



FALL 2021

VOLUME 10 | ISSUE 2

ST. JOHN'S

EST. 1879

Opportunity



"If you want God's Will above your breath,
it's not that you will have it one day,
you are in it."



The Daughters of Mary, Mother of Israel's Hope are a Benedictine community of Sisters who long to spread the truths of our blessed Catholic faith to all they meet.

The sisters moved to Beloit at the end of 2020.

"We absolutely love Beloit. I am from New York and Sister Gertrude is from Kansas City. There is no comparison. We have been overwhelmed by the people around here. It's an oasis of beauty and peace."

Mother and Sister Gertrude are currently the only two sisters in their order. Now that they are in Beloit, they can move forward and take in women. They will welcome two postulants in October. They are currently in temporary living quarters and hope to move into their completely remodeled convent this Fall. The convent will be able to house 13 women at their new location. If it is God's Will, Mother dreams of building a permanent monastery in Beloit.

Signs of God in the World

Mother Miriam of the Lamb of God, O.S.B

In her early 30's, Mother Miriam (formerly Rosalind Moss) converted to Evangelical Protestantism from a Jewish background. After 18 years of trying to "save Catholics," she entered the Catholic Church which she now describes as the fulfillment of Judaism and the full measure of Christianity. In 2008, at the invitation of Cardinal Raymond Burke, Mother Miriam fulfilled a long-time dream of founding a religious community that would restore the full religious habit to the world as the glorious sign to God that it is.

Sister Gertrude Marie of the Sacred Heart

Sister Gertrude Marie entered the community five and a half years ago, following a 27-year career in the financial field with one company. Though Assistant Vice President of the company and having all the world could offer, Sister Gertrude Marie became aware "all of a sudden that religious life is where (she) was supposed to be." Sister said it was a "movement of love" that caused her to sell all she had and enter the community. "Nothing but blessedness has embraced me ever since."

Founded in
2008

by Rosalind Moss,
now Mother Miriam
of the Lamb of God.

**"Ora et
labora"**

**To pray
and work**

A contemplative/active
Benedictine religious
community devoted
**to the restoration
of the family**



*"Women are the heart
of the home and men
are the head of the
home. Do not be
afraid to parent."*

They take 3 vows

**1 obedience 2 stability
3 conversion of manners**

"I desire for us to be **signs to God**
in our world, **Messengers of Hope**
to all who are longing for a sign of
God's mercy."

Daughters of Mary, Mother of Israel's Hope



**PRAYER
LIFE**

The Sisters start
their day at 5 a.m.
with prayer and
continue
throughout the day
with meditation,
spiritual reading
(**Lectio Divina**),
adoration, & most
importantly,
liturgical prayer,
that of the **Divine
Office**.

Mother's greatest strengthener:

**God's confirmation that she is
in His will.**

*"We have never lacked
anything. If it's of God, it will
happen, if it's not, I don't
want it."*



**Future address coming soon: 19 Gill Creek Dr.
Beloit, KS 67420**



CATHOLIC DIOCESE
of **SALINA**

Find us at: www.motherofisraelshope.org

Listen to Mother
Miriam's radio
podcasts Monday -

Friday on
LifeSiteNews.com

LIFE SITE

HABITS & SYMBOLS THROUGH YEARS IN FORMATION

POSTULANT

1 year

Discerning if you are called
to religious life

Under obedience but no
vows are taken

Scarf on their head and
postulant outfit

NOVITIATE

2 years

Actual entrance into religious
life

Full habit with white veil &
short scapular (apron)

TEMPORARY VOWS

5 years

Betrothal to Jesus

Full habit with white veil &
long scapular (apron)

FINAL VOWS

Lifetime

Vow to your spouse, Jesus.

Gold ring & black veil

The sisters wear a
black habit as a
Benedictine
tradition and as a
reminder to **die to
self** that they can
give their lives to
the world.

Perpetually
professed sisters
wear a gold ring as
a sign of their
marriage to Christ.

NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW FAMILIES & EXCITEMENT



Joe Holdren
Assistant Principal

Welcome St. John's family to the 2021-22 school year! I am excited to share with you that this school year the enrollment is 191 students. This is the largest enrollment since the 2001 school year. In fact, for the past ten years we have had an average enrollment increase of 5 students per year. I am proud to be a part of this Catholic family. I have no doubt that the Holy Spirit is at work in our parish and school. We have been blessed with many new families, TWO priests, and so many volunteers and donors that have helped transform our campus. If you have not had the chance to visit St. John's in the past few years, I highly encourage and invite you to come take a look. I pray that we may continue to respond well to God's call in building our parish and school family according to God's will and to do all for His glory.

I am pleased also to announce our new teaching and support staff for this year. First in the grade school, alumnus Laura Konrade (Brummer, Class of 97'), joined our faculty in the role of 3rd grade teacher. Alan Holdren, my brother, is taking on the St. John's High School English Language Arts classes as well as offering Business Marketing and Entrepreneurship classes. Amy Gengler is our new junior high and high school resource teacher -- assisting students with math, reading, and study skills. Lastly, we have Ken Meyer joining our

St. John's staff as counselor. Each new member brings to our school family great experience and passion as well as a love for our Catholic faith.

Thank you so much for your support of St. John's Catholic Schools through prayers, donations and work. None of what we have would be possible without your YES!



MOVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Joe and Marci Holdren met at the University of Nebraska, where Joe studied Wildlife and Fisheries Management. He then went on to Fort Hays to get his teaching degree and Master's in Educational Leadership.

In 2008, Joe and Marci Holdren moved to Beloit, as Joe took the position as 6-10 Science teacher along with PE and Health. After two years he began working as Assistant Principal. Joe is currently teaching Biology for Sophomores and Adv. Biology for Seniors and Assistant Principle. His various

coaching positions have included Golf for the past 10 years, Head Track and Field, assistant for JH girls Basketball, and JH Track and Field.

In their 13 years here in Beloit, they have welcomed 8 children - Henry, Myla, Bosco, Eva, Selma, William, Anna, and Lucia.

Joe's parents, Greg and Maureen Holdren, moved from Friend, Nebraska, earlier this year. They can often be seen at daily mass or picking grandkids up from school.

"Marci and I feel extremely fortunate to be a part of St. John's Family as well as the greater Beloit community. To have my parents and brother's family join us here is truly a gift. Having Grandparents here and a niece and nephews running around with my children is something I have dreamed of for a long time."



Alan, his wife, Susanna, and their 4 children - Isabel, Thomas, Joseph and James - moved from Rome, Italy, where Alan was the Vatican Bureau Chief for the EWTN Global Catholic Network.

Alan graduated from the University of Nebraska in 2003 and worked for three years at the University of Castilla La Mancha, in Albacete, Spain. Alan met his wife Susanna, who grew up in Sardinia, Italy, when he was working at the university. He is fluent in Spanish and Italian.

Alan moved to Rome, and was with the Catholic News Agency and EWTN News nearly 12 years, covering a variety of roles.

"We chose to move to Beloit to be close to family, to be a part of a strong Catholic community in the American heartland and to have a bit of space to grow a garden after more than a decade of living in city apartments."

I hope to contribute to the extraordinary culture of learning and magnanimity that has been built at St. John's, preparing students for a life steeped in faith, hope and charity."



MEET

Fr. Andrew Rockers

Parochial Vicar

Father Rockers grew up in Hays, Ks and graduated from Hays High School in 2003. He attended Kansas State University then transferred to Fort Hays State University where he graduated in 2007. Father went to seminary at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis, MO and was ordained in 2015.

Following ordination, Father Rockers served as parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Cathedral and as chaplain at Sacred Heart Junior/Senior High School, Salina. He then served as parochial vicar and then pastor in Goodland and Sharon Springs for a total of three years. He returned to Salina in 2020 serving at the Cathedral and teaching senior religion at Sacred Heart Junior/Senior High School.

Father's parents continue to reside in Hays, and he has one older brother who lives in New York.

Father Rockers moved to Beloit in August and has jumped right in. He serves as Parochial Vicar at St. John's and Sts. Peter and Paul in Cawker City and teaches Spanish, Latin, and Catholic Culture and History at St. John's High School.



"Be patient with everyone, but especially with yourself."

- St. Francis de Sales



I am Fr. Jarett Konrade. I have been the pastor here at St. John's since July 2020 and been a priest of the Diocese of Salina since 2005. During those years I have served in Salina, Wilson, Manhattan, Hays and Director of Priestly Vocations for 6 years. During the year that I have served in Beloit, I have come to see some of the challenges that continue to divide our community, but overwhelmingly I see the immense possibilities for an amazing future.

Since being assigned to St. John's, I have attended each of the Cornerstone Charitable Foundation board meetings. I have come to know each of the board members, have met their families and have witnessed how they strive to put into action their faith in the Catholic community and beyond. I am very grateful for the role this board has played in the development of St. John's Parish and school over the years. I have found them to be supportive, faithful and trustworthy and I fully approve and appreciate their continued assistance of St. John the Baptist Parish and school for the future.

Why am I writing this letter? . . . You may or may not be aware of the strained relationship between Cornerstone and the Diocese of Salina from 2012 to 2018. It reached the point where Cornerstone was restricted from using the name or image of St. John's in its fundraising endeavors to name just one of the challenges of that period. We are excited to announce, that chapter is behind us. After meeting multiple times with Bishop Vincke and other representatives of the Diocese, the Bishop has issued a letter supporting, encouraging, and reinstating Cornerstone in its role within the St. John's Parish and school. This letter has also been read and affirmed by the St. John's Parish and Finance councils. Should you wish to view this letter, it is posted on our parish website (www.stjohnsbeloit.org). To quote one line from the Bishop's letter, "They have done remarkable service for the parish and school."



Finally, most of you know of the recent fire that took place at St John's. More than likely, fond, unique and sacred memories are your recollections of our wonderful church. I am using the school newsletter, a newsletter that has been 100% quietly funded and coordinated now for many years by Cornerstone, to ask for your assistance with some of the church repairs.

Currently, we have a group of parish individuals diligently and prudently working to make the most out of this situation. Regardless of the insurance proceeds, the parish will bear significant out-of-pocket costs. We anticipate those costs could be well deep into six figures. For this reason, we are asking for your support. Please see the request for funds links on the parish or the Cornerstone websites, or feel free to donate by mailing a check to the parish office, 622 E. Main. Thanks, in advance, for your continued prayers and assistance. We look forward to the way the Holy Spirit will continue lift us from the ashes to a future full of hope and new life.

Blessings in Christ,
Fr. Jarett Konrade

Check us out at: www.cornerstonecharitablefoundation.org

SCHOOL Improvements

When visiting St. John's Catholic High School, keep an eye out for school improvements and repairs carried out over the summer. The high school building has updated its security system. All school staff now have key fobs to facilitate their access. The high school has received 30 new Chromebooks, as well as new History books. Chemistry, Physics, and Biology have received new lab materials and there are new whiteboards in the Science room. Finally, the gymnasium has had a new mic system installed.

The St. John's Grade School has also had its fair share of renovations. The power lines and gas meters on the playground have been buried. These are the last remnants of the landscape improvements initiated in the Spring of 2020 by Cornerstone. The grade school also got new whiteboards, desks, and 30 new Chromebooks. Make sure to check out the grade school basement, updated by Geoff Jermark. The grade school and high school buildings have been upgraded to LED lighting, thanks to Jason Carr.

The St. John's school grounds have also had improvements done. Mike Blass laid the concrete in front of the high school as well as donating doors and his time to the high school. Dean Gengler and his crew improved the powerhouse and Jesse Mudd treated the stickers on the practice field. Clint Horinek has been mowing all of the St. John's grounds.

Special thanks to everyone who made these improvements possible and donated time and resources to the projects.

Story by: Brooke Anderson '23
Photos by: Jaret Eitzmann '22, Aubrey Gengler '24, & Alan Holdren



Take a look at the new trees and landscaping completed on the south and east sides of the football field. A special thanks to Cornerstone for the grant to help purchase the trees as well as Nelson Palen and Zeb Clark for all their work in making it all happen.



Student body - Fall 2021



Exciting new manipulatives in Pre-K



Back-to-School Bash



All school Masses on Tuesdays and Thursdays are in the gym due to restoration in the church



Fr. Konrade leads a Eucharistic procession around the school campus



Life Skills visit the Lumber Yard to build planters



Grayson Gengler runs to complete the school marathon in a month



A group of students, "Forerunners" host a 7:30 am rosary on Thursday mornings at the West high school doors



Students enjoy gathering back in the cafeteria for lunch this school year



Grade School students enjoy a game of soccer at recess



Perfect shot on Picture Day



Q & A with Pruitt's 4-H show calf



Recording devotionals for KSVS Radio



First day of school smiles



SSSpecial guest in Advanced Biology



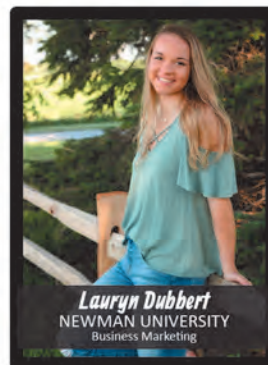
Students volunteer their time to set up for the annual Harvest Festival



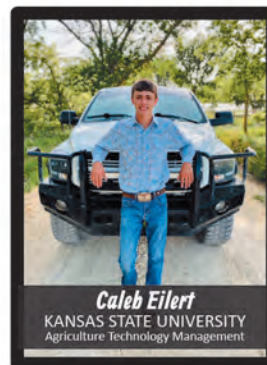
5th graders, Bryson Bergman & Avila Niewald, engaged in their Saxon math lesson



Mary Cockroft
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Pre-Veterinary Medicine



Lauryn Dubbert
NEWMAN UNIVERSITY
Business Marketing



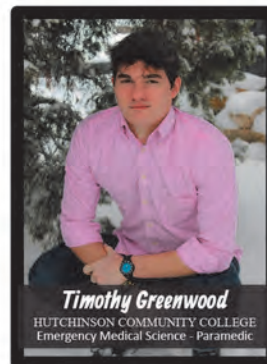
Caleb Eilert
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Agriculture Technology Management



Rachel Gengler
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD-KANSAS STATE
Elementary Education



Sarah Greenwood
CLOUD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Nursing



Timothy Greenwood
HUTCHINSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Emergency Medical Science - Paramedic



Isaac Hicks
HASTINGS COLLEGE
Psychology



Amy Lutgen
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Business Marketing



Elizaabeth Meyer
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Biology (Pre-med)



Oscar Montero
BELOIT AUTO & TRUCK PLAZA
Sales Consultant



Blake Perez
CLOUD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Criminal Justice



Brayden Perez
CLOUD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Business Administration



Lauren Schmitt
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Communications Sciences & Disorders



STAY CONNECTED

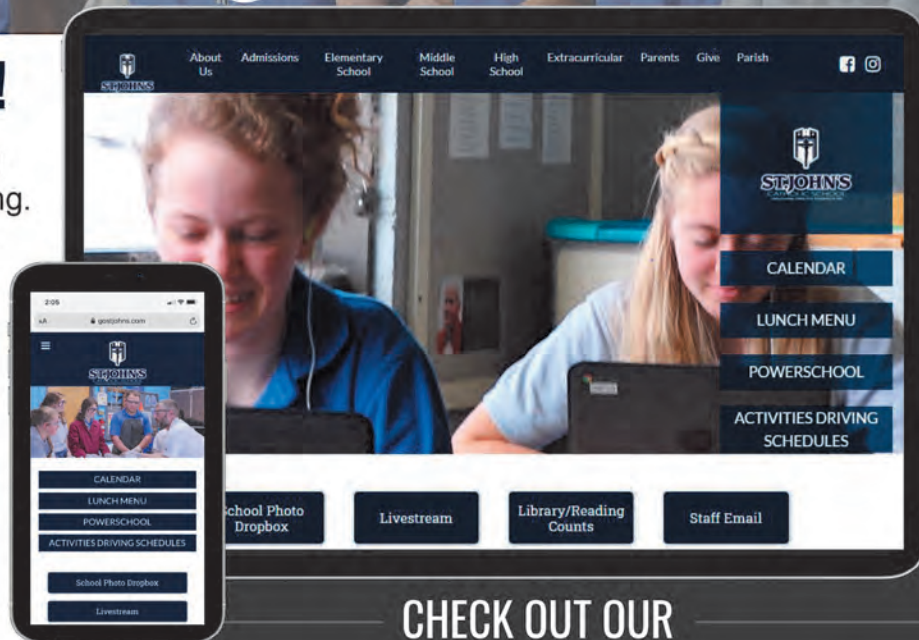
Tell Us What's New!

We want to hear about your successes and let your classmates know what you are doing. Send us your updates on milestone events happening in your life.

Have you recently...

- Earned a job promotion?
- Got engaged or married?
- Had a baby?
- Received an award?
- Earned another degree?

Email us at stjschool2021@gmail.com
We hope to hear from you soon!



CHECK OUT OUR

NEW WEBSITE

gostjohns.com



HELP SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL
WHILE SHOPPING!

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make
a donation to:

**St. John the Baptist
Parish and School of Beloit**

[Get started](#)

amazonsmile



Your current charity
St. John the Baptist Parish and School of Beloit
has received

\$1,557.69



Find us on:
facebook



Follow us on
Instagram



Alan V. Reed
DDS, MSD, PA
Specialist in Orthodontics for Children and Adults
(785) 825 - 7286
920 E. Cloud
Salina, KS 67401
www.dralanreed.com

Nutrien

Ag Solutions™

424 E. Elliot St. | Beloit, KS 67420

785-738-6617



THE TRADER

HAYS TRADER • PLAINS TRADER • STATELINE SHOPPER • WACONDA TRADER

221 S. Mill St. • Beloit, KS • 67420
785.738.2424 • 800.530.5496 • Fax: 785.738.5823

www.wacondatrader.com

ads@wacondatrader.com

printing@wacondatrader.com

DiNuzzoCounseling

Counseling from a Catholic perspective
in an online format.

Anxiety – Depression – Marriage – Family
Self-worth/Body Image – Post-Trauma

Catherine DiNuzzo, MA LPC
Licensed Professional Counselor
DiNuzzo Counseling, LLC.

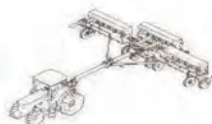
785.534.6674
Catherine@DiNuzzoCounseling.com
DiNuzzoCounseling.com

AGCO-BELOIT



SUNFLOWER
THE ULTIMATE ANSWER

Beloit & Cawker City, KS
www.sunflowermfg.com



REAL COLLEGE. REAL FAITH.
REAL RESULTS.



BENEDICTINE COLLEGE

Atchison, Kansas

1-800-467-5340

www.benedictine.edu

**BOETTCHER
AERIAL
SPRAYING**

Call Travis Lattin

(785) 738-7437
Cell

(785) 738-2902
Hangar



BOHNERT WELDING, L.L.C.
Jewell, KS

(785) 428-3238

Darrell & Damon

Bohnert

Pioneer Sales Rep

Bohnert.welding@plantpioneer.com



PIONEER
A DUPONT COMPANY

WT Repair LLC



♦ Truck & Trailer Sales ♦
Beloit, KS 67420 ♦ 785-738-3132
www.wt-repair.com

Ag Equipment • Parts
• Trucks •
Trailers • Service

Wes Thompson
785-738-3132
Beloit, KS 67420

Pump Mart
"Your one stop shop"



120 W. 8th - Beloit, KS
Joe Kindscher 785-738-3061



St. John's Catholic Church and School
622 East Main
Beloit, KS 67420
School Phone: 785-738-2942
Parish Phone: 785-738-2851
www.gostjohns.com

Return Service Requested

THE FUTURE IS NOW

Why We Give

This past year has brought many unknowns and was like nothing anyone could have predicted -- challenges worldwide and on a local level (our church fire).

We can use this opportunity as a reminder to plan for the future.

Regardless of these challenges, it is quite apparent we are very fortunate here at St John's to just have good things in motion. As evidenced with one simple fact of our enrollment at the school being 191 students, the highest it's been in 20 years!

Help us positively transform that future! Please consider a gift of 10% from your estate or will to St John's Catholic school or Cornerstone Charitable Foundation!