

Dear St. Robert Families,

This morning we learned of the tragic shooting at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis. Our hearts are broken for the families, students, staff, and pastor there, and we are holding their community close in our prayers.

When news like this reaches us, it is natural to pause and reflect on the safety of our own children here at St. Robert. Please know that the well-being of our students and parish family is always at the very center of our planning. We are blessed with a pastor who shares this conviction, and together we have worked to put many safeguards in place. Our campus is monitored by cameras inside and out, our windows are reinforced with bullet-resistant coverings, and the building entry is secured through a scan card system. We also maintain a trusted partnership with Kent County Sheriff Omar Dieppa, and our staff participates in regular safety training—the most recent held this month prior to school starting. In addition, our school counselor is available to support the social and emotional needs of our students.

At times like this, when words often fall short, we turn to prayer. On this, the Feast of Saint Monica, I invite you to join me in lifting up all who are suffering:

Prayer to St. Monica for Perseverance

Dear St. Monica, troubled wife and mother, many sorrows pierced your heart during your lifetime. Yet you never despaired or lost faith. With confidence, persistence, and profound trust, you prayed daily for the conversion of your beloved husband, Patricius, and your beloved son, Augustine; and your prayers were answered.

Grant us that same fortitude, patience, and hope in the Lord.

Intercede for us, dear St. Monica, that God may hear our prayers for the Annunciation Catholic School community in Minneapolis, and give us the grace to accept His will in all things.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our community safe. Together—with vigilance, faith, and prayer—we strive to make St. Robert a place where every child can learn and grow in peace.

Peace and blessings, Liz Peters

Resource for talking to children about tragic events