

These are the next steps:

We need to pave the parking lot this spring. It gets quite muddy.

We also will be spreading ground cover; a special grass that needs little to no mowing. This ensures the perpetual beauty of the grounds and the church by not having grass shooting onto the new Church, turning it green.

The end is in sight. We are all very excited for the completion of this final stage! Once again, it is because of our donors who have joined together in their giving to make our dream a reality.

Thank you!

Fr. John Christianson
St. Mary's Mission
Red Lake, MN

PS: Our dedication for the new Church will be on March 10th, 2024, at 11am. Please remember us in your prayers for this special day!



St. Mary's Mission School News

Inspire Hope
Empower Love
Ignite Faith

January 2024
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I hope your Christmas season is filled with Christmas joy.

This is an exciting Christmas season for St. Mary's Mission in Red Lake, Minnesota. There have been many positive developments since I wrote to you last.

School is off to a great start! Our teachers and support staff are having a fantastic year along with our students.

We hired a new principal last April and Joalah has acclimated well into our school and has made a difference in the daily lives of our students and staff alike just by her presence and competency.

We now have a full curriculum in our school for the first time in many years. This ensures a robust system of education that will be connected throughout a student's time here at St. Mary's Mission. We explain the curriculum more in-depth in this Newsletter.

We are actively working on increasing our school staff's wages to retain them and to obtain new qualified teachers in the future. There are fewer teachers available around the United



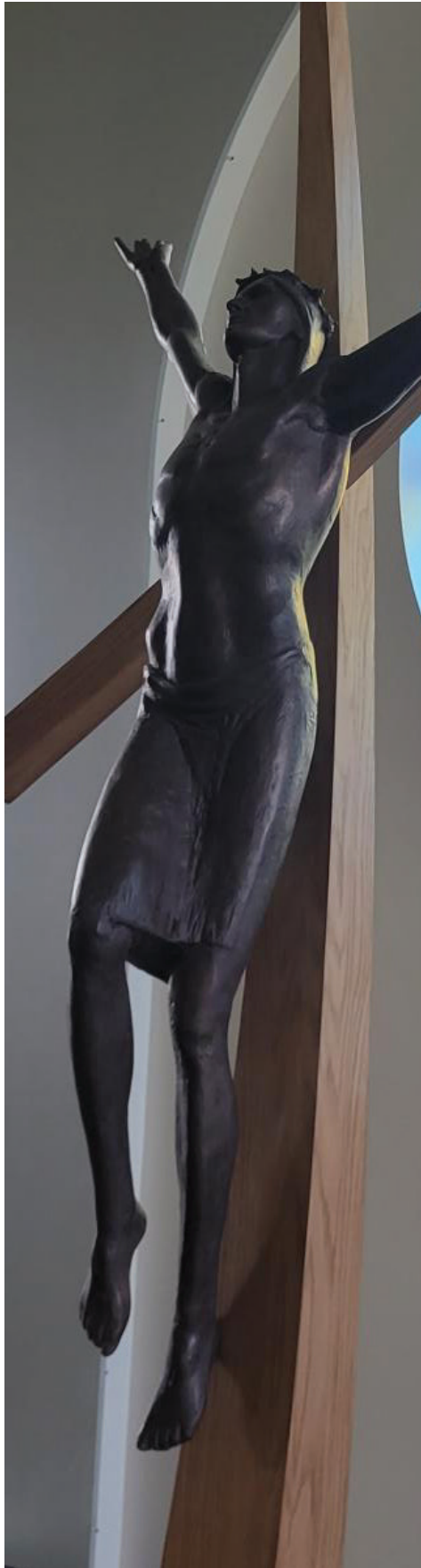
MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of St. Mary's Mission School on the Red Lake Indian Reservation is the holistic formation and education of the mind, heart, body, and spirit of our students. We achieve this by providing a God-centered, culture enhancing, quality Catholic education in a nurturing, safe, and Christian environment.

This newsletter is mailed quarterly to all our donors, church families and student families. Thank you for sharing in our ministry...

"Never underestimate the good that you do!"

To learn more about us, please visit our website:
stmarysmmission.org



States and Red Lake is no different. All our teachers travel for an hour each day to teach at our school. An increased salary will help compensate their travel more and be an encouragement to remain at St. Mary's Mission.

The New Church is built and paid for. This is quite an accomplishment considering that two years ago, we were very anxious about how we were going to raise enough money to pay for the construction of the Church. God has worked through so many donors like you to make the New Church our reality. We are thankful to God and to you for making our dreams come true!

The Church has ordered furnishings for the Church like an altar, ambo, presider and server chairs, a baptismal font, and art pieces. We are in a much better place today knowing that we have numerous partners that will continue to support St. Mary's Mission, making it and its ministry fruitful. Thank you for your support of us here at St. Mary's Mission.

Exciting News: The tentative date for the dedication of our New Church will be March 10th at 11:00 am.

Joalah's letter on Curriculum

This fall, St. Mary's Mission School was fortunate to receive an upgraded curriculum in reading, math, and science, giving the students and staff learning and teaching opportunities comparable to their peers. A kinesthetic-tactile learning style requires that you manipulate or touch material to learn. Kinesthetic-tactile techniques are used in combination with visual and/or auditory study techniques, producing multi-sensory learning.

With the new curriculum, St. Mary's Mission School will have consistent coverage of State standards, and students will have access to high-quality curriculum and instruction in each class.

The reading and math curricula are programs that the teachers are familiar with and have used in the past but

are enhanced with workbooks, manipulatives, and online components for a more robust educational experience.

In the past, each educator had to research and create their science curriculum, which was time-consuming and not always as contemporary as other school districts. This new science curriculum offers an up-to-date approach to science and engages students not only with the online curriculum but with the hands-on product that was included in the purchase. This new curriculum starts in kindergarten and goes through to sixth grade, allowing students to experience Kinesthetic learning (A kinesthetic-tactile learning style requires that you manipulate or touch material to learn. Kinesthetic-tactile techniques are used in combination with visual and/or auditory study techniques, producing multi-sensory learning.)

Good News! The construction phase of the New Church is complete. We are now in the phase of completing the project, because of generous donors like you. This final phase includes ordering pews, an Ambo, and presider and server chairs. A furnishing for the new church is an altar that is the exact design of the altar in the old church, which burned down in 2017. This is exciting because everyone in Red Lake will recognize it as the original altar that they remember from their old church. It will be very nostalgic for all of us!

It is exciting to be nearing the end of the project of the New Church.

