



LOWER SCHOOL

A place where  
girls belong.

# Ask a St. Agnes family, and they're sure to tell you that this is where their daughter belongs.

The St. Agnes Academy Lower School is a special place where young girls can learn and grow and shine like nowhere else. The school engages their minds in an environment that strengthens their confidence, fosters their friendships, and builds it all on a foundation of respect and kindness that is rooted in faith.

We strive to help each girl who walks through our doors become spiritually and ethically grounded, academically prepared, ecologically conscious, and critically aware of her responsibility to build a more truthful and peaceful world.

Take a closer look at St. Agnes, and you'll find a challenging, inspiring, and supportive place where your daughter belongs.



# Prayer

St. Agnes Academy for girls was founded by the Dominican Sisters, and we have taken on their simple motto: Veritas. Veritas means Truth, and we help our girls pursue Veritas through study and prayer, and build Veritas in our world through community and service. In all that we do, we are guided by the four Dominican Pillars: Prayer, Study, Community, and Service.

## The tenets of Catholic teaching are essential to who we are.

The foundations of the Catholic faith and Dominican tradition are woven into the fabric of our daily life at St. Agnes Academy. With Jesus as the center, our goal is to instill Catholic moral values, to encourage the practice of ethical behavior, and to support the spiritual growth of all students. Students attend weekly Mass and participate in class retreats, reconciliation services, and prayer services.

Part of the Dominican spirit means accepting and welcoming students and faculty of other denominations. Everyone is felt to be a part of the whole. Every child brings something from the experience of faith in her life, and every child has a gift to give.

### **SCHOOL PRAYER**

*Loving God, let Thy blessings be upon St. Agnes Academy and St. Dominic School. Help us to seek the truth, to stand up for the rights of others and to promote justice, respect and peace in our school and world communities. Inspire with love and goodness both those who teach and those who learn. Give us the grace to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, loving and forgiving of others. We ask these gifts in Jesus' name, through the power of the Holy Spirit.*

*Amen.*




*“We are committed to knowing people individually and forming genuine relationships where each member feels supported in his or her growth, encouraged to take risks, and to realize St. Catherine of Siena’s call to “Be who God meant you to be and...set the world on fire.”*

Jenn Wojcik / Dean of St. Agnes Academy Lower School

At St. Agnes Academy, we have created an academic environment that is challenging, but one that ensures every student has the attention and support necessary to rise to that challenge. We are home to a rigorous curriculum, innovative programs, extraordinary technology, and a commitment to help every girl succeed.

- We have implemented the nationally recognized Being a Writer program as a way to develop the writing skills that are so essential to future success. Developed by the Center for the Collaborative Classroom, this innovative program develops each girl’s literary skills and nurtures a love of reading and writing.
- Our new Center for Excellence – Math and Science building opened for the 2024-2025 school year. This innovative space facilitates collaborative teaching and learning by bringing all math and science education under one roof. It provides space for emerging programming that will challenge and inspire students to learn by doing through experimental activities and real world scenarios allowing our students to think creatively and dream big.

*Study*



*St. Agnes students consistently score higher on the MAP Growth assessment test in every subject across every grade than both the national norm and also the norm for Catholic & Independent Schools.*

- Every student at every age has strengths and weaknesses, and our purpose for giving the MAP Growth assessment is to use the results to help every student grow – whether to help strengthen areas where there are gaps or to push high-achieving students needing additional enrichment to continue to grow in knowledge and understanding.
- In our state-of-the-art Distance Learning Center, St. Agnes girls engage in virtual classroom experiences – “traveling” around the world, touring art museums and zoos, and tapping into the knowledge of experts across the globe.
- We were one of the first independent schools in the nation to install a Kitchen Community Learning Garden, a dynamic outdoor classroom for hands-on learning, as well as a productive edible garden.
- Because studying a second language at an early age enhances brain development, all of our girls study Spanish, PK2 through the eighth grade.
- A 10:1 student-to-teacher ratio means that instruction is personalized, individual strengths are encouraged, and every girl has a chance to shine.

# *Community*

## St. Agnes girls learn what it means to live in community.

When you become a St. Agnes girl, you are joining a timeless community bound by shared experiences and amazing growth. Here, remarkable girls become extraordinary women while sharing in traditions that build a sense of belonging. While striving for their personal best, girls collaborate and support one another, creating a sisterhood where all are embraced and each can shine.

Character development is an integral part of student life. From our Meet-in-the-Middle assemblies and Claiming our Gifts to Big Sister-Little Sister activities, we foster the development of lifelong learning and active citizenship within a spiritual foundation.

At the Dominican Community of Schools, we are committed to the respectful treatment of all people. Justice, Respect and Peace, our school-wide kindness initiative and leadership training program, provides the foundation for our students in their interactions with others.



*Seamlessly moving from  
lower school, through  
JH, to our college preparatory  
High School – girls find the  
sisterhood & friendships  
that last a lifetime.*

## We are creating, cooperating, and competing.

At St. Agnes Academy for girls, there are countless opportunities outside the classroom for our girls to excel and discover their talents.

The fine arts thrive in our three art studios, two music rooms, and 300-seat performing arts center. Our students have numerous opportunities to perform on the stage and to participate in musical ensembles.

We provide a range of ways for our girls to exercise their leadership skills whether through elected, selected, academic, athletic, or service opportunities, including Student Government Association, Morning Stars and Jr. Beta Club.

Our St. Agnes girls learn teamwork, sportsmanship, respect for others, and develop athletic skills through participation in a variety of sports including basketball, soccer, volleyball, cross country, golf, track, and cheer.

And there are numerous other opportunities for our girls to explore and develop their interests through a variety of clubs, activities, and artistic endeavors.



# Service

## Learning to make a better world.

In the spirit of the Dominicans community service is a guiding principle for all students at the Dominican Community of Schools. We are part of a larger community that we are called to serve. On average our students participate in over 17,000 hours of service to the community every year.

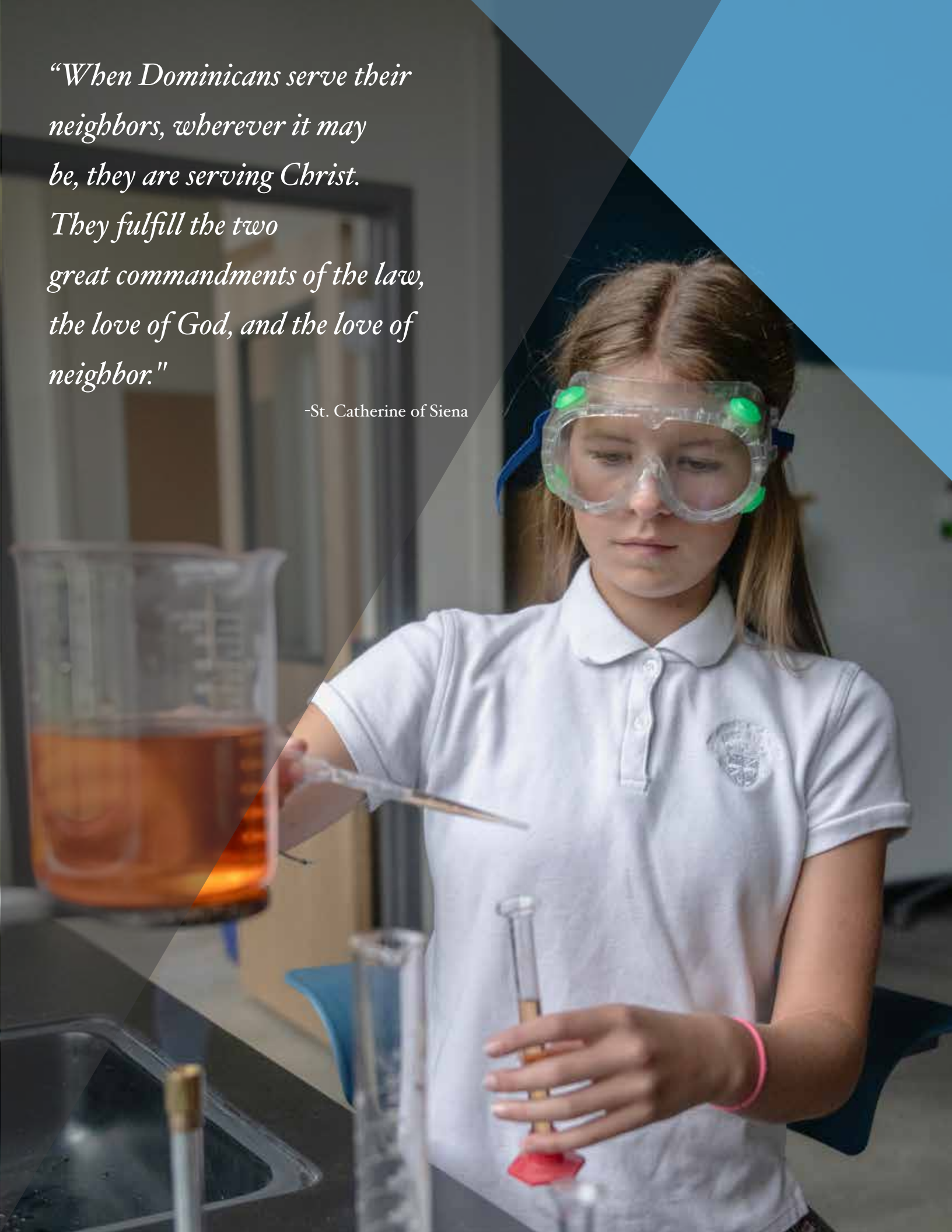
Our girls have many opportunities to live out the Dominican pillar of service in our school community, in our Memphis community, and even in the global community. Every year our students serve through a variety of projects.

- Make Prayer Bouquets to share with the sick in our community
- Make Dog toys for the Humane Society
- Write letters to our St. Agnes and St. Dominic Alumni
- Make Fleece blankets for Birthright
- Easter and Christmas Food Drive for Project Outreach
- “Socktober” Sock Drive for the unsheltered
- Present JRP Awards to recognize service leaders in our community
- 9-11 Community First Responder Appreciation Day
- Christmas Toy Drive for Catholic Charities
- Blessing Bags for St. Vincent de Paul
- Visits to Ave Maria Nursing Home
- COP Stop - monthly lunch for/with First Responders
- Day of Caring - Service to the community



*“When Dominicans serve their neighbors, wherever it may be, they are serving Christ. They fulfill the two great commandments of the law, the love of God, and the love of neighbor.”*

-St. Catherine of Siena





## **JEAN SKORUPA-MOORE, '90**

*Admissions Counselor*

ST. AGNES ACADEMY LOWER SCHOOL

*jsmoore@saa-sds.org | 901.435.5858*




***Apply***  
*Apply today!*



***Tour***  
*Schedule a tour at  
your convenience.*



***Variable Tuition***  
*Find out how a St. Agnes  
St. Dominic education is  
accessible for your family.*



*“Right before our eyes, we are seeing our daughter growing into who she was meant to be. There is no doubt that St. Agnes is where she belongs.”*

