



Rams News

HOLY ROSARY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Educating Memphis since 1954



Welcome to Rams News

Welcome to Holy Rosary's first edition of Rams News. We are excited to launch not only our new and improved website but also introduce you to our inaugural quarterly e-newsletter. We will keep you updated with the latest in what is happening at Holy Rosary School, spotlight our students, faculty, staff and alumni as well as other exciting Holy Rosary news. We hope this will be of value to you and would appreciate any feedback and suggestions to help us improve. Enjoy and please share with friends and family.

Message from our Principal, Darren Mullis



Holy Rosary has come a long way since it was established in 1954. In that year, the parish built the first portion of the school which consisted of 4 classrooms. Mass was celebrated in the school hallway and in the cafeteria until the church was completed in 1955. Over the years the campus saw more additions including 16 more classrooms, rectory, convent, gymnasium and athletic fields. The parish and school continued to grow over the next 30 years increasing to 1200 parish families and 750 students. This growth put a huge strain on the facilities, which lead to an expansion in 1991 and again in 2010. The original gym was no longer able to accommodate the games scheduled, practices and classes and the parish office was in dire need of repairs. The 2010 expansion included a second gym, new parish offices and meeting space.

From its earliest days, Holy Rosary has always provided its students with a quality education, in faith and academics. While the campus saw many changes over the years so did the way we teach our students. Class size was reduced from 50 to 17-25 students per class. We also went from chalkboards to Smartboards. French, Spanish, and Latin are included in our curriculum. Our Learning

Lab program helps students who struggle with math and reading. Quest challenges students to use critical thinking skills to solve problems and create workable solutions. The Angel Program helps children with autism adjust to the mainstream classroom while providing necessary therapies. It is the only program of its kind in the country. In our school there are clubs, choirs, student organizations and competitive academic teams. Our sports program offers options to 4 year olds - 8th grade in most sports. There is something for everyone.

The Learning Center will open this fall. It's designed to help students with Language Based Learning Disabilities by providing an environment that meets their needs while giving them the benefits of a typical school setting. We are incorporating STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activities throughout the school. We currently have lessons for 4 yr old pre-k and kindergarten classes and will add lessons to grades 1-5. We'll expand our robotics program to all junior high classes. Added programs over the years have caused us to use every bit of space we have on campus. Additional expansions are in our future to help address the growth and needs of our students. As you can see, Holy Rosary School has a rich history of providing for our parish and the greater Memphis community. We are glad you have been and will continue to be a vital part of what makes Holy Rosary so special; a family community. Welcome home!

Laptops for Middle School

Holy Rosary strives to continuously develop and grow the educational model of the school so that the children will be in a position to be successful. Starting with the 2016-2017 school year, Holy Rosary partnered with Apple, Inc. to initiate a 1:1 laptop program in our middle school. This will provide learning opportunities for the students that go beyond the walls of the school in addition to preparing the students for high school. Technology has changed the educational and business landscape over the past decade and the students at Holy Rosary School will be prepared for these changes.



The Angel Program

After much concern and deliberation from the diocese and the need for an inclusive program for children with autism, The Holy Rosary Angel Program was born. Since 2009, the program has grown from 9 students and 4 Angel teachers to 20 students and 13 Angel teachers today with ages ranging from 3-11. The program is designed to integrate children on all levels into regular classroom settings and help build independence. Social skills, appropriate behavior and academics are taught and through Applied Behavioral Analysis techniques bring about effective and positive change in behavior. All children are unique and should be educated according to their level and what's beneficial to the student. Under

the direction of director Anna Cornelius, our Angel teachers are dedicated to helping children achieve their fullest potential. They may shadow a child in a classroom or help a child easily transition into a classroom. Ms. Cornelius's goal is to "Work ourselves out of a job. We want to teach our children the skills they need to not need us." www.TheAngelProgram.com

Learning Lab

The Learning Lab was started in 1997 by Anne Gardino for students experiencing difficulty in reading and math. Over its inception, the program has served hundreds of students. The program is two-fold; to help students overcome stumbling blocks in learning and to pinpoint their learning difficulties at an early age. It is a pull-out program focused on teaching the same skills taught in the regular classroom with more one on one attention, giving the student different strategies to learn. This part of the program is geared toward kindergarten through 5th grade. For 6th, 7th, and 8th graders the Learning Lab teacher travels with the student to class acting as a liaison among students, teachers and parents. This enables the student to receive more attention when needed by using remedial strategies such as; orally reading a test, an environment with less distraction, modifying tests and checking individual student progress. The program continues to help students of all grades to reach their potential.





Quest

Quest is an enrichment class offered to 3rd-6th graders who benefit from an added academic challenge during the school week. Requirements include, but are not limited to, having a high IQ, exceptional grades, strong work ethic, completion of all assignments and good behavior in and out of the classroom. All 2nd graders have a "Quest Experience" during the school year. These students are recommended to join the program under the advisement of their teacher. The curriculum is different for each grade level. Students attend Quest once a week for an hour and a half session. There is an additional cost for the Quest Program.

Race for Education

Race for Education is now in its 9th year and is still growing strong. It's led by Kathy Elmer, Director of Development and driven by our very own students. Handwritten notes are mailed out to friends and family all over the world asking for donations as small as \$5 with thousands pouring in. All their hard work leads up to race day where they run or walk for an hour. It's a day filled with fun activities, great music, and ice cream. Since its inception in 2009, funds raised have enabled us to purchase a new playground, projector and screen for the cafeteria, install bleachers and replace the sound system and lights in Wiley Gym. This year's race will take place on Friday, April 21st. With the money raised, we plan to replace our cafeteria tables and place iPads in the Pre-K-4th grade classrooms! We are RAM STRONG!



Alumni Spotlight

There is no greater tribute to a school than to have its alumni return to give back to a new generation of students. So what makes a former student want to come back to their alma mater to teach? For Holy Rosary, there are many reasons! We are proud to say there are 10 alumni on staff. The common thread for all of them is the family-like atmosphere. They grew up at Holy Rosary as did their parents before them. Some even met their spouses as classmates. The memories of their school years cause them to want to raise their own children in that same environment so they can experience what they did as a child. Holy Rosary holds a special place in their hearts. It's a second home to them and coming back to teach is like coming home.

Once a Ram always a Ram!



Back: Matt Butler, E Mullen, Anne Gardino, Allison Moore, Rachel Young, Darren Mullis
Front: Emily Maharrey, Sandy Cicinelli, Veronica Kelly, Denise Nall

Dates to Remember:

April 21	Race for Education
April 29	Fashion Show
May 1	May Crowning
May 18	8th Grade Graduation
May 26	Last day of school
June 1-3	Memphis Italian Festival
June 3	The Luigi 5K
Nov. 4	Cocktails & Conversation



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to "UPDATE US"



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Educating Memphis Since 1954
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