Dr. Susan Work Announces Retirement

Dr. Susan M. Work, President and CEO of Holy Family Ministries, recently announced her retirement to the HFM Board of Directors effective January 31, 2016. Susan first started working with Holy Family in 1987 as a volunteer, and has led the organization as chief executive since 1998.

“Through her dedication, commitment and leadership to Holy Family, Susan has created a highly respected, well-managed organization that combines the vision, strength and strategic attributes of an organization that is poised for growth. We have been blessed beyond measure to have had an exceptional leader who for nearly three decades has helped our students engage in life-changing opportunities and achieve extraordinary academic excellence. Working tirelessly and in partnership with parents, teachers, staff, donors and Board members, Susan has always been an advocate, mentor and cheerleader for delivering a faith-based, exceptionally challenging education in a safe environment for the children of Holy Family. Although we have begun planning for her transition with the formation of a Succession Planning Committee and a Search Committee, the Holy Family community will continue to be blessed and encouraged by Susan’s steady leadership and guidance, as she will continue to serve on the HFM Board,” said Dan Badovinac, Chair of the Holy Family Ministries Board of Directors.

Under the visionary leadership of Dr. Work, Holy Family expanded faculty, staff and students served, with combined enrollments today totaling nearly 600 students across four programs. She orchestrated mergers with two other faith-based schools (Bethel Lutheran and St. Gregory Episcopal); launched a unique resale store to establish an additional funding stream; oversaw four strategic plans for the organization; and piloted Holy Family’s first-ever capital campaign—an effort that culminated in the award-winning Holy Family Ministries Center.

“Holy Family has never been a job for me. It’s been a life style that I’ve loved and enjoyed since the ‘80’s,” commented Dr. Work. “I look back with immense gratitude on the years I’ve been privileged to serve God and the HFM family and I look forward to working closely with the Board throughout this time of transition to new leadership. I will continue to participate in the Holy Family community in any role that is helpful and appropriate. The success of Holy Family rests with generous and longtime donors, hardworking faculty and staff, and a dedicated Board of Directors who enthusiastically pursue our mission.”
STEM Class Goes to State Championship

One of Holy Family’s STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) classes went to the robotics state championship. Our students received the Judge’s Award for perseverance, team work, and determination.

Go Holy Family!

Adventures in Learning earns high marks!

Adventures in Learning, Holy Family’s highly successful out of school program, received the 2015 Best Practice Program Award at the 29th Annual Illinois Afterschool Spring Conference. This award recognizes outstanding afterschool leadership and was given to Adventures in Learning “for operating a holistic, innovative and high-quality program for children and youth in out-of-school-time in Illinois.” Holy Family is proud to accept this award for an exceptional program that encourages creative expression through courses in Fine Arts, Homework Support, Academic Fun, and Fitness. During the summer, the program is open to community children as well, offering a safe and enriching day camp experience. Holy Family was nominated for the award by Assistant Principal Sheila Wilson. Congratulations!

History Fair

On May 11th and 12th, Holy Family hosted its first ever Student History Fair. Our students presented projects based on historical events, figures and time periods. Parents and guests enjoyed the creativity of each exhibit. The projects covered topics from ancient Rome to the September 11th, 2001 tragedy, and showcased our students’ exceptional research and presentation skills.

The Peace Exchange

Completing its second year, the Peace Exchange focuses on young Chicago leaders—Peace Builders—committed to peace and nonviolence in their neighborhoods --- communities that struggle with poverty, crime, unemployment, school drop-out, drugs, and gangs.

Peace Builders from Holy Family’s newest initiative, The Peace Exchange, with Mayor Emanuel

Peace Builders complete an intensive program that includes study on topics ranging from mindfulness to bullying and domestic/gender violence, followed by a cross-cultural international immersion trip. This year, the Peace Builders travelled to Nicaragua where they lived with host families and met with community members who survived the Contra fighting in their villages. The program’s final phase is a post-trip Speak Peace outreach program in which the Peace Builders share their stories, and experiences with neighborhood youth. For more information, visit peacex.org.

Matching Gift

Holy Family Ministries has again been awarded a $25,000 Challenge Grant with a dollar for dollar match for all new and increased contributions.

Special thanks to the Kemper Educational and Charitable Fund and Executive Director Patti Van Cleave.
Reach for the Stars Spring Benefit

Skokie Country Club was the beautiful venue again this year to host more nearly 250 guests in attendance at the annual Reach for the Stars Spring Benefit. All funds raised support the children and families of Holy Family Ministries. Honorary Chairs welcomed guests to enjoy songs and remarks by Holy Family students, as well as cocktails and hors d’oeuvres, a silent and live auction, and wonderful dinner.

One of the evening’s stars was a 3rd grade student named Heaven. Speaking with great emotion, she shared her love and gratitude for a place like Holy Family, where the lessons of life and learning are preparing her for success.

Committee Chair, Joan Sherman, a long-time friend and Board member of Holy Family Ministries, received the Champion of Children Award. This special award recognized her many years of service to the organization and the indelible mark of generosity and dedication she has left on Holy Family. Thank you Joan, for all you have done and continue to do to make a brighter future for our children.

More than $200,000 was raised during a memorable evening, with all proceeds helping to provide assistance for Chicago children who would otherwise not have access to a quality, faith based education.

Special thanks to our Honorary Chairs, Benefit Committee members, event sponsors and guests!

Champion of Children Honoree Joan Sherman, pictured with CEO Susan Work

Cheryl Collins Celebrates 10-Year Anniversary

The entire student body and faculty joined together for a surprise celebration honoring Principal Cheryl Collins’ 10-year anniversary with Holy Family School. Congratulations Principal Collins!

Cheryl Collins Celebrates 10-Year Anniversary

Holy Family is now on Amazon

Amazon will donate .5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Holy Family!

Here’s how:
1) Go to smile.amazon.com
2) Sign in with your normal Amazon username and password
3) You will be prompted to Select your Charity. Search for Holy Family Ministries—We are the first result!
4) Select Holy Family Ministries and get shopping on smile.amazon.com!
Congratulations to the class of 2015!
Thanks to the strong foundation received at Holy Family School, our graduates continued the tradition of enrollment in competitive high schools with strong records of college placement.

- Noble Academy Schools
- Providence St. Mel
- Luther North
- Walther Christian
- DePaul College Prep
- Von Steuben Metropolitan Science Center

Ways to Give
Thank you for considering HOLY FAMILY MINISTRIES. Every gift makes a difference in the life of a child.

- DONATIONS — Tax deductible contributions can be sent by mail, or make an online gift at www.hfm.org/donate

- MATCHING GIFTS — Many companies match an employee’s donation to charitable organizations. Please ask your employer if there is a matching gifts program at your workplace.

- GIFTS OF STOCK — Gifts of stock are easily transferred. For more information please contact Cynthia Schmidt at the email below.

- HOLY FAMILY FOREVER — A bequest is a gift made by naming Holy Family Ministries as a beneficiary in your will. This is a simple and meaningful way to remember Holy Family. There are also many other ways to create a planned gift for Holy Family.

For more information on giving please contact Cynthia L. Schmidt CFRE, Chief Development Officer

Contact us at info@hfm.org
www.holyfamilyministries.org

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