Fr. Patrick Behm, Kuemper Chaplain

What an insane year this has been! No doubt, the COVID-19 pandemic has dominated the news cycle this year. Racial tensions have wounded our nation. Wildfires, hurricanes, and our own Iowa derecho have reminded us that we are often times at the mercy of nature. As I write this article, I have no idea how the presidential election will turn out, and hopefully as you’re now reading it, we actually know the outcome! Yet in the midst of all of this chaos, we have hope.

Advent is the great season of hope. In the coldest time of year, when there is the least amount of daylight, the Light of the World enters into the mess that is human history. It is my sincere prayer that every single person in our Kuemper Family turns with renewed fervor this year to the Prince of Peace, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. He’s the only One who can bring order out of chaos. He’s the One for whom the whole world longed, and to whom we still turn in times of trouble. May God bless you this Advent season and fill you with that renewed hope, found only in Jesus Christ.

“My thanks to Kuemper…”

“I will always be thankful for Kuemper and the Catholic education the teachers have provided to me. Throughout my years at this excellent school, I have built great relationships with teachers and friends, which I would not have received elsewhere. I am beyond grateful and blessed to have attended this school because of the least amount of daylight, the Light of the World enters into the mess that is human history. It is my sincere prayer that every single person in our Kuemper Family turns with renewed fervor this year to the Prince of Peace, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. He’s the only One who can bring order out of chaos. He’s the One for whom the whole world longed, and to whom we still turn in times of trouble. May God bless you this Advent season and fill you with that renewed hope, found only in Jesus Christ.

“Not only have I received a great education, but Kuemper has helped me become a better person. I have been taught faith, morals, empathy for others, responsibility, and much more. The teachers, priests, and deacons do an amazing job at teaching the Catholic faith to our students in ways we can understand.”

“Keep me safe, O God; in you I take refuge.” - Psalm 16:1

Carter Soppe
Kuemper Senior, Class of 2021

Alyssa Ervelli
Kuemper Senior, Class of 2021

My thanks to Kuemper…

“Thank you!”

Kuemper Volunteers are #1

“Kuemper Volunteers are #1

Alyssa Ervelli
Kuemper Senior, Class of 2021

Many changes allow Kuemper to be in face-to-face school and continue their athletic/activities performances.

Kuemper students are learning face-to-face, while at the same time teachers and students are utilizing Google Classrooms, an online learning platform. The platform provides a one-stop-shop for students and parents to view assignments, submit assignments, view live or recorded videos of lessons, or even chat face-to-face with classmates. This is beneficial not only for the students who are in person, but for students who are home sick, who have been quarantined, or who have chosen the learn-at-home option.

Kuemper is proud of our parents, students, and teachers for learning how to implement virtual learning so diligently. We are prepared to continue learning under any circumstance.

Thanks to Denny & Sharon Halder for volunteering their time to install the extra protective plexiglass shields for all Kuemper secretaries!
**Eternal Knights**

You can become an **Eternal Knight by making a gift to Kuemper that costs nothing during your lifetime. Plan and invest in the future today.**

We thank everyone who has notified us of gifts they are making through their wills or other estate plans to continue Kuemper’s mission, traditions and core values for the future. If you have included a gift for Kuemper in your plans but are not a member of this growing group of **Eternal Knights**, we invite you to let us know by calling Sharon Olerich at (712) 794-1877 or emailing srolicher@kuemper.org

God bless our newest **Eternal Knight – Jeanne (Ausman) Gelfand.**

**Why I Became An Eternal Knight……**

“**Supporting Kuemper as Eternal Knights was an easy decision. A Catholic education is the best gift we can give our children; both while they are attending Kuemper and as they live their lives as adults. All four of our children graduated from Kuemper and we now have two granddaughters in the system. As Eternal Knights, we hope Catholic education at Kuemper will continue for quite some time.**”

Joe & Katie Daniel

“I was in grade school at Arcadia St. John’s in the mid 1950’s when my parents, and many more, were following Father Leo Lenz’s leadership in order to start the regional Kuemper Catholic High School. Their work was a success. I cannot put a dollar figure on how much I benefited from being able to step through the doors of Kuemper High School as a freshman in August of 1957. My wife, Kathy (Tierney), attended from 1959-1963 and our children attended Kuemper with Michael graduating in 1988, Patrick in 1992, and Mary Beth in 1996. Becoming an Eternal Knight was an easy decision. My thought process was... “Can I really turn my back on what Father Lenz and my parents wanted for Catholic education in the Carroll area?””

Vern Henkenius, Kuemper Class of 1961

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**Ed & Katie Lawler Family Memorial**

The Kuemper Foundation is pleased to announce the **Ed & Katie Lawler Family Memorial** established by their loving family. This Memorial honors Ed and Katie in the **Teacher Salary Enhancement Fund**. This generous memorial gift will last forever, honoring them perpetually at Kuemper.

Ed graduated from Kuemper in 1964. He was married to Katie (Malloy) who graduated from Kuemper in 1967. Together they had four children who graduated from Kuemper – Tim in 1989, Mark in 1995, Jackie Stoffel in 1998, and Ann Eifler in 2004. He also had seven siblings who are Kuemper graduates. Katie had four siblings who graduated from Kuemper. Ed passed away on April 13, 2020. Family, particularly grandchildren, was a vital part of his life.

Ed and Katie lived in Omaha for a brief time before moving back to Carroll to raise their family. After being the managing pharmacist at St. Anthony Hospital, Ed and Katie owned Lawler Pharmacy in Carroll for 12 years. This allowed both Ed and Katie to be involved in all aspects of Carroll. Ed continued as a pharmacist at the Carroll Clinic Pharmacy, Audubon Hospital and Hy-Vee Pharmacy, while Katie worked at the Carroll Chamber of Commerce. He volunteered in numerous projects in Carroll over the years, including as a city council member, St. John Paul II parishioner, Knights of Columbus, etc. and was instrumental in renovating the 1949 Carroll Merchants Park.

Ed loved people. He left no one a stranger, as everyone he met became a friend to him. He enjoyed playing cards, woodworking, bird watching, reading, and his ‘64 Chevy SS. An avid sports fan, he enjoyed the College World Series, and Creighton. Notre Dame, Kuemper, and Carroll Merchant games.

The Ed & Katie Lawler Family Memorial may be added to by anyone, and is part of the promising growth of the **Kuemper Teacher Salary Enhancement Fund**, which provides quality teachers for our school’s future generations.

Thank you, Katie and family, for being a part of the cherished tradition and exciting future of the Kuemper Family. May God continue to bless you and your family.

For more information on establishing a memorial in honor of a loved one, please contact the Kuemper Development Office at (712) 794-1877.

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**New Creighton University Scholarship**

Kuemper has announced a new scholarship funded by the Heider Foundation in Omaha open to graduating Kuemper seniors attending Creighton University. The Grit Scholarship ranges from $30,000 to a full ride scholarship at Creighton.

The Grit Scholarship benefits students whose potential may not be recognized through substantial merit scholarships.

Kuemper President, John Steffes, stated, “We are proud to be in partnership with Creighton and the Heider Foundation in making available a faith-based Catholic education for more of our graduates for their college years. More Kuemper graduates can now seriously include Creighton University as a feasible goal to attain that wasn’t possible in the past. We are very grateful to the Heiders for making the generous Grit Scholarship open to Kuemper students.”

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**Kuemper Pastor, Rev. Robert Gralapp, remembers Teacher Fund**

Tomorrow, his carefully planned legacy gift will keep advancing the mission of Catholic education.

Fr. Gralapp is fondly remembered as a great pastor in many parishes. Father was a generous benefactor during his lifetime in remembering Kuemper in his estate plans. His top priority was education and our dedicated teachers. He designated his estate gift to the **Teacher Salary Enhancement Fund** in the Kuemper Foundation. Include the Kuemper Foundation in your will or estate plan. Contact your attorney, financial advisor or the Kuemper Foundation to learn how.

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In this season of thanks, we want to **THANK YOU** for your loyal support to Catholic education.