



## Summer School Report,

The teachers' favorite part about summer school is witnessing the growth in our students. This summer, they witnessed students who hadn't seen themselves as "good at math" get excited to work on math puzzles and games. They also saw students who struggled to put their thoughts on paper dictate a story, which was then transformed into a play. Additionally, they observed students who are typically reserved stepping into leadership roles.

Every year, the groups that come to work with our kids express how much they look forward to spending their week with our students. It's incredible to see the impact these groups have on our students, giving them individual attention and

allowing them to thrive. Many of our kids who may not receive much attention at home thrive when they form special connections with the group members each week.



## Will You Invest in Their Hopes and Dreams?

**\$20** provides snow pants for a student

**\$30** provides school spirit wear for each student

**\$50** provides a student portrait and class photo

**\$70** purchases Catholic Curriculum for two students

**\$100** provides a student desk

**\$500** purchases new furniture

**\$16,000** provides a new school sign

**\$17,000** provides benefits for a faculty or staff member

**\$65,000** purchased a used 20 passenger bus

**\$125,000** installs a new playground

We depend on the generous donations of individuals, businesses, churches and foundations off the reservation to help our school thrive and our students pursue their dreams. While many on the Red Lake Indian Reservation struggle with poverty, families who send their children to St. Mary's are not poor when it comes to dreams for their children.

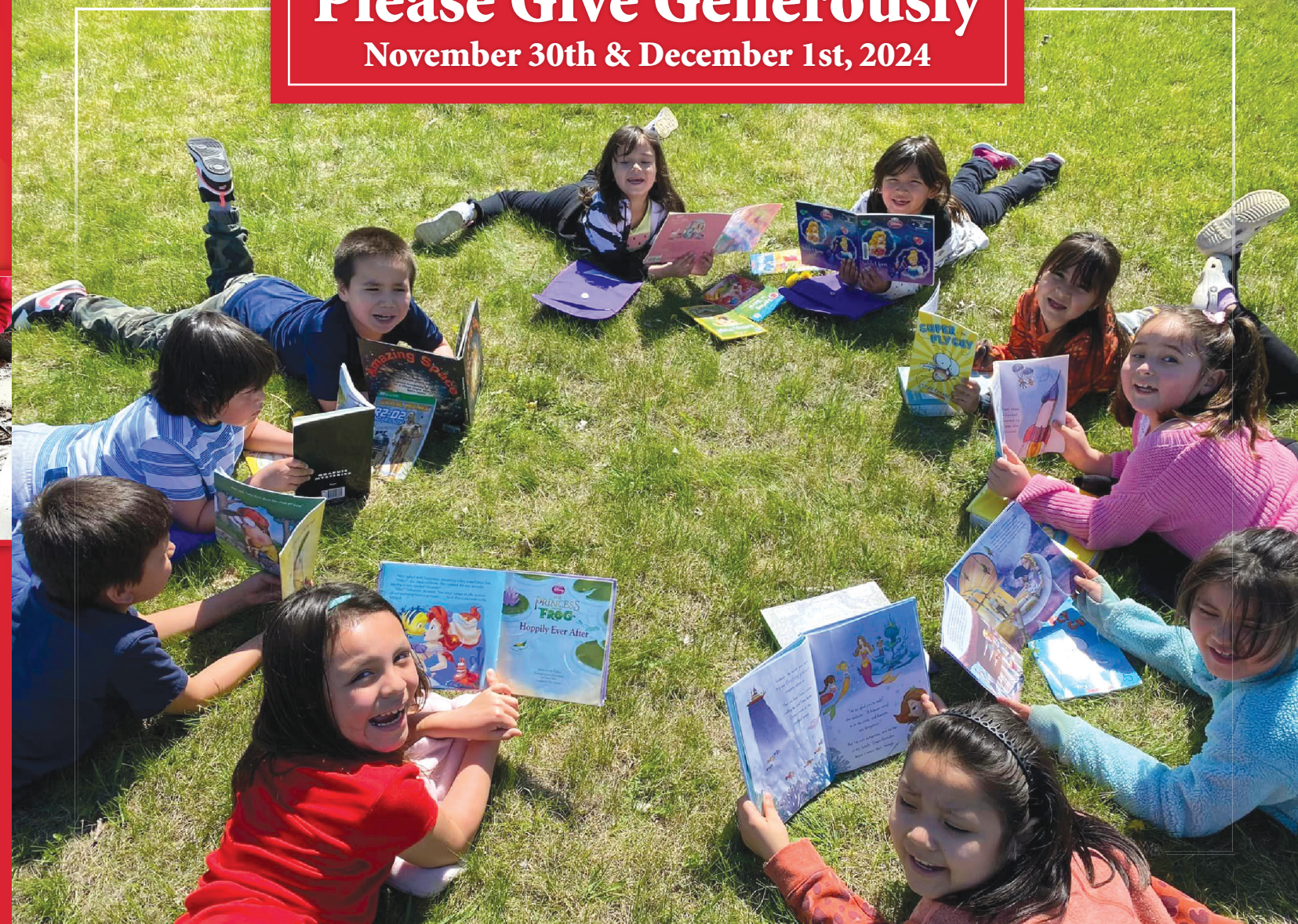
Please visit [www.crookston.org/SMMA](http://www.crookston.org/SMMA) to donate online today or contact Joe Lichty with further questions at 218-281-4533 Ext. 455. We are grateful for your donation!



# 2024 St. Mary's MISSION APPEAL RED LAKE

*St. Mary's Mission School provides education to the future generations of the Red Lake Nation*

*Make St. Mary's Your Mission™*  
**Please Give Generously**  
November 30th & December 1st, 2024



**Your gift today helps us  
build a brighter future together!**

Scan the QR Code to Watch the Video and  
Donate Online at [www.crookston.org/SMMA](http://www.crookston.org/SMMA)







Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for Making St. Mary's Your Mission.

There are many missions and ministries in and beyond the Diocese of Crookston to be grateful for and to invest in financially. All of the missions change lives and provide for critical spiritual and physical needs. I can think of no mission responding to a greater need in our diocese by providing tangible hopes and dreams than St. Mary's Mission.

One hundred percent of your gifts directly support the hopes and dreams of people at St. Mary's Mission. Through Fr. John and his team of dedicated staff and volunteers, St. Mary's provides access to those seeking to encounter God; a warm meal; a loving smile; respite for

a parent or grandparent; and elementary education enriched with the Catholic faith, all while honoring the Anishinaabe culture for any child living within the Red Lake Nation.

I invite you to Make St. Mary's Your Mission by investing in our children and their families' hopes and dreams. Your gifts are critical to providing a quality education and a future full of hope. Thank you for your generosity. May God continue to bless you!

Sincerely in Christ,

Handwritten signature of Andrew H. Cozzens.

The Most Reverend Andrew H. Cozzens, S.T.D., D.D.
Bishop of Crookston

Dear Faithful Friends of St. Mary's Mission,

Wow. Miracles Happen!

Thank you for Making St. Mary's Your Mission by providing our children and the Ojibwe people a beautiful Church. The New Church stands as a monument to the fact that God has not forsaken the Red Lake Reservation.

Imagine:

- the heartache so many people experienced after the old Church burned to the ground
- the frustration after years that were spent going to Mass in the school gym
- the joy after seeing the new Church rebuilt
- the constant reminder that with God's blessing and generous people...miracles happen!

God brought us together to rebuild His Church on the Red Lake Reservation. St. Mary's Mission is so blessed by all who have contributed their gifts of money and labor to make God's plan a reality: a safe place for children of the Red Lake Nation.

There is still more to do like purchasing and installing pews, laying pavement in front of the church etc. But we are nearing the finish line!

Thank you for Making St. Mary's Your Mission!

God bless you,

Handwritten signature of Fr. John Christianson.

Fr. John Christianson
Pastor, St. Mary's Mission



Principal Update,

This year, we have a total of 60 students enrolled, and more are registering every day. We are eagerly anticipating the launch of our new music program, which will feature a special field trip to the symphony in Bemidji. Additionally, our students are excited about the arrival of two new teachers in the third and fourth grades. Our sixth-grade students are eagerly awaiting their 2nd annual trip to Notre Dame to meet with other native american catholic students. Where they learn about post-secondary education and faith. Last year, the Bishop visited each classroom and engaged in a Q&A session with each grade, which was incredibly inspiring and informative for the students and teachers. We are hopeful that he will grace us with his presence again this year.

Beginning my second year as principal, I am deeply honored to serve the students at St. Mary's Mission School. Despite the challenges many families face on the Red Lake Indian Reservation,

such as poverty and safety concerns, our goal is to provide hope and love by creating a safe environment and establishing strong academic foundations for future generations.

Our dedicated educators return every year to provide our students with a safe and nurturing environment that fosters a love for learning and prepares them for a successful future. To support student success, our school offers small classrooms, a state-standard curriculum, access to technology, and provides two free meals a day. Our staff also work tirelessly to build collaborative relationships between families, community members, and the school.

None of this would be possible without the generous support we receive through St. Mary's Mission Appeal. This support allows us to provide our students with updated learning tools, accredited teachers, and the skills, knowledge, and confidence they need to believe in themselves and pursue their dreams.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity to the students of Red Lake.

Handwritten signature of Joalah Webb.

Joalah Webb
Principal, Saint Mary's Mission



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