



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

We exist to encourage, solicit, and manage funds that provide Holy Family School with sufficient resources necessary to ensure an exemplary education designed to meet the needs of its students.

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Contact Us

- ✉ PO Box 8437
Des Moines, IA 50301
- ☎ 515.262.7466
- ✉ info@hfcsfoundation.org
- 💻 www.hfcsdm.org
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Dear Holy Family Catholic School Foundation Supporters,

This year, the Foundation is celebrating 30 years of supporting Holy Family Catholic School as the school celebrates 40 years of serving our multicultural students. We have much to be thankful for as we reflect on the past year.



Over the last year, we have led the way in conducting in-person learning to allow our students the ability to thrive in an unpredictable environment, gain vital education and learn about living a faith-based life. The Foundation could not be more proud of the flexibility of our students, the obstacles our teachers have overcome, and the families who continue to put education for their children first.

Without your support over the last year, we would not be able to support Holy Family Catholic School and their growing needs.

As we look ahead, we know the future is bright for the school, students, faculty, and staff. With our faith leading the way, we will continue to support the school with tuition assistance, an extended school year, and other needs as they come up. Our goal is to continue to provide for the school in any way they need to further spiritual growth and academic success for our students.

As my year as President of the Foundation comes to an end, I am excited to stay on the Board of Directors and continue to serve our community. Our new Board Chair is Bill Noth, a long time board member and Vice President of the Foundation. In partnership with the school, Foundation board and staff and our Canonical Administrator, Fr. John Bertogli, Bill will continue the important work of ensuring a bright future for the students and families of Holy Family Catholic School.

Our annual report shows our impact in the school, students, families and community as we reflect on the last year and look ahead at what is to come.

Thank you for your continued support.

Janet Holms

Janet Holms
Board President
Holy Family Catholic School Foundation

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” – Jeremiah 29:11

Dear Holy Family Catholic School Friends,

By any measure, the 2020-2021 school year, while challenging, was a resounding success. We entered the year with many unknowns, but absolutely committed to have all our students in school, every day, with zero interruptions. This required our teachers to develop skills on the delivery of instruction in a manner they never thought possible. It also required from the families we serve to work with us to minimize the risk of illness by being proactive in keeping children home if they became ill. Through creativity, hard work, and many prayers, we were able to meet our goal of having our students in school without interruption.



Every year we assess our students on their academic skills to inform teachers on what areas the students need additional support, whether remediation or enrichment. In the past we utilized the Iowa Assessments for this measurement. Last year, we used a different assessment called the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP). On the following page you will see how our students performed on this assessment. Considering the impact of COVID-19 on learning loss and being the first time students took the assessment, we are pleased with our students progress, and we are confident these scores will improve as teachers utilize the data to guide instruction.

Most of our students come to us speaking a language other than English as their primary language. During the 2020-21 school year, 86 of our 225 students qualified for English Language instruction, and we assess their progress annually to determine whether they require further support as they gain language proficiency. Due to their exceptional performance on this assessment, 26 students exited our EL program. We put a lot of time and resources into ensuring our students have the language skills necessary to be successful in and out of the classroom and we are proud of their hard work.

Our students demonstrate consistent growth because our teachers are committed to seeing their students reach their highest potential. Our parents have high expectations for their children, and this results in increased student performance. Finally, our students are successful because of the broad community support Holy Family receives from those who give their time, talent, and treasure to sustain our efforts. This synchronicity of effort results in a school that provides a 21st century, faith-filled education for our community of learners.

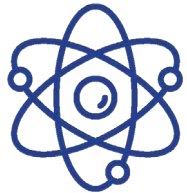
A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Martin Flaherty.

Martin Flaherty
Principal, Holy Family Catholic School

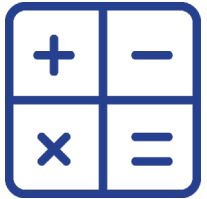


EDUCATIONAL NUMBERS

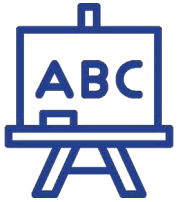
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR



81% Proficiency in Science



74% Proficiency in Math




82% Proficiency in Language Arts



WHO WE SERVE


240
STUDENTS


95%
OF STUDENTS ATTEND
DOWLING CATHOLIC HIGH
SCHOOL


99%
GRADUATION RATE


100%
OF STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR
TUITION ASSISTANCE


15
LANGUAGES SPOKEN

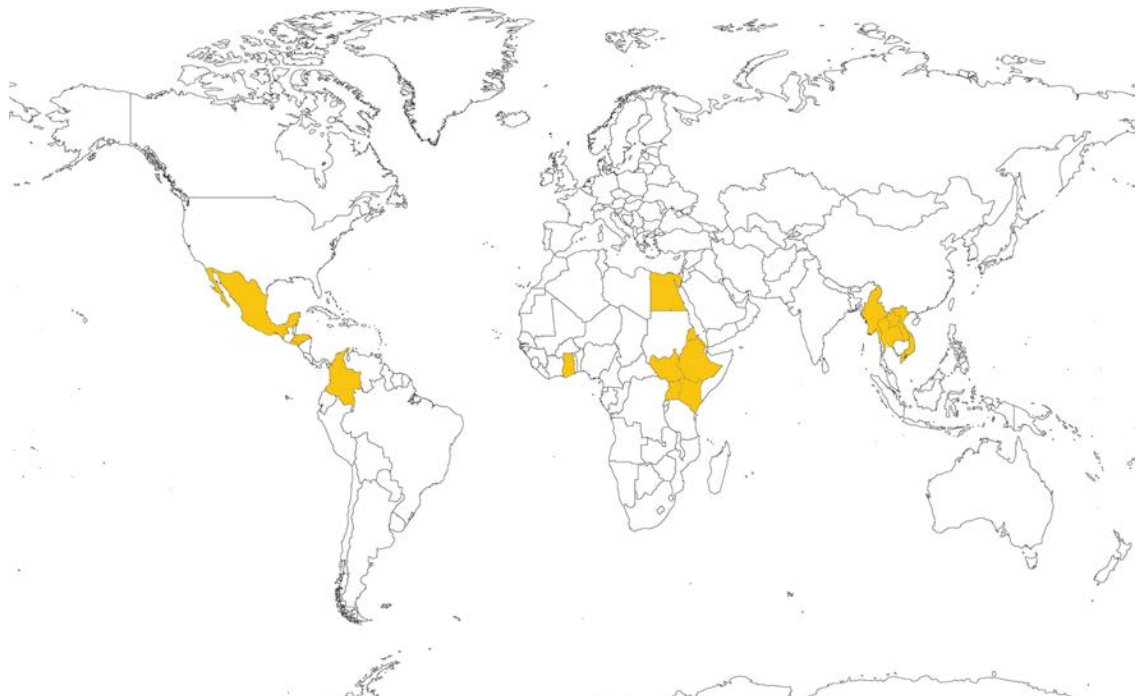

86
EL (ENGLISH LANGUAGE)
STUDENTS

15 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

COLUMBIA
EGYPT
EL SALVADOR
ERITREA
GHANA

HONDURAS
KENYA
LAOS
MEXICO
MYANMAR

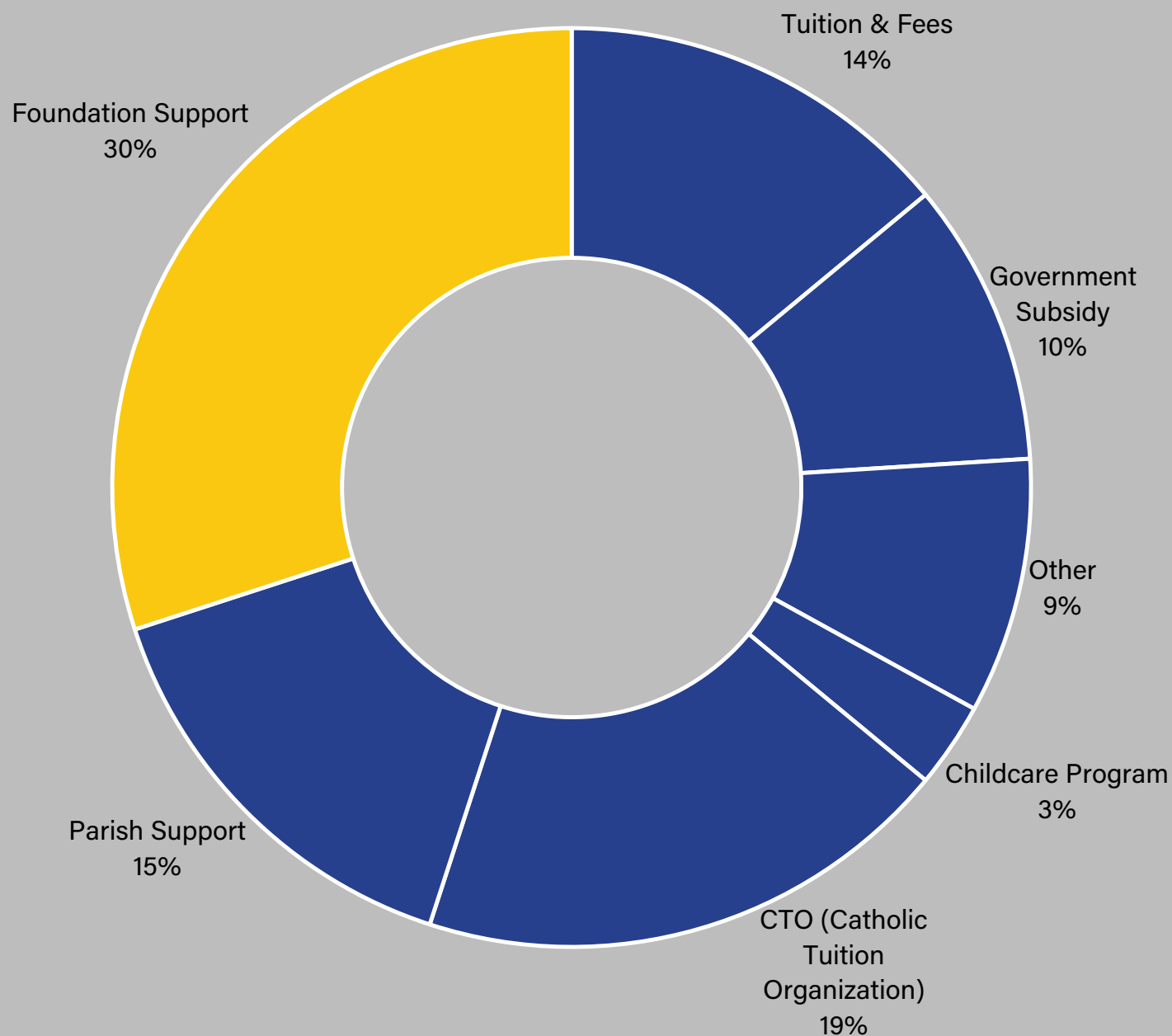
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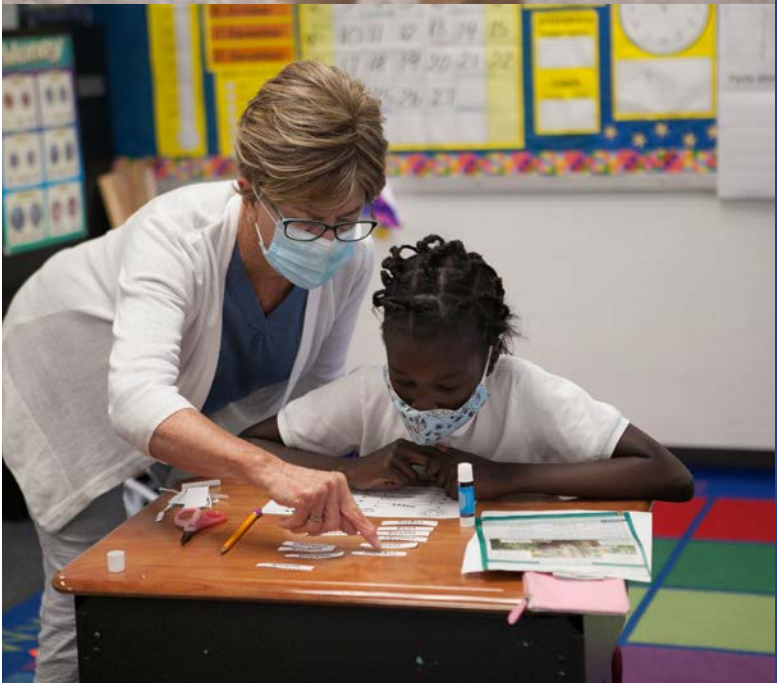
FINANCIAL RECAP

The financial support that Holy Family Catholic School Foundation provides to the school is critical to the operating budget and long-term sustainability of Holy Family Catholic School. Thank you for giving joyfully and sacrificially to the next generation. Your annual contributions to our events and appeals impacts the lives of students every day.

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL BUDGET



WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED & LOOKING AHEAD



Over the last year, Holy Family Catholic School Foundation has had great success in a challenging season of fundraising.

Thanks to the charitable support from our donors, we are able to continue investing in mission-based initiatives and programs for the students, teachers, and school.

In October we held our annual Barn Bash auction online with a virtual live-stream to raise general funds for the school, as the global pandemic kept us from gathering together.

Our Annual Appeal was mailed out in November where you gave generously to support the school's budgeted items and non-budgeted COVID-19 response items.

The spring mailer raised funds for tuition assistance so our students were able to continue their faith-based education.

Lastly, our golf event was our first social-distanced gathering where we were able to celebrate Holy Family students and raise needed funds to wrap up our fiscal year.

As we look to the year that lies ahead, the Foundation is excited to gather again at our annual Barn Bash and continue to promote and advocate for Holy Family Catholic School, our students and our community. We will continue to create engaging and exciting opportunities for you, our donors, to get involved and give generously.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Donate a one-time gift or set up recurring donations!

Online:
<https://hfcsdm.org/foundation/donations>

By mail:
Holy Family Catholic School Foundation
PO Box 8437
Des Moines, IA 50301

Consider a planned gift!

We would be honored to receive planned gifts through bequests, charitable trusts, or life insurance. To begin a conversation, please contact the Foundation Office at 515.262.7466 or info@hfcsfoundation.org.

Follow us on Facebook!

We would love to see more of you on our Facebook page! You can find us by searching our username: @HFCSfoundation.

Join us at our annual events!

Our golf event, held each spring, is a chance to enjoy a day on the course with friends. All proceeds benefit our students. This year we hosted our first social-distanced gathering since pre-COVID at Legacy Golf Course. Golfers enjoyed a day on the course catching up with friends and playing a round! Every fall, we host Barn Bash, our largest annual charitable event. We gather together for an evening of delicious food, a live auction full of unique items, and an opportunity to assist Holy Family Catholic School with tuition assistance funds, student field trips, special events, school supplies, and other operating expenses.



*"I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."
– Psalm 121:1-2*

LOOKING BACK AT HOW IT STARTED

As we celebrate the Foundation's 30th Anniversary we recognize three Sisters who helped start it all! These three Sisters were instrumental in the early years of consolidating Des Moines' inner-city Catholic schools.



Sister Shirley Marie Crisler — Sister of Charity

Sister Shirley Marie Crisler was born in 1926, graduated from Madonna in 1944 and then worked as a secretary until she entered the Springfield Dominicans in September 1946. She served as co-principal at Sacred Heart in Des Moines and as principal at Visitation in Des Moines where she was instrumental in the consolidation that started Holy Family. After retiring as principal, she continued to teach GED classes until her full retirement at age 80. Sister Shirley Marie Crisler passed away on August 10, 2018.



Sister Mary Andrew Osborne — Sister of Mercy

Sister Mary Andrew Osborne was born in 1937. She was received into religious life as a Sister of Mercy on August 16, 1956. Most of her professional life was spent in Des Moines where she was a first grade teacher at Saint Peter's School for 15 years. When Saint Peter's merged with Visitation, Saint Ambrose, and Saint John's to become Holy Family she became co-principal of the three buildings. Sister Mary Andrew Osborne passed away on January 26, 1999.



Sister Joanne Simonini — BVM

Sister Joanne Simonini was born in 1931, in Des Moines, Iowa. She attended St. Ambrose Elementary School and St. Joseph Academy in Des Moines. She entered the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary congregation in 1951, from Holy Trinity Parish, Des Moines. She professed her final vows on July 16, 1959.

Sister Joanne ministered in Des Moines as principal and primary teacher at St. John, principal at Holy Family, and director of religious education at St. Joseph. Sister Joanne Simonini passed away on April 24, 2021.

MEET ALBERTO MARQUEZ, HOLY FAMILY ALUMNUS



Year graduated from Holy Family: 2008

High school attended: Dowling Catholic

College attended: DMACC

Job: Police Officer with the Des Moines Police Department

Hometown: Des Moines, IA

Tell us a little about yourself?

I have been working for DMPD as an officer. I am also a member of the Iowa Army National Guard as an infantryman and have been for about ten years. My wife and I just had our first child, a beautiful five month old sassy baby girl. Some of my many hobbies are spending quality time with my family and watching the Cubbies win.

How did Holy Family set you up for success?

Holy Family was able to set me up for success by helping me establish a Christian foundation from a young age.

What person, course, or experience most influenced you while at Holy Family?

It is hard to think of one specific person or course. Overall I think that my whole experience at Holy Family was great! I would like to think that every interaction and course at Holy Family was key for my success.

What advice do you have for current students at Holy Family?

Although it may seem like there is still a very long way to go, it will go by extremely fast. Enjoy every moment you can being a student, taking advantage of your education and your teachers who are extremely caring and want you to succeed in the future. Enjoy time with your classmates.

What is one of your best Holy Family memories?

I believe I was either in first or second grade, it was towards the beginning of the school year. The playground was recently built. I remember that I was towards the top near one of the slides, when I got too close to the support bars. Suddenly my knee went into the gap between the bars and it became stuck. Luckily Mrs. Holmes was there to save the day!

What is your greatest professional accomplishment?

I'll keep it simple, I feel like my greatest accomplishment is any moment when I am able to really help someone. Any time that I am able to help make someone's day better is an accomplishment in my book.

What advice would you give current students or recent graduates interested in pursuing a career in your professional field?

I enlisted in the military because I have a sense of patriotism and service. I love my community and I am glad that I was able to find a career where I am able to continue the same passion for service, similar to the military. Being a police officer will be one of the most rewarding careers you can have. You will be interacting with people who are, or may be, in their worst moments. You will have an opportunity to change that and help them.

What is something people may not know about you?

Initially, when I was younger, before I joined the military I heavily considered a career in culinary arts. Ultimately it is a good thing that it didn't happen because I am not a very good cook.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES, ORGANIZATIONS, FOUNDATIONS, AND ESTATES WHO GENEROUSLY MADE A MONETARY GIFT TO HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION.
This list represents gifts given July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

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Celebrating 30 Years

HOLY FAMILY
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