



Saint Agnes School
Arlington Catholic
High School



Greetings from AC/SAS!

Dear AC/SAS Alumni,

This last year is one for which no one was prepared. While some schools and districts were trying to figure out how to survive, AC/SAS chose to thrive. We know our mission and COVID-19 didn't change it. Yes, there were many adaptations to be made, but none of them proved detrimental to meeting our mission to educate in a faith filled school. In fact, our first round of testing proves that our students are performing very well academically.



I am proud to be the Head of School and work with a team of education professionals, students, and families who all pulled together to make the 2020-2021 academic year a time of fruitfulness. When so many others are struggling, we at AC/SAS are continually becoming the better we can be. There are certainly more challenges ahead of us. We have proven to be up to the tasks of adapting and overcoming any challenge. We can do this because we are formed on the great foundation that was laid by the religious sisters, clergy, and lay educators that sacrificed service to our school.

I conclude by expressing my gratitude. In this time when we are so focused on the day's tasks, and sometimes overwhelmed by them, you (the alumni and families of AC/SAS) keep us in your thoughts and prayers. We feel them and they are often the strength we need to succeed. This is the embodiment of Fidelitas, the true fruit of our Mission.

God Bless,
Fr. Marc J. Bishop,
Head of School/Pastor



Founders Day 2020

Thank you to everyone who participated in our inaugural Founders Day! We received a total of **139 gifts**, surpassing our goal of 132 gifts. On behalf of the

Arlington Catholic/Saint Agnes
School community, thank you for
your generosity and support!



Greetings, AC Alumni!

Since mid-March, we have had to confront many challenges in operating a school productively and efficiently during a pandemic, as well as how to effectively deliver curriculum and instruction to our students. Many treasured events were cancelled, however, we were able to deliver a virtual Baccalaureate Mass and Ceremony to honor our seniors. Although this has been a most challenging time, we discovered through surveys and feedback that we were much more successful than most other schools.

As July approached, we assembled a Reopening Committee of teachers, administrators, and parents. The committee recommended a hybrid model of synchronous learning, with both in-person and remote learning. We created two cohorts that would rotate week to week, with one cohort learning in-person and the other remote synchronous learning. We were able to upgrade the technology in 30 classrooms, including installing new cameras, and integrating our smart boards and teacher's computers. These technology upgrades have



Saint Agnes School has had a strong start to the school year during these unprecedented times, with almost 100 new students joining our school. This enrollment increase led to the creation of four new classrooms. While most schools are either fully remote or operating on a hybrid plan, we made the decision early on that if we could do so safely, we wanted to be fully in person. We believe this is what's best for our students when it comes to learning as well as their social and emotional well-being. Although things certainly look a bit different, all of our students are learning all day every day.

The true heroes in all of this have been our teachers, who are not only working tirelessly to implement all of the health and safety measures throughout the day, but who are also teaching students at home whose families have chosen to learn remotely. This is no easy task, but they have risen to the challenge and for that we are most grateful.

This has been a year of technology upgrades. We now have 1:1 Chromebooks in Grades 3-8. Teachers are using Google Classroom and other Google tools to organize and

allowed our teachers to deliver this first-class learning synchronous model more effectively, and differentiate us from other schools. To keep our entire community safe, we developed health and safety protocols and purchased necessary PPE and cleaning products.

Although these protocols have proven to be a significant investment, they have been effective in maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment. Unlike many schools in our area, our teachers are delivering curriculum and instruction with great success. We are very grateful for their hard work and commitment to their students as we continue to adapt to the changes brought about daily during this pandemic.

The entire Arlington Catholic community wishes to thank all of our alumni for their continued support, interest, and commitment to Arlington Catholic High School. We wish you and your family the best in the new year.

John Graceffa
Principal

administer instruction. All classrooms are equipped to livestream lessons. Our wireless network was upgraded over the summer, and most of the middle school's textbooks are now digital, including a new fully digital integrated science platform which students and teachers are really excited about! The challenge of re-imagining many things so they can be done safely has sparked creativity and innovation in our community; we had our first ever Scarecrow Decorating Contest this fall, where families decorated scarecrows and they then adorned our front lawn for a day, drawing the attention of everyone who drove by!

The Saint Agnes community would like to thank all of our alumni for their support of our school. We look forward to all that is to come in this unique year!

Caitlin Oglesby
Principal

In this season, we are grateful for you, our loyal and dedicated alumni. Thank you for the many ways you support and enrich our school and school community.

If you would like to deepen your relationship with our school by acting as a Class Agent or in a volunteer capacity, please do be in touch with our Development team. **Erica Ribeiro, Director of Development, eribeiro@achs.net** or **Gabriella Foderaro, gfoderaro@achs.net**

Wishing you a safe holiday with your family!

Visit Our
Website

