

SPONSOR A CHILD LUNCHEON



Our Sponsor A Child Luncheon was held at the Omaha Conservatory of Music. The Omaha Conservatory of Music partners with St. Augustine Indian Mission and provides guitar, recorder and voice lessons. Twenty-eight students met with their sponsors on Friday, March 23, 2018. They enjoyed lunch, played some “Would you rather” ice breaker games and spent time sharing about their school year.

After lunch, the students, along with their sponsors, toured the Omaha Conservatory of Music and saw where their teachers Cody Jorgenson and Andrew Stickman perform along with others from the conservatory sharing their talents. The day was very enjoyable for both students and sponsors and a wonderful way to continue to build that connection with one another.

We are always looking for additional sponsors. Our hope is to get all our students sponsored. The Sponsor a Child program is a wonderful way for our donors to have a personal relationship with and positive impact on the life of a child on the reservation. Our fundraising efforts depend on you, our donors, to help

share with others the wonderful accomplishments and many needs of the Mission. Your involvement in the Mission helps us to continue to provide quality education and plant the seeds of faith.

Sponsor a Child– Sponsors are assigned a specific student who send letters a couple times a year and are introduced at a luncheon held in the spring.

- St. Kateri Tekakwitha Sponsorship - \$5000 per child **
- Nicholas Black Elk Sponsorship - \$2500 per child **

**Monthly giving program for each sponsorship level is available.*
*** Sponsorships in addition to yearly fundraising helps fund the education at St. Augustine*

Amazon Smile - If you are a frequent buyer on Amazon, please consider designating St. Augustine Indian Mission as your charity of choice. A percentage of your purchase goes back to St. Augustine Indian Mission to help support the education of our students.



St. Augustine Board of Advisors | Archbishop George Lucas • Rev. Mark Beran • Greg Anderson
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Darla LaPointe* • Tim McGill • Nate Merrick* • Susie Nelson • Mary Ann Nipp • Michael Peterson • Michael Rogers
Ryan Schroer • Greg Schwietz • Sarah Snake* Kellie Snow* • Justin Vossen *Denotes tribal representative

Mission Staff | Deacon Don Blackbird, Principal • Kelly Vazquez, Director of Development
Sheri Norris, Office Manager • Sr. Gabriella, Administrative Assistant • Kamilla Porter, School Secretary

How to Contact Us | St. Augustine Indian Mission • PO Box 766 • 1 Mission Road South
Winnebago, NE 68071 • (402) 878-2402 • www.staugustinemission.org
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TRUMPET CALL

*Building the Future,
One Child at a Time.*

INSIDE | Goodbye to Sr. Frances Betz | Sponsor a Child Luncheon | Special Needs

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FROM FATHER MARK BERAN

Here at the St. Augustine Indian Mission, our kids and teachers have been enjoying spring.

I see the excitement as being more than about warmer weather and being able to play outside. Deep down it is the joy of the Easter season, and new life. Jesus is risen! I see Easter joy in a number of ways:

In the many groups who come to serve at the Mission, I see hope. They come here in the spring and throughout the summer with hearts ready to serve and experience the risen Christ in others. While experiencing the life and culture of the Winnebago and Omaha people, they receive a renewed appreciation for the connection we all have with one another.

In our students who received First Reconciliation and First Communion in March and April, I see joy. They had the opportunity to experience the forgiveness and presence of Christ in these Sacraments. It always reminds me of my First Communion and helps me to savor all the times I get to experience Jesus.

In our eighth-grade class who will be graduating on May 16th, I see new life. The future of our students is bright with many new doors opening for them. Some will go to the local high schools, some will go to Bishop Heelan High School in Sioux City, Iowa. One of our young men may travel a little further because he has been accepted to Mount Michael Benedictine High School in the Omaha area. I think of the graduates' families and our teachers who have shown them the importance of education and faith. I look forward to seeing where God leads them.

While thinking of all of those who make our school possible through donations and volunteering, I see faith in action. All the ways I see Easter joy is because of you! You make it possible for us to carry on the legacy of St. Katharine Drexel to educate the



children of the Omaha and Winnebago Reservations, and to experience Jesus alive and active at the Mission. Please continue to do what you can to help us to feel new life this time of year. Jesus is risen!

Fr. Mark J Beran
Fr. Mark Beran
Director of the St. Augustine Indian Mission

SPECIAL WISH LIST AND NEEDS

The following items are needed at the Mission. If you have any new or gently used versions that you wish to donate, please call Hannah Hernandez, Mission Secretary, at 402-878-2402.

- Golf Cart for maintenance crew
- Commercial Ice Machine and/or Commercial Warming Cabinet for Cafeteria – this help all our service groups that come to the Mission each year.
- New or Used vehicle for the Missionary Benedictine sisters who serve the Mission.

St. Augustine Outreach - Omaha Reservation:
After 3 years of successfully running a Thrift Store on the Omaha Reservation, we need a permanent location.
Please help us locate a mobile building. Ideal size is approx. 20' to 30' (feet wide) X 40' to 60' (length). This can be either a USED Double-Wide Trailer; Mobile Office; or Mobile Classroom.
Contact: Sr. Deana Case at (402)922-3969 or St. Augustine Mission Office at: 402-878-2402.

FROM PRINCIPAL DON BLACKBIRD

Greetings Friends, Summer is almost upon us and another school year is coming to an end.



I want to take the opportunity to thank all of you for your continued prayers and support throughout this past year. I especially want to thank those who have provided winter clothing, and school supplies. Your generosity reminds us daily of the many people who share in our mission and care for the children.

Reflecting on this past year, our students have made great strides and academic gains. Much of the progress is due to the implementation of technology and the blended learning strategies. This educational program allows us to better track individual student progress and tailor instruction to every child's need. In addition to the educational needs of our students, our teachers provide emotional needs and spiritual formation to help them build successful path towards the future.

This Spring our eighth-grade graduates have a unique opportunity

to travel to the Badlands of South Dakota. The students will visit fellow American Indian Catholic School Network Member, Red Cloud School, to visit the Wounded Knee Memorial, Wind Cave National Park and several other sites in Western South Dakota and Eastern Wyoming. The trip also includes a small pilgrimage to honor Lakota Catechist Nicholas Black Elk, a Lakota Medicine Man, whose canonization we continue to pray for regularly.

As we look to the summer months, we do our best to welcome guests here. This summer will bring many volunteers ranging from high school students to retired professionals. These groups seek to learn about the Native American People we serve and assist in our communities. We have a volunteer group providing an acting camp for our students and by the end of the week they will perform for people in the community in our outdoor classroom. I look forward to sharing a story about the project and photos of our children's performance with you in the future.

I continue to invite you to plan a visit to the Mission. Please know we truly cannot succeed without your continued prayers and financial support.

Deacon Don Blackbird
Deacon Don Blackbird
Principal of St. Augustine Indian Mission

GOOD-BYE TO SR. FRANCES BETZ

A very faithful, strong and holy woman, who dedicated her life to doing God's work and helping people from all over the world, Sr. Frances Betz is retiring. After many years serving at St. Augustine Indian Mission, Sr. Frances Betz is saying good-bye. At the end of February, she returned to her Mother House in Norfolk, NE, home of the Missionary Benedictine Sisters



Sr. Frances first came to the Mission in August 1978 as principal and superior. From May 1983 to Sept 1989 she served in Kentucky then left for South Africa to serve for 11 years under Apartheid as a teacher. She returned to the Mission in 2001 to take on many roles to provide support to the community as principal and then media specialist/librarian/religious ed. teacher. Over the last few years, Sr. Frances worked in the St. Augustine library as librarian sharing her love of reading with the students.

For pictures and more about saying good-bye to Sr. Frances please go to our website stauginemission.org.

ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

St. Augustine will hold their 2nd annual golf scramble at Quarry Oaks, located in Ashland, NE on Friday, September 28, 2018.

All proceeds will go to fund the daily operations of the school. St. Augustine Indian Mission, a K-8 school, was founded in 1909 by St. Katharine Drexel and serves both the Omaha and Winnebago reservation. We are currently looking for event and hole sponsors.

If you would like to support the Golf Tournament and become a Sponsor, please visit our website or call the Mission office at 402-878-2402.