

GRADUATION 2021

The Catholic Times, Diocese of Columbus



Graduation message from Bishop Brennan

Across our diocese, it is graduation time once again. Thousands of seniors in our many public schools and in our 11 Catholic high schools will walk across the stage and conclude their high school years.

Though much will be said about the great difficulties that our graduates have overcome this year, I want to remind us all of the many, many successes that our students have had in the chapel, in the classroom, on the sports field and on the stage this year.

To all of our graduates, I know I speak on behalf of the faithful throughout our diocese when I say that we are truly proud of you. It is my hope that you are leaving school with a clear sense of yourself and of the wonderful gifts and talents that God has given to you.



Congratulations to the Class of 2021

Dear Graduating Class of 2021,

Congratulations on behalf of the Office of Catholic Schools and all 53 schools in the Diocese of Columbus.

Though it has certainly been a difficult year, we hope you know that we are proud of you and proud of all that you have accomplished in your years in our Catholic schools. Across our diocese, more than 1,000 students will walk across stages at our 11 Catholic high schools, well prepared to face the future.

Many of you, our graduates, are completing a journey through 13 years of Catholic schooling. During that time, you have formed close bonds with one another and with your principals and teachers. You have had tremendous experiences and made great memories while building a relationship with Jesus and our Church.

All of us who work in Catholic education hope that you are ready to be young men and women of faith, ready to serve our Church and our world. We

HAVE FAITH IN EDUCATION

Adam Dufault



Adam J. Dufault is the diocesan Episcopal Moderator for Education and Superintendent of Catholic Schools.

encourage you to live out the faith you have learned, remembering St. Paul's encouragement to "persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith" (Hebrews 12:1-2).

We thank God for the good you have seen and done in high school, and we are confident that the Lord will walk with you through the adventures ahead.

To the graduating class of 2021 of the Diocese of Columbus, congratulations. To the dedicated teachers, administrators and parents who have done so much to bring our graduates to where they are today, thank you. Be assured that we are all praying for you!

Educators honored for career anniversaries

Thirty-eight teachers and administrators from Columbus diocesan schools who reached service milestones have received service awards from the diocesan Office of Education. Honored educators are:

30 Years – Kim Nocero, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Karen Scott, Columbus St. Francis DeSales.

20 Years – Loretta Arnett, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Marsha Duffey, Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator; Katharine Gaddis, Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator; Jennifer Garnica,

Columbus Holy Spirit; Erica Gowitzka, Columbus St. Agatha; Erin Gruber, Columbus Bishop Watterson; David Hughes, Columbus St. Agatha; Thomas Kersey, Columbus Immaculate Conception; Sheri Magee, Columbus Our Lady of Peace; Nicholas Moore, Columbus St. Agatha; Jane Pillivant, Worthington St. Michael; Karen Rawlins, Westerville St. Paul; Teresa Rehner, Columbus Bishop Ready; Scott Rimer, New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic Junior/Senior High; Beth Robinson,

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul; Aaron Schrein, Columbus St. Charles; Marcia Springer, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Sara Thompson, Columbus Immaculate Conception; Ryan Wiggins, Columbus St. Francis DeSales.

10 Years – Candice Brown, Westerville St. Paul; Patrick Camboni, Columbus St. Andrew; Patricia Canfield, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X; Heather Evans, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Edward Gruber, Columbus St. Charles; Lauren Gruenwald, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Stacy Hinton,

Columbus Holy Spirit; Bess Huffman, Logan St. John; Antonella Iacobone, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Jaclyn Keough, Columbus St. Cecilia; Maria Lennon, Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans; Christopher Mazon, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Amy Moonis, Columbus St. Anthony; Maryann Nugent, Columbus St. Brigid the Navigator; Juli Roberts, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Teresa Roybal, Columbus St. Cecilia; Bethany Torres-Mann, Columbus St. Joseph Montessori.



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DeSales senior to fulfill dream by attending Harvard

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

Jamie Momoh has pursued ambitious goals from the time he entered Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School four years ago. Now he's on the threshold of fulfilling one of those dreams as he prepares to graduate from the school this month and begin studies in the fall at Harvard University in preparation for a medical career.

"Ever since I came to DeSales as a freshman, I've had big aspirations," he said. "I've wanted to be a cardiologist since I was 5 or 6 years old. Harvard is ranked (by The Guardian newspaper in England) as the top university in the world in both medicine and biology, so I figured I might as well apply to the best place."

He also applied to, and was accepted by, Notre Dame, John Hopkins, Dayton, Ohio State, Cincinnati and Case Western Reserve universities, but he said there was no doubt he would choose Harvard if it accepted him.

"When the acceptance notice came from Harvard, it was kind of surreal," he said. "It still feels that way. I don't think it truly will hit me that I'm actually going to Harvard until I'm on campus and starting classes."

Momoh said Harvard's prestige wasn't the only thing influencing his decision to attend the school in Cambridge, Massachusetts. "I visited Harvard last fall, and a few students showed me around, and I really felt comfortable there," he said. "I felt I could talk to the students as friends. They told me how strenuous the academics could be, but that didn't bother me. The visit definitely piqued my interest."

Momoh said scholarship money he is receiving will pay the full cost of his tuition and room and board at Harvard. Even though those costs total more than \$72,000 a year, the university's \$40.9 billion endowment enables it to offer generous aid packages, to the extent that the widely read U.S. News & World Report 2021 college ratings rank Harvard as the nation's No. 1 value school.

Momoh's grades at DeSales indicate he will be up to the challenges of Harvard. DeSales principal Dan Garrick said Momoh will be one of 26 valedictorians in this year's senior



St. Francis DeSales senior Jamie Momoh, with parents Florence (left) and Albert, received a full-ride scholarship to Harvard University, where he will begin studies next fall for what he hopes will be a medical career. Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

class. His grade-point average as of early May was 4.4 on a 4.0 scale, with the additional points coming from Advanced Placement classes. During the current semester, out of eight classes, he's taking AP courses in calculus, French, government, biology and literature.

He already has received college credit through Ohio's College Credit Plus program by taking a college-level physics course offered by the University of Findlay to students at DeSales and other participating schools.

Momoh said his interest in cardiology results from visits he made to a cardiologist with his godmother, Freda Scott, for treatment for her now-deceased mother, Louisa Gullet.

"Each time we'd visit the doctor, Louisa seemed to get better," he said. "It made me feel good to see how happy she was after a visit. I thought it would be great if I could make people

feel that way when they came to see me."

Momoh's father, Albert, is on the maintenance staff at Columbus St. Matthias School, located next door to DeSales on Karl Road in Columbus' Northland neighborhood. He arrived in New Jersey 23 years ago as a refugee from a civil war in the African nation of Sierra Leone that lasted from 1991 to 2002. He fled to the nearby nation of Ivory Coast before coming to the United States and eventually marrying his wife, Florence, whom he met at a Catholic youth group meeting in Sierra Leone.

Albert came to Columbus in 2000 and also has worked in maintenance at OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital and as a truck driver for Coca-Cola.

Jamie Momoh attended Columbus public schools for his early education and then went to St. Matthias School

for fifth through eighth grades before going on to DeSales. "I'd made a lot of friendships at St. Matthias, so it seemed like the natural thing to do was to go to DeSales," he said.

"There's no doubt it was the right choice, because I've been so bolstered by everybody through all my four years here. I've been able to take advantage of so many opportunities here that I couldn't imagine going anywhere else."

He is president of the school's Student Council and was a class officer in his freshman, sophomore and junior years. He also represents the school as a student ambassador, is on the volleyball team and played JV basketball in ninth grade and JV and varsity basketball in 10th grade.

He especially enjoys the opportunities for service provided through membership in the school's St. Vincent de Paul Society. "We make sandwiches and blankets for the homeless, and I've really enjoyed the things we've done with children at St. Stephen's Community House and the Run the Race Club," he said. The club provides after-school and summer-time activities for children on Columbus' west side.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the school year about to end has been a time of constant adaptation for Momoh and all students. At DeSales, students were divided into two groups that alternated between in-school and at-home learning for most of the year and then were able to be together at the school for the final two months of classes.

"It's been a great feeling to see everybody back and for the seniors to be able to conclude their journey with the traditions last year's seniors couldn't have because schools were closed in mid-March," he said. "As Student Council president, I was happy that we were able to handle things in the best way we could. We weren't always together, but we adapted."

Momoh said he was especially pleased with the success of the school's annual Thanksgiving food drive, which collected about 30,000 items and \$10,000 for St. Stephen's Community House and the Columbus St. James the Less Church food pan-

Retiring Tuscarawas CC teacher reflects on 50-year career

By Doug Bean

Catholic Times Editor

When the members of the Tuscarawas Central Catholic (TCC) High School Class of 2021 walk across the stage to receive their diplomas and the doors of the school close for the summer, Ron McConnell's 50-year career as an educator will come to an end.

"Deciding to retire from teaching is one of the most difficult decisions of my life," McConnell, 73, said. "There was a lot of praying and sleepless nights involved. The deciding factor came down to my desire to spend more time with my daughter and my 4-year-old granddaughter who live near Toledo."

McConnell's connection with Tuscarawas County Catholic schools predates the founding of Tuscarawas Central Catholic. His first teaching job came at Dennison St. Mary High School, which closed in 1970 after he was there one year and merged with Dover St. Joseph High School to form TCC.

After the two schools became one, McConnell taught English at TCC for four years before moving into public education at Gnadentzen Indian Valley High School, where he remained for 29 years before his first retirement.

"When I left TCC, I always hoped that I could return someday in some capacity," he said. "After retiring from Indian Valley, I was approached about a tutoring position at TCC. That tutoring led to another 15 years of teaching English.

"I always tell the students that I was here for the groundbreaking and building of TCC."

Current and former students have appreciated the lessons learned from Mr. McConnell in and out of the classroom.

"As a former student of Mr. McConnell's, he was so much more than just my English teacher. He was a mentor, a teacher of life lessons, and, most importantly, a friend," said Jacob Triplett, a 2013 TCC graduate. "Over his 50-year career as a teacher, he blessed thousands of students with his wit, humor and knowledge. As a student and as an adult, I can count on his honest advice and mentorship, even if the honest truth isn't what I want to hear.

"As an educator, he was stern but knew the importance of gentle guidance and building trust and rapport with his students. I believe that I am

a better person and a better Catholic because of Mr. McConnell. I cannot put into words how thankful I am to have had the privilege of being one of his students."

TCC junior Adam Decaminada said, "A positive role model for me is a person who can teach or inspire people to live a good life, and at TCC that person is Mr. McConnell. Mr. McConnell is my positive role model because he is the type of person that will always put a smile on your face.

"After having Mr. McConnell as a teacher, he not only taught me English and literature, but he taught me many important life lessons and skills that I will use in my future.

"Although I do not have Mr. McConnell for class this year, I know his classroom door is always open for me. Every day, when I see him in the hallway, he asks how I am doing and even cracks a few jokes for me. ... Mr. McConnell does a great job of being there for students in need of help, and he is always there for students who may be struggling."

Fellow junior Cameron Costello added, "Overall, he has shown me that I can have fun with learning as well as succeed by working hard. Inside and out of the classroom, he maintains a comfortable and relaxed environment with my peers by treating us with respect. He also knows how to have fun while staying on task. In addition, he has taught me to be myself and step outside my comfort zone. ... Lastly, he teaches my peers and me that it is OK to make mistakes in life by being willing to admit when we are wrong."

McConnell's teaching philosophy included treating teenagers as young adults, "and students have seemed to appreciate and relate to me because of it."

"Most of my favorite moments, and there are too many to list, involve my interaction with the students both in and out of the classroom," he said.

Classrooms and learning styles have changed in 50 years, and that became more evident in March 2020 when the coronavirus pandemic forced schools to abruptly transition to remote instruction.

"To me, remote learning is making the best of a difficult situation," McConnell said. "Technology has made a huge difference in the way students learn. Going to the library, finding information in books, memorizing material and writing papers with pen and paper have been replaced with Google, Siri, Alexa and a keyboard."



Ron McConnell (seated), retiring Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School English teacher, with current students (from left) Adam Decaminada, Jackson Triplett, Gina Sciarretti and Cameron Costello.
Photo courtesy Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School

McConnell's favorite classes through the years have included British Literature, American Literature, college writing and ninth- and 10th-grade English. He also has served as a play director and an adviser for student council, yearbook and the National Honor Society.

"Ron's dedication to education, meeting the needs of students and devotion to TCC has been such a blessing," school principal Jennifer Calvo said. "Ron has always gone above and beyond. He has mentored students, been National Honor Society adviser, and taught English Language Arts, yearbook and communications. His years of experience and wisdom has been a wonderful source of support for me as principal."

Outside of school, he has worked as a summer camp counselor for teens, co-directed an English program in conjunction with Kent State University Tuscarawas, and was an alcohol and addiction counselor for the Tuscarawas County Health Department.

Former TCC principal Scott Power called McConnell a true team player who was first in line to assist with any program, activity or event.

"For Ron, it was all about the kids," Power said. "Year after year, he gave up his lunch period to supervise students in the cafeteria. In actuality, this was his way of checking in with them, of maintaining contact with this or that student who may have needed his watchful eye or reassuring presence.

"Ron's background in social services equipped him with an invaluable

perspective into students experiencing nuanced or delicate circumstances, but it was his genuine concern and compassion that served them so well. Generations of young and not-so-young men and women are living lives that have been guided and enriched by Ron's support and counsel."

A member of New Philadelphia Sacred Heart Church, McConnell appreciated the opportunity Catholic schools provide to not only teach subject matter but also to nourish "my spiritual self and that of my students." And because TCC is a smaller school, it creates a family atmosphere that allows a teacher to get to know every student in the building.

"A Catholic education is the best way to help students increase their knowledge and, at the same time, nurture their souls," he said. "Each day we begin with a prayer, and once a week we celebrate Mass together — administration, faculty, staff and students. It definitely is a feeling of family."

Leaving that family will be difficult after so many years together.

"The thing I will miss the most is the daily interaction with everyone at TCC," he said, "especially the students."

"Ron will never truly retire from anything," Power said. "He will never retire from offering a helping hand, or guidance or support or a much-needed sense of humor. Ron will never truly retire from teaching. He will just continue to teach in other ways."



Bishop Hartley senior Piper Ogden was awarded the Be A Part of It Foundation's Kevin Houdeshell Memorial Scholarship for Type-1 diabetics in March.



Jake Skelly missed his senior football season at Bishop Hartley while battling leukemia but returned this spring for the baseball season. Photos courtesy Bishop Hartley HS

Two Hartley seniors handle serious health challenges

By Doug Bean

Catholic Times Editor

Like all members of the Class of 2021, Piper Ogden and Jake Skelly will feel a sense of relief and accomplishment when they receive their diplomas.

This year's seniors successfully overcame unprecedented challenges brought on by a global pandemic to graduate from high school with some sense of normalcy returning, but significant health crises unrelated to COVID-19 added to the difficulty in reaching the finish line for the two Columbus Bishop Hartley High School students.

While medical issues impacted their final high school years in unexpected ways, both consider themselves blessed to celebrate an occasion as monumental as graduation.

On March 2, 2019, Ogden's life was turned upside down when she was diagnosed with Type-1 diabetes during her sophomore year. Though the disease was not a death sentence, it certainly proved life changing for the active teenager.

A little more than a year later, on May 7, 2020, Skelly received a diagnosis that explained the changes he had noticed in his body and his appetite. Doctors told the heretofore healthy, 6-foot-4, 255-pound football and baseball player that he had B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Just a day earlier, Skelly had committed to Ohio University to play football at the Mid-American Conference school.

For Ogden, insulin suddenly be-

came her lifeline as a newly diagnosed diabetic, and she quickly learned how to check her blood levels and constantly record what she eats on a mobile app while being tethered to an insulin pump that keeps her going. If her blood sugar levels get too high or too low, she could go into shock or a diabetic coma.

But rather than despair, Ogden embraced her condition and moved forward.

"It's not easy at all, but there's lots of blessings that have come from it," she said. "It's like my cross that I carry. I view it as a way that the Lord is calling me to something deeper. I can offer up for Him when I have bad days, hand everything over, my worries and my stress, to the Lord.

"Look at Jesus, He carried His cross, and by no means was it light. It was what He had to do to bring salvation to us all. Being a diabetic is not going to bring salvation or anything, but maybe I can inspire other people who are going through challenges, even it's not diabetes, but another illness – like how I work through challenges and the way I look forward to the next day and just move on from rough days. You trust in the Lord and trust in His promises."

That wasn't easy for someone who's a planner and likes to know what to expect from each day. Because of the unpredictability of blood sugar levels, Ogden doesn't know how she'll feel from one hour to the next, let alone one day to the next.

"I have had to learn to just let go of some of that control," she said. "I

think that's one thing the Lord was asking me to do through this diagnosis is to just, like, let go and let Him do whatever he wants to do with me, however he wants to use me to better His kingdom."

That's exactly what she's doing. Earlier this year, Ogden submitted written testimony to the Ohio House of Representatives Health Committee encouraging the legislature to pass House Bill 37, which would expand a 2015 law that allows pharmacists to dispense an emergency supply of insulin to diabetics from one time per year to three, and also bring attention to exorbitant prices that make the drug cost prohibitive for some people.

Then on April 27, she testified in person before the committee as an advocate for what's also known as Kevin's Law, which is named after Kevin Houdeshell, an Ohioan who died in 2014 after he ran out of insulin and was unable to obtain an emergency supply because his prescription had expired.

"The opportunities I've gotten to be able to share my story and just to, like, have my voice be heard – to be able to get involved and, hopefully, make a difference in the world – is a blessing," Ogden said.

In late January, Ogden shared her story in an essay and video she submitted to the Be A Part Of It Foundation, a Type-1 diabetes advocacy group, as part of an application for the Kevin Houdeshell Memorial Scholarship. On March 31, she learned that she was one of two winners from Ohio of a scholarship worth \$20,000

over four years.

"The money is beyond generous," Ogden said. "But it's more about being able to carry Kevin's legacy with me. Obviously, I never met him, but it's inspiration for me and a responsibility to get involved in the (diabetic community) and make a difference."

"Piper is so deserving of this scholarship," Bishop Hartley counselor Liz Collette said. "Over the past three years, I have learned that Piper is resilient, intentional, driven, faith-filled and ambitious. This was evident before her diagnosis, but even after, the way she has handled all of the changes she has had to make is inspiring.

"While she has had to change her life completely, she has done so with grace. Piper does not want to burden those around her, but she has come to understand that by sharing her story, she can make sure her needs are met and can communicate a plan for how this will happen before an issue arises."

Ogden, who also is active in Insulin4All, an advocacy group working to lower the cost of insulin, plans to attend Saint Mary's College in South Bend, Indiana, this fall to study education in hopes of becoming a teacher at a Catholic school one day.

"I always have loved learning, and so that's kind of like what has inspired me to give that gift of learning to other people, to be able to share the ways the Lord has worked in my life to help instill that love for Jesus in younger groups," she said.



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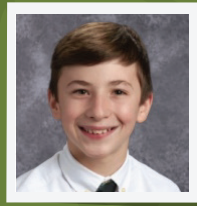
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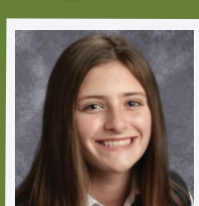
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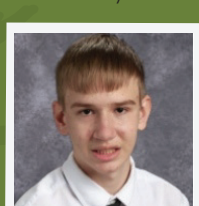
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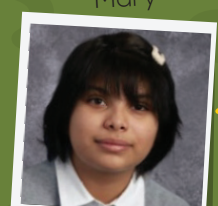
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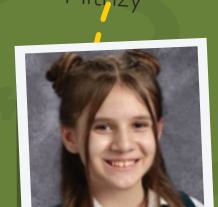
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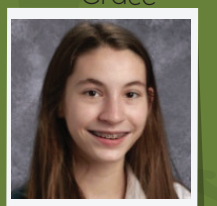
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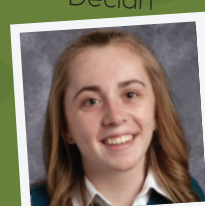
Evie



Skylar



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Bradie



Mary Jean

At Bishop Watterson, six sets of twins equal a dozen grads

By Jenna Mar

While it is not uncommon for a graduating class at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School to have one or two sets of twins, the BWHS Class of 2021 has six sets of twins graduating on Saturday, May 29, and they all say having a twin in the class has been fun.

The twin siblings, all fraternal, are Carson and Matthew Blank, Ava and Sinead Brady, Carrie and KC Finfrock, Clara and Max Greenwald, Allie and Jake Maziarz and Marshall and Mitchell Musuraca.

As they reflected on their shared high school experience, many of the students said that it was fun and helpful to have a twin in the same class, especially when they helped each other academically.

“We are learning the same material around the same time,” KC Finfrock said. “Carrie has dyslexia, and I have missed a lot of school because of chronic migraines, so being a twin has given us the ability to help each other when one of us is behind or struggling in a class.”

The academic experience of the sets of twins has varied, with all but the Greenwalds sharing at least a few classes during high school. The Blanks have similar interests, and so they took some of the same electives, but other sets of twins generally had different elective interests. The differences are evident in their college plans as well.

“We didn’t plan on taking any electives together because we have different interests, but our schedules ended up working out that we were in the same classes,” KC said.

Carrie Finfrock plans to attend Thomas Jefferson University to study architecture and interior design while KC will attend the University of Dayton to study early childhood education. The Finfrocks said they look forward to the next stage of their education while recognizing the challenges of being separated.

“We are looking forward to it, but it will be very different because we have never not been together for school, and we share a room at home,” KC said. “It will be strange to share a room with someone that is not each other.”

Allie and Jake Maziarz shared only one class during their four years at



Six sets of twins who are part of Bishop Watterson’s Class of 2021 are (from left) Clara and Max Greenwald, Carson and Matthew Blank, KC and Carrie Finfrock, Sinead and Ava Brady, Allie and Jake Maziarz, and Marshall and Mitchell Musuraca.

Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

Bishop Watterson.

“We didn’t plan to take the same classes but always wanted to have at least one class together,” Jake said.

Their academic careers will further diverge this fall, when Allie attends Ohio Wesleyan University to study special education, and Jake attends Ohio State University to study neuroscience.

“We have gone to the same school our whole lives so it will definitely feel weird without him,” Allie said. “But we will both be living at home to start college so we’ll get back together at the end of the day.”

Carson and Matthew Blank shared three classes during their time at Bishop Watterson: sophomore history, sports management and exercise science.

“We didn’t really plan our electives, we just chose them on our own,” Matthew said. “We ended up in the same classes because we have somewhat similar interests.”

The Blank brothers’ academic careers will diverge after they graduate, with Matthew planning to attend

Miami University and Carson headed to Ashland University, where he also will play football.

Marshall and Mitchell Musuraca had one or two classes together each year at Bishop Watterson. While Marshall will attend Ashland University, Mitchell plans to attend the University of Dayton.

The Greenwald and Brady twins are happy to move forward into college with each other, creating a sense of security both academically and socially.

Clara and Max Greenwald, who never shared any classes at Bishop Watterson, both plan to attend the University of Cincinnati, where they will be living in the same dorm and majoring in business.

Ava and Sinead Brady had seven classes together during their years at Bishop Watterson and will stay together in college. They plan to room together at Saint Mary’s College in Indiana.

“Having a twin in high school has been incredibly helpful, especially when it comes to missing schoolwork,” Ava said. “If I miss any school,

my twin can catch me right up!”

Though being a twin comes with its challenges, both the Maziarzes and the Finfrocks said that it’s like “having a built-in best friend.”

“In grade school, we would often be forced together as partners by our classmates because they figured we were twins so we could work together. So that wasn’t fun!” KC said. “But in high school, it has gotten much better. We do have a lot of the same friends and sit with each other at lunch. We have both been able to spread out and develop as individuals.”

The Maziarz twins also share friendships.

“Allie and I are super close and pretty much have the same friend group,” Jake said. “Having Allie ensures that I always have a friend!”

“I never have to worry about being alone,” Ava Brady said. “I know I can count on my twin no matter what!”

Jenna Mar is a Kent State University student and a Bishop Watterson High School graduate.

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Left side, front to back:
Freshman Liam Armstrong, seniors Liz Cruz, Cielo Strickland, Elias Wahl, and Garrison Budd, and sophomore Brayden Roof



Right side, front to back:
Senior Kyle Gramlich, sophomore Deshay Mills, freshman Mia Savage, sophomore Ely Hejdkuk, and senior Jacob Roof

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Bishop Ready to honor 94 graduates

Columbus Bishop Ready High School will celebrate its 57th commencement ceremony on Friday, May 28 at 7 p.m. at Fortress Obetz. A baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, May 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Diplomas will be awarded to 94 graduates by Rocco Fumi, principal of the school, and Matthew Brickner, assistant principal.

The Class of 2021 earned \$14.9 million in scholarships. The valedictorian is Catherine Wolfe of Grove City and the salutatorian is Mary Tokar of Columbus. Both plan to attend Ohio State University. Eighty percent of the class members plan to attend college at one of 26 institutions of higher education. One class member will enlist in the U.S. Air Force.

Honors graduates are Clarissa Bachelder, Jacob Baum, Lillian Beckman, John Paul Benitez, Leah Brennan, Garrison Budd, Mercy Cala-Avila, Anna Carlino, Allison Dellinger, Hannah Dilley, Makenna Freeman, Meghan Fitzsimmons, Kyle Gramlich, Maxwell Greene, Anqi He, Kennedy Howell, Tyrese Hudson, Cole Matthews, Claire Nagy, Carissa Oltman-Perez, Gabrielle Phillips, Emma Pond, Sarah Ranke, Madison

Reyes, Jacob Roof, Jenna Ruth, Iveth Saucedo, Dario Scott, Rose Scott, Mary Tokar, Anna Turek, Elias Wahl, Jenna Winslow, Catherine Wolfe and Megan Wohrle.

Five seniors were inducted into the Bishop Ready Hall of Fame. They are Anna Carlino, Allison Dellinger, Sarah Ranke, Mary Tokar and Megan Wohrle.

Recipients of school awards are: Principal's Award, Dario Scott and Catherine Wolfe; Ready Award, Cielo Strickland, Spirit Award, Gabrielle Phillips; Alexa McAllister Memorial Scholarship, Rose Scott; Gifts of the Heart Service Award, Lizbeth Cruz and Elaine Smith; Columbus Foundation Ronald C. Sullivan Scholarship and Ohio State University Morrill Distinction Scholarship, Mercy Cala Avila.

Nine seniors have signed to play collegiate sports. They are Aiden Aiello and Cael Dent, football, Otterbein; PJ Daniels, football, Findlay; Tyrese Hudson, football, Marist; Bella Illig, volleyball, Assumption; Cole Matthews, football, Wheeling; JeJuan McGowan, football, Capital; Jacob Metz, football, Wilmington; and Darius Parham, basketball, Concord.

Members of the Columbus Bishop Ready High School Class of 2021 are:

Aiden Matthew Aiello, Freda Maria Arias Robles, Clarissa Marie Bachelder, Jalen Anthony Bailey, Jacob Aaron Baum, Lillian Grace Beckman, John Paul Benitez, Cheyenne Rain Blackburn, Leah Elizabeth Brennan, Garrison Geoffrey Budd, Mercy Ziquem Cala Avila, Anna Patricia Carlino, Noah Jacob Carmean, Mitchell James Clark, Grace Andrea Collignon, Alexander Quintin Contosta, Xavier Ascension Corona, Madison Rosemarie Craddock, Lizbeth Cruz, Clint Joseph Lee Damron, Azzan Mar-sean Daniels, Patrick O'Shea Daniels Jr. and Allison Paige Dellinger.

Cael DiPaolo Dent, Hannah Marie Dilley, Vickie Enciso-Sanchez, Melanie Kain Engram, Meghan Elizabeth Fitzsimmons, Makenna Katherine Freeman, Samuel Andrew Francis Gifford, Kyle Anthony Gramlich, Maxwell James Greene, Anqi He, Wesley Bailey Hendricks, Jayd Anna Strouse Heselden, Kennedy Vegas Howell, Tyrese Marshon Hudson, Barbara Bella Illig, Alfred Christopher Jagodzinski, Luke Andrew Jahn, Keenan Bradley Johnston, Aaron Richard King, Harley Nikole Lanning, Grace Ann Larger and Andres Lin Lei.

Victor James Lockwood, Isabella Grace Marsh, Isaiah Christopher

Martin, Cole Anthony Matthews, Je-Juan Clifton McGowan, Jacob Wyatt Metz, Chandler Everett Michel, Ashley Montes Romero, Claire Ella Nagy, Kang Ni, Aidan William O'Reilly, Carissa Oltman-Perez, Darius Lamar Parham, Jennifer Mireya Paucar Salto, Brittany Ann Perry, Gabrielle Theresa Phillips, Emma Lynn Pond, Sarah Theresa Ranke, Stephen Joseph Reed, Madison Elizabeth Reyes, Caleb Julius Roberts, Jacob Scott Roof and Jenna Mae Ruth.

Mary Alyssa Wise Sanders, Iveth Jatxiry Saucedo, Annemarie Lenore Schofield, Andrew William Schulze, Dario Andrew Scott, Rose Sofia Scott, Aireus Keith-Von Simms, Elaine Elizabeth Smith, Cielo Anahi Strickland, Kaicong Su, Lyyoulong Suy, Mary Christine Tokar, Anna Elizabeth Turek, Michelle Elisa Vanegas, Elias Charles Wahl, Jenna Marie Winslow, Braden Gabriel Wise, Megan Allison Wohrle, Catherine Ellen Wolfe, Reagan Quinn Wood, Xinru Wu, Joanna Elizabeth Yadaicela Pillcorema, Maria Oluwapelumi Yinusa, Jorge Zambrano-Ojeda, Wenqing Zhang, and Ruijie Zhao.

Newark Catholic to graduate 52

Newark Catholic High School will graduate a class of 52 seniors in a commencement ceremony at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 30 on the school's football field. A baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated at 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 25 in Newark St. Francis de Sales Church, followed by a dinner and video presentation.

The class valedictorian is Michael Ouweleen, and salutatorians are Anna Crumrine, Duncan Humphries and Pierce Ormond. Forty-eight members of the class will be attending 32 institutions of higher education and have earned more than \$4.8 million in scholarship money. They were accepted by more than 60 colleges.

Among students who have declared a college major, 27 percent will be studying fields related to health and medicine, with 13 percent in engineering or architecture, 10 percent in business or management, 10 percent in education, 8 percent in technical trades, 6 percent in social work or psychology, 6 percent in criminology or first-responder training, and 2 percent each in law, design, communica-

tions or statistics. Twelve percent are undecided.

Members of the Newark Catholic High School Class of 2021 are:

Kendra Antol, Harlei Antritt, Ryan Auer, Livia Barnett, Bryson Bell, Andrew Bemis, Cooper Bowman, Madelynne Brothers, Braden Brown, Games Claggett, Anna Crumrine, Colin Crumrine, Sarah Davis, Austin Dugan, Bailee Fleming, Emma Franks, Camille Fuller and Matthew Gialdini.

Andrew Hess, Colleen Hiles, Jacob Hinger, Duncan Humphries, Paul Jewett, Emily Kirk, Nicole Langenbrunner, Shane Leach, Delanyie Lintz, Evan Lyle, Campbell Mauter, Jackson Moore, Tyson Mummey, Macey Nelson, Finnigan O'Neill, Brandon Orend and Pierce Ormond.

Michael Ouweleen, Brynn Peddicord, Ella Pegher, Ryan Poly, Brandon Reifsnnyder, David Roshon, Madisyn Sheppard, Matthew Smith, Morgan Spearman, Riley Stalling, Brooklyn Stanley, Ryan Stewart, Lillian Stuller, Caden Wells, Ethan Wendt, Joseph Windholtz and Jhet Winston.

22 set to graduate from TCC

New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School will celebrate its 51st commencement on Sunday, May 30, with a baccalaureate Mass at 1:30 p.m., followed by a graduation ceremony at 3, both in the school gymnasium.

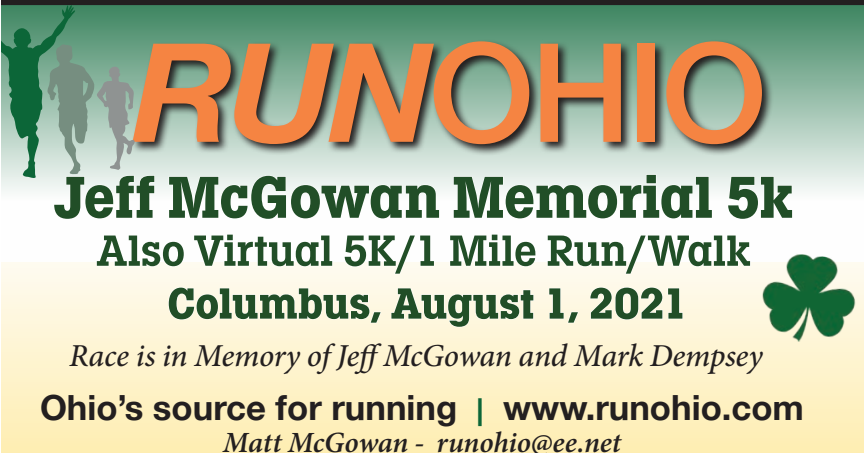
Co-valedictorians are Andrew Angelini and Kara Harrison and the salutatorian is Bailey McGinnis.

The class has 22 graduates, 20 of whom are college-bound and earned more than \$500,000 in scholarships, and two of whom will enter the work-

force.

Members of the New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School Class of 2021 are:

Jocelyn Abbuhl, Andrew Angelini, Jackson Bambeck, John Chaney, Ryan Dick, Raegan Fitzgerald, Toby Grossi, Kara Harrison, Sophia Knight, Ben Martin, Bailey McGinnis, Peyton Olson, Joseph Pruni, Cale Renicker, William Tyler Ross, Sydney Selinsky, Carlo Serafini, Marisa Supers, Janet Tinlin, Silver Toc-Ramos, Brock West and Sage Winnie.



RUNOHIO
Jeff McGowan Memorial 5k
Also Virtual 5K/1 Mile Run/Walk
Columbus, August 1, 2021

Race is in Memory of Jeff McGowan and Mark Dempsey

Ohio's source for running | www.runohio.com
 Matt McGowan - runohio@ee.net

27 seniors graduate from Portsmouth Notre Dame

Portsmouth Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School celebrated its baccalaureate Mass on Friday, May 14 at Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church. The school's 2021 commencement ceremony took place on Sunday, May 16.

Diplomas were awarded to 27 graduates by school principal J.D. McKenzie and guidance counselor Beth Haney. Kathleen Milligan, former principal at Notre Dame, addressed the graduates.

This class was offered \$2.8 million in scholarships and accepted \$498,000 of that total. Ninety-three percent of Notre Dame's graduates are pursuing a higher education. Twenty-five of the 27 graduates will be attending 10

different colleges, including three outside of Ohio.

The valedictorian is Claire Dettwiller, daughter of Chuck and Jamie Dettwiller of Otway. She has accepted \$20,000 in scholarships and will attend Ohio Dominican University, where she will major in biology.

The salutatorian was Millie West, daughter of Jan West of Portsmouth. She has accepted \$27,500 in scholarships and will attend Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where she will major in fine arts.

Students graduating with honors diplomas were Dettwiller, Faith Harting, Ava Hassel, Ethan Kammer, Christopher Schmidt and West.

Notre Dame High School gives three special awards voted upon by

the faculty. The Outstanding Senior Award was given to Dettwiller, who best fulfilled the various roles of scholar and leader in the school and community and has demonstrated outstanding character and service to others, and has provided an example of high Christian ideals in all of her activities on a daily basis.

The Citizenship Award was earned by Joseph McGuire for his contribution of time and energy to civic, community and school projects.

Hassel received the Senior Service Award for her generosity with her time toward both course work and extracurricular activities.

Members of the Portsmouth Notre Dame High School Class of 2021 are: Madison Paige Boldman, Isabel

Catherine Cassidy, Charles Jackson Clark, Jacob Bryan Cole, Chloe Grace Delabar, Vivian Claire Dettwiller, Logan Michael Emmett, Faith Elizabeth Harting, Ava Elizabeth Hassel, Tucker Joseph Herrmann, Ashley Jane Holtgrewe, Ethan Bailey Kammer, Ethan Jacob Mahle and Elizabeth Grace Jiang Mays.

Jacob Douglas McGuire, Joseph Edward McGuire, Mara Neota McKinney, Caleb Brent Nichols, Felicity Elyse Pettay, Gabriel Duncan Pettay, Lila Elizabeth Rideout, Christopher William Schmidt, Aria Jean Slone, Madison Elizabeth Suter, Austin Lewis Syrony, Austin Paul James Vaughters and Amelia Margaret West.

41 to graduate from Fisher Catholic

Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School will conduct its graduation ceremony for the Class of 2021 at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 30 in the school gymnasium. A baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated at 6 p.m. Friday, May 28 in Lancaster St. Mary Church.

The class has 41 members, 37 of whom will attend 23 different colleges. They were awarded \$9.8 million in scholarships. Two will join the military and two will enter the workforce.

Valedictorians are Audrey Mannela and Anna Tencza. Salutatorians are Francis Hanf and Aiden Jackson.

Members of the Fisher Catholic High School Class of 2021 are:

Emma Nicole Albert, Dominic Blackston, Maeve Elizabeth Boley, Natalie Rose Boyden, Alexander Nathan Bronder, James Allen Bryant, Joshua Thomas Burke, Ella Briann

Coakley, Haylee Renee Cordle, Taylor Meliana Ann Fitch, Abby M. Frazier, Paige Elizabeth Gavin, Isabelle Grace Gentile, Kaleigh Marie Golden, Francis Jacob Hanf, Sean Patrick Harp, Aidan Patrick Harris, Avery Hickman, Aiden Robert Jackson, Victoria Grace Johnson and Abbey Lynn Krile.

Nicholas Robert Krooner, Audrey Kathryn Mannela, Matthew Dillon McGonagle, Paiton Lynn McMullan, Dominic Matthew McAndrews Neighbor, Mallory Elizabeth Ortiz, Caden Scott Pike, Meadow Marie Pugh, Larry Lee (Trey) Sanford, Mitchell Alexander Santino, Conner Dalton Schorr, Domenico Roman Scott, Ben Leopold Shaw, Alex M. Smith, Taylor Catherine Stanton, Danielle Renae Sullivan, Anna Mary Tencza, Anastacia Michele Viau, Chad A. Walton and Colton Lane Yeager.

Bishop Rosecrans to graduate 24

The Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School Class of 2021 includes 24 members, who will have their commencement ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 29 in the school gymnasium. A Baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated at 7 p.m. Friday, May 28 at Zanesville St. Nicholas Church.

Twenty-two of the students will be attending 16 institutions of higher learning and two will join the workforce. The 22 going to college will receive \$555,400 of scholarship funds and were offered \$2.4 million. Joshua Merva and Jacob Rush are co-valedictorians.

Members of the Bishop Rosecrans

High School Class of 2021 are:

Allison Marie Berry, Landon Antonio Castaneda, Carly Elizabeth Anne Dady, Madison Jade Dalton, Madison Rose Fairchild, Morgan Graeme Grady, Justin Connor Hart, Thuy Thanh Hoang, Landon Patrick Ryan Marsh, Jackson Ryan McKendry, Joshua Andrew Merva, Jakob James Miller, Nhu Quynh Nguyen, Thomas Thai Nguyen, Ethan Patrick Phillips, Korynn Elaine Porter, Faith Ann Rochus, Jacob Douglas Rush, Samantha Gloria Rush, Malaysia Da'nae Simpson, Thomas Jacob Spohn, Eleanor Morgan Wear, Anna Elizabeth Wright and Brock Andrew Zemba.

DESALES, *continued from Page 3*

try.

He said one of the things he missed most because of the pandemic was the opportunity to go on retreats with the rest of his class last spring and this year. "The impact of not being able to be part of everything here really hit when I realized the retreat last year would be canceled," he said. "I'm a very social person, and it was hard not being able to do things and get to know people better."

"This year, we had to miss homecoming, Grandparents Day and the fall Kairos retreat, but we were able to have the retreat later in the year. Being able to come back to school for the last part of the year at least made up for part of what we missed."

Momoh said he's grateful for all the years he has spent in Catholic schools because of their emphasis on practicing the Church's teachings as part of everyday life. "What I appreciate most about my Catholic education is the way it integrates faith with all you do and makes you part of a community of faith," he said. "Here you can be truly open, you can be that type of faithful person you want to be. You can see that every day in the way students act with each other and the respect they show one another."

Some of Momoh's teachers said he provides a daily example that inspires his fellow students. Molly Barrett, who has been teaching him in anatomy and physiology and AP biology classes, said, "Jamie has the wonderful ability to lift your spirit with his friendly smile, positive energy during

class and wonderful sense of humor," she said. "He makes the most out of every day, and he has motivated his peers and teachers to find the joy and beauty in each other."

"Jamie is a special young man. That was obvious from the time he walked into my AP world history class as a freshman and through all he has accomplished over the past four years," said social studies teacher Steve Ulry. "Jamie is a leader in every sense of what a leader is: passion, compassion, empathy, desire, discipline, drive and kindness. He leads by the example of his character, and we are all better because of it."

Garrick, the school principal, spoke emotionally of the bonds he and his son Noah, also a graduating senior at DeSales, have formed with Momoh.

"Jamie is like a son to me," Garrick said. "He and Noah are best friends who have spent the night at each other's house many times. I've seen him at a lot of different levels, and he is without a doubt one of the top students and one of the top young people I've ever encountered. He's a true blessing and has been raised by an incredible family."

"Besides being intellectually and athletically gifted, he works hard to make sure everyone else around him is included in whatever he's doing at the time. He truly lives his faith, and that's a real gift. It's appropriate that he wants to be a heart surgeon, because he lives with heart and wants to touch other people's hearts and make a difference in their lives."

KUEHEFUHS MUSIC AWARDS GIVEN TO FOUR STUDENTS

Four students in Columbus diocesan schools have been awarded the annual Gertrude C. Kuehefuhs music scholarships.

Outstanding instrumental and choral music stu-

dents receive the \$250 awards to help them pay Catholic high school or college tuition. Two scholarships are awarded to high school seniors, and the other two go to eighth-graders.

Kuehefuhs was a longtime member of the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral choir and a music teacher at Ohio State University. The awards are made possible from a gift received from her estate.

HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC



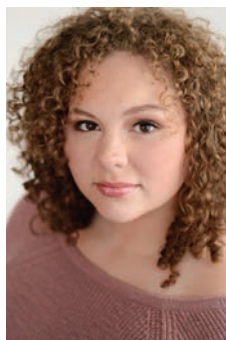
Mary Polemeni-McGovern

Polemeni-McGovern, a senior at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, was field commander of the school marching band this year and played piccolo for four years. She also played flute in the concert band and was a four-year member of the jazz band and string ensemble.

She has received superior ratings for vocal and piano solos at Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) events and has played piano since she was 6 years old. She also has been president of the school's senior class, Drama Club and Environmental Club, a member of Student Council and the National Honor Society, a student ambassador, and an altar server at Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

She plans to attend Ohio State University, with a major in astronomy and a minor in music.

HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC



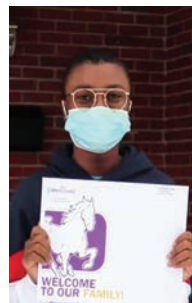
Grace Larger

Larger, a senior at Columbus Bishop Ready High School, has been a member of the school's choir and its drama program, frequently performing solos in a liturgical setting for school Masses and in secular settings for concerts and plays. She has acted in multiple lead roles in plays and earned most valuable performer and best actress honors.

She also has been involved in student government, the school activity fair and open houses, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Art Club, the tennis team, the diocesan Gospel Road summer missionary program, preschool child care, and Parent-Teacher Organization functions.

She plans to attend Ohio University, earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in music theater, and stay for a fifth year to earn a Master of Arts degree in theater administration.

ELEMENTARY INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC



Paa-Awuah Forjoe

Forjoe, an eighth-grade student at Columbus St. Anthony School, has been involved in the school's band activities since fifth grade as a member of grade-level bands and played trumpet for the marching band, concert band and jazz band at St. Francis DeSales High School as an eighth-grader.

He also has been a member of the St. Anthony School choir and an altar server at St. Anthony Church, and would have taken part in the DeSales school musical in the spring of 2020 had it not been canceled because of the pandemic.

He plans to attend DeSales in the fall.

ELEMENTARY CHORAL MUSIC



Maleah Ogden

Ogden, an eighth-grader at Reynoldsburg St. Pius X School, has been part of the school's choir programs since she was in third grade and has been a member of the diocesan honor choir. She was a Mass cantor in seventh grade and had a part in the school musical in sixth grade. She was set to appear in the musical for the 2020-21 school year, but because of the pandemic it was canceled one week before performances.

The pandemic also prevented musical activities this year, including in-person all-school Masses, so she has taken part in the school's online music class and taken guitar and voice lessons online. She also has been involved in cross country, track, swimming, soccer, basketball, Mathcounts, the Beta Club, altar serving, the parish junior high youth group, the Blaze Bible group for girls, and Catholic Youth Summer Camp.

She plans to attend Columbus Bishop Hartley High School in the fall.

ST. CHARLES STUDENT RECEIVES WARD SCHOLARSHIP

Spencer Green, a senior at Columbus St. Charles High School, has been awarded a \$2,500 scholarship from the Wendy O. Ward Foundation.

The award will cover part of his first-year college expenses, and he is eligible to apply for a \$1,000 renewal award for three subsequent years. The foundation pays the scholarship money directly to the institution the recipient plans to attend.

The scholarship is awarded to a graduate of a Columbus diocesan high school who has been involved in school, community and parish activities and has demonstrated academic achievement, particularly in language arts.

Green plans to attend the University

of Notre Dame and hopes to pursue a career in medicine. He is a member of the National Honor Society and was a National Merit Scholarship finalist, an Eagle Scout and a nominee for a U.S. presidential scholarship. He was the founder and coach of the school's Mathcounts team, a member of the In the Know team for four years and captain in his senior year, and received varsity letters in engineering, cross country and band. He is a recipient of the Honda-Ohio State University math medal and earned summa cum laude honors in the National Latin Examination.

Ward's husband, Chris, a St. Charles graduate, established the scholarship

in 2015 in memory of his wife, who died of breast cancer on May 18, 2012 after a 10-year career as a writer and public relations consultant.

Wendy Ward, a graduate of Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and of the University of Dayton, was grateful for her Catholic education and always said she counted herself lucky to have the opportunity to do something not all English majors can – to use her skills and write every day for her company, Constructive Communication, Inc., where she was vice president. Her husband and children, Caroline and Jack, hope the scholarship will help provide others with the same opportunity.



Spencer Green

BISHOP HERRMANN SERVICE AWARD WINNERS



JOHN CHANEY

School: Tuscarawas Central Catholic Parish: Dover St. Joseph
National Honor Society; Buckeye Boys State; Peter Clore Scholarship; Art Teynor Scholarship; Nicole Carpio Scholarship; Dover Food Pantry; Sharing With Appalachian People organization



SARAH DAVIS

School: Newark Catholic Parish: Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul
National Honor Society; Student Council; Key Club; Spanish Club; Kairos Retreat Team; Volleyball and Swim Teams; March for Life; National Catholic Youth Conference; Volunteer for Food Pantry and Mount Vernon Hot Meals; Focolare Service Group Retreats; Parish School of Religion; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; School Mentor Program; School Dinner Auction; Middle School Volleyball Camp



DANIEL DIXON

School: Columbus St. Charles Preparatory Parish: New Albany Church of the Resurrection
National Honor Society; Turkey Drive Organizer; Prayer Club; Peer Minister; Campus Ministry Core Team; Altar Server; Lector; Sacristan; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Gospel Road Volunteer; Vacation Bible School; Diocesan Youth Council.



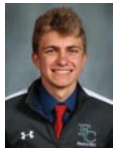
AVA HASSEL

School: Portsmouth Notre Dame Parish: Portsmouth Holy Redeemer
National Honor Society; 4-Year Class President; Key Club; Ministry Team; Football Homecoming Queen; Basketball and Volleyball Teams; Pep Club; Choir; Ohio Model United Nations



KEVIN HEIL

School: Columbus St. Francis DeSales Parish: Westerville St. Paul
Diocesan Youth Council; Student Council; New Albany Church of the Resurrection Youth Group Leader; School Evangelization Team; Kairos Retreat Leader; Fraternitas Bible Study Group; Student Ambassador; Spanish Club; Tennis and JV Soccer Teams



AIDAN JACKSON

School: Lancaster Fisher Catholic Parish: Lancaster St. Mary
National Honor Society; Irish 4 Life; Red Cross Blood Drive; Community Care Day; Thanksgiving Food Drive; Youth Group Leadership Team; Middle School Youth Group Leader; Altar Server; Melchizedek Project



JOELEA KELLEY

School: Columbus Bishop Hartley Parish: None listed
Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church Youth Group and Confirmation Retreats; Vacation Bible School; Catholic Youth Conference; Volunteer at Wesley Ridge Senior Living Center; Volunteer at Summer Care Program for Children with Special Needs



LANDON MARSH

School: Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans Parish: Zanesville St. Nicholas
Key Club; Animal Shelter Society; Christ's Table; Pep Club; Campus Ministry; Green Club; Zanesville Bishop Fenwick Preschool Helper; Spanish Club; Holiday Bazaar; American Red Cross; Genesis Hospital; Cambridge St. Benedict Church Auction; Quiz Team; Lector; Class Officer; Cambridge Performing Arts Center; Drama Club; House Council; School Ambassador; Mock Trial; I Believe Foundation; Soccer and Track Teams



COLE PETRILLA

School: Columbus Bishop Watterson Parish: Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare
Ohio State University Camp Recky Day Camp Counselor; Volunteer at The Forum Nursing Home; Clintonville Academy Graduation Volunteer; OSU Counselor Training Program; Columbus St. Agatha Church Cake Bingo



ELAINE SMITH

School: Columbus Bishop Ready Parish: Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona
National Honor Society; Student Council; Eagle Scout; Girl Scout Gold Award; School Ambassador; Country Blazers 4-H Club; Swim Team; YMCA Swimming; Living the Gospel Message Award; School Plays; Future Business Leaders of America; Cheerleader; Chinese Club; Beta Club; Campus Ministry; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Special Olympics Volunteer; Columbus St. Christopher Church Vacation Bible School; Ronald McDonald House Volunteer; Altar Server; Prom Fashion Show



DIEYNABA TALLA

School: Cristo Rey Columbus Parish: Not listed
Junior State of America; Columbus Metropolitan Library Volunteer; Nationwide Children's Hospital Columbus Marathon Volunteer; Writing Letters to the Elderly; School Perseverance Award

ALL-DIOCESAN ACADEMIC HONOR TEAM MEMBERS



ANDREW ANGELINI/Tuscarawas Central Catholic Parish: New Philadelphia Sacred Heart
National Honor Society; Freshman and Junior Class President; Golf, Baseball and JV Basketball Teams; Academic Challenge; Guitar Player at School Masses; Chess Club; Steven Triplett and Peter Clore Scholarships; Science Olympiad; Buckeye Boys State; Altar Server; Volunteer for Biddy Basketball, Community Golf Outings and Cross Country Meets and School Tours Attending University of Akron



CLAIRE DETTWILLER/Portsmouth Notre Dame Parish: Pond Creek Holy Trinity
National Honor Society; Heisman high School Scholarship Award; Key Club; Senior Class Vice President; Student Council; St. Francis Outreach Center Volunteer; Volleyball, Basketball and Softball Teams; Altar Server; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Liturgical Choir; Pep Club
Attending Ohio Dominican University



JOHN DIORIO/Columbus Bishop Watterson Parish: Columbus St. Timothy
National Honor Society; Riverside Methodist Hospital Power of One Award for Volunteer Work; Sister Ursula Marie Math Scholarship; School Spirit Award; Cross Country and Tennis Teams; In the Know Team; Senior Leadership Team; Student Ambassador; St. Joseph of Arimathea Society; Italian Club; Altar Server
Attending University of Notre Dame



NICHOLAS LUSKY/Columbus St. Charles Preparatory Parish: Westerville St. Paul
National Merit Scholarship Finalist; National Honor Society; National Latin Exam Summa Cum Laude; Clarkson Achievement Award; Cross Country and Bowling Teams; Engineering Team; Prayer Club; Campus Ministry Core Team; My Brother's Keeper Mentor Group; Serra Club Altar Server Award; Eagle Scout; Catholic Scout Camporee Staff; Diocesan Youth Council; Bishop Griffin Resource Center Volunteer; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Gospel Road Volunteer; Catholic Men's Conference Usher and Altar Server Attending University of Notre Dame



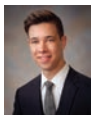
AUDREY MANNELLA/Lancaster Fisher Catholic Parish: Lancaster St. Mary
National Honor Society; 4-Year Class President; Miami (Ohio) University Excellence Scholarship; Interact Club; Friends of the Arts; Stage Manager, Director and Choreographer for School Musicals; Quiz Team; Choir; Soccer Team; Fairfield Medical Center Volunteer; Fairfield County Library Volunteer; People to People International Student Ambassador Attending Miami (Ohio) University



JOSHUA MERVA/Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans Parish: Cambridge Christ Our Light
National Honor Society; 4-Year Class Vice President; Student Ambassador; Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Program; Basketball and Soccer Teams; OHSAA Sportsmanship Award; Daughters of the American Revolution, Knights of Columbus and Better Business Bureau Scholarships; I Believe Leadership Program; Wake Forest Bioscience and Engineering Summer Program; Muskingum County Youth Foundation Winter Coat Drive; House Captain; Key Club; Green Club; Campus Ministry; Vacation Bible School; Southeastern Ohio Medical Center Volunteer; Soccer and Basketball Camp Volunteer; Basketball Christmas on the Hill
Attending Davidson College



MELISSA NYARKO/Cristo Rey Columbus Parish: Not listed
National Honor Society; Spanish National Honor Society; Book Club; Math Club; Photography Club; Yearbook; Social Justice Club; Science Club; Swimming Club; Junior Students of America; Imprem Food Pantry Volunteer; Mid-Ohio Food Collective Volunteer
Attending Northwestern University



MICHAEL OUWEELEEN/Newark Catholic Parish: Columbus St. Patrick
National Honor Society; Student Council President; Newark Rotary Club Scholarship; Air Force ROTC Scholarship; Swimming Team; Key Club; Latin Club; Kairos Retreat Leader; COVID Task Force; Mentor Program; St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry; Summer Gym Volunteer; St. Patrick Church Little Margaret of Castello Society; Licking County Park District Volunteer; Licking County Leadership Program; Student Ambassador; Red Cross Blood Drive Volunteer; Operation Feed Volunteer Attending University of Dayton



MARY TOKAR/Columbus Bishop Ready Parish: Columbus St. Mary Magdalene
National Honor Society; Student Council; Beta Club; Central Ohio Association of Catholic Educators, Thomas Aquinas, Louis and Matilda Palazzo, and Father William Huber Scholarships; Liturgical Choir; Tennis and Volleyball Teams; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Castle Crew; Columbus St. Christopher Church Youth Group; Gospel Road Program; Parish School of Religion; Altar Server; Columbus Marathon Volunteer; Vacation Bible School Attending Ohio State University



LEAH VANASDLE/Columbus St. Francis DeSales Parish: Westerville St. Paul
National Honor Society; Miami University Excellence Scholarship; National Merit Scholarship Finalist; Anatomy Club; Environmental Club; Concert Band; St. Vincent de Paul Society; Diocesan Friends of the Poor Committee; Altar Server; CHA Animal Shelter Volunteer; Joey Castrodale Memorial Golf Outing; Blanket Making for the Homeless; Easter and Halloween Parties for Inner-City Schoolchildren; Christmas Boxes for Poor Children; St. Lawrence Haven Sandwich Making; St. Vincent de Paul Society Walk for the Poor Attending Miami (Ohio) University



ANNA WOODS/Columbus Bishop Hartley Parish: Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton
National Merit Commended Scholar; National Honor Society; Ohio State University Maximus Scholarship; Catholic Foundation Louise Lairr Teaching Scholarship; Sister Margaret Hoffman Scholarship; School and House Captain; National 4-H Congress; Cross Country Team; School Musicals; Student Ambassador; Hawks Who Pray; Youth Group Leader; National Catholic Youth Congress; Pro-Life Club; Altar Server; Lector; Parish Choir; Cantor; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Mother Teresa Service Award; Vacation Bible School Attending Ohio State University

The *Class of 2021* truly embodies our school's mission to love God, seek truth, and live virtuously. They have made us proud over the past four years, and will continue to be people of *hope and light* in the future.



Congratulations to the 205 members of the Class of 2021!

Below are just a few of the colleges and universities these outstanding students will be attending next fall.

They have earned over

26 million
in scholarships and grants.



DeSales graduating class includes 26 valedictorians

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School will celebrate its baccalaureate Mass and 58th commencement ceremony at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 29 in Alumni Stadium.

Father Bill Faiella, CSC, of the St. Andre Inner Healing Ministry in Phoenix, a 1964 DeSales graduate, will preside at the Mass. The graduation ceremony will include speeches from two valedictorians and from school principal Dan Garrick.

The 205 members of the class have earned more than \$26 million in scholarships and will attend 58 colleges, with 98 percent of them going on to some form of higher education.

The class has 26 valedictorians. They are Vigo Bertolo, Lily Carlos, Erin Cooper, Michael Davis, Grace Ettenhofer, Noah Garrick, Kendall Gonya, Kevin Heil, Lauren Mitevski, Jamie Momoh, Grace Nordmoe, Amanda Pancake, Mary Polemeni-McGovern, Shelby Rice, Isaac Rush, Isaiah Rush, Evelyn Sarle, Mia Slanoc, Akeyla Stewart, Matthew Stewart, Nick Topacio, Andrew Tran, Leah Vanasdale, Lynn Vu, Allison Weiner and Haley Weis.

Recipients of service and leadership awards are: Father James M. Berendt Award, Mia Slanoc and Noah Garrick; Alumni Award, Mary Polemeni-McGovern, Isaiah Rush and Isaac Rush; Bishop Herrmann Service Award, Kevin Heil; Senior Spirit

Award, Grace Ettenhofer and Jamie Momoh; Mother Frances Cabrini Award, YeTong Gu and Zimeng (Fifi) Wan; Campus Ministry Award, Caitlyn Perito and Nathan Granata.

Members of the Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School Class of 2021 are:

Obed Achirem, Jude Agyapong, CJ Jo Albrycht, Daniel Arciniega, Manuela Asamoah, Ethan Ballard, Anthony Bangura, Nathan Barber, Thomas Bateman, John Joseph Baughman-Becerra, Nicholas Bedzyk, Haley Bentley, Vigo Bertolo, Skyla Blumenscheid, Grace Bogue, Jalesha Bouyer, Avery Boyd, Evelyn Brainard, Kylie Cahill, Billy Cain IV, Breanna Callahan, Aiden Cannon, Lily Carlos, Ni'Yirah Carter and Carmen Catubig.

Jayden Chansady, Andrew Chapman Jr., Matteo Cipriani, Lauren Clayton, Afidiatu Conteh, Erin Cooper, Mackenzie Cooper, Faith Corn, Nicole S Corn, Dylan Craig, Alexander Cross, Carmela Cua, Gibran Cuevas, Michael Davis, Ikem Derden, Seleno Dominguez, Jacob Durant, Ethan Dvorak, Barfour Dwomo, Sydney Eader, Grace Ettenhofer, Lariah Evans, James Forrest, Devin Foster and Kaeden Fox.

Noah Gales, Noah Garrick, Eyuel Gebregziabher, Nico Genovesi, Sophia Gersper, Grant Gibboney, Molly Goldsmith, Kendall

Gonya, Natalia Gonzalez, Nathan Granata, Alan Graver, Juliana Green, Yetong Gu, Delaney Harmon, Jackson Hartman, William Hast, Alexander Hatcher, Kevin Heil, Francisco Hernandez-Gonzalez, Crystal Huitron-Vasquez, Connor Huzicka, Gilbert Ibarra, Jahaira Ibarra, Jonathan Ibarra and Robert Imlay.

Zofia Jagerova, Michael James, Bridget Javitch, Cara Jewett, Dennis Jimenez-Noyola, Alexis Johnson, Henoke Johnson, Jordan Johnson, Kaleb Johnson, Jordan Juarez, Arman Karimy, Stefanie Karras, Andrew Keglewitsch, Nicholas Kennedy, Owen Kirk, Casey Koller, Kelvin Konadu, Kahleb Lang, Odell Langston IV, Jesse Lartey, Jack Laugherty, John Keagan Lilienthal, Tania Linares-Escobar, Alex Lofton and Isabella Lomeo.

Andre Long, Drew Lopez-Smith, Rachel Maas, Juliana Macias, Gabriella Mahaffey, Andrew Mahle, Austin Mann, Oscar Marquez-Trejo, Joshua Martin-Hayden, Estefany Martinez-Morales, Maura Mascarin, Brianna Matheny, Ryan McCann, Mina McGee, Cassidy McGlone, Melina McSweeney, Nicholas Meek, Lauren Mitevski, Tara Mnich, Jamie Momoh, Adriana Moon, Corey Moriarty, Madelyn Nagel, Arantxa Nava-Pino and Zane Neuhardt.

Erik Nguyen, John Nguyen, Tania Nonato, Grace Nordmoe, Benjamin

Ohene, Godlove Osei, Emmanuela Otu-Danquah, Amanda Pancake, Hannah Pekarck, Caitlyn Perito, Kole Perrine, Gabriel Pierce, Mary Polemeni-McGovern, Zachary Quinlan, Quintell Quinn, Jasmine Ramirez, Ella Reither, Shelby Rice, Morgan Rieser, Bryan Ritzler, Michael Roach, Nadia Robinson, Mattea Romanelli, Isaac Rush and Isaiah Rush.

Grace Sabo, Raul Sanchez, Evelyn Louise Sarle, Jacob Sarr, Celia Saucedo, Jose Saucedo-Ortiz, Isabelle Sauer, Nicholas Schetter, Emma Schrank, Katherine Schultz, Nicole Schumacher, Leo Sears, Michael Shelton, Makayla Shuey, Megan Shuey, Mia Slanoc, Jazlyn Smith, Carolina Soto-Garcia, Luis Soto-Garcia, Romiaun Speed, Brooke Stablein, Samantha Stack, Michael Steed, Maya Steiger, Akeyla Stewart and Matthew Stewart.

Antonio Swartz, Marco Tapia, David Tecante, Monserrat Tlahuel-Flores, Nick-Lorenz Topacio, Norea'l Townsend, Andrew Tran, Nicholas Trostel, Kylie Van Fossen, Leah Vanasdale, Jason Velazquez II, Andrew Viola, Lynn Vu, Zimeng "Fifi" Wan, Alexis Ware, Saje Washington, Desmond Watson, McKenna Weber, Gabriel Weikert, Allison Weiner, Haley Weis, Aidan Williams, Antonio Williams, Gracey Wilson, Alexander Witter, Mildred Yawe, Rosemarie Zarcone and Amelia Zaremba.

DeSales Merit Scholar



Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School senior Leah Vanasdale has advanced to finalist standing in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program, a distinction that places her in a group of more than 15,000 students representing less than one percent of U.S. high school graduating seniors. Through this program, she also received a \$4,000 company scholarship from the Leidos information technology company. *Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School*

A gift from the heart



For the past four years, seniors Isaac and Isaiah Rush, under the guidance of Ski Club adviser Val Sharritts and assistant adviser Chris Brimmer, volunteered to assist the Adaptive Sports Connection (ASC) at Snow Trails. The ASC offers skiing and snowboarding to those who need adaptations to participate in snow sports, including vests to alert people of a blind skier, a mono ski for wheelchair bound people as well as ways to help teach disabled people of all ages how to ski with one leg. Four years ago, the Rush brothers established a goal of donating \$1,000 to ASC, and through their persistence coupled with Sharritts augmenting their efforts with donations from her Central Ohio Motorcycle group, they were successful in raising \$1,000. On Saturday, Feb. 13, they presented the ASC with the \$1,000, which was more than just a monetary donation but was a gift from the heart. *Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales*

Congratulations St. Charles Preparatory School Class of 2021

Cole C. Abbott
Alexander A. Alexandrov
Benjamin J. Auletta
Jackson D. Baird
Nicholas C. Bastaja
Chase F. Bateman
Cooper J. Beggs
Raymond M. Benjamin
Ryan M. Benjamin
Christopher E. Benson
Joshua M. Birtcher
Luke J. Blubaugh
Patrick W. Booker
William J. Borchers
Colin O. Brame
Carter M. Bryant
Keller A. Bueneman
Cade R. Campbell
Samuel A. Carey
John Paul B. Carson
John P. Cassanos
Ethan M. Clark
Thomas F. Cloran
Atticus J. Colucy
George F. Cottrill
Andrew K. Curtin
Drew A. DeShetler
Reid A. Dewez
Daniel P. Dixon
Dominic M. Doukakis
Ian A. Eberts
William S. Elsrod
Nicholas D. Fallieras
Nathaniel D. Fanning

James M. Foos
Benjamin J. Franz
Jaideep R. Gaddam
Quinn M. Gelhaus
Yohanes E. Getahun
Spencer W. Green
Austin D. Grzybicki
Luke A. Gutman
Kian E. Hagnazari
Cole T. Hankinson
Colin D. Hayter
Alexander C. Herzberg
Ambrose J. Heyer
Andrew J. Homon
Brian B. Huber
John D. Hummel
Justin D. Imber
Alex J. Jimenez
Colin J. Johnson
Owen A. Karas
Jack H. Klingler
Matthew Z. Kravitz
Noah D. Kurtz
Erik K. Lang
Thomas J. Lauber
Ryan E. Lewis
Jack B. Lindemann
Mitchell H. List
Jacob P. Lowis
Nicholas J. Lusky
Myles K. Macklin
Daniel C. Marino
John P. Martin

Timothy J. Martin
Oscar S. Moreno
Quinn P. Matteson
Henry P. Mauntel
Colin P. McClain
Zach R. McClimon
Blake T. McDonald
Leule M. Mesfin
Alexander J. Michalec
Peter M. Minneci
Angus B. Moore
Harrison S. Mounts
Garrett J. Nerone
Sean A. Noonan
Samuel V. Nori
Brennan R. O'Brien
Jack T. O'Brien
Teague J. O'Brien
Thomas F. O'Reilly, Jr.
Diego F. Pitones
Nathanael E. Polinsky
Dominic G. Porter
Liam T. Pratt
John R. Prophater
John Protz
Nicholas P. Putz
Liam M. Quinlan
Lukas G. Rakowsky
Donnie L. Richardson
Joseph Y. Roberts
Donovan J. Roda
Blake E. Roller
William P. Ruess

Jacob D. Ryan
Sean P. Ryan
Collin J. Sattler
Aaron T. Schwirian
Ethan J. Seewald
Brant K. Shepherd
Abel R. Shete
Braeden C. Singleton
Alexander L. Smith
Andrew J. Somodi
Samuel G. Spalding
Nathan A. Stevenson
Brodie P. Sullivan
Maximilian S. Taylor
Emanuel H. Tewolde
Joshua M. Thomas
Joel P. Tobler
Tommy A. Trinh
Ryan K. Utt
Andrew B. Van Buren
Dean V. Vitale
Matthew E. Voegele
Christian A. Walter
Brayden T. West
Brady D. Westin
Bennett J. Willson
Erik M. Witherspoon
Maximus F. Wood
Jacob B. Woodruff
William B. Wordsworth
Reece S. Yakubov
Isaiah P. Yarngo
Jason D. Zehala
Liam H. Zieg



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St. Charles students awarded full college scholarships

Two Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School seniors have been awarded scholarships that will cover the full cost of an education at the institutions they plan to attend.

Colin Brame has been selected as an Eminence Scholar at Ohio State University, where he plans to major in biomedical science and eventually pursue an MD-PhD degree. Nicholas Lusky was awarded a Glenna R. Joyce Scholarship to attend the University of Notre Dame, where he will study engineering.

The Eminence Scholarship is considered OSU's most prestigious merit scholarship. It covers the full cost of attendance at Ohio State for eight semesters of full-time enrollment, including the cost of room and board, a book allowance and miscellaneous expenses, plus an enrichment grant valued at as much as \$3,000, accessible after the first year of successful study.

Established in 1961, the Joyce Trust provides full four-year scholarships



Colin Brame

to Notre Dame and Ohio State for an equal number of students with financial need from Franklin County and nearby counties.

Brame is the photography editor



Nicholas Lusky

and editor-in-chief of St. Charles' yearbook, is captain of the engineering and Ultimate Frisbee teams and is the Class of 2021's representative to the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership

Summit.

Last summer, he completed a research internship in Ohio State's experimental hematology laboratory. Additionally, he tutors students in Latin and English through the school's National Honor Society and My Brother's Keeper mentoring programs and is a volunteer at the Westerville Area Resource Ministry.

Lusky is a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist and a member of the cross country, bowling and engineering teams, as well as the Prayer Club and the National Honor Society. He tutored students at St. Mary School in Columbus' German Village neighborhood through My Brother's Keeper and regularly volunteers at the Bishop Griffin Resource Center in Columbus.

He is an altar server and extraordinary minister of the Eucharist at Westerville St. Paul Church, where he is a member of the leadership team for the youth group. He is also a member of the Diocesan Youth Council and is an Eagle Scout.

St. Charles to graduate 134 seniors

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School will present diplomas to 134 members of the Class of 2021 during commencement ceremonies on Friday, May 28 in the Robert C. Walter Student Commons. Commencement will be preceded by a baccalaureate program at 6:30 p.m. on the same date, also in the Commons, with comments and a blessing by James Lower, the school's principal.

The school is continuing its tradition of not naming a valedictorian or salutatorian and not having a guest speaker for commencement.

Fourteen members of the class were National Merit Scholarship finalists, semifinalists or commended scholars. Finalists are Colin Brame, Samuel Carey, Spencer Green and Nicholas Lusky. Cole Hankinson is a semifinalist. Commended scholars are Keller Bueneman, John Cassanos, Brian Huber, Mitchell List, Peter Minneci, Angus Moore, Nathan Stevenson, Andrew Van Buren and Reece Yakubov.

Colin Brame received an Ohio State University Eminence Scholarship, covering four years of tuition, room and board, textbooks and miscellaneous expenses. Nicholas Lusky was awarded a full four-year Glenna R. Joyce Scholarship to the University of Notre Dame.

Tommy Trinh was selected as the

inaugural recipient of the school's S.J. Dilenschneider Award for making a meaningful and positive impact on the St. Charles community. The award includes a \$10,000 honorarium.

Nicholas Lusky was chosen as the school's representative on the diocesan All-Academic honor team. Daniel Dixon received the Bishop Edward Herrmann service award and scholarship. Cooper Beggs and Ryan Lewis were representatives to Buckeye Boys State. The class has eight Eagle Scouts: Cooper Beggs, Andrew DeShetler, Spencer Green, Cole Hankinson, Nicholas Lusky, Garrett Nerone, Brennan O'Brien and Joel Tobler.

The class was awarded \$1.47 million in first-year college scholarships for an average of \$10,983 per senior. Class members were offered scholarships totaling more than \$26 million. Three class members will be attending college in the United Kingdom – one each at Northumbria University in Newcastle, England; Hult International Business School in London; and Cardiff Metropolitan University in Wales.

Members of the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School Class of 2021 are: Cole C. Abbott, Alexander A. Alexandrov, Benjamin J. Auletta, Jackson D. Baird, Nicholas C. Bastaja, Chase F. Bateman, Cooper J.

Beggs, Raymond M. Benjamin, Ryan M. Benjamin, Christopher E. Benson, Joshua M. Birtcher, Luke J. Blubaugh, Patrick W. Booker, William J. Borchers, Colin O. Brame, Carter M. Bryant, Keller A. Bueneman, Cade R. Campbell, Samuel A. Carey and John Paul B. Carson.

John P. Cassanos, Ethan M. Clark, Thomas F. Cloran, Atticus J. Colucy, George F. Cottrill, Andrew K. Curtin, Drew A. DeShetler, Reid A. Dewez, Daniel P. Dixon, Dominic M. Doukakis, Ian A. Eberts, William S. Elserod, Nicholas D. Fallieras, Nathaniel D. Fanning, James M. Foos, Benjamin J. Franz, Jaideep R. Gaddam, Quinn M. Gelhaus, Yohanes E. Getahun, Spencer W. Green and Austin D. Grzybicki.

Luke A. Gutman, Kian E. Haghazari, Cole T. Hankinson, Colin D. Hayter, Alexander C. Herzberg, Ambrose J. Heyer, Andrew J. Homon, Brian B. Huber, John D. Hummel, Justin D. Imber, Alex J. Jimenez, Colin J. Johnson, Owen A. Karas, Jack H. Klingler, Matthew Z. Kravitz, Noah D. Kurtz, Erik K. Lang, Thomas J. Lauber, Ryan E. Lewis and Jack B. Lindemann.

Mitchell H. List, Jacob P. Lowis, Nicholas J. Lusky, Myles K. Macklin, Daniel C. Marino, John P. Martin, Timothy J. Martin, Oscar S. Moreno, Quinn P. Matteson, Henry P. Mauntel,

Colin P. McClain, Zach R. McClimon, Blake T. McDonald, Leule M. Mesfin, Alexander J. Michalec, Peter M. Minneci, Angus B. Moore, Harrison S. Mounts, Garrett J. Nerone and Sean A. Noonan.

Samuel V. Nori, Brennan R. O'Brien, Jack T. O'Brien, Teague J. O'Brien, Thomas F. O'Reilly Jr., Diego F. Pitones, Nathanael E. Polinsky, Dominic G. Porter, Liam T. Pratt, John R. Prophater, John Protz, Nicholas P. Putz, Liam M. Quinlan, Lukas G. Rakowsky, Donnie L. Richardson, Joseph Y. Roberts, Donovan J. Roda, Blake E. Roller, William P. Rues and Jacob D. Ryan.

Sean P. Ryan, Collin J. Sattler, Aaron T. Schwirian, Ethan J. Seewald, Brant K. Shepherd, Abel R. Shete, Braeden C. Singleton, Alexander L. Smith, Andrew J. Somodi, Samuel G. Spalding, Nathan A. Stevenson, Brodie P. Sullivan, Maximilian S. Taylor, Emanuel H. Towolde, Joshua M. Thomas, Joel P. Tobler and Tommy A. Trinh.

Ryan K. Utt, Andrew B. Van Buren, Dean V. Vitale, Matthew E. Voegelé, Christian A. Walter, Brayden T. West, Brady D. Westin, Bennett J. Willson, Erik M. Witherspoon, Maximus F. Wood, Jacob B. Woodruff, William B. Wordsworth, Reece S. Yakubov, Isaiah P. Yarngo, Jason D. Zehala and Liam H. Zieg.



congratulations

graduates

class of 2021



BISHOP
HARTLEY

Bishop Hartley graduating 176 students

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School will conduct its 61st commencement exercises on Saturday, May 29 at the school's Jack Ryan Field, with a baccalaureate Mass at 9 a.m., followed immediately by the graduation ceremony, where diplomas will be awarded to 176 students. Admission will be by ticket only.

The announcement of the valedictorian, salutatorian and other major award winners will be made on Friday, May 21. Members of the class will be attending 55 colleges, with 98 percent of them going on to higher education.

Class members who will be receiving full scholarships are Matthew Franz (Lilly Scholar, Wabash College), Pailyn Groene (Glenna R. Joyce Scholarship, University of Notre Dame), Megan Luallen (Founder's Scholarship, Walsh University), Declan O'Brien (Trustee STEM Scholarship, Defiance College) and Saron Weldemicael (Washington University, St. Louis).

Dominic Ratliff and Luke Vautour will be attending the Pontifical Col-

lege Josephinum.

Members of the Columbus Bishop Hartley Class of 2021 are:

Caitlin Abel, Sunny Abraha, Zachary Adams, Bethlehem Ademe, Johan Adjomo Mvoa, Magdalene Agra, Audrey Alloto, Mesele Asefa, Blessing Asiedu, Saïdy Avila-Leon, Daria Balkus, Tyrese Barker, Nathan Bentivegna, Caroline Berger, Emma Bergman, Braden Blanchard, Jady Bonner, Jessica Botello, Gabriela Bott, Travis Bowie, Trevor Bowie, Luke Brandewie, James Brown III, Agnes Bryan and Amanda Bullard.

Alyssa Carfagna, Caroline Carmon, Ireland Castle, Emily Casto, Mason Casto, Raul Chaires Ramirez, Nahom Chegen, Nickolaus Chovan, Lyra Cohen-Denson, James Crenshaw, Myrka Cruz, Christina Daniel, Theophilus Daniel, Shania Davis, Nicole Deline, Tiffany Delius, Mia DeSimone, Dejon Donnell, Aubrey Dowdy, Sone Eku-kole-Sone, Elijah English, Matthew Franz, Angel Garcia, Eayuel Gebrtsadik and Benjamin Gegorski.

Paige Gibson, Naomi Gitahi, Madison Glass, Gia Green, Camaren Grif-

fith, Pailyn Groene, Andrew Grosko, Paige Gunther, Yohannes Haile, Brody Halenar, Makaela Hall, Emily Hattey, Ryan Hawk, Philip Hemphill III, Jorja Hensley, Jermaine Henson Jr., Katherine Heuser, De'Andre Hodge, Anne Hofherr, John Hooker, Victoria Hopkins, Alyssa Horsford, Ania Horton, Noah Houchins and Cody Ihm.

Janelle Ingraham Dwyer, Kamryn Johnson, Kenneth Johnson, Joelea Kelley, Maria Kelley, Sumo Kesselly, Elizabeth Kessler, Nahom Kidanemariam, Jacqueline Kirkland, Crystal Kissi, Elizabeth Kitsmiller, Max Kohl, Kamryn Kortokrax, Samuel LeMay, Morgan Liden, Lily Lindemann, Jaiden Link, Lorena Lopez, Megan Luallen, Melanie Magin, Deron Maina, Sebastian Mariscal-Marquez, Isabella Martin, Gabriel Matias Bello and Maxwell Mauer.

Jade Mayo, Jessica McBride, Elizabeth McClung, Conor McJoynt-Griffith, David Menches, Dorielle Mickle, Simeon Miles, Jared Miller, William Miller, Emily Moore, Taylor Motley, Dominic Motter, Haymanot Negatu, Leo Noll, Akaolisa Nwokolo,

Declan O'Brien, Piper Ogden, Claire Oliver, Sydney Onega, Marcelis Parker, Dominic Passero, Charlee Pickens, Emma Powell, Bryn Power and Colton Ramsey.

Dominic Ratliff, Samuel Ray, Dominic Rees, Julia Reinker, Annalise Reis, Emily Relli-Dempsey, James Robinson, Nathaniel Rolwing, Adrian Rooks, Chay Rossing, Isabela Russo, Reiley Salmons, John Sands, Emily Sanzone, Hannah Sauer, Shawn Saunders, Maleah Scott, Riley Sheehan, Sidney Sheridan, Emma Simone, Robert Sisson, Jacob Skelly, Caitlin Smith, Madelyn Smith and Nicholas Stassen, Kason Sunderland, Serenity Swafford, Colleen Sweeney, Zac Swinney, Makai Tarpley, Heromen Teshome, Anthony Thivener Jr., Cameron Thomas, Nicolas Thomas, Trinity Thompson, Jack Tomlinson, Adrian Tucker, Luke Vautour, Jamaal Wairegi, Amari Wallace, Saron Weldemicael, Imani Williams, Milayna Williams, Rayjohnny Williams, Annamarie Wills, Grace Wolfinger, Tyler Wood, Anna Woods, Kalee Young and Liam Zacovic.

HARTLEY, continued from Page 5

"God works in every stage of your life and every age. You're never too young to become a vessel because, like, that's why we're created."

Young adults such as Ogden and Skelly never anticipate dealing with severe health challenges, and that certainly was the case with Skelly.

As a junior in fall 2019, he was named first-team All-Central District in Division III as an offensive lineman and received a number of college scholarship offers. The multi-sport athlete was looking forward to baseball season last spring when COVID-19 hit, but at about the same time that high school spring sports were officially cancelled in April, Skelly began losing his appetite and noticed bruising.

A few weeks later, he was diagnosed with leukemia. Skelly, who had lost 25 pounds, began a treatment regimen that put him in and out of Nationwide Children's Hospital for the next eight months and included 24-hour sessions of chemotherapy.

That meant sitting out his final year of high school football, which was especially tough on him "knowing that I couldn't go out there and play with my boys, but I had a bigger battle to fight," Skelly said.

"Not being able to play football or

summer baseball (in 2020) really impacted me a lot," Skelly said. "Sports is a big, big portion of my life, and having it taken away kind of sucked."

"It was really devastating for all of us to watch what Jake was going through missing his senior year of football. We know how important it is to him," Bishop Hartley football coach Brad Burchfield said. "He is such a fantastic young man. It was difficult not having him around every day, not only as a player but as a leader of our team."

Bishop Hartley friends and teammates helped him stay connected. On Thursdays during the season when the seniors take a walk around the field, fellow offensive lineman Tony Thivener would FaceTime him, and they would talk.

Skelly attended several games last fall and watched the others on livestream.

"There was this point in time where I was in the hospital, and they were trying to check my heart rate, and then my heart rate got real high because I was kind of into the game too much," he said.

This spring, Skelly reached maintenance mode in his recovery, allowing him to return to baseball. He said he's feeling closer to normal now physi-

cally "after starting out really rough. Running was the hardest part, honestly."

He regained the weight he lost last year and even added 10 pounds.

First-year Bishop Hartley baseball coach Tim Heinmiller feels blessed to have Skelly back on the field. As of mid-May, the senior was batting .308 with a .500 on-base percentage, two home runs and 14 RBI while batting fourth in the lineup and playing first base. His teammates voted him a captain.

"Coming into the off-season, I wasn't sure how much he would be able to play," Heinmiller said. "When we started winter hitting, he had just been cleared and was working his way back into shape. There were some tough days where he just felt that he wasn't going to get back to what he had been, but he kept working and has had a successful season."

"From what I have seen, the process has altered his perspective on the season and has caused him to be more focused and driven to maximize his opportunities. He has always been a great leader, and that part never changed."

Faith and family at home and at Bishop Hartley have played a big role

in Skelly's recovery.

"Once I got back into school, everything just went back to normal," Skelly said. "I felt like no one treated me differently. No one treated me as 'Oh, this kid had cancer.' It's back to normal, like the Jake I was before."

"But it really has impacted me a lot. I've always had this thought that God gives the toughest challenges to the strongest people, and I kind of kept that mindset throughout this."

"My family, they've been there every day. Every night. They've stayed up with me whenever I needed them. I'd say, 'Mom, I need this,' and she'd be right there. My dad would come flying up the stairs after work if needed him to come and help me out."

This fall, Skelly will be back on the football field at Ohio University, whose coaches never wavered on their scholarship commitment after the diagnosis.

"They've been there since the day they found out," he said. "My dad gave (offensive line coach Allen Rudolph) a phone call after I was diagnosed. And he's like, 'Does this change anything for Jake?' And he (Rudolph) said, 'No, he's committed to us, we're committed to him.'"

Watterson seniors earn \$22.5 million for college

The commencement ceremony for the 219 members of the Columbus Bishop Watterson High School Class of 2021 will take place at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 29 in the school gymnasium. Bishop Robert Brennan will be the celebrant for a baccalaureate Mass at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 27 in the gymnasium.

Both events will be livestreamed. Each senior can have two guests in attendance. Guests will be seated distanced from other parties, and masks must be worn at all times by all who attend.

The class has 32 valedictorians, each of whom had a grade-point average of 4.0 or better and 12 credits of honors, Advanced Placement or College Credit Plus courses. They are Alex Altier, Samantha Badertscher, Aubrey Bower, Brooklyn Brush, Alexander Casper, Erin Connors, Fionnuala Criswell-Carder, Emily Davidson, John DiOrio, Olivia Frisone, Anthony Fultz, Caroline Goodlive, Joseph Haemmerle, Ellen Hagerty, Katelyn Hunter, Grace Jenkins, Sydney Johnson, Anna Kessler, Morgan Kuehl, Clare Mackin, Samantha Matthews, Anne McGraw, Madelyn

Moore, Grace Orians, Isabella Roscoe, Spencer Ruff, Audrey Schroeder, Catherine Supron, Magdalen Thieken, Emily Vais, Ashley Ward and Tessa Whittaker.

Service cord recipients are Andrew Bettendorf, Helen Ciesinski, Erin Connors, Kendall Eagle, Charlotte Elliott, Olivia Frisone, Clare Galuzny, William Garey, Natalie-Soleil Geoffrion, Jordan Graf, Elisabeth Hanson, Rachel Hare, Julie Jacko, Charles Kuypers, Margo Lawson, Anne McGraw, Meghan Means, Madelyn Moore, Angelo O'Dorisio, Vincenza Paradiso, Krishna Patel, Adam Pavliga, Cole Petrilla, Sylvia Rinderle, Anna Sears, John Sullivan, Sydney Taylor, Sally Walling, Tessa Whittaker and Tyler Young.

Class members were accepted at 153 colleges and will attend 61 of them. They earned more than \$22.5 million in college scholarships and performed more than 17,000 service hours, with 91 class members earning diplomas with honors, 84 receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence and 130 academic medals being presented by subject to students who had an A average in that subject for all

four of their years at the school.

Members of the Columbus Bishop Watterson High School Class of 2021 are:

Alex Christopher Altier, Victoria Grace Alves, Henry Jerrod Anderson, Anne-Marie Arnold, Hannah Elaine Ashmore, Santino Luciano Auddino, Kervin Eugene Azor, Samantha Nina Badertscher, Molly Catherine Balyeat, Adam Stewart Benadum, Nicholas Armand Bermudez, Andrew Joseph Bettendorf, Lucy Mae Bishop, Carson Allan Blank, Matthew Benjamin Blank, Henry Paul Blevins, Davis Edward Boone, Aubrey Reese Bower, Victoria Claire Bradford, Ava Florence Brady, Sinéad Veronica Brady, Sydney Michaela Brick, Brooklyn Elizabeth Brush, Alexander Nicholas Casper and Mallory Kate Chizek.

Helen Marie Ciesinski, Nicklaus Andrew Colombo, Erin Kathleen Connors, Dominic Vincent Contini, Fionnuala Ann Criswell-Carder, Averie Gabriella Cunningham, David Randall Dana, Emily Marie Davidson, Daniel S. Davis, Noelani Tremmelle Davis, Anthony Salvatore DiNovo, John Douglas DiOrio, Simon Michael DiSabato, Maxwell John

Dixon, Sarah Grace Downing, Caroline Blu Dunham, Kendall Charlotte Eagle, Charlotte Lee Elliott, Kayla Marie Farley, Carrie Josephine Finfrock, Kathryn Christine Finfrock, Kristin Grace Fisher, Julia Brianne Flanagan, Evelyn Hanson Frank and Olivia Grace Frisone, Anthony Stephen Fultz, Natalie Anne Funge, Clare Marie Galuzny, William Bradford Garey, Victoria Jean Gaughan, Nicholas Ronald Geelan, Natalie-Soleil Geoffrion, Owen Matthew Gibson, Caroline Elizabeth Goodlive, Hallie Elizabeth Goodman, Emiley Jayne Gottwald, Jordan Elizabeth Graf, Austin Xavier Gray, Noah Michael Grayem, Gina Frances Grden, Gavin Douglas Greene, Clara Elizabeth Greenwald, Maxwell Samuel Greenwald, Colleen Elizabeth Greve, Danielle Ellen Grim, Noah Matthew Gruver, Joseph Murphy Haemmerle, Ellen Carol Hagerty, Brian Thomas Hall and Elisabeth Paige Hanson.

Rachel Elizabeth Hare, John Patrick Hazzard, Leah Anne Heil, Sophia Casey Higgins, Emma Jane Hildebrand, Lillian Elizabeth Hills, Joseph Wal-

See WATTERSON, Page 21



BISHOP WATTERSON HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations
CLASS OF 2021!

"The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you!
The Lord look upon you and give you peace!"

--Numbers 6:24-26

Cristo Rey again sending all graduates to college

Cristo Rey Columbus High School will award diplomas to 72 members of its graduating class at commencement ceremonies at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 12 in Ohio State University's Mershon Auditorium.

The Class of 2021 continued the school's record of having every graduate during its five years of existence accepted to at least one college or university. Class members are attending at least 24 different colleges. They earned more than \$1.4 million in scholarship funds. Melissa Yankson Nyarko is the valedictorian and

Zoe Haithcock and Sanaa Kamau are co-salutatorians.

Members of the Cristo Rey Columbus High School Class of 2021 are:

Ronald Adams, Priscilla Addico, Venolia Adjei, Elizabeth Aguilar, Samuel Alexander, Angelina Balsler, Breanna Blankson, Jeffery Blankson, Andrew Bouniangsy, Alaishya Butler, Teana Campa Montoya, Leslie Chagala Orduna, Stephanie Chalco, Nehemiah Clayton, Shade' Coleman, Mohamed Conteh, Stephen Cotton, Tyrah Cowans, Ruth Desrosiers, Hadja Diouf, Gianna Federico, Tylan

Floyd, Iyanna Fortson and Veronica Frimpong.

Emmanuel Frimpong, Diana Garcia Solis, Gisselle Guerra, Zoe' Haithcock, Gabriel Hernandez, Isabella Jeronimo Lemus, Ebony Jewett, Sanaa Kamau, Fatoumata Kante, Kynadal Ladd, Nathan Majeed. Breyana Mitchell, Jayshawn Mitchell-Jones, Rubicela Monroy, Alondra Montoya, Jose Mora, Luz Morales Hernandez, Mattea Morris, Fatima Murcia Espindola, Perla Ochoa Ibanez, Mellisa Otoo, Carlos Patterson, Fernando Pedroza Cortes and Kevin Pena Rodri-

guez.

Yasmin Phinazee, Angel Porcayo-Rodriguez, Anthony Puccetti, Esther Quaye, Fernando Quintana Hernandez, Paige Raison, Megumi Reategui, Danna Paola Rendon, Gabriela Reyes Martinez, Shanice Riggin, Jacy Rios, Emmanuel Sekyere, Maleah Shaffer, Daniel Simumba, Dieynaba Talla, London Thompson, Caleb Thomson, Jesus Torres, Oscar Vargas-Ramirez, Akpedje Vossah, Tyesha Western, Cierra Williams, Tyler Williams and Melissa Yankson Nyarko.

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ter Hite, Maithy Ho, Claire Patricia Hohlefeld, Jacob Robert Hoying, Zoe Danielle Hummer, Katelyn Olivia Hunter, Lucas Chester Iceman, Samuel Ernest Intihar, Nicholas Arran Isabelle, Julie Anne Jacko, Joshua David Jaminet, Anna Hope Jannot, Grace Elizabeth Jenkins, Patrick Andrew Jesse, Matthew Todd Johnson, Sydney Marie Johnson, Olyvia Frances Kennedy, Anna Elizabeth Kessler and Mary Kate Kirkpatrick.

Lindsey Elizabeth Kish, Samuel James Koehler, Bridget Elizabeth Korn, Emily Christine Kovalchin, Elizabeth Ann Kozak, Breanna Lorena Kuderca, Morgan Faith Kuehl, Faith Ann-Elizabeth Kurtz, Charles Matthew Kuypers, Elena June Lashaw, Margo Stalter Lawson, Jack Michael Macbeth, Clare Kerrigan Mackin, Nicholas Joseph Malagrec, John Spencer Mandzak, Sophia Christine Mangold, Nicholas Stanley Marszal, Samantha Lynn Matthews, Chloe Louise Matuska, Alexandra Josephine Maziarz, Jacob Francis Maziarz, Charles John McAdow, Gabriel Joseph McCann, Max Andrew McCann and Anne Catherine McGraw.

Kilyn Marie McGuff, Jamie Marie McGuire, Meghan Christine Means, Tanner Lee-Alan Mercer, Colin Edward Meyer, Anthony Raymond Michalski, Abigail Francesca Moessner, Madelyn Clare Moore, Brynn Marie Mulligan, Elizabeth Anne Murphy, Emma Thi-Marie Murphy, Marshall Fife Musuraca, Mitchell Scott Musuraca, Lauren Mary Neutzling, Meily Nguyen, Cameron Michael Nickleson, Matthew Joseph Niese, Arden Olivia Noblitt, William Robert Nolf, Madalyn Worner O'Brien, Angelo Thomas O'Dorisio, Cailin Anne O'Reilly, Grace Ann Orians, William Joseph Kelly Ott and Vincenza Filomena Paradiso.

Zacarias Eduardo Passino, Krishna Anuj Patel, Adam Richard Pavliga, Caroline Sue Peck, Elise Ann Peters, Cole William Petrilla, Madalyn Grace Phillips, Madison Elaine Pickett, Alexandra Leigh Picolo, Bryndley Shea Pitman, Megan Nicole Powers, Yahir T. Quezada, Claire Elizabeth Rector, Ethan David Redelberger, Rachel Anna Reuter, Olivia Rose Riedinger, Abigayle Kathleen Rieser, Maeve Lorelei Rieser, Sylvia Grace Rinderle, Colin Bonifacio Robinson, Isabella Grace Roscoe, Christina Ellen Rose, Anne Marie Ruess, Spencer John Ruff and Ethan Christopher Russell.

Maria Pauline Sanfillipo, Ryan David Schamer, Jeffrey Caleb Schloss, Logan A. Schnurr, Audrey Clare Schroeder, Anna Jewell Sears, Michael Anthony Segreto, Parin E. Sensenbrenner, Madison Elizabeth Shaw, Sadie Wood Sheridan, Ethan Baldwin Sivillo, Caroline Marie Slater, Jacob David Slyman, Nicholas Christopher Smith, Pablo Chorocho Smith, Madelyn Margaret Sophia Snyder, Regan Elizabeth Sommer, Alexander Rinn Stevenson, Johnathan Michael Stickler, Hayden Bradley Storts, John Philip Sullivan, Mark Andrew Sullivan, Catherine Carmel Supron, Abigail Mae Swint and Elizabeth Catherine Szczeny.

Sydney Marie Taylor, Magdalen Paige Thielen, Colin William Thomas, Isabelle Clare Thomas, Hayden John-Michael Traver, Tatum Elizabeth Tucker, Hope Anne Uptegraph, Emily Rose Vais, Sally Bernice Walling, Ashley Jane Ward, William Lucas Warren, Keegan Alexander Whitacre, Nicholas Gregory Whitsett, Tessa Nolle Whittaker, Ava Rose Williams, Megan Elizabeth Wilson, Fiona Jane York, Nicholas Tyler Youell and Tyler Christian Young.



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Congratulations, Seniors!

Continue on your path to success and pursue your dreams!

Cristo Rey Columbus High School is celebrating 100% College Acceptance for the fifth year in a row!

cristoreycolumbus.org

AM 820

CATHOLIC RADIO

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Most parochial elementary students go to Catholic high schools

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

Students in most of the Diocese of Columbus have a chance to attend Catholic schools at every step of their education, from the first day of preschool through high school graduation, and a growing percentage are taking advantage of that opportunity.

Statistics from the diocesan Office of Catholic Schools for the 2019-20 school year show that 79 percent of eighth-graders in the diocese's parochial schools – 897 out of 1,129 – chose to continue their education in a Catholic high school in the current academic year. That compares with 75 percent – 840 out of 1,117 – for the 2014-15 school year.

In Franklin County, where diocesan high schools and elementary schools are located closer together than in the rest of the diocese, the numbers were higher – 83 percent for the 2019-20 eighth-grade class and 80 percent five years earlier. Outside Franklin County, those numbers were 69 and 59 percent, respectively.

Part of the reason the out-of-county figures are smaller is that Catholic grade schools in Chillicothe, Marion and Wellston are 40 or more miles away from the nearest Catholic high school.

"We are so excited to see the upward trend of students who continue their education into high school in Our Catholic Schools, and I think we can point to several reasons for the increase," said Lori Dulin, associate director of marketing and enrollment for the Schools Office.

"Now more than ever, our preschools, elementary schools and high schools work together as partner families to seamlessly serve students and their families from a very young age into adulthood."

One school, Columbus Our Lady of

Bethlehem School and Childcare, has infant and toddler programs serving children from 6 weeks old through kindergarten, plus summer activities for older children. Several other schools also include older toddlers in their preschool offerings.

"These preschools are vital to the success of our students in kindergarten and beyond," Dulin said. "Many graduating seniors in the high school Class of 2021 attended preschool programs in their partner family schools."

"When you can say that your mission addresses the spiritual, social, emotional, developmental and intellectual needs of children from birth through high school, it tells parents that you value their children at all stages of their formation, and that you are vested in their well-being for a bigger purpose – one that lasts a lifetime."

"Each of our schools works hard to market itself, letting prospective families know just what they can expect should their child attend that Catholic school," Dulin said. "Another critical factor in the high percentage of matriculation from eighth grade into high school is that our schools do not take students already in their buildings for granted. It is not assumed that a child will remain in a school for every grade. Trust is earned through a bond formed with children and their families."

An example of this relationship involves the ties between Newark Catholic High School and Newark's two elementary schools – St. Francis de Sales and Blessed Sacrament. All 27 of this school year's eighth-graders at St. Francis and all 21 at Blessed Sacrament will be attending Newark Catholic in the fall. Figures for the 2019-20 eighth-grade class were similar, with 51 of an unusually large class of 53 at St. Francis and seven of 10 at Blessed Sacrament attending the high school for this academic year.

"The principals at St. Francis and Blessed Sacrament and at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul and Reynoldsburg St. Pius X schools, which also send students here, deserve great credit for the way they promote Catholic education," said Beth Hill, principal at Newark Catholic and a 1979 graduate of the school. "It's sometimes a conscious effort, but mostly it takes place as a running theme in the daily sequence of activities."

"In some years, we get all of the eighth-graders from the two Newark schools. In most years, it's at least 95 percent. We absolutely depend on them for enrollment, and we are keenly aware of the sacrifices it takes for most parents to choose a Catholic school. It's a tremendous four-year commitment when a parent sends a student here, and we're extremely fortunate that our families believe and support us."

"Thanks to their commitment, we offer not only a sound, faith-focused Catholic education, but co-curricular activities such as our annual cabaret and plays in the school's new auditorium (which is to be dedicated on Thursday, May 20), and our robotics program," Hill said.

"And the success of our athletic program (which has won 26 team and six individual state championships) is known statewide. The state's EdChoice program also has opened doors through the (financial) assistance it offers."

"Most of our students go on to Newark Catholic because they see the good things it's doing," St. Francis de Sales School principal Sally Mummey said. "Many of our students are talented in the arts or have grown up hearing about Newark Catholic's sports success and want to keep it going."

"The progression from kindergarten through 12th grade that starts here and ends at Newark Catholic has been a natural thing, including in my own

family. Two of my children went to Newark Catholic and are college graduates, and the third is a junior there."

Hill said the families of most eighth-graders make their decision to go to Newark Catholic after attending its fall open house. The school also is open for half-day tours during the academic year, provided the office is notified in advance.

Josh Caton, principal at Blessed Sacrament School, starts his students thinking about the high school early by having an annual Little Wave Day, in which Newark Catholic students talk to second- through fourth-graders. Newark Catholic's athletic teams are nicknamed the Green Wave.

"It's hard to say we have a specific plan here as far as encouraging future attendance at Newark Catholic," he said. "It's part of the total philosophy I share with Sally and Beth of having a continuum of Catholic education from early childhood to becoming a young adult."

"Catholic schools have always enjoyed the reputation of being academically excellent, safe, strong communities that help children to become good and successful people," Dulin said. "But there's more. And parents want all that and the 'more' quantified in statistically sound, outcome-based and transparent ways."

"Our schools continue to be good stewards of the resources and funding available to them and the families they serve. As we work toward an optimum model of affordability, schools maximize their pool of donor dollars, opportunities such as the EdChoice scholarship and funding shared with public school partners. This helps to ensure that any parent who desires a Catholic education for their child can afford and realize it."

"In the end, parents want the absolute best for their children, and Our Catholic Schools continue to demonstrate why we offer just that."

BISHOP WATTERSON

FIONNUALA
CRISWELL-CARDER

Class
of 2021



*Our Valedictorian!
Congratulations on your
all of your successes. We
are so proud of you. Best of
Luck at St. Mary's College,
Notre Dame Much Love,
Mom & Dad*

BISHOP WATTERSON

OLIVIA
FRISONE

Class
of 2021



*Congratulations Olivia!
We love you and are
so proud of you! Go
confidently in the direction
of your dreams, you will be
amazing.
Love, Mom, Dad and Gia*

BISHOP WATTERSON

ALEX
CASPER

Class
of 2021



*Congratulations! We are
proud of you! Good luck at
OSU!
Love, Mom, Dad,
Grandpa, Kaitlyn & Kenzie*

ST. FRANCIS DESALES

SKYLA
BLUMENSCHIED

Class
of 2021

*Your young life has been
an inspiration to all of
those around you. May you
continue to make beautiful
music!*

ST. CHARLES


TJ MARTIN

Class of 2021 

Congratulations on your graduation! Best wishes for your next adventure at Penn State!
Love, Mom, Dad, & Natalie

ST. CHARLES


LUKE BLUBAUGH

Class of 2021 

Congratulations! We love you so much and pray for all of God's blessings on you at James Madison University!
Love, Mom, Dad, Will, Anna & Becca

ST. CHARLES

BEN VAN BUREN

Class of 2021 

Congratulations Ben! Good luck at The Pontifical College Josephinum!
Love, Dad, Mom & Mac

ST. CHARLES


JACK LINDEMANN

Class of 2021

Congratulations, Jack! So proud of the man you have become. Good Luck at the University of Kentucky!
Love, Mom, Dad, and Lily

ST. CHARLES

LUKAS RAKOWSKY

Class of 2021 

Congratulations, Lukas! Good Luck at The Ohio State University/Fisher College of Business! Go Buckeyes!
Love- Mom, Dad, Mia and Kara

ST. CHARLES


JUSTIN IMBER

Class of 2021

Congratulations Justin! I am so proud of you!! Good luck at OSU!!
Love, Mom and Jacob

ST. CHARLES

JOSHUA THOMAS

Class of 2021 

Congratulations Josh. We are proud and know you will do great things at UD and beyond.
Love, Dad, Mom, Matt and Meg

BISHOP HARTLEY


LILY LINDEMANN

Class of 2021

Congratulations, Lily! So proud of you and your hard work. Good Luck at Butler University!

PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME

ETHAN KAMMER

Class of 2021 

We could not be more proud of all you have accomplished, and we can't wait to see all that comes next at UK!
Love, Mom, Jason, & Bella

PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME

CHRISTOPHER SCHMIDT

Class of 2021

Congratulations Christopher! We are so proud of all you've accomplished! We look forward to your bright future! Love, Mom, Dad, Jessica and Grandmom

BISHOP HARTLEY

MEL MAGIN

Class of 2021

Congratulations on all of your accomplishments! Good Luck at OSU! We Love You! Mom and Dad

BISHOP HARTLEY


MEGAN LUALLEN

Class of 2021

Congratulations on all of your accomplishments as a student, athlete, and a wonderful person! Good luck at the University of Cincinnati! We love you Meggie! Sweetie and E Pa

LANCASTER FISHER CATHOLIC


ANNA MARY TENCZA

Class of 2021 

Anna, we love you and are so proud of you and who you have become! God has great plans for you, we can't wait to see it all unfold. Love, Mom and Dad and the boys.

LANCASTER FISHER CATHOLIC


ABBEY KRILE

Class of 2021 

Congratulations Abbey! We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments! Best of luck at Ashland University! Love Always, Mom, Dad, Nathan and Allie

BISHOP READY

CLARISSA BACHELDER

Class of 2021 

Congratulations on all your accomplishments! Good Luck at OSU! Love, Mom and Dad

BLOOM CARROLL

IAN NIERMAN

Class of 2021

Congratulations & Good Luck in the Future! We are so proud of you! Love, Maw Maw & Pap Pap

'Hello World!': advice for grads from a curious Catholic

By Christina Capecchi

George Corrigan never met a person who didn't fascinate him. The delivery guy. The plumber. The barista. He wanted to know their names and their life stories, which came tumbling out when he flashed his megawatt smile and asked his earnest questions.

His love of humanity flowed from his love of God, culminating each day at noon Mass. "Going to Mass every day was a binding element for the many parts of him," said his daughter, Kelly Corrigan, who called him Greenie.

You could count on Greenie to sing his heart out – whether or not he knew the words. He delighted in serving as a Eucharistic Minister. And the sign of peace set his heart aflutter. "I think that can be a worldview," Kelly said.

That worldview now feels antiquated, dating way back to the pre-Covid days, when hugs and handshakes could be given freely and six feet, readily shattered.

Social distancing would have been unfathomable to Greenie, a Villanova, Pa., native who worked as an ad man and a high-school lacrosse coach.

Every kid on the team was "a great guy" or "one of the all-time greats," his son George said in an interview. "(Greenie) would give every person he met his best. If someone wanted to talk with him for an hour, he'd give them one hour. Because people knew that he cared on such a real level and he was always rooting for you – this was the magic he brought to every one of his relationships."

It was evident on Feb. 28, 2015, when more than 700 people showed up at Greenie's funeral Mass at the Villanova University main chapel. At 84 he had died after a battle with bladder cancer.

Now the philosophy that brought Greenie so many friends is encapsulated in a children's book and ready for the graduate in your life.

Kelly, a well-established and best-selling memoir writer, decided to switch gears and pay tribute to her

dad in a different format. The result: "Hello World!" a bright picture book published last month by Penguin Random House's new imprint Flamingo Books.

Writing for children provided a creative challenge for the 53-year-old California mom of two. She tested out an early draft by reading it to her friend's classroom of 5-year-olds. They gobbled up the zany parts and inspired Kelly to "be weirder."

"I was leaving a lot on the table," she said. "It gave me permission to be more myself."

Kelly added to the alliteration with quirky new bits, like an old lady who reveals: "I dreamt I was playing the banjo on a balance beam made of bacon!"

This revelation, and many others, spring forth because the protagonist makes like Greenie and asks questions.

"There's more to everyone than you think," Kelly writes. "So how will you know? You'll ask!"

She provides conversation-starters:

"What do you know? And how do you know it?" "What do you want? And why do you want it?"

It's a twist on "Oh, the Places You'll Go!," Dr. Seuss' perennial graduation gift. Greenie's version is "Oh, the People You'll Know!"

Those connections are what make life meaningful, Kelly said. It's an approach that is inherently Catholic, honoring the dignity and worth of each person, and is also urgently needed, enabling us to overcome the sharp societal divisions that mark our times.

"Greenie had a deep trust that the world was fundamentally a good place, and I think that trust was continually reinforced by going to daily Mass," Kelly said. "If you do something every day that's orienting you toward the greater good and toward humility, you can't help but feel a certain security in the world and a certain optimism."

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn.

St. Rose School to close after 89 years

By Tim Puet

Catholic Times Reporter

Parents of New Lexington St. Rose School students have persevered for many years in keeping the building open despite economic difficulties. But after 109 years of educating students in Perry and nearby counties, projections related to enrollment and expenses for the 2021-22 academic year have required the school to close when classes for 2020-21 end on Thursday, May 20.

While overall school enrollment in the Diocese during the COVID-19 pandemic has remained solid and steady, St. Rose has had persistent challenges with enrollment. The school has 73 students enrolled in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade this year. Principal Mike Lollo said he had projected about the same number of students for the coming year but had received commitments from parents of only 54 students by mid-April.

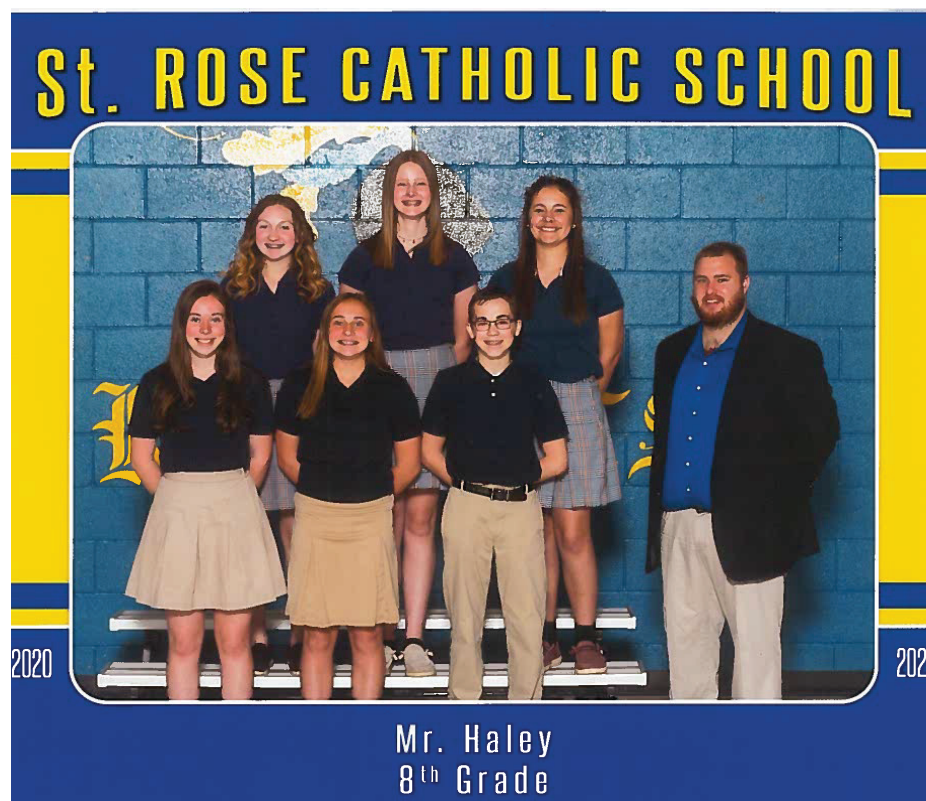
The final decision was made in consultation with the school's education commission and the Office of Catholic Schools. "It was a very hard thing (for our) board, and I know it was hard for them, Lollo said. "I saw at least two members in tears. It was devastating.

Enrollment had been declining, then the COVID pandemic came as a final blow."

The school's final eighth-grade graduating class will have six members – Clara Baker, Alyssa Hall, Olivia Haynes, Kerri Thompson, Aidan Valentine and Kate Ward – who will be honored at a Mass at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 19 in St. Rose Church. Lollo anticipates that a program or display on the school's history will be part of the St. Rose parish festival on Friday and Saturday, June 18 and 19.

The school opened on Oct. 2, 1912, 45 years after St. Rose Church was founded in 1867. The four-room structure, which still stands, was built by Adams Brothers of Zanesville for a little more than \$14,000, using locally made bricks and roofing and locally purchased lumber. Building costs totaled about \$25,000, according to a history of the school written by Msgr. John Dreese, who attended the school from 1938 to 1946 and lives in retirement in New Straitsville.

Opening of the school fulfilled a longtime dream for Father Austin Cush, pastor at St. Rose from 1897 un-



Members of New Lexington St. Rose School's Class of 2021, the last eighth-graders to graduate from the school (from left): first row, Kerri Thompson, Kate Ward, Aidan Valentine and Ryan Haley, teacher; second row, Olivia Haynes, Alyssa Hall and Clara Baker.

Photo courtesy St. Rose School

See ST. ROSE, Page 25

Garrick family leaves long legacy at DeSales

By Jenna Mar

This month, Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School principal Dan Garrick and his wife, Jean, are celebrating the graduation of their youngest child, Noah, from the school. He is the couple's fourth and final child to be a DeSales graduate.

Garrick, himself a 1979 DeSales graduate, has served the school's community for 34 years. Returning to his alma mater in 1987, he taught social studies and coached basketball. Eight years later, in 1995, he became an assistant principal. He became principal nine years later.

Catholic education always has been a significant aspect of Garrick's life. He attended DeSales from 1975 to 1979; his sister Rosemary is a 1967 DeSales graduate and his youngest brother, Tom, graduated from the school in 1987. Their older brother, Ed, graduated from Columbus Aquinas College High School, which closed in 1965, while sisters Joyce and Rhonda were graduates of the former Columbus North High School in 1970 and 1975 respectively.

"I knew how important Catholic education was to our mother. It had a profound impact on me. I saw the sacrifices she made to make it happen, and that has been an integral part of my leadership," Dan Garrick said.

Jean Garrick graduated from Newark Catholic High School and is a math teacher and department co-chair

ST. ROSE, *continued from Page 24*

til his death in 1942. When it opened, it was immediately filled with 116 students in eight grades, all of whom transferred from public schools, with the exception of first-graders.

They were taught by members of the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity, familiarly known as the Stella Niagara Franciscans, who served the school for 75 years from its opening until 1987. Its first graduating class of eight students included Msgr. Dreese's mother, Emma Beaver. Msgr. Dreese was pastor of the Perry County Consortium, which now includes churches in New Lexington, Corning, Crooksville and Junction City, from 1988 until his retirement in 2002.

Mining was the major industry in Perry County through much of the 20th century, and the population of the county grew as more mines opened. After five years of operation, the



Members of the Garrick family are (from left) Jean, Brandon, Nathan, Noah, Dan and Brittany.
Photo courtesy Garrick family

at DeSales. Their four children – Nathan, DeSales Class of 2001; Brittany, '05; Brandon, '07; and Noah – all went to Columbus St. Matthias School from kindergarten through eighth grade before attending DeSales. Tom Garrick had three daughters graduate from the school.

"There has only been a four-year gap since 1975 that there hasn't been a Garrick attending St. Francis DeSales," Dan Garrick said. "My wife and I have been blessed to have our community be such a big part of our children being raised. The DeSales

school had reached an enrollment of 204, resulting in construction of two more classrooms. A peak of 320 students in eight grades, sharing six classrooms, was reached in 1959, resulting in construction of another addition. At this point, the school began charging tuition because of the costs of building the addition and an increase in the number of lay teachers.

"Having the sisters was of great benefit both because of the quality of the education they provided and because it didn't cost the parents anything. But things slowly began to change," Msgr. Dreese said. The mines gradually shut down from the 1960s to the 1980s, and the county lost its economic base, with the last mine closing in 1991, three years after Msgr. Dreese became pastor of his home church.

"Although we had to charge tuition once the sisters left, it was kept as low

family is an extended family of our own biological family."

Garrick said that coming up through the Catholic education system has made a lasting impact not only on him, but also on his children.

"They literally walked across the parking lot (from St. Matthias) to start at St. Francis DeSales," Garrick said. "Since they were old enough to say the word 'stallions,' they were Stallions."

Nathan went on to graduate from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and is a mechanical engineer for Ab-

bott Laboratories in Columbus. Brittany is a graduate of Mount St. Joseph University in Cincinnati and teaches second grade at Columbus Immaculate Conception School. Brandon graduated from Otterbein University in Westerville and teaches science and social studies at Columbus St. Anthony School. Noah plans to attend the University of Dayton to study chemical engineering.

"All of my kids are very service-oriented. They have taken what they have learned both here and at St. Matthias and paid it forward," Garrick said.

"To see my older kids starting their own families and the things that they do in regard to volunteering, I think, is a great reflection on the emphasis that our schools place on serving and lifting others around them by giving their time and, more importantly, their love.

Our patron saint, St. Francis DeSales, has a quote that we have throughout our school: 'Be who you are and be that well.' I hope that people would say that the Garricks are authentically themselves and that they did it to the best of their ability," Garrick said.

"I would like to say a big 'thank you' to our community for helping my wife and I raise four beautiful children, and hopefully I've had a hand to play in raising the children of others in our community as well."

Jenna Mar is a student at Kent State University and a Columbus Bishop Watterson High School graduate.

as possible so most families could afford it," he said. "And no one was turned away for lack of money. It always was my policy that if one parent of a student was a practicing Catholic, we would take care of that student's tuition if that's what it took.

"We were able to keep enrollment at around 150 to 160 through the 1990s, and we even built a gym and community center in the 1990s," he said. "Parents were continuing to send their children to the school, and we had plenty of loyal alumni who continued sending contributions after they left the area, as we still do. We had lots of fundraisers, including the parish summer festival and a booth at the county fair, and two-thirds of the amount collected always went to the school.

Former St. Rose students will continue to have several options for Catholic education. Somerset Holy Trinity

School, also in Perry County, is about eight miles from St. Rose, and Zanesville Bishop Fenwick, Logan St. John, Lancaster St. Mary and St. Bernadette, and Newark Blessed Sacrament and St. Francis de Sales schools provide options in neighboring counties.

"Let us not mourn the end of this era, but instead join together and celebrate the history of our great school," Father Lehigh said in announcing the closing. "We will work together to chart the course for our future as we find new ways to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to the people of Perry County."

"Where God closes a door, he opens another for us, and that's how we grow. One era comes to an end, and that is very sad and painful. But we will go forward by God's grace and together, as a parish, we will look for new opportunities."

14 DeSales athletes sign letters



Fourteen Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School seniors recently signed letters of intent to continue their athletic careers in college. They are (from left): Jordan Johnson, football, Grand Valley State; Noah Gales, football, Baldwin Wallace; Obed Achirem, basketball, Wilmington; Kahleb Lang, lacrosse, Seton Hill; Stefanie Karras, soccer, Akron; Ryan McCann, football, Ohio Dominican; Will Hast, football, Walsh; Austin Mann, basketball, Muskingum; Connor Huzicka, baseball, Olney Central (Illinois) Community College; Amanda Pancake, golf, John Carroll; Gabe Weikert, soccer, Eckerd; Allison Weiner, volleyball, Baldwin Wallace; Cara Jewett, track, John Carroll; and Alexis Johnson, volleyball, Norfolk State.

Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School

St. Bernadette blessings



Even though this has been an unusual academic year because of the COVID pandemic, Lancaster St. Bernadette School principal Joan Miller said its students have been blessed in many ways. Photos of things they are thankful are shown in this display.

Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School

St. Agatha principal honored



Columbus St. Agatha School principal Luna Alsharaiha has received the Upper Arlington Civic Association's Golden Apple Award, which the association has presented since 1981 to outstanding educators in Upper Arlington public and parochial schools. The association said she was honored for her efforts in preparing the school for the arrival of students at the opening of the 2020-21 academic year. She worked all summer to convert classrooms for 6-foot social distancing and to add hands-free faucets, install hand sanitizer stations, equip each room with new purifying air filters, supply each student desk with a plastic shield and supply each staff member with 200 disposable face masks. Since classes began, she has worked each weekend to contact-trace and interview students and to notify all involved if a case of COVID arises.

Photo courtesy St. Agatha School

St. Andrew students earn Latin awards



Nine Columbus St. Andrew School seventh- and eighth-graders earned gold awards on the National Latin Examination by posting scores of 38 of a possible 40 on their respective levels of the test. They are (from left): Cameron King, Nichole Bhowmick, Clare Garzewski, Ava Picken, Nora Ott, Thomas Scharfenberger, Olivia Lane, Arav Fernandes and Jonathan Koeninger. Thirty-one other St. Andrew students also had scores above average. Despite its name, the National Latin Examination is an international test given annually to more than 100,000 students from 20 nations. St. Andrew was one of only about a dozen grade schools involved in the test. Most of the others are in high school or colleges.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

OLB students assemble blessing bags



Kindergarten students at Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare (OLB) assembled 120 blessing bags for the Holy Family Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry in Columbus. Supplies such as lip balm, sunscreen, socks and toothpaste were donated by OLB families, staff and board of trustees members. Providing the bags was a way to teach the school's young students, who range in age from 6 weeks old to kindergarten, the importance of giving to others. *Photo courtesy Our Lady of Bethlehem School*

Bishop Brennan visits Bishop Flaget School



Third-graders at Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School show Bishop Robert Brennan (left) some baby chicks that recently hatched from eggs they incubated as part of a class science project. Bishop Brennan visited classrooms at Bishop Flaget on Friday, May 14 after celebrating Mass for the students. *CT photo by Ken Snow*



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