



September 8, 1995
The Dedication Mass and
Open House,
"The Feast of the Birth of
Our Lady"
Holy Family School

1995-1996
FIRST YEAR

Stats:
Teacher: 1
Classroom: 1
Students: 14
Donors: 203
Tuition: \$2500.00



Be it known to all that Jesus is the reason for this school: the unseen, but ever present teacher in its classes, the model of its families and staff, the inspiration of its students



The chosen one

All signs led Monica Pieretti to Holy Family School

by Sarah Wehren
Gateway staff

Monica Pieretti wasn't planning to apply for the Holy Family School teaching position. But it seems little signs and hints kept popping up everywhere.

Her contract ended where she had previously taught, people mentioned the school to her, a business card fell out of her wallet with a woman's name on it reminding her to apply for the job.

Finally she took the hint and called Kathy McGhee, president of the board of directors for Holy Family School.

Between scheduled interviews, there was room for Pieretti and she interviewed for the job.

"She was very good, very special, ~~well~~" McGhee, "It was like a neon light saying, 'Pick her, pick her.'"

Pieretti comes to Holy Family School from Newport Children's School, in Bellevue, where she taught kindergarten for a year and worked with the after-school program.

She graduated from Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, in 1994.

"I want to combine solid academics and a Catholic education," said Pieretti, "Pass on my faith."

Holy Family School, which was born from community meetings begun last year, is planning a full curriculum for the upcoming year.

Social studies, reading, writing, math, religion, physical education, "all of it" will be included, Pieretti said.

The school currently has 12 students enrolled for the combined first- and second-grade class. There are 12 more available spaces in the school.

Supporters of the school originally planned for Holy Family School to offer a kindergarten class during its first year, but no children were

enrolled for kindergarten. The organizers have decided to start with first and second grade combined.

Holy Family School plans to work closely

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— Kathy McGhee,
board president,
Holy Family School

with the Peninsula Branch Library to increase the school library.

Pieretti and McGhee also hope to work with high school students who may earn credit for their volunteer work while teaching.

The school has started a "wish list" for items needed for the classroom and the students.

"If they (the public) see Scotch tape on the list," said McGhee, "they think, 'I can handle this.'"

Items on the list range from computers to push pins to a teacher's desk. The list is full of basic items needed for a classroom and office.

This year, and in the near future, Holy Family School will take place in St. John's Episcopal Church. The board members realize, however, that in roughly five years, they will have to move.

"We know we will be beyond capacity," McGhee said. The plan is to move to the Holy Family Home of Peace property in Rosedale.

The first day of school is Wednesday, Aug. 30. To enroll your child in Holy Family School, call 851-2107.