

Press Release: St. Anthony Catholic School

Distinguished Graduate 2016

Walter Paetzold Jr. was named the 2016 Distinguished Graduate from St. Anthony Catholic School at a special Liturgy on Sunday, January 31, 2016. The Liturgy celebrated the opening of Catholic Schools Week that runs January 31 through February 6. The theme for the week is Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service.

The recipient of this award, given by the National Catholic Education Association, must have graduated from the nominating school for at least 10 years and should have made some significant contribution to American society and/or the Catholic Church which reflects favorably on the education the person received in the Catholic elementary school.

Our Distinguished Graduate for 2016, graduated from the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at St. Anthony School in 1976 and from Hereford High School in 1982. He is a lifelong member of St. Anthony Catholic Church and comes from a family with deep roots in St. Anthony Catholic School. His father, Walter Paetzold Sr., his mother Teresa Fangman Paetzold, his siblings, and his children Allison, Ashton, Mason, and Logan all attended and graduated from St. Anthony School.

He has been involved in agriculture most of his life and currently owns and operates a cattle feeding business. He is in partnership with his daughter Ally and her husband Jonathan Turney in Cornerstone Ranch Event Center located in Bushland.

Paetzold currently serves on the St. Anthony Parish Finance Council and the School maintenance committee. As a member of St. Anthony Parent Teacher Organization, he has been instrumental in successful annual auctions.

Along with his wife Laurie, Paetzold has worked with the junior high and high school youth groups as a sponsor and catechist.

The National Catholic Education Association Distinguished Graduate Award has been given yearly at St. Anthony School since 1993. Other recipients are Adeline Loerwald, Alice Hund, Sharon Cramer, Drew Kershen, Sister Juanita Albracht, Marie Loerwald, Janie Banner, Jeanette Artho, Father John Ohlig, Bernice Noggler, Elaine McNutt, Thomas Albracht, Sister Fran Wilhelm, Claudia Smith, Carmen Flood, Dolores Brorman, Tom Betzen, Roger Albracht, Patricia Simmacher, David Fetsch, Gary Kriegshauser, Kaye Kershen Villalba, and Gerald Marnell.