

# St. Agnes School

## A Message from a Former Parent

Family: Masi Family  
Students: Graham, Holden and Alaina

*The Masi family had three children enrolled at St. Agnes when a career decision forced them to relocate. The Masi's would like to share their memories and experiences of St. Agnes. The responses below are directly from the family.*

*How did St. Agnes prepare your students for the world? Did you notice any differences between them and their peers?*

Our children learned a sense of responsibility at St. Agnes. They were always held accountable for their actions, but also learned that as a community they were responsible for helping others who were less fortunate. I find it impressive that students at St. Agnes always seem to be able to make thoughtful decisions about their actions.

*What are some of your special memories of St. Agnes?*

I have very fond memories of the Blessing of the Pets, the back to school and end of school picnics, Halloween parades, Memorial Day celebrations in the circle, Coffee with Dr. Ben, and the wonderful field trips. I was especially touched by how each teacher related to our children and viewed them as individuals. The school has a "can do" attitude, as evidenced by the outstanding technology, fine arts, and music programs. Our children had the opportunity to participate in programs that are usually reserved for much larger schools. These things contributed to the sense of community at St. Agnes we experienced (and miss terribly) while our children attended St. Agnes.

*What was your experience as a non-Catholic family? Did you have any worries about this in the beginning?*

Initially I was worried, but the more I experienced at school and church, the more I realized that the values being taught were nothing different than what I had been taught as a Protestant. My children attended Mass, but were not singled out because they did not receive communion. Contrary to what some might think, we were never pressured to "convert", but always accepted warmly at church/school functions.

*What is the "value" you would assign to your time at St. Agnes?*

Your children learn by example. Attending St. Agnes School allows your child to experience not only their parent's act of Christian faith but also participate in goodwill efforts with their peers

*What advice you might give to families who are discerning if St. Agnes is the place for them.*

Education is so much more than sending your children to school every day. Your children need to see themselves as part of a larger community. St. Agnes is a wonderful place to model this behavior. Your children will love their school and really feel a sense of belonging, which will provide a core belief system for them as they grow older. Although we have moved away and our children are in middle school now, we and our children have made lifelong friends in the St. Agnes community.

