

Gross Catholic High School celebrated Founders Week from Jan. 20 to Jan. 23.

On Tuesday, January 20, our focus of the day was to "Educate for Adaptation and Change" and to "Provide a Quality, Integral Education." Allison Brazeal shared a personal reflection and prayer. To emphasize positive change in our society, the student Marianist LIFE Community hosted a U2 Prayer Service for Gross Catholic students and staff to raise awareness and motivate people to engage in the movement to *Make Poverty History*. The prayer service featured the music of the rock band U2, to bring people together in a context of worship to raise awareness and empower communities to respond to the UN's Millennium Development Goals.

On Wednesday, January 21, we focused on how to "Educate for Service, Justice and Peace." Senior Ryan Crnkovich shared a personal reflection and prayer. Twelve students of the Marianist LIFE Community traveled to Winnebago, Nebraska to learn about life on the Winnebago and Omaha Nation Indian Reservations. Students attended Mass with the student body of St. Augustine Mission School and met with Winnebago Tribe Member Sarah Snake to learn about the history of the Ho-Chunk Indians and her life experiences on the Winnebago Reservation. Omaha Tribe Member and Principal of St. Augustine Mission School, Don Blackbird, spoke about the Omaha Tribe and the elementary school. Gross Catholic students ate lunch with the students of St. Augustine, visited a Native American art gallery and saw a herd of buffalo!

On Thursday, January 22, our focus was to "Educate for Formation in Faith." Senior Sara Leonard shared a personal reflection and prayer. Fr. Al McMemany, S.M. was the presider and homilist for an all-school Mass, celebrating Blessed William Joseph Chaminade's feast day. Gross Catholic's Lay Marianist Affiliates and Brother Rich Middleton, along with Fr. Al, were our special guests. Senior member of the Marianist LIFE Community, Cassie Carney, reflected on how the Characteristics of a Marianist Education have influenced her personal development at Gross Catholic. The Marianist Affiliates and members of the student LIFE community attended a reception after Mass.

On Friday, January 23, our focus was to "Educate in Family Spirit." Gross Catholic English teacher and alumnae, Mrs. Chris Johanek Boro, shared a personal reflection and prayer. To emphasize our family spirit, the student body wore orange Gross Catholic t-shirts and enjoyed karaoke during the lunch hour!

Marianist LIFE Community moderators Mikaela VanMoorlegem and Kim Matzen organized the Founders Week activities.