

Fall Campaign 2017 Launch

The journey continues with completion of Phases 1 and 2

When our parish announced that it would build a new school in 2000, no one really knew how long it would take. At times it seemed like an eternity, especially as costs were rising. After a number of years, we realized that our school would need to be built in phases. It was the right decision. Now we have slowly but surely completed two of three phases – and done so within our means.

We also learned that taking on a big challenge means staying grounded and hopeful. For us at St. Augustine's, it's always been about gratitude, service and prayer. These will continue to be at the heart of our work as we journey to the full completion of our school.

We often remind ourselves that it's not just about building a new school – but building our community so that we can share our faith with this and future generations. How we get there is as important as arriving at our destination.

Today, we give thanks for the generosity of our community which enabled us to successfully complete the third floor while welcoming many more families and students into our school.

During the Fall Campaign, you will hear and see the appreciation of our students, the enthusiasm of our families and the commitment of so many in our parish.



Your contributions allow us to keep moving forward – to meet our financial obligations and eventually set the stage for the final phase – a new gymnasium.

Along the way, we remain grateful, generous to serve and patiently prayerful.

Rob Napoli, *Chair, Fall Campaign*



Moving on up: students carry boxes up to the newly-completed third floor in June.

2017 Fall Campaign

Week 1: October 21/22

Video & testimonials
Third floor tours
Children participate in Sunday liturgies

Week 2: October 28/29

Testimonials & third floor tours
Children participate in Sunday liturgies

Week 3: November 4/5

Campaign wrap-up
Children participate in Sunday liturgies

Campaign Goal
\$500,000

Raised:
\$190,000

Class of 2012 says “Thank You”

Our wonderful school has had over 106 years brim-filled with young people that it is very proud to call ‘alumni’. The goodness, honesty, hope, faith, determination, good-will and holy-humour that they have shared with us is a source of joy to their parents, to one another, and to the teaching and support staff of our school community.



Donna O'Hara (middle) with alumni. left-right: Ben Hone, Max Hnatiuk, Constantine Maragos, Thomas McGillivray, Finlay Moylan, Camilla Jimenez, Tristan Morgan and Domhnall Street

We are confident that they will continue to bring much needed goodness and hope to the world.

This past April, for our annual Pass the Torch video presentation, it was decided to focus on our alumni – and to provide the



broader community an inside glimpse on a group of young men and women who left St. Augustine's in 2012 and who were graduating from high school in June 2017.

For those in attendance, the video was the source of many a smile, a couple of tears, and much joy for those in attendance.

Teachers often say, when referring to students, that ‘the apple doesn't fall far from the tree’. In the case of this remarkable class, that is true. Each of the interviewed shared his or her reflections on the impact that St. Augustine's continues to have on their lives. In expressions of gratitude, one of the young men said: “I'm thankful to have lived the culture” of St. Augustine's and another that he ‘hoped

that people in the future won't forget St. Augustine's past'. One young man said: ‘St. Augustine's shaped me’ and a few said that they hoped that everyone would continue to live the culture of ‘giving back’ – always working for others.

The parents of these fine young people were the very donors who, as a class group during the Fall Campaign, made a very significant legacy gift to the school in the fall of 2011. That very act inspired other parents and parishioners to donate well over \$1,000,000 to the Campaign. As a result, we were able to begin the formal process of seeking approval from the Archdiocese to build our beautiful school all bright and new.

These young people certainly learned from their parents how giving and gratitude are so intimately linked.

Please go to the school's website to see the video.

Julie and Alain Bergeron preside over the children's liturgy >

Children's Liturgy

At St. Augustine's one of the ways the little children of the parish are being led to Jesus is through the Liturgy of the Word for Children (LWC) which takes place each week at the Sunday 9 am Mass.

This wonderful gift to our community follows the guidelines set out in the Roman Missal and seeks to provide our children with an environment where they are more likely to develop a deeper and richer appreciation for the Word of God in words and language that they understand.

LWC seeks to inspire our children to participate more fully in the Mass and to be more active participants in the Mass. The format mirrors what happens in the main assembly but with its own special rituals and prayers that the children come to know and love.

Through this special ministry community forms for our little ones, their parents, and the leaders, known as presiders. These presiders, most of whom have been doing it for years, have shared stories of faith and profound moments of prayer with the children and watched them grow in wisdom and grace.

As one long-time presider put it “My faith life is enriched through my ministry with the children; I am richer for having shared in the formation of these little disciples”.





Our School Staff for 2017 / 2018

left-right: Anna Yule, Cheryl Bastone, Nancy McLean, Donna O'Hara, Judy Hoffman, Khristine Siy, Heidi Battiston, Denise McFaul, Mirella Gastaldo, Nancy Kwok, Leah Connell, Catherine O'Sullivan, Tom Arntzen, Kristhyl Albay, Helena Templeman, Lynette Vetro, Elizabeth Scali, Colleen Beggs, Angelica Agregado, Colleen Crilly, Rebecca Kelly, Michael Yaptinchay, Sara Wynne, Colleen Vinnick, Roisin Faherty, Hector Cortez, Dale Hannebauer, Tania Erceg (Missing: Jennifer Moffat, Sarah Byrne, Jacquie Chau, Nancy Vales, Yoko Nose)

Care for our Common Home

At the northeast corner of the school property, you will notice that we needed to re-landscape the grassy area, including new sod and plants. This will allow us to better maintain this area.



On the north side of the school, there is expected leaching from the bricks that results in a light coloured stain. This past summer we gave it an acid wash to remove the residue. We expect after a couple of years that the leaching will end.

Less visible is the work to painstakingly clean a wax-like build-up on the windows



that were inadvertently affected by a spray material during the construction process.

Every weekend, a group of volunteer school parents go about the business of



cutting the grass, weeding the gardens, preparing the playing field, and collecting trash throughout the property.



Facts & Figures

School enrolment: 295

Staff: 37, including 7 new members

Double-streamed classes: Kindergarten, Grade 1 and 2

Children in after-school club: 74

Children in bands and choirs: 99

From Our Principal

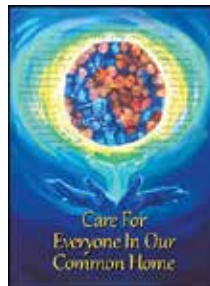


This year's theme for all Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese is **"Care For EVERYONE In Our Common Home"**, inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si*.

As we begin our Fall Campaign at St. Augustine's, I remain overwhelmingly grateful for the generosity of our parish community as we continue to build our school, which in no small way is our common home.

Our parish school is where faith can grow and be nurtured, where we can celebrate and rejoice in what we are called to do as disciples of our faith by seeing Jesus in the world around us and by caring for and sharing Him with EVERYONE around us!

As we continue to commit to our call to the care of our "common home" - in our school, in our homes, in our communities, around the world, and in our lives - on behalf of the school, I thank you for helping to complete the first two phases of our new school. The completion of the third floor has allowed us to shuffle some of our classrooms and create new and exciting learning spaces. We invite you to come visit the school. We would love to have you as our guests.



It is with your continued support, prayers, and generosity that we are able to provide not only an excellent education to our school children but, more importantly, a Catholic education for them and for future generations of children and families on their faith journey as we share in the mission of the Church.

Thank you so very much for helping to build our common home, a community that is founded on humility, gratitude, and service. Everything at St. Augustine School is done with our FAITH as a foundation.

Your generosity and contributions over the years, this year, and in the years ahead have provided us new facilities and resources that allow us to fulfil our mission as a Catholic school: to help families bring their children closer to Christ. What a blessing and privilege that is.

Michael Yaptinchay

A Few Words From Our Pastor

Dear parishioners and friends of St. Augustine:



Each year at this time we pause to reflect upon our many blessings as parents, parishioners, educators and stewards of our faith community.

Our new school is the physical manifestation of our communal journey; a school built on faith and by faith.

As I begin my fourth year as Pastor of St. Augustine's I am ever grateful to those in the past who have enriched our community as well as deeply appreciative to those of you who enrich our present.

I ask you to continue the journey with us by committing your spiritual and financial resources. We owe it to those who journeyed before us; those who sacrificed for years so that your children benefit from the best our school and parish community offers.

In continuing the legacy of faith and financial commitment our spiritual community manifests itself as a growing and vital entity. As we sow, we reap.

Fr. Andrew Stenzina, OMI
Pastor

THANK YOU

Total Donations and Pledges*: **\$ 8,679,764**
 Pledges Outstanding: **\$ 421,163**
 Total Donors: **1109**
 Total Gifts: **3654**

*Faith and Foundation Funds are held in a separate Parish/Archdiocesan account strictly for the purpose of building a new school at St. Augustine's.



Financial Update: October 2017

Watching the bottom line while keeping the horizon in view

LIKE ANY FAMILY or individual, maintaining your home has both its challenges and benefits.



At the financial centre of those considerations at St. Augustine's for more than 20 years has been **Linda Arnold**, our parish's director of administrative services and RCIA

co-ordinator. She's also been a member of our Faith and Foundation team from the very start of our efforts to build a new school.

"With the completion of the third floor of the new school, the parish will now be assuming a \$4 million mortgage. This debt level has not changed since the first phase of the school was completed in October, 2015 as ongoing fundraising has essentially covered the cost of the third floor construction," says Linda.

"This is such a blessing to our community that the support from school families and parishioners has been sustained."

Like all parishes in the Archdiocese, St. Augustine holds its mortgage with the Bank of Montreal and starting this fall will begin to pay both principal and interest on the loan. The Archdiocese allowed the parish to pay only interest costs until the third floor was completed -- now making these monthly payments about \$30,000.

Linda says that the sources of revenue to pay down the debt as quickly as possible are varied and help to share the financial burden within the parish. "While our school families contribute during the spring and the Fall Campaign, we also have many parish families outside of the school

who donate on a regular basis, in addition to other gifts we receive," she says.

We're also fortunate that the school has been covering its operational costs for many years now and easing this burden on the parish, she added.

Over the course of the past 17 years of fundraising for the new school, about half of the \$8.6 million raised to date has come from parishioners without children in the school.

Linda says that prior to construction of the new school, the parish faced a number of significant building challenges, including construction of the parish centre and a new roof on the church. "All of these in many ways gave us confidence that we could take on as large a project as the school, and we learned a lot along the way," says Linda. "Mostly I think we learned that we could rise to the challenges."

"Today, we also need to pay some attention to the wear and tear on the parish centre and to take a serious look at the church's sound system," says Linda. These are all issues under consideration by the Parish Pastoral Council as part of its multi-year planning process.

"When I think back to where we were in the early 1990s, we have become a much more diverse parish community. We are drawing on so much more of the talent and volunteerism of so many people which makes all of these projects doable," she added. "I am always humbled by the



generosity of our community over a range of needs – everything from supporting our refugee family project, the school, Oblate missions, and to the general support of our parish.

Building in Phases

Phase 1

The first phase of the new school building was completed in October, 2015 and includes 10 classrooms, multipurpose room, learning common, basement and storage areas, and improvements to the gymnasium. The project was completed on budget at \$10.4 million. The parish assumed a mortgage of \$4 million.

Phase 2

The next phase of construction will complete construction of the third floor, adding five classrooms. This will allow

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Stay Connected.

Visit the school website:
faithandfoundation.com

Financial Update: October 2017
Watching the bottom line while keeping the horizon in view

New School Construction Loan	
Outstanding loan amount as of December 2016	\$4.0 million
Amortization Period	18 years
Average Monthly Interest Payments	\$9,100
Faith and Foundation Statement of Fundraising Receipts & Expenditures For the Year Ended December 31	
	Actual 2016
Receipts	
Annual fundraising	\$ 518,900
Sisters of St. Ann	100,000
PTT event	198,375
Loan interest rebate	48,150
Other	34,900
Total Fundraising	900,325
Expenditures	
Loan interest ¹	108,500
Administration (salaries, office, bank charges) ²	53,925
PTT expenses	28,750
Total Expenditures	191,175
Excess (Deficiency) Before Other Items	709,150
Other Expenditure Item	
Fund-a-need purchases ³	20,075
Excess (Deficiency)	\$ 689,075

Notes:
¹ Parish made interest-only payments in 2016.
² Includes salaries for two part-time staff responsible for managing the donor database and supporting Faith and Foundation.
³ Balance of Fund a Need items purchased in 2016.



Building in Phases

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the school to continue double streaming its grade classes. Construction started in March 2017 and the City of Vancouver issued an Occupancy Permit in June, 2017. This phase was completed on time and within the estimated budget of \$1.36 million.

At the time of Phase 1 completion, the Archdiocese of Vancouver allowed St. Augustine's to delay full payment of interest and principal until the third floor was completed. This enabled the parish to continue fundraising for the third floor in order to reduce the overall mortgage. Full mortgage payments will commence soon and more details will be provided to the parish and school communities in the fall of 2017.

Phase 3

The final phase of the new school project is replacement of the old gymnasium. The timing will ultimately depend on our ability to reduce and eliminate the current debt to cover Phases 1 and 2. In 2014, the cost of a new gymnasium was estimated at approximately \$5.5 - \$6 million.

