FALL 2024

NAZARETH NEWS

SHINING A LIGHT ON CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Catholic Education: Building Future Leaders

Academic Achievement:

98%
Graduation Rate

Our students graduate at higher rates than national averages with strong college and career readiness.

Value-Driven Education:

Faith, Hope, Service, Community

Students volunteer over 100,000 hours annually embodying Catholic values through service in their communities.

High Academic Standards:

Excellence in Math & Reading

Catholic school students consistently score above the national average in math, reading and science assessments.

College Preparation:

95% **College Acceptance Rate**

Nearly all Catholic school graduates are accepted to colleges and universities, supported by a foundation of faith and academics.

Alumni Leadership:

Community Leaders

Our alumni are leaders in their communities with over 60% actively involved in civic, religious, or volunteer organizations.

Catholic education shapes well-rounded, service-oriented students ready to lead with faith and purpose. Thank you for investing in their future!

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of Nazareth Guild,

As the crisp air and vibrant colors of fall settle upon us, I am reminded of the immense blessings we share through the gift of Catholic education. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, and in partnership with the Catholic Foundation and the Diocese of Spokane, Nazareth Guild has been able to distribute over $12.5 million to the Catholic schools in Eastern Washington. Together, we are nurturing young minds, supporting the dedicated teachers who inspire them daily, and the Catholic schools that build a foundation for their future.

This season, I am excited to highlight one of our teachers, Amanda Holland, who has been awarded a grant to further her education in leadership and is pursuing her principal certification. This opportunity reflects just one way Nazareth Guild supports educators in their vocation. Your gifts make these moments possible helping our teachers strengthen our schools from within.

Beyond grants for professional development, Nazareth Guild provides critical funding in many other ways—teacher grants, school grants, scholarships, capital improvements, and direct financial support to schools that need it most. Each donation ensures Catholic schools are thriving and accessible to all.

As we look to the future, I invite you to continue this mission with us. Whether through a one-time gift, a monthly donation, or by including Nazareth Guild in your estate plans, your support sustains our work for generations to come.

Please join us on this journey, embracing the call to invest in our faith-based education, and forming leaders grounded in faith and service. Thank you for your dedication, prayers, and generosity.

With gratitude,

Debbie Battaglia
Executive Director, Nazareth Guild

(509) 744-3259 P.O. Box 76, Spokane, WA 99210

Celebration of Light Gala: A Night of Hope, Faith, and Community

Our annual Celebration of Light Gala in September was an evening to remember bringing together friends and supporters to celebrate Catholic education and the students who attend our schools. This year's event was dedicated to the values that guide our mission—hope, service, faith, excellence, community, foundation, and the commitment to forming tomorrow's leaders through Catholic education.

During the event, we were honored to recognize Champions of Catholic Education, Kristine Allbery and Brian O'Rourk †, two individuals who have made an extraordinary impact on our schools. Their dedication, which you can read more about on our website, reflects the spirit of service and commitment that is the heart of our mission.

One of the evening's highlights was a video, featuring students who used one word to describe what their Catholic school means to them. Faith and hope shone brightly, alongside words like excellence and service—powerful reminders of the values instilled in each of our students. These words reflect the foundation of Catholic education which encourages students not only to achieve academically but to grow in character and spirituality.

Thanks to the generosity of those who attended the Celebration of Light, we raised vital funds that will go directly to supporting our Catholic schools. Your support lights the path for students, enabling them to grow into future leaders grounded in faith and service.

It is not too late to donate to the success of the evening, and support our mission.

Scan to donate.

Or visit Nazarethguild.org

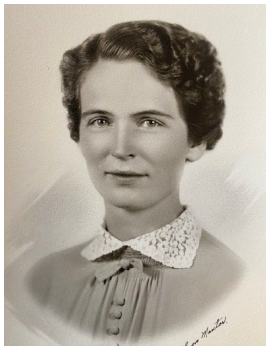
What is your one word to describe Catholic education?

Please take a picture, post to social media, and add #NazarethGuild

Nazareth Guild announces largest donation ever in history of $3,807,166

Nazareth Guild received its largest donation to date for the benefit of building a new school for Assumption Catholic School in Walla Walla. The new building will provide a well-equipped facility and create a conducive environment for a quality faith-based education. This will serve the current Assumption community and attract new families, contributing to the growth and sustainability of Catholic education in the area. The new school building will symbolize hope and a continued commitment to providing excellent education within the Catholic tradition for the Catholic schools of Eastern Washington. Groundbreaking is scheduled to take place in the Spring of 2025.

Loretta Maloney Luger Endowment



John Luger established the Loretta Maloney Luger Endowment in loving memory of his mother, Loretta, a dedicated product of Catholic education. Loretta attended Holy Names Academy, graduated from Dominican College, and later completed her master's degree in education from the University of Washington, pursuing a passion for lifelong learning. Loretta taught at Mead High School and Eastern Washington University. She was a loving wife for an extra busy doctor and a constant loving mother for three daughters and three sons. She volunteered through all those school years of her children, also serving among many other places: Sacred Heart Hospital, the House of Charity, and a sewing group at the Chancery.

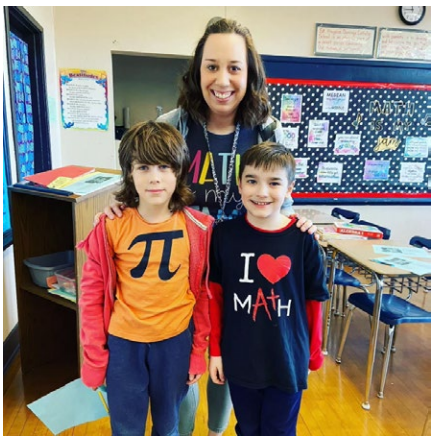
This endowment is dedicated to supporting teachers in the Catholic schools of Eastern Washington who seek to further their education and professional development. By providing opportunities for teachers to advance academically, the endowment helps enhance the quality of Catholic education, enabling teachers to not only improve on the pay scale but also become leaders within their schools and potentially pursue roles as Catholic school principals. Thank you to the Luger Family for providing teachers with opportunities to advance in Catholic schools.

Investing in Leaders

The Catholic schools of Eastern Washington are blessed to have excellent teachers who play a pivotal role in the academic and spiritual development of students. One remarkable educator is Amanda (Ruen) Holland, a dedicated teacher at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic School. Nazareth Guild is proud to award Amanda with the inaugural Loretta Luger Leadership grant as she earns her master's degree in Educational Leadership with a Principal Certification at Gonzaga University.

Amanda has always been passionate about education and is deeply committed to her Catholic faith. For the last 13 years, she has taught in the junior high at St. Al's, where she emphasizes not just academic achievement but also the values of compassion, integrity, and community service.

As Amanda reflected on her personal Catholic education at Cataldo Catholic School ('02), Gonzaga Prep ('06), and Gonzaga University ('10), she recognized the profound impact that strong leadership has on school culture and student outcomes. Inspired by the incredible principals at St. Al's, she aspires to step into a leadership role



herself. Amanda is a mother of two daughters attending St. Al's and will continue working full-time while she completes her degree. Though it will be challenging to balance everything on her plate, Amanda is committed to completing her program with the support of the Loretta Maloney Luger Leadership grant.

Amanda would like to thank Nazareth Guild, John Luger, and all the generous donors who are supporting her continuing education. Her journey serves as an inspiration, showing that with passion, commitment, and encouragement, educators can transform not only their own lives but also the lives of their many students.

Endowments: A Lasting Legacy for Our Catholic Schools

One of the most impactful ways to support the future of Catholic schools is through endowment giving. Nazareth Guild is honored to steward several endowments designed to secure Catholic education's long-term stability and growth in Eastern Washington. Your gift will continue to grow and impact students, teachers, and schools for generations making it one of the most meaningful ways to support our mission. We invite you to consider an endowment gift to Nazareth Guild as part of your giving plan. Contact our office if you would like more information on how to give to an existing endowment or establish a new one.

The following endowments were created to support the mission of Nazareth Guild: strengthen Catholic schools in the Diocese of Spokane.

- Fr. Coughlin Scholarship Fund
- Cardinal Cupich Fund
- Garco Construction Fund
- Herak Memorial Fund
- James O' Rourke Fund

ADDITIONAL ENDOWMENTS:

Guadalupe "Lupita" Sandoval Endowment – Established for the exclusive benefit of Trinity Catholic School.

Garco Construction Scholarship Endowment – Supports tuition assistance to families based on need.

Loretta Maloney Luger Endowment – Awards grants to K-12 teachers for continuing education to develop the next generation of leaders in Catholic schools.

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