



**ST. CLARE OF ASSISI  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
GRADES K-8**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

2017 - 2018



# WELCOME MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Community of St. Clare Catholic School,

As we all know, we celebrate Thanksgiving Day on the fourth Thursday of November. However, there are many other times throughout the year for our school community to be thankful, and this annual report is one of them. It has already been one year since I arrived at St. Clare and I am thrilled to be part of such a dynamic community as Pastor. As I reflect on this past year, I give thanks to God for all the blessings He has bestowed upon our school community.

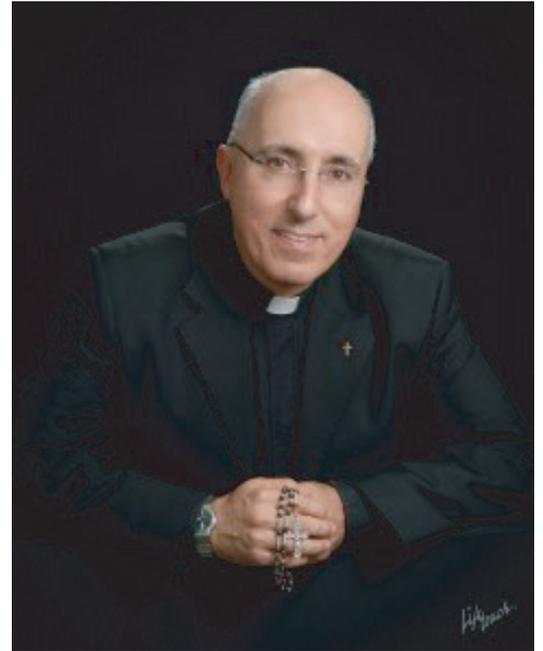
We are grateful to God first of all for all the parents of our students who have chosen our school as a learning environment in which their children can encounter the Good News of Jesus in a Catholic tradition while also achieving academic excellence. We thank God in a special way for our students who walk through our doors each day, who have a chance to learn about the Lord, themselves, and their world in a safe, prayerful, dynamic, respectful and educational environment. We thank God for our teachers, staff and donors. Without their support and generosity, our education ministry would not produce such amazing students who succeed in high school and beyond. Let's not forget in our list of gratitude to God our principal Sr. Mary Elisha. This past year, with the input of teachers, staff, and parents, she has worked hard to develop a new comprehensive strategic plan that sets forth an exciting vision for the next four years of growth at St. Clare's School.

As Pastor, I also give thanks to God for our parishioners and the broader community of St. Clare whose generous support serves as a constant blessing to our school and parish. Before each Wednesday morning school Mass, my brother parochial priests and myself say a simple prayer to God thanking Him for the gift of this school community.

It is a privilege to be a part of this community and a blessing to work together with you as we move forward in faith. May God bless you in all that you do to support Catholic education. Thank you!

Sincerely in Christ,

*Rev. José María Quera*



**We thank the Catholic parishes of the Valley for their support of St. Clare of Assisi Catholic School. We also thank all those who attend the Vail and Beaver Creek Chapels for their support.**



**St. Clare of Assisi, Edwards**



**St. Mary, Eagle**



**St. Patrick, Minturn**

# WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Family and Friends of St. Clare of Assisi Catholic School,

The 2017-2018 Annual Report provides an opportunity to share with you all the wonderful accomplishments and blessings from the Lord during the past year. Our commitment to improving St. Clare in all aspects of its operation never stops. As we lived our mission of forming disciples intellectually, spiritually, physically, and socially in a Catholic environment this past year, some of our biggest accomplishments were:

- Launching a Strategic Plan for 2018-2021 flowing from contributions of the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic schools, school leadership, teachers, staff, and parents
- Expanding our teachers' knowledge of mathematics instruction through professional development courses on how students learn math and provided them with resources necessary to enact this instruction
- Releasing an updated website in April
- Updating our facilities to expand storage for teachers, students, and staff
- Surpassing our Annual Appeal goal of \$300,000, raising \$327,748

I would like to thank all of you who helped make these projects possible. The Lord has indeed blessed our community in the past year, and we look forward to the many ways He will continue to bless our community in the years ahead.

In Christ,  
Sr. Mary Elisha Glady, RSM

## QUICK FACTS

- Our school opened in 2000, following the plans outlined by Archbishop Stafford before he was called to Rome to serve as a Cardinal
- We completed the 2017-2018 academic year with 123 students enrolled
- Our 2nd-8th grade students took the Iowa Test of Basic Skills exam; school-wide, our Grade Level Equivalent scores increased 3.3 Grade Level Equivalent points from last year
- Over half of our teachers hold a masters degree and together have over 270 years of teaching experience
- St. Clare had 10 full time teachers, 6 part time teachers, and 5 staff members this year
- We follow the curriculum of the Archdiocese of Denver and are accredited through the AdvancED North Central Association

## MISSION OF ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

At Saint Clare of Assisi Catholic School, we live, spread, and celebrate the gospel values of respect, reverence, and responsibility in a Catholic environment. We embrace a challenging, safe, and nurturing environment that enriches the heart, mind, and soul for life.

## VISION OF ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

To form disciples intellectually, spiritually, physically, and socially so that they may hear God's call in their life and have the needed abilities and skills to respond to that call in service to God and community.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF EDUCATING THE WHOLE PERSON FOSTERING INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

In addition to the core subjects of Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Religion, St. Clare also offers fine arts (K-8), music (K-4), band/choir (5-8), and Spanish (2-8). Our teachers creatively engage students with the curriculum. For example:

- Kindergarteners were introduced to Zoo Phonics and Guided Reading programs
- 1st grade students learned to read through the Orton-Gillingham approach
- 2nd graders each designed and built a model town when studying what makes a community
- 3rd grade students watched the caterpillars in their classroom become butterflies while studying metamorphosis
- 4th grade students researched a famous person in Colorado history and brought them to life by acting, in costume, at their Wax Museum presentation
- 5th grade students met with the State Senator and State Representative of Eagle County during their tour of the Capitol Building in Denver
- 6th grade students participated in Life Skills Classes throughout the year
- 7th grade students led the Stations of the Cross on a Wednesday during Lent
- 8th grade students visited the Mizel Museum in Denver as part of their study of the book *The Diary of Anne Frank*
- Middle School students chose from a variety of elective courses including: Computer Programming, Graphic Design, Chess, Yearbook, and Ukulele
- Middle School students mentor lower elementary students in the Reading Buddy program
- Grades 1-8 participated in the Scripps National Spelling Bee; and, for the fifth consecutive year, one of our students competed at the state level
- On the first day of school, students used special glasses to safely watch the solar eclipse
- Students participated in Family Science Night hosted by the Eureka! McConnell Science Museum



# FOSTERING SPIRITUAL AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT

Rooted in the Catholic faith, St. Clare offers religion classes for all grades and integrates the faith throughout the curriculum. Examples of opportunities for spiritual and moral development that our students participated in during the 2017-2018 academic year include:

- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd religious education, rooted in the Montessori tradition, for grades K-5; religion classes for grades 6-8
- Daily school prayer, weekly school-wide Mass, and sacramental preparation
- Retreats, including:
  - . First confession retreat for 2nd graders
  - . First communion and confirmation retreat for 3rd grade students
  - . Confirmation retreat at the Cabrini Shrine for 4th and 5th graders
  - . Archdiocesan Mountain Madness retreat for Middle School students
  - . Girl Genius retreat for 7th-8th grade girls at the Cabrini Shrine
- St. Clare choir singing at Sunday morning Masses, the second weekend of each month
- 5th grade students dressing as and presenting on the life of a saint for All Saints Day
- School-wide rosary on the 100th anniversary of the miracle of the sun at Fatima
- Honoring veterans with a luncheon followed by an all-school program that included veterans telling their stories and the band playing patriotic songs
- May crowning and procession led by our 3rd grade class
- Seder Meal on Holy Thursday hosted by Rabbi and Dr. Newman
- Students participating in a number of service projects, including:
  - . Bringing in canned goods for the local food pantry on free dress days
  - . Visiting Castle Peak Senior Center residents during Catholic Schools Week (K-5)
  - . Organizing bake and craft sales in Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades to raise money for St. Clare School in Texas for hurricane relief
  - . Middle School students raising over \$1500 for St. Jude Children's Hospital and Hurricane Harvey Relief at Family Fun Night during Catholic Schools Week



# FOSTERING PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

St. Clare School offers opportunities for students to stay active as they grow physically through both physical education classes (K-8) and middle school sports. Our May Field Day is always a highlight for students as they participate in a variety of outdoor individual and team physical fitness events.

Our Middle School students have the opportunity to participate in sports throughout the year. As a member of the Peaks League, our students compete against local middle schools in Eagle and Summit counties. Students from Vail Christian Academy and other local middle schools join St. Clare students to give all of our students a chance the opportunity to engage in these sports while forming new friendships.

St. Clare offered the following sports for grades 6-8 in 2017-2018, with the highlights of the year included:

- Volleyball
  - . 8th grade was undefeated during the regular season and was the #1 seed in the Peaks League Volleyball Championships
- Football
  - . 7th grade won the Game Creek Bowl
- Girls Basketball
  - . Held 2nd annual 6th grade girls basketball tournament
- Boys Basketball
  - . 8th grade won 2nd place in the Peaks League Boys Basketball Championships
  - . Held 2nd annual 6th grade basketball tournament. Our 6th grade boys were undefeated in tournament, 1st place
- Boys and Girls Track



# FOSTERING SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Our academic programming fosters the development of age-appropriate social skills:

- School-wide Second Step program
  - . Helps students learn social-emotional skills
  - . Promotes citizenship and teamwork
- Girl Genius and Man Club for Middle School students
  - . Teaches students about their dignity
  - . Encourages growth in virtues
- Middle School Dance with students from Vail Christian Academy invited as guests



## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

St. Clare School is blessed to have many dedicated parent volunteers. Together, they contributed well over 2,500 hours of service to our school community during the 2017-2018 academic year supporting our mission of educating the whole child. Our dedicated Partners in Education (PIE) organization provides support to our school by organizing and sponsoring school events, including providing a network of parent volunteers that assist teachers in the classroom. The PIE Committee consists of parent volunteers (1 parent per grade/special).

Parent involvement continues throughout the year, ranging from helping with the ice cream social on Back to School Night to serving hot lunch to driving for field trips to providing students treats during the Iowa Test of Basic Skills week to preparing costumes and props for the Spring Performance to sharing their profession skills, and much more. We thank all of our parent volunteers for the many ways they contribute to St. Clare.



# MUSIC AND ART

All students at St. Clare are involved in music and the arts.

- K-4 music classes were introduced to the Ward Method of Music, which focuses on vocal instruction, music theory, composition, and conducting, and is uniquely based in Gregorian chant
- 4th and 5th grade students participated in Jazz Goes to School; 12 Bar Blues composed by St. Clare 5th graders were chosen to be performed at the final performance at the Vilar Center, which included schools from throughout the Valley
- The annual school-wide Christmas pageant was held at the Vilar Center in Beaver Creek
- All students performed in the Spring Concert; singing, acting, and playing instruments
- All students were treated to a musical performance by Afrizo from Daystar University in Kenya
- The K-4 art curriculum focused on the fine arts, drama, dance, and music as well as weaving in content from other subject areas
- Each grade recited a poem in front of the school for the two Poetry Recitation Days held this year
- Students preparing for Confirmation created stunning icons of their confirmation saints
- Interested students showed off their many talents in the annual SCA Talent Show



# EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Throughout the year, students have the opportunity to participate in field trips that bring to life the curriculum they study in the classroom. Examples of this year's field trips included:

- K-8th grade Learn to Ski days at Beaver Creek, March 1-2
- K and 1st grade trip to the High Altitude Aviation Training Center, May 22
- K, 1st, and 2nd grade visit to Vilar Center performances of Space Mouse and Chicken Dance in the fall and winter
- 2nd grade trip to the Vail Daily and Costco in the spring
- 3rd grade science and social studies trip to the Mining Museum and Healy House in Leadville, October 6
- 3rd grade day at the zoo and overnight at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, April 27-28
- 4th grade camp trip, Colorado National Monument, May 15-18
- 5th grade trip to the Cathedral in Denver for Mass with the Archbishop followed by a visit to the State Capitol, February 28
- 6th grade traveled to Denver for Focus 11, a vocations awareness day
- 7th and 8th Grade Hut Trip with Walking Mountains Science Center, January 11-12
- 8th Grade Class Pilgrimage to Santa Fe, NM, May 15-18



# FUNDRAISING REPORT

This year, St. Clare had several fundraising events throughout the year:

- Parents proudly organized our fall Wine Tasting to raise money for our general fund
- Fund-A-Need campaigns and Wish List items published in the bulletin
- Generous donations to our Teacher Christmas Bonus Fund thanked teachers for foregoing a higher salary at another school to serve the mission of Catholic education
- The drawing for our annual raffle to support our general fund occurred in February
- In March, we co-sponsored a Fish Fry with the Knights of Columbus followed by Bingo to build community between our parish and school

## FUND-A-NEED

The 2017 Wine Tasting Fund-A-Need raised \$27,150 for professional development, website updates, and technology. The following items have been purchased with the money raised:

- Add+Vantage Math Training courses for teachers
- Step Up to Writing Training August 2018 and accompanying resources
- New web architecture and content for our website
- Ten new computers for teachers purchased summer 2018

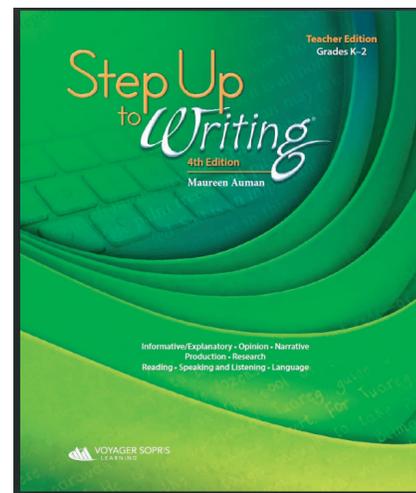
The 2016 Mardi Gras Fund-A-Need raised \$51,120 for increasing storage space and increasing library resources. \$31,499 of this money was spent for the 2017-2018 academic year. Examples of items this money purchased include:

- Bookshelves for classrooms
- Books for classrooms
- Books to complete the reading specialist's collection
- Cabinets for the entry way by the recess doors
- Cubbies for K-5th grade students
- Lockers for 6th-8th grade students
- Main office cabinets
- Miscellaneous smaller storage items
- Outdoor storage shed
- Spanish program resources

## TEACHER WISH LIST

Donations to the Teacher Wish List allow teachers and staff to purchase items they would like for enriching the education of the students but that are not included in the budget. Examples of items purchased for the 2017-2018 academic year include:

- A tuba for band
- A desk for a teacher
- Balls for recess
- Curriculum supplies
- Eclipse glasses to watch the solar eclipse
- Large paper cutter for art
- Pull-down maps
- Science Night hosted by the Eureka! Science Museum
- Table and chairs for a student work space



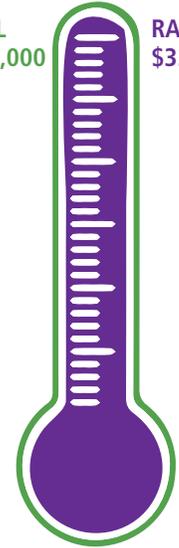
# BELIEVE SCA END-OF-THE-YEAR MATCHING CHALLENGE

St. Clare raised \$327,515 through its end-of-the-year matching appeal! November 28th, also known as #GivingTuesday, which is fueled by the power of social media and collaboration, helped kick-start this campaign by raising \$39,403 which created momentum to raise the remainder of the funds toward the matching challenge.

Money raised during this appeal went towards 4 main funds: The General School Fund,(\$265,640), Tuition Assistance/Adopt-A-Student Fund(\$56,325.), the Teacher Wish List(\$550) and Fund-A-Need(\$5,000).



GOAL \$300,000 RAISED \$327,748



## FUNDRAISING AND FINANCE REPORTS

DEVELOPMENT REPORT	12 Month Period Ending		
	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2016
General School	308,900	330,820*	70,992
Tuition Assistance/Adopt-A-Student	171,364	79,865	118,860
Wish List	7,258	16,130	19,026
<b>TOTAL RAISED</b>	<b>595,841</b>	<b>426,815</b>	<b>208,878</b>

\*Includes \$126,000 donation to update the football field grass.

PARENT-LED FUNDRAISING REPORT	Net Dollars Raised for 12 Month Period Ending
	June 30, 2018
Wine Tasting (tickets, sponsorships, silent auction, Fund-A-Need)	68,274
Raffle	36,330
Teacher Christmas Bonus Fund	19,470
Fish Fry and Bingo	880
<b>TOTAL RAISED</b>	<b>124,954</b>

### Thank You!

Fundraising relies on tax-deductible gifts and fundraising efforts to meet its needs. We would like to express our gratitude to all who assisted by giving their time, talent or treasure this school year. Your continued support is vital to make Catholic education a reality for all children in our Valley. During the 2017-2018 school year 53 students received some level of Tuition Assistance. If you are interested in donating a gift to St. Clare, please contact Ann Marie Gallo, our development director. Phone: (970) 446-1101, Cell: (970) 688-1123, E-mail: [development@stclareparish.com](mailto:development@stclareparish.com).

# ST. CLARE OF ASSISI STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES



\*\*The After School Program expenditures in the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, did not include personnel-related expenses.

	12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING			
<b>SCHOOL REVENUE</b>	<b>June 30, 2018</b>	<b>June 30, 2017</b>	<b>June 30, 2016</b>	<b>June 30, 2015</b>
Tuition	527,774	521,984	568,995	635,706
Fundraising	378,502	275,746	345,698	559,658
Donations	38,717	363,389	169,932	190,726
Student Activities	24,257	30,763	41,408	55,020
Hot Lunch	22,892	24,780	24,058	22,333
Catholic Schools Assistance Fund Grant	98,100	128,245	6,300	2,640
Other Income	32,685	8,770	7,873	20,368
After School Program**	2,685	4,785	5,982	12,289
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL REVENUE</b>	<b>1,125,611</b>	<b>1,358,462</b>	<b>1,170,246</b>	<b>1,498,740</b>
<b>SCHOOL EXPENDITURES</b>				
Personnel Related Expenditures	833,939	866,335	971,359	947,011
Operating Related Expenditures	278,496	277,889	328,234	308,946
Fundraising	30,059	10,266	169,438	211,162
Student Activities	29,501	28,413	38,189	40,225
Hot Lunch	22,260	22,122	19,273	18,751
After School Program	9,567	78	195	11,014
Uniforms and Athletic Supplies	21,611	14,199	8,919	14,782
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>1,225,433</b>	<b>1,219,302</b>	<b>1,535,607</b>	<b>1,551,891</b>

# THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DONORS FROM THE 2017-2018 FISCAL YEAR!

Throughout the year, many generous donors contributed to St. Clare to help our school grow and thrive by giving of their time, talent, and treasure. Contributions of monetary items took a wide variety of forms. While in the future we hope to be able to recognize all of our donors who have given of their treasure in any of a variety of ways, in this year's annual report we are able to publish the names of those wishing to be recognized who contributed to the General School Fund, Tuition Assistance/Adopt-A-Student Fund, Teacher Wish List, 2017 Believe SCA Matching Challenge, and Wine Tasting Sponsorships and Fund-A-Need in the past fiscal year. To those of you we may have missed or who contributed in other ways, and to all of our donors who have wished to remain anonymous, we sincerely thank you for your contributions.

## INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY DONORS

- . The Aalto Family
- . Paul and Theresa Anders
- . Chris and Mary Ball
- . M. Bartoletta
- . Mary and Peter Bates
- . Henry and Helga Beck
- . Jan and Steve Benkoske
- . Mark and Erin Beresniewicz
- . Kathy and Ed Bernau
- . Jeff and Jennifer Beuche
- . David and Sarah Bishop
- . Sharon Boccanfuso
- . Bob and Erin Boselli
- . Jeff and Kelli Brausch
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- . Steve and Janet Burmeister
- . Helen and Mike Butler
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- . Ginny and Dan Cassano
- . Pedro and Patsy Cerisola
- . Ray and Julie Ciarvella
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- . Marty and Tim Farrell
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- . Michele and Nick Foppe. The Family of Henry F. Frigon
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- . Glenn and Angela Lavelle
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- . Larry and Beth Lenke
- . Donna Lesko

- . Tod and Jane Linstroth
- . Frank and Patricia Lynch
- . Brandt and Dore Marott
- . McGuckin Family
- . Charlie and Atlanta Meynier
- . Martha and Kevin Milbery
- . Millett Family
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- . Dr. and Mrs. Marc Philippon
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- . The Progar Family
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- . Duane and Jeanne Ross
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- . Senta and Victor Ibarra
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- . Mary Lynn and Warren Staley
- . Danielle and Paul Steiner
- . Roger and Mary Jane Steiner
- . Mary Stickel
- . M Jeannine Strandjord/Kauffman Foundation
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- . Carleen and John Sweet
- . Jere W. Thompson
- . Catherine and Keith Thompson
- . The Tice Family
- . Nancy Traylor
- . Charlotte and George White
- . Patrick and Christine Wilhelm
- . John and Lisa Williams
- . Anonymous friends from Maryland
- . Craig and Michelle Taylor
- . Betty Ann and Chip Woodland
- . Jean Naumann-In memory of Margaret Hove
- . Barbara Watkins-In loving memory of Richard & Ethel Knoeckel

## **BUSINESS SPONSORS**

- . ANB Bank
- . Avon Liquor
- . Bishop Orthodontics
- . Causey & Howard, LLC
- . Cedar's Flower Shop
- . Cordillera Café
- . First Bank
- . Generation Vail
- . High Country Kombucha
- . Hovey & Harrison
- . Linda Perry - Soul Genius Branding
- . Mountain Beverage Co, LLC
- . The Steadman Clinic
- . The Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa
- . Vail Christian School, Inc
- . Vail Dermatology
- . Walmart
- . Will Comerford Agency - State Farm

*Please Note: Due to the timing of publishing this report, we were only able to contact donors who contributed through May 31st, 2018.*

## ST. CLARE ALUMNI

When St. Clare of Assisi alumni return to the hallways of our beloved school, they are returning to the place where deep connections with their faith, their families, and their friends first began. Some come annually to visit the teachers that helped them learn and grow into the individuals they are today. Others return to support their younger siblings now enrolled here, proud to see them engaged in the same uplifting community. But no matter what reason they find to come back, after walking out the doors of St. Clare, students, faculty and staff become so much more than just a school—they become a family. Our school community leaves a lasting impression on our alumni for the rest of their lives, giving them a place they know they can always come home to.



## PREPARED FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Our rigorous curriculum prepares students to succeed in college preparatory programs at the local high schools and other national boarding schools. Our alumni have attended:

- Phillips Academy, Andover, MA
- Eagle Valley High School
- Vail Christian High School
- Battle Mountain High School
- Northwood Boarding School, Lake Placid, NY
- Vail Mountain School

## ... AND HIGHER EDUCATION

After high school our graduates have studied at top colleges and universities throughout the country, including:

- Chapman University
- Loyola Marymount, Chicago
- Stanford University
- Colorado School of Mines
- Loyola Marymount, Los Angeles
- University of Colorado Boulder
- Harvard University
- Miami University
- University of Notre Dame
- Creighton University
- Regis University
- University of San Francisco
- Santa Clara University

## HEAR WHAT OUR ALUMNI HAVE TO SAY ABOUT ST. CLARE!

"I would not be the person I am today or where I am without St. Clare. The education I received in the classroom covered more material and was more absorbed than any I have received since, including my first semester in college; and I have had some great teachers. However outside of the classroom is where I think St. Clare made the biggest impact because of the amazing teachers who took the time to teach how people should be treated, how to respond in difficult situations, and how to carry my own light of Christ into the world by being the best person I can be." - 2012 Graduate

"As a medical assistant, and hopefully one day a podiatrist, St. Clare's education prepared me to be compassionate towards patients. In high school and college I was used to meeting high expectations. And, most importantly, strengthened my Catholic faith which is the foundation for success in every aspect of life!" - 2008 Graduate

