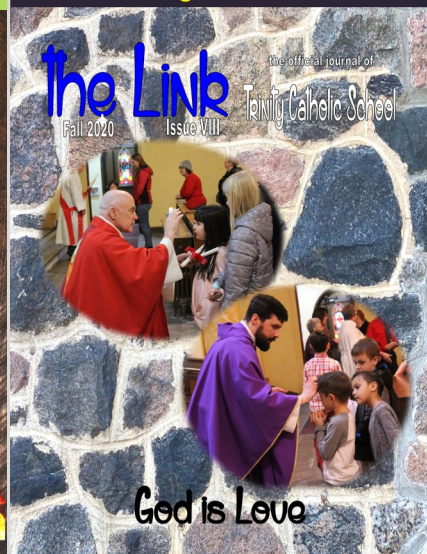
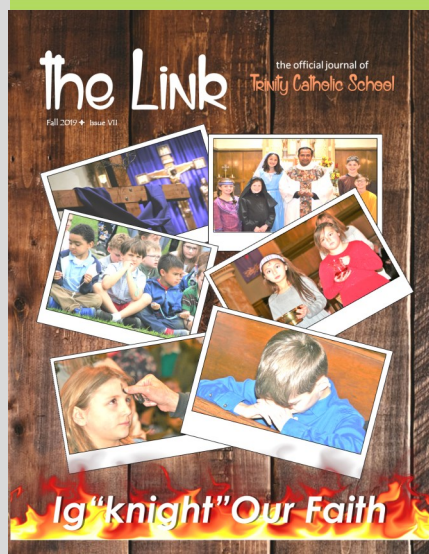
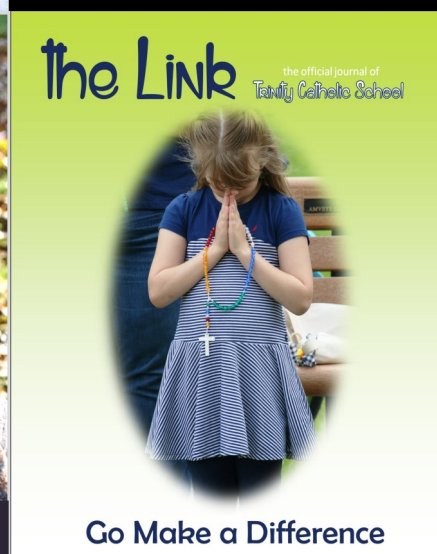
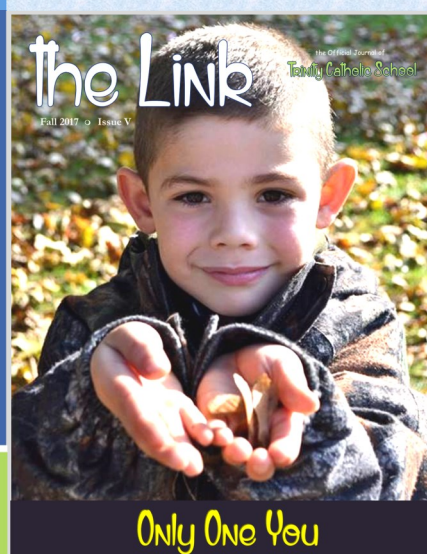
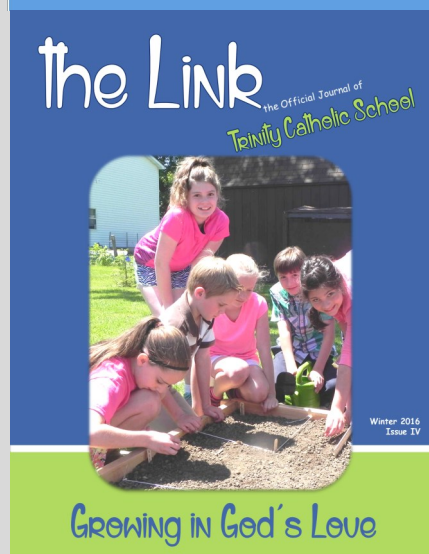
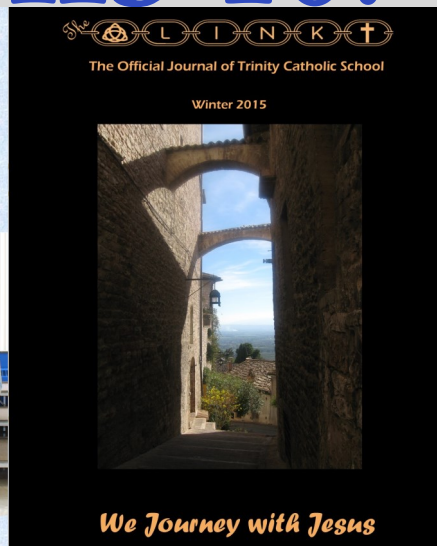
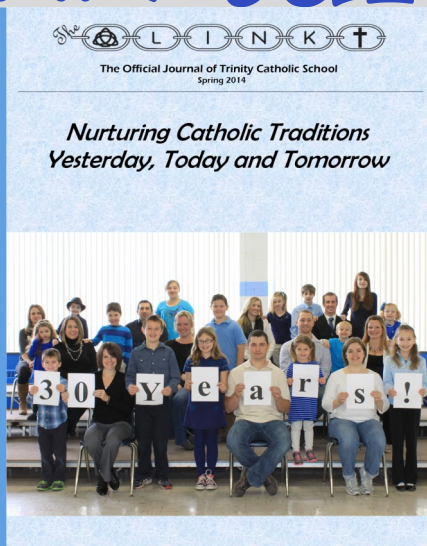
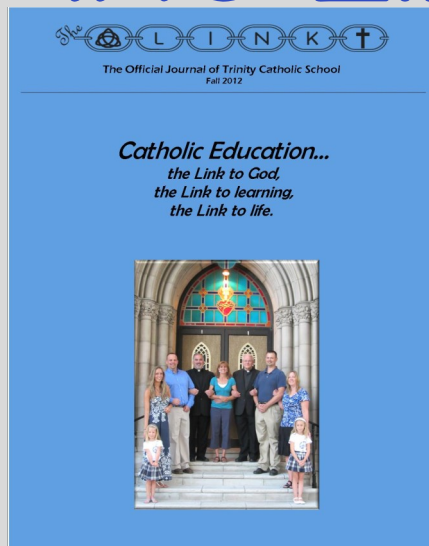


The Link turns 10!



the Link

The Official Journal of
Trinity Catholic School

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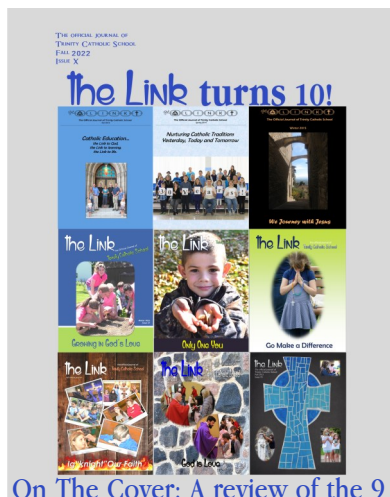
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On The Cover: A review of the 9
previous covers, starting with
the first issue from the fall of
2012, continuing through the
fall of 2021.

Welcome to our new teachers for the 2022-2023 school year!



We welcome Mrs. Victoria "Tori"
Lippassaar to PreK3! If her name sounds
familiar, Tori was a substitute teacher for
TCS last year.

Before Trinity, she was a teacher at the
Massena Nursery School, led story time
at the library, and worked at a before and
after school program at a YMCA. Clearly
she has a love of children and we're so
glad she has joined our faculty!

In Kindergarten, we are happy to
welcome Miss Brooke Beaudoin! She's a
local gal who graduated from Norwood-
Norfolk, and attended SUNY Canton and
SUNY Potsdam to continue her
education. She comes to us with
experience in prek, kindergarten, and
special education. We're certain that our
littles will just love her!



Welcome back to Mrs. Loralee Marsh!

Mrs. Marsh returns to us after a short
break from TCS, having moved to North
Carolina. She has over 20 years of
teaching experience within the Diocese
of Ogdensburg at various grade levels,
including 3rd grade. She's very happy to
be back and teaching with her Trinity
family.

We also welcome back Mrs. Heather Doe,
who will be teaching 4th grade. From the
age of 4, she knew she wanted to be a
teacher. She began her teaching career at
St. Mary's in Canton, and after a few
years, joined Trinity Catholic School.
Returning from a small break from
teaching, she's happy to be back "home",
as she calls TCS. She's looking forward to
spending her days witnessing her
students grow academically and
spiritually.



This year's theme is:
"Love in any language is spoken here."

This year's theme was born out of a few teachers talking in the faculty room in June. Mrs. Boyea and Mrs. Montroy shared that they were going to coordinate their lessons to focus on different areas of the world during the school year. The students would hear music and learn dances and customs from around the world. Their intention was to expose the students to different cultures, but to also show that despite our differences, we're all the same in our hearts. As other teachers heard this, they wanted to include pieces into their classroom. Before we knew it, a theme was born, complete with a theme song!

If we break down the theme and start with "love", this refers to God's amazing love for us all, but also to our love for each other, as humans. The phrase "any language" emphasizes inclusion of all of our brothers and sisters on planet Earth. Lastly, "spoken here" shows us that love and inclusion happen in our classrooms, in our hallways, in our dining hall, and on our playgrounds. We hope that our students will then spread God's love, and their own love with every interaction they have outside the walls of Trinity.

This year, be on the lookout for songs, school work, art projects, and pictures featuring many different countries, many different cultures and many different languages. If you have expertise in in any of these areas, please feel to reach out to the school. We'd love to have you share your knowledge with our students!

Mrs. Giroux reflects on the theme:

Mr. Karolchyk was a tough English teacher. To get an A in his class was almost unheard of and it was something that I almost didn't achieve. But, all those years ago, in my high school senior English class in Parsippany N.J., I finally rose to the occasion in his critical eyes and earned an A on my senior paper. We were allowed to write on any topic and I chose "Comparisons of Religions". I was always fascinated by the idea that there were different ways to worship an almighty Deity, the underlying theme was always "love." As our Bible tells us, when St. John was asked to describe God, he simply said "God is love."

In my music class I had a poster that proclaimed the Golden Rule as stated in every religion. Of course to us as Christians, we say "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you". This encompasses in a few words the underlying and guiding principle of all morality and love. So how do other religions state the same theme? Buddhism teaches, "Treat no others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful." Our Jewish friends would say, "What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor." Muhammed would say, "Not one of you truly believes until you wish for others what you wish for yourself" I could go on and on. Love in any language is spoken here...and there. We are just instruments and vocalists of His message.

If only we could all unite and spread the intended message of love. We at Trinity intend to focus on that unity, acceptance and understanding. What makes Trinity so special is that we are free to discuss faith and God. Our students learn that they can trust in God and turn to Him when they are in trouble. My prayer is that they can take this message with them when they leave our doors and continue to turn to God in good times and in bad times. So, I say to you "Je t'aime," "Te amo," "Ti voglio bene," "Konnoranhkhwa," "Ani ohevet at," "I love you."

When planning for this year's issue of Link, I realized that it was going to be our 10th issue. How exciting! In addition to thanking our generous donors to the Trinity Fund, I decided to use this as an opportunity to revisit some of the stories that were featured in the very first issue back in the fall of 2012. I hope you enjoy catching up with some of our alumni, families and priest!
~Sarah Tsibulsky, Advancement Director

On the cover of the first issue of the link was a wonderful picture of a Trinity family; Andy and Tiffany Boulias, along with their three daughters, Amanda, Alexis and Hailey. Their arms were interlinked with then principal, Kathy Behrens, and teacher, Mr. Eric Pomainville, Rev. Scott Fobare and Rev. Don Manfred. The symbolism of this was not lost on me, as it perfectly reflects the foundation on which Trinity Catholic School is built: faith, family and learning.

Andy and Tiffany Boulais were very active parents at Trinity throughout the educational careers of their three daughters. Tiffany was known for sending in truffles for the staff several times a year. Both Tiffany and Andy could always be found at Trinity events, like the bike rally. Parental involvement is important to both students and the school. Students love having their parents around school actively participating in their education. And without dedicated, generous parents, our fun events would not be possible.

Amanda, the eldest daughter, graduated from Syracuse University in 2014, majoring in biology and minoring in psychology. She went on to obtain her Masters in Genetic Counseling from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 2016, and is certified by the American Board of Genetic Counselors. She currently works at Sloan-Kettering Memorial Cancer Center as a genetic counselor. She is married, and just welcomed a baby girl! Congratulations on all of your success Amanda!

Alexis graduated from Trinity in 2018. In 6th grade she earned both the Janet DiTullio Award for her love of reading and learning, and the Bishop's Award. She's chosen an alternate education path that allows her the flexibility to pursue other endeavors. She can often be found volunteering at Massena's Public Library.

Hailey, the youngest, is going into 9th grade this coming school year. She was also a Bishop's Award winner in 6th grade, and continued to excel academically in junior high, receiving the President's Award and Outstanding Academic Achievement Award for being fourth in her class. Way to go Hailey!



In the photo, from left: Alexis, Amanda, Amanda's husband Brady, Hailey, Tiffany and Andy

Also on the cover of the Fall of 2012 issue is **Father Don Manfred**. For 18 years he served as the pastor for Sacred Heart Church, and was often seen chatting with TCS students when they went to Friday Mass, when he attended Monday morning prayer, or when he visited the classrooms. He was a fixture of Trinity life, having presided over many baptisms, first communions, confirmations, weddings, and sadly, also funerals of Trinity students, alumni and families. When he turned 75 and was expected to retire. He told Bishop LaValley, that he wasn't ready for "the rocking chair" yet. So he was reassigned as the pastor of St. Stephen's in Croghan and St. Francis in Harrisville. While he's enjoying the slower pace of the rural area, he so misses the connection with Trinity Catholic School.

Some of his favorite memories of Trinity Catholic School are the musical programs, the gala, the MCA project, and the warm, welcoming feeling he had when he interacted with the students on the playground or in the classrooms. Father Don sends his best wishes for a more "normal" year, and he thanks the faculty, staff, aides, parents, grandparents and friends of Trinity Catholic School for making it a school of excellence!

In the Fall of 2012 issue, we celebrated **Violet Reyes**, who was a TCS fifth grader that won first place in Clarkson University's Youth Energy and Environmental Expo in May of 2012. Her project, *Renewable Icebergs*, competed against 90 other projects from area students in grades 4-12. This past summer, I caught up with Violet to see what she's been up to since leaving Trinity Catholic School.

It's no surprise to most that she maintained a high average right through high school and received many

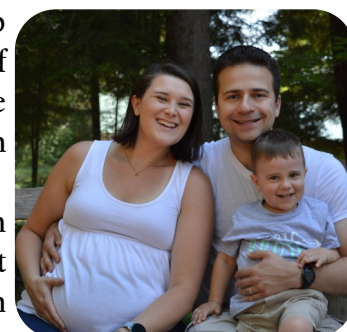
academic awards throughout her academic career, and was inducted into the National Honor Society. All of this while successfully competing on both indoor and outdoor track and field teams, and winning art awards. After graduating from Massena Central High School in 2020, she headed south to the University of Tampa for biology. After a year, she realized that course of study would not lead her to the job she wanted, which involves taking direct care of animals and their environment. She transferred back up to the North Country to SUNY Canton where she enrolled in the Veterinary Technology program, and will graduate in 2024. She's already made the leap into the work force, as a veterinary assistant at a local vet clinic. When she graduates from SUNY Canton, she plans to go into zoo medicine. It's easy to see the connection between Violet's win at Clarkson, and her love of animals! She has worked hard to make her dreams come true and she credits Trinity with preparing her for the work ahead because the teachers held the students to such high standards. She also credits lifelong friendships that started at Trinity, and specifically spoke of lunch time at Trinity, and how it was like sitting down to a family meal. Violet, everyone at Trinity Catholic School is so proud of you for everything you've already accomplished!



*Violet in 5th Grade
and Violet now*

Brynn (Furnace) Maida and Kelly (Schaffer) Littleton met a month before Brynn transferred to Trinity Catholic School from St. Mary's in Potsdam for 6th grade. During that year and into junior high, they became close friends even though Kelly attended junior high in Massena and Brynn attended in Norwood-Norfolk. In the middle of 8th grade, Kelly's family moved to Ohio. Through the distance they remained friends, using letters, emails, calls, and texts. One way they were able to reconnect in person was through Camp Guggenheim in the summer. They attended every year together, beginning at the age of twelve. When we last talked to them, in the inaugural issue of Link, it was the night before their last year of Camp Guggenheim. In the fall, they'd be heading off to Franciscan University (Kelly) and LeMoyne College (Brynn).

Since then, Brynn graduated from LeMoyne College in May 2016 with a degree in biology and psychology. In college she was involved with several clubs, was a resident advisor and participated in campus ministry. After graduation, she volunteered with AmeriCorps NCCC in the Southwestern United States. In 2018, she married her college sweetheart. In 2020 they welcomed their first child, a son named Charlie, and just recently welcomed a daughter! She will continue to stay at home with their children until they are able to attend TCS.



Brynn and family

Kelly also graduated college in 2016, from Franciscan University, with a degree in philosophy and theology. In her junior year, she took a canon law class and became interested in pursuing a career as a canon lawyer. She graduated from The School of Canon Law at The Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. in 2019 with her licentiate, an ecclesiastical degree that allows her to practice as a canon lawyer. She currently works for the Archdiocese of Portland (Oregon) as a Judge on their Marriage Tribunal. She's involved with marriage nullity cases (also known as annulments). In 2021 she married her husband and hopes to have children in the future, God willing. She also looks forward to continuing her career, and to publishing an academic article relevant to her field.



Kelly and her husband

Both of these women are true disciples of Jesus! From attending Catholic colleges, to volunteering with AmeriCorps, to raising children in the Catholic faith, to helping interpret Canon Law, it's easy to see how they use their faith in their everyday lives. It's a connection they've shared since meeting in 6th grade. Though they don't get to see each other often, Brynn and Kelly both shared that when they call or text each other, they pick up right where they left off, just like the Guggenheim days!

Now the spotlight shines on the person who created this magazine, former TCS Advancement Director, **Candace O'Neill**. Candace left Trinity three years ago to pursue a new calling, nursing! Today, she's a licensed RN with

Hospice and Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley. While its quite the departure from the various roles she held at Trinity, if you spent any time with her, you'd know that nursing is right up her alley. As she stated, "It is a completely different arena for me to share my faith. I have gone from teaching little ones at the beginning of their lives about the wonders and glories of God on this earth, to reminding older folks at the end of their lives about the kindness and mercy of their Lord, and all that awaits them soon in heaven."

While Candace is not at Trinity anymore, she is thankful for the foundation she was given during her tenure here, as well as the courage and space needed to pursue her nursing degree. She's also thankful for the school, as it also gave her 4 children an excellent education and provided a strong faith foundation for their lives.. Though we miss her in the halls here, we're certain that she is in just the right place for God to work through her in the best possible way.



Candace O'Neill, R.N.

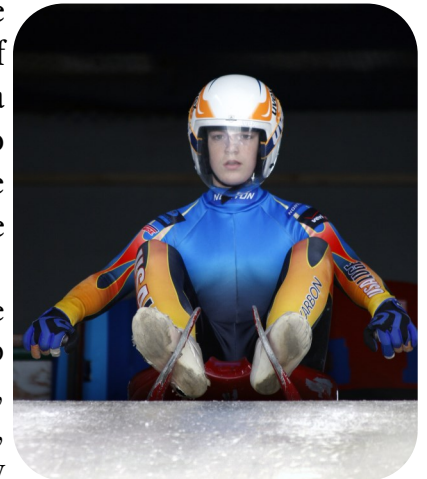
Jonny Gustafson, a Trinity alum, was already an accomplished luge athlete at the age of 15 when his family was interviewed for the first issue of Link. At the time, he was a member of the US Junior Luge "C" team, a developmental team for those who show promise in the sport. He hoped to make the "B" team in the future, which would allow him to compete in the Junior World Cup and the Junior World Championships. He was quoted in the article as saying, "*Ultimately, I would love to go to the Olympics.*"

So, what has he been up to in the last decade? Crushing goals, that's what. He did make the "B" team a year later, competing in the Junior Luge World Cup Championships for 3 years in places like Oberhof, Germany, Lillehammer, Norway, and Igis, Sweden. In the 2016-2017 season, he competed on the World Cup circuit, though technically a member of the Junior National team. During the next few seasons, he continued competing on the World Cup circuit, gaining experience and strength, and a few medals along the way. In 2020-2021, the US Luge team opted for an abbreviated season, skipping the first four events, citing the safety of the athletes and staff due to the pandemic. The sliders continued training stateside until they felt comfortable traveling to Europe. Once on the circuit, Jonny continued having success, and earned a couple more medals.

It's safe to say that the whole US Luge team was looking forward to the 2021-2022 sled season, as it would culminate with the Winter Olympics being held in Beijing, China. When I spoke with Jonny about his most recent season, he explained that the whole season counted towards earning one of a possible 3 spots on the US Olympic Luge Team. From November 2021-January 2022, he often placed in the top half of the field. Luge is a fast sport, where a half second can be the difference between the top of the pack and the bottom; where less than two seconds can separate first place from last; where times are recorded using thousandths of a second. When the ILF (International Luge Federation) announced the list of qualified athletes on January 19, 2022, he was ranked the top U.S. men's singles luger, thus earning a coveted spot. Jonny Gustafson was going to the Olympics!

At the Games, in Jonny's best run, he was 0.782 seconds behind the leader, and he was in 13th place. That just goes to show how fast and how close this sport is. So exciting!

I spoke to Jonny about his Olympic experience recently, wondering if it was what he had hoped it would be. He said that he had some idea of what to expect, having known team members who had gone to the games. It did live up to his expectations with one exception: the global pandemic, which limited some activities. While the US team didn't medal, and Jonny ended up in 19th place, he knows this was all about the experience. He can say that he's an



A young Jonny, ready for a run



Jonny at the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics

accomplished athlete, an Olympian, and perhaps in the not so distant future, he can say two-time Olympian. Being unfamiliar with the world of luge, I had other questions about the sport. When do luge athletes retire (referencing gymnastics having a very young retirement age)? After chuckling, he said it mostly depends on your goals and how well your body tolerates the training and races. He knows three sliders who have retired around the ages of 40, 35 and 20 for various reasons. That's quite a span! Jonny is currently 25 years old, and potentially has many more years of competition in him.

Another thing I wondered about was his training. Having completed his season at the end of February and traveling back from Beijing, he took March and April off. During his time off he visited several schools in Massena, including Trinity, to talk about his Olympic experience, and to take questions from the students. It was very exciting to have Jonny visit Trinity! A few of his teachers are still here and were glad to see him!

After some much-deserved downtime, he began training again in May. This includes mentally refocusing, dryland and weights. He also practices at the USA Luge Start Facility. This allows him and other sliders to practice pulling off the handles and paddling. This accounts for the first three to five seconds of their run. The training ends up being nearly a full time job! His days are about to get even busier when he adds sliding into his training schedule. Competition starts again in November.

Given that the World Cup is an international competition, I shared with Jonny our school theme for this year (see page 3), and asked if he gets time to tour the countries on the circuit. He said they did usually have some downtime to visit places, but obviously the last couple of years have been limited due to their covid protocols. In the past, he's spent a lot of time in Germany, since they have the most tracks of any other country, at four. He's visited some historical sites there. He's also been to The Alps. He's looking forward to a trip to Norway soon, to see some of the national parks and fjords.

When I spoke to Jonny, Massena was getting ready to host a Slider Search event. According to www.teamusa.com, a "USA Luge Slider Search is the official nationwide athlete recruitment tour of USA Luge, targeting young athletes, ages 9-13. The mission of this grass-roots program, established in 1985, is to identify, train and qualify young athletes for the USA Luge Junior Development Team. Athletes who may progress through the team development ladder have hopes of one-day becoming members of the National and Olympic Luge Teams." This is the event that Jonny first went to as a child that sparked his interest. He hopes that events like this will encourage kids to try a new sport, and maybe find out that they are really good at it!

I often ask alumni about their time at Trinity Catholic School, either a favorite memory (in which 99% mention the delicious lunches served here. Jonny did not disappoint,) or how they feel Trinity shaped them into who they are today. He shared a story with me that covers both bases. He remembers after the Slider Search in Canton, he was called to the office. He arrived in the principal's office to find his father standing there with an envelope. It was like a college acceptance letter, except in this case, it was a luge letter! When he opened the envelope, he found that he had made the team and was very excited. He said he remembers how supportive his teachers at Trinity were for him!

It was so fun catching up with these families, alumni and staff! We miss seeing them, but knowing that the students are so successful, and are following their own different paths is truly inspiring! This ties back nicely to our school theme, in that we're all different, with unique talents and experiences, but we all share the same connection: Trinity Catholic School. I'd like to thank everyone who helped me reach out to those who contributed to this article, and I'd also like to thank those who were so generous with their time as to share their stories with me. If you know of an alumni that is doing something unique please contact the advancement office at Trinity Catholic School.



Jonny visits Trinity



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One Day of Giving 2021

The 2021 Trinity Fund raised over \$85,000, thanks to the generous donors on the previous pages. Over \$73,000 of this was raised through our One Day of Giving fundraising drive that was held on November 3rd. This amazing show of support from our community and alumni was mind blowing and a true blessing for our school! Much of this money was used to ensure that no child is denied a Catholic education at Trinity. The pandemic job loss and inflation made it difficult for some families to afford Catholic education. We are able to bridge the gap for them, thanks to your generosity!

We'd like to be able to support our families again this year, knowing that the effects of the pandemic aren't quite over for some. **On November 2, 2022, we'll again have our annual One Day of Giving.** We hope you'll consider donating whatever you can.

Remember to tune into our Facebook page, as we feature our classes throughout the day so you can see just *who* benefits from your generosity! We also look forward to pairing up with WMSA again to broadcast live via their radio station with the amazing Elijah Winfrey!

Drawing by Parker in 1st grade, 2021-2022



2022 Roaring 20's Gala

We were all absolutely thrilled that our Gala made its return last spring! In late 2019, the Gala committee started planning the next gala, with a "Roaring 20's" theme, for the spring of 2020. We all know that by mid-March, the world had shut down. They tried to push it back to June, hoping the world would reopen. It did not. Nor were we able to hold our Gala in the spring of 2021. Finally, in early 2022, things started changing. People were getting vaccines, the number of people infected was going down, and eventually mask mandates were dropped and people started gathering again! The Gala got the green light for May 7, 2022! The decorating and entertainment committees continued the work that they had begun before the pandemic, sponsors and donors were contacted and many, many generous businesses and individuals graciously donated, a buffet menu was planned, and we were off and running!

The evening went off without a hitch! It was great to celebrate our honorees: Donaldson Funeral Home and Phillips Memorial Home. The meal, provided by Coach's Corner was so delicious, the live auction was a huge success, and the dancing at the end of the evening really "cut the rug!" We also thank Orvis St. Wines and Liquor staff for manning the bar (no Prohibition here!) The event raised over \$30,000 for the school, making it possible to provide an invaluable service to the North Country's families!

If you think this sounds like fun, just wait for the 2023 Gala! The theme will be "A Knight in Las Vegas". We'll begin planning soon. If you'd like to help with the coming gala, or have ideas for the event, please reach out the Trinity Catholic School Advancement Department at advancement@trinitycatholicschool.net, or call (315) 769-5911. The event will be held on April 29, 2023, in the Trinity Catholic School dining hall. Dressing the part is highly encouraged!



During the 2021-2022 school year, we were happy to return to some of our favorite activities at school! We also saw more faces and smiles!



How very exciting to gather again!

Above, left to right: Going to church as a school community, gathering to learn about the Last Supper at a Seder meal during Holy Week, some of our teachers and staff at the Trinity Gala, and the Arts Festival



Yay! Field trips were back in the schedule again!

Above, left to right: PreK4 visiting Fobare's Fruits and Playground, some of our JK and kindergarten students at the Nicandri Nature Center for P.E., PreK3 visiting the Methodist Church to help with their free meal food prep, 5th and 6th grade attending the Chrism Mass in Ogdensburg.



We were OVERJOYED that we were able to welcome visitors back into our school!

Above, left to right: Bishop LaValley visiting a classroom, alum Jonny Gustafson visiting Trinity to recount his days at the Olympics, Julia Torres and Mary Curry met with our students to share their experiences working with Pope Francis, a couple of our volunteers being celebrated for their work within our school.

The Link

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TRINITY



WE ARE ONE
DAY OF GIVING

Help us grow our
2022-2023 Trinity Fund,
and reach our
One Day of Giving Goal
on November 2, 2022!

Save the Date



Trinity Catholic School Gala

4.29.23

