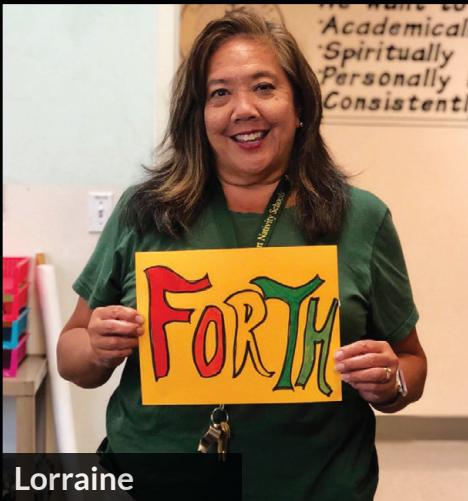




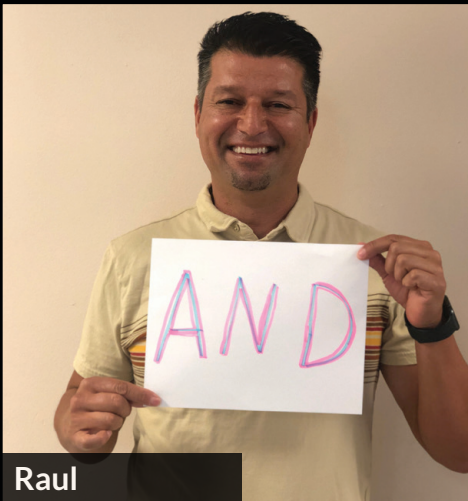
Zoom Meeting



Rubén



Lorraine



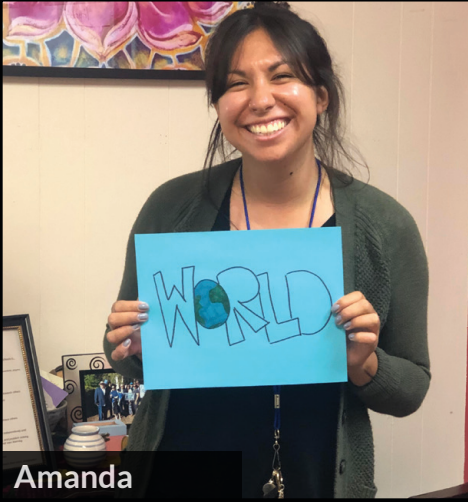
Raul



Elise



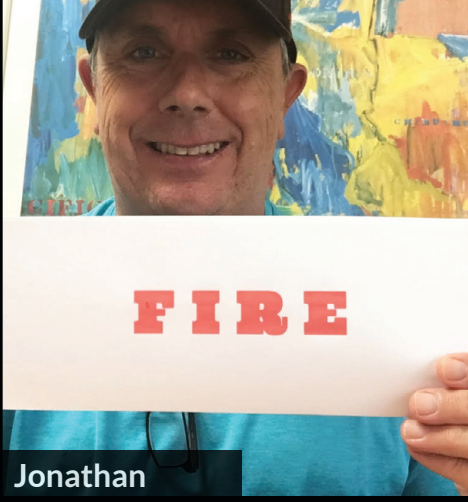
Pam



Amanda



Lewis



Jonathan



Marc

FUN FACTS AND STATS



85%

OF 2020 NATIVITY GRADUATES
are attending a local Catholic high school.

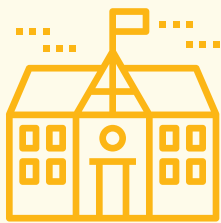


2.6

GRADE LEVELS
Average grade level growth of class of 2020 from 6th grade–8th grade (based on STAR testing).

100%

OF STUDENTS
graduate from high school.



100%

STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN DISTANCE LEARNING
(beginning in March).

41%

ALUMNI WHO OBTAINED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE

(graduated high school between 2008–2016).

95%

ALUMNI HAVE ENROLLED IN COLLEGE
in the past six years.

78%

INCREASE
in the number of families participating in our Food Pantry distribution since September 2019.



547

ALUMNI
in the Nativity family.

Thanks to your support!

Dear Friends & Supporters of Nativity,

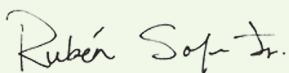
It is our great pleasure to send you this Fall Newsletter which includes our Annual Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. Our team is small but mighty. We have been working together to offer our students the best possible learning experience since COVID-19 shut down all schools in the middle of March. Thanks to our wonderful partnership with Bellarmine College Prep, we were able to ensure that all our students had a Microsoft Surface Pro at home to use for distance learning. We closed our doors on Friday the 13th and opened our Zoom classrooms the following week.

We know how resilient our students are, but the heroes of this story are our faculty and staff. They went above and beyond to ensure all our students finished the year strong and were prepared for the following school year without any lapse in learning. This commitment flowed into the summer with our Bellarmine Summer School continuing online. Finally, we ended the summer programs on the feast day of St. Ignatius of Loyola with an outdoor graduation ceremony for our 8th graders. Bishop Oscar Cantú and four priests joined us in celebrating a Baccalaureate Mass for each class.

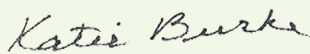
As we celebrate our 20th anniversary this school year, we strongly believe that Fr. Mateo Sheedy's dream lives on, Fr. Peter Pabst's legacy continues, and we honor Sonya Arriola's love and commitment to our mission every day. We think you will agree when you read through these pages, that our students are thriving despite all the challenges that their families have faced during this pandemic. Many have lost their jobs and their homes, but they have not lost faith. They continue to believe in God and this wonderful ministry that is Nativity. We continue to provide food and other essentials for all our families to ensure their physical wellbeing, as well as support their social, emotional, and spiritual needs.

Over the years, Nativity has grown to become an even stronger school community. Despite COVID-19, we continue to offer a transformative Jesuit education to our first-generation, low-income students that will help to **break the cycle of poverty through education.**

With profound gratitude and appreciation,



Deacon Rubén Solorio
President



Katie Burke
Chair
Board of Directors



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VIRTUAL LEARNING



During Distance Learning, we not only delivered instruction in all academic subject areas, but also offered a rich extracurricular club program during the spring quarter and during the 6-week summer program. Here are a few examples...

Spring Distance Learning

7TH GRADE SCIENCE Students completed a research project on medical conditions that affect the human body and created a PSA announcement about their chosen condition. Students were able to come up with creative tag-lines which were supported by facts from their research.



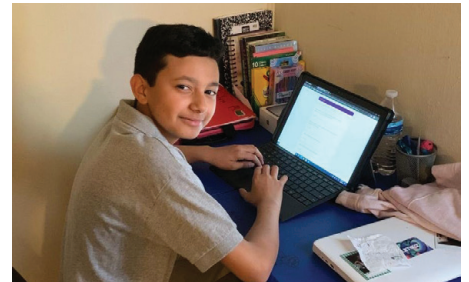
While learning about genetics, students analyzed the genetic code of Covid-19 and learned about protein coding. Also, during this activity, they discussed how mutations form on a molecular level and how mutations might affect the transmission of Covid-19.

6TH GRADE SCIENCE Our 6th graders participated in Imagineering in a Box, a cross-curricular project where they designed and pitched their idea for a theme park. Students worked through the Khan Academy online module during ELA, Science, and Math class. Twice throughout their time working on this project, the students had the opportunity to Zoom with designers and engineers with Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida.

Summer Virtual Electives

DRAMA CLUB Since drama is a highly creative field, Mrs. Phipps got creative when creating a three-week Drama Elective. She enlisted her daughter, Cara Phipps who is an MFA (Master of Fine Arts) director and theater maker living in Minneapolis...no problem for a Zoom class.

Cara got in touch with colleagues in various parts of the country who are designers in all aspects of live theater and invited them to share their knowledge with our students. Cara began the class by explaining how a play is made. Each class after that focused on one aspect of “making a play”: costume design, lighting design, stage management, playwriting, directing, acting and scenic design. Each class was taught by a designer who creates that part of the play. The presentations included slide shows, videos and some interactive exercises. The students were engaged and learned about the creative processes involved in live theater and that it is so much more than just actors reciting lines on a stage. In this case, having to teach via Zoom was a blessing in disguise as it allowed creative professionals to share their knowledge and talent with our students.



FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS CLUB One of teacher Amanda Montez’s favorite things to do virtually with students this summer was have a friendship bracelet club! She loved running this club this past school year and really missed having a creative, student driven space while we moved to distance learning. She made bags of string for the students to pick up before the club started and for 3 days, she taught students how to make different bracelets via zoom. It was nice to see them create something with their own hands away from a screen!



From the Principal's Desk

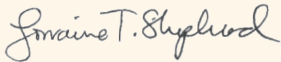
While the pandemic has provided many new challenges for our school, our desire to fulfill our mission to break the cycle of poverty through education is stronger than ever.

Our teachers are excited to teach in this new normal. We are *Committed to Teach* with this technology so the students can continue to excel and progress. Our teachers work hard to plan lessons to engage students not only academically, but spiritually and emotionally too. In return, we expect students to work hard to learn and participate in all classes. On the first day of school, it was so awesome to see their smiling faces again on Zoom.

I recently re-read parent responses to a survey we sent in July. Overwhelmingly, parents stated that faith formation is just as important as academic preparation at Nativity. Many comments included how much we need to grow our faith, now more than ever. I couldn't agree more! One of the things I miss about Distance Learning is not being able to physically celebrate the Eucharist together on Friday mornings as a community. However, there are multiple opportunities for students and families to attend either an online liturgy or come to Sacred Heart of Jesus parish.

God is Good ... All the Time!

Siempre Adelante,



Lorraine Shepherd
Principal



DEDICATED FACULTY AND STAFF

Maria Buckallew
Elise Hasty
Julie Henriques
German Hernandez
Rose Jimenez
Pam Klaus
Jonathan MacArt
Jacqueline Mendez
Amanda Montez
Rhonda Nourse
Marc Ortiz
Jennifer Packard
Patricia Perez
Barbi Phipps
Lewis Poche
Robert Rodrigues
Jackie Romo
Lorraine Shepherd
Rubén Solorio
Raul Tornel
Thelma Valadez

Welcome to the newest members of our faculty.

GERMAN HERNANDEZ Health and Wellness Associate

German has been part of the Sacred Heart Community for 9 years. He graduated in the class of 2011 from Nativity and graduated from Archbishop Mitty in 2015. He is currently attending San Francisco State University pursuing a degree in kinesiology. His areas of expertise are in the human body functions and movements, so he feels that teaching our students is an amazing opportunity for him to give back to the community and show them as much as possible about having fun while being active.



JACQUELINE MENDEZ Counselor

Jacqueline (Jax) was born and raised in South Chicago by two loving immigrant parents. She attended Catholic school from kindergarten through college and is passionate about how Catholic education changed her life for the better. As a South Side Chicago native, a first-generation Latina, and the first in her family to attend college, she hopes to be a role model to students who are growing up in similar circumstances. She feels blessed with the opportunity to work with students who inspire her every day.



CAMPUS MINISTRY TRANSITION



Jesuit Beliefs and Practices Form the Foundation of the Nativity Experience

We say goodbye to Mike Tedone ...



From the time he was in graduate school in 2011, Jesuit Scholastic, Mike Tedone knew that he wanted to become a Jesuit – they gave him a feeling of “being at home.”

For the past two years, Mike taught religion in the classroom, organized student retreats, planned school Masses, and provided spiritual guidance to everyone.

He felt a sense of pride for the 6th-grade Guadalupe plays that he directed and for his participation in the 8th-grade retreats where he witnessed the journey that the students have taken to become good students and positive role models in the community.

As part of Mike's journey toward ordination, he has moved to a new assignment. He will remember the students' smiles and the sounds of laughter on the playground, but will miss the yearly 8th grade trip to Yosemite. “Bringing communion to the students within the beauty of Yosemite Valley was an unforgettable opportunity,” said Mike.

Principal, Lorraine Shepherd, reflects on the way Mike has increased the Jesuit presence on campus: *“Over the school year, several Jesuit priests from the communities of Bellarmine, Santa Clara University, El Retiro, and the Sacred Heart Jesuit Center presided at our weekly Masses. They also offered their ministry as Spiritual Directors for our staff and have lead retreats. This is largely due to the invitation made by Mike Tedone.”*

We will miss Mike greatly, but his influence on the students and the faculty will be everlasting.

... and extend a big welcome to Robert Rodrigues, the new Director of Campus Ministry

Robert was born in Oakland and raised in Hayward and is the youngest of four children. Although his parents could not afford to send them to Catholic school, they made sure they attended the Faith Formation programs in their parish, St. Joachim. The faith formation programs were run by the Sisters of the Holy Family who instilled in Robert a love for his faith, for service and the Church. He went to San Jose State University and received a B.A. in Religious Studies and attended Seattle University where he received his M.A. in Theology. Robert has worked in the Church for 30 years as a Director of Faith Formation and Head of a Retreat Center, always offering spiritual direction.



Says Robert, *“coming to Nativity combines all of my passions; teaching, walking with the students on their spiritual journeys, and empowering people to become whom God is creating them to be while helping them move through obstacles that may inhibit that from happening.”*

Robert has been inspired by the commitment of the school to helping students and families succeed in not only their educational journey, but their life journey as well.



“Our students are highly motivated to learn, and they are people of gratitude who are a joy to work with.”

TEACHER SPOTLIGHTS



Amanda Montez was chosen to be the Jesuits West Arrupe Delegate from Nativity and participated in the “Faith Doing Justice” Discerning Series which started in January as an experiment in community organizing. She was assisted by four other teachers, Lewis Poche, Raul Tornel, Marc Ortiz and Jax Mendez. This was a collaborative effort among Jesuit institutions in the western United States, and they met monthly with delegates from Alaska to Arizona. During the first half of the year, they worked to determine which societal issue to focus on to bring about change in the community. They held “listening sessions” to determine which issues were of highest priority. Amanda’s listening group was comprised of the 8th grade girls in her homeroom

class. She was impressed with the high level of awareness that the young ladies had regarding issues such as racism and gentrification, and the delegates concluded that racial inequality was the most pressing issue in the collective communities. They created CORE (Collaborative Organizing for Racial Equity), and launched a website through the Jesuits West Province to provide tools and resources for all Jesuit organizations to discuss and lead social change around a central question: Do we own the joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the excluded in our midst?

Amanda and the other delegates will be working with students, parents and faith leaders in the community to ignite activism around CORE.

Congratulations to **Jennifer Packard**, the winner of the 2019-20 Ignatian Educator Award. This honor is given to the faculty member who best exemplifies the spirit of Magis, a Jesuit philosophy of doing more for Christ, and therefore doing more for others.

Jennifer has been an active member of Catholic education since she was a 2nd grader at Resurrection School in Sunnyvale. Graduating from Saint Francis High School and earning her Masters in Teaching at Santa Clara University developed her foundation of a Catholic education. Jennifer has worked for several public and Catholic schools in the area, landing at Nativity in 2018 where she teaches English and Social Studies.

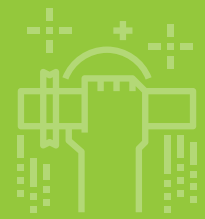
During the award ceremony, Lorraine described some of the reasons that Jennifer was chosen for the award this year:

“You exemplify the **Magis** in all you do – a perfect example of this is driving to your student’s homes to deliver much needed novels for class. Your fierce **advocacy** for our students is exactly what they need. You lead with your heart, and our students benefit from that every day.”



“ I felt the Holy Spirit guide me to the Nativity mission and I am so blessed to have received and answered the call. I cannot imagine teaching in any other learning environment.”

CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATION



Friday, March 13 was a bittersweet day for the 8th grade students. While they were informed that school would be closing for an indefinite period, they also received their high school acceptance letters. We are proud to say that 29 of the 34 8th graders were accepted Catholic high schools. That 85% acceptance rate is the highest we have seen in some time.

Due to Santa Clara County restrictions, we held the Baccalaureate Mass/Graduation Ceremony in two parts in the parking lot of the school.

The message that Principal Lorraine Shepherd and President Rubén Solorio shared with the students was this:

“Wherever you are going to school next month, remember that YOU earned that spot, just like every other student there, and no one can take that away from YOU.”

The first ceremony was for the girls of Our Lady of Grace Nativity School. With students seated in socially distant chairs and families in their cars park around the perimeter, the audience was treated to an inspiring Mass lead by Bishop Oscar Cantú, with co-presiders Deacon Rubén Solorio, Fr. Luis Vargas along with other priests from the Sacred Heart of Jesus parish.

Before the graduation diplomas were distributed, the girls heard from their valedictorian, Rose.

“I was truly proud to be part of the Our Lady of Grace class. It was a class that had no fear of speaking up and making sure voices were heard regardless of the outcome. Whether we were sharing our concerns about equity with the dress code, or our thoughts about what we were learning in the classroom, I have been amazed by our growth and confidence.”



Rose V.

After clearing the parking lot, the staff then welcomed the boys of Sacred Heart Nativity School and their families to the parking lot. Following a second Mass, the boys heard from Michael, the male valedictorian as he reflected on their three years together:



Michael F.

“By the end of 8th grade, our class had turned into a huge brotherhood. Each of us went through rough obstacles all three years, yet none of us gave up. We continued to strive with the help of each other, our families and faculty. Sacred Heart Nativity has helped us become the young men we are today. Going to a Catholic school changed my way of being. I began to pray every night and I tried to be more generous towards those I had not treated fairly.”

As we send the students off to new high school adventures, we use the words of St. Ignatius of Loyola and inspire them to “Go forth and set the world on fire!”

NATIVITY CLASS OF 2020

Fall 2020 High School Enrollment

Catholic Schools

Cristo Rey	9
Archbishop Mitty	7
Bellarmino	6
Notre Dame	6
Presentation	1

Charter and Public Schools

Robert Cruz Academy.....	2
Lincoln.....	1
Branham	1
Willow Glen.....	1



Nativity prepares students academically to be accepted to a college prep high school, but the graduate support team ensures they have the organizational and social skills to succeed in those programs.

In the words of a former Nativity teacher who is now teaching at a local Catholic high school:

“ I believe that the students that come from Sacred Heart Nativity have better organization skills and are more tech savvy than their peers. I teach them math, and all the ones I have taught have either received a B or higher in class. They are very impressive.”

GRADUATE SUPPORT



The Graduate Support Program provides guidance to students, alumni, and their families from 8th grade until they achieve their post-secondary education goals. We do this through the four pillars:

1. High School Application Process Support

- Coordinate visits to the high schools starting in 7th grade
- Support 8th grade students and parents through the entire high school application and financial aid process
- Provide tutors to help with high school application essays
- One-on-one meetings with students and parents to discuss high school options

2. Academic Support and High School Graduation

- Regular check-ins, follow-ups, and visits to the high schools
- Track academic progress to provide advice or refer to services inside and outside high school
- Staff and volunteers act as advocates for alumni, teach advocacy skills, and guide parents through their own advocacy efforts
- Monitor path to graduation

3. College Preparedness

- Workshops on college admissions
- College tours
- SAT prep classes for juniors
- Job shadow day
- Connect alumni to enrichment activities, volunteer opportunities, and scholarships

4. Support During College

- Guide and connect students to resources on and off-campus
- Support students and parents through check-ins



Students from the Nativity class of 2010 graduating from Santa Clara University.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

LUPE ROJAS '11

“To any parent thinking about enrolling their child at Nativity, I’d encourage them to be part of its community and see for themselves how their child can be empowered by this institution.”

Lupe Rojas moved from Michoacán, Mexico with his family as an eight-year-old, and initially had a hard time learning English and acclimating to city life. He eventually found refuge in books, embraced education and dreamed of being the first in his family to graduate from college. While he thrived in elementary school, his family knew that he was able to handle a more vigorous curriculum than the local school offered, so they settled on Nativity to help Lupe fulfill his dreams. *“The school helped me nurture my mindset as a young student, and the support I received encouraged me to shoot for the stars.”* He credits his time at Nativity with enabling him to earn a full ride scholarship to the high school of his dreams, Bellarmine College Preparatory.

Lupe is a recent graduate from the University of California, Santa Barbara where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology and a certificate in Technology Management. While at UCSB, he was a team leader for the College Link Outreach Program (CLOP), a program designed to increase college enrollment for underrepresented students from the LA and Oakland area. Lupe is currently a development assistant at Family Supportive Housing which provides temporary housing and targeted support for homeless families.



Lupe Rojas

SHELLSY RIZO '12



Shellsy Rizo

“The teachers and the administration believed in us, which gave us the confidence to believe in ourselves.”

Shellsy Rizo moved with her single mother from Nicaragua when she was eight years old. As an only child, her mother consistently demanded excellence from her and encouraged her to achieve greatness. After hearing about Nativity from her employer, Shellsy’s mom put her faith in the school and enrolled her sixth-grade daughter. Shellsy graduated at the top of her class from Nativity in 2012 and went on to Presentation High School. While there, she participated in numerous activities including student council, theater,

campus ministry, and swimming. *“I would not have had the opportunity to attend Presentation without the strong academic background and support I received from Nativity.”*

Today, Shellsy is a student at San Jose State University (on a full-ride scholarship) and is majoring in Business Management with a minor in Communications. As a first-generation Latina college student, she is ambitious and passionate about helping others in underserved communities benefit from her experiences. She holds a part-time job with a packaging engineering company and is the Media Marketing Director for the Latino Business Student Association at SJSU, all while carrying a full load of classes. She plans to graduate in December 2020 and is excited to see what the future will bring.



THANK YOU!

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Because you, our supporters, are very important to us, these lists were developed with great care and attention. We sincerely apologize for any errors and ask that you contact Pam Klaus at (408) 993-1293 x220 so we can correct our records.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020



REVENUES

Unrestricted Gifts	\$1,335,422
Temp Restricted Gifts	26,073
CA School Nutrition Subsidy	77,345
Tuition and Fees	65,491
Quasi Endowment Draw	292,000
Total	\$1,796,330

EXPENSES

Academics	\$1,047,208
Management and General	649,218
Martha's Kitchen Lunch Payments	77,345
Fundraising	283,229
Total	\$2,057,000

Note: These results are preliminary as they have not yet been formally audited.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

This year, we have the **privilege of impacting the lives of 81 middle school boys and girls** by providing them educational opportunities that are not available in their neighborhood schools. Their school day is longer than most, they attend monthly Saturday enrichment programs (when not under pandemic restrictions), and they only get six weeks off for summer break. But, at the end of their three years, they are able to test at or above grade level, and most are accepted into private college preparatory high schools.

And through all the hard work and long hours, the students have grateful hearts, and deeply appreciate the opportunities that Sacred Heart Nativity Schools afford them.

The average annual household income is \$30,000, so they can only afford to pay 2% of the cost to educate their students. Therefore, **we must raise \$20,000* per student to cover costs.** Please consider making a gift or pledge



I am grateful for wonderful people like you who generously support our school. I aspire to have such a humble heart and be just like you guys, people who are changing the lives of many students including mine and my lovely friends.”

SARA, 2020 GRADUATE

today – any amount is appreciated and truly makes a difference in the lives of our students.

To make a gift, use the enclosed envelope or go to our website www.shnativity.org/donate-now/

**Consider creating a giving circle of your friends, co-workers, or family to sponsor a student for the year. You will receive letters from them and can follow them on their journey. We accept single gifts, or pledges paid over time.*

THANK YOU!

Type of Gift	How to Make the Gift	Benefit to the Donor	Benefit to Sacred Heart Nativity School
Bequests	Name Sacred Heart Nativity School in your will or living trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your donation is exempt from federal estate taxes You maintain control of your assets for your lifetime 	The bequest will be held in perpetuity or can be put to immediate use and invested to fund Nativity's needs as designated by the donor
Outright Gift	Simply make one of the following donations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash Stocks/Securities Insurance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income tax deduction No capital gains tax on appreciated gift 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perpetual income or immediate impact Interest impact used by Sacred Heart Nativity School
Retirement Plan/IRA	Name Nativity as the beneficiary of the remainder of the assets after your lifetime	Allows you to make a gift from the most highly taxed assets of your estate, leaving better assets for your heirs	A significant gift to Nativity upon the passing of the donor
Minimum Distribution/RMD	Name Nativity as the recipient of your annual retirement account required minimum distribution	Allows you to make a gift while satisfying your RMD requirement and excluding the RMD from your taxable income	Immediate impact to support current programs at Nativity
Insurance Policy	Make a large gift with little cost to you, the donor	Current income tax deduction Possible future deductions through gifts to pay policy premiums	Sacred Heart Nativity School receives the full face value of the policy upon the passing of the donor or may receive the current surrender value prior to the donor's passing

Please contact Pam Klaus, Director of Advancement to learn how you can support the students of Sacred Heart Nativity School



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GOLF

THE RESULTS ARE IN!



The 13th Annual Peter Pabst, S.J. Legacy Golf Tournament was a tremendous success!

The event was held on Monday, Sept. 21 at San Jose Country Club and adhered to all county and course restrictions in relation to Covid-19.

While we had a smaller field of golfers, we enjoyed the support of many more sponsors, donors and supporters than ever before! It was the highest grossing golf event yet. Our students are the big winners! **Thank you!**



FIESTA

We can't wait for the year 2021!



SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, May 1, 2021

We are all yearning for connection and purpose, so let's pray together that **Fiesta 2021** can happen, and that we'll be able to see one another in a safe and happy place for the benefit of the students of Nativity Schools.



MISSION STATEMENT

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION

Sacred Heart Nativity School for boys and Our Lady of Grace Nativity School for girls are urban Catholic middle schools. In partnership with the Society of Jesus, the Diocese of San Jose, and the Parish of Sacred Heart, the schools seek to lay the foundation for young women and men to succeed in college prep high school programs, in college, and beyond. The schools are dedicated to providing a Catholic education for students of low-income families with priority given to families of the Sacred Heart Parish community. In the Jesuit tradition, Nativity students are encouraged to deepen their relationship with God as they become women and men for others.