

SAINT ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH'S PARISH PROFILES

Published November 6, 2022

Linn Ahrendt

Since Saint Rose School first opened in September, 1940, the school has delivered a faith-filled, high-expectation education in a caring and safe environment that makes students responsible citizens.

That mission is reinforced at the end of the school day for several students when they head downstairs for the Power Play extended day program. This unique, independent program has been part of the Saint Rose School experience for 32 years.

“Our goal is to make sure they get their homework done and help them toward becoming responsible adults,” says Linn Ahrendt, a Saint Rose School graduate and owner and operator of Power Play. “We assist them in taking control of their own behavior and try to have them solve their own problems if they can. If they can’t we are there to help.”

In addition to completing homework assignments, Linn and her staff provide snacks, group activities, playtime either outside or in the gym (when available), with free time at the end of the day when parents pick them up (the program is open until 6 p.m., or when the final student departs).

If a student has an evening activity, such as gymnastics or hockey, the parent can be assured that their child has had an after-school snack and their homework is done. “This allows the student to get home at 8 or 9 and have their homework done,” says Linn. “Parents really appreciate that.”

The Power Play program is open all year even when Saint Rose School is not in session. Linn says she gets to know the students and their families really well. “Lately I have been going to weddings of kids I had in the program,” she says.

Presiding over the Power Play program for more than three decades has never felt like a job,” says Linn. “After being involved with the school as a student and as director of the after-school program, I can honestly say there is no better place anyone could ever send their child.”



Other things to know about Linn:

- Music was an important part of Linn’s growing up in Roseville. Her mother Joanie was the Saint Rose volunteer music director (father Jerry was in the choir). Linn began playing the organ in church when she was 13, and at the same time sang with her mother at Mass. Linn graduated from Saint Rose School and Alexander Ramsey High School, and Gustavus Adolphus College with a degree in psychology and a coaching certificate.
- When Linn entered her college’s Athletic Hall of Fame she was called “one of the finest female athletes to ever wear the Gustie black and gold.” She was a four-year starter in both basketball and volleyball; a three-time all conference selection in basketball and a two-time All-American in volleyball.
- Linn attends St. Mary’s of the Lake church in White Bear Lake.

- Daughter Angela lives in Houston and is a flight attendant for United Airlines.
- Linn’s hobbies include sand volleyball, following the Minnesota Twins and writing music.
- She and brother Ed Erickson both babysat in the church’s nursery for two Masses every Sunday and for many families in Roseville. Ed was profiled in last week’s parish bulletin.