



**CORPUS CHRISTI
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Crusader Update

A QUARTERLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Theology of the Body

Through a generous gift from the Corpus Christi Foundation and the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan, Corpus Christi School was able to implement a new supplement to our theology curriculum throughout the 2021-2022 school year. We purchased the Ruah Woods Press Revealed and Rooted curriculums to help our students in grades K-8 discover the beauty of their humanity and to see themselves and their lives as a gift. Theology of the Body was the topic of a series of 129 audiences Pope St. John Paul II gave between 1979 and 1984. The curriculum invites students at an age-appropriate level to contemplate the topics of these audiences by exploring the intentionality of the human person and the immense love our God has for us. Some of the topics allow for students to recognize themselves as a gift by packing a gift bag of all the things they know and love about themselves. Other activities include creating a mosaic

from broken ceramic to demonstrate how something broken can be refashioned into something beautiful. In a world where so much uncertainty around the human person abounds, this curriculum series helps students to use their faith to understand who they are, how God loves them, and how we were created by love and to love one another. Our students have enjoyed these lessons and experiences, coming to know themselves more deeply as children of God. We are grateful for the continued support of the Corpus Christi Foundation that allows us to bring this much needed and important series to our students; as we continue to live out our mission of welcoming all children, enriching their knowledge, nurturing their faith, and building their character through the Catholic faith. For more information on Theology of the Body, please visit <https://www.ruahwoodspress.com/what-is-theology-of-the-body/>

"Congratulations Corpus Christi Catholic School 8th Grade 2022 Graduates!"



Pictured above: Leah DeSanctis, Hannah Gaiser, Theresa Rodden, Katarina Neidlinger, Joseph Le, Enzo Marroquin, Omar Flores, Keyonna Streur, Diego Valdez, Mareli Ponce-Navarrete, Luz Samudio, Harrison Maurer, Maria Mulder, Austin Ysasi, and Alexa DelAngel

New Sound System

By the start of next school year, Corpus Christi students, staff and visitors will at last be able to clearly hear and understand readings and prayers at Mass in the chapel as well as visiting speakers, drama presentations, and other announcements in the gym. Thanks to a combination of very generous (and patient) donors from a previous Auction-With-A-Twist twist table fundraiser and PPP funds for the school, the finance and pastoral committees approved new sound systems for both the chapel and gym to be installed over the spring and summer of 2022. Town and Country Group was selected as the contractor/installer for both systems, which will be fully integrated with each other.

Our essentially 24 year old systems are destined for upgrades in significant ways, including:

- Wireless microphones which will work seamlessly in either the gym or the chapel, providing huge savings as separate devices will not be required in both locations.
- Town and Country assures us the system will be user-friendly: the touchscreens on each device rack will not require an audio-engineering degree to operate.
- Properly-placed speakers in the chapel and especially the gym will better distribute the sound and clarity in both areas.
- Bluetooth and an aux input will allow users options for sharing music, etc. through the speakers in either the gym or the chapel.

- A wireless transmitter in the chapel will relay audio from the microphones into our video-streaming system. This upgrade will eliminate the cables that currently run from the control rack behind the stone wall of the chapel, underneath the choir section, and all around the left side of the chapel to the back center wall where the video camera is situated for streaming our weekly Masses.
- And...this new system will be easily expandable with regular (and free) software upgrades, which will keep up with emerging technologies, making it all relevant well into the future.

We are deeply grateful to our benefactors for their generosity in providing the funding necessary to bring both of our audio systems not only into the realm of present technology...but keeping them pertinent and effective for years down the road as well. We are looking forward to sharing the blessings that this fabulous gift will provide our school and parish communities.

SAVE THE DATE

Auction With A Twist

October 15, 2022 @ the Baker Lofts

**For more information visit:
[www.corpuschristischool.us/community/
auction-with-a-twist/](http://www.corpuschristischool.us/community/auction-with-a-twist/)**

Factors of Production: What are those?? By Tracy Peterson

When I began teaching middle school social studies four years ago, one of my challenges was finding ways to make learning about the economy interesting for 6th graders, a subject that even I was not a fan of in school. I found that making the subject interactive, with several larger activities and projects did the trick.

One of these projects is exploring the factors of production, which are natural resources, labor, capital, and entrepreneurship. I wanted to find a way to make these ideas more tangible for my students. To do this, I have my students find a partner and tell them their task is to create something, anything they want. As they are designing their inventions, they have to keep in mind the factors of production they would need to create their products. Some of the elements they need to consider are the following: do they need land (natural resource) on which to put a factory? Will they hire employees (labor) to help build their product? What kind of capital (financial capital and capital goods) do they need? Who are the entrepreneurs (usually themselves)? They are always so excited to begin designing!

Their creativity blossoms with this project, and it is so fun to see the great designs they come up with! This year, we had a floating car, a baking machine that did everything for you (including measuring out the ingredients and washing the dishes), a candle that could be designed to look like whatever person you wanted, and a pencil that contained multiple different colors. The ingenuity of my 6th graders amazes me every year. I love to see them love learning!

5th Graders Partner with Lighthouse Immigrant Advocates and CCCS Families to Raise \$450 for Refugees in West Michigan.

Last fall, as the mass exodus of Afghan refugees was happening, the fifth graders spent some time looking at photographs of present day refugees and the painting of "Our Lady of Loreto" by Margherita Galluci. We talked about how Mary, Joseph and Jesus were refugees when they were fleeing from Herod. Margherita painted Mary to represent that time in their life. The students were moved by how brave and strong she looked, since so often Mary is painted to look meek and mild. The students began to make other connections to the Bible, such as when Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt. One fifth grader raised his hand to share the story of how his own mother was a refugee. He briefly told her story of coming here as a teenager and how now she is paying it forward by helping people by hosting refugee families in their home. Upon hearing all of this, the questions began flowing from the fifth graders; they wanted to not only know more about why refugees came here, but also what they could do to help.

As a class we spent time reading about refugees, as well as organizations who were helping. We hosted speakers from Bethany Christian Services and Lighthouse Immigrant Advocates to hear what we could do to help. The students ultimately decided they wanted to provide welcome bags for the children who came to Lighthouse with their parents. They wanted to provide them with toys since many of them come with no possessions. In order to fund this project, we hosted a special dress day at school called "Favorite Food Day" on Mardi Gras. The families were so generous that we raised \$440! We were able to purchase many toys, games, and school supplies for the 150 children who have moved here within the last few months. The students learn about the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching on a regular basis, but one of the things we strive to do here at Corpus Christi is to provide students with opportunities to live out this call to care for all people. Through this project, the students were able to do this, as well as build a lifelong compassion for those who are new to our community and in need.



Tech Upgrades

In response to the needs of schools during the pandemic, the federal government passed a series of school aid bills allowing schools to equip themselves with what they need in order to meet the needs of students. There were twelve different ways these monies could be spent, all relating to identified needs during the pandemic. Corpus Christi took the opportunity to expand and replace old technology to ensure students and teachers are well-equipped for learning experiences in any environment. This also allows our teachers to offer lessons in several different manners and gives students opportunities to become technologically literate and good digital citizens. We were able to replace our middle school Chromebooks and expand our inventory to allow for every student to have access to a device. Additionally, we replaced aging iPads, again allowing for teachers to offer students a different way to learn and show mastery. We also equipped teachers with iPads and are replacing their aging laptop devices as well, which will give them the accessibility and connectivity they need to utilize ever updating apps and devices. We continue to use technology as a tool in the classroom, though we recognize nothing can replace the student and teacher relationship and the value of learning together in community. We are grateful to offer a wide range of options for students to continue to grow to know themselves as children of God and continue to develop their gifts and talents to fulfill God's plan for them.



Our Time At Corpus Christi Catholic School

By Leah DeSanctis and Theresa Rodden

"Corpus Christi Catholic School welcomes all children; enriches their knowledge, nurtures their faith, and builds their character in a Catholic Christian environment."

The students at Corpus Christi try to live up to this motto of our school. Our job here is to grow in knowledge, faith, and character. We go to the Chapel every morning and attend Mass every Wednesday. We hope to become faith-filled individuals who live out God's word and become successful in our lives. Currently, we are both 8th graders and have been attending Corpus Christi for many years. We both play volleyball, do cheerleading, and do Dutch dance. We are the leaders of the school and enjoy assisting the younger kids. We, along with the rest of our class, have made countless memories here at CCCS, and we will share some of them next.

We are going to talk about our favorite memories of each grade. In pre-school, Theresa was not at Corpus Christi yet. Leah enjoyed meeting new people and getting to know the school. In kindergarten, they had a fun graduation ceremony that included Mass and a party in our classroom. In 1st grade, Theresa joined Corpus Christi after having a hard time at her old school. We became best friends then and there, and still have that friendship today. In 2nd grade, we celebrated the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. Our class had a fun time preparing for this important time in our lives. In 3rd grade, we did a recycling project and the whole school watched us present them. In 4th grade, we both had such a fun time singing during Songfest; it is an event where all the 4th graders in the Diocese gather and sing many songs. In 5th, 6th, and 7th grades, we did many service projects to help our community. We got the hang of middle school and the responsibilities that come with it. In 8th grade, we did more service projects including the Stations of the Cross, serving at Our Lady of the Lake, and making hundreds of cards for the community. We also have the privilege of helping the younger kids at the end of the day pack up and get ready to go home. Our class leads the morning Chapel, and we also cantor at Mass.

Overall, Corpus Christi is a great place to enrich your knowledge, nurture your faith, and build your character. The students here are really kind, helpful, and faith filled. This school really helps you to become a successful person and it sets you up for your future. Our class has grown up here and we have spent a lot of time with each other. Next year, as we all split ways, we will be sad to leave Corpus Christi, but we will cherish all the memories we have made together while growing in faith.

Thank you for your generosity!

Listed is the net income from our most recent 2022 fundraisers:

Angel Tuition Challenge

\$41,717

Spring Raffle less prizes

\$14,920

Crusader Toss

\$5,055

Flower Voucher

\$1,680

Items to Donate

Help CCCS start the 2022-23 school year off with needed supplies! Items listed below can be dropped off at the school office in June & August (the office has limited hours in July), Monday - Thursday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

First day of school is August 23rd.

- Tissue
- Paper Towel
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Gallon Ziplock Bags
- Sandwich Ziplock Bags
- #2 Pencils with erasers
- Black Bic Pens
- Blue Bic Pens
- Highlighters
- Dry Erase Markers
- Index Cards
- Folders
- Glue Sticks
- Crayons
- Colored Pencils
- Thin Tip Colored Markers
- Fat Tip Colored Markers

Thank you and have a blessed Summer!