

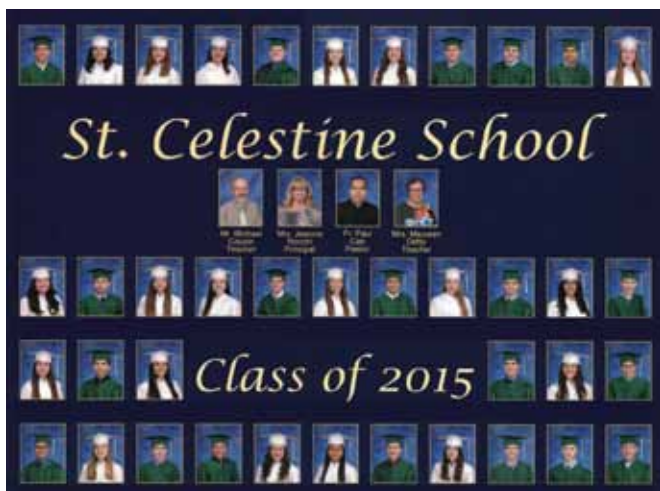


## Thank You Mrs. Loftus!

After 17 years teaching at St. Celestine School, **Mrs. Lynn Loftus has retired** from teaching after the 2014-15 school year. She hopes to spend time with her family and relax. The entire faculty, staff and student body wish her well and will always appreciate all she did for the students, families and the school.

Mrs. Loftus always encouraged her students to be avid readers and to work on becoming articulate and interesting speech presenters. Look for her around the neighborhood as she continues helping with many Parish organizations.

## Welcome Class of 2015!



On June 3rd, 7:00 p.m., the 8th Grade Class of 2015 graduated 39 students with a beautiful ceremony including a Mass, award ceremony, thanking of retiring families and conferring of diploma's. Hubert Witkos was named class Valedictorian and Kayla DeCicco and Michelle Sia were the Salutatorians. For photos and a note from our principal, Mrs. Rocchi, *see page 2.*

## Looking for Classmates from 1965 and 1961 for Reunions!

Please note, these reunions are being planned by classmates, not the school. Please check Facebook to get in touch and find out more information. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2227747452/>

### ***Class of 1965 looking for classmates!***

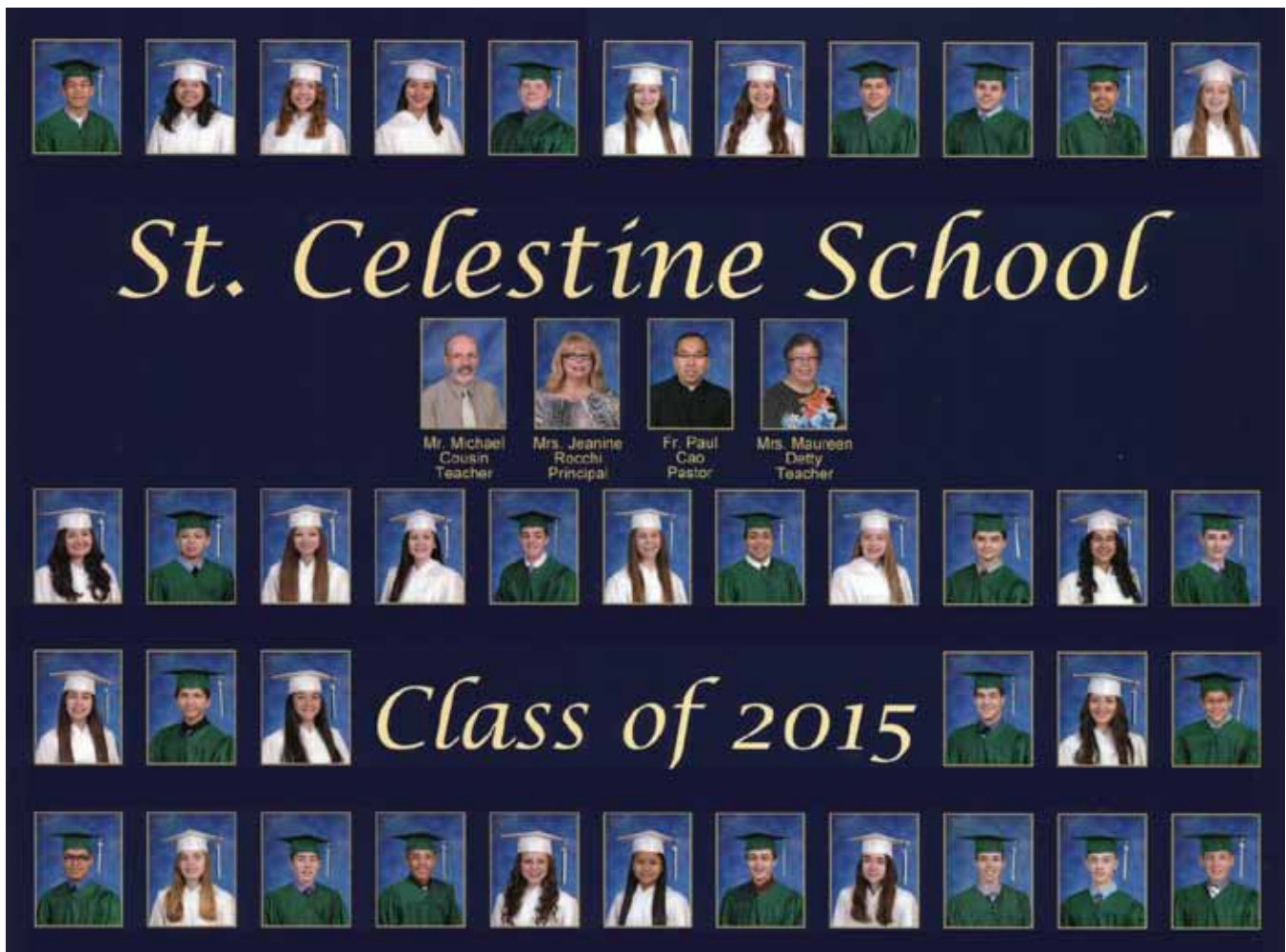
**The Class of 1965 is planning a 50th reunion this fall 2015.** Please contact Dean Pfister at [bpfister814@yahoo.com](mailto:bpfister814@yahoo.com) or Joe Lyons at [joelyons3306@gmail.com](mailto:joelyons3306@gmail.com).

### ***Class of 1961 news and update!***

**A 55th year class reunion will be held August 6, 2016.** More information will be available soon, please look on Facebook to get in touch with Ray Skeetch Mendlik. 67 classmates have responded to date and 108 have been accounted. Reunion organizers are still looking for a few people, if you know any of the following please go on Facebook and let them know (Frymark-Pachowicz, Lajeunesse-Larsen, Taylor, Donnelly, Gionatti, Neustadt, Pudelka, Redlark, Stach, Hammang, and Schultz.)

## More Celtic News Inside...

- Welcome new alumni, *p 2-3*
- Alumn and parishioner ordained, *p 4*
- TRIP! Info for a St. Celestine 6-day Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Eastern Canada, *p 4*
- Principal gets pie in the face and thank you to sponsors, *p5*
- Join us for upcoming events, *p6*



## Welcome Our Newest St. Celestine Alumni!

Congratulations to all of our graduates from the cutest little Kindergartners to our newest alumni - the 8th Grade Graduates! We welcome 39 students, the Class of 2015, into the St. Celestine alumni family and wish all of them the very best as they continue their academic careers in high school and beyond. Hubert Witkos is our Valedictorian and Kayla DeCicco and Michele Sia are our Salutatorians this year. The 8th grade class will be attending at least eight different high schools. They were very involved in various activities throughout the year receiving scholarships for high school, participating in St. Patrick High School's Math Contest and Academic Bowl, Fenwick High School Speech Contest, Guerin Prep High School's Gator Challenge, Basketball, Soccer and Volleyball competitions, and volunteered for our Pasta Dinners, May Crowning, Youth Ministry and Scouts, to name just a few of our School and

Parish organizations.

All the children in the school from all the grade-levels make us very proud especially after this years *TerraNova* standardized testing, which once again was above the national average. Our percentages range from 60% to almost 90% above the national average for the subject matters. We could not accomplish as much as we do in any given school year if it was not for our tremendous faculty, staff, dedicated parents, energized students, a supportive parish and alumni.

You are encouraged to visit our website to see how we are doing and take a virtual tour. Please let your family, friends and neighbors know we are always welcoming new students to our St. Celestine family.

*Jeanine Rocchi*  
Mrs. Jeanine Rocchi, School Principal

# Graduation Mass, Awards and Diploma's



Class song "Count on Me"



Fr. Paul attended by current students and siblings of the graduates.



Salutatorian Michelle Sia



Valedictorian Hubert Witkos



Graduation Choir. Sung beautifully by St. Celestine teachers Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Jandrists along with the following alumni: Mallory Jandrists, Kevin Jandrists, and Joe Joost.



Salutatorian Kayla DeCicco



Waiting for diploma's

## Dominic Clemente Ordained



St. Celestine Parish and School congratulate our parishoner and alum '04 **Dominic Clemente** to the position of newly Ordained Deacon. He will continue his path to priesthood. There was an Ordination Mass at Saint Mary of the

Lake/Mundelein Seminary May 9th. St. Celestine Parish celebrated Dominic's accomplishments at a Thanksgiving Mass on Mothers Day, May 10th, 11:00 am. A lovely reception followed.



Deacon Dominic Clemente with Archbishop Blase J. Cupich at the Ordination Mass. Photos from Dominic's facebook page.

## Miguel Negrón Ordained



St. Celestine Parish and School congratulate our parishoner **Miguel Negrón** who was ordained as a Deacon on May 17th. There was a special Mass of Thanksgiving, Sunday, May 31st at 11 am and a reception followed. Miguel

was surrounded by family and friends including his wife and three children (Brittany, Tiffany and Michael) who are all alumns of St. Celestine.

## Fr. Jeffrey Grob Promoted



Congratulations are in order to the new Chancellor of the Archdiocese - our former pastor **Father Jeffrey Grob**. The Archbishop has made an excellent choice for this leadership position and we wish him all the best.



Saint Joseph's Oratory, built atop Mount Royale. Photo from <http://www.catholicpilgrimage.com/canada.html>

You are invited to join  
**St. Celestine on a  
 6-day Pilgrimage to the  
 Beautiful Shrines  
 of Eastern Canada!**

Trip includes visiting Saint Anne de Beupre, Our Lady of the Cape, Saint Joseph's Oratory and more. We will enjoy a scenic tour of the multicultural Quebec City with its French and English flavors. We will see the historic Palace Royale that will capture your imagination of years gone by. We will also enjoy the Citadelle, the plain of Abraham and the Chateau Frontenac. We then visit one of Quebec's natural treasures, Montmorency River. The falls are 250 feet high, the highest province and 88 feet higher than the Niagara Falls. Then on to Trois-Rivieres and Montreal. We will tour the city then visit the great basilica, Saint Joseph Oratory, built atop Mount Royale and recognized as one of the greatest temples in the world. This is just a sample of the wonderful experience that you can enjoy with us on this great journey.

**This trip is tentatively planned for  
 September 21 through September 26.**

COST: \$1795 - All inclusive

(Just need to pay for your souvenirs).

**For more information,  
 call Barbara Mares at 708-453-2555**

Brochures are available in the vestibules.

## Principal gets pie in the face!

St. Celestine School enjoyed its second annual spring Fun Run and it was a huge fundraising success. The school partnered with Boosterthon Fun Run Program for a fun and healthy fundraiser to help the school raise money to purchase more classroom technology including carts and infrastructure. The school has completed its goal of having i-pads for every student in the lower grades and chrome books for all the students in the upper grades to use in classes during the school day. We now have the task of “keeping up” with the technology as it grows faster than the children.



Every student at the school participated in the Fun Run, regardless of pledges raised. But the students did such a great job of reaching way beyond the pledge goal, that Principal, Mrs. Jeanine Rocchi had to keep her end of the promise of getting a pie in the face. The Principal and one of the 5th grade teachers, Mr. Josh Jennings, were “pied” at the end of the Fun Run day to much delight of the entire student body.



Special t-shirts with a lap counter printed on the back of the shirts made it easy to keep track of all laps completed. Thank you to local business Northwest Primary Care, Elms Funeral Home, Byline Bank, St. Celestine Parents Club and St. Celestine Athletics for sponsoring these shirts and Fun Run.



8th grader, Soren, had the honor of throwing a pie in her Principal Mrs. Rocchi's face.



Thank you to all those who donated, especially these following sponsors!



Northwest Chicago Primary Care, S.C.  
www.charlemagneguerrerrond.com



## Register for school now!



### Ongoing all summer... Registration for school continues...

Please visit our website for school information and forms to register. Tell all those you know, Catholic education is wonderful. [www.stcelestineschool.org](http://www.stcelestineschool.org).



### July 4th Elmwood Park Parade

Walk with us! St. Celestine School and Parish are in the parade. The parade kicks off in the Elmwood Park Circle July 4th at 10:00 a.m. The Parish bus will be following up the St. Celestine contingency. Find your favorite Parish and School group to walk with.

Later, the Village of Elmwood Park will host music and fireworks at EP High School. Check the website for more details: <http://elmwoodpark.org/4th-of-july-celebration>.

### August 30th Did you get married in 1965?

Or know someone who did? The Marriage and Family Ministries Office is sponsoring the annual Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, **August 30 at 2:45 pm at Holy Name Cathedral**. You can register by calling 312.534.8351. Archbishop Cupich will be the celebrant.

### Ongoing all summer... Alvernia Food Pantry needs our help through their canned food drive during the entire year!

## Taste of St. Celestine



*Great Food, Friends & Faith!*

### September 12th Taste of St. Celestine

Get ready for another evening of food from around the St. Celestine world. There will also be great music, fun games and entertainment. You will be able to purchase food and drink tickets at the Taste. Check out the photos from last year at <http://www.stcelestineparish.org/Gallery/TasteOfSaintCelestine2014.php>.

**Wish List...** If you, your company, or a contact you know can help us with the following please call the school office at 708-453-8234.

- Funding for technology infrastructure
- Student scholarships
- Funding for classroom projects
- Funding to help replace a leaky roof

**Anyone can contribute to our Annual Fund at any time. Please see the Fundraising tab on the website.**

## ST. CELESTINE ALUMNI

All Alumni are welcome to use Facebook to find friends, classmates and keep in touch about reunion information. If any classes would like to hold a reunion at the school or just visit for a tour before your reunion, call the office and let us know. Visit the school website and click on the alumni page for helpful information and to sign in our database if you have not yet done so [www.stcelestineschool.org](http://www.stcelestineschool.org).

### School summer office hours:

Mon. - Thurs. 8am to 1pm. Closed on Fridays.

You may always leave mail at the Pastoral Center at 3020 N. 76th Court, Elmwood Park, IL 60707.

The *St. Celestine Alumni News* is a biannual publication. If you or your company would like to sponsor a print issue, an ad can be placed. If you have any photos, text, or information to share or possible ad sponsorship please e-mail Maria at [development@stcelestineschool.org](mailto:development@stcelestineschool.org) for further information.