

Notre Dame Academy

+ HAVING FAITH IN ALL CHILDREN +

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Contacts

Ginger Vance
Principal
gvance@nda-mn.org

Liz Flom
Business Administrator
lflom@nda-mn.org

Joann Meyer
Marketing and Enrollment Mgr
jmeyer@nda-mn.org

Vivian Pritchard
Development Director
vpritchard@nda-mn.org

Louise Wilson
Administrative Assistant
lwilson@nda-mn.org

Phone: 952-358-3500

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Leaving a Legacy

By Jennifer Mattson, NDA Parent

As parents, supporters and donors to Notre Dame Academy, we often say that we want to instill our Catholic values in the next generation. But how do we know that we've accomplished that goal? At Notre Dame Academy, we're blessed to have alumni from our legacy schools (Immaculate Heart of Mary, John Ireland School, St. John's and St. Joseph's) choose Catholic school education for their children.

We talked to a few alumni whose children attend Notre Dame Academy about their memories from the time they attended, the importance of Catholic education and what they enjoy about being a parent.



Marty Finke

Graduated 1994 from John Ireland School

"A Catholic education provides a good foundation for the rest of our lives. The school community is like an extended family. The kids are names and not numbers."

Mary Newcomb Hatcher

Graduated 1965 from St. Joseph's

"I supported Notre Dame Academy as the best education. As a grandma, I remember the life-long friends, the nuns and so many memories of St. Joseph."

Jenny Mattson

Attended IHM and John Ireland, 1991-96

“I value Catholic education and this community in particular. It felt like coming home, and it’s been a blessing to experience this community life as a student and now as a parent. I love the Christmas boutique, concerts and spring play – all traditions I had been a part of and can now see my kids participate in.”



Scott Klappa

Graduated 2005 from St. John’s/John Ireland

I enjoyed my time at JIS and made my best friends while attending. This is a hope I

have for my daughter to experience as well. I love seeing her smile every day when I pick her up from school. The values NDA teaches build a life-long foundation for success.



Nicholas Murphy

Graduated 1988 from IHM

“Mrs. Gross was my 6th grade teacher. Sending my kids to Catholic school is important as it reinforces the same values that we teach at home.”



Steve Smith

Graduated John Ireland

“My Mom worked day and night to put my 5 siblings and me through Catholic schools K-8. My three kids have done so well at IHM/NDA. I have not had one regret sending them to such a great school!”

Jodie Murray | *Graduated 1998 from John Ireland School*

“I wanted my kids to have the same faith-based education I had. I also wanted them to learn about their faith in school and exemplify their morals in the community.”



A Different Way to Give

We all define giving differently, yet at the end of the day, heartfelt generosity is simply a part of who we are at Notre Dame Academy. I am constantly humbled by the many ways our families give back to our school. From the student who chose to give her birthday party money to school in lieu of gifts, to the overwhelming response to our first Day of Giving raising more than \$12,000 in 24 hours, our community responds to the call to share their gifts.

Current Notre Dame Academy parent Verna Adamak and alumni parent Paul Hickey have defined giving in a new way. Their employers both made decisions to consolidate or close offices, which meant many items, desks, office supplies, and tables were going to be tossed if a new home wasn’t found. Quick thinking and perspective on the part of these parents created an instant opportunity for NDA. Up-cycled desks and chairs have created a new Maker Space classroom. Office furniture has provided an updated look for our front office. The gift of storage units allows us to maximize our space, and office supplies helps us to reduce expenses for our upcoming year.

Each and every time someone thinks generously—and outside of the box—it benefits others. Opportunities such as this allow us to go beyond the necessities and into our wish list of enhancements we work to provide to our students and families, and their academic experience.

Thank you, Verna and Paul, for providing to our NDA students, faculty and staff these outstanding gifts. We are grateful for your generosity. Call Vivian Pritchard, Development Director, if you have questions regarding giving to NDA through gifts-in-kind.



The Notre Dame Academy Annual Fund

Critical to Notre Dame Academy's success and enrichment, the annual fund supports tuition assistance, classroom innovation and operational needs. In our second year, we more than doubled the number of donors and raised nearly \$108,000! Parents, grandparents, alumni and parishioners, *thank you* for having faith in all children! This list includes gifts made to the NDA Annual Fund from 7/1/2018 to 6/30/2019 and gifts to our inaugural Day of Giving in January. *

Legacy Donors (\$5,000+)

Dennis and Mary Biros
Jim and Mary Cron
James and Judy Flaherty
Samuel and Cindy Hanson
Michael and Emily Scott
Lester and Kristin Stanley
Albert and Mary Starshak

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Adam and Kenna Dooley
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Cary and Gina Musech
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Jane Trahms
Mildred Wesley
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Faithful Donors (\$500 - \$999)

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Erin Duffy
Marcus Genzlinger
Bill and Carol Hoffmann
Alice Miller
Vivian Pritchard
David St. Peter
Kris and Ginger Vance

Sustaining Donors (\$1-\$499)

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Mike and Sue Sullivan
Jim and Bev Sylvester
Bruce and Arlene Taber
Mark and Jewelia Wagner
Jeremy and Lindsey Wanek
Rick and Krista Wiederholt
Roberta Whitman

We have made every effort to be accurate in our donor report. Our sincerest apologies for any omissions or mistakes. Please contact Vivian Pritchard with any questions or updates.

Alumni News

Did you recently graduate from high school or college? Get married? Accomplish something grand in your career? Whether you graduated from John Ireland, St. John's, St. Joe's, IHM or NDA, please send us your good news. These photos, submitted by alumni parents, include some members of the NDA Class of 2016 who are headed off to various colleges and universities in the next phase of their academic career!



Upper photo, Benilde St. Margaret's. Front Row (L to R): Sam N., Mae M., CeCe G., Annabelle H., Dominic P., Matt G. Back Row (L to R): Max Z., Joe M., Santiago J., Brian M. Lower left photo, Holy Family (L to R): Mitchell H., Shannon H., Matthew D. Lower right photo, Hopkins (L to R): Emma R. and Michael A.



13505 Excelsior Blvd
Minnetonka, MN 55345
nda-mn.org | 952-358-3500

Deliver to:

A Legacy of Catholic Education

As a regional Catholic school with strong sponsorship from Immaculate Heart of Mary and St. Gabriel the Archangel parishes, Notre Dame Academy provides PreK – 8th grade students a Christ-centered and innovative learning environment where each student has the opportunity to grow spiritually and academically. Continuing the strong legacy spanning over half a century from John Ireland, St. John's, St. Joe's and IHM schools, Notre Dame Academy provides a caring and nurturing community for all.

Upcoming Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Aug 22	5:00 p.m.	Back to School Night	NDA
Aug 26		2019-20 School Year Begins	
Sep 12	5:00 p.m.	Pre-2nd Grade Bike Event	Cafeteria Parking Lot
Oct 4	3:30 p.m.	Blessing of the Animals	NDA Field
Oct 11	9:15 a.m.	Grandparent/VIP Day Mass and Program	IHM Church
Nov 23		Grand Beginnings	Marriott Southwest
Dec 8		Santa Breakfast	Cafeteria
Dec 19	6:30 p.m.	Christmas Concert	IHM Church
Dec 20	2:00 p.m.	Nativity Pageant	IHM Church

School tours are available to see our PK (2 year olds) through 8th grade programs.

Contact Joann Meyer at jmeyer@nda-mn.org to schedule a tour. Come and check out this parish ministry!