



St. Mary's Mission School News

Inspire Hope
Empower Love
Ignite Faith

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Dear Friend of St. Mary's Mission,

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near (Philippians 4: 4-5)." Joy is the authentic expression of Christian service. Our source for selfless giving is Jesus who fills our hearts with joy when we grant Him full access to our lives and in turn we serve others in His Holy Name.

From the depths of my heart, I thank you for your kindness and I am humbled by your continued generosity toward the financial and prayerful support of St. Mary's Mission in Red Lake, MN. As I watch and read the news, I am aware of the impact of severe storms and extreme drought that many of our brothers and sisters in the United States and around the world have been



*Students in the playground at
St. Mary's Mission School.*

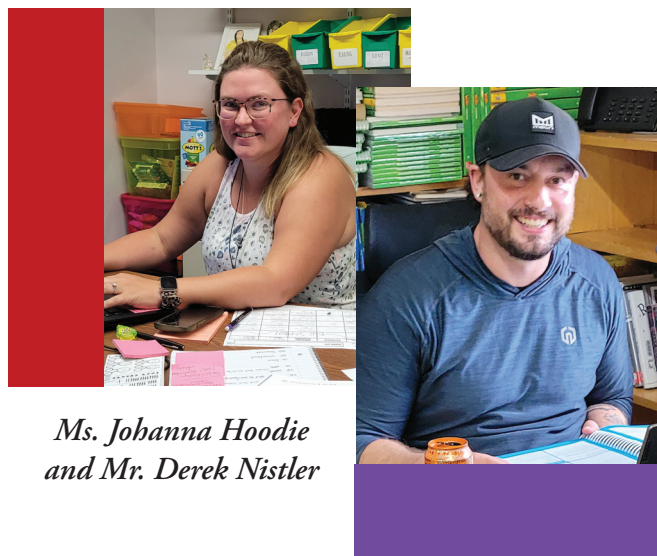
impacted by. Here at St. Mary's Mission on the Red Lake Indian Reservation we count our blessings and thank God for sparing us from these specific types of hardships knowing that there are adversities that face members of our local community each and every day.

Charitable giving towards the betterment of St. Mary's Mission is an opportunity to express thanks to God for the blessings He has allowed us to receive. Sharing the blessings

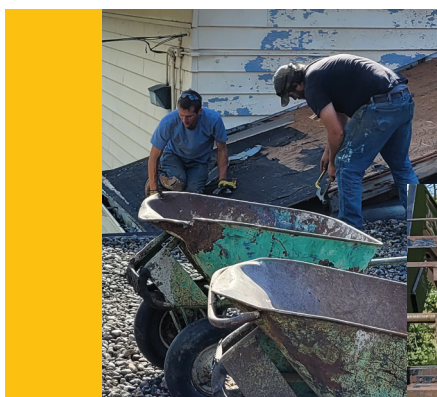
that you have received is very much appreciated by me and all who volunteer and work at St. Mary's Mission. We desire that everyone who comes in contact with the love the flows through our outreach would be blessed by God who is the source of our blessings.

We were grateful for the various groups of students and adults that came to help out with summer volunteer programs. The Knights of Columbus from Bemidji, MN, the youth group from St. Catherine Drexel in Ramsey, MN and generous assistance from members of Nativity Parish in Cleveland, MN were a few of those groups that helped advance some of our initiatives at St. Mary's Mission in the summer of 2025.

As the new school year begins we welcome our new Principal Mrs. Alyssa Schindler and new elementary teacher Ms. Johanna Hoodie. Both who are very familiar with the students and families of St. Mary's Mission School. Elementary teacher Mr. Derek Nistler spent the summer studying at Notre Dame in South Bend, IN working on specific disciplines to become an impactful teacher for the Students of the Red Lake Nation. Needs for the St. Mary's Mission School include different basic school supplies for the students including coloring markers, paper, whiteboard erasable markers, acoustic guitars for music class, as well as for teachers bulletin board borders, tag board, book carts, and curtains/drapes for windows in the classrooms.



*Ms. Johanna Hoodie
and Mr. Derek Nistler*



*Repairing St. Mary's Mission
School roof prior to beginning
of school year.*



On October 11, 1884 under the leadership of Chief Little Thunder, 112 members of Red Lake petitioned the Benedictine Abbot Alexius Edelbrock of St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, MN

to send Benedictines to run the parish and school at St. Mary's Mission. In 1889 the first permanent church and school were built with a gift of \$6,000 from the future St. Katherine Drexel. The current St. Mary's School east wing was built in

1929 with classrooms and a gymnasium and dedicated as Lautischar Memorial Hall after Fr. Lawrence Lautischar from Austria who served the needs of the people of Red Lake in the early years of St. Mary's Mission in the 1850's. This August a new roof was put on to replace the original one that was part of the 1966 four-room addition that was added on to what is now called Drexel Hall.

I rejoice heartily in the Lord for your sacrificial contributions in support of our efforts at St. Mary's Mission to further the love of Jesus Christ.



Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Thomas M. Niehaus

Fr. Tom Niehaus

PS: Please keep St. Mary's Mission in your prayers and please send your special intentions to us that we might hold you and those particular needs up to the Lord!



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



Article from our new principle:



It is with great joy that I introduce myself as the new Principal of St. Mary's Mission School. Having had the honor of teaching 4th grade at St. Mary's Mission School, I am excited to serve in this new capacity. I am originally from Minnesota. I received my undergraduate degree from Butler University, my master's degree from Indiana University, and my PhD from the University of Minnesota. This is my 20th year as an educator, and I have served in a variety of different roles (classroom teacher, literacy interventionist, college professor, etc.).

Enrollment at St. Mary's Mission School continues to be around 60 students and we're excited to welcome even more students soon! We have a dynamic staff, and we welcomed a new PE teacher last year and a new 2nd/3rd grade teacher this year. We continue to offer small class sizes to better meet our learners' individual needs. Our learners love going on field trips, participating in activities like Indigenous Games, and having their families stop in for community events like St. Nicholas Day and Breakfasts with Grownups.

Our mission is rooted in the Gospel and the teaching ministry of the Catholic Church. Each day, St. Mary's Mission School to help our students grow in wisdom, virtue, and faith. Our students not only learn the truths of our Catholic faith but are also encouraged to live them.

I invite you to join us in prayer and support. Your generosity makes Catholic education possible for our children, ensuring that they can grow in faith, academic excellence, and cultural pride. With your help, we can continue to walk together grounded in support our learners as they gain a Catholic education and are enriched by the traditions of the Red Lake Nation.

Thank you for your prayers and partnership. May God bless you abundantly for your faith, generosity, and love for our children.

In Christ,

Dr. Alyssa M. Schindler