



Honor the past. Celebrate the present. Invest in the future.



Our 8th Graders present the Living Stations of the Cross, a Holy Week tradition at the Catholic Schools of Fairbanks.

Greetings and happy Easter!

When first looking at the calendar for the 2021-22 school year, I debated about whether to change the date of our Spring Fundraiser so as not to overlap with Easter Week. However I'm sure you would agree: there is no better time to kick off this fundraiser and celebrate the mission of these schools.

After a seemingly unending winter, the light of Spring is here. After a seemingly unending Lent, the tomb is empty, and the mission fulfilled. Hope, new life, and unconditional love abound. Yes, there is truly no better time to honor our past, celebrate our present, and invest in the future of these schools and these students.

By now you have heard about the challenges with the wooden roof beams in the gym. While it was certainly unexpected, it has provided this community an opportunity to reflect on where we started - who remembers the Quonset hut?- and how this community has grown. During the brokenness of the Lenten season, I found myself thinking of the broken wooden beam; the quiet, empty gym during a season of sparseness and sacrifice, and now, once again, overcoming challenges and celebrating this community. The CSF gym has always been central to these schools; it has been home to gym classes, sporting events, graduations, masses, and 52 years of HIPOW. But while the gym supports and enhances who we are, *it does not define us*. The beams may be broken, but we are not.

Let's remember that this month. Let's celebrate that this month. Marveling beyond the challenges of the gym, teachers and students have successfully navigated yet another year during a pandemic. Students have had access to in-person learning, participating in extracurricular activities, and having access to some normalcy. The schools recently celebrated Holy Week with a number of student-led and student-focused activities, including our traditional Stations of the Cross in Holy Family Chapel. Graduation is rapidly approaching. This community has been through the desert and come out the other side.

Alumni, parents of alumni, current parents, and friends of the school are integral to the success of the Spring Fundraiser, and integral to the success of these schools. I hope you take this opportunity to continue your support. Anything you are able to give, big or small, makes a difference in the lives of students and this community.

All donations will be doubled. Thanks to the generosity of Skip & Linda Johnson, Bert & Becky Bell, Jim & Sandra Haselberger, Bill & Marsha Pike, and The Stroecker Foundation, your donation will be doubled up to \$90,000. \$25 will become \$50, \$50 will become \$100, and \$100 becomes \$200. It's another opportunity for us to truly celebrate our strength and resilience while ensuring the mission continues.

Thank you,
Amanda B. Angaiak
President, Monroe Foundation, Inc.