

"Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the LORD."
Ephesians 2:20-21

THE FIRST OF MANY

Welcome to The Cornerstone, your first quarterly newsletter from your family at the Billings Catholic Schools and Foundation. In these pages, you will read stories of tremendous students, families, and alumni; school updates and happenings; invitations to events; and of course, ways to continue your support of our schools.

Why The Cornerstone? Of course at Billings Catholic Schools, Christ is our cornerstone. For our kids and families, our schools are the cornerstone that lay the foundation for their bright futures. For our BCS Foundation, you are the cornerstone that builds our foundation of support for the kids and families of our schools. Thank you and enjoy! ✚

WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR HERE, YOU MAKE IT POSSIBLE!

Summer is coming to an end and many Billings Catholic Schools students are transitioning from vacation mode to the new routines that come with the start of school. Our exceptional students have shown resilience through extremely difficult and uncertain times. Through your generosity, some of that uncertainty is eased. This 2021-22 school year, over 120 students in our schools will benefit from the \$90,000+ in Foundation scholarships. Your support makes it possible for families like the Melugins to continue their Catholic education.

Meet Theo, a 2nd grader at St. Francis. Theo and his father, Kyle suffered personal tragedy last year and attribute much of their healing to the emotional support from fellow students, teachers and families at St. Francis. The Melugins were awarded the St. Pius X Fr. Steve Memorial Scholarship and The Jim & Lin Roscoe Scholarship this year. Read on for the thank you notes sent in from Theo and his dad, Kyle:

"I wanted to thank you for supporting my son's education at St. Francis school. He was so thrilled to be chosen for both of these scholarships."

It helps us a lot to be relieved of some of the financial responsibility for Theo to have an education at St. Francis.



KYLE & THEO MELUGIN

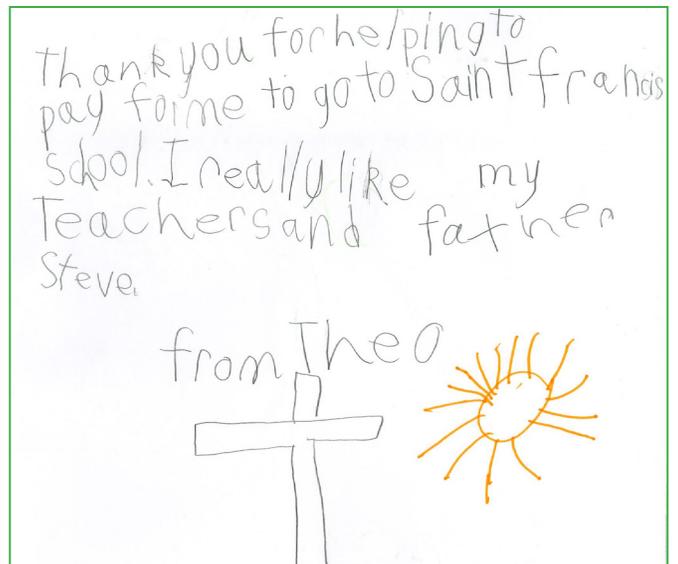
As an alumni of BCS, I know firsthand what a student receives from attending the Catholic schools. As Theo's dad, I've seen the difference it makes in his attitude and how he approaches situations in life. This last year especially, with the pandemic and his mom passing away, and even while she battled cancer, the family setting of the school helped both of us to overcome the challenges those things created for us. I firmly believe it would have been much more difficult without the constant emotional support we received from teachers, staff and other

parents.

We look forward to this upcoming year and the opportunity for another wonderful school year at St. Francis. Thanks again for helping make that possible." ~ Kyle Melugin ✚

IN THIS ISSUE:

Welcome!	p. 1
You Make the Difference	p. 1
Viva Cristo Rey	p. 2
Mayfair Minute	p. 3
Ways to Give	p. 3
Board of Directors	p. 4
Keep in Touch	p. 4
Events	p. 4

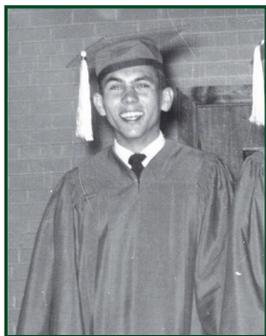


Viva Cristo Rey! A Memorial Endowment for Ruben Day

This past Mayfair, the Billings Catholic Schools posthumously awarded Ruben Day with the Legacy Award. We announced the establishment of a Ruben Day Memorial Endowment as well, with an opportunity to give to this endowment at a later time. That time has come!

Ruben Day passed into eternal life on December 3rd, 2020. Because his life was so "well-lived," Ruben received an enormous outpouring of memorials in his honor to an institution he loved, the Billings Catholic Schools.

During the early 1930's, Ruben's family immigrated from Mexico to Billings. Spanish was his first language. By the early 1940's, he attended McKinley Elementary School where he began to learn the English language. His closest friends attended Kate Fratt Memorial School, and he desperately wanted to be a part of that Catholic formation. However, his family could not afford the tuition.



At St. Patrick's Church where he attended mass, Ruben befriended the parish pastor, Fr. Richard Hopkins, who took

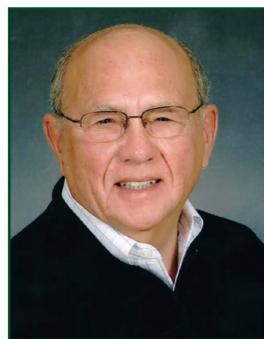
him under his wing. Knowing his wish to attend a Catholic grade school, and his family's dire financial needs, Fr. Hopkins paid his tuition. **The annual cost at that time? \$25!**

The formation Ruben received at Billings Catholic Schools was also life changing. It was there where he learned the values that informed his life: ***faith, family, and friendships.***

During his life, he and his wife Nancy, would contribute to the advancement of Catholic education in extraordinary ways through the establishment of the Billings Area Catholic Education Trust (BACET - founding member), Mayfair, and the Search program. Beyond his church and the Catholic schools, Ruben was an active Rotarian for decades, and served on numerous community boards. Perhaps best of all, he mentored younger professionals whose own careers blossomed under his wisdom and guidance.

Ruben's children; Mike, Jim, Cathy, and Joni; desire to honor him by establishing this endowed memorial scholarship for those who need assistance and have a deep yearning to attend the Catholic schools. In the same way Fr. Hopkins helped Ruben, his family would like to honor his distinguished legacy by establishing the **Viva Cristo Rey Scholarship** in memory of Ruben Day

(translated - Long Live Christ the King!). This Spanish verse



has a long Mexican heritage and held a deep meaning for Ruben; he asked for this phrase to be on his headstone. With this scholarship, Ruben now

multiplies what he received from Billings Catholic Schools!

Because of the support already received, Ruben's endowed scholarship fund has reached \$25,000 in donations. For those who have already given a memorial gift, thank you! For those who have not given or would like to give again, we are blessed by you to memorialize Ruben's legacy - to give back to an institution that gave him so much.

Billings Catholic Schools influences lives today in the same way it did for Ruben so many years ago. The world needs more heroes like him. +



FAITH ▪ FAMILY SPIRIT ▪ ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



OUR BCS STUDENTS SAY, "THANK YOU!"

You met three students the week of Mayfair: Camden Capser, Chae Lee, and Halzey Ryan. All three are extraordinary students who at one point or another needed a lift and were left without. Because of you and your gifts to Mayfair's special project, the students of Billings Central will be elevating soon!

As a reminder, this past year's Mayfair Special Project was a 3-phase project that included:

- 1) An Elevator for Billings Central
- 2) Tearing down the dilapidated Sacred Heart building
- 3) Expansion of the parking lot and lighting

We're thrilled to say that phases 1 and 2 are funded! Now, Billings Catholic Schools and Foundation have made significant progress into phase 3 fundraising. Beginning plans and timelines for construction have begun. Look around Billings Central this upcoming academic year to see your impact in action!



If you haven't already, there is still time to ELEVATE the students of Billings Catholic Schools with your generosity. **+**

YOUR PASSION!

When considering a donation to the Billings Catholic Schools, many ask me, "where will my donation go?" I often chuckle and turn the tables by asking, "where would you like your donation to go?" Of course, our Billings Catholic Schools always has a fundraising campaign going on to meet a specific need, but there are many needs at our schools. Philanthropy is done best when our schools needs meet your passion! So what are you passionate about?

Consider some of the following I've heard: "I want all students and families who want to attend no matter the cost." Give to tuition assistance. "I want our Catholic Schools to be around forever!" Provide for the endowment - BACET (Billings Area Catholic Education Trust). "I'm an old athlete, and love watching the kids play!" Athletics can use your support. "I just want to

give to the greatest need!" I call these unconditional gifts of love!

There are many areas to give at our Billings Catholic Schools. Consider your passion about where you want to have the most impact on our students, families, and schools. Then give me a call, we'll talk about how to make it happen! **+**



ADAM LIBERTY

In gratitude of you!

Adam Liberty
President
Billings Catholic Schools Foundation

Supporter Information

Yes! Keep me in the loop with the latest from Billings Catholic Schools and Foundation.

name: _____

email: _____

address: _____

phone: _____

city: _____ state: _____ zip: _____

note: we will never share your personal information.

Gift Information

I/We want to support the Billings Catholic Schools & Foundation with a gift:

- The greatest need
- Tuition assistance
- Support the Foundation
- Other: _____
- \$50
- \$100
- \$300
- \$500
- \$1,000
- \$2,500
- \$5,000
- Other: \$ _____

Thank you for your generosity!



CENTRAL

Billings Catholic Schools Foundation 2021-2022 Board of Directors

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NEED TO GET A HOLD OF US?

Billings Catholic Schools Foundation
 PO Box 31158 • 215 North 31st Street
 Billings, MT 59101
 ph: 406.252.0252
 e: info@billingscatholicsschoolsfoundation.org

Both the Billings Catholic Schools and the Billings Catholic Schools Foundation Boards are welcoming new board members! Toby Maack and Lisa Bruno are joining the BCS Board and the Foundation welcomes Jared Harris, Amy Reger and Kevin Riley.

We bid farewell to those completing their terms! Our deepest appreciation to: Bob Brown, Jennifer Sayler, Dan Williams, Hanna Wagner, Brian McGovern and Ashley Harada.

Billings Catholic Schools 2021-2022 Board of Directors

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SAINT FRANCIS

websites:
billingscatholicsschoolsfoundation.org
billingscatholicsschools.org
 facebook: search Billings Catholic Schools & Billings Catholic Schools Foundation

events*:

upcoming

Aug 23	First day of school
Sept 12	BCS Running on Faith
Sep 13-17	Homecoming Week
Oct 20	Estate Planning Seminar
Oct 28	Ram's Day of Giving
Nov 24-26	Thanksgiving Break

*Events are subject to change. If you're signed up, check your email for the most current information; or sign up for email updates today!

Payment Information

- Check (Please make check payable to Billings Catholic Schools Foundation)
- Credit card (Please fill out information below)
- On-Line (I will make my gift online at www.billingscatholicsschoolsfoundation.org)



Name as it appears on card: _____

Signature: _____

Type (Visa, MC, Amex, Discover)	Card Number	Expiration Date	CVV Code
_____	_____	_____	_____

Please fill out address portion on back side of this piece.
 Once filled out, please return this portion of the form in the enclosed envelope.
 BCSF is a 501C3 non-profit. Contributions are fully deductible to the extent allowed by law.