

The Tradition

March 2015

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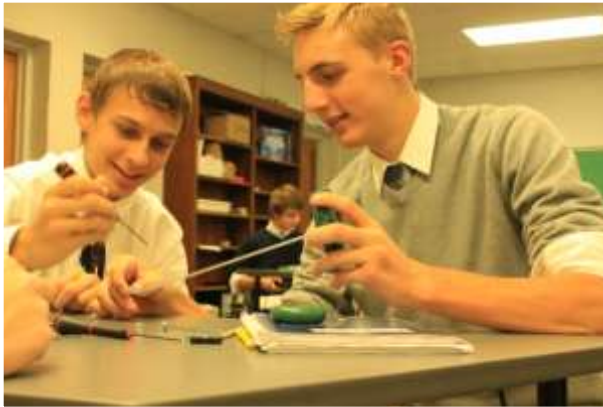
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Saint Albert Catholic Schools

Celebrating 50 years of excellence!

In the classroom...



At Mass...



On the field...



In the community...



St. Albert Marks 5 Decades of Catholic Education

by Scott Stewart, *Nonpareil Education Reporter*

January 2015. St. Albert Catholic Schools' Foundation for the Future began a half-century ago with the founding of Council Bluffs' high school in fall 1964.

The school brought together three Catholic high schools: St. Francis, Mount Loretto, and St. Joseph's in Neola. Middle school grades were added to the campus in 1999, with a new elementary addition and early childhood center opening in 2009.

Named for St. Albert the Great—an academic known for his prowess for natural science, mathematics and theology—the school has been celebrating its golden anniversary by honoring those areas.

An anonymous gift allowed St. Albert to renovate about 20 classrooms original to the 1964 building as what President Joe Connolly called a “a birthday present.”

Each classroom received new doors, windows, heating, fire sprinklers, and paint. The school also was brought up to fire code as part of the transformative project.

“It’s a phenomenal project and a great way to celebrate the school being 50 years old,” Connolly said.

Mathematics and its related disciplines were marked with the launching of the school’s new Project Lead the Way engineering curriculum along with expanding its offering of advanced high school classes.

A new crucifix, dedicated during the Feast of St. Albert, highlighted the school’s religious commitment, along with advanced theology offerings added this year.

“The crucifix is meant to reflect the church’s re-



spect for tradition and embrace of innovation and learning,” artist Michael Montag said.

The 25-foot steel cross and bronzed clay corpus, the body of Jesus Christ, nailed to the cross, reflects a mix of modern and ancient.

Recycled steel for the cross was reclaimed from the bleachers at the former Rosenblatt Stadium in Omaha, with an abstracted design reflecting the razor’s edge of modern art and technology.

The corpus, on the other hand, was made using bronze with a realistic depiction of Christ to reflect the past, present and future wrapped together.

“The cross is not a relic of the past,” Montag said. “It is a part of this world.”

St. Albert also celebrated its students and alumni during its anniversary homecoming week in September. Festivities included a golf tournament, an all-school Mass, tours of the school, alumni photos, spirit days for students and volunteer activities conducted by the school’s students.

The theme the annual Community Involvement Day is: “To much is given...much is expected,” a quote from the Bible’s Gospel of St. Luke.

“The whole reason we do this Community In-



volvement Day is give back to our community,” Connolly said. “We let the students learn about service and that it’s an important part of adult life.”

Principal David Schweitzer said St. Albert students provided more than 1,500 hours of community service through the annual event.

Community service is embedded in St. Albert’s culture. Freshman are required to do 12 hours of community service; sophomores must do 14 hours; juniors are required to do 16 hours; and seniors do 18 hours.

Half of those hours must be used at one of the seven parishes that support the school. After four years of high school, each student ends up with 60 hours of community service.

Emmett Tinley, the parish business manager of St. Patrick Parish, helped assist students during the homecoming volunteer day.

“It’s great because it’s hard to find people to come

and do jobs like this and get a job well done,” he said. “Plus it gives them an opportunity to serve their community.”

More than 40 enrichment and extracurricular activities are paried with pathways for students who are planning on attending prestigious, regents or regional colleges. The private Catholic school graduated all of its seniors last year, and all of its graduates go on to pursue higher education or military service.

Of those Class of 2014 graduates, 65 percent are attending four-year colleges and universities, according to the school.

“From ABCs to ACTs, St. Albert provides a foundation for the future,” Schweitzer said. “Building on 50 years of excellence, St. Albert’s elite cradle to college and faith-filled environment is unmatched in Southwest Iowa.”

2015 Catholic Schools Week: *January 25-31, 2015*

February 2015. As Saint Albert continues to celebrate its 50 anniversary, it also celebrated 2015 Catholic Schools Week at the end of January.

The theme “Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service” highlighted our focus on faith development, academic excellence, and commitment to community service. Thank you to the 500+ supporters who participated in our activities, #SA_Day, and all-school Mass.

In conjunction with the school’s 50th anniversary, the 2015 Catholic Schools Week encompassed many great events for our students, families, and the wider community.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Students to serve at supporting parishes
Open House from 1 to 3 pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

Grandparent/Parent Lunch, Pre-K 4-3rd grade
Student Councils & Leadership Groups to send thank yous to our supporting Boards

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

#SA_DAY to celebrate all things Saint Albert
Grandparent/Parent Lunch, 4-6th grade

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

Grandparent/Parent Lunch, 7-12th grade

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

All School Mass celebrated by Bishop Pates
Seniors as classroom aides in the elementary



FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

Green and Gold Spirit Day
Ice Cream Social

We thank our families, our parishes, and our community for their support of Catholic education. In partnership with our parishes and parents, we strive to develop our students into future church and community leaders. We are so grateful for your prayers and contributions that allow Saint Albert to offer an outstanding Christ-centered education.

Thank you for celebrating the benefits of Catholic education and our school’s tradition of excellence for 50 years running during 2015 Catholic Schools Week!

Saint Albert

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Inspiring Greatness



Fan us on Facebook at "St. Albert"
Follow us on Twitter at "StAlbertSchools"



St. Albert Pleased with #SA_Day Participation

by Scott Stewart, Nonpareil Education Reporter

A one-day social media campaign at St. Albert Catholic Schools reached hundreds as part of its Catholic Schools Week celebration.

Abby Jares, the director of community relations, said more than 500 alumni, supporters, students, parents and others used the #SA_Day hashtag to connect with the school.

“Participation on social media was far and away the more important part of the day,” she said in an email.

“Our community did a wonderful job showing their school spirit!”

A related fundraising effort did not hit its \$10,000 goal, which was to supplement the 2014 Hilltop Fund to enhance the school’s security system. Jares said the combined total for the fund after the #SA_Day collections was \$67,850, which was in excess of the original \$40,000 target.

“So together, both fundraisers far exceeded our expectations,” she said.

“The supplemental funds from #SA_Day will be used to help enhance our security cameras.”

To view The Daily Nonpareil’s Storify summary of #SA_Day posts, visit tiny.cc/sa_day.



Jake Brown (07): This place means so much to me! Not just where I went to school but where I made a family!
#SA_Day

Elizabeth Shudak (12): One last #SA_Day pic...first day of kindergarten (2000) to first day of senior year (2012)

Nate Dunning (13): Some great times at a great school.
#SA_Day



Joe Connolly (75): #SA_Day cheer team in vintage sweaters borrowed from SA Alumni w/ @SaintAlbertPrez in vintage plaid & shoes.



Stalbertsprtfan: Dedication of SA by Bishop Daly in 1964. Fr Delehant, 1st Principal/President at far left. #SA_Day



Emma Eickholt (16): [#SA_Day](#) ♥♥



STEM Classes offer Job Skills, Problem-Solving Challenges

January 2015. St. Albert Catholic Schools focuses not only on welcoming Christ into its classrooms but also offering a variety of opportunities for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The commitment to both reflects the school's namesake, St. Albert the Great, an intellectual known for his academic knowledge of natural science, mathematics and theology.

"In this day and age, we're becoming a much more technological society," teacher Jeremy Hulshizer said. "What we're trying to give students a pathway to do these careers and do these jobs that society is asking us for."

Hulshizer—who teaches freshman physical science, physics, algebra 2 and engineering at St. Albert—said the school wants to expose its students to 21st century careers and the STEM skills the need in the modern workforce.

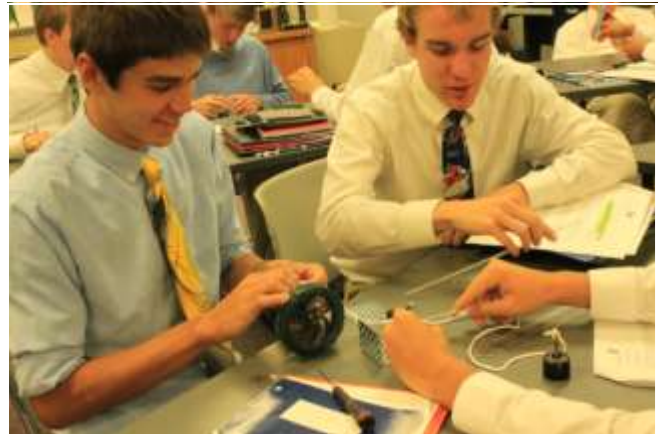
His principals of engineering class, for example, starts by teaching applications of physics and chemistry, such as electronics using circuit boards and mechanical engineering using simple machines.

Students are currently learning civil engineering, and they will also cover computer programming and robotics automation by the end of the school year.

Junior Erik Jensen said he can transfer some of the lessons in engineering to other aspects of his life, such as working on his car.

"I think there is a practical application for it," he said. "Most of the stuff we've learned has been relevant information and I've been able to take some of it home with me."

Jensen and his friends took apart some electrical equipment recently and rewired it, skills learned in engineering that allows him to start tinkering



with equipment to learn on this own. Eventually, he said he wants to pursue a career in mechanical engineering.

"It's a good paying career and there's plenty of job opportunities," he said.

STEM classes aren't limited to upper-level electives, though. Junior high school students at St. Albert are exposed to the Gateway to Technology class as one of the exploratory courses designed to give them exposure to engineering.

Ellerie Tarbox, a seventh-grader who took the class first quarter, said the class focuses on design and dimension. She learned how to use a computer to create blueprints, trying together simple shapes into complicated objects.

"I wanted to learn more about computer and technology," she said. "My dad is a computer programmer and I wanted to learn more about it because it seemed interesting."

With the push of a button, designs "just came to life," Ellerie said. She said the experience was "really cool" and she would like to have job that involved design someday—although she wants to explore other engineering disciplines.

"Learning one type of engineering can help you with other types," she said. "It can help you in daily life how to do simple things and learn the



science about it.”

Elementary school students at St. Albert are exposed to STEM through their regular classroom instruction, just like junior and senior high students, but also through the school’s First Lego League robotics club.

Fifth-grader Amara Orth is in her second year with the club. In addition to work with the robotics, she designed a web app as part of this year’s contest for the extracurricular activity.

The game—which is accessible at arcade.gamesalad.com/games/126714—allows students to practice arithmetic problems by clicking on an answer before it floats off the screen.

“The knowledge of the technology we learn in Lego club helps me when I’m at school and the computer is not working,” Amara said. “I can help with my computer and help with others in my classroom.”

The club meets regularly to practice programming Lego robots to perform different missions, such as making a robot lift an object or drive through a course collecting items.

“We practice our different missions and we try it until we get it to the best of its ability,” Amara said. “One of the missions is we have to pick up a couple rings, so we have to program the robot to use its little arm mechanism and pull up the ring. There is another one where you have to throw the ball.”

She said she recommends the club to her friends.

Most people I know get really interested in robotics,” Amara said. “I love to build things out of Legos. When I heard there was robotics, I wanted to try it out.”

Students in STEM classes at St. Albert, whether it is algebra or engineering, learn problem-solving skills.

Hulshizer referred to a famous observation by Thomas Edison that he did not fail by experimenting to create the light bulb, he had thousands of successes finding materials that didn’t work.

“It’s OK to fail and learn something from it,” Hulshizer said. “One of the greatest skills you can teach students in STEM classes is problem-solving.”

Traditions of Academic Excellence and Strong Spirituality

The Daily Nonpareil

Sunday, January 25, 2015 5F



St. Albert's pillars reflected by students

Scott Stewart
stewart@nonpareilonline.com

Four pillars metaphorically hold up St. Albert Catholic Schools.

To the three aspects highlighted by Catholic Schools Week – Faith (St. Albert says Spirituality), Knowledge (Academics) and Service (Community) – the Council Bluffs school also adds Enrichment, a variety of opportunities to grow through extracurricular activities and opportunities beyond the core curriculum.

Literally holding up the school are those who make up its community. Educators and staff who keep the school day running, along with parents, clergy, parish members and others who contribute in their various ways.

And students like senior Kelsey Fagan, junior

Rachael Gronstal, senior Manny Onate and junior Travis Miller, who are the *raison d'être* for St. Albert and future alumni who will continue to back the school's programs.

Fagan said she is one of three students who took Advanced Placement American literature, which was offered through assigned readings and discussion posts online as well as a test at the end of the semester, instead of requiring the students to travel to Iowa Western Community College.

"The size really affects it because you get more interaction with your other students and with your teacher," she said. "I also like how we have professors here who are able to teach the subjects instead of us going to Iowa Western and coming back to school."

She said one of her extracurricular activities – playing the Sour Kangaroo in the 2014 production of "Seussical the Musical" – have her confidence and is something she wants to continue in college.

"It just really gets you to be more self confident," Fagan said. "That feeling of accomplishment is really nice."

Gronstal, the junior class president, said the school's culture makes a difference, especially since almost everyone is involved in activities.

"I like that everyone knows who everyone is," she said. "You'll know everyone, and they'll know you."

She said she took two religion classes last semester, which was initially a shock but ended up being a benefit for her faith.

"It was nice getting different teachers perspectives," Gronstal said. "The teachers are closer to you, and you build a better relationship with your teachers, so you can relate to them better than you can a priest."

Onate said St. Albert offers a lot of personalized learning and opportunities, including participating in concert choir, plays and musicals.

"I'm leaning toward going into the theater arts, performance for theater," he said. "The one on one time is very beneficial."

St. Albert offers enough activities that any student can find a way to become involved, even if they are shy at first. He said the community service requirements also teach you about volunteering.

"It does feel good to



Staff photo/Joe Shearer
From left, St. Albert students Kelsey Fagan, Rachael Gronstal, Manny Onate, and Travis Miller pose for a portrait next to the school's St. Albert statue on Jan. 8.

give back, so you start giving back of your own will," Onate said. "There is a ton of leadership opportunities available and various activities. Developing those skills while you're still in high school is just pivotal and growing. It prepares you to be a leader."

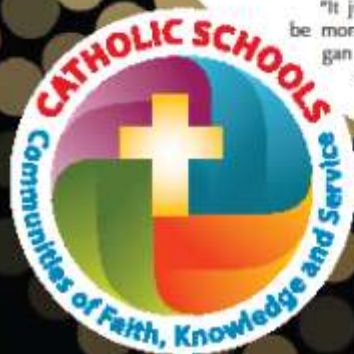
Miller said he finds lessons at St. Albert fun because the faculty enjoy what they teaching. He said he transferred from Treynor in fifth grade.

"It's fun to learn when your teachers enjoy what you're doing," he said. "One of the most important things was being able to talk about God in a classroom."

Although he's not Catholic, the junior

who is at the top of his class and who has taken several Advanced Placement classes already – said he has learned a lot about his Christian faith. "I have been able to learn a lot more about what I believe in," Miller said.

His favorite aspect of St. Albert, though, is its environment, which he summed up in one word: "Friendliness."



Cradle to College, all on one Campus!

financial assistance



helping make a Catholic education more affordable

invest in your child's future

- ▶ apply at www.fairapp.com
- ▶ visit Saint Albert's cradle to college campus
- ▶ receive notification of your financial assistance award in June
- ▶ decide if your family will attend Saint Albert



For the 2015-16 school year, CTO increased the maximum grant to *75% of the tuition.*

See if your family qualifies!

Family Size	Maximum Income	Family Size	Maximum Income
Two	\$47,790	Five	\$85,230
Three	\$60,270	Six	\$97,710
Four	\$72,750	***Seven	\$110,190

***For each additional dependent, add \$12,480 to the maximum income.

Family size includes parent(s)/guardian(s) plus total number of dependents claimed on 2014 tax return.

SAINT ALBERT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS • 6 WEEKS OLD TO 12TH GRADE

35%

of families who receive financial assistance

1,500 hours

of student service given to the community

99%

graduation rate

60

students in Battle of the Books

Serves students **6** weeks old to **12th** grade

over 40

award-winning enrichment programs, including Robotics Lego League, Improv & Speech, and Art Clubs.

120

hours of religious class &

40

religious services in one academic year

Average ACT score of

31

for the top 10% of the past three senior classes (2012-2014)

90%

of students participate in at least one enrichment/extracurricular activity

7

supporting parishes whose financial support allows our Catholic school to prosper and whose spiritual support helps our students to grow in their faith.

THANK YOU FROM YOUR PARISH SCHOOL!
Saint Albert Catholic Schools • saintalbertschools.org



Become a Host Family!

Do you have a big heart and extra room?

Educatus International is looking for loving families to host our sensational students coming to **ST. ALBERT**. We are able to offer a monthly stipend to help offset the costs of having another person in the home.

Please contact Paula Peters at ppeters.educatus@gmail.com or 402-689-0657



“Having exchange students in our home is a wonderful experience. It’s a chance for us to learn about new cultures, as well as, add positive dynamics to our family. I believe it has helped all family members to be more accepting of others around the world. We will always think openly and more positively towards the countries of origin of our exchange kids. We are thankful that we chose to participate in this program!”

Kimberly Bowman
Hosting international students Dan and Anh

Cheers to 50 Years! *2015 Saint Albert Benefit Auction*

The 34th annual Saint Albert Benefit Auction will be held on April 25, 2015. With Saint Albert celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, we as a community celebrate our school, our team spirit, and our tradition of excellence with the theme **Cheers to 50 Years!**

We have a wonderful leadership team in place for this year's event. Mark and Kim Otto are this year's Chair Couple, and Tim and Ellen Ross are the Mentor Chair Couple.

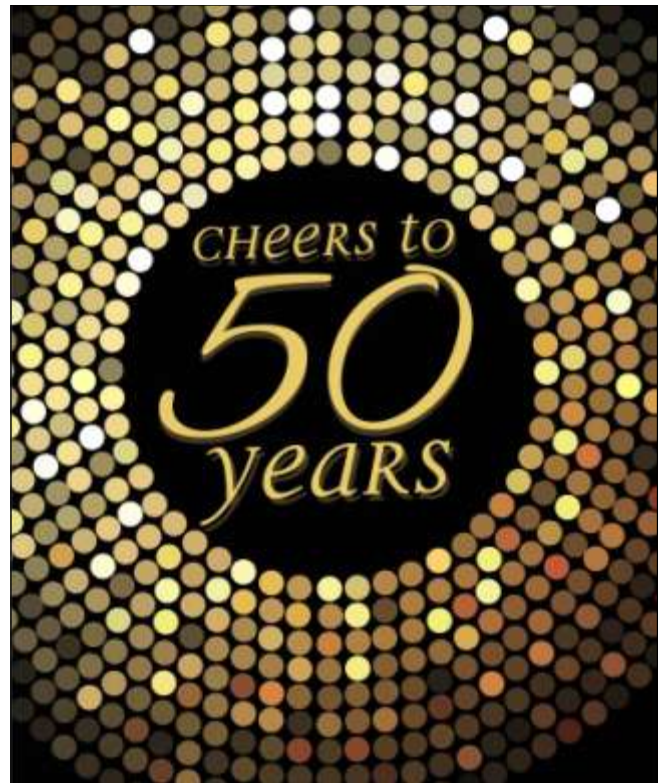
Celebrate with us!

Become a part of our school's favorite tradition! From the first 'Round-Up' Auction in 1982, the Benefit Auction has enjoyed many memorable themes: Under the Big Top, Once Upon a Time, Luau on the Hill, Mardi Gras Masquerade and so many more!

As creative and ever-changing as our themes are, the purpose stays the same: to help Saint Albert continue its long-standing tradition of academic excellence. Saint Albert uses the fundraisers' proceeds for its general operating budget, which allows the school to offer many high quality programs for its students. The auction and raffle also help Saint Albert keep its tuition affordable for families throughout southwest Iowa.

Seating and Tables

Dinner tickets go on sale April 1, 2015, online at



www.saintalbertauction.org. With a dinner buffet—prime rib, mashed potato bar and more!—the seating layout has changed to be more open and accessible, with better views of the stage!

Save the Dates

- **APRIL 1: TICKETS GO ON SALE**
 - \$50 for attendees under 35 yrs old
 - \$75 per person
 - \$750 per table (10 people per table)
- **APRIL 25: BENEFIT AUCTION BEGINS**
 - Doors open at 5 pm

Thanks for your support!

Mark & Kim Otto

2015 Benefit Auction Chair Couple

2015BenefitAuction@saintalbertschools.org

Win a 2014 Arctic Cat Prowler 700 HDX Ltd!

Excited to announce the 2015 Raffle: a 2014 Prowler 700 HDX Ltd!

Year old model with 1,500 lb towing capacity, Duramatic Automatic transmission, EPS, sculpted seating for 3 occupants, tilting cargo box with 1,000 lb capacity, and more.

1 ticket for \$20 and 3 tickets for \$50. Seller of the winning ticket receives \$500 cash!



Features

- H1 695cc 4-stroke engine with EFI, SOHC and liquid-cooling
- Variable Assist Electronic Power Steering (EPS)
- Duramatic Automatic transmission with High/Low/Reverse/Park and engine braking
- Electronic 2WD/4WD/Differential Lock
- 40/20/40 sculpted seating for three occupants
- 41"L x 55"W x 10"D tilting cargo box with 1,000-lb. cargo capacity, multiple tie-down areas and detachable bedsides
- Front storage compartment with 25-lb. capacity
- Spacious side wheel well storage compartments
- 1,500-lb. towing capacity
- Rear FOX FLOAT Air Assist shocks combining FLOAT Air Technology with coil-over springs for increased load capability

Purchase Tickets

To purchase your chance to win the 2014 Prowler 700 HDX Ltd, contact any of our school offices, buy from a current Saint Albert student, or look for our advertisements in the Daily Nonpareil.

Scrip Program Saves YOU Money on Tuition!

Let's start with a simple scenario—you buy the following items weekly for your household:

	Purchase	Rebate
Grocery Store	\$200.00	\$6.00
Gas BP	\$100.00	\$1.50
Total:	\$300.00	\$7.50

In one week, you earned \$3.75 off your tuition bill and \$3.75 for the school. *In one month, you personally save \$15 off your tuition, and in one year, you personally save \$200 off your tuition.*

If you are not a current Scrip user, we encourage you to sign up for the program! You could save hundreds off your tuition bill (for a current or future child) simply by purchasing gas and groceries each week.

“The Scrip program is a wonderful opportunity to reduce your tuition bill and raise money! With a minimal amount of planning you can make a BIG difference to your tuition bill and help support SA without selling or buying anything that you don't already use (e.g. groceries, gas, clothes, prescriptions & restaurants!)” TJ Pattermann, Saint Albert parent and past president of the Saint Albert Educational Foundation.

Mrs. Gronstal encourages all families to start saving on their tuition. Scrip is a gift certificate or pre-paid card that can be used just like cash at the retailer named on the card. The cards are sold to Saint Albert at a discounted rate. This discounted rate is from 2% to 25%. Saint Albert sells them to people, like you, at face value. Saint Albert then splits the discount between the school's operating budget and wherever the person buying



the scrip designates on their registration form—for a student's tuition, parish or tuition assistance.

For example, if you purchase a \$100 No Frills gift card, which gives back 4%, \$2 goes straight off your tuition bill and \$2 goes to the school. Imagine how much you could save off your tuition if you ordered just \$100 for groceries weekly!

There are over 250 national retailers who sell scrip to Saint Albert. In addition, we have close to 30 local retailers that sell us gift cards. A complete list of retailers can be found on the Scrip page of the school's website. There are no fees to buy scrip. The scrip order form shows the amount of the discount the retailer gives to the school.

We welcome Mrs. Gronstal as the new Scrip Coordinator and look forward to her ideas to help the Scrip Program continue to grow.

“It's exciting to see how the Scrip Program is

Scrip Program Saves YOU Money on Tuition

keeping up with technology and people's needs by offering various ways for people to order and receive their gift cards – such as Scrip Now, Presto Pay, and now Mobile Apps.”

Look for more news from Mrs. Gronstal and check out the program details on www.saintalbertschools.org under the Scrip Program tab.

Please feel free to contact our Scrip office with any questions at scrip@saintalbertschools.org or by phone at 712-329-9000, extension 3.

Join the program today and start saving money!

Frequently Asked Questions

How does Scrip generate revenue for Saint Albert?

Participating retailers agree to sell gift certificates to Saint Albert at a discount. Families buy the certificates at Saint Albert and redeem the certificates for full face value. Saint Albert keeps the difference in the revenue. The percentage of profit returned to Saint Albert varies from 2 to 17 percent depending on the retailer.

How does my family benefit from Scrip?

The revenue returned to Saint Albert from the retailers will be split between the school's general operating budget and tuition for a student or students specified by participating families.

How many retailers are involved in the Scrip program?

More than 200 retailers are involved in the program. A list of local retailers (Council Bluffs and Omaha) will be provided to participating families when they sign up, and a complete list of all participating retailers is available on the Shop with Scrip website at www.shopwithscrip.com

How do I sign up?

Families can sign up by completing the Scrip Waiver Form and returning it to the Business Office. The Scrip Office is open Mondays from 8 AM to 2 PM and Thursdays from 8 AM to 5:30 PM.

How do I order Scrip?

You may place your order online at www.shopwithscrip.com or contact Lisa Gronstal, the Scrip Coordinator, at (712) 329-9000. Orders are due by 12 PM (noon) each Monday and then available for pick up on Thursdays. Your order can also be sent home with your child. *Note: If you have more than one child enrolled at Saint Albert, please specify which child the Scrip should be sent home with.*

Lisa Gronstal, Scrip Coordinator

scrip@saintalbertschools.org

(712) 329-9000, ext 3

Hours: 8am—2pm Mondays

8am—5:30pm Thursdays

FAN “ST. ALBERT” ON FACEBOOK!

Fan us on Facebook to learn the latest and greatest news that is happening on the hill. New pictures, new stories, and new links are posted each day! Join the 1,800+ alumni, parents, students, and supporters who like us on Facebook!

If you are not yet a fan of St. Albert on Facebook, take a peek at the different posts that have been published this month.

Search “St. Albert” to fan us on Facebook.



Find us on
Facebook

Every Tuesday during the season of Lent, a priest will be available in the high school chapel for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We want to encourage our students and faculty to get in the habit of coming to the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a way to grow in their friendship with God.

February 24



Our two Robotics Lego League teams - elementary and a junior high - qualified for the state competition at the SAC Museum this Saturday. Our school teams have qualified for state the last two years, and we wish them the best of luck for this year's competition!

February 18





Fr. Monahan serves as our school's Senior Chaplain, and on average, meets with four students per day to talk, to offer spiritual guidance, and to help grow their relationship with God. Today, he followed up with several students who visited him by sending them Station of the Cross devotionals specifically for teens.

February 13



So proud of our students who participated in the March for Life! Thank you again to Gabriel's Corner Pregnancy Counseling Center for the sign, and to all those who supported our group through prayers and donations!

February 10



5th grade teacher Mr. Ryan and 4-6th graders enjoy Chess Club every week during the Spring semester. Chess Club is just one of the 40+ enrichment activities Saint Albert offers to its students.

February 6

Ways to Give to Saint Albert

Saint Albert Catholic Schools is very fortunate to have tremendous financial support from our parents, alumni, parishes, and the community. This support greatly enhances our ability to offer students an exceptional learning experience that instills religious and family values in our students.

If you are consider giving to Saint Albert, please remember that your gift goes to a wonderful cause: our mission of fostering spiritual, intellectual and physical growth for students. We are grateful to our donors who have invested in the education and future of our students.

Annual Giving: Gifts to our annual appeal, the Hilltop Fund, are the most effective way to improve the student experience on our Gleason campus.

The 2014 appeal raised over \$68,000! The first \$20,000 raised for the general operating budget and to maintain our facilities. All funds over \$20,000 will be used to enhance our current campus-wide safety and security system by upgrading building access protection and cameras.

Benefit Auction & Raffle: This annual event is the school's largest fundraiser, and its proceeds are used to improve the school's general operating budget.

The 2015 Benefit Auction *Cheers to 50 Years* is April 25, 2015, at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs.

Catholic Tuition Organization Donation: Help provide low income families with the opportunity to give their children a Catholic education by giving a financial contribution to the Catholic Tuition Organization. You'll also receive a tax credit on both your Iowa and federal taxes.

Planned Giving: Thoughtful, long-term gift planning helps secure the future of Saint Albert and the high-quality education it provides. Remember Saint Albert in your will.

Here is a sample bequest wording for your will (please share with your attorney): "I, [your name] or [city, state, zip] give and bequeath to the Saint Albert Catholic School Foundation, whose legal address is 400 Gleason Avenue, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503, the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate (or a specific percentage); or the sum of ___ dollars; or the following described property: _____ to support the mission of Saint Albert Catholic School.

Scholarships and Tuition Assistance: Your financial support ensures that a Saint Albert education is accessible to any student who desires it, regardless of their financial resources. Approximately 30% of our students receive tuition assistance.

Scrip Program: Families purchase the gift cards at face value and a percentage of the purchase is applied to the school's operating budget and a percentage is applied to a tuition bill or parish of the customer's choosing.

For more information on these giving options, please visit the Giving to Saint Albert tab on our website or contact us at (712) 329-9000.

Gifts that leave a legacy



Providing for the future well-being of family, and, at the same time, supporting the mission of Saint Albert Catholic Schools can be accomplished by a variety of gifts known as planned gifts. These are truly Gifts of a Lifetime. Individuals who have made such gifts are included in the Legacy Society of Saint Albert.

- **Bequests** – designate Saint Albert Catholic Schools as the beneficiary of your asset by will, trust or other instrument
- **Life Insurance** – Consider adding Saint Albert Catholic Schools to your life insurance; a practical and affordable way to donate more than you may have thought possible

- **IRA, 401 (k) or Tax-Deferred Account** – donate it to charity upon your death and avoid paying substantial taxes that would be due
- **Real Estate** – generate tax benefits for you while helping further Saint Albert Catholic Schools' educational mission
- **Gifts of Cash**
- **Stocks**

To learn more about giving to Saint Albert Catholic Schools:

Contact Joe Connolly at 712-329-9000 Ext. 1

 Saint Albert
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION!

A DOZEN REASONS to Choose Catholic Schools



1

We offer an education that combines Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence.

2

We partner with parents in the faith formation of their children.

3

We set high standards for student achievement and help them succeed.

4

We provide a balanced academic curriculum that integrates faith, culture and life.

5

We use technology effectively to enhance education.

6

We instill in students the value of service to others.

7

We teach children respect of self and others.

8

We emphasize moral development and self-discipline.

9

We prepare students to be productive citizens and future leaders.

10

We have a 99 percent high school graduation rate. 85 percent of our graduates go to college.

11

We cultivate a faculty and staff of people who are dedicated, caring and effective.

12

We provide a safe and welcoming environment for all.

SAINT ALBERT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Family, Faith, For You...For Life!



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Council Bluffs, IA
(712) 329-9000
saintalbertschools.org



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