



A Journal of Saint Croix Catholic School

Legacy

Winter 2015

Created
For
Greatness



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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Created for



Dear Friends of St. Croix Catholic,

Our new school year is off to a great start. We are so grateful for our dedicated teachers and parents who work in partnership to form the children whom God sends to us. It's beautiful to see how open the children are to the work of the Holy Spirit. I'm shown here with students who, all on their own, organized a food drive in their neighborhood during our 2014 Service Marathon!

2014-2015

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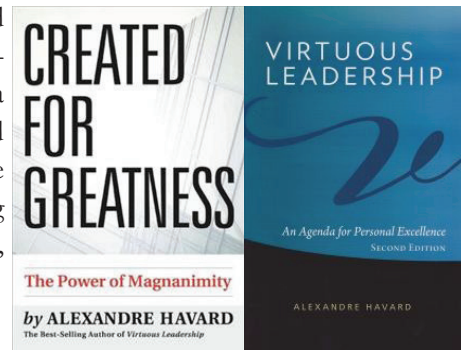
Lee Stoerzinger

Michael Whisler

I'm delighted to share with you that on February 17, 2015, we'll be welcoming Mr. Alexandre Havard for our annual *Light Their Way* gala. Mr. Havard comes to us from Europe as a world-renowned expert on the topic of Virtuous Leadership. He speaks to senior business executives and university students around the world. His book *Virtuous Leadership* (New York, 2007) has been translated into 15 languages. Mr. Havard is also the author of *Created for Greatness: The Power of Magnanimity* (Washington, 2011). Mr. Havard founded Virtuous Leadership Centers in Moscow, Washington, Shanghai, Paris, Helsinki, and Nairobi.

The topic of Virtuous Leadership is at the heart of what we do at St. Croix Catholic School (SCCS). The word *virtue* comes from the Latin *virtus*, meaning strength. We seek to form students so that they are equipped with an interior strength, a strength that comes from forming habits of self-discipline, humility, and patience. As students develop these habits, they are growing into the image that God had in mind at their creation. We are pleased to announce that the Havard Virtuous Leadership Institute (HVLI) has chosen St. Croix Catholic as the pilot school to introduce virtuous leadership formation to youth. In partnership with HVLI, we are in the process of developing a formal virtuous leadership program for our middle school entitled, *Created for Greatness*. By establishing a foundation of humility and self-knowledge in 6th grade, learning and practicing the cardinal virtues in 7th grade, and answering the call to greatness and service in 8th grade, our students will be well-prepared to encounter future challenges with a strength few possess today. It is clear that God has a plan specific to SCCS. We thank God for the opportunity to cooperate with Him in forming leaders, indeed saints, for the future, our world, and for Heaven.

Sister Mary Juliana, O.P.





For Greatness

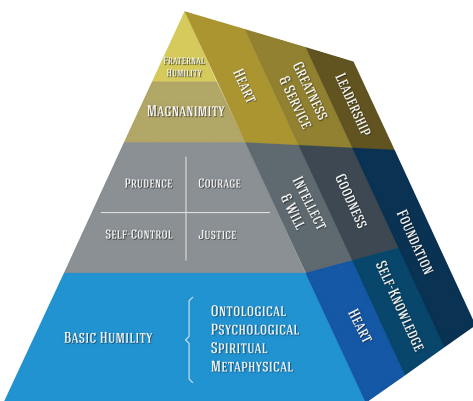
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

In partnership with the internationally renowned Harvard Virtuous Leadership Institute (HVLI), St. Croix Catholic School is establishing **Created for Greatness**, a formal leadership institute within its middle school. This partnership is the first of its kind, blending the work of two organizations that believe leaders are not born, but are formed. HVLI offers leadership training and executive development programs globally, inspired by the leadership philosophy set forth in the books by Alexandre Havard, *Virtuous Leadership* (New York, 2007) and *Created for Greatness: The Power of Magnanimity* (Washington, 2011). St. Croix Catholic uses the Dominican sisters' Virtues in Practice program throughout the school.



This past summer, as SCCS was vetting how to formalize its leadership formation so that an atmosphere in which greatness would be expected in every course and school-wide, HVLI was expanding its programming from exclusively business and universities into primary and secondary education. It was a perfect match. **SCCS was asked to be the pilot school for HVLI's foray into middle school education.**

At the core of this new Created for Greatness student leadership program is the realization that the middle school years are critical to forming life-long habits. It is these formative years in which a young person is ripe for intentional growth of specific virtues. In the 6th Grade Year, students will be challenged to develop the virtue of **humility**. In doing so, they will recognize their own God-given weaknesses and strengths, while appreciating others' challenges and gifts. As students move into 7th grade, they will delve deeply into the virtues of **prudence, courage, self-control, and justice**. These four cardinal virtues will become the foundation upon which students will launch into leadership roles in 8th grade. 8th graders will be challenged to "achieve greatness by bringing out the greatness in others." Developing virtues of **magnanimity** (greatness) and **fraternal humility** (service), this 8th grade year will be the pinnacle of the leadership program. While initiated within our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Religion courses, the program will be integrated throughout all subjects and activities of middle school. Each cycle of formation will culminate with 8th grade students presenting a digital leadership portfolio at the end of their 8th grade year.



THE VIRTUOUS LEADERSHIP PYRAMID

©ALEXANDRE HAVARD

**LEADERSHIP IS ABOUT ACHIEVING GREATNESS
BY BRINGING OUT THE GREATNESS IN OTHERS.**

Light Their Way

TUITION ASSISTANCE FUNDRAISER



“Leadership is not about your position. It’s a way of being.
Leadership is not formed by your biology. It’s formed with character.
Leadership is not a technique. It’s a habit of virtuous living.
Leadership is not a choice. It’s a call—directed to each and every one of us.”
-Alexandre Havard

Havard Virtuous Leadership Institute
with centers in Moscow, Washington, Shanghai, Paris, Helsinki, Nairobi
www.hvli.org

You are cordially invited to an elegant and festive fundraising evening that celebrates the difference of a Catholic education.

Virtuous Leadership

World-Renowned Author & Leadership Expert

Alexandre Havard

Tuesday, February 17, 2015

Social Hour 5:30 pm

Dinner 7:00 pm

Social Hall of St. Michael’s

Seats are \$250, and include a gourmet meal and open bar

Proceeds from this annual fundraiser support the St. Croix Catholic Tuition Assistance program, ensuring that all who desire a faith-based education may have access.



VIRTUOUS LEADERSHIP

Tom Hooley '77

Reflecting on his decision to name Tom Hooley '77 trustee of St. Michael's parish, Pastor Michael Miller comments, "Tom has a great love for our parish and school, and he leads by example. It's evident that he was formed in the faith from a very early age. He embodies all that we hope for in our Catholic school graduate. Tom knows his faith – and he lives it. He is a humble servant, a prudent decision maker, and a courageous follower of Christ's teachings. By example, he inspires generosity in others. He is truly a virtuous leader."

Tom credits family and faith for his formation; the following is an excerpt from a recent interview.

I was blessed to have the best parents anyone could ever ask for, and they were the primary teachers of how to live the virtues of our faith. My time at St. Croix Catholic School was a perfect complement to their efforts. Every day, we were taught and reminded the teachings of the faith. Sometimes we needed more reminding than others, and Sister Margaret or Sister Kathleen would need to get after us. But, I appreciated their efforts of keeping us in line! Sister Kathleen met us each day with the Irish greeting, "Top 'o the morning to you," and we were expected to give a hearty reply, "and the rest of the day to you Sister!" I think Sister would be proud that I often bellow that greeting as I walk into the office in the mornings!

St. Croix Catholic School was a huge part of my life and my Catholic school classmates are still some of best friends today. I think that the school was a good one then in terms of academics, but it now is much better. I really believe that it is simply one of the best schools in the state and the statistics prove that. If you look at the percentage of award level high school graduates who began their formative years at SCCS, you would be stunned how many are from SCCS.

Patty and I have five children (Erin '01, Patrick '02, Bridget '05, Maggie '05, and Mary '09) and each of them went through 8th grade at SCCS. We could not be more pleased. They received a great academic experience, but even more importantly, they received a great training in their faith. Our five kids would echo my comments and say that SCCS was a key part of developing their faith. In fact, they joke that as they took their college theology classes, they seemed to know a lot more about the faith than any of their classmates. Looking back, I really don't think that there is any better investment a parent can make in their children's lives than to do everything you can to ensure that they have a strong faith!

As Trustee, I see the finances at SCCS and see the incredible efforts that are made to provide a truly great education on a tight budget. One of the commitments that Patty and I made as we put together our plans for giving back was to make giving to the Church and to our Catholic school a key priority. We feel strongly that, while there are all sorts of worthy causes in the world today, there really is nothing more important than helping people learn about their faith and grow closer to God. It is why we were created."



Tom Hooley '77, far right, is Senior VP and Managing Director for Wells Fargo Institutional Asset Management. This fall, Tom and Patty celebrated their 27th Wedding Anniversary and welcomed their first grandchild, Amelia Joy. In addition to his role as trustee of St. Michael's parish, Tom has also served as a Parish Finance Council member, adult sacristan, co-coordinator of the St. Faustina Adoration Chapel, SCCS Board member, and member of the Investment Committee for Catholic Charities.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Ephesians 6:10

Your Life, Your Legacy

If you were to write a letter to your children or loved ones in your family....

- † What would you want them to remember about your life?
- † What wisdom would you want to pass on to them?
- † What values would you leave them?
- † Where would you place your Catholic faith and Catholic education in this final message?

St. Croix Catholic School is pleased to offer you several opportunities to “Leave a Legacy” that are in line with your Catholic values. You can leave a gift that has a special meaning, such as books for the school library, equipment for the playground, or technology for the classroom. Through our tuition assistance program, you can ensure that all who desire a Catholic education may have access. You can make a gift to our Endowment Fund, and in this fund of perpetuity, this gift will continue to give for years to come. Any of these Legacy gifts can be made through wills, bequests, life insurance, charitable remainder trusts, or gifts of appreciated property (such as stocks, bonds, or real estate). Benefactors, ages 70 1/2 who are required to take minimum yearly distributions from individual retirement accounts, may be able to start their legacy gifting during their lifetime, by choosing to make direct contributions to SCCS. Contact Camille Kiolbasa, Development Director, for more information, 651.439.5581 x310 or ckiolbasa@stccs.com.



In Thanksgiving to
God for our Beloved
Grandchildren
Gary and Mary Williams

IN MEMORY OF MARY O'BRIEN FORBES

Legacy Giving

- † Individual retirement account distributions
- † Wills
- † Bequests
- † Life insurance
- † Charitable Remainder Trusts
- † Gifts of appreciated property, such as stocks, bonds, or real estate

Contact Camille Kiolbasa, Development Director, for more information, 651.439.5581 x310 or ckiolbasa@stccs.com.



expanding the selection of books available to our students. When purchasing new books for the library, we strive to obtain high quality fiction and non-fiction materials that support and enhance our grade level curriculums. Some resources we consult when purchasing books include teachers, book award lists, other libraries and librarians, publishing companies, parents, and students. In this way, we meet the need of all students.”

We are so very grateful to the family of Mary (Desta) O'Brien Forbes. To honor Mary, an alumnus of St. Michael's School (Class of 1940), the family recently directed memorial gifts to St. Croix Catholic School's library. Mary's daughters, Nancy Mosack and Joan Shelton, shared, “We feel this is a fitting gift to honor our mother who raised two English teachers.” Mary passed away in September 2014. School librarian, Jenny Koenning, notes, “This generous gift will go a long way toward updating and



17 STUDENTS SERVED BY ASSISTANCE GRANT



Father Michael Miller, Canonical Administrator, and Sister Mary Juliana, Principal, receive a grant in support of tuition assistance from Anne Miller and Bill Marsella of the Catholic Community Foundation.



St. Croix Catholic was blessed this fall to receive a grant of \$8,500 from the Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota to provide tuition assistance for families in need at St. Croix Catholic School.

This funding is made possible by generous donors who established or contributed to funds at the Catholic Community Foundation. We are grateful to these donors and to the Foundation for their dedicated support of Catholic education. From this gift, we were able to allocate \$500 each to 17 students in need. While our total tuition assistance need still looms large (over \$260,000), this grant is a major boost to our tuition assistance program and helps make St. Croix Catholic an affordable option for families.

The Catholic Community Foundation www.ccf-mn.org is an autonomous organization that manages charitable funds and provides grants to parishes, schools, and other nonprofits in our Catholic community. Anyone can contribute to the Catholic Community Foundation to support the spiritual, educational, and social needs of our Catholic community. If you would like more information, please contact Kelly Webster at 651.389.0875 or websterk@ccf-mn.org.

MAJOR IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS 2013-2014

Golf Tournament

Modernistic—Hole Sponsorship signs

Bishop John LeVoir Legacy Garden

Schifsky Landscaping—labor and materials

Technology Plan

Tierney Education—equipment and training

School Library, Mac Lab, and Main Entrance

Inside Edge Commercial Interior Services—carpet

Annual SCCS Basketball Tournament

Stillwater Area High School, SCCS alumni and families

Light Their Way dinner

Tierney Education—audio/visual equipment

Paul Loomis and Bob Durland—feature video

Mark Raney of Design by Cre8.com—invite and program

Tony and Sara Yocum—spirits donation

Dave Middleton—culinary skills

Knights of Columbus—mixes and bartenders

Grand Catering—linens

PJ Murphy's—desserts

Great Harvest—dinner rolls

Men's Club—cash donation to offset costs

Council of Catholic Women—cash donation to offset costs

SCCS FACULTY

Legacy of Excellence



Which of the original 13 colonies was the best?" Ms. Emmi Santos, middle school History teacher, guides 7th grade students in their quest to influence classmates through lively debates that their colony was the best. Students were grouped into five different debate teams. The goal of each team was to prove that their colony was the best. After reading general information about the colonies, each team had to reach a consensus on which colony they collectively thought would be best, and then performed more extensive research on the colony. They were asked to examine and evaluate social, religious, economic, political, intellectual aspects of their colony's development. They also researched the other teams' colonies in order to find faults. In addition, they crafted ways to defend their colonies against possible "attacks" from the other teams. Students presented their arguments in four different rounds during the debate.



St. Croix Catholic employs a benchmark leveled reading program, which allows teachers to truly meet the needs of the individual student. For example, teachers are able to observe specifically which comprehension skills individual students are missing and place students in appropriate reading groups to practice building these specific skills. The teacher can also observe at what level a child is reading independently, and offer appropriate opportunities for growth.



In a unit on vibration, Mrs. Binford's third grade used their knowledge of sound, mathematical calculations, and creativity to design and make their very own kazoos. The class treated the school to the tune of Happy Birthday!

ACCREDITATION UPDATE

St. Croix Catholic School is fully accredited through Minnesota Nonpublic Schools Accreditation Association (MNSAA). We are currently in the 6th year of a 7-year accreditation cycle. This 6th year, known as the "self-study" year requires an in-depth self evaluation of our overall school profile as well as eight standards: mission and philosophy, curriculum and instruction, learner performance, school climate and facilities, community relations, personnel, leadership and governance, and school improvement. The entire staff at St. Croix Catholic is involved in collecting "evidence" of complying with these standards and writing plans for improvement where applicable. This is a labor-intensive undertaking, but well worth the effort, in that earning this accreditation is an external validation of the quality of education St. Croix Catholic School offers.

Service Above Self



Each year, we come together as a school family to express our faith through service to others during the St. Croix Catholic All-School Service Marathon. The purpose of this effort is two-fold: To build an even stronger community of faith and raise necessary annual funds to support our school.

In this effort, each student commits to performing 26 acts of service, mimicking a marathon. As students are out in the community performing

this service, community members are invited to make contributions to the school in honor of the students' work and in appreciation of our school's mission to develop virtuous, selfless leaders.

We are pleased to share that this year's Service Marathon was a tremendous success: over 10,000 acts of service were completed and over \$80,000 was contributed in support of the school.

The campaign kicked off mid October with large group projects. Our primary students, grades K-2, sang at Linden Nursing Home. Intermediate grades 3-5 spent an afternoon cleaning debris from gravestones at St. Michael's Cemetery. Middle school students packed over 32,000 meals for Feed My Starving Children. Additionally, in the

final three weeks of the Service Marathon, many individual students challenged themselves to new experiences, including organizing food drives in their neighborhoods, leading basketball camps for younger students, cleaning up litter in public parks, raising funds for worthy causes, making blankets for midwife packets in developing countries, and reading to younger children. We are proud of our students and grateful to all who supported them.

"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve."

Mark 10:45



Legacy of Dedication



ALUMNI RETURN TO TEACH

We are blessed to have those formed well in mind, body, and spirit to come back and share their gifts as teachers.

Alumni on our current faculty include:

Back row: Jackie (Kaeder) Valerius '78, Communications

Jenny (Cole) Koenning '82- School Librarian

Front row: Allie Krenz '02 - Spanish

Maria Moosbrugger '05 - Ark of Angels Preschool and Educational Paraprofessional SCCS

Audrey (Anderson) Moorhouse '04 - Middle School Science

ALUMNI RETURN TO VOLUNTEER



Sue Rossini Faust '79 is a regular friendly face on the school's playground. She is shown here with her nephew Zach Faust (far left) and friends. They love when "Aunt Sue" volunteers. Sue has been doing playground duty for seven years, even though all her boys have graduated from SCCS. Sue shared, "I started doing recess because I thought it would be a fun way to help out, and I continue to do it as a way to give back to the school that provided my husband and I, as well as our three boys, a great education and foundation for life. I also enjoy being outside and interacting with the kids." Sue is married to Scott Faust (also from the class of '79). Their three boys, Willie '06, Andy, '08, Max '12, all graduated from SCCS as well.

ALUMNI RETURN—WITH CHILDREN!

Throughout our nearly 160 years, we have been blessed with continual presence of many local families. Some families have been with us for five generations! In any given year, we could come up with an impressive list. In this issue, we share with you the 2014-2015 parents who attended St. Croix Catholic as students (some not that long ago!), and now are returning with their own children.

*"We love St. Croix Catholic. It feels like an extension of our family."
-Abby Brine Dean '93*

Teresa (Cover) Alessi

Annie (Moosbrugger)

Berthiaume

Doug Brady

Diana (Harriman) Colburn

Dan de St Aubin

Abby (Brine) Dean

John deLeon

Andrea (Pizinger) Donar

Eileen (Keating) Douglass

Anne (Williams) Droske

Dan Eder

Ed Eichten

Dave Faust

Heidi (Schmitt) Franke

Rob Gag

Katie (Flick) Harris

Rick Hill

Emily (Herrlein) Johnson

Paul Kiolbasa

Jim Liberty

Michael Meisterling

John Nolde

Matthew Oakes

Maria (Williams) O'Malley

Sarah (Speltz) Beskar

Carol (Nelson) Smith

Michael Speltz

Bob Stanislaw

Pat Thueson

Colene (Cairn) Tschoepe

Jackie (Kaeder) Valerius

Paul Williams

Lisa (Matschina) Woodward

Eric Zawislak



ALUM NOTES

Hill-Murray High School

Colin Little, Football Section 4AAAA, All-Conference
Alina Gartner, September Physical Science Wizard
Patrick Kennedy, November Biology Science Wizard
Bridget Nath, November CIS/Honors Anatomy and Physiology Science Wizard

St. Thomas Academy High School

Eagle Awards presented to students who had an annual cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.67 in the 2013-2014 school year:

- Grant Bowersox 12
- Joseph Hughes 10
- Daniel Riehm 10
- Joseph Riehm 12



David Simmet, SCCS Class of 2007, was recently named to the 2014 Capital One Academic All-America first team for Division III football. Simmet, #75 offensive lineman for the University of St. Thomas, holds a 3.96 grade-point average as a Business and Accounting double major.

"Academic All-America is rewarding for me because this was always a goal of mine," Simmet shares. "My parents instilled in me the value of education when I was young, and they sent me to Catholic schools so I would get the Catholic tradition. I've developed a love for learning, and football actually helps me to stay on track with school with time management."

Source: tommiesports.com



2014 SCCS Graduates (left to right) Noah Schraut, Bankange Ajak, and Adrianna Christ received Eagle Awards this fall. Stillwater's 9th grade faculty selected the students for their outstanding effort, achievement, and leadership in their class, school, and community.

Additional SCCS Alumni recently presented with Stillwater Eagle Awards:

- Nicholas Gag, 9th Spanish
- Kendra Middleton, 9th Spanish
- Claire Summary, 9th Science
- Luke Magner, 9th Science



Stay updated on all the happenings at St. Croix Catholic on our Facebook page—we post daily!

We encourage Alumni to create "Group" pages to post News, Photos, and reunion announcements.

The Legacy invites your submissions for Alum Notes. Please email your news to Camille Kiolbasa at ckiolbasa@stccs.com. If you send a photo, it must be in a jpg format. Please understand that submissions are subject to editing.



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

ckiolbasa@stccs.com

Please send any change of address or discontinuation notices. Thank you!

Events Winter 2015

January 4

3rd Annual SCCS Basketball Tournament at Stillwater High School

January 7

First All-School Mass of the New Year, coffee with parents to follow

January 9

Toddler/Preschool Story Time

January 23

A Mid Summer's Night Dream, 8th Grade Theatrical Performance

January 25

**Catholic Schools Week Open House and Pancake Breakfast
 Science Fair**

January 30

All-School Faith Rally

February 2015

I Love to Read Month

February 9-13

Environmental Learning Center 8th Grade Phone: 651.439.5581

Fax: 651.439.8360

Email: ckiolbasa@stccs.com

Web site: stcroixcatholic.org



Connect with us!

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St. Croix Catholic Light Their Way

Tuesday, February 17, 2015

Social Hour 5:30 pm

Dinner 7:00 pm

Social Hall of St. Michael's
 Seats are \$250, and include
 a gourmet meal.

Virtuous Leadership

World-Renowned Author
 & Leadership Expert

Alexandre Havard

RSVP: amymv@comcast.net