taking home the prestigious Build Award, which recognizes engineering excellence and quality craftsmanship. Congratulations to KYLE and the entire Scotus Robotics team for representing our school with pride and excellence on the national stage!

This achievement reflects months of hard work, problem-solving, and dedication both in and out of the lab. The team's success also highlights the growing strength of SCOTUS's STEM programs. We're excited to see what the future holds for these talented students as they continue to innovate and compete.



## JOURNALISM TEAM SHINES AT COMPETITION – PLACES 4TH OVERALL!

Huge congratulations to our journalism team for placing 4th overall at their recent competition! With standout performances across writing, design, and broadcast categories—including a first-place championship win—our students showcased incredible talent and hard work. We're proud of every competitor who brought home awards and represented our school with excellence! Their dedication and creativity truly shined, earning recognition in multiple categories. We can't wait to see what's next for these rising stars! A special thanks to our coaches and supporters who helped make this success possible. The future is bright for these talented journalists!



# Scotus



## UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS:

- May 1: **B Golf** @ Quail Run Golf Course
- May 1: **G Tennis** @ Pawnee Park
- May 1: **G & B Soccer** VS Lakeview
- May 2: **G Tennis** @ Pawnee Park
- May 2: **Baseball** @ Lincoln Pius X
- May 3, 5 & 6: **G & B Soccer** District Tournament
- May 3: **JH Track** @ Aurora
- May 3: **Conference Track** @ Pawnee Park
- May 3: **Baseball** @ Omaha Westview HS
- May 5: **GV Tennis** @ Woods Tennis Courts
- May 5: **GJV Tennis** @ Fremont
- May 5: **JH Track**
- May 5: **Baseball** @ Pawnee Park
- May 6: **B Golf** @ Indian Head Golf Course
- May 6: **Baseball** @ Pawnee Park
- May 8: **JH Track** @ Battle Creek
- May 8: **Track** @ Battle Creek
- May 10: **B Golf** @ Quail Run Golf Course
- May 12: **B Golf** @ Norfolk Country Club
- May 12: **G Tennis** @ Pawnee park
- May 12: **JH Track** @ Archbishop Bergan
- May 13: **Track** District Meet
- May 13: **G Tennis** @ Woods Park
- May 14, 17, & 19: **G Soccer** @ Creighton University
- May 15, 17, & 20: **B Soccer** @ Creighton University
- May 16: **State Baseball**
- May 16: **G Tennis** @ Woods Tennis Courts
- May 17: **JH Track State Meet** @ Gothenburg
- May 19: **B Golf** District Meet
- May 21 & 22: **State Track Meet** @ Burke
- May 27: **G Tennis** State
- May 28 & 29: **B Golf** State Meet

## UPCOMING ACTIVITY EVENTS:

- May 1: **Vocal Concert**
- May 2: **Jr. High** Spring Play
- May 2: **Dance Team** Tryout & Parent Meeting
- May 7 & 9: **Dance Team** Tryout Practice
- May 10: **Dance Team** Tryouts

## OTHER DATES AND NEED TO KNOW INFORMATION:

- May 1: **Campus Ministry** Meeting
- May 2: **NHS** Meeting
- May 2: **Seniors** Last Day
- May 2: **Dress Down** Day
- May 5 & 6: **Senior** Semester Tests
- May 6: **Summer** Weight Meeting
- May 7: **Volleyball/Basketball Summer** Meeting
- May 7: **Senior** Honors Night
- May 8: **NHS** Officers Meeting
- May 9: **Football** Meeting
- May 9: **9-11 Achievement** Assembly
- May 11: **GRADUATION!!**
- May 13: **Last Day** Jr. High
- May 14 & 15: **Semester** Tests
- May 16: **NO SCHOOL**

may



# St. Anthony



## FIRST GRADERS VISIT VEHICLE DAY!

On Wednesday, April 16th, the first graders from St. Anthony's took part in an exciting adventure to Vehicle Day! This hands-on, educational outing gave students the chance to get up close to a variety of city vehicles — including fire trucks, police cars, utility trucks, and more!

They learned how each vehicle plays an important role in keeping our community safe and running smoothly. The students asked thoughtful questions, met real-life community helpers, and marveled at the size and sounds of the trucks. It was a fun-filled day full of discovery, and the smiles said it all!



- **Scrip Gift Card Fundraising**
  - Total Sales: \$509,066.45
  - Total Profit: \$20,216.28
- **April Restaurant Night Profit:** \$507 – Bo's West
- **One Time Gifts** – No new gifts this month



# St. Anthony



## BUTTERFLY RELEASE AT ST. ANTHONY'S

The first graders at St. Anthony's celebrated the culmination of their butterfly life cycle study by releasing their butterflies! Over the past weeks, they observed the transformation from caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly, journaling their daily observations along the way. It was a beautiful hands-on learning experience that brought science to life!



## A SWEET SURPRISE FOR MRS. BONK

After Mass this week, our students in grades K-6 shared a special moment as they walked over together to sing a heartfelt "Happy Birthday" to our beloved volunteer, Mrs. Bonk. Her dedication and kindness mean so much to our school community, and we are truly blessed by her continued help and support. Happy Birthday, Mrs. Bonk — you make our days brighter!



## PIZZA WITH FR. TAYLOR!

The 6th grade boys had a great time enjoying a special pizza lunch with Fr. Taylor! It was a fun afternoon filled with conversation, laughter, and community.





# St. Bonaventure



## A JOYFUL MILESTONE: ST. BONAVENTURE 2ND GRADERS CELEBRATE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to the St. Bonaventure 2nd grade students who received their First Holy Communion on April 6th! Surrounded by family, friends, and a supportive parish community, these young hearts took an important step in their spiritual journey.

The celebration was filled with reverence, joy, and a sense of unity as each child received the sacrament for the first time. Dressed in their Sunday best, with bright smiles and excited hearts, they participated in a beautiful Mass that honored their preparation and commitment.

This special moment is a cherished tradition at St. Bonaventure, reflecting the faith and dedication of not only the students but also their families, teachers, and catechists who guided them along the way.

We are so proud of our 2nd graders and pray that their relationship with Jesus continues to grow deeper with each passing day. May this milestone mark the beginning of a lifetime of faith, love, and grace.



- **Scrip Gift Card Fundraising**
  - Total Sales: \$875,880.00
  - Total Profit: \$34,066.26
- **Restaurant Night Profit:** \$175 – Sweet Harvest
- **One Time Gifts** – \$1,000



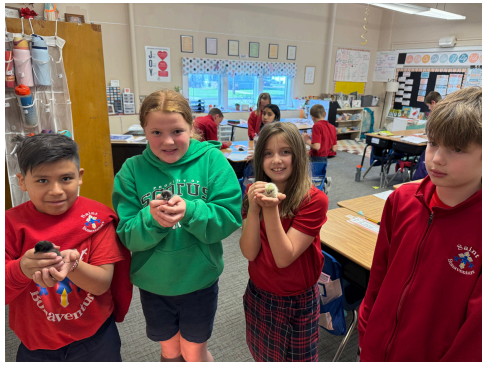
# St. Bonaventure



## CHICK HATCHING WITH ST. BON'S 3RD GRADERS!

This month, the third graders at St. Bon's took part in an exciting hands-on science project — hatching their very own chicks! The adventure began with incubating eggs for 21 days, carefully monitoring the temperature and humidity to make sure the conditions were just right. The students also “exercised” the eggs by turning them three times a day.

On day 21, the big moment arrived — the chicks began to hatch! It was a heartwarming sight to see the cute, fluffy chicks make their way out of their shells. The students were thrilled to have the chicks in their classroom for a few days before sending them home with three lucky students. It was an unforgettable experience that brought science to life in the most adorable way!



## KINDERGARTNERS REFLECT ON JESUS' JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

This Lenten season, the kindergartners took time to reflect on Jesus' journey to the cross. Through prayer and learning, they gained a deeper understanding of His sacrifice. One of the most powerful moments was when the children prayed the Stations of the Cross with Deacon Dan. Each child had the opportunity to hammer a nail into a cross, symbolizing how our sins hurt Jesus. However, this act also served as a reminder of His great love for us — He was willing to die for our sins so that we may live with Him forever. It was a moving and meaningful experience for all the kindergartners as they reflected on the true meaning of Lent.



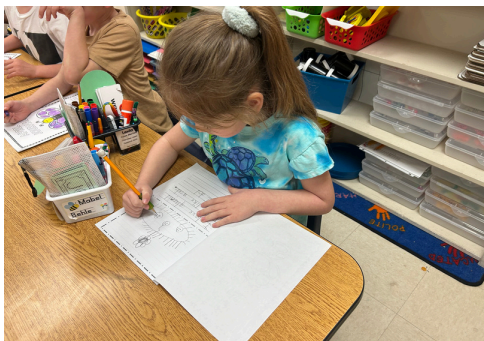


# St. Bonaventure



## EXPLORING THE PLANT LIFECYCLE WITH 4H

Our students recently wrapped up an exciting unit on the plant lifecycle, thanks to our wonderful partnership with the 4H Extension Office! Mr. Blake visited our classroom to teach the students all about how plants grow and change. The hands-on learning experience began when the students planted their own seeds and observed them as they sprouted and grew each day. They eagerly checked on their plants every morning, journaling about what they saw and learned along the way. It was a fun and educational journey, watching their plants grow and witnessing firsthand the wonders of nature!





# St. Isidore



## SPRING FUN WITH GRASS HEADS!

This month, our preschoolers had a blast planting their very own grass heads! They carefully planted the seeds and have been taking turns watering them, watching as their little grass heads grow. It's been such a fun and educational way to celebrate spring! The children are learning about plant growth while enjoying the hands-on experience. We're excited to see their creations bloom! (And if you'd like to see more, I can send some adorable pictures of the kids planting the seeds, too!)



- **Scrip Gift Card Fundraising**
  - Total Sales: \$1,328,662.00
  - Total Profit: \$39,230.27
- **March Restaurant Night Profit:** \$456.47 – Godfather's
- **One Time Gifts** – \$26,222.89



# St. Isidore



## KINDERGARTENERS EXPLORE CODING WITH 4-H!

The kindergarten classrooms had an exciting visit from Ms. Sheila Hoppe from the 4-H Extension Office! The students were introduced to the world of robots and learned how robots need specific instructions, or "code," to complete tasks. Working in groups, the students practiced sequencing events and coding a robot mouse. Once they mastered the basics of coding, they built their own mazes and used their codes to guide the mouse step by step through the maze. The excitement grew as the students watched their programmed robot mouse navigate the path — and, of course, reach the cheese! It was a fun and interactive way to learn about coding and problem-solving.



## TASTY TUESDAY: FRIENDSHIP FRUIT SALAD!

For Tasty Tuesday during the Week of the Young Child, our students made a delicious Friendship Fruit Salad! It was a sweet way to celebrate the importance of friendship and teamwork. The children worked together to chop, mix, and share their favorite fruits, creating a colorful and tasty treat. It was a fun and interactive activity that not only filled their bellies but also taught them valuable lessons about cooperation and sharing. A perfect way to celebrate friendship!





# St. Isidore



## A VISIT FROM OFFICER TANNER!

The preschool had a special guest visit — Officer Tanner from our local police department! The children were excited to learn about the important work that police officers do to keep our community safe. Officer Tanner took time to talk with the students, answer their questions, and show them some of the tools and equipment officers use. It was a great way for the preschoolers to learn about safety and how they can stay safe in their community.



## WATCHING THE MAGIC OF TRANSFORMATION

Our students have been captivated as they watched caterpillars transform into chrysalises and, eventually, into beautiful butterflies! It's been an incredible learning experience as the children observed each stage of the life cycle firsthand. They marveled at the changes and learned about the patience and wonder that nature provides. Witnessing this magical transformation has been a highlight of the season for our students!

