

CLASS OF 2023

# The CATHOLIC TIMES

  
**2023**  
*class of*  
Congratulations Graduates!

SPECIAL  
GRADUATION  
EDITION

  
*Our Catholic Schools*  
THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS



## Congratulations to the Class of 2023

By Dr. Adam J. Dufault  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Dear Students of the Class of 2023, Congratulations on your graduation! On behalf of the Office of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Columbus, it is my privilege and honor to welcome more than 1,100 of you into the alumni community of Our Catholic Schools. Along with your family and friends, we are so proud of all you have done throughout your high school career.

Graduation day undoubtedly marks the end of a chapter in your life. However, it also marks the beginning of a new chapter as you move forward to discover all that God has planned for you. While your senior year of high school may be remembered as a series of “lasts”, there are many, many “firsts” for you in your next chapter.

It is the hope of all of us who work in Catholic education that you, our graduates, are ready to be young men and women of faith, ready to serve our Church and our world. We pray that you live out the faith they have learned, remembering the Apostle 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 12:2). We

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

You have been educated in faith-filled schools by men and women who live their lives in service to Jesus and the Gospel. I implore you to make Jesus a part of your life, too. Keep Him front and center in your heart and mind, in good times and challenging ones, and you will always find the strength to endure. Apostle Paul encourages us again, “Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you” (Philippians 4:9). I pray that you always remember this.

Again, congratulations on your graduation! Please be assured of all our prayers for this next chapter in your journey and may God continue to bless you, your families, your friends and all of the teachers, administrators, who have supported you along the way.



## Commencement just the start of life's journey and not an ending

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Congratulations! Your graduation is a significant accomplishment, and the whole Church in the Diocese of Columbus rejoices with you. Your hard work has paid off. We are grateful for your parents, family members, teachers, administrators, coaches, and friends who have accompanied you on your journey and helped you to make the most of your God-given talents.

Most of you will complete Commencement exercises. But what does commencement mean? The word appears in the English language in the late 13th century and is from the Old French commencement, meaning “beginning or start.” In modern French, we use commencer. In the late 14th century, the English used the word to denote “entrance upon the privileges of a master or doctor in a university.” By 1850, Americans used the word to refer to a graduation ceremony.

While it then may seem strange to have “commencement” exercises at the end of your education, it really is quite fitting. As you complete your studies, you begin a new phase in your life. Something new is on the horizon: a new field of study or new program for those going on to a new high school or university; a new career; or a new vocation for those considering priesthood or consecrated life.

Shortly after his election 10 years ago, Pope Francis began his Pontificate with three words: Journeying, Building and Professing. In brief, he said that “our life is a journey, and when we stop moving things go wrong. We always need to journey in the presence of the Lord, in the light of the Lord, seeking to live with blamelessness ...”

He continued: “Building. Building the Church. We speak of stones; stones are solid; but living stones, stones anointed by the Holy Spirit ...” He further stated: “Thirdly, professing. We can walk as much as we want, we can build many things, but if we do not profess Jesus Christ things go wrong.”

He concluded his address: “My prayer for all of us is that the Holy Spirit, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother, will grant us the grace: to walk; to build; to profess Jesus crucified.” As one chapter of your life closes and something new begins or commences, this is my prayer for you as well.

As you graduate, I invite you also to reflect on the meaning of the word education. Educare in Latin means to lead or draw out. The late Pope Benedict XVI said: “Education is not and must never be considered something purely utilitarian. It is about forming the human person, equipping him or her to live life



to the full – in short, it is about imparting wisdom.” (Benedict XVI, Address to Teachers and Religious, St. Mary’s University College, Twickenham, 17 September 2010)

To educate another is to help the person to be a better person: a conscious subject, free and responsible, open to the good, the true and beautiful; capable of entering into deep relationships with others -- of being with others and for others. I know that your parents, teachers, administrators, coaches and friends have tried to draw out the best in you, leading you to deeper knowledge of Wisdom and Truth. To educate means educating what is human in us, not only the mind but also the heart. True education involves developing a critical mind and a discerning heart.

We have all tried to educate you to critically and freely embrace the path that leads to life, that satisfies your heart’s desire – which includes faith and community, which answer the needs of the human heart. In Latin, *satisfacere* and *perficere* (satisfaction and perfection) are synonymous. It is my hope that through authentic education, you may find happiness – satisfaction and perfection – in this life and the next. In the end, true happiness is found in God alone. May you be led to an authentic encounter with the Lord who is the source of Wisdom, Knowledge, Happiness and true Joy!

Offering you my heartfelt congratulations and prayerful best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ  
Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes  
Bishop of Columbus

## Congratulations to our 2023 graduates

Rhys Arnason  
Anna Arnold  
Allison Basil  
Rylee Black  
Sam Bishop  
Brenna Blevins  
Hunter Gray  
Virginia Harris  
Tlayani Huerta-Henry  
Bradley Huerta-Martinez  
Leonardo Racanelli  
Kerrigan Rogers  
Audrey Sturges  
Rylan Taylor  
Zach Tibbs  
Michelle Zavala Cano

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Columbus, OH 43212



## TCC senior awarded Amazon engineering scholarship

By Tim Puet

For *The Catholic Times*

A Tuscarawas Central Catholic (TCC) High School senior has received a \$40,000 college scholarship from Amazon because of his high-tech thoughts on solving a low-tech problem.

"When I applied for the scholarship, I had to answer something like five essay questions," Julio Sica-Perez said. "The one I remember best asked, 'If you had the opportunity to work at Amazon, what would you create?' I came up with some thoughts on a system which would guide drivers to available parking spots on a city street or in a large parking lot.

"I thought of my own family's experiences trying to go to a restaurant or a shop and of people trying to get to my family's convenience store on a busy day and felt this would be something that would be of use to anybody at any time."

Sica-Perez attends TCC in New Philadelphia in the morning and the Buckeye Career Center in the same community in the afternoon. He said he applied for the scholarship in January in large part because of encouragement from his teacher at the center, Bill Alexander.

He is one of 400 students from 38 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and an Armed Forces base in Germany to earn the Amazon Future Engineer Scholarship. Seven of this year's recipients are from Ohio, with Sica-Perez being the only one of the seven from outside the Columbus, Cleveland or Cincinnati metropolitan areas.

The scholarship pays \$10,000 a year toward college expenses at the college of the student's choice and includes a paid summer internship with Amazon after one year of college.

"Supporting underserved students in their computer science education is not only important to us – it's imperative to building a diverse tech industry and future," Amazon says on the section of its website devoted to the scholarships.

Sica-Perez will attend Ohio State University (OSU) in the fall and is one of 176 incoming students – two from each of Ohio's 88 counties – receiving an OSU

Land Grant Opportunity Scholarship that pays the full cost of attending the university. He said the OSU scholarship will enable him to bank the money from the Amazon scholarship and other awards, giving him a solid financial start for his future.

He also has received the Believe in Ohio STEM Innovation and Entrepreneurship Scholarship, Horatio Alger National Scholarship, Dr. G. James Pinchak Memorial Scholarship and Ray A. Kroc Award, giving him a total of \$68,500 in scholarship funds, including the Amazon money, he can set aside.

He has taken the equivalent of a year's worth of college courses at the Kent State University Tuscarawas campus and hopes he can graduate from OSU in three years.

"I definitely wanted to stay in-state for college because I knew my Kent State credits would transfer to any other state-related college in Ohio, plus I wanted to stay close to my family," he said.

His father, Celestino Sica-Calel, came from Aguacatan, Guatemala to Ohio in 1995, with his mother, Santa Perez-Tun, arriving from the same community a few years later. They worked at the Gerber poultry processing plant in Kidron and Case Farms in Winesburg before opening their New Philadelphia store in 2013 to serve the growing Latino community in Tuscarawas and Holmes counties, many of whom also work in the poultry industry.

"We specialize in food and snacks from Central America and have diversified into clothing as well," Sica-Perez said. "People come from all over to find things that aren't available elsewhere.

"I've helped at the store for the last half-dozen years or so and continue to work there, mostly on weekends," he said. "That's where I first became interested in computers because I could see



Julio Sica-Perez

what they meant to the store.

"I learned about the Buckeye Career Center in my sophomore year at TCC and knew they offered training in culinary arts, marketing and computer technology. When it came time to pick a specialty, I decided to go with computers.

"At first, I didn't understand as much as my classmates about them, but slowly I caught on." Taking an online computer science course offered by Harvard University also helped, he said.

Sica-Perez received additional recognition in late April when he and career center classmates Christopher Ferguson and Xavier Pittman finished third among 10 contestants in a skills competition at the Business Professionals of America national convention in Anaheim, California.

"In two months, we put together a website called [www.digitaltomatoes.net](http://www.digitaltomatoes.net)," which can be found on the Internet. "It's sort of like the Rotten Tomatoes site which rates movies, except it's for video games," Sica-Perez said.

"It's a fun thing, but we also considered it as something investors might be interested in if it develops a large enough online community of people who want to know about new and upcoming games and what games are trending.

"The convention was great, not just because of the chance to go to California, but for the opportunity to meet other people from all over the country who share my interest in computer science."

Sica-Perez also has played soccer for the New Philadelphia junior and senior high school teams for the past six years, most recently as a midfielder. He has two sisters – Shayla, 12, who will enter seventh grade at TCC in the fall, and Araceli, 7, who attends TCC Elementary School in Dover.

"Julio is an amazing student and an

example to all his peers," said TCC High principal Jennifer Calvo, who said he has a 3.8 grade-point average. "His classmates chose him as the speaker for the school's commencement ceremony (on Sunday, June 4). I think it's the first time there's been a student speaker in that role, at least since I came to the school in 2009 as a teacher.

"I couldn't think of a better model of a student who is dedicated to his faith, family and community than Julio," she said. "One thing I'll remember particularly about him is the drive he organized last June that sent three boxes of clothes to impoverished and abandoned children in Guatemala. He truly has a servant's heart."

The Sica-Perez family attends Dover St. Joseph Church, where Julio has been an altar server since fifth grade and more recently has been a lector.

"A Catholic education for me and my sisters has been important to my parents, no matter the cost or the amount of work they've needed to put in so we could have the best education," he said.

"Being in an environment where I can talk about God and virtues, have access to the Bible and learn the teachings of Jesus has been tremendously helpful to me, especially when I realize these are things my public school friends can't talk about in class.

"A lot of people think religion class is boring, but I've always found it pretty interesting. I like the way Pope Pius XII put it in one of his encyclicals (Humani Generis, written in 1950): 'The truths that have to do with God and the relations between God and men completely surpass the sensible order.'

"Artificial intelligence is something everyone seems to be talking about now," he said. "It really intrigues me because it has many potential uses, some of which may be dangerous. I want to use my knowledge of computer science to help find ways to use it for the good of people."

## 33 students graduate from Tuscarawas Central Catholic

New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School held its 53rd commencement on Sunday, June 4 with a Baccalaureate Mass followed by the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2023 in the school gymnasium.

Megan Peltz was the valedictorian, and Alexandra Yoder was the salutatorian.

Class members earned more than \$1.2 million in scholarships and performed more than

3,715 hours of community service.

Eighty-five percent of the 33 graduates will attend 12 institutions of higher learning.

Members of the New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School Class of 2023 are:

Alexis Baxter, Brandon Burluson, Jordyn Caldwell, Jordan Cherry, Chase Ciekanski, Kayden Crosier, Rylee Dillon, Lucas Dumermuth, Madison

Ferrell, Felipe Garcia-Paez, Brice Greathouse, Cassidy Green, Summer Hayes, Drew Lakota, Thayne Mahaffey and Maria Meiser.

John Nguyen, Meg O'Donnell, Piper Olson, Megan Peltz, Joey Phillips, Edith Quiroz, Katie Ross, Zander Sabin, Madyson Sanchez, Delaney Savage, Cole Seigler, Michael Shull, Alicia Sica-Calel, Julio Sica-Perez, Elder Toc-Ramos, Reese Triplett and Alexandra Yoder.



Megan Peltz



Alexandra Yoder

# Class of 2023



The 114 members of the Class of 2023 were accepted to 161 colleges and awarded over \$33 Million in scholarships!

## Saint Charles, Hail!

# St. Charles graduates 114 seniors

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School presented diplomas to 114 members of the Class of 2023 during its commencement ceremony, preceded by a baccalaureate Mass, on Friday, May 26 in the Robert C. Walter Student Commons.

All the graduates will be attending institutions of higher education, with 99 percent going to four-year colleges and 1 percent to two-year colleges. One will be pursuing studies for the priesthood. They will be attending 54 colleges throughout the nation. The class earned \$33.1 million in scholarship money.

Five were National Merit Scholarship finalists and six were National Merit commended students. Class members performed 7,000 service hours.

Seth Pettis received appointments to both the U.S. Naval Academy and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and will attend the Coast Guard Academy. Corbin Robinson was accepted to both Harvard University and Yale University. He has chosen to attend Harvard, which had a 3 percent admission rate this year.

Sam Martin was awarded the Chick Evans Scholarship for caddies to Ohio State University. Thomas Matthews earned a National Merit Scholarship to the University of Alabama.

Connor Nicholas received one of 18 Gabelli presidential scholarships offered to incoming first-year students at Boston

College. Derek Lyons and Nahom Tewolde earned Darwin T. Turner scholarships from the University of Cincinnati.

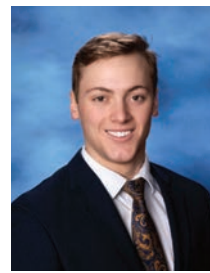
Evan Rayburn and Aidan Silva won Morrill Scholarships to Ohio State University. Frederick Shimp earned a Founders' Scholarship from Walsh University.

Members of the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School Class of 2023 are:

Zachary Auletta, Alnuel Barnum, Warren Bartlett, Parker Bashore, Reed Bateman, Griffin Beggs, Ethan Bell, Raphael Bott, Ryan Bowyer, Evan Brame, Connor Brandt, William Bruner, Adam Budzik, Ryan Carretta, Andrew Carter, Elijah Cassidy, John Castellano, Liam Chiarotto-Haney and William Chorich.

Maxwell Colucy, Liam Cooney, Clayton Coughlin, Steven Day, Diego Del Toro, Giovanni Delfino, Peter DeSocio, Broderick Doenges, Warren D'Souza, Nathaniel Edon, Gabriel Epler, Maximilian Epler, Mark Filonenko, Austin Fraley, Noah Franz, Owen Galvin, Maximilian Garabis, Timothy Goehring and Owen Green.

James Greenhalge, Tyler Gummer, Ty Hamrick, Theron Harris, William Hertz, Matthew Hollis, Jackson Homon, Peter Hou, Xavier Isbell, Jack Jacobsen, Evan Johnson, Alden Jordan, Jackson Keller, Conor Kelly, John Levy, Michael Lieu, Jackson Lipp, Leo Lloyd and Con-



Seth Pettis



Corbin Robinson



Connor Nicholas



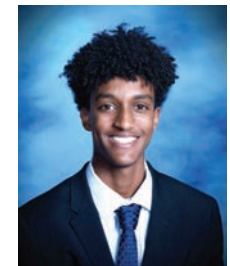
Thomas Matthews



Sam Martin



Derek Lyons



Nahom Tewolde

ner Lofthouse. Andrew Lusky, Derek Lyons, Fitzgerald Manuel, Samuel Martin, Thomas Matthews, William McFadden, Robert McMillen, William Mooney, Patrick Moore, Connor Morgan, George Mosholder, Matthew Murrin, John Myaard, Nathaniel Nelson, Connor Newcomb, Connor Nicholas, Reed Nommay, Roman Nori and Victor O'Brien.

Mason O'Reilly, Beckham Parsons, Seth Pettis, John Price, Brian Pultinas, Rowan Quinlan, Evan Rayburn, Nicholas Relli-Dempsey, Daniel Richardson, Matthew Rico, Corbin Robinson, Lucas Ryan, Evan Sage, Julius Samuel, Caleb

Sark, Paul Sarko, Jackson Say, Matthew Schmidt and Ryan Schwirian.

Isaiah Sherowski, Frederick Shimp, Aidan Silva, Gavin Slater, John Steinhart, Joseph Storck, Colin Sullivan, Nahom Tewolde, Jordan Thompson, Joseph Tobias, Joshua Ulibarri, Charles Valachovic, Kaden Vidra, ZahKyion Walker, Cameron Warren, Lafayette Westbrook, Thomas Yankelevich, Brandon Zuniga Ramirez and Ronaldo Zuniga Ramirez.



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## Bishop Ready graduates 104 seniors

Columbus Bishop Ready High School principal Matthew Brickner presented diplomas to 104 graduates during the school's 59th commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 3 in the school gymnasium. A Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, June 2 at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

The Class of 2023 earned \$15.9 million in scholarships. The valedictorian was Jessica Perez of Columbus. She plans to attend the University of Notre Dame on full scholarship. The salutatorian was Katherine Radwanski of Columbus. She plans to attend Ohio State University on scholarship.

Honors graduates were Ava Christine Baker, Taylor Cain, Caleigh Cheatham, Jayden Deal, Cullen Dent, Mirabella DeTillio, Sofia DiNovo, Brian Fitzsimmons, Nora Foley, Dayana Garcia Hernandez, Raya Gardner, Julian Howell, Kyle Hughes, Alana Ionno, Leah Kaufman and Melina Kopczewski.

Dylan Melrose, Natalie Morocho Garcia, Hope Orders, Jessica Perez, Jennifer Pond, Katherine Radwanski, Philip Ryan, Jessica Saldana, Kaleb Schaffer, Brett Smith, Zachary Swierz, Kaylee Wheaton, Bryn Whitmer, Rylen Williams, Emma Wohrle, Andrew Wolfe and Danielle Wuichner.

Seniors Jennifer Pond and Kaleb Schaffer were inducted into the school's Hall of Fame.

Ninety percent of the class will be attending one of 30 institutions of higher education, including Zachary Swierz, who is heading for the U.S. Military Academy at

West Point, New York, and Charlie Russell, who will attend the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Three percent of class members will enlist in the U.S. Army, Navy or Marine Corps.

The class contributed approximately 3,000 service hours.

Receiving school awards were: Principal's Award, Caleigh Cheatham; Ready Award, Danielle Wuichner; Spirit Award, Melina Kopczewski; Gifts of the Heart Service Award, Adilenny Garcia; Agonis Club of Columbus Scholar Athlete Award, Jennifer Pond; Alexa McAllister Memorial Scholarship, Caleigh Cheatham; Founder's Scholarship from Walsh University, Adriana Agostino; Glenna R. Joyce Full-Tuition Scholarship to the University of Notre Dame, Jessica Perez; Morrill Scholarship to Ohio State University, Raya Gardner, Melina Kopczewski and Kayla Thomas.

Ten seniors signed to play college sports. They are: Caleigh Cheatham, softball, Walsh; Cullen Dent, football, Otterbein; Logan Dimel, football, Capital; Nevaeh Forby, cheerleading/stunts, Ashland; Hope Orders, basketball, Wittenberg; Charlie Russell, baseball, Air Force Academy; Luke Ruth, basketball, Ohio Dominican; Kaleb Schaffer, basketball, Walsh; Bryn Whitmer, volleyball, Capital; and Rylen Williams, baseball, Otterbein.

Members of the Columbus Bishop Ready High School Class of 2023 are:

Adrianna Diane Agostino, Chantz Allen Akers, Christopher Allen Akers Jr.,



Jessica Perez



Katherine Radwanski

Ava Christine Baker, Tyler Michael Basil, Gunnar Thomas Blubaugh, Logan Guy Bonacci, Mallory Jayne Budai, Bailee Jo Burkhardt, Janine Scarlett Cabrera, Taylor Jo Cain, Isabella Fernanda Casiano, Caleigh Ann Cheatham, Jayden Jean Deal, Sean Vincent Dellinger, Cullen Vincent Dent, Mirabella Rachael DeTillio, Logan Joseph Dimel, Sofia Ann DiNovo, Jayla Marie Dixon and Yerling Feliz Ordonez.

Brian Michael Fitzsimmons, Nora Lynn Foley, Nevaeh Lynn Forby, Alex Matthew Forgacs, Taylor Lynn Dakota Foster, Adilenny Garcia, Sipriana Rena Garcia, Dayana Oshun Garcia Hernandez, Gael Garcia Martinez, Raya D'Shae Tamyra Gardner, Darrius Quincy Goins, Kevin Gomez Mandujano, Ely Anthony Joseph Hejduk, Kayleigh Grace-Michelle Hennen, Holland Cylan Hohman, Sophia Grace Holdridge, Julian Michael Howell, Kyle David Hughes, Lyla Delanee Hurd, Alana Gabrielle Ionno and Benjamin Thomas Johns.

Lucas Perry Johnston, Kevin Michael Jones II, Leah Hart Kaufman, Sarah Jean Kelby, Karalinah Sunshine King, Jerad

Sylvester Koboi, Melina Marie Kopczewski, Aaron Ramone-Lee Marshall, Arianna Rosina Mayo, Gavin Brady McCoy, Gabriella Marie McCreary, Dylan Martin Melrose, DeShay Monique Mills, Leonel Pavel Montes Martinez, Aidan Hugh Montgomery, Natalie Christina Morocho Garcia, Alyssa Kaylynn Morrow, Cecelia Marie Muraco, Hope Katharine Orders, Alondra Osorio Dominguez and Yeonwoo Park.

Mercy Jhomara Paucar Quiroga, Jessica Christina Perez Yadaicela, Ryan Michael Petrella, Jennifer Lauren Pond, Katherine Elisabeth Radwanski, Kristy Alexandra Rodriguez Pardo, Connor Aiden Rogers, Mariela Romero Alvarez, Brayden John Roof, Luis Angel Roque Parra, Wesley Thomas Rowe, Charles Richard Russell, Luke Robert Ruth, Philip Caleb Robles Ryan, Jessica Viviana Saldaña Salto, Joel Steven Salto Morocho, Kaleb Thomas Schaffer, Ashton Pater Schlueb, Samuel Meilyr Schulz, Adam Aloysius Schwab and Gabriela Maria-Naomi Seimer.

Nickals Allen Sexton, Brett Allen Smith, Alivia Noel Stanton, Zachary Thomas Swierz, Kayla Isabelle Lucia Thomas, Tyshell Rakia Toles, Lee Allen Tracy, Jr., Gage Charles Tucker, Nathanael Joseph Michael M Tuttle, Italia Velazquez Hernandez, Xiaowen Wang, Kaylee Nicole Wheaton, Bryn Victoria Whitmer, Drayton Elizabeth Willey, Rylen Thomas Francis Williams, Emma Caroline Wohrle, Andrew James Wolfe, Danielle Christine Wuichner, Zhi Can Ye and Tayven Alexander Yors.

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Class of

2023

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United in Faith, Inspired by Tradition



# Four Bishop Ready seniors participate in construction class

By Hannah Heil  
Catholic Times Reporter

Four graduating seniors can add a few extra things to the list of what they learned at Columbus Bishop Ready High School. In addition to math, English and science, the students learned how to cut drywall, paint and successfully complete a renovation.

These newfound skills were taught in a semester-long construction class at the school that was introduced and taught by Ready alumni Shawn Golden, '96, and Brian Hamilton, '04.

Golden owns of KJG Consulting, based in Dublin, and Hamilton owns Hamilton Contractors, located in Hilliard.

The men proposed the construction program to Dr. Adam Dufault, superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Columbus. Golden and Hamilton had worked on construction projects in the diocese, and they wanted to create a program for high school students.

"We talked to Dr. Dufault about possibly starting something like this because of the lack of instruction or interest in the trades, and there really wasn't something like this at any other Catholic school," Golden said. "So, we wanted to start something to gauge interest."

The class, Construction Management and Technology, was first offered for the semester beginning in January 2023, and eight sophomore, junior or senior students signed up. Twenty students are registered to take the class next school year, and it will be offered both semesters, beginning in August 2023.

The students in this semester's class renovated the school's St. Michael's Chapel. A metal art piece of St. Michael the Archangel was hung in the center of the brick wall behind the altar. After construction is complete, a large crucifix will be hung in its place.

The tabernacle, where the consecrated hosts are stored, will be moved to the center of the chapel behind the altar. Statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph will be positioned on the left- and right-hand sides.

"The chapel was very dated," Golden said. "We were looking for something that they could do to leave a legacy, and this is what we decided on. And next year, we're going to expand on this as well. We're really going to focus on the chapel for multiple reasons."

"We wanted to make it a little bit more of a sacred space, and that was the whole idea. The students had a lot of ideas. We nudge them gently in certain areas, but they had a good understanding of why we were doing what we were doing, like moving the tabernacle to the center and ... the crucifix that's going to be hung and things like that."

"There's a little bit of play on the school colors (the new wall behind the

altar was painted a light blue), and that was decided by the campus ministry team here at Bishop Ready."

Before doing hands-on work in the chapel, the students learned Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety laws. They also learned about building materials used in a renovation, including stone, textiles, wood and metal.

"A lot of people have never cocked in trim (a material used around the outer edges of a room between walls and floors or ceilings) before or hung drywall (a building material used for interior walls and ceilings) or finished drywall," Golden said.

"The really neat thing about it was that each one of the students had a different area where they really excelled, and that was really nice to see."

Ready senior Adam Schwab plans to do an apprenticeship – a trade program that offers on-the-job training – after graduation. Schwab said he wants to be an electrician. Although he does not foresee working in construction, he said the chapel renovation project is applicable to many fields.

"If you do a home reno, or you're doing anything like that, it could be involved with some trades, or if you want to go into construction, it's a good starting point," Schwab said.

He said the class has taught him skills such as cutting and hanging trim and mounting drywall.

"We started by putting up two-by-fours on the original brick, and then we cut the drywall and put that up, and then we had to mount it," Schwab said. "We painted it ... and then the trim."

Senior Luke Ruth said he has enjoyed the class because it allowed him to work with his hands.

"I think it's a fun class," he said. "You're getting out of the classroom. You're not just sitting there looking at a board, so it's hands on. It's fun. I'm a hands-on person, so I like doing stuff like this."

The class has taught him the proper use of tools and how to complete a renovation.

"We use saws and a lot of screwdrivers, and it's just basic things you need to know when it comes to renovating anything or building," he said.

Ruth plans to pursue a career in business after graduation, and the class has helped prepare him.

"It taught me how to work with other people because, here, we only have a certain amount of tools, so we have to share them and communicate through that," he said.

Ready senior Lucas Johnston agreed that the construction class taught him life skills, the most important being teamwork.

"I would recommend it," he said. "It really helps you learn things you need to learn in life, if you ever need to fix anything on your own, and it teaches you how to work with others."



Bishop Ready's chapel before the renovation



Students work on the chapel transformation.



Drywalling was one of the skills the students learned.



Light blue was used to paint the wall behind the altar.



The completed chapel includes the tabernacle directly behind the altar and statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph on the sides.  
Photos courtesy Bishop Ready High School

As a result of taking the class, Johnston said he understands OSHA guidelines, how to hang drywall and mud drywall (applying a mud-like paste) and use tools.

Joel Salto, a Ready senior who will graduate this spring, said the class "opens bigger opportunities that I want to do, like if I want to drywall or be a painter."

He plans to apply the construction skills to home renovation projects.

"If I want to do my house, like fix something, or my parents' house, it teaches me how to do more of it," Salto said.

While a few students in the class plan to enroll in trade programs after graduation, others are interested in pursuing higher education.

One student wants to attend college to study engineering, which Golden said is "definitely an offshoot of this and, hopefully, gives him a little bit of understanding of what actually goes on in the building process, as opposed to just designing something."

No matter the student's path, Golden said he expects the skills students learned in the class will serve them well beyond graduation.



congratulations  
**graduates**  
*class of 2023*



*\$33,000,000+*  
in merit-based scholarships!

BISHOP  
HARTLEY



# Bishop Hartley graduates 163 students

The 163 graduates of Columbus Bishop Hartley High School's 63rd graduating class received diplomas on Saturday, May 27 at the school's Jack Ryan Field. A Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 26 at Columbus Christ the King Church.

Members of the class will be attending one of 53 colleges and universities. They were awarded \$33.2 million in academic and merit-based scholarships, with 97.5 percent of the class going on to higher education. Hartley students in all four grades at the school performed 22,307 service hours during the academic year.

Receiving full-tuition scholarships were Betale Getahun, Madison Griffin, Nadiya Harris, Diego Maldonado, Mdeye Mbow, Camryn Murray, Eva Smith, Gabriella Tesfaye, Rachel Thompson, Sidney Waihenya, Cecelia Woods and Michael Young.

A total of 67 students received academic honors.

Summa cum laude graduates, who had a cumulative grade-point average of 3.9 to 4.0, were Joi Brown, Benjamin Burchfield, Marie Burkhart, Zoe Carter, Morgan Donnelly, Riley Fitzpatrick, Betale Getahun, Madison Griffin, Mary Kitsmiller, Anthony Lentz, Jane Lynch, Parker Manos, Mdeye Mbow, Abigail Murphy, Caitlin O'Malley, Jacob Parker, Jacqueline Radous, Henry Riesbeck, Rayna Rodenkirchen, Jenna Ryan,



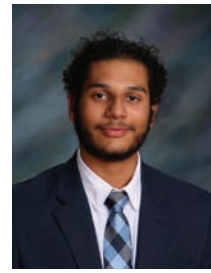
Betale Getahun



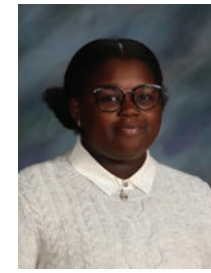
Madison Griffin



Nadiya Harris



Diego Maldonado



Mdeye Mbow



Camryn Murray

Emma Sawyer, Eva Smith, Eva Tedrick, Gabriella Tesfaye, Anna Torrell, Ann Trainer, Sidney Waihenya, Lauren Whitlatch, Cecelia Woods and Michael Young.



Eva Smith



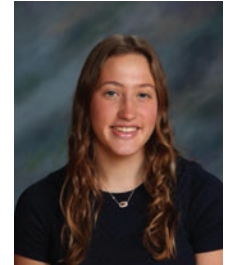
Gabriella Tesfaye



Rachel Thompson



Sidney Waihenya



Cecelia Woods

Earning magna cum laude honors (3.8 to 3.899 GPA) were Julianna Bentivegna, Dominick Buckey, Isabella Chalfant, Jackson Corbin, Abigail Di-Nardo, Margaret Epler, Alexandria Etienne, Raya Franklin, Sydney Gibson, Grace Goodwin, Maria Herrera Amaro, Jocelyn Heuser, Rebecca LeMay, Diego Maldonado, Luca Mampieri, Karla Mendez Barrientos, Luke Navarro, Jaxon Prater and Rachel Thompson.

Cum laude honors (3.7 to 3.799 GPA) were earned by Eloise Brandewie, Brooke Burchfield, Colin Callahan, Caleb Francis, Jessica Glass, Nadiya Harris, Gavin Leonard, Kaylee Mackey, Kathryn McLane, Camryn Murray, Dylan Newsome, Grayson Page, Mia Rooks, Michael Scali, Megan Sheehan, Lindi Sweeney, Ryan Thomas and Lola Vandemark.

Members of the Columbus Bishop

Hartley High School Class of 2023 are: Nebue Abebe, Chloe Isabella Albrecht, Corleece D.S. Atkins, Vera Lynn Balkus, Terrion Jamar Barbour, David M. Beach, Reese Beatty, Julianna Elyse Bentivegna, Jayme L. Bonner, Asia Sani' Branch, Eloise Anne Brandewie, Emma Brody, Olivia R. Brotherton, Joi Alaine Brown, Kristin

See HARTLEY, Page 14



## Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare

Joyfully Building Our Best Nest Yet!



*A proud part of the Bishop Watterson High School feeder family.*



*Congratulations to the Class of 2023 throughout the Diocese of Columbus!*

**NOW ENROLLING - Preschool, Pre-K and Kindergarten**  
[ourladyofbethlehem.org](http://ourladyofbethlehem.org)



# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023!

\$22.3 million in college scholarships  
 9,215 service hours  
 Accepted at 150 colleges and universities



*"Be who you are meant to be and you will set the world on fire."*

--St. Catherine of Siena

# Bishop Watterson senior practices English with Ukrainian teens

When many people worldwide began to learn more about Ukraine in early 2022 when the Ukraine-Russia war began, Columbus Bishop Watterson High School senior Ava Gruver was already well informed.

She began tutoring Ukrainian teens weekly in 2021 through a program called ENGIN, and, except for a short pause when the conflict began, she continues the weekly sessions.

Gruver has spent about 60 hours tutoring three Ukrainian teens, working out times to meet on Zoom over email due to the seven-hour time difference. ENGIN provides materials and matches up the tutors and Ukrainian students based on common interests.

"The Ukrainian teens are at different levels with their English; some are advanced, and some are beginners," Gruver said. "I help them with their fluency based on their level of English, with topics like work, education, environment, social issues, debating, writing, holidays, family and other things."

The ENGIN lesson plans include discussions, articles, videos, games and quizzes. Sessions usually start with vocabulary terms related to the day's lesson.

"The Ukrainian students all have different reasons for doing the program," Gruver said. "For one girl, the school required it. Another wants to go into IT.

"A majority of them know Russian really well, and they've been taking English since kindergarten. Learning about America and England is a big part of their education. They want to move to Europe or America where they will need to know English."

Since she started with the ENGIN program, Gruver has observed the shift from a Ukraine at peace to a country at war through her sessions with the Ukrainian teens.

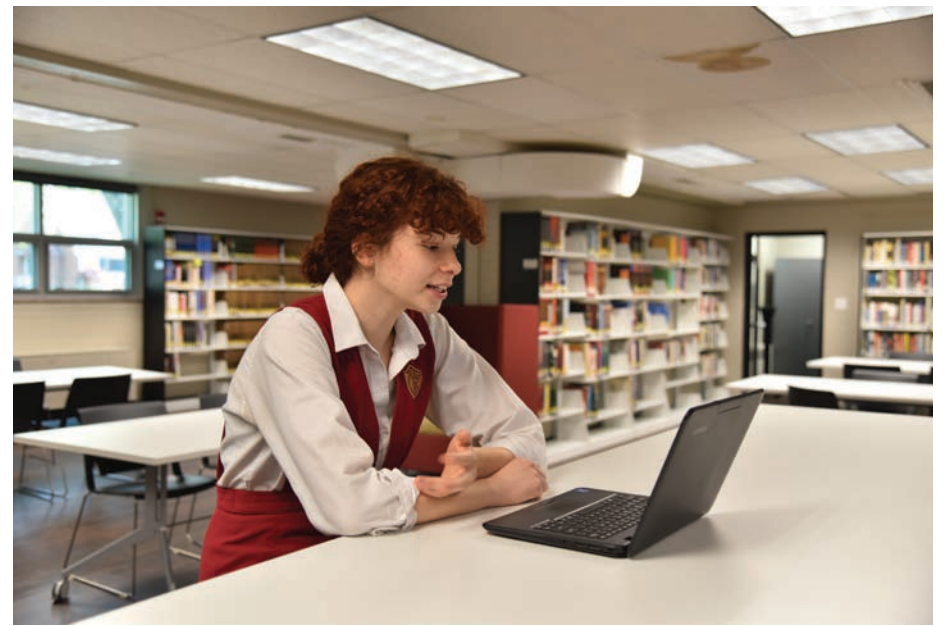
"For a long time, they didn't go to school and spent their time laying low," Gruver said. "It was surreal to me. There's a bombing raid going on, and they're online trying to learn English. That is still a priority.

"It's interesting how they're able to separate that and still focus on learning English. They did a pretty good job of not getting too emotional about it."

Gruver was surprised that bomb shelters still exist and that it became normal to spend time in them for the Ukrainian teens.

"I would ask them how it was going with the war, and they'd say, 'It's so sad, there are a lot of deaths,'" she said. "I try not to be constantly talking about the war with them because it's a sensitive subject, so I try to talk about other things."

She has found common ground with the Ukrainian teens, talking about sim-



Ava Gruver tutors a student in Ukraine.

*Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School*

ilar things American teenagers discuss.

"In America, we use a lot of polite small talk, but in Ukraine small talk isn't a thing for them," Gruver said. "But they are similar to American teenagers when it comes to things like hanging out with friends, having to do schoolwork, wanting to be a part of a group, having dreams about becoming a doctor or something like that. There's also some humor that

comes across."

Another commonality for them is the shift out of high school. As the Ukrainian students move on to university studies, and Gruver moves on to Ohio State University to study neuroscience on a pre-veterinary track, she said they will continue to stay in touch, thanks to Instagram.

## 212 seniors graduate from Bishop Watterson

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School awarded diplomas to 212 graduating seniors on Saturday, May 27 in the school gymnasium. A Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated there on Thursday, May 25.

Ninety-eight percent (208) of the class members were accepted at institutions of higher education and received more than \$22.3 million in college merit scholarship offers. They will be attending 56 colleges and universities. One student will be entering the U.S. Coast Guard, and one will join the Ohio Air National Guard.

The school awarded 96 state honors diplomas, with 99 students receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence. One class member had a perfect score of 36 on the American College Test, and 11 had perfect scores in individual subjects. Class members totaled more than 9,215 service hours in addition to the required sophomore service training program.

Thirty-two students were honored as valedictorians, meaning they had a grade-point average of 4.0 or better and 12 credits of honors courses. There were 193 academic medals, presented for an "A" average all four years, awarded in in-

dividual subjects. Fourteen students received service charity cords for at least 220 hours of community service above the sophomore service requirement.

Members of the Columbus Bishop Watterson High School Class of 2023 are:

Mia Mitsuko Aguilar Novelo, Samantha Taylor Alexander, Vanessa Nicole Armstrong, Pete Tambe Arrey, Kathryn Susan Bacon, Dylan Robert Belli, Laura Danielle Bender, Leanne Marie Benson, Mason Jacob Bermudez, Charles Anthony Bernotas, Alec Jeffrey Berry, Margaret Lane Best, Katherine Lynn Bettendorf, Isabella Marie Blum, Grace Kathleen Boeckman, Luciann Rose Boehm, Reese Elizabeth Borland, Hannah Catherine Brady, Katherine Marie Braidech, Anna Cheryl Briscoe, Delilah Kay Britain, Bo Kelly Brofford, Carlota Brunetti, Eden Michelle Brush, Andrew Robert Burri and Gabrielle Amelia Capozzella.

Olivia Rose Cardillo, Jack William Carpenter, Maggie Morgan Chizek, Adam Scott Cobb, Jenna Marie Collier, Katelyn Rose Combs, Adam Joseph Coyne, Brooks Anthony Crane, Elijah Adams



Each of Bishop Watterson's valedictorians from the Class of 2023 achieved a grade-point average of 4.0 or higher and accumulated 12 credits of honors courses

*Photo courtesy Bishop Watterson High School*

# BISHOP HERRMANN SERVICE AWARD WINNERS


**JOHN CASTELLANO/ COLUMBUS ST. CHARLES**
**Parish: New Albany Church of the Resurrection**

National Honor Society; University of Rochester George Eastman Young Leaders Award; National Latin Exam Maxima Cum Laude Award; Central Ohio Miniature Bridge Building Champion; Bridge Building Club; Works of Heart CPR; Internship at Ohio State University Davis Heart and Lung Research Center; Engineering Club; Ohio State University Engineering Competition Runner-Up; Campus Ministry Team Leader; Baseball Team; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist


**CALEIGH CHEATHAM/ COLUMBUS BISHOP READY**
**Parish: Columbus St. Cecilia**

National Honor Society; Beta Club; St. Michael's College Book Award; Ready Knights of the Round Table Award; Living the Gospel Message Award; Student Council; Student Ambassador; Retreat Leader; Prayer Club; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Lector; Future Business Leaders of America; Softball Team; Basketball Team; Volleyball Team; Youth Softball Coach; Catholic Youth Summer Camp Volunteer; Youth Group Leadership Team; Parish Children's Ministry; Parish Festival Volunteer; Mid-Ohio Food Collective Volunteer


**COLBY GRAHAM/COLUMBUS BISHOP WATTERSON**
**Parish: Columbus Our Lady of Peace**

Altar Server; Student Ambassador; Forum at Knightsbridge Nursing Home Volunteer; School Open House, Meet the Teacher Night, Freshman Orientation and Freshman Social Volunteer; Inprem Food Pantry Volunteer; Kairos Retreat Leader; State Fair Volunteer; Parish Festival Bingo Tent; Packing Lunches for the Homeless; St. Francis Garden Volunteer; Band; Band Assistant for Feeder Schools; Ohio State University Campus Fundraiser Volunteer; St. Stephen's Blanket Project


**DENNIS MONTERROZA/CRISTO REY COLUMBUS**
**Parish: Columbus St. James the Less**

St. James the Less Church Translator; American Red Cross Blood Donor and Translator; International Samaritan Organization Global 5K Organizer; Planning to Go on International Samaritan Mission Trip to Honduras


**MARGOT NALLI/COLUMBUS ST. FRANCIS DESALES**
**Parish: Westerville St. Paul**

National Honor Society; Spanish National Honor Society; Rotary Club Student of the Month; Senior Class Vice President; Student Council; Core Evangelization Team Student Ambassador; Blood Drive Leader; Anti-Bias/Diversity Retreat Organizer and Station Leader; Parish Student Leadership Council; English and Math Tutor; Lector; Kairos Retreat Leader; Oakleaf Village Assisted Living Volunteer; Westerville Area Resource Ministry Volunteer; International Student Tour Guide; Yoga Club; Golden Hearts (Fighting Pediatric Cancer) Club; Run the Race Club; Mind Over Matter Club; Stallions for Social Justice


**KATHRYN NELSON/PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME**
**Parish: Portsmouth Holy Redeemer**

National Honor Society; Key Club; Science Bowl; Quiz Bowl; Tennis Team; Mock Trial; Art Memory Project; Claire's Closet Volunteer; Parish Choir; Parish Bell Choir; Lector; Cantor; Campus Minister


**PIPER OLSON/NEW PHILADELPHIA TUSCARAWAS CENTRAL CATHOLIC**
**Parish: Dover St. Joseph**

National Honor Society; Senior Class Treasurer; EmpowerTusc Youth Sector Representative; Youth2Youth Leader; Buckeye Girls State; Golf Team; Track Team; Cheerleader; Mock Trial Outstanding Attorney; Just Write Ohio State Qualifier; Academic Challenge; Chess Club; International Club; Ray A. Kroc Award; Altar Server; Vacation Bible School; Parish Festival; Elementary School Cheer Clinics; Parish Soup Kitchen; Drug Awareness Program; Hospice Golf Outing; Canal Dover Festival Volunteer


**JACK REHBECK/NEWARK CATHOLIC**
**Parish: Newark St. Francis de Sales**

Golf Team; Track Team; School Cabaret; School Musical; Choir; Kairos Awakening Retreat; Otterbein Senior Life Center Volunteer; Dawes Arboretum Volunteer; Civilian Marksmanship Program; St. Joseph the Worker Day Volunteer


**CADY TRIPLETT/LANCASTER FISHER CATHOLIC**
**Parish: Lancaster St. Mark**

National Honor Society; 4-H Club; Irish4Life; Fairfield County Job and Family Services Programs; Bickford Retirement Home Games and Craft Day; Canned Food Drives; Elementary School Tutor; School Spaghetti Dinners, Bid O' Luck Dinners and Auction Benefits; Fairfield County United Way Community Cares Days; Bowling Team


**CAITLYN WILSON/ZANESVILLE BISHOP ROSECRANS**
**Parish: Zanesville St. Nicholas**

St. Nicholas Festival; Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church Festival; Cambridge St. Benedict Church Altar Server; School Bazaar Planning Committee; St. Nicholas Choir; Christmas on the Hill; Key Club; Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Program; Soccer Camp; Muskingum County Youth Foundation


**CECELIA WOODS/COLUMBUS BISHOP HARTLEY**
**Parish: Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton**

Telerski Scholar-Athlete Award, Kevin Ryan Spirit of Cross Country Award; Soccer Team; Cross Country Team; National 4-H Congress Trip Award; Junior 4-H Fair Board; 4-H Camp Counselor; Leadership Washington Focus and Citizenship Washington Focus Trip Award; Fairfield County 4-H Lancaster Scholarship; James Kerrigan Memorial Scholarship; Altar Server; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Vacation Bible School; Portsmouth Food Outreach; Columbus Marathon Volunteer; New Albany Walkathon

# ALL-DIOCESAN ACADEMIC HONOR TEAM MEMBERS


**JENNA COLLIER/COLUMBUS BISHOP WATTERSON HIGH SCHOOL**
**Parish: Worthington St. Michael**

National Honor Society; Summa Cum Laude and Maxima Cum Laude National Latin Examination Awards; Zonta Club Outstanding Young Woman; Msgr. Spiers Service Award; cross country team; volleyball team; Student Ambassador; In the Know; Quiz Bowl; Latin Club; St. Vincent de Paul Club; Kairos Retreat leader; altar server; basketball scorekeeper and timer; Mid-Ohio Food Collective volunteer; Wigs for Kids hair donor; parish festival; parish Christmas decorating; parish Adopt-A-Family; St. Lawrence Haven sandwich making

**WILL ATTEND THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME**


**ANNIE DETTWILLER/PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL**
**Parish: Pond Creek Holy Trinity**

National Honor Society; Key Club; Pep Club; Student Council; Scioto Catholic Youth Group; volleyball team; basketball team; softball team

**WILL ATTEND THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI**


**OLIVIA ETTENHOFER/COLUMBUS ST. FRANCIS DESALES HIGH SCHOOL**
**Parish: Gahanna St. Matthew**

National Honor Society; Spanish National Honor Society; Senior Class president; Buckeye Girls State; volleyball team; National Merit Scholar; lector; extraordinary minister of the Eucharist; Kairos Retreat leader; Evangelization Team; Mind Over Matter Club; Spanish Club; Students of Black Empowerment

**WILL ATTEND OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**


**ANNA HELBY/ZANESVILLE BISHOP ROSECRANS HIGH SCHOOL**
**Parish: Zanesville St. Nicholas**

George Washington University Presidential Scholarship; Joffrey Ballet School New York City Summer Program; Movement on Main Center for Dance student; Mock Trial Best Witness; Mentor Group Leader; Campus Ministry; Prom Committee; Spanish Club; guitar and piano studies; Parish Festival chicken dinner; Beckett House Christmas package delivery; Zanesville Pumpkin Auction; Carr Center renovations; school play usher; Algebra I tutor; Choir; Parish Breakfast

**WILL ATTEND GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**


**EMMA MCCRADY/LANCASTER FISHER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**
**Parish: Lancaster St. Bernadette**

National Honor Society; Senior Class president; Student Council president; United Way Community Care Day; volleyball team; basketball team; Eastside Volleyball Club; Irish for Life Club; Honors Band; Marching Band; Concert Band; Pep Band; All-Fairfield County Band; orchestra for school musicals; Ohio Music Education Association Solo and Ensemble Competition; Happy Farmers 4-H Club; Ohio State Fair food and sewing projects; Fairfield County Fair 4-H Booth; Baltimore Historical Museum cleanup; altar server; Sandwich Saturdays; Parish St. Vincent de Paul Society

**WILL ATTEND CAPITAL UNIVERSITY**


**VALENTINA MENDOZA CRUZ/CRISTO REY COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL**
**Parish: Columbus Christ the King**

National Honor Society; National Spanish Examination Gold Award; Top Job Team; Magis Award; National Hispanic Recognition Program; Questbridge College Match Scholar; Junior State of America; Student Council; tennis team; cross country team; bilingual Mass lector; Youth Group Leadership Team; Parish School of Religion volunteer; community litter cleanup

**WILL ATTEND DENISON UNIVERSITY**


**BECKHAM PARSONS/COLUMBUS ST. CHARLES PREPARATORY SCHOOL**
**Parish: Westerville St. Paul**

National Honor Society; National Merit Scholarship Finalist; Central Ohio Miniature Bridge Building Champion; Bridge Building Team; Engineering Team; soccer team; tennis team; Ambassadors Club; St. Lawrence Haven volunteer; summer school tutor

**WILL ATTEND UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME**


**MEGAN PELTZ/NEW PHILADELPHIA TUSCARAWAS CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**
**New Philadelphia Sacred Heart**

Kiwanis Club 4.0 Grade-Point Average Award; Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association Scholarship Society; basketball team; volleyball team; softball team; Pep Club; Vacation Bible School; altar server; Bidy Basketball Camps; Bidy Volleyball Camps; basketball and football concession stand and gate worker; Sixth-Grade Visit Day leader; Prom and Homecoming setup and cleanup; Science Day group leader

**WILL ATTEND WALSH UNIVERSITY**


**KATHERINE RADWANSKI/COLUMBUS BISHOP READY HIGH SCHOOL**
**Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

National Honor Society; Student Council; St. Vincent de Paul Society; cross country team; track team; Art Club; Beta Club; Future Business Leaders of America; 4-H Club; Franklin County Fair and Ohio State Fair participant; Tech Club; Youth in Government; Student Ambassador; In the Know; Carteens Safe Driving Program volunteer; Grove City VIP Volunteer Program; Grove City Food Pantry volunteer; altar server; lector; extraordinary minister of the Eucharist

**WILL ATTEND OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**


**NICHOLAS RICHARDS/NEWARK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**
**Newark Blessed Sacrament**

National Honor Society; Angels Persist Scholarship; Cincinnatus Century Scholarship; Energy Cooperative Scholarship; Sgt. Marc Muncy Memorial Scholarship; football team; wrestling team; Student Council; Kairos Retreat leader; Kairos Prison Ministry; Key Club; altar server; senior mentor for Freshman Welcome Week; Youth Football Camp; Bidy Wrestling Program; ROOT Program; Youth Evangelization

**WILL ATTEND UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI**


**EVA TEDRICK/COLUMBUS BISHOP HARTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**
**New Albany Church of the Resurrection**

National Honor Society; Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Scholarship; AEP Educational Trust Scholarship; Student Government; Gospel Road Program; nursing home volunteer; Feed the Need volunteer; Student Ambassador; Notre Dame Summer Scholar; theater/drama; cross country team; track team; Hawks Who Pray; Diversity Club; Art Club

**WILL ATTEND UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME**

**WATTERSON, continued from Page 11**

Cyre-Ellis, Justin Roy Das, Olivia T Day, Dominic Francis DeFilippo, Alexander Gabriel Dendis, Marisol Julia DiFeo, Jennifer Donkor, Chelsea Anne Doon, Colin Joseph Durham, Lillian Marie Eldred, Alexis Catharine Erkman, Gabriella Josephine Ervin, Natalie Pearl Etgen, Emma Grace Faherty, Alexandra Nicole Fasone, Brandon Kyle Feaver, Connor Michael Ferguson and Alaina Faith Fisher.

Austin William Ford, Brianna Rose Fortunate, Ian Robert Frank, Giovanna Noelle Frisone, Daniel Patrick Frommeyer, Ava Marie Fultz, Lilliana Marie Garcia, Noah James Garczewski, Clare Agnes Geraghty, Angelina Marie Godfrey, Lily Elizabeth Goodfellow, Rachel Marie Gora, Adley Layne Gottwald, Colby Shafer Graham, Murphy O'Brien Graham, Stephanie Michael Granchay, Lily Catherine Grayem, Emerson Margaret Gregory, Ava Kathleen Gruver, Kathryn Madison Hall, Margaret Ann Hamilton, Riley Grace Hammond, Clayton Robert Hanson, Amarian Nicholas Hegenberger-Ellars, Jack Henry Heyob, Calista Marie Hickman and Mason Andrew Hildebrand.

Lauren Holloway-Drown, Ava Elizabeth Hoying, Christopher Joseph Huber, Helen Marye Hughes, Ava Mae Iceman, Jack Vincent Ishmael, Ava Jane Jackson, Chance Henry Jacobs, Catherine Frances Jaminet, Laura Elena Jauregui-Mora, Maren Nicole Jenkins, Thomas Patrick Jenkins, Kaitlynn Sue Johnson, Magdalene Patrice Johnson, McKenzi Grace Jones, Erin Kalliope Karas, Callan Ava Kasun, Angela Brigid Kemmerly, Donald Caleb Kenney, Finnian Walter Kephart, Carson Michael King, Michael Joseph Kirkpatrick, Stephen Michael Kuehl, Parker John Laliberte, Lauren Ruth LaRowe and Kaitlyn Marie Lauber.

Cody Edward Law, Evelyn Elizabeth Lewis, Sophia Marie Lewis, Tyler Badouy Lieu, Benjamin Matthew Lones, Shanice Nakhone Machyo, Jack Steven Magee, Cuthbert Francis Makumbi, Michael Randall Malagrecia, Peter David Mangold, Brock Atticus Marbaugh, James John Marsh, Greer Addison Martin, Emily Ann Massar, Alexander Jacob Matthews, Mary Elizabeth McDavid, Riley Margaret McGee, James Dylan McMonagle, Patrick Timothy Means, Annie

Marie Melaragno, Eleanor Rose Metzler, Jack Michael Monaghan, Annie Marie Monahan, Philip Joseph Montazzoli, Kathleen Therese Moore, Taylor Riley Morales and Evelyn Helene Morrison.

Gabriel Andrew Muetzel, Ryan Timothy Mulligan, Elena Vivian Mumaw, Helena Marie Musielewicz, Reagan Mary Musser, Margaret Grace Newcomb, Isaac Huy Nguyen, Maeve Elizabeth Noblitt, Tyler Jeffrey O'Connor, Olive Mary O'Dorisio, Avelinn Mae O'Reilly, Nicholas William Orcena, Ronan Thomas Ott, Eliana Christine Pardi, Charlie Louis Pelleriti, Gordon Scott Petrie, Stacey Renee Pindel, Deacon Anthony Pinson, Samuel Luke Ponesse, Cami Yvonne Portier, Teagan Mackenzie Price, Nora Elizabeth Racz, Maggie Mei Ratliff, Stephanie Marie Regan, Claire Catherine Reichelderfer and Benjamin Francis Reing-Hurley.

Cole Michael Rhett, Grace Anne Rider, Luke Dalton Riedlinger, Isabella Noelle Riega, Paige Virginia Ritzenthaler, Ryan James Rudzinski, Owen Paul Same-nuk, Evan James Schehr, Brendan John Scholl, Sophia Grace Schroeder, Sophia

Leigh Schultheis, Seven Sean Scott, Michael Joseph Seeger, Jenna Marie Slyman, Audrey Marie Smith, Alexander Michael Snyder, Jakob Franklin Solis, Sydney Lauren Spears, Rachel Ann Spencer, Noah Michael Stauffer, Robert Nicholas Steinbauer, Robert James Stephenson, Jack Rodgers Stevens, Lilliana Grace Strayer, Jack Aiden Summanen and Sophia Ann Marie Summerfield.

Anne Marie Sutton, Elizabeth Nancy Thomas, Sean Patrick Thomas, Sean David Tibbs, Brandon Luke Trout, Faith Kathryn Truax, Kelsi Lee Valus, Kathleen Elizabeth Van Duzen, Carolyn Grace Van Paeppeghem, Jade Marie Van Washenova, Sydney Marie Vasquez, Eleanor Olivia Vodinelic, Clara Shea Vondran, Colleen Rose Wagy, Taylor Anne Ward, Cade Kenneth Warren, Garrett Clark White, Katherine Carol Whitsett, Ava Mary Jane Wiant, Ryan Joseph Williams, Sydney Noelle Workman, Mary Frances Yablonski, Gifty Adjoa Yeboah, Taylor Marie Young, Michael Franklin Zesch, Natalie Michele Zesch and Zoe Anne Zeyen.

**HARTLEY, continued from Page 9**

Marie Brown, Dominick Buckey, Benjamin R. Burchfield, Brooke H. Burchfield, Marie M. Burkhart and Caden M. Burks.

Colin J. Callahan, Carla Carrera-Mu-

rillo, Zoe Elizabeth Carter, Isabella P. Chalfant, Binyam Demissie Chegen, Grace Elizabeth Chen, Caroline Elizabeth Christy, Noah David Coates, Ter-

ryn Michele Cole, Jackson William Corbin, Jordan Matthew Coyan, Jasmyn M. Crockett, Kaylee Reed Cundiff, Yosef D-Solomon, Heldana Desta, Abigail Di-Nardo, Morgan Fleming Donnelly, Sydney Nicole Eads, Margaret Frances Epler and Hailey Elizabeth Estrada.

Alexandria M. Etienne, Nahom Eyouel, Riley Ann Fitzpatrick, Caleb Walker Francis, Joelle Francis, Raya Denise Franklin, Elijah Samuel Franz, Hannah Franz, Mackenzie Rae Frizzell, Matthew Douglas Frizzell, Karla Galdamez-Rodriguez, Leonardo Bladimir Garcia, Matthew Channell Geist, Betale Esetifanos Getahun, Sydney Elaine Gibson, Maura Goldyn Gipe, Jessica Ann Glass, Grace Elizabeth Goodwin, Madison Nycole Griffin and Jose Antonio Guiltron.

Zekarias Haftu, Ja'Nairi Nakoya Hampton, Leah Simone Hargrave, Nadiya Harris, Nicholas Lee Harris, Kevin Brandon Hernandez, Maria Guadalupe Herrera Amaro, Jocelyn Marie Heuser, Amiyah D. Hodge, DeAuntè Christian Hubbard, Caleb Malik Jackson, Eyan Anthony Jackson, Reagan Elizabeth King, Mary Catherine Kitsmiller, Rebecca Grace LeMay, Anthony J. Lentz, Gavin Cole Leonard, Nevaeh Lipson, Samantha Lopez Chavez, Jane Youfang Lynch and Brian S. Lynch III.

Kaylee Marie Mackey, Diego Maldonado, Luca Mampieri, Parker Diamond Rose Manos, Valeria Mariscal Marquez, Mdeye Astou Mbow, Dayla Makell McAfee, Kierra A. McElrath, Delaney Lillian McKay, Kathryn Elizabeth McLane, Anastacia Meadows, Elsa Mekonnen, Karla V. Mendez Barrientos, Nina Marie Motter, Abigail Murphy, Anthony Mur-

phy, Camryn Elise Murray, Philip E. Murray Jr., Luke Aiden Navarro and Grace Elizabeth Needham.

Dylan Scott Newsome, Isaac Nana Nkwantabisah-Asiedu, Caitlin Corrine O'Malley, Barbara Achien'g Otieno, Grayson G. Page, Jacob Parker, Eyelee Missie Sybel Patray, Sofia Zsanett Payer, Alex Piciuccio, Brooklyn Nicole Pipkin, Elizabeth L. Porter, Grace Ann Powell, Jaxon A. Prater, Jacqueline Dillard Rados, Kennedy Shanae Ragland, Sydney Raleigh, Gabrielle Elaine Reed, Peter William Reinker, Henry James Riesbeck and Rayna Rodenkirchen.

Mia Rooks, Omar Rosales-Castillo, Kimora Marie Russell, Jenna Margaret Ryan, Jacob Ryan Sauer, Emma Frances Sawyer, Michael Valerio Scali, Hope Schafhausen, Arianna Eleese Erlene Settles, Megan Tatla Sheehan, Hana Mulugeta Shiferaw, Shane Michael Shultz, Deve'ny Talaya Skelton-Hayes, Eva Simone Smith, Sarah Renee Smith, Asitu Sonii, Anthony Jeremiah Stewart, Lindi Marie Sweeney, Jayshaun Jerome Talbert and Cecelia Jean Tanner.

Eva Jane Tedrick, Selamawit Girmay Teklebrhan, Gabriella Y. Tesfaye, Jacob Andrew Thomas, Ryan Michael Thomas, Celeste Thompson, Rachel Marie Thompson, Anna Grace Torrell, Ann Frances Trainer, Erik Peyton Underwood, Lola Corrine Vandemark, Sidney M. Waihenya, Tyrae Jamir Walker, Victor Michael Wheeler, Lauren Marie Whitlatch, Zachary Winston-Scott Williams, Cecelia Marie Woods, Kira Olivia Yavari, Michael Andrew Young II, Kayla Marie Zamariya, Jamie Catherine Zang and Matios Abraham Zeleke.



*Class of*  
**2023**  
CONGRATS GRADUATES!

**We are so proud of the 2023 St. Joseph Plain City Parish graduates!**

**May Saint Joseph continue to watch over you and keep you safe.**

Logan Calabrese	Biaggio Pagan
Teylar Clifton	Cecilia Powers
Alex Dendis	Jacob Riedel
Nicholas Elias	William Shaughnessy
Simon Fenik	Amara Suchy
Evaleigh Garnett	Eli Trbovich
Georgia Hamilton	Samuel Trushel
Addison Johnson	Natalie Wagner
Catherine Kolb	Matthew Warburton
Caleb Miller	Anderson Wilson
Colin Neimeister	

## MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

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

Outstanding instrumental and choral music students receive the \$250 awards to help them pay Catholic high school or college tuition. Two scholarships are awarded

to high school seniors and two 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



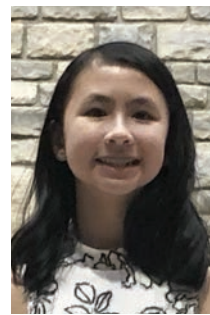
**FRITZGERALD MANUEL**

Fritzgerald "Fritz" Manuel is a percussionist who has played in the concert band, jazz band and pep band throughout his four years at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School. He received the John Philip Sousa Band Award in his junior year for outstanding contributions to the school music program and occasionally has been asked by school band director Rick Brunetto to be bandleader in his absence.

Manuel is a Columbus St. Matthias Church member and often plays a drum set at Masses there. He is a freelance sound engineer and has worked at the Columbus Valley Dale ballroom, which Brunetto manages, for the past two years. He is a member of the St. Charles wrestling team and the school's My Brother's Keeper social service organization.

He will attend Capital University in the fall and major in music technology. He anticipates a career in the music industry as an audio engineer and artist manager and ultimately hopes to start a record label that is music- and art-focused.

### ELEMENTARY INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC



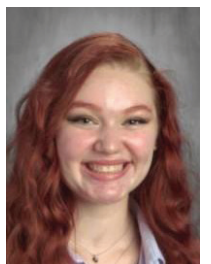
**OLIVIA HOANG**

Olivia Hoang will attend Columbus Bishop Ready High School this fall and is a recent graduate of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help School.

She has been playing and studying piano for the past nine years, has received many honors for her performances in National Federation of Music Clubs and Scale Olympics competitions and has taken part in Pianorama honor recitals since she was 6 years old.

Her school music teacher, Kim Nocero, said she is proficient at creating piano arrangements and writing poetry. She performs at holiday events in her parish, the parish art show and community functions. She also enjoys being part of the Out and About program, which brings music to hospitals and nursing homes.

### HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC



**KATRINA GUNTHER-REVEAL**

Katrina "Kat" Gunther-Reveal, a student at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, will attend the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and will major in media production. She also anticipates singing as an alto in one of the university's choirs. After graduation, she hopes to be involved in television production and to continue in a choir or musical group.

She started cantoring for all-school Masses at DeSales in her freshman year and is involved in all aspects of the school's performing arts program. She is president of the Drama Club and a member of the liturgical and concert choirs and the Horizons choral group. She also has been on the lacrosse and swimming teams. Her other school activities include Student Council, Voice Corps reading for the blind, Student Ambassadors, Stallions for Social Justice and youth ministry. She also takes private piano lessons.

She was the youngest cantor and first full-Mass youth cantor at Westerville St. Paul Church.

### ELEMENTARY CHORAL MUSIC



**DOMINIC LOUISO**

Dominic Louiso, a recent graduate of Reynoldsburg St. Pius X School, will be a freshman at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School this fall.

He has been singing in school choirs since third grade and joined the school band this past year. The school's sixth- through eighth-graders put on a musical every year. He was the only sixth-grade boy in the 2021 musical, and music teacher Karen Smith said he inspired more boys to join him in the following two years.

He also plays the trumpet and guitar and was involved in other school activities, including the cross country, basketball and baseball teams, flag crew, Chess Club, Math Counts, Ski Club and Beta Club. At St. Pius X Church, he was an altar server, Vacation Bible School volunteer, member of the Forge youth group and participant in Eucharistic Adoration.

## DESALES, WATTERSON GRADUATES WIN WARD SCHOLARSHIPS

Sophia Schroeder, a 2023 graduate of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, and Eleanor Bogue, a 2023 graduate of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, are this year's recipients of the Wendy O. Ward Foundation memorial scholarships.

Ward's husband, Chris, a graduate of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, established the scholarships in 2015 in memory of his wife, a Hilliard resident who died of breast cancer on May 18, 2012, after a 10-year career as a writer and public relations consultant.

The scholarships are 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.

Schroeder received \$5,000 for college expenses, and Bogue was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship. The Ward foundation pays the scholarship money directly to the institution the recipient plans to attend.

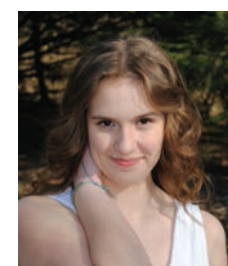
Schroeder's activities at Watterson included cheerleading (varsity captain), Student Council, student ambassador, Environmental Club (president and founder), Wellness Club, National Honor Society, volunteering for recycling efforts and teaching at Columbus St. Agatha Church.

She also was one of Watterson's valedictorians. Schroeder plans to study environmental science at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Bogue, a Worthington St. Michael Church parishioner, was involved in Youth Group, Student Council (junior class vice president, senior class secretary), National Honor Society (treasurer), Italian Club (president), Run the Race Club and the swimming team.

She received DeSales' Father James M. Berendt Award for outstanding service, leadership, involvement and loyalty. Bogue will attend The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. to major in political science and fine arts.

Wendy Ward, a graduate of Bishop Luters 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 do something not all English majors can



Sophia Schroeder



Eleanor Bogue

– 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 scholarships will help provide others with the same opportunity.





# DeSales graduates earn \$32.5 million in scholarships

This year's 212 graduates of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School earned \$32.5 million in scholarships, and 93 percent of them will be attending one of 65 colleges and universities in the fall. They completed 5,421 service hours.

The school held a Baccalaureate Mass on Thursday, May 25 at New Albany Church of the Resurrection, and the commencement ceremony took place on Saturday, May 27 at Alumni Stadium on campus.

The following awards were given to members of the senior class: Father James M. Berendt Award, Eleanor Bogue and Alexander Herrmann; Alumni Award, Seamus Bonte and Richael Saka; Senior Spirit Award, Katrina Gunther-Reveal and Michael Hunsaker; Mother Frances Cabrini Award, Gefei Zhao and Zhiru Zhou; Campus Ministry Award, Dylan Piedrahita and Elizabeth Reash.

Summa cum laude graduates were Kathryn Cavanaugh, Owen Eckstein, Olivia Ettenhofer, Hutson French, Kennedy Hawk, Brendan Lackey, Ethan Lackey, Caroline Leithauser, Jennifer Mitevski, Mary Kate Moriarty, Lauren Orzechowski, Reash, Zackery Rennie, Saka and Cedric Stewart.

Members of the Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School Class of 2023 are:

Evan Nicholas Althouse, Emmanuella Nyarko Amoako, Reginald Afriyie Amonor, Ian Michael Anderson, Jady N. Arnold, Mitch Dan Arthur, Kofi Kwakye Asamoah, Alayna Marie Aventino, Abena Serwah Baffour Awuah, Diana Giselle Ayala Orellana, Luke Walter Bailey, Hailey Lynn Balik, Joey Edward Bangert, Abigail Jane Bechtel, Katherine Bedzyk, Samaria Jehlisah Beedles, Permelia Marie Belford, Myra Ann Berger, Tyler Anthony Blackburn, Anna Elise Blubaugh, Eleanor Josephine Bogue, Seamus Tyrone Bonte, Emily Alexandra Boren, Mason Joseph Brown, Pierson Meese Bryan, Ian James Burns and An-

thony Joseph Cagnina.

Gabriel Enrico Caruso, Kathryn Ann Cavanaugh, Colin Michael Cavinder, Joel Nii-Atuquaye Clottey, Jillian Marie Conroy, Omarion Rae Conteh, Paige Elizabeth Cook, Jamoni L. Crenshaw, Brenda Elizabeth Cruz Gomez, Esmeralda Cuazitl Tochiman, Casandra Cuevas, Josephine Marie Dages, Celina Olivia Davis, Morgan Elyse Davis, Tyler Edward Davis, Ryan Jason Destefanis, Andrea Diaz, Katherine Mishel Diaz, Ashley Alejandra Diaz-Romero, Emma Louise Doone, Daniel Duran, Anna Katherine Dytko, Owen Thomas Eagan, Owen Eugene Eckstein, Olivia Jane Ettenhofer and Henry Darius Exline.

Toluwaniope Ben Famosa, Adam Michael Feltz, Max A. Figliola, Mirella Flores Rivas, Carter Joseph Folian, Tiffany Owusu Fordjour, Ethan Riley Fox, Nicolas Robert Frazier, Hutson Elizabeth French, Michael William Friess, Marshall Cole Froehlich, Luke Vincent Gabrielli, Ricardo Gaitan, Maribel Garcia Sandoval, Mary Elizabeth Gehrlich, Kenneth Lanell Gilbert Jr., Sean Joseph Gilmore, Neal Alexander Godfrey, Kaily Yareli Gomez-Saku Griffin, Gracyn Maura Gullifer, Katrina Erin Gunther-Reveal, Norah Lee Gustafson and Alexander James Hall.

Amelia Marie Hammond, Reece Joseph Hanley, Wyatt Thomas Hanley, Liam Joseph Harmon, Joseph Andrew Harrington, Owen William Hartsough, Kennedy Elizabeth Hawk, Asher Malone Croix Hayles, Christopher Simon Henderson, Luis Fernando Hernandez Sandoval, Alexander Terrence Herrmann, Nathan Michael Hickey, Madelyn Grace Hill, Stella Claire Hocker, Cameron Paul Hoying, Kylie Elizabeth Hoying, Michael Tyler Hunsaker, Khristinn Ramplait Innocent, Calmera Irakoze, Alaina Lynn Jacobs, Nicholas Anthony Jewett, Antonio Jimenez-Fajardo, Molly Ann Jones, True Love Jones, Michaela Gabriela Juárez Lopez Bryan and Kirsten Ann Kelley.



Members of the St. Francis DeSales Class of 2023 Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales

Jyon Lamar Kendrick, Peter Francis Kennedy, Bryn Elizabeth Klingbeil, Mia Abigail Konicki, Ava Angelina Kreuzer, Nikolas Robert Kreuzer, Haley Marie Kyle, Brendan Joseph Lackey, Ethan James Lackey, Aaliyah Monique Lancaster, Ivana Laurol, Clarissa Bobbie Le, Dominic Van Le, Patton Kieu Le, Caroline Marie Leithauser, Caden Basil Lester, Lydia Ann Letzelter, Yesica Matilde Licea Villa, Bianca Maria Long, Camryn Elizabeth Lowis, Jonathan Douglas Maas, Tyrik Malcolm Madison, Siena Rebecca Marchio, Natalie Teresa Martin, Caly Francisco Martinez Dominguez and Michael Joseph Massman.

Maxwell Materu, Yacziry Itzel Maya Gonzalez, Connor Jeffrey Mayes, David William McClelland, Elizabeth Marcella Meeker, Kennedy Rae Melvin, Claudia Mendez, Avery Anne Michaels, Jackson Lee Miracle, Jennifer Anna Mitevski, Jasmyn Lynne Mohamed, Liam Sean Moran, Mary Katherine Moriarty, Rhett David Morris, Mateo Nerida Muller, Margot Carmella Nalli, Michayla Nicole Northup, Denise Nicole Nunez Reyes, Kofi Amankwa Oduro, Josephine Isioma Okonkwo, Rebekah Oladokun, Pedro Antonio Olalde, Florencio Lauren Marie Orzechowski, Liana Ama Brago Osei-Tutu, Paulissen Owusu Ansah and Enoch Fiyin Oye.

Joseph Jed Pallone, Zane Isaac Pat-

erson, Stephen Isaac Pekarck, Yair Perez-Gonzalez, Xavier Oswaldo Pici-Garcia, Anthony Joseph Pickford, Dylan Piedrahita, Jake Thomas Pierce, Sydney Louise Porshinsky, Kathleen Protz, Giovanni Christopher Puckett, Noah Preston Pugh, Brady Nicklaus Quinlan, Atenas Airis Ramirez Salvar, Brenda Ramos Perez, Emily Elizabeth Rayas, Elizabeth Marie Reash, Caroline Blair Reither, Zackery Jackson Rennie, Ethan Joseph Renze, Alexis Dean Reynolds, Caden T. Robinson, Austin Matthew Rush, Jackson Terrence Ryan, Richael Saka, Abishek Sanyashi and Laila Djitaleane Sarr.

Brandon Saucedo, Kaitlyn Ann Schaefer, Anna Theresa Schneider, Gemma Rose Sciarroni, Gabriella Maria See, Lukas Philip Seyboldt, Aidan Andrew Shannon, Kareem Jabbar Smith Jr., Gino Mariano Solazzo, Cedric Rolland Stewart, Johnny Talbert Jr., Molly Ruth Teets, Tyle Alexander Thompson, Isabella Francesca Trostel, Elena Nicolle Vanasdale, Sonia Vargas, Owen Gordon Weikert, Adam Ortiz Weithman, Camren Oneal White, Harmony Janae Williams, Joseph Ryan Alexander Wiseman, Mariana Kathryn Witney, Cierci Amelia Yeager, Aidan Scott Zacherl, Gefei Zhao and Zhiru Zhou.

## DeSales grad heads for Harvard with list of accomplishments

By Hannah Heil  
Catholic Times Reporter

As Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School Student Council president Richael Saka prepared to graduate, she was feeling mixed emotions.

"It's a bit bittersweet to be leaving Student Council," she said, "but I know next year we'll be in good hands."

It might be sad to close this chapter, but Saka has a promising future. She will attend Harvard University in the fall on a full-ride scholarship. There, she plans to pursue dual studies in computer science and government. And she hopes to use her skills from student government on a larger scale.

Saka said she aspires to work at the United Nations in New York City. She has

an extensive list of achievements indicating future success.

"I'm graduating summa cum laude this year, so that's really exciting, getting to represent my class on the highest academic level, and I received the department medals for both computer science and mathematics," she said.

"I've been really interested in STEM for the longest time, especially math and computer science, mainly sparked by one of my teachers, Ms. (Val) Sharritts, who really taught me that math is more than something cut and dry.

"It's really an art as well. She really sparked my passion for loving mathematics, and also my (computer science) teacher, Mr. (Jack) Gedeon, who was just a mentor to me all throughout my jour-

ney in computer science and was also my supervisor for the Code Club.

"He's been a big help for me, not only teaching me how to code, but also teaching me how to teach others how to code. I have a lot of teachers here that have been role models to me and have been really helpful in my academic journey."

The Code Club is an organization that Saka started at DeSales for her classmates.

"I do a lot of things in my community specifically related to my passions in computer science or social justice," she said. "I started the Code Club at St. Francis DeSales, so I teach and create the curriculums to help allow some of my peers to learn to code and program and also teaching them engineering fundamentals.

"I was able to help conduct some work-

shops for some elementary and middle school students, as well, so that they can learn how to code and program, especially young women who don't often see themselves represented in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math)."

Saka is a National Merit Scholar. She entered the National Merit Scholarship Program based on her Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test score. High school students typically take the exam their junior year. The exam covers reading, writing and language and math.

She is one of approximately 50,000 students, of the 1.5 million high school students who took the exam, to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship



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## Newark Catholic graduates 62

Newark Catholic High School graduated a class of 62 seniors in a commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 21 in the school auditorium. A Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Tuesday, May 16 in Newark Blessed Sacrament Church.

The class valedictorian was Nicholas Richards, and the salutatorian was Anabelle Hess.

Ninety-five percent of the graduates will move on to higher education, including one who will become a seminarian. They earned \$3.7 million in scholarships.

The class performed 3,340 hours of community service and helped the school donate 432 pounds of food to a local pantry.

Members of the Newark Catholic High School Class of 2023 are:

Adyson Baesmann, Braylon Bates, McKenna Broyles, Gabriel Carlisle, Rachel Carter, Violet Caton, Caden Cecil, Kaylee DeBevoise, Allissa Doehring, Anthony Dry, Hallie Dziatkowicz, Bradyn Ehret, Hannah Fernandez, Nathaniel Ferrell, Anthony Franks, Maria Geiger, Ava Gummer, Mason Hackett, Griffin

Halenar, Jessica Hammond and Austin Hendrickson.

Blair Henry, Anabelle



Nicholas Richardson



Anabelle Hess

Hess, Ryan Hewitt, Meggan Hitchens, Colton Jackson, Mark Jewett, Madeline Kauble, Lochlan Kennedy, Ashley Kiefer, Andrew Lane, Kyle Langenbrunner, Gabriella Layton, Shawn Leach, Camryn

Mauter, Katelyn Merritt, Rugby Meza, Grant Moore, Sara Moore, Ian Morehead, Elijah Morris and Macey Myers.

Ilana O'Neill, Quinn Reed, Jack Rehbeck, Ryan Ricciardo, Nicholas Richards, Mary Grace Richardson, Anthony Robertson, Brendan Sheehan, Joseph Stanley, Mya Stokes, Xavier Sutton, Cormac Thress, Miranda Tyack, Tanner Wert, Cain Willey, Connor Wright, Kyle Wright, Zoe Yates, Kenzie Zimpfer and Anden Zupancic-Fairburn.

## 15 graduate from Bishop Rosecrans

The 15 members of the Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School Class of 2023 were awarded diplomas at a ceremony on Saturday, May 27 in the school gymnasium. A Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 26 at Zanesville St. Nicholas Church.

Thirteen of the graduates will attend institutions of higher educa-

tion. They were offered \$3.3 million in scholarships and performed 1,884 service hours.

Anna Heiby was valedictorian, and Caitlyn Wilson and Jenna McLaughlin shared salutatorian honors.

Members of the Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School Class of

2023 are:

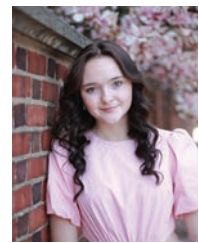
Alisa Bugglin, Malakai Clark, Nathan Hart, Weston Hartman, Anna Heiby, Skyler Hittle, Ella Lambert, Jenna McLaughlin, Charlie Peterson, Garrett Pugh, Mia Wells, Caitlyn Wilson, Emma Winegar, Livia Wright and Chloe Zemba.



Anna Heiby



Caitlyn Wilson



Jenna McLaughlin

### DESALES, continued from Page 17

program. She was recognized as a Commended Student.

Saka is a first-generation American. She was born in the U.S. to immigrant parents from Ghana. Saka said, from a young age, her parents instilled in her a work ethic.

Saka was awarded multiple scholarships for her academic achievements, leadership skills and service to her school and community that will fund her four years of college.

She won the national Amazon Future Engineer scholarship, which is a childhood-to-career program aimed at increasing access to computer science education for students from underserved and underrepresented communities. The scholarship includes a \$40,000 award and a guaranteed internship with Amazon after Saka's freshman year of college.

Saka won the Ron Brown Scholarship, which seeks to improve the lives of intellectually gifted, community- and public service-minded African American high school seniors by accelerating their progress into impactful leadership roles and opportunities.

"I was one of 50 around the country to be chosen for this \$40,000 award," she said. "We were flown out to Washington, D.C., in order to interview for the award. It's just a really amazing community."

"And, I really love being a part of the scholarship community as well because it goes so far back, and it's just a really good opportunity for me to network with other POC (people of color) students and people in all walks of life."

Saka was also selected for the Equitable Excellence Scholarship. The \$20,000 award seeks to empower students' future plans so they can continue to have positive impacts in their community.

The scholarship recipients "exemplify the facets of the Equitable Excellence organization," which she said means "working to make our community more equitable, striving for racial equality, socioeconomic equality in our cities." The scholarship recipients are "people who strive to do more for our society, even going on to what we plan to study in college as well."

Saka said she plans to continue her computer science and government studies, as well as involvement in extracurricular activities. She is also interested in continuing to learn Mandarin, the most widely spoken form of Chinese, which she studied in high school.

Saka competed in the international Chinese Bridge Chinese Proficiency Competition, which she was introduced to by her DeSales Mandarin teacher, Mengqi Wu.

"I've loved working with her," Saka said. "She's probably one of the most influential teachers that I've had in my life, and I am really grateful for her."

The academic competition is designed for foreign students across the globe (outside of China) to demonstrate their mastery of the Chinese language. There were approximately 300 finalists for this past year's competition.

"I was top 10 in the world finishing the Chinese Bridge competition, so as a prize, they gave me a scholarship to study abroad in either Taiwan or China anytime during my college years," she said. "I'm really excited to be able to take on that adventure, as well, because I think learning foreign languages has definitely been such a big part of my life."

Saka was awarded the permanent title "Ambassador for Chinese Language." She will continue to work with the Chinese

Bridge organization outside of school.

"The Chinese Bridge organization and the Confucius Institute are in charge of promoting learning Mandarin to foreign

speakers around the world, so I get to be an ambassador of the language and work

See DESALES, Page 20



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## Cristo Rey graduates its largest class

Cristo Rey Columbus High School graduated the largest class in its 10-year history totaling 97 students at commencement ceremonies on Saturday, June 3 in Ohio State University's Mershon Auditorium. The class Baccalaureate Mass was on Thursday, June 1 at Columbus Holy Cross Church.

Eighty-three class members will attend a college or university in the fall. Class members earned \$22.7 million in scholarships and performed 1,368 hours of community service.

Valentina Mendoza Cruz was valedictorian, and Emily Maria was salutatorian.

Members of the Cristo Rey Columbus High School Class of 2023 are:

Kirsty Agyekum, Esmeralda Alcauter-Torres, Giselfairen Appiah, Jackie At-

ta-Safah, Aissatou Ba, Tara Lynn Barnes Fant, Rita Beyene, Madison Black, Savion Brownlow-James, Emily Cano, David Claytor, Darius Corbett, Alexi Cortez Aguilar, Sequoia Cruthird, Deja Darling, Musaya Deng, Amaiya Denton, Sara Divallo, Sofia Dininni, Mark Dudley, Bruce Espinosa Cornelio and Janaya Ferguson-Boykins.

Mari Fernandez, Joselyn Flores, Josefine Garcia Ramos, Makeda Gemechu, Matelena Gemechu, Kamyille Gravely, Danya Gray, Brenda Guizar Santiago, Ronald Hairston, Hannah Hall, Jasmine Hampton, Yuliet Hernandez Correa, Deborah Hernandez Palma, Lizzette Hernandez Perez, Zariah Herod, Shamea Hutson, Maria Jacobs, Kiara Jones, Naburah Kaloko, Fanta Kamara, Jallang

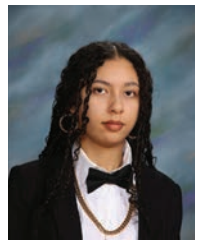
Kanu, Ujwal Khanal, Karuna Kharel, Brian Lane, Rebecca Loayza, Emiliano Manson, Robyn Mapp and Emily Maria.

Stacy Martinez Arellano, Everardo Martinez Delgado, Alva Martinez Falcon, Natalie Martinez, Valentina Mendoza Cruz, Vanisha Mensah, Dennis Monterroza, Alejandro Munoz Pichardo, Layla Murphy, Jakobe Newman, Nneoma Nlemchi, Kameron Nutakor, Haddijatou Nyang, Melissa Ochoa, Sherry Olabisi, Oluwatofunmi Oresotu, Alexi Ortega, Fernando Ortiz, Josie Osorio-Santos, Philip Patterson, Omar Quintana Hernandez and Angel Ramirez Torres.

Rodolfo Rendon, Cordaejah Ridley, Logan Rozzelle, Juan Ruiz Garduno, Jacqueline Saldana Flores, Andie Sanchez Reyes, Erandi Sandoval Quintana,



Valentina Mendoza Cruz



Emily Maria

Ahlaam Sebri, Penda Seydy, Jeremy Shaffer, Isaiah Sho-Sawyer, Isaiah Stewart, Bryce Still, Trey Still, Rhodas Tariku, Daimyr Tate, Perry Tawiah, Tonyah Taylor, Nahom Tesfaye Gudeta, Diane Trinidad Rosales, Rogelio Vega, David Ventura Gomez, Melissa Villalovos, Kimberly Villaruel and Carlos Zurita.

### DESALES, continued from Page 19

with the Chinese Bridge ... to help promote more people to learn Mandarin," she said.

She said that she hopes to work with Mandarin professors at Harvard to start a chapter on campus and to encourage her peers to enter the competition.

Saka is also learning to speak Korean. She was awarded a scholarship by the U.S. Department of State to take part in a language immersion program in South Korea this summer.

"There's a cohort of 15 of us going to Korea and taking part in this fully funded language immersion program," she said. "I'm really excited for that because I've really loved learning foreign languages for the longest time, and I think that will really help me on my journey to working in the United Nations and taking my skills to help tackle issues that are pressing the world on a global scale."

Saka was a semifinalist for the 2023

class of Coca-Cola Scholars. The program selects high school seniors across the country for their academic excellence, leadership and service demonstrated in school and community activities.

Saka was also one of 4,000 high school seniors in the nation given an invitation from the U.S. Department of Education to apply for the U.S. Presidential Scholars program. The students are nominated based on their academic achievements

and college admission test scores. The final scholar selection is chosen by the president of the United States.

Saka said most of the scholarships she applied for and won were listed on scholarship websites.

"Pretty much all of the scholarships that I've been applying for and have won have been from scholarship engines like

See DESALES, Page 21



# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023!

May you continue to THRIVE  
in college, in career, and in  
character.

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COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

10 years

# 34 seniors graduate from Portsmouth Notre Dame

Diplomas were awarded to 34 graduates of Portsmouth Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School by principal J.D. McKenzie and guidance counselor Beth Haney at a commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 21 in the school gymnasium. A Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 19 in Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church.

The Class of 2023 was offered \$1.4 million in scholarships and accepted \$229,350 of that total. Seventy-five percent of Notre Dame's graduates are pursuing higher education. Twenty-five of the 34 graduates will be attending 12 colleges, including four outside of Ohio, and one will be joining the U.S. Air Force.

The class valedictorian is Annie Dettwiller of Otway, the daughter of Chuck and Jamie Dettwiller. She has accepted a \$10,000 scholarship from the University of Cincinnati, where she will major in

psychology with the goal of becoming a school psychologist.

The salutatorian is Kathryn Nelson of Portsmouth, the daughter of Ronald and Keri Nelson of Portsmouth. She has accepted \$22,000 in scholarship offers and plans to attend Shawnee State University, where she will major in art education.

Graduating with honors diplomas were Kathrine Ball, Mallory Boland, Kamryn Bradford, Carter Campbell, Alexander Cassidy, Owen Dennewitz, Annie Dettwiller, Libby Kelly, Reed Lasswell, Reece Mault, Luke McGuire, Seth Mowery, Kathryn Nelson, Braeden Patmore and Dominic Sparks.

The school presents three special awards voted upon by the faculty. The Citizenship Award was given to Trinity Bowling for her contribution of time and energy to civic, community and school

projects. The Senior Service Award was given to Kathryn Nelson for her generosity with her time toward course work and extracurricular activities.

The Outstanding Senior Award was given to Annie Dettwiller for best fulfilling the roles of scholar and leader in the school and community and demonstrating outstanding character, service to others and, on a daily basis, high Christian ideals in all of her activities.

Members of the Portsmouth Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School Class of 2023 are:

John Ball, Kathrine Ball, Mallory Boland, Trinity Bowling, Kamryn Bradford, William Burke, Carter Campbell, Alex Cassidy, Myles Cole, Tyler Davis, Owen Dennewitz, Annie Dettwiller, George Duran, Wade Fraley, Libby Kelly and Charlee Lansing.

Dalton Lasswell, Reed Lasswell, Rea-



Annie Dettwiller

Kathryn Nelson

gan Lester, Laycie Mahle, Reece Mault, Luke McGuire, Hunter McNutt, Noah McWilliams, Seth Mowery, Kathryn Nelson, Braeden Patmore, Brighton Riegle, Dylan Seison, Dominic Sparks, C-Aira Verity, Wyatt Webb, Ashton Whaley and Charles Zheng.

# 37 graduate from Fisher Catholic

Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School graduated a class of 37 members at a commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 28 in the school gymnasium. A Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 26 in Lancaster St. Bernadette Church.

Thirty-two class members will be attending one of 17 institutions of higher education. They were awarded more than \$4.6 million in scholarships.

One graduate will be entering the U.S. Army, one will be going to the Ohio Air National Guard and three will enter the workforce. The class valedictorian was Emma McCrady, and the salutatorians were Emeline Neighbor and JJ Viau.

Members of the Fisher Catholic High School Class of 2023 are:

Brenna Beauseau, Elliot Boley, Ben



Emma McCrady



Emeline Neighbor



JJ Viau

Boyden, Owen Brandt, Averie Bruce, Gabbie Bruno, Joanna Carr, Ella Clum, Emma Corby, Nick Dolci, Austin Evans, Ava Ewing, Jordyn Fitch, Ellie Funk, Lillia Funk, Marie Hampshire, Cat Hanf, Isaac Hill and Liam Hoch.

Abby Kenney, Anna Kenney, Jake Krooner, Lydia Martin, Malia McClenaghan, Emma McCrady, Sophie Morrison, Emeline Neighbor, Nathan Reiling, Alex Ristau, Noah Sharp, Sophie Shaw, Nathen Shea, Annie Stedman, Carley Sunney, Cady Tipple, JJ Viau and Piper White.

## DESALES, continued from Page 20

scholarships.com, or Kaleidoscope or Scholarship America," she said.

"I've made countless scholarship lists for some of my friends who have been asking me how they can apply to scholarships and fund their education as well. These are the three websites that I always recommend people search for scholarships that fit their demographics."

Saka was named a recipient of the Ham4Progress award, which she found and applied for through a scholarship engine. The award honors 10 students in the U.S. who demonstrate academic achievement and commitment to social justice. Saka received a \$3,500 cash prize, which was awarded by the cast of the Broadway musical "Hamilton" and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

"We had to write an essay about how we are working to promote social justice and racial equality in our schools and in our communities as well," she said.

Saka said she worked to promote social justice in her school by being a part of the leadership team for SOBE (Student Orga-

nization for Black Empowerment). She said the student organization plans fundraisers and created a scholarship fund.

"We started a scholarship fund here at the school for POC students that are coming into DeSales, and we planned the first-ever Black History Month assembly last year," she said. "We also planned another one this year for our second annual."

Saka said SOBE invites speakers from throughout Columbus, including business owners, politicians and leaders "who set a good example for some of our students here and are a good role model for people to look up to."

She also sought to promote social justice in her community by serving a term on the Columbus Youth Council during her junior year. The council represents the approximately 40,000 high school students in Columbus.


"There were 13-15 of us that were chosen all throughout the city by the Columbus City Council and the mayor," she said. "So, that was really cool to be able to serve on

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to all of the  
Graduates of  
The Class of 2023!

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**GRACE PLUMMER** 

**CLASS of 2023**

Congratulations on being named Best of Class! May God continue to light the path first set for you at Sts. Peter and Paul School. Best wishes at OSU!

**LOVE, MOM, DAD & GRANT**

**NEWARK CATHOLIC**


**AVA GUMMER** 

**CLASS of 2023**

Congratulations, Ava Gummer, on you academic and athletic achievements! We are so proud of you!

**LOVE, DAD, MOM, SYDNEY & CHARLEE**

**NEWARK CATHOLIC**

**MIRANDA TYACK** 

**CLASS of 2023**


Your mom & dad are proud of you, how well you did in high school & what a great young woman you have become. We can't wait to see you continue your academic & athletic career at Heidelberg University.

**LOVE, DAD & MOM**

**DESALES, continued from Page 21**

the board for a year. We learned a lot about how city municipal governments work. "We worked closely with the Columbus City Council, and we met every month at the City Hall. It's really nice to be able to go there and meet different city leaders and just learn more about what us as a youth can do to make a change in our local cities and our schools as well."

**BISHOP WATTERSON**


**GABRIELLA ERVIN** 

**CLASS of 2023**

Congratulations, Bear, on all you continue to accomplish! Howard and the World await!

**LOVE, YOUR PACK - DAD, MOM, CHARLIE, & AUGGIE**

**BISHOP WATTERSON**


**JUSTIN DAS** 

**CLASS of 2023**

Congratulations Justin! Good luck at OSU!

**LOVE MOM, DAD, ALEX, TRISTAN, & YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY.**

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**RUSSELL E. BONNEVILLE III, MD, PHD** 


**CLASS of 2023**

Congratulations! You've acquired much knowledge, but this wisdom is not all that defines you. It's your kind, gentle, and faithful heart that will make this world a better place.

**LOVE & PRAYERS, MOM**

Saka demonstrated her leadership skills as a Bank of America Student Leader. Bank of America's Student Leaders program prepares community-minded youth for success through leadership training and work experience. Saka was one of four students in central Ohio selected for the national program. "Every major city that has a Bank of America headquarters, they also have three to four Student Leaders," she said. "So, I had a paid internship at I Know I Can, which is a local nonprofit that works to help high schoolers at inner-city schools and public schools in Columbus to start the process of applying to college and pursuing higher education."

**PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME**

**REED LASSWELL** 

**CLASS of 2023**

Congratulations on all of your hard work and accomplishments! We are so very proud of you!

**LOVE, DAD, MOM & TAYLOR**

**PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME**

**BRAEDEN PATMORE** 

**CLASS of 2023**

We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments! If you believe in yourself and trust in God, you can do anything. We love you!

**LOVE, MOM, DAD, & RYLEE**

**BISHOP WATTERSON**

**RYAN MULLIGAN** 

**CLASS of 2023**


Congratulations Ryan! May God continue to bless you on your journey to Miami!

**LOVE, DAD & MOM, PATRICK, BRYNN, LILLY & MICHAEL**

"Being able to see how working at a nonprofit works and be able to be a part of that network of other student leaders was definitely such a valuable experience for me." Saka also held a virtual summer internship at the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation. "We worked with clinical doctors and

*See DESALES, Page 23*

**BISHOP WATTERSON**


**AJ BERRY** 

**CLASS of 2023**

Congratulations AJ! We are so proud of you!! All the best at the University of Cincinnati!

**LOVE, MOM, DAD & SAM**

**PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME**

**ALEX FASONE** 

**CLASS of 2023**

Congratulations on your graduation! This is a huge accomplishment, and we are so proud of you! Remember to always stay curious, keep learning, and follow your passions!

**LOVE MOM & DAD**

**PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME**


**AMARIAN HEGENBERGER ELLARS** 

**CLASS of 2023**

We are to proud of your achievements and cannot wait to see what you will to in this world. Good luck in your studies of Mechanical Engineering and pitching/hitting at University of Michigan!

**GO BLUE!**

**BISHOP WATTERSON**


**JENNA COLLIER** 

**CLASS of 2023**

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire." Mind your sparks at Notre Dame!!

**LOVE, MOM, DAD, PAXTON, & ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA**

**BISHOP WATTERSON**

**BOBBY STEPHENSON** 

**CLASS of 2023**

Congratulations on all your accomplishments! Good luck at OSU!

**LOVE, DAD, MOM, & MARISSA**

**DESALES**, *continued from Page 22*

professors at Yale in order to create a program to encourage more POC and more youth to get interested in clinical research and also encouraging people to take part in clinical trials," she said.

"So, that was very rewarding to see how the process works in doing research relating to social issues and also ways that youth can definitely make a change in terms of STEM and research. That was a really fun experience as well."

For the past few years of high school, Saka interned at the University of Pittsburgh's bioinformatics (using software for understanding biological data) center.

"I did a research project there also related to data science and public health, and I was able to present my research at a few competitions and also even published a paper with my mentor," she said. "It's still pending, but it will be published soon."

Saka and her mentor, a Ph.D. candidate at the university, worked on a research paper for the American Medical Informatics Association, she said.

During her final high school semester, Saka interned at the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

"I worked in their tech informatics center, so that was really cool to see how I could use technology to apply that in a government aspect, how technology is used in issues pressing our city and our state socially," she said. "That's something that sparked my interest in wanting to go into the intersection of computer science and government."

"I can use STEM and apply that to public policy and issues relating to public service as well. I think that's definitely something really cool because I think people don't necessarily think of STEM as things that you can apply to maybe non-technical problems."

"I think when people think 'STEM' they think of tech startups, like Google or Amazon, not necessarily like the U.S. government or the United Nations. So, I think that's definitely something that really interests me."

While interning at the state agency, Saka said, she learned how data can be used to predict future actions.

"You could solve a problem relating to how people apply for unemployment benefits, how computer science can be used to more efficiently streamline the process of people applying for unemployment benefits ... and how the application process goes," she said. "You can use computer science in pretty much any aspect of social issues or anything related to that."

Saka hopes to apply this knowledge to a future career at the United Nations.

"They do have a few jobs (at the United Nations) related to tech policy and equitability and technology, especially in Third World countries, and how technology can be spread to those countries so that they can have access to the same assets that we do here," she said. "I think I would definitely be interested in working on some of those projects."

Reflecting on her many achievements, Saka traced her success back to her family roots.

"From a young age, I've been taught having discipline," Saka said. "My mom, she came here with pretty much nothing, and she really taught me the importance of working hard and the importance of knowing that nothing is given. You really have to earn it. You have to work hard to deserve it."

"Not only excelling academically, but also pursuing extracurricular endeavors, not only inside of school, but outside of school as well, has been something that I think has shaped me into the person that I am today."

"And having a good support system at home with my sisters and my mom. They have definitely supported me every step of the way, and I'm really grateful for that. I think that's definitely what has been my recipe to success."

As she prepares to head to the East Coast for college, Saka said she will miss her friends from DeSales most.

"They've been my backbone throughout high school," she said. "They've also kept me really humble and grounded for sure. I'm really grateful for my friend group and the friends that I've made at DeSales."



Receive the Gospel of Christ whose herald you are.  
Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.

Congratulations  
to all

2023

graduates from the  
**DEACONS OF THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS**

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# CONGRATULATIONS

**to all the high school seniors**

on reaching this significant milestone in your lives! As you stand on the precipice of the next chapter in your lives, take a moment to reflect and pray on the tremendous dedication, hard work, and perseverance that has led you here. You have weathered the storms of adolescence, overcome a pandemic, and emerged stronger and wiser. May your future be filled with success, fulfillment, endless possibilities, and the Holy Spirit. Congratulations once again, and may all of your dreams carry you to new heights.



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