



aloysius alive

Vol. 36 No. 4

March 2021



‘Faith, Excellence, Service’

SAS reflects on accomplishments during Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools across America celebrated Catholic Schools week from Sunday, Jan. 31, to Saturday, Feb. 6. This was an opportunity for faculty, students and alumni to get together, celebrate and appreciate our accomplishments as a Catholic school. St. Aloysius School participated

in various Catholic Schools Week activities. Throughout the week, morning assembly prayer services focused on the motto “Faith, Excellence, Service.”

Students reflected on their school and on Catholic Education by completing various activities in class. For example, Ms.

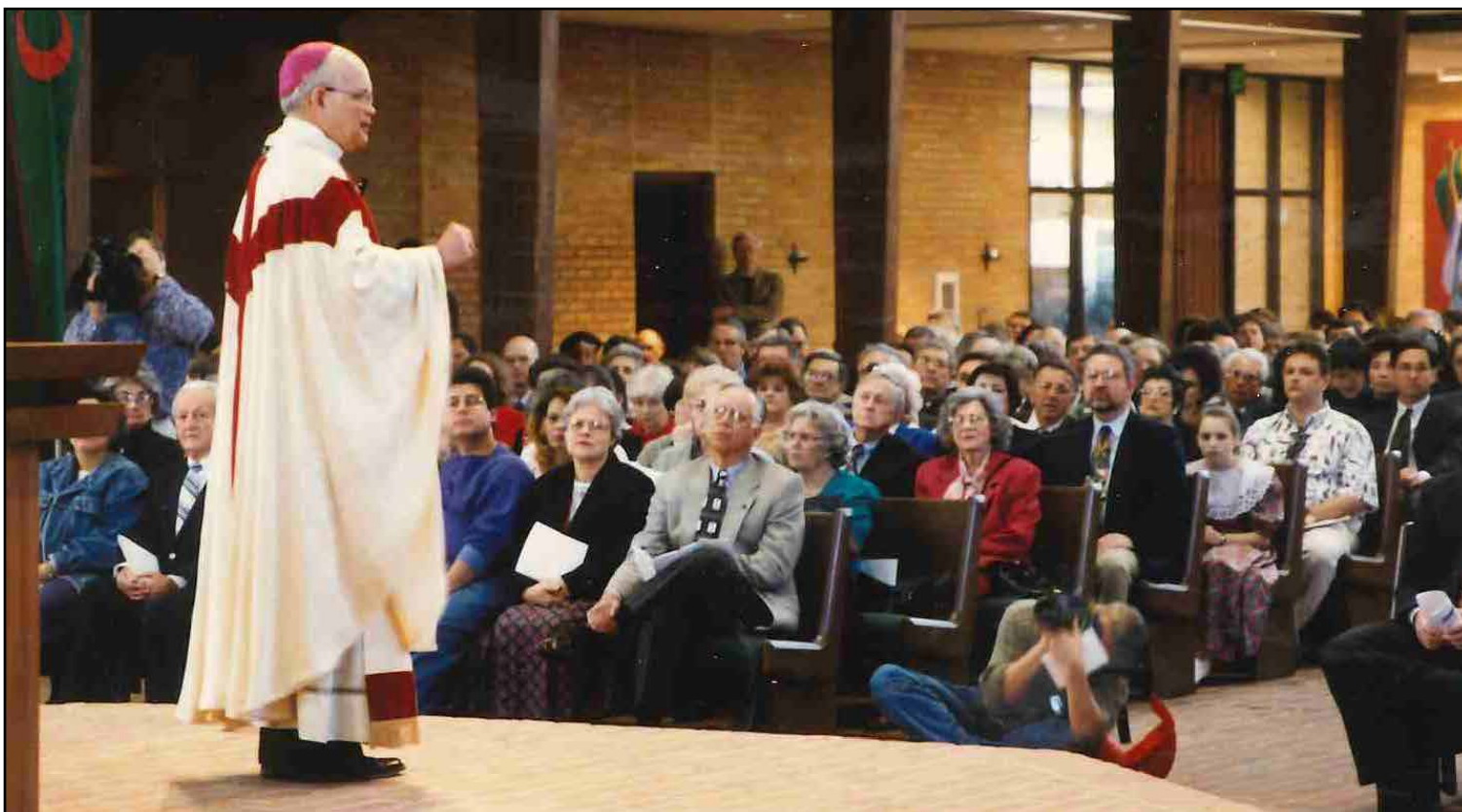
Register’s fourth-graders made acrostic poems using the letters of the name “St. Aloysius.” These poems contained adjectives describing our school. Eighth-graders completed an assignment in which they surrounded the Catholic Schools Week logo with ways to strengthen the traits of

faith, excellence and service in their lives.

On Monday, students and faculty who passed through the cafeteria had the opportunity to view a banner that incorporated a slip of paper from every student and faculty member in

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‘New’ Church’s Silver Jubilee



Bishop of Baton Rouge, Alfred C. Hughes gives a homily to the St. Aloysius faithful.

First Mass was 25 years ago

By Tyler Waggenpack

March 2 marked the Silver Jubilee for our “new” church building. That day in 1996 was a momentous occasion, when the church officially opened for worship. A dedication Mass was held

at that time with Bishop Alfred C. Hughes as the celebrant alongside co-celebrants Father Hubert J. Brou, pastor; Father Gregory J. Daigle, associate pastor; and other clergymen.

The new church marked the

realization of a dream first conceived over 60 years ago when St. Aloysius formed. The old church (now Parish Hall) was meant to be “temporary,” and for years the idea of a new church building circulated while construction on the school and other church parish buildings continued. After

More photos, Page 8.

many years of planning, everything came to fruition for the construction of the new church.

Here’s to many more years of gatherings for worship, prayer, etc. in our new church!

By Father Randy M. Cuevas

Since the COVID-19 shutdowns in March 2020, several staff vacancies were filled, which have represented great news for our St. Aloysius Parish family!



Couvillion

The position of Assistant Director at our Child Care Center (SACCC) was vacant since May 2019, until it was filled in May 2020 by Mrs. Sharon Couvillion. Sharon holds an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education from South Louisiana Community College, and a B.A. Degree from UL in Lafayette with a concentration in Behavioral Sciences.

She brought to us 16 years of experience in early childhood education, having served as manager of the toddlers’ building at *Gateway Preschool and Technology Center*, and a Pre-K teacher at Gateway. She was voted 2017-2018 “Preschool Teacher of the Year” by Ascension Parish business owners.

Continued on page 3

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Baton Rouge, LA 70808

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Holy Week and the Paschal Triduum Schedule 2021



Palm Sunday: March 27/28

*Our regular weekend schedule: Vigil Mass, Saturday at *4:30 PM,
Sunday Masses at 7 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, & 5:30 PM.*

*The processions from the Bell Tower will not be held this year.
Blessed palms will be available for you to take home at the end of each Mass.*

Monday of Holy Week: March 29, 6 AM Mass

Tuesday of Holy Week: March 30, 8 AM Mass

Wednesday of Holy Week: March 31, 6 AM Mass

Holy Thursday: April 1 (There is only one Mass today.)

***7 PM, The Mass of the Lord's Supper**

*Following Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
will continue in the Parish Hall until Midnight.*

Good Friday: April 2 (All services held in the Church)

8:30 AM, Chaplet of Divine Mercy

9 AM, Morning Prayer

*Silent Prayer Observing the Three Hours of Christ's Passion
will be observed from Noon until 3 PM.*

Noon, Solemn Stations of the Cross

***3 PM, Celebration of the Lord's Passion**

Holy Saturday: April 3 (Services held in the Church)

8:30 AM Chaplet of Divine Mercy

9 AM Morning Prayer

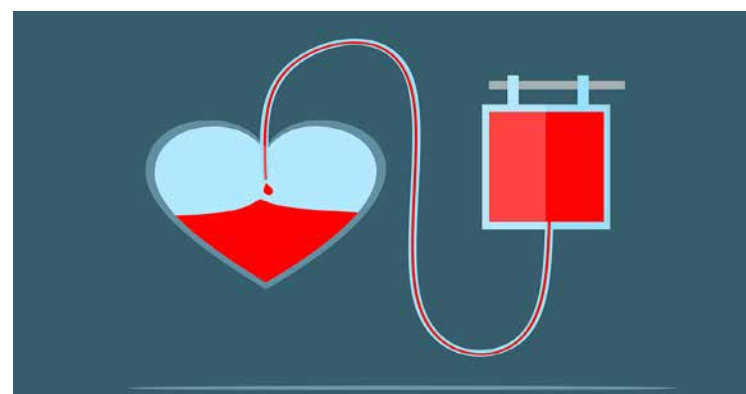
The Solemn Vigil of Easter: Saturday, April 3 at *8 PM (No 4:30 PM Mass today.)

Easter Sunday: April 4

8:30 AM Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Church)

Masses at 7 AM, *9 AM, 11 AM & 5:30 PM

The * denotes Mass is live streamed via our website at alloysius.org/livestream or on our
Facebook page at [Facebook.com/StAloysiusCatholicChurch](https://www.facebook.com/StAloysiusCatholicChurch)



March blood drive benefits local family

Thank you to all who participated in our March blood drive, sponsored by Our Lady of the Lake Blood Donor Center. We had 27 people donate and 26 units of blood collected.

Every time you give blood, you save a life. That's especially the case for Blayne Griffin, the teenage son of Corporal William "Billy" Griffin. Billy is an East Baton Rouge Parish sheriff's deputy who often rotates security details for our Sunday morning Masses. This blood drive ben-

efited Blayne, who is scheduled for surgery at the end of March to remove his pelvis due to cancer. The drive helped Blayne's parents with monetary credits to assist with medical expenses along with ensuring there's an adequate supply readily available.

"We are so very blessed by all of you! Thank you so much for this! Our hearts are overwhelmed by everyone's generosity!" said Robin Griffin, Billy's wife and Blayne's mother.

Regular Mass Schedule

SATURDAY

*Vigil 4:30 PM

SUNDAY

7 AM, *9 AM, 11 AM & 5:30 PM

DAILY MASSES

Monday & Wednesday, 6 AM

Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 8 AM

The * denotes Mass is live streamed via our website
at alloysius.org/livestream or on our Facebook page at
[Facebook.com/StAloysiusCatholicChurch](https://www.facebook.com/StAloysiusCatholicChurch)

CONFESSIONS: Monday and Wednesday after 6 AM Mass;
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30-8:00 AM; Saturday
3:30-4:30 PM (when the adjacent Mass is celebrated).

FUNERALS: Please contact the Parish Office prior to
scheduling with the funeral home. If after hours, follow
directions on voicemail.

PARISH SCHOOL: For information, phone 383-3871,
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

NURSERY/CHILDCARE CENTER: For information,
phone 343-1338, 7 AM - 5:30 PM Monday through Friday.

BAPTISM: Please contact the Parish Office during early
months of pregnancy. Baptismal preparation is required.

SPONSORS: Baptism & Confirmation sponsors must be
confirmed practicing Catholics in good standing in the
Catholic Church, and if not St. Aloysius Parishioners, must
provide a letter of good standing from the parish where they
are registered.

MARRIAGE: Couples are asked to contact the priest at the
beginning of the period of engagement at least six months
prior to the projected date of the marriage.

CARE OF THE SICK: The Eucharist is brought to the sick
weekly and hospital visits made weekly. Families of the sick
are encouraged to notify the Parish Office.

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic set to give second doses

Don't forget, the second dates of the COVID-19
Vaccination Clinic at St. Aloysius April 5 and
April 15 from 8 AM to 1 PM. This is for those who
have already received their first dose of the Moderna vaccine back on March 8 and March 18 and
are scheduled to get a second dose. You should already have your second appointment scheduled.

For further information, contact Angela Falgoust at afalgoust@stalloysiusparish.com or by
calling the church office at (225) 343-6657 during
normal business hours, which are 8 AM to 4 PM,
Monday through Thursday, and 8 AM to noon on
Fridays.

alloysius alive Staff



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Faces, From Page 1

Sharon is an independent Louisiana Pathways certified trainer for *Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing* regulations. She has devoted her life and career to nurturing and educating every child she is fortunate enough to encounter. She believes that children can attain any goal given the proper support, education and love. Sharon and her husband reside in south Baton Rouge.

The position of Church Communications Director had been vacant since March 2018 when Mrs. Mary Dawson was hired as the St. Aloysius School (SAS) Development Director. Mr. Tyler Waggenspack joined our parish staff as Director of Communications in August 2020. Tyler is a lifelong St. Aloysius parishioner, the son of Dr. Warren and Joni Waggenspack, and grandson of the late Warren and Necia Waggenspack, who were charter parishioners.

Having been a student himself at St. Aloysius School, Tyler is a 2011 graduate of Redemptorist High School in Baton Rouge, and a 2016 graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond. He was a member of SLU's cross country and track teams, and was very active in SLU's Catholic Student Association at St. Albert Catholic Stu-

dent Center.

Tyler came to us from WVLA/WGMB (N B C / F o x) television station in Baton Rouge, where he was an evening news producer. In

prior positions, he was a news reporter for KNOE-TV (CBS) in Monroe and a reporter/anchor/producer for KCWY-TV (NBC) in Casper, Wyo. In his position at Aloysius, he oversees church communications in both print and digital platforms, including live-streamed Masses.

"I'm eager to share my experience and gifts with our parish family! I'm excited to be at Aloysius, which has been a big part of my life for so many years," Tyler said. "Joining the church staff is like a second homecoming to me."

The position of Facilities Manager for our 12-acre campus became vacant in August 2020 and was filled in October 2020 when Mr. Ronnie Haliburton was hired to fill the position.

A native of New Orleans, Ronnie grew up in Port Arthur, Texas. After high school, he returned to



Waggenspack



Haliburton

Louisiana to attend LSU, where he was a stand-out tight end for four seasons (1986-1989) with the LSU Tigers, and was a member of two SEC championship teams. Selected in the 1990 NFL draft, he played two seasons with the Denver Broncos (1990 - 1991).

Having earned his B.A. at LSU, he began his work career there in 1996 in the residential life department as a manager and coordinator. From there, he joined LSU's facility maintenance department in which he was responsible for the management of custodial operations, special event crews, stock room inventory and equipment repairs.

From there, he joined LSU's Athletic Department as its Di-

rector of Athletic Facility Management. In 2007, he became an Associate Athletic Director for Athletic Facility Management, and in 2009, Senior Associate Athletic Director for Athletic Facility Management. In 2015, he was elevated to Associate Athletic Director for Operations and Facility Enhancements to oversee the day-to-day operations of all facilities, grounds, game and event management of LSU Athletics, a role in which he served until his retirement from LSU in 2019 with 20+ years of service.

The St. Aloysius Church Facilities Manager has overall responsibility for all church-owned grounds and buildings, including those primarily occupied and

utilized by SAS and SACCC, as well as the hiring and supervision of our maintenance and custodial staff members. He acts as the Church Staff-Liaison with our parish Facilities and Maintenance Committee. Ronnie is an active member of St. Gerard Majella Church in Baton Rouge, and is the proud father of three grown daughters, Chantaé, Lauren and Rohnny.

We are blessed to welcome these great additions to our parish staff to enhance the services provided to all our parishioners! Stay tuned to future editions of *Aloysius Alive*, which will continue to highlight other members of our team!

Parents of infants can learn about Baptism at website

Parents interested in baptizing their young child or infant may go to www.aloysius.org and click on to 'Sacraments' to review the Infant Baptism Policy. The Baptismal Information Form should be sent to Tricia Greely at tgreely@staloysius-parish.com or delivered to the Pastoral Services Center either by hand or mail.

■ Sponsors: Sponsors must be confirmed, practicing Catholics in Good Standing in the Catholic Church and are required to submit a completed Baptismal Sponsor Certificate signed by a priest in the parish where he/she

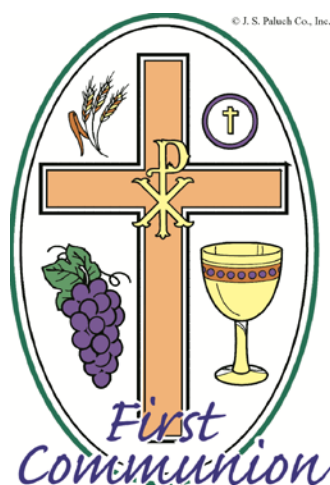
is registered. Please return this form by e-mail or fax 225-344-6847.

■ Schedule a Baptism: Due to the COVID -19 pandemic, all Baptisms at St. Aloysius are currently being scheduled outside of the Mass. Please contact Tricia Greely at the church office at tgreely@staloysiusparish.com or at 225 343-6657 to schedule a Baptism.

■ Baptismal Seminars: Please go to our website at www.aloysius.org to view and complete the Online Baptismal Seminar.

First Eucharist information available

First Eucharist will be celebrated during all the Sunday Liturgies on May 1-2 and May 8-9. Our First Eucharist Afternoon of Reflection and Parent Meeting Video Presentation has been emailed to First Eucharist parents. After watching the video presentation, parents can sign up for their child(ren)'s First Eucharist Mass. For further information, please contact Tricia Greely at the church office at 225-343-6657 or by email: tgreely@staloysiusparish.com



Thank you to our sponsors!



Auction fundraising ministry does it again!

The Auction Committee would like to thank each and every sponsor, donor, volunteer, those who purchased items online and all of our auction bidders. We were blown away, but not surprised, by the encouragement, enthusiasm and generosity of all of our parishioners and friends who made this auction so special.

Thanks to your patronage, the St. Aloysius Auction raised over \$120,000 to support our parish, with almost \$20,000 being devoted to the Parish's Scholarship Endowment held at St. Aloysius School! Your unwavering dedication will make a

difference for years to come.

The Auction Committee would like to especially thank: Matt Zylcz for his support of our efforts; and Shaun Lato, Bert Lousteau and Tyler Waggenspack for creating our streaming video, taking our Virtual Auction to the next level! We cannot wait until next year to see everyone back on campus for a Louisiana Saturday Night! Save the Date: Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022!

— Grace Ann Ourso and Katey Bergeron, Auction Co-Chairs



Child Care Center students, staff spring into fun

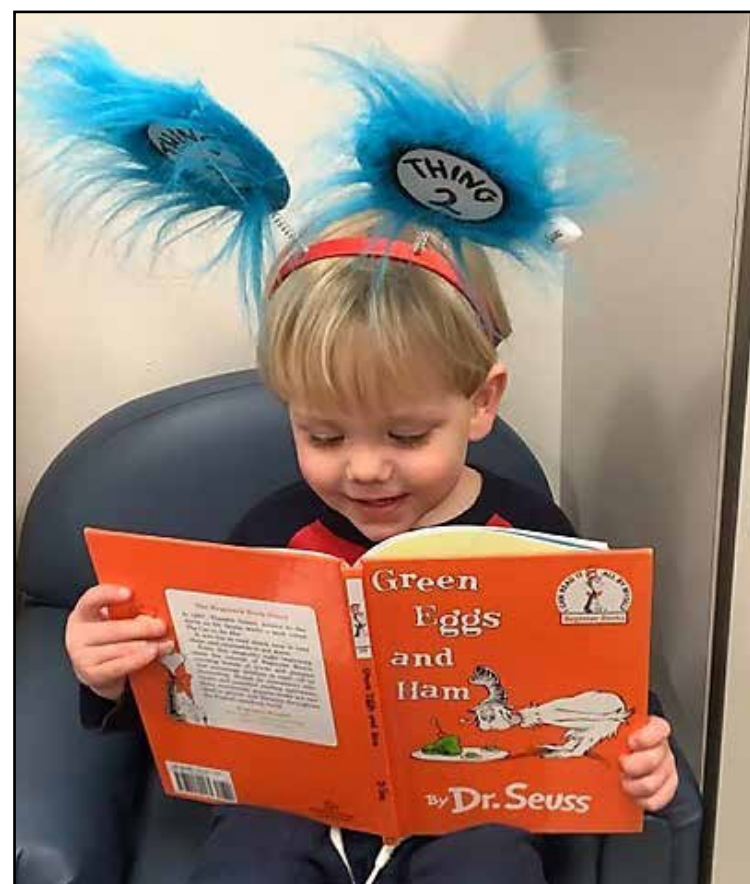
The spring fun at the Child Care Center brought plenty of smiles to the students, teachers and parents, starting with the celebration of "100 Days"! Children wore clothes with 100 items: buttons, stickers, dots, and more.

In January, the center honored Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and learned all about the letters M, N and O, as well as the Creation Bible story.

February was a whirlwind of fun and excitement as well. The children made Valentine's art and honored Black History Month by learning about black innovators and heroes. They did crafts and activities with the let-

ters P, Q and R, and celebrated St. Valentine's Day and Krewe of Tots. This year for Mardi Gras fun, the older classes decorated shoebox floats and paraded around the center donning hats, beads and festive attire. Even a few friendly dinosaurs participated!

March brought us more reasons to celebrate with Dr. Seuss' birthday and the anniversaries of cereal and the beloved Oreo. Fun lessons with letters will include S, T and U. The children look forward to Shamrock Fun and Easter hunts as they prepare for Jesus' resurrection (and of course the Easter Bunny and candy)!





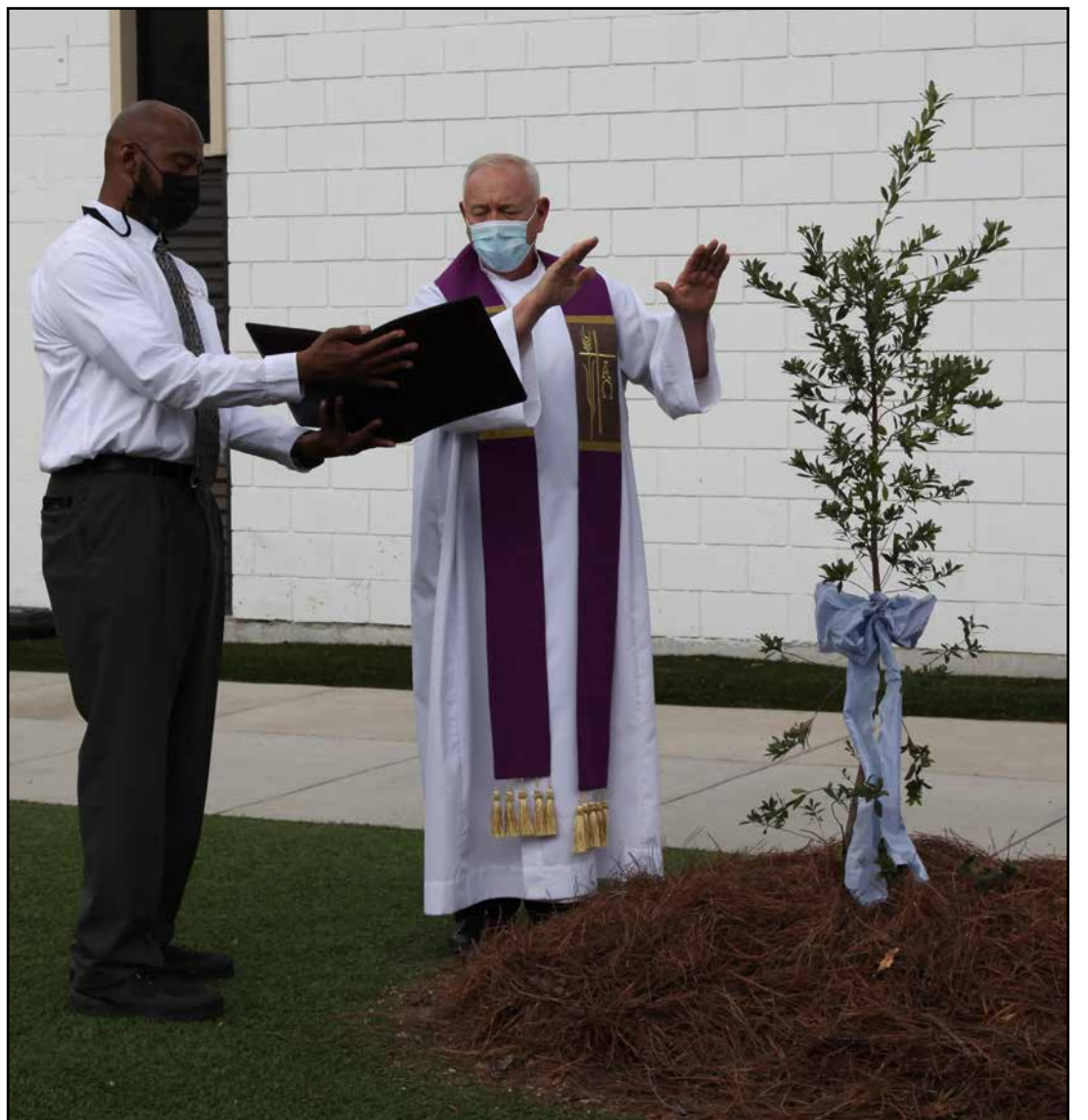
Interested in more information about Gentle Hands Ministry?

Gentle Hands is a ministry of St. Aloysius Parish that supports families who have suffered the death of a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, early infant loss or other tragedies.

Organizational meetings to determine ways to offer support and to plan healing events for families suffering the loss of a child are held periodically during the year. A remem-

brance service is held once a year.

To find out more information, or to volunteer, please email 4gentlehands@gmail.com



Blessing of Freeman Memorial Tree

Father Randy blesses a newly planted tree in front of the Old School Gym. The tree is in honor of Mrs. Jackie Freeman, a longtime St. Aloysius parishioner who died last year.

SAS student honored for idea encouraging girls in sports

Michelle Daigle may be new to St. Aloysius School this year, but she is not new to the sport of basketball. Michelle has been playing on an AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) team since she was in the fifth grade. It was the coach of her AAU team that encouraged Michelle and teammate Imani Daniels to submit an entry in the Nike “Game-Growers” competition.

“Game Growers” is a program

that encourages girls in eighth grade to participate in sports as they move into their high school years. Nationally, it is reported that 50 percent of female athletes quit participating in sports as they leave the eighth grade. Nike, the WNBA and the NBA have joined forces to encourage girls to stay in the game. The program asks girls who are partnered as “co-captains” to develop an idea that will help other girls feel more

comfortable participating in high school sports programs.

On a Friday afternoon, Michelle’s mom picked her up at school to go to Riverside Academy to watch her friend Imani play in a game. When they arrived, Michelle and her mom saw that the gym was dark. They were instructed to stand in a certain spot and wait. What a surprise when the lights came up and Michelle saw the mascot of the

New Orleans Pelicans, a Pelican cheerleader and team representatives. They were there to present Michelle and Imani the “Game Growers” award.

Michelle and her partner Imani had submitted the idea for an app that will provide girls with training tips, information and encouragement from professional athletes. Nike and the Pelicans have assisted the girls in recruiting female athletes to

do interviews and have access to professionals to provide training information. They have also provided the co-captains with technological support in developing their app. Michelle said she will let the St. Aloysius community know when the app goes live so our students can benefit from it.

For more information about the Game Growers program, you can visit the website www.game-growers.com.

Schools, From Page 1

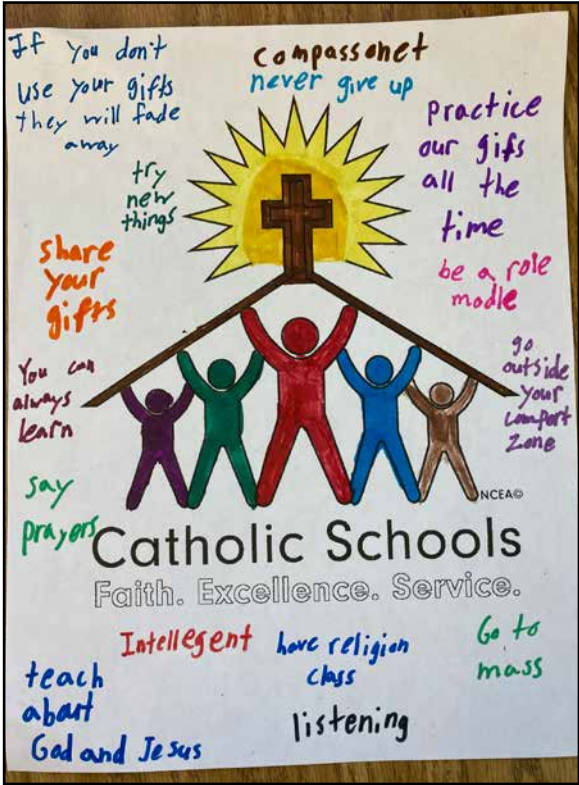
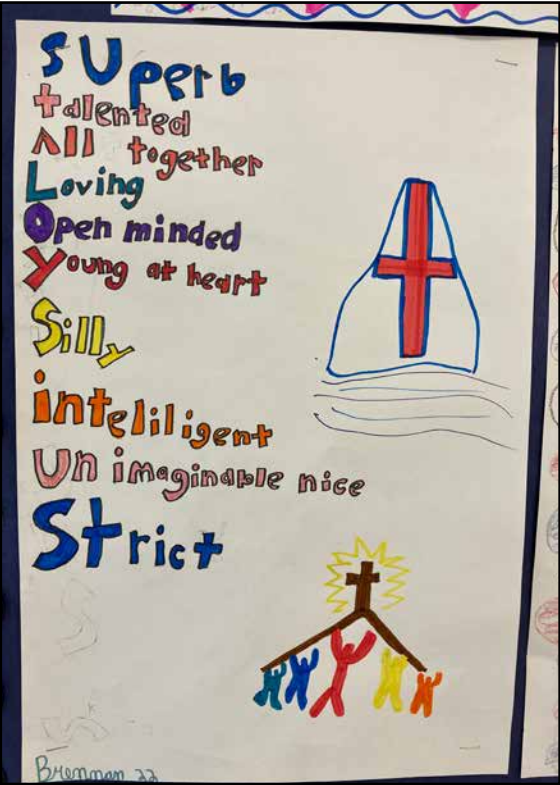
the school. The banner depicted the National Catholic Education Association logo, five human figures holding up the roof of a church. The motto beneath reads, “Faith, Excellence, Service.” Each student and faculty member wrote a short note or drew a picture explaining how St. Aloysius School has supported one of these hallmarks.

During Wednesday morning prayer, teachers were recognized for their years of service to Catholic Schools. The following teachers were recognized: 30 Years: Ady Bergeron, Beth Bordelon, Debbie Michael; 25 Years: Ann Soike; 20 Years: Michelle Dozier, Stacie Granier; 15 Years: Jamie Broyles, Beth Cronin, Susan Davidson, Nancy Dawson, Sharon Mannino, Kelley Thompson; 10 Years: M. E. Bernhardt.

On Wednesday, all principals of the diocesan schools met to celebrate Mass at Our Lady of Mercy Church. Principal Erin Candilora, along with other principals in the Diocese of Baton Rouge, received an award in recognition of her excellence in leadership.

Friday was Spirit Shirt Day. Students were given the opportunity to wear their special grade-level t-shirts. Each grade level has a special color that represents it, red, yellow, blue, green, orange, etc. The campus was a rainbow of students showing pride in their school while showing membership in their special grade.

Catholic Schools Week was an opportunity to celebrate our accomplishments as a Catholic School. It provided a chance to recognize individuals for their commitment to Catholic education. It also provided inspiration for faculty, students and families to continue our commitment to faith, excellence and service.



St. Aloysius School observes Lenten traditions

Every Monday morning of Lent, Father Ryan Hallford introduces the Divine Mercy Chaplet, which is live streamed to all of the classrooms. The responses to the Chaplet are sung by choir members who volunteer to be cantors, with the assistance of Ms. Beth Bordelon. The spoken prayers are led by middle school Advisory Board members. The Divine Mercy Chaplet is a Lenten tradition that the school has prayed for several years.

Another Lenten tradition is praying the Stations of the Cross. Each class signs up to pray the stations once a week. This year, in keeping with COVID-19 protocols, the classes are praying at the outdoor stations of the cross.

Lent is also a time for the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl collection. Students receive their Rice Bowls at the beginning of Lent. Throughout the season, they collect money for Catholic Relief Services. In each Rice Bowl is a calendar so that students can count the days of the Lenten season. The calendars also contain information about the ways that donations are put to use helping people. Twenty-five percent of the funds collected will stay in the Greater Baton Rouge area. Last year, the school collected \$1,815.55.

Our last day of school before the Easter break is Holy Thursday. Students will have a special morning prayer over the intercom before heading home to celebrate the sacred days of the Triduum and the joy of Easter Sunday with their families.



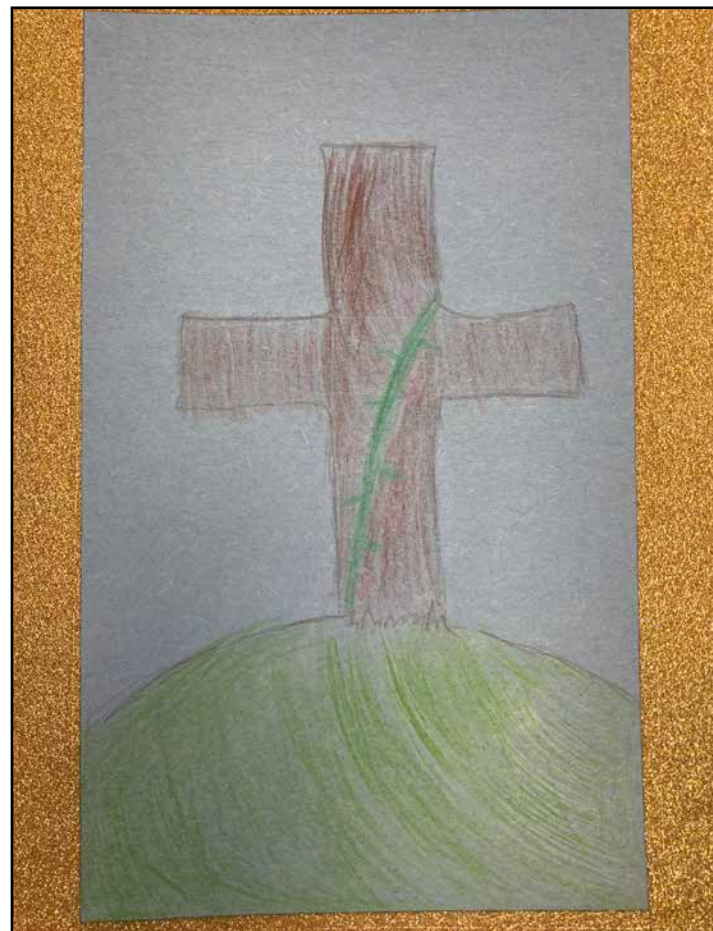
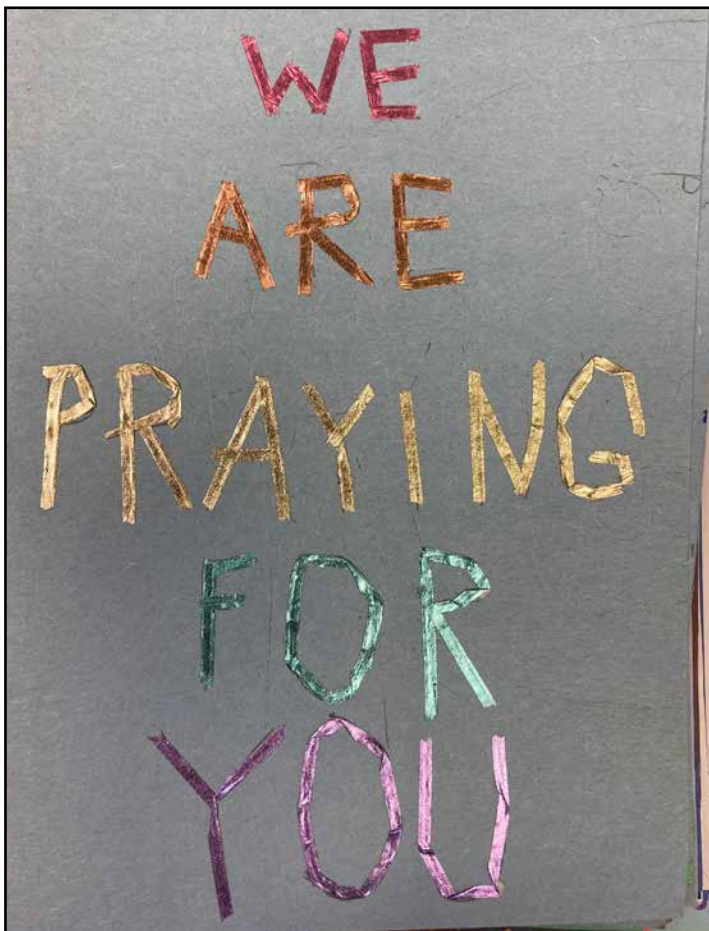
Eighth-grade students, from left, Davis Dawes, Caroline Roussel and Caldwell Kerth

Fifth-graders offer support to seminarians, religious sisters

In fifth grade, students study the seven Sacraments. This year, students looked closely at the Sacrament of Holy Orders and wrote letters to the seminarians representing our diocese.

The Diocese of Baton Rouge website offers a great visual tool showing the two schools of study in Louisiana for seminarians at St. Joseph Seminary College and Notre Dame Seminary School of Theology. From the website, fifth-grade students were able to read about the lives of the seminarians and reasons for entering the seminary. The fifth-grade teachers encouraged their students to ask questions about Holy Orders and preparing for the priesthood.

In addition, one class also wrote to the sisters at Holy Angels Convent in Jonesboro, Ark. A representative of the order, Sister Mary Clare, visited the class virtually to speak about vocations. After hearing her presentation, students wrote letters of thanks and support to the sisters in her convent. Please join with St. Aloysius fifth-graders to actively pray for our seminarians and vowed religious orders.



‘Circles of Grace’ promotes child safety through God’s presence

During the week of March 22-26, students of all grade levels participated in the “Circles of Grace” program. This program is provided by the Diocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection. “Circles of Grace” emphasizes

the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. It stresses that God created us and God wants us to stay safe. The youngest students learned a song with gestures to emphasize these concepts.

The students discussed how

God is with us at all times. We can call on God to help us make decisions that will keep us safe. The lessons used were age appropriate, based on the type of decisions students will make at various stages of their lives.

The program concluded with a parent “homework” assignment. The assignment invited parents to interact with their children in a discussion of the class material. Many thanks to the teachers and parents who facilitated this learn-

ing experience.

The Office of Child and Youth Protection is always available to offer help and guidance at diobr.org/child-youth-protection. The 24-hour victim assistance hotline number is (225) 242-0250.

March 2, 1996: St. Aloysius Church Rite of Dedication



A view of the congregation from the back of the new church building.



The adult and children's choirs.

‘What a magnificent day’



Father Hubert J. Brou, pastor, at the doors of the new church building.



DIOCESE OF BATON ROUGE
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P. O. BOX 2028
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70821-2028
504-387-0561 FAX 504-336-8789

March 5, 1996

Reverend Hubert J. Brou
Pastor
St. Aloysius Parish
2025 Stuart Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Dear Hubert:

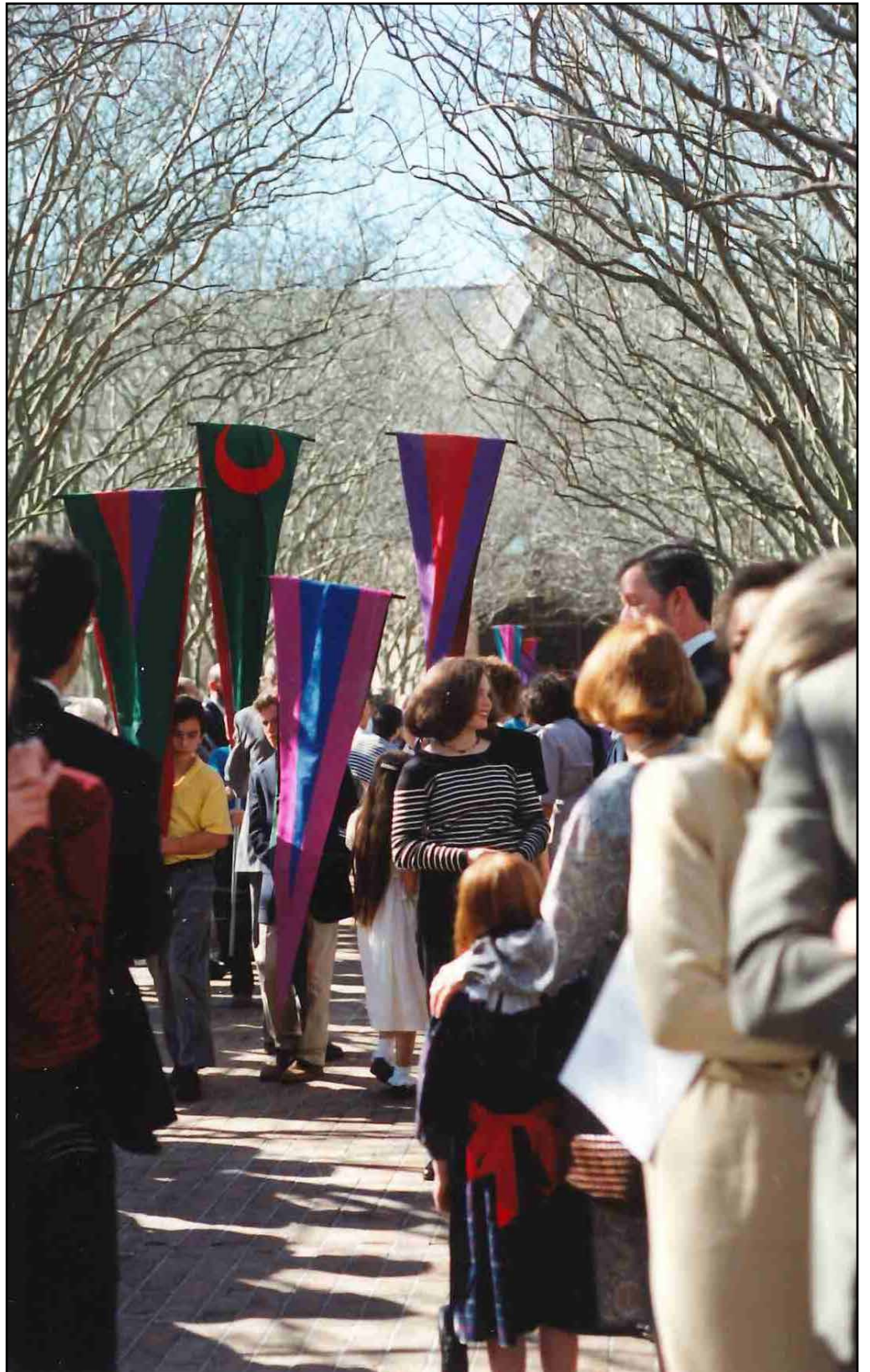
What a magnificent day on Saturday. It was obvious that the people were excited and involved in all that happened. Despite the length of the ceremony, I was amazed at their attention and responsiveness.

This speaks volumes about the way in which you pastor St. Aloysius Parish. Thank you for making possible all that has happened. I know that many good people worked with you, but your own inspiration and leadership were the crucial factors.

May God now grant that the years ahead may be graced and blessed years for you and for the entire parish.

Gratefully in the Lord,

Alfred C. Hughes
Most Reverend Alfred C. Hughes
Bishop of Baton Rouge



Procession into the new church building starting outside at Crepe Myrtle Alley.