



ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL

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stignatiuschoolfoundation.org

December 2020 Volume 31

The Joseph and Rose Angela D'Ambrosia Memorial Fund

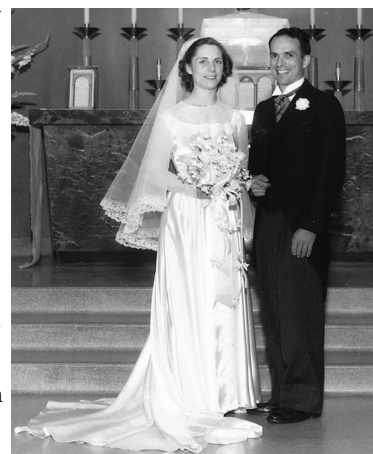
Written by the D'Ambrosia Family

A deep love of God, a sense of duty, strong commitments and follow-through, love of family, love of their church and love for each other—these were the core values for Joe and Rose Angela D'Ambrosia. Consistent with these values, the Joseph and Rose Angela D'Ambrosia Memorial Fund was established to aid children attending St. Ignatius Catholic School.

So who were Joe and Rose Angela D'Ambrosia, and why was this fund established?

St. Ignatius Church and the school played a central role in their lives even before they met. Joe was born in Boulder, CO, in April 1915 and moved to Portland with his family in 1920. He attended St. Ignatius School, graduating in 1929. He always valued the education he received at the school. He graduated from Commerce (now Cleveland) High School in 1934. Although it was the depths of the depression, he immediately found a job due to the bookkeeping classes he took in high school (which included typing). Joe worked various jobs before and after WWII, where he served in the Navy in the South Pacific, ending his working life as a locksmith for the Bonneville Power Administration.

Rose Angela was a loyal member of St. Ignatius Parish from her childhood. Born in Portland in 1922, she graduated from Creston Grammar School in 1934 and Franklin High School in 1937.



Joe and Rose Angela, June 23, 1951

After a brief stint at Reed College, she graduated from Pacific University in Forest Grove in 1943. She worked at the Portland Gas Company (which later became NWNG) as a laboratory technician and later as a medical technician while her first two children were young. When the third child arrived, Rose Angela became a full-time stay at home mom to what became a family of five children.



The five D'Ambrosia children—first day of school, 1965, in St. Ignatius uniforms: (back row) Stephen (8th grade), Mary Anne (7th grade), (front row) Julie (5th grade), Jim (2nd grade) and Ed (1st grade)

As young adults, Joe and Rose Angela's social life included attending St. Ignatius Church and various Church-sponsored activities. In fact, they met at a St. Ignatius-sponsored "Young Adult Club" Bingo game. (Rose Angela used to say she "won Joe at a Bingo game.") When they married in June of 1951, they were the second couple married in the "new" church (which is now nearly 70 years old!).

There was never any question that their children would attend St. Ignatius School, and although it was a struggle to pay tuition for five children at one time, they managed – because a Catholic education was **important**. Joe and Rose Angela were proud that all five of their children graduated from St. Ignatius School.

and Rose Angela always purchased several books for the library at the annual Book Fair. After their children graduated, they could always be counted on to sponsor a grandchild or the child or grandchild of a friend in the school's Annual Jog-A-Thon Fundraiser.

Although Joe's formal education stopped with his high school graduation, he enjoyed reading all types of books and the daily newspaper; he enjoyed discussing current affairs and philosophy in great detail. Rose Angela was also a reader, and enjoyed nearly

Lifelong members of the Parish, they participated in numerous service organizations and fundraising activities for both the school and the church, including volunteering for the annual Italian Dinner, the Young Ladies Institute, the Holy Name Society, the Catholic War Veterans, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. When their children attended St. Ignatius, Joe

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Letter from Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.

How to Cope During Covid-19

Dear St. Ignatius School Alumni and Families:

“Finding God in All Things” is the Jesuit and Holy Names motto that the school wants to live. How does this motto apply in this season of pandemic? The image of how Sequoia trees grow might be helpful.

The sequoia tree has roots just barely below the surface. If the roots don’t grow deep into the earth, what prevents strong winds from blowing the tree over? The answer is that sequoia trees grow only in groves. Their roots intertwine under the surface of the earth. When the strong winds come, they hold each other up.

The children at St. Ignatius School are learning how to cope this fall when life is difficult – not only from the way their parents and teachers hold them up, but also from the connections that parishioners maintain by reaching out to one another. In this season of the pandemic, the Risen Christ helps us find meaning now by being our companion to face our fears and uncertainty about the future.

Jesus taught that the way to cope with suffering is to lose the focus on self-fulfillment and to live for others. This is a good strategy to deal with the frustrations and challenges associated with the virus. This reminds me of the Sufi story about the stream.

Once upon a time, a stream was working itself across the country, experiencing little difficulty for it simply ran around the rocks and through the mountains and forests. Then one day it arrived at a desert. Just as it had crossed every other barrier, the stream tried to cross this one, but it found that as fast as it ran into the sand, its waters disappeared. After many, many attempts, it became discouraged. It appeared that there was no way it could continue the journey.

Then a voice came in the wind. “If you stay the way you are, you cannot become more than a quagmire. To go further you will have to lose yourself.”

“But if I lose myself,” the stream cried, “I will never know what I’m supposed to be.” “Quite the contrary,” said the voice, “if you lose yourself, you will become more than you ever dreamed you could be.”

So the stream surrendered to the dying sun. And the clouds into which it was formed were carried by the raging wind for many miles. Once it crossed the desert, the stream poured down from the skies, fresh and clean, and full of the energy that comes from the storms.

Especially in hard times, it’s good to celebrate 113 years of Holy Names and Jesuit education on the corner of SE 43rd and Powell. I ask once again that you support this blessed educational enterprise with your legacy gift – donate a percentage of your estate to the St. Ignatius School Foundation. The generosity and sacrifice that got us this far will carry us into the future God has in store for us.

Peace and all good,

Fr. Craig Boly, S.J.

A Note from our School Principal

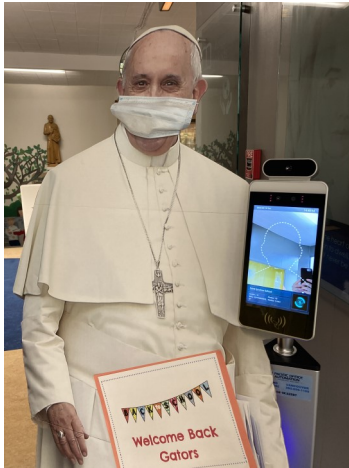
The story of 2020 St. Ignatius Parish School spirit is one of resilience, community and commitment. Per the Governor's order, the school closed due to COVID-19 on Friday, March 13. On Monday, the 16th, teachers trained on delivery of digital instruction and on Tuesday, the 17th, we were up and running. The growth for teachers, parents and students has been exponential since then. For the fall, we continued in Comprehensive Distance Learning and feedback from families has been strong:

-98.3% report satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of academic standards.

-91% report the quantity of work is just right

-97% say their children spend between 3-4+ hours daily on school, which was our target

Our incredible faculty and staff have gone above and beyond in supporting families, making technology possible and partnering with parents in our Distance Learning Model. Truly, there is much to be proud of in how our community is rising to meet this new experience.



In addition to the academic and social challenges, the financial struggles are daunting. We've suffered a 13% drop in enrollment, eradicating gains made in recent years. Our expanded preschool did not fill as families keep their littlest ones home. Our school has dropped from 247 to 218 this year. Additionally, fundraisers did not go forward last spring and there has been a marked increase in families requesting assistance due to job or business loss. The financial impacts of this are about a 30% loss for supporting operations in the 2020-21 school year.

We are so grateful to be able to educate children who come to us, including those on the margins. Thank you for your support of the School Foundation. The Board continues to demonstrate increasing generosity and this school year granted the school \$110,000, dedicated fully to tuition assistance. This grant supports about 50% of our tuition assistance grants. Over 75% of our students are Catholic and 67% attend St. Ignatius Church. The mission to ensure that a St. Ignatius education is financially accessible for all of our children remains critical and we are grateful for your role in making this happen.

A Few Highlights:

CATHOLIC IDENTITY: Faith and Catholic identity are more important than ever in a time of challenge. We are focusing on social-emotional health, including daily prayer and building community. Our service projects are all- school, with a large food collection in September feeding Oregon wildfire victims and in October collecting cold weather gear collection for our friends at Transition Projects. School Masses are live-streamed weekly and monthly assemblies included Blessing of the Animals and All Saints Bingo!

St. Ignatius Got Talent! To help with the current fiscal issues, we are all pitching in for a night of firsts: our first virtual talent show and our first virtual fundraiser! Students and families are busy putting together short videos. We hope you will join us for a really fun evening on **NOVEMBER 21, 7-8**. You can get the latest details and the event link by following us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/stignatiuspdx/> or the school website www.sispdx.org

The heart and spirit of the kids, faculty, staff and alumni continue to be a guiding light in our little community. I couldn't be prouder of everyone's ingenuity and inclusion as we walk together through an incredible time. So – as we like to say – stay safe, take care of each other: it's what we do! Blessings, always –



Kelli Clark
Principal

Graduate Spotlight: Claire Bass, 2016

Claire Bass attended St. Ignatius School her entire Kindergarten through 8th grade years before graduating from St. Ignatius in 2016. She attended alongside her younger sister, Olivia, and several of her cousins.

When I asked Claire about her earliest memory of St. Ignatius, her first day of Kindergarten immediately came to mind. She remembers posing for a photo with her best friend. This was the first day of many years ahead of building strong relationships with classmates and teachers. She credits the small class sizes and St. Ignatius' value of developing each student as a whole as some of the most transformative aspects of her time at St. Ignatius.

Claire embraced every opportunity she could during her years at St. Ignatius. She played CYO Basketball, which led to her participation on the Central Catholic Basketball team for her entire high school career, volleyball, swim team, and track and field. In addition to sports, Claire tried new things such as Girl Scouts and the Year Book Committee; however, what really left a lasting impression on her were the many service opportunities she had as a middle school student. Through these service opportunities at St. Ignatius, Claire was able to participate in serving meals at the Blanchet House, transition dinners, and spending time with the children at Providence Center for the Medically Fragile.

As for academics at St. Ignatius, Claire's favorites included visiting the Ape caves, Camp Hancock, and Outdoor School. She still hasn't forgotten about her sixth grade Science project on "What sort of material would be best in soaking up oil from a spill", or her 8th grade project in which she worked with clay mosaics to show deferring colors and themes. Her favorite of all, however, was the Night of Notables. For this project, Claire portrayed, Rachel Carlson, the environmental scientist and writer of, "Silent Spring". When asked what she loved most about the Night of the Notables, Claire responded that she "really just loved the entire experience". In addition to academics, some of Claire's best memories at St. Ignatius include attending along with her sister and cousins, her grandfather working as a substitute teacher within the school, the yearly Christmas concerts and the community you get to be a part of when you attend St. Ignatius.

Claire graduated from St. Ignatius with an award for her 8th grade speech and scholarships to Central Catholic for academics. She stated that the development she received at St. Ignatius made her transition to Central Catholic a smooth one. Constantly turning in projects, planning, and organizational time management all helped her throughout high school, but especially in preparation for her junior year thesis. She credits Ms. Heying for "challenging her to write a lot of papers".

When asked how St. Ignatius helped shape who she is today, Claire stated that it helped shape what she values in school, Mrs. Turvey's class helped her find a passion in reading, and the Catholic education was a big part in forming the person she is today. Claire states that the love of science she developed in class with Mr. Beseau led her to where she is today at the University of Notre Dame. She is currently a freshman majoring in Biology and a second major in Liberal Studies. Claire has a long term dream of studying environmental law and attending law school.

We wish Claire the best of luck throughout her college career and look forward to seeing what big things the future has in store for her!

St. Ignatius School has many amazing graduates leave and go on to explore and accomplish great things. The new Graduate Spotlight article in the St. Ignatius Foundation Newsletter will feature an article about one of our graduates. If you would like to nominate someone for us to consider, please email us at: stignatiusfoundation@outlook.com

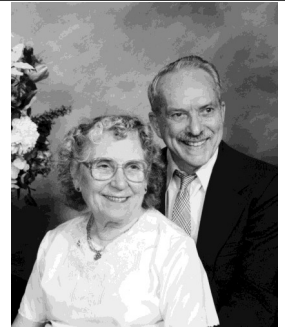
The Joseph and Angela D'Ambrosia Memorial Fund (continued from page 1)

every kind of book, from the classics to cozy mysteries.

Their life-long interest in learning infused their children's upbringing. Joe and Rose Angela were intellectually curious, and they passed this attribute on to their children: summer vacations were spent at state or national parks, going to museums, and always learning something new.

Joe and Rose Angela worked hard, were careful with their money, and made sure to tithe to the church before any other expenses were addressed. But in addition to the contributions made over the years, they wanted to leave behind a gift to the school which played such a big part in their lives.

Joe and Rose Angela recognized that there are many families today who don't have the ability to pay tuition, but who still value a Catholic education. That's why they established the Joseph and Rose Angela D'Ambrosia Memorial Fund – to help children to attend St. Ignatius who otherwise could not.



Joe and Rose Angela, 1996

Meet the Foundation Board Members

Sue Schweitzer: I have been on the Foundation board for almost three years and currently serve as the President. My father was an early Foundation board member and I'm proud to follow in his footsteps. My family has been at St. Ignatius since the 1930's and value the education and development the school provides students. I have two daughters who graduated from St Ignatius and benefited from the incredible teaching staff who prepared them for a successful College Prep high school experience and very successful college careers. Being part of the Foundation allows me to impact the long term accessibility of a Catholic education for the families who might otherwise not be able to attend St Ignatius.

Erik Linvog: I have served 4 years on the St. Ignatius Foundation Board. I am the uncle to 4 graduates of St. Ignatius. I was asked to join the board because of my background in managing pension and 401(k) investments for my company. The Foundation board is important to me because it helps promote access to a quality, unique Christian education. St. Ignatius helps develop young people and is a star in the community.

Kelli Clark: This is my 4th year as the principal at St. Ignatius and my second opportunity serving as a Catholic School principal, having previously served at St. Mary's Academy in the same role. I grew up in Puyallup, WA in a non-Catholic home, attending public schools. In my youth, my faith seeking took me to the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker in Washington D.C. where I worked with homeless families and in a meal program for children. I converted as an adult and have been part of St. Ignatius Parish since 2007, mostly attending the Contemplative Mass, which drew me to the parish. I've worked with the social justice group and the contemplative prayer community. In leading the school, the opportunity to integrate my spiritual, professional and personal life in one community is an incredible blessing. Serving on the board creates relationships of care for the school that will see to its well-being far into the future. I fundamentally believe that if we do our jobs well, kids get to have a different kind of life and they become true agents of joy, hope and transformation in our world.

Jim Schaller: I'm a native Portlander who was baptized at St Rose then moved to the west side at age 3 and attended St Pius Church. Got real lucky and met a women named Beth Mottau. Proposed after 4 months of dating and will be celebrating 17 years of marriage this December. Even got lucky to be blessed with 3 lovely children. Aside from being a financial advisor, I also own a tax firm with locations near University of Portland and St Ignatius. I had the honor of serving on the financial and investment council for the Archdiocese of Portland between 2007-2017. Began directing the investments for Holy Cross Church in 2005 and proudly still continue to do so.

Andy Hilsenkopf: I have been on the board just over one year. I attended a local Catholic high school and college, so I know the positive impact of Catholic education as it helped me grow as both a student and an individual.

Jim Dorman: I have been a parishioner at St. Ignatius since 1969. I graduated from Holy Redeemer grade school, so I knew the value of a good Catholic education. About 1993, a friend asked me to join the St. Ignatius School Foundation Board. I quickly realized what a gift an Endowment Fund would be to St Ignatius school and Catholic Education. I have continued to support the school and work on Foundation board projects and have been on the foundation board several times since then.

(continued on page 6)

Meet the Board Members (continued from page 5)

Father Craig Boly: I am the currently Pastor at St. Ignatius and I have served 8 years on the Foundation board. I believe that Catholic education is our best hope to form tomorrow's leaders for citizenship, civility, and critical thinking. It is important to me to be on this Foundation board as it will insure financial viability for the school even in turbulent times.

Alyssa Frangipani: Hello! I am Alyssa Frangipani and I am a new board member this year! I have been part of the St. Ignatius community since I was born. I attended St. Ignatius school from Kindergarten through 8th grade and graduated in 2007. I grew up at St. Ignatius. I see how a Catholic education not only prepares students academically, but I see how it shapes them spiritually as well. The St. Ignatius community has played a very important role in my life and I am happy to be able to give back to this community and see it continue to flourish.

Janet McNicholas: Currently I am in my second consecutive term on the Foundation. I have served two previous terms. The first term was in the second or third year after the Foundation was formed and another term several years later. Graduating in 1962 I am the third of five generations to graduate from St Ignatius. My grandmother was in the first graduating class. My mother, my sisters, my two daughters and three of four grandchildren also have graduated from St Ignatius. My fourth grandchild will graduate June 2021. From the time my grandmother entered the school and up to my granddaughter's graduation in 2021 my family will have had 35+ relatives graduate from St Ignatius. During the years my two daughters were at St Ignatius, I served two terms on the School Board and volunteered as the school nurse. I have a strong connection to this school and a deep desire to ensure it continues to be a school that provides an excellent, faith-based education. I believe the oversight and financial decisions that the Foundation provides for the funds in the Endowment is the best way to ensure that the school's financial security continues. I am honored to be part of that oversight and guidance process.

Mary Jo Rice: As a former St. Ignatius parent and retired educator, I know the value of a Catholic education. During the time that my children attended in the 90s, I served 2 years on the Foundation Board. I currently have three grandchildren attending St. Ignatius and am going into my second year serving on the board again. St. Ignatius School is an educational jewel in South-east Portland. It is a secret that needs to be shared with all.

Hubert Chan: I am a new member on the board, but I have been a member of the St. Ignatius community since 1976. I am an Alumni – Class of 1983, my sister graduated in 1978, and my two sons are current students at St. Ignatius – Class of 2022 and 2027. As a recipient of financial aid and knowing the impact St. Ignatius had on my life, I see the extreme value in donors and the work of the Foundation board to provide the funds necessary to help students who may not be able to attend due to financial reasons.

Michele McKay: My name is Michele McKay. I joined the foundation in February, 2020 to take on the role of fundraising. I'm honored to serve on the foundation board and I'm very grateful to be part of such a wonderful community. I'm a long time parishioner, parent and grandparent of St. Ignatius. Both my sons attended St. Ignatius School and I'm now enjoying watching my grandchildren receive their education there as well. My goal is to help raise money for both the Foundation and the School, while building relationships with our supporters.

Norman Williams: My name is Norman Williams and I am the parent of a 2020 graduate of St. Ignatius School. My wife and I, along with our three children, have been members of the parish since 2015. I have served, or are currently serving on numerous boards including the school foundation, the school advisory council, the parish finance council, the pastoral council, and the campus care committee. I cut my teeth volunteering at the Italian dinner and with Mary White serving lunch in the cafeteria. I am committed and give my time to the school because I believe in its mission. It gives a holistic, transformative education to students and is a wonderful community for families.

Kristin Jost, Class of 1995, Reflects on the 25 Years after Graduating from St. Ignatius

Written by Kristin Jost, '95

Dr. Seuss's *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* claims that "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose." Twenty-five years ago, I never imagined that I would have the opportunity to be teaching at St. Ignatius. As a proud alumna of St. Ignatius school, I can say with certainty that the instruction I received here definitely steered me in the right direction, and happily, that direction brought me right back to my roots.

I have fond memories of my years at St. Ignatius school. It is those feelings and emotions that I want to be sure are shared with both my students and my own daughters, who currently attend. Thinking back to 1989, when I was a third grade student at St. Ignatius school, I never would have imagined that I'd be back teaching in the same classroom, or that my own daughter would be sitting in the same classroom desks... wait, this year it's a little different than normal in that she's not sitting at that same desk. Instead, I am teaching my youngest's third grade class virtually from my classroom, while both my daughters learn from home. While it is definitely a change, I am comforted knowing that my children are still getting the highest form of education available in the Portland area because I know that, despite distance learning, I can trust the incredible faculty at St. Ignatius to teach my children and teach them well.

Although St. Ignatius school has upgraded its technology and some classes have moved rooms since I attended as a child, the core values instilled in me by this school have not changed. As the mission statement states, "we are building a more just and compassionate world." As I write this, I think fondly of the third grade pen pals I had when I was a student: we wrote hand written letters to nine-year-old students who lived and attended school in Eritrea, a country in East Africa. I remember

that, if we used our best handwriting, we would be able to write our letters in a blue ballpoint pen. It was a highlight! After spending hours perfecting them, we would send our letters off in the mail and eagerly await their responses.

Today, the third grade's pen-pals work slightly differently. Through a generous grant from the JDO Foundation, our students communicate and collaborate in real time using Google Chromebooks with nine year old students in Northern Ireland.

Today's students are able to unite and share their cultures, traditions and schooling experiences with one another using real-time video chat. As a student, I got a glimpse into how sharing cultures and stories could open eyes and hearts. Now, I have the opportunity as a teacher to show my students the same things—except now, students have far more ability to reach out to their counterparts. Instead of waiting over a month for a reply, the students can communicate in real time.

I thank God that the charisms of the Sisters of the Holy Names and the strong educational foundation of the Jesuits are still alive and celebrated at St. Ignatius school. When I was a student, we were taught to accept and help others; a pathway to this understanding was found when we wrote letters to the homeless women who were housed at Jean's Place in downtown Portland. At the end of the school year, we packed sack lunches and shared our meals with the women in the shelter. These service learning opportunities offered me different perspectives on life, as well as demonstrated how a simple act of kindness can impact others in a positive way. I wouldn't have experienced all of these opportunities at a public school, and it is for that reason that I knew my own children needed to follow in my footsteps.



Kristin Jost, class of '95, sits with her virtual class for 2020-21. She teaches from her classroom each day with their pictures at their desks.

As always, St. Ignatius school continues to strive to educate and empower students through service learning opportunities, as well as to guide our students to find God in all things. One activity third grade students do in today's world is to help deliver meals to homebound elderly members in our neighborhood community. During the current Covid restrictions, we have obviously had to cut back on the in-person contact with them, but we do still reach out to these elderly, homebound community members through letter writing. In these uncertain times, it is even more important for this generation to have the same opportunities that I had decades ago.

As I look at the current members of St. Ignatius, it is validating to know that I am not alone in my regard for the superb educational opportunities offered here; it's exciting to see former classmates return to St. Ignatius school with their own children. Who knows, perhaps twenty-five years down the line, I will have the joy of watching my grandchildren attend St. Ignatius school as well: I'm sure that even that far in the future we will still demonstrate and teach the values that are so important to us all.



St. Ignatius School Foundation

3400 SE 43rd Avenue

Portland, OR 97206-3107

Return Service Requested

Endowment Statistics & Named Funds

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Total Alumni since 1908: | 3191 |
| Wills & Bequests: | \$1,124,370.93 |
| John Scott Memorial Fund: | \$4,942.74 |
| Fr. Thatcher Fund: | \$81,035.76 |
| Bob & Rose Harris Fund: | \$421,302.89 |
| John Hovenkotter Fund: | \$48,672.81 |
| Koenig Family Fund: | \$106,560 |
| Dick DeMartini Fund: | \$30,870 |
| Glenn Family Fund: | \$25,465 |
| Joseph and Rose Angela D'Ambrosia Memorial Fund | \$14,030 |
| Patricia Obradovich Fund: | \$145,783 |
| Dr. James P. and Marian E. Craven Fund: | \$10,150 |
| David & Marie Robben Family Fund: | \$53,113.23 |
| Bob & Evelyn Dieringer Family Fund: | \$249,081 |
| Tom & Estelle George Family Scholarship Fund: | \$22,975 |
| Frank & Bernice Wusz Fund: | \$71,542 |
| The Vincent L. and Mary K. Barnes Fund: | \$37,120 |
| Total Distributions to St. Ignatius School since 1984: | \$1,184,920 |
| St. Ignatius School Foundation Endowment Donations: | \$2,584,889 |

We would love to hear from you!

Please send us your Alumni Notes! Feel free to use the envelope enclosed or send us a note at

Calendar

Meetings occur virtually over the 3rd Tuesday of every month excluding July and December at 7:00PM.