

# Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens, a modern addition to historic Cleveland church

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By **Lisa DeJong, The Plain Dealer**

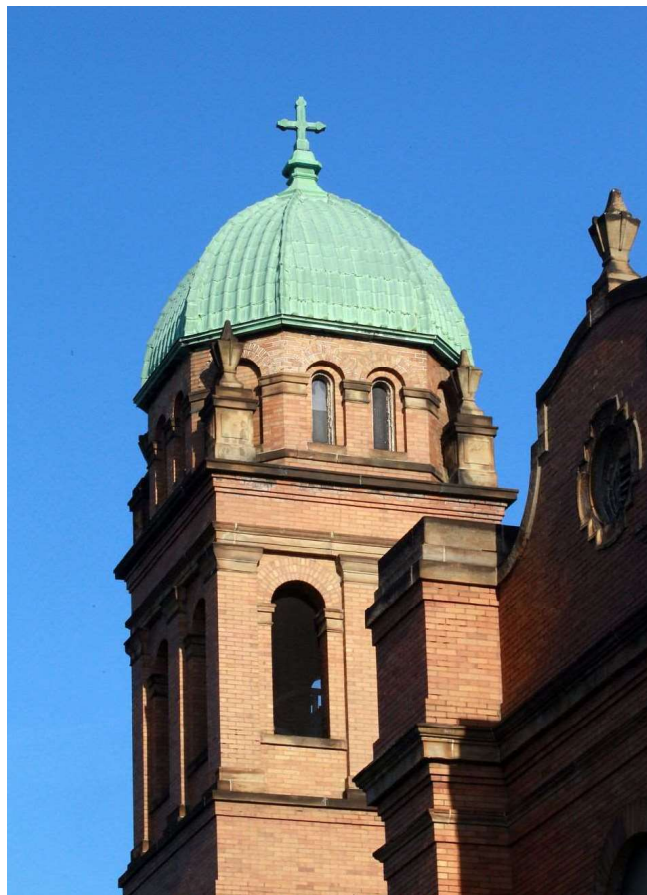
CLEVELAND, Ohio – Built next to the Romanesque-style St. Adalbert Parish that was completed in 1912, a modern-style early childhood learning center looks toward the future to welcome students from pre-kindergarten to second grade.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Tuesday for the newly opened Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School in the Fairfax neighborhood of Cleveland.

The 13,000-square-foot addition to Saint Adalbert Catholic School adds nine classrooms, a cafeteria and playground for the younger kids. According to Saint Adalbert School President Jim Smith, the student population from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade has nearly doubled in recent years, up to 470 students currently.

The dream was realized through the school's Power of One campaign that raised money for the new structure through community contributions and with a donation from Tom and Virginia Jeckering. The building is named after Tom's father, Cletus Jeckering.

Diocese of Cleveland Bishop Nelson J. Perez, Mayor Frank Jackson, Tom Jeckering, Reverend Gary Chmura and Cleveland City Councilman Blaine Griffin all attended the celebration.



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

## **The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

The dome of Saint Adalbert Parish rises high above next to the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly opened Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)

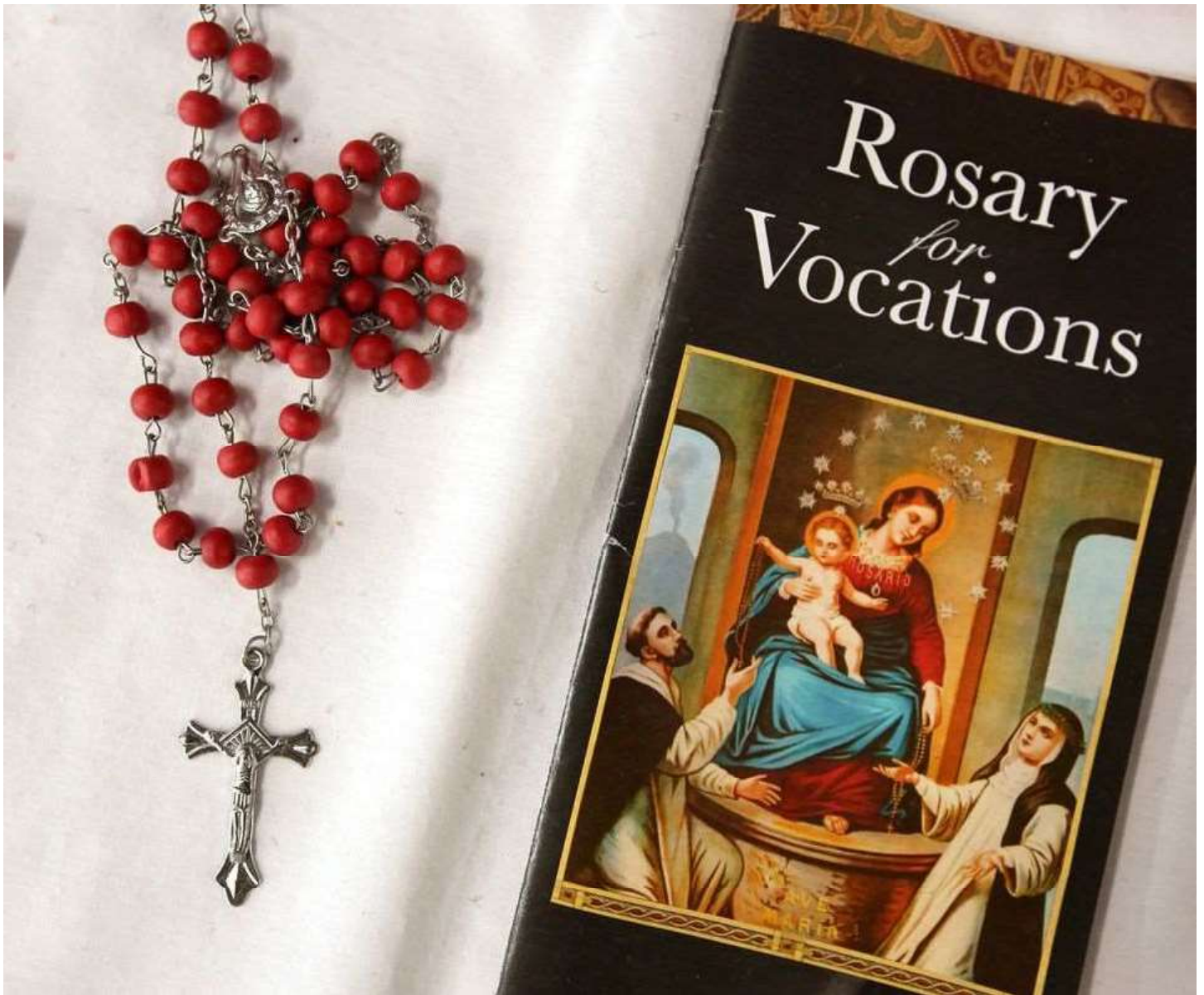


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**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Jaden Cooper, 3, puts his finger to his lips to be quiet as he lines up with his pre-kindergarten classmates at the new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center. Teachers instruct the students to quietly put their finger to their lips as they walk through the hallways. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

A rosary welcomes students inside a classroom at the Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held today for the newly opened Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School in the Fairfax neighborhood of Cleveland on Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2019. The modern-style early childhood learning center welcomes students from pre-kindergarten to second grade. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Virginia Jeckering, left, hugs Sister Juanita Shealey during a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly opened Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School in the Fairfax neighborhood of Cleveland. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, Mayor Frank Jackson, Tom Jeckering, Reverend Gary Chmura and Cleveland City Councilman Blaine Griffin participate in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly opened Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School on Tuesday. The dream was realized through the school's Power of One campaign that raised money for the structure through community contributions and with a generous donation from Tom and Virginia Jeckering. The building is named after Tom's father, Cletus Jeckering. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)

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**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Tom and Virginia Jeckering, far left, pose for pictures with Sister Juanita Shealey and other family members. The dream was realized with a generous donation from Tom and Virginia Jeckering. The building is named after Tom's father, Cletus Jeckering. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

The 13,000-square-foot addition to Saint Adalbert Catholic School adds nine classrooms, a cafeteria and playground for the younger kids. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



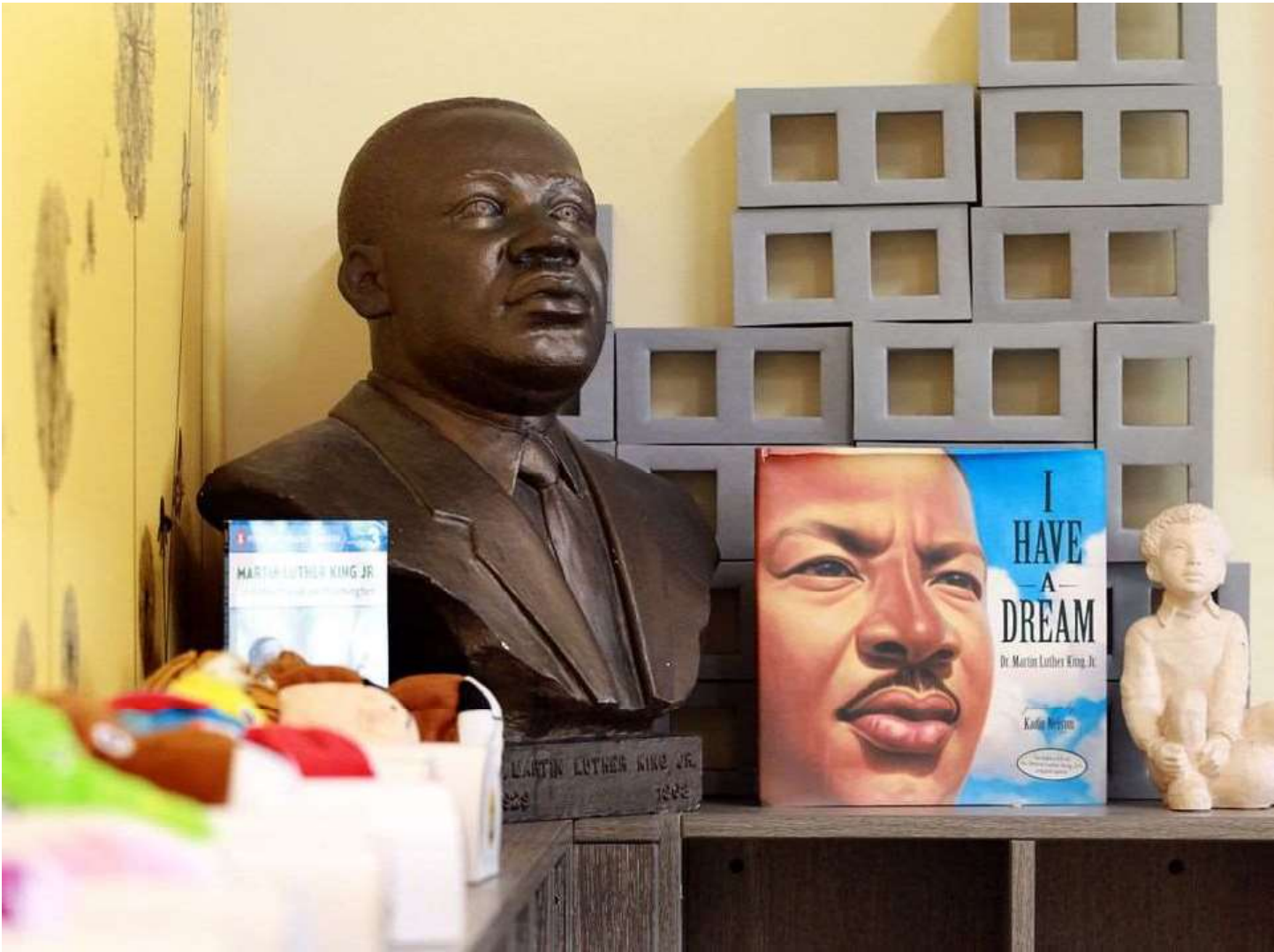


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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

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A bust of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his biography welcomes students in the pre-kindergarten classroom. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Second-grader Darryon Deanhall, 8, colors inside his classroom at the new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)

**WE ARE PATIENT**

**WE SAY I'M SORRY**

**WE MAKE MISTAKES**

**WE GIVE SECOND CHANCES**

**WE PRAY**

**WE SUCCEED**

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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

The modern-style early childhood learning center welcomes students from pre-kindergarten to second grade. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Jaden Cooper, 3, listens to a video with his pre-kindergarten classmates at the new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Artwork is on display on the walls inside the second grade classroom at the Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Hailee Gibson, 7, works on an art project inside her second grade classroom at the Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

A crucifix is placed inside a classroom at the newly opened Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School in the Fairfax neighborhood of Cleveland. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)





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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Students have their own open lockers inside the kindergarten room at the new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Catholics attend a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly opened Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School in the Fairfax neighborhood of Cleveland. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)

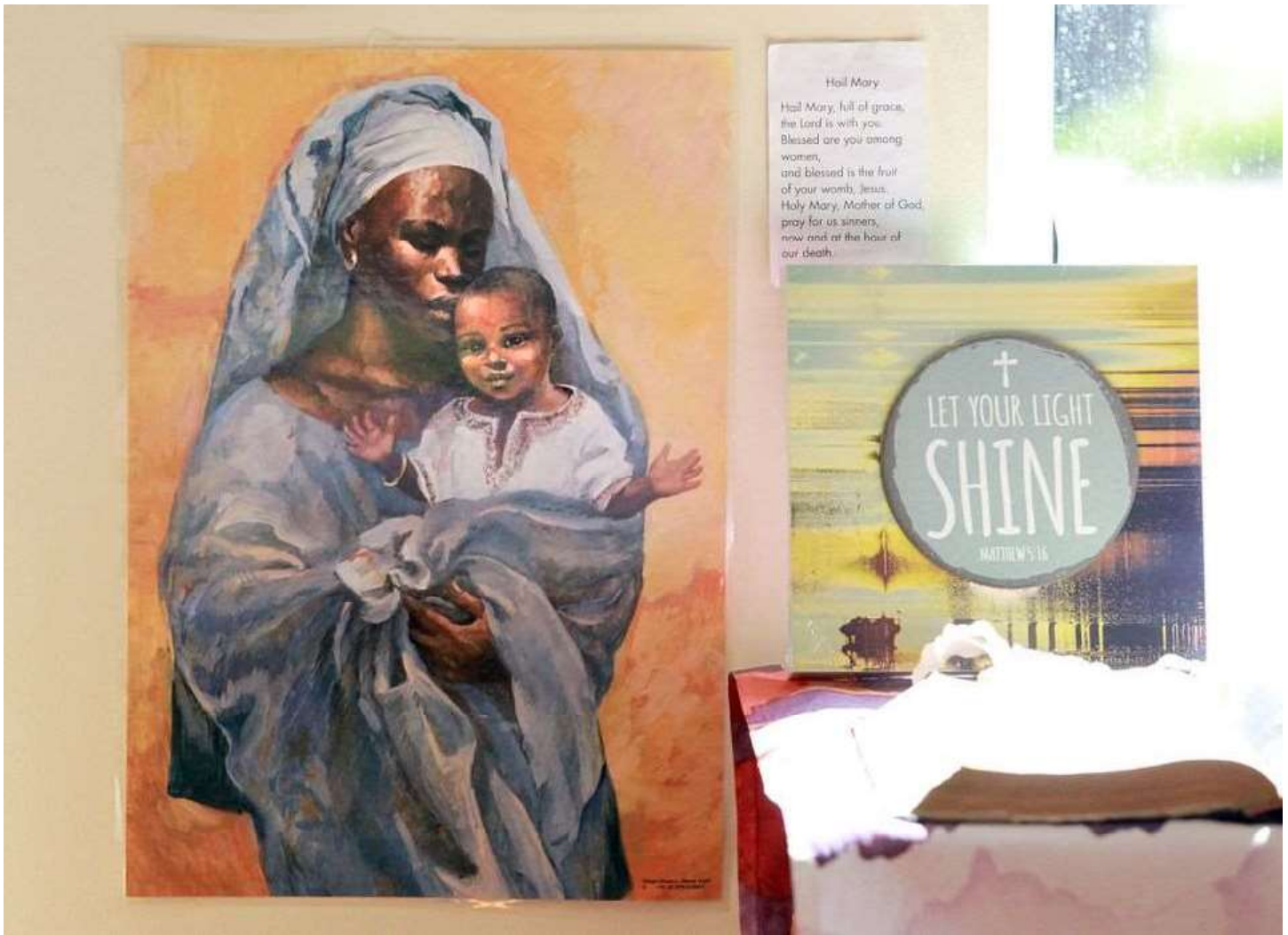


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Braelyn Hood, 3, center, puts his finger to his lips to be quiet as he lines up with his pre-kindergarten classmates at the new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center. Teachers instruct the students to quietly put their finger to their lips as they walk through the hallways. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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The 13,000-square-foot addition to Saint Adalbert Catholic School adds nine classrooms, a cafeteria and playground for the younger kids. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Tom Jeckering hugs a friend as he and Sister Juanita Shealey tour the new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School. The dream was realized through the school's Power of One campaign that raised money for the school through community contributions and with a generous donation from Tom and Virginia Jeckering. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

### **The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

This is a kindergarten room at the new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center. The 13,000-square-foot addition to Saint Adalbert Catholic School adds nine classrooms, a cafeteria and playground for the younger kids. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)



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Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

**The new Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School opens**

Religious statues welcome the newly opened Cletus Jeckering Learning Center at Saint Adalbert Catholic School in the Fairfax neighborhood of Cleveland on Tuesday. (Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer)