

CLASS OF 2024

The
CATHOLIC TIMES



SPECIAL GRADUATION SECTION

Class
OF
2024

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

our
Catholic
Schools

THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS



Congratulations to the Class of 2024

By Dr. Adam J. Dufault

Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Dear Students of the Class of 2024, 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 one 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 ahead.

It is the hope of all of us who serve 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 you 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 and administrators, who have supported you along the way.



A letter to the Class of 2024

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. As you go forth into the world, please know of our heartfelt congratulations and our continued support.

In the modern day, sometimes we reduce education to learning technical things; to getting good grades; to getting into a good college or university; and, ultimately, to getting a high paying job that we will find satisfying and for which others will respect us.

Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk, the late Archbishop of Cincinnati, once said to me: “Don’t let your studies get in the way of your education.” At the time, I was leaving for doctoral studies in Rome, but I think what he meant is that our education involves much more than what we read in books. The true education is the education of the heart. The primary concern of a true and sufficient education is that of educating the human heart as God made it.

Each one of us has been given a heart by God – a heart that longs for that which is true, good and beautiful. Each of us has a longing within us to belong, to love and to be loved. It is precisely this heart that must be educated. This means apprehending the reality that is before us. Authentic education trains the mind to think critically – not negatively – about reality. How does what we see and encounter in reality correspond to the desires of the heart?

Education assists us in seeking the truth – in authentic investigation – rather than simply accepting propaganda. It means being open to that which is before us and to exploring it more profoundly. Education certainly involves more than what one reads in books. It involves relationships. During my time in Rome, I learned a lot about art and architecture, about the history of Western civilization, about food and cultures simply from walking around the city, but I would say I learned even more from the people I met in Rome.

Time and again, over a meal or in the TV room, I would have a good conversation with a fellow priest. I would learn about what he was studying, but I would also learn from his experience. In the course of a human encounter – through a conversation – we would communicate something of our experience to each other. This is also part of the educative experience.

I would invite you – our graduates – to think about what has been communicat-



ed to you by your principals, teachers, coaches and friends through your educational journey. What are those lessons which you learned that aren’t found in books?

Although I spent the majority of my life in the classroom as a student, teacher or professor, I would have to say that most of my education I received on my knees, conversing with the Teacher *par excellence*. Jesus invites us to come to Him: “Come to me all you who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you. Take my yoke open your shoulders and learn from me, for I am meek in humble of heart.”

From Jesus, we learn how to develop not only a humble heart but a compassionate heart. In the story of the Good Samaritan, the priest and Levite are well-educated in the law, but they do not have the emotional intelligence to do the right thing; whereas, the Good Samaritan, a figure of Jesus Himself, sees where mercy and compassion are needed and acts.

Jesus, in dining with tax collectors and sinners, teaches us not to be judgmental but to offer others hope. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, lays down His life for His friends, demonstrating the value of sacrificial love. Jesus educates us to the value of service in washing His disciples’ feet. It is He who challenges us to arise from mediocrity, functionalism and efficiency to the greatness to which the human person is called – to live, not as a slave to work or efficiency, but to live in the freedom of the sons and daughters of God. In the end, we hope that we have offered you an education that serves you now and into eternity.

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

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



*I am the vine, you
are the branches.
John 15:5*

CONGRATULATIONS
CLASS OF 2024!



St. Anthony students find home at OLP, graduate from eighth grade

By Elizabeth Pardi

When Columbus St. Anthony School closed in 2023, most of its students transferred to Columbus Our Lady of Peace (OLP) and many of them are now graduating from eighth grade at the school this year.

Despite the unexpected transition into a new student body for their last year before high school, the students found a welcoming home among the OLP community.

"When I heard that St. Anthony was closing ... my heart immediately went out to the students, the staff, the teachers and the community," OLP principal Jim Silcott said. "I knew that many of (them) had been there for many years."

"Father Dooley, our pastor, and I knew ... that if we could offer assistance in relocating the students or assisting staff in finding new employment, we were going to find a way to do it. The distance between our schools is only three miles".

At an event organized by the diocese to connect St. Anthony parents with other schools, Silcott said he was impressed by the parents' determination to find a new school with a welcoming community for their children.

"Additionally," he said, "their passionate desire to keep their children in a Catholic school was a powerful testimony to the Catholic values they had learned at St. Anthony."

When Silcott found out the St. Anthony seventh graders were open to moving to OLP for their eighth-grade year, he went to the seventh-grade class at OLP to gauge their openness to the St. Anthony students joining them.

"I was overjoyed at their support in making (it) happen," he said. Of the 17 seventh graders from St. Anthony, 13 transferred to OLP for eighth grade. Additionally, Silcott said, "We took in another 30 students in the lower grades."

In order to get the rising eighth-graders from both schools acquainted with one another, The Catholic Foundation provided a grant for them to attend a field trip in May 2023 to ZipZone, a zipline adventure park in Columbus.

Fourteen-year-old Julien McElroy, who had attended St. Anthony since kindergarten, said he appreciated the opportunity to connect with the OLP students before starting the school year. "I felt like that really helped us build bonds with each other," he said.

The following day, the students gathered again, this time at OLP, for what was dubbed a Constitutional Convention.

"We elected student council leadership and representatives for the new school year," Silcott said. They also discussed hopes and plans for the annual eighth-grade trip they would take and gave the St. Anthony students an opportunity to share any traditions they'd like to bring over from their former school.

"On both days, the students got along well and I knew that they would all be good classmates together," Silcott said.

Over the course of their eighth-grade year, many friendships developed among the students that would influence their plans for high school.

Chloe McNally, who started at OLP in the fourth grade, said her St. Anthony friends helped her make the decision to attend Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School.

"I was going to go to (Columbus) Watterson (High School)," she said, "but I thought, 'I think I'll have it better (if I stay) with these friends.'" Among other things, McNally noted the good moral influence of the former St. Anthony students who are now her closest friends.

Despite the difficulty in saying goodbye to St. Anthony, the eighth graders have found contentment among their new community.

Orianna Strickland, who attended St.



Members of the eighth grade class at Columbus Our Lady of Peace School include students who transferred this year from Columbus St. Anthony School, which closed at the end of the 2022-23 school year.
Photo courtesy Our Lady of Peace School

Anthony from kindergarten through seventh grade, said that one of the things that made leaving so hard was saying goodbye to the principal, Christina Iaconis. But Strickland said she truly enjoys her new principal as well. "(We) love Mr. Silcott," she said. "(and) the OLP community."

Silcott said the highlight of the 2023-24 school year was the preparation and production of OLP's spring musical, "Crooked Tree," which the seventh and eighth graders performed May 22 at the Bishop Watterson High School theater. "Here is where I have seen true teamwork in action," Silcott said.

OLP's graduating eighth-grade class includes 43 students, and 42 of them will attend Bishop Watterson, St. Francis DeSales or St. Charles Preparatory

School in the fall.

"Thirty percent of our graduates have received some sort of merit scholarship to high school," Silcott said. The scholarships are from OLP, the high schools and organizations such as the Serra Club, which supports vocations, and the Christ Child Society, which serves children in need.

The eighth graders said they look forward to carrying on the friendships they've established into high school and beyond.

"This class will truly be remembered as a remarkable class," Silcott said. "I pray for their success and fulfillment in advancing the Kingdom of God in the years ahead."

Elizabeth Pardi is a contributor to The Catholic Times who lives in Columbus.



Students from Columbus Our Lady of Peace School and the former Columbus St. Anthony School came together for a field trip in May 2023 to ZipZone, an adventure park in Columbus, to get acquainted. Seventeen St. Anthony students transferred after completing seventh grade to Our Lady of Peace for eighth grade when the St. Anthony School closed last year.

Photos courtesy Our Lady of Peace School



Bishop Watterson
High School

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024!

\$29 million in college scholarships

7,165 service hours

Accepted at 160 colleges and universities

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

St. Catherine of Siena

215 graduate from Bishop Watterson

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School awarded diplomas to 215 graduating seniors on Saturday, May 25 in the school gymnasium. A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated there on Thursday, May 23.

Ninety-seven percent of the class members were accepted by a total of 160 institutions of higher education and received more than \$29 million in college merit scholarship offers. They will be attending 56 different colleges and universities. Two percent will be attending a trade school or public safety academy and one percent are undecided or taking a gap or service year.

The school awarded 86 state honors diplomas, with 93 students receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence. Seven class members had perfect scores in individual subjects on the American College Test. Class members totaled 7,165 service hours.

There were 162 academic medals, presented for an "A" average all four years, awarded in individual subjects. Eleven students received service charity cords for at least 250 hours of community service.

Receiving scholarships and other honors related to academics and achievements in other areas were: Rose Lombardi, Zonta Club of Columbus Scholarship nominee; Lily Williams and Michael Daniels, Wendy O. Ward Scholarships; Sofia Siles and Carly Henry, Catalysts for Positive Change; Everest Velu, Upper Arlington Optimist Club Scholarship; Dylan Crumbaugh, Michael Daniels, Kathleen Driscoll, Pierre-Andre Geoffrion, Max Melaragno and Everest Velu, National Merit Scholarship Commended Scholars; Elizabeth Fields and Jake McCann, University of North Carolina Morehead-Cain Scholarship nominees; Bridget Lombardo, Sullivan Scholarship; Jennifer Daniels, Danny Muldoon, Lana Peters and Sofia Siles, Msgr. Spiers Service Awards; Jennifer Daniels, Bishop Herrmann Service Award; and Michael Daniels, All-Diocesan Academic Honor Team.

Academic medals were presented to 96 students, 13 of whom received summa cum laude medals for posting grade-point averages of 4.15 or higher. Another 43 students were awarded magna cum laude medals (3.90 to 4.14 GPA) with 40 receiving cum laude medals (3.70 to 3.89).

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

David Foly Adjanoh, Delaney Grace Adkins, Riley Elizabeth Adkins, Jan Nkengnju Ajuseh, Tyler Nicholas Altier, Jonah David Altiero, Sofia Abigail Alvarado, Owen George Anderson, Matthew Steven Armstrong, Ryland Miguel Arnold, Christopher James Bair, Holden John Barnhart, John Christopher

Baumel, Will Patrick Baumgartner, Elliott Jeffrey Baur, Johnny Douglas Bay-Vinka, Emily Elizabeth Bellisari, Emma Patricia Benadum, Alaina Catherine Bennett, Kaitlin Terese Bergman, Gabriella Grace Beuselink, Mark Alan Biagi, Jamie Lee Bishop, Jame Ethan Blatt and Liza Danielle Bork.

Benjamin William Boyle, Finn Hendrik Braam, Alexandria Edith Bradford, Lenora Marie Brady, Julien Christopher Brandon, Marcello Damon Brogan, Amelia Irene Brown, Dillon Stephen Brown, Parker James Brunner, Nicholas Ryan Bunce, James Rooney Byrne, Emily Camacho-Gervacio, Colin Canterbury, William Jacob Carrier, Kaitlyn Marie Casper, Mackenzie Elizabeth Casper, Evelyn Irene Cassidy, Isabella Lynne Chan, Julian Vasil Cherok, Emerson Michael Choi, Emily Claire Copeland, Benjamin Michael Cottrell, Ava Elizabeth Crane, Dylan Blake Crumbaugh and Jennifer M. Daniels.

Michael N. Daniels, Sonny Matthew Day, Amelia Ann Dehl, Joseph James DiPalma, Owen James Dorley, Shawn Dougherty, Matthew Harry Drab, Kathleen Ann Driscoll, Maija Clare Eglitis, Audrey Claire Eilerman, Jack Allen Engram, Allyson Grace Ensich, Mary Kathryn Faehnle, Grace Farhat, Alexander James Ferguson, Lauren Julia Fernandes, Elizabeth Marie Fields, Helena Ellen Flynn, Mahe Daniela Foley, Sophia Nicole Ford, Lesley Furuta, Ashton Anthony Galiffo, Dulce Michelle Galloso Aguilar, Mary Caroline Gamble and Pierre-André Robert Geoffrion.

Mia Ann Gill, Mary Elizabeth Gilsenan, Sara Goodlive, Sofia Elizabeth Gournio, Peyton Ann Graham, Vincent Lennon Greenhalgh, Mary Claire Greve, Tyler Andrew Griffin, Colin Grant Hall, Luke James Hangen, Bridget Caitlin Hayes, Will Thomas Heinmiller, Sophia Katherine Heise, Carly Rose Henry, Ryan Herrel, Abigail Lynne Hockett, Elizabeth Louise Hohlefeldler, Erin Elizabeth Hunter, Christian Downey Isaly, Catherine Anne Iveson, Ethan David Jenkins, Parker Jenkins, Matthew Hogan Jesse, Allyson Shea Jones and Anna Marie Jones.

Franco Kader, Madden James Kenney, Rudolph William Kessinger, Logan Xavier Knapp, Thomas Glenn Koehler, Kelis Konadu, Lawrence Joseph Kramer III, Nathaniel James Kreuz, Nicholas Mat-



Tyler Altier



Jennifer Daniels



Michael Daniels



Kathleen Driscoll



Audrey Eilerman



Elizabeth Fields



Pierre-Andre Geoffrion



Mary Elizabeth Gilsenan



Sara Goodlive



Sophia Heise



Carly Henry



Jake McCann



Max Melaragno



Jordan Tyler Vais

thew Kudika, Lily Katherine Kuypers, Angelo Joseph Lamatrice, Anthony Robert Leasure, Frederick William Letzer, Katherine Letson Libby, Rose Catherine Lombardi, Bridget Flynn Lombardo, Maia Marie Lopez, Noah Nicholas Loudon, Maria Roselia Lynn, Augustus Harris Maglicic, Samuel Edward Mahle, Abigail Chyna Manuel, Anthony Daniel Mauro, Nicolette Maxwell and Aiden John McAninch.

Trae Joseph McAninch, Jake Christopher McCann, Avery Frances McClain, Sean Thomas McConnell, Ronan Patrick McGrath, Mathew Riley McKnight, Colin Joseph McNair, Max Gerard Melaragno, Brendan Joseph Meloun, Olivia Grace Milburn, Davis Minzler, Sophia Marie Monesi, Henry Francis Monnin, Melissa Ann Montgomery, Mya Marie Montgomery, Ellie Rose Moore, Elizabeth Sharon Morrison, Alexandria Mia Mosholder, Anthony Stephen Mosaic, Daniel Ryan Muldoon, Mason William Murnane, Camillus Kekoa Musselman, Michael Nguyen, Khera Marie North, Lucille Nuñez-Rodriguez and George Connor O'Brien.

Andrew Joseph O'Connor, Blaise John Ohlin, Ryan Pardi, Neil Harish Patel, Frances Pavell, Emilia Margaret Peppercorn, Lana Jean Peters, Layne Robert Peters, Natalie Christine Phillips, Gretchen

Marie Piatt, Brigid Keenan Porter, Angelina Helene Powell, Dominic Andrew Purcell, Landon Michael Purcell, Lucy Grace Ragiell, Carol Marie Rekow, Emma Grace Reynolds, Ella Faeth Riedlinger, Jack Michael Rogers, Caroline Grace Romano, Dominic Rubino, Marie Rudzinski, Ellasyn Faith Ruhe, Braxton Robert Rudio and Audrey Elizabeth Ruschau.

Lily Jewell Salyers, Koen Michael Sauer, Kayana Lee Scannell, Alexander Aloysius Schirack, Elliott Hayes Schmidt, Erin Scully, Rachel Renee Shawgo, Lillian Elizabeth Shillingburg, William Christopher Short, Sofia Rosa Siles, Analia Renee Spagnuolo, John William Spencer, Benjamin Logan Spires, Logan Clark Storts, Kaitlyn Francis Sullivan, John Raymond Supron, Colin Finn Thomas, Jason Miller Thomas, Noah Quincy Thomas, Sarah Elizabeth Thomas and Xavier Manning Thomas.

Juliana Rae Tomasso, Dominic James Traver, Reese Catherine Tucker, Caterina Turton, Isabelle Louise Unk, Jordan Tyler Vais, Everest J. Velu, Evangeline Walker, Ruby Evon West, Alexis Nicole White, Alexander Philip Wildermuth, Clayton Williams, Lilly Williams, Quinn J. Williams, Brendan Wilson, Erin Devine Yersavich, Thomas Paul Yonkura and Taylor Elizabeth Zupan.



The 119 members of the Class of 2024 were accepted to 227 colleges and awarded over \$35.8 Million in scholarships!



— BUILDING BETTER MEN —

St. Charles graduates 119 seniors

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School presented diplomas to 119 members of the Class of 2024 during its commencement ceremony, preceded by a baccalaureate Mass, on Friday, May 24 in the Robert C. Walter Student Commons.

All graduates will be attending institutions of higher education, with 96 percent going to four-year colleges and 1 percent to two-year colleges. The remaining graduates are taking a gap year, entering the military, attending the Columbus Fire Academy or still making their college selection. They will be attending 51 different colleges throughout the nation. The class earned more than \$35.8 million in scholarship money and performed 7,500 hours of community service.

Thirteen of the graduates were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corp./College Board. John Bryner, Malcolm D'Souza, Andrew Ferris and William Malerich became National Merit finalists and Jacob Maier and Matthew Weyer were semifinalists. William Bratt, James Graff, Lucas Klingele, Andrew Kane, Christopher Lee, Dillon Miller and Brogan Rogers were named National Merit commended scholars.

Malcolm D'Souza earned an Eminence Scholarship to Ohio State University. D'Souza, Abrem Igwebuike, Syrus Klein and Maxi Ortiz were named Morrill Scholars by Ohio State University. Julius Feibel was named a Clemson University Lyceum Scholar, an honor given to only 10 students nationwide.

Malerich and Bryner earned National Merit Scholarships to the University of Alabama. Garrett Hoffman accepted an appointment from the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Rogers is attending Yale University on an ROTC scholarship. Louis Fabro was awarded the Chick Evans Scholarship for Caddies to Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Delius is taking a gap year to study languages at Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages in Taiwan before moving on to Middlebury (Vermont) College the following year. Igwebuike, a member of the football team, was selected as the 2024 Encova Insurance Male Central Ohio Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Ten members of the class will be playing college sports in the fall: Eli Bush (soccer), Charles Griffith (baseball), Will Harrier, (wrestling), Garrett Hoffman (football), Aidan Johnson (golf), Will Nash (baseball), Pdraig O'Reilly (soccer), Liam Richardson (baseball), Leo Walling (golf) and Landon Weihl (lacrosse).

Members of the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School Class of 2024 are:

Quincy Andrews, John Anthuvan, Maximilian Badertscher, Bowen Bainbridge, Jack

Bare, Brady Bennison, Landon Beverly, Dominic Bleacher, Isaiah Brady, Jayson



John Bryner



Luke Delius



Malcolm D'Souza



Garrett Hoffman



Louis Fabro



Julius Feibel



Brogan Rogers



Maxi Ortiz



Abrem Igwebuike



Syrus Klein



William Malerich



Colin Greenhalge

Brake, William Bratt, John Bryner, Eli Bush, Theodore Cahill, Anthony Campagni, Jacques Chapman, Thomas Clark, Victor Clarke-Gil, Lucas Cloran and Connor Cole.

Brady Cooke, Noah Crissinger, Luke Delius, Martin DeVita, Anderson Dewez, Malcolm

D'Souza, Spencer Eberts, Lukas Estifanos, Louis Fabro, Lucas Fanning, Michael Farley, Andrew Fast, Julius Feibel, Andrew Ferris, Aidan Fox, Adrian Frost, Jacob Funkhouser, Benjamin Galbreath, Luke Garvine and Drew Gelhaus.

James Graff, Colin Greenhalge, Charles Griffith, Anania Haimanot, Stuart Hankinson, William Harrier,

Jackson Hobbs, Garrett Hoffman, Brady Hood, Brayan Hunter, Ryan Huttsell, Abrem Igwebuike, Aidan Johnson, Andrew Kane, Ryan Kelbick, Syrus Klein, Lucas Klingele, Jonah Knueve, Jack Koesters and Nicholas Koeth.

John Kuebler, Noah Kueter, Zander Lamaze, William Lawler, Christopher Lee, Reid Luffler, Jacob Maier, William Malerich, Anthony Marino, Thomas Maynard, Patrick McCurdy, Keron Mensah, Nathaniel Michalec, Andrew Miller, Dillon Miller, Wyatt Minnich, Andrew Moore, Sean Moore, Andrew Myers and Will Nash.

Benjamin Obeng, Pdraig O'Reilly,

Maxi Ortiz, An-Nam Pham, Aidan Potts, Zakariya Rahman, Timothy Rausch, Liam Richardson, Jonathan Robson, Brogan Rogers, Victor Roscoe, Adam Ryzenga, Charles Saas, Nicholas Scharfenberger, Nicholas Scheiwer, Thomas Schmansky, Oliver Seitchik, Luke Sheffer, William Shulack and Aaron Silva.

William Smiley, Michal Sotak, Charlie Stanczewski, Nicholas Stewart, Christian Stratton, Mladen Tague, Nicholas Trzcinski, Pervonne Vera, Carson Vidra, Michael Wagner, Leo Walling, Rex Walters, Landon Weihl, Jason Weiler, Theodore Welsch, Matthew Weyer, Christopher White, Herman Yawe and Aiden Zieg.

Congratulations

CLASS OF 2024



\$26,180,857

in merit-based scholarships earned

“The future is in your hearts and in your hands. God is entrusting to you the task, at once difficult and uplifting, of working with him in the building of the civilization of love.”

St. John Paul II

BISHOP
HARTLEY

Bishop Hartley graduates 150 students

The 150 graduates of Columbus Bishop Hartley High School's 64th graduating class received diplomas on Saturday, May 25 at Ohio Dominican University. A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 24 at Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle Church.

Members of the class will be attending one of 50 colleges and universities. They were awarded \$26.2 million in academic and merit-based scholarships, with 97 percent of the class going on to higher education. The graduates performed 10,298 service hours during the academic year.

Receiving full-tuition scholarships were Andrea Barrera, Faith Campbell, Donovan Davis, Julian Elliott, Maya Gebru, Kevin Gonzalez Guizado, Mia Goodlett, Erison Gyamfi, Francis Harper, Teresa Martinez Gonzalez and Eleeza Reynolds. Receiving military academy appointments were Andrew Bassetti to the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado and Cooper Rathburn to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

A total of 41 students received academic honors.

Summa cum laude graduates, who had a cumulative grade-point average of 3.9 to 4.0, were Alana Andrew, Gabriella Anzelmo, Andrew Bassetti, Lauren Blaussey, Faith Campbell, Anna Casto, Gabrielle Chalfant, Elizabeth Collins, Nicholas Gebbie, Maya Gebru, Allie Gunsorek, Julia Inglis, Andrew Lutz, Brogan Maloney, Elizabeth Malpass, Teresa Martinez Gonzalez, Eva McKnight, Emery Minnich, Piper Minnich, Katherine Morrow, Michaela Murray, Nathan Ogden, Erinn O'Malley, Sophia Pribe-Coates, Nathan Siefert, Grace Smalley, Cassidy Smith and Mary Taylor.

Earning magna cum laude honors (3.8 to 3.899 GPA) were Andrea Barrera, Mia Goodlett, Brendan Laret, Rowen Mosteller, Rory Ralston, Cooper Rathburn and Hannah Woldamichael.

Cum laude honors (3.7 to 3.799 GPA) were earned by Julian Elliott, Clare Heskett, Vanessa Melle, Monica Merrill, Emerson Summers and Carly Sybert.

Members of the Columbus Bishop Hartley High School Class of 2024 are:

Nevaeh Mari Anderson, Alana Abe-naa Andrew, Gabrielle Elizabeth Annesi, Gabriella Christine Anzelmo, Stefania Ayleen Barboza-Guzzo, Andrea Mariana Barrera, Andrew Michael Bassetti, Chloe Nicole Best, Conner Gregory Bjornson, Kinali Blanchet, Lauren Elizabeth Blaussey, Nyah McKenzie Bond, Elizabeth Ann Bowen, Christopher Baxter Cade, Faith Elise Campbell, Anna Madison Casto, Gabrielle Lina Chalfant, Brooke Lynne Collins, Elizabeth Simone Collins, Ashtin Michael Cook, Maryah Shani

Davie, Donovan Alexander Davis, Kaitlyn Ingrid Karyn Dienenhoff, Natalie Ann Dinovo and Ava Margaret Downey.

Larry Thomas Dunn, Amya Rose Dunson, Julian Michael Elliott, Hannah Marie Eramo, Nailah Imani Evans, Rachel Violet Fadel, Gavin Patrick Feeney, Charles Jacob Fischer, Edin Renee Florence, Mark Alexander Fowler, Nicholas Michael Gebbie, Maya Mulatu Gebru, Sarah Nichol Gilliam, Ethan Tyler Godfrey, Kevin Daniel Gonzalez Guizado, Mia Ruth Goodlett, Julian Pierce Lee Graham, Allie Marie Gunsorek, Sudee C Guteta, Erison Gyamfi, Kennedy Sheree' Hampton, Molly Elizabeth Hannah, Francis Erin Harper, Rece Maxwell Hatem and Clare Marie Heskett.

Grady Louis Hill Jr., August Michael Hofherr, Raleigh K Hogan, Tatum Elizabeth Hoover, Julia Eul Inglis, Patrick Jovan Jotevski, Mahalet Abraham Kahsay, Nazareth Tarekegn Kassie, Oliver Addison Krupp, Jude Nathaniel Kurgan, Benjamin James Landin, Brendan Matthew Laret, Gillian Grace Lintner, Makayla Ann Lorms, William Anthony Lowery, Julia Rose Luallen, Andrew Nolan Lutz, Brogan Robert Maloney, Elizabeth Anne Malpass, Teresa Brigitte Martinez Gonzalez, Xavier Omari Martin-Fuller, Alexa Fernanda Mas, Grace Suzanna Mashensic, Hannah Margaret Mathias and Samantha Marie Mays.

Charlie Deondre McCall, JaJuan Michael McCrady, Eva Ruth McKnight, Nadia Palesa Meadows, Heidi Adriana Medina, Jose Leonardo Medina Mendoza, Vanessa Elaine Melle, Monica Catherine Merrill, Mathews Natnael Messele, Jonathan Afeworki Michael, Mason Michelle Miller, Emery Elizabeth Minnich, Piper Katherine Minnich, Marcus Scott Moore, Rachael Dawn Morbitzer, Katherine Grace Morrow, Rowen Mosteller, Benjamin Franklin Murphy, Michaela Renea Murray, Kaylee Nicole Musick, James Muchiri Ndegwa, Victoria Elizabeth Nedeau, Victor Hanley Noll, Breyland Michael Norris and Nathan Thomas Ogden.

Erinn Mairead O'Malley, Leah Marie Parks, Bailey Alyse Patton, Alexandra



Alana Andrew



Andrea Barrera



Andrew Bassetti



Faith Campbell



Donovan Davis



Julian Elliott



Maya Gebru



Kevin Gonzalez Guizado



Mia Goodlett



Erison Gyamfi,



Francis Harper



Teresa Martinez Gonzalez



Cooper Rathburn



Eleeza Reynolds

Suellen Paulus, Ryan Jabriel Perry Jr., Angela Marie Porter, Sophia Joanne Pribe-Coates, Rory Michael Ralston, Kendall Jean Ramsey, Hermione Ariel Rangel Rivas, Cooper John Rathburn, Sengsavang Kei Ratanavong, Eleeza Love Reynolds, Mia LeRose Robertson, Estaryl Danylo Rodriguez Rivas, Nicolas Rodriguez-Martinez, Niklas Wells Ruby, Jocelyn Giselle Sánchez Isidro, Parker Joseph Schaeffer, Rachel Elaina Seidt, Kennedy Jordyn Sensabaugh, Jada Raquel Shade, Joseph Taylor Shannon, Matthew Christopher Sheridan and Kameron David Shlepr. Nathan David Siefert, Grace Elizabeth Smalley, Cassidy Erin Smith, Catherine Quinn Springer, Yanira Marleny Sucuzhanay Dutan, Emerson Lee Summers, Carly Catherine Sybert, Celeste Elizabeth Sybert, Aubrey Tenise Tatum, Karl Tawiah, Mary Magdalena Gianna Rose Taylor, Cristian Torrijos-Bautista, Donovan James Tucker, Payton Amyre Turner, Ruona Zoe Ugbarugba, Zelayah Vedrine, Ashley Velasquez Chaires, Traeh Jade Walker, Steven Roy Werner, Avery Elizabeth West, Terry Daniel Wilkins, Julian Nivek Williams, Thomas Keith Burnett Williams, Hannah Muruts Woldamichael and Blake Sumner Wyatt.

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CONGRATULATIONS to all of the Graduates of The Class of 2024!



Cristo Rey graduates 91

Cristo Rey Columbus High School graduated a class of 91 students at its eighth commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 1 in Ohio State University's Mershon Auditorium. The class baccalaureate Mass was on Thursday, May 30 at Columbus Holy Cross Church.

Class members received a total of 1,169 acceptance letters from 130 different institutions of higher education and completed nearly 5,600 hours of community service in four years.

Mahkei Romero was valedictorian and Rita Diaz-Murillos was salutatorian.

Members of the Cristo Rey High School Class of 2024 are:

Nancy Aboagye, Rute Admasu, Anye' Ahmad, Jonathan Alexander, Samuel Appiah, Donald Banks, Aissatou Barry, Nishan Bista, Jaishawn Biting, Robert Burgos, Alayia Butler, Ian Calzado-Cuesta, Saydie Carter, Donald Casey, Marla Chavez-Rodriguez, Aicha-Simone Clark, Savion Clinton, Emmanuel Coleman, Justin Corde-ro-Rojas, Isis Crockett, La'lah Davis, Jady De Jesus Lopez and Moise Desrosiers.

Nisha Dhaurali, Abdoulaye Diallo, Rita Diaz-Murillos, Madilyn Dickson, Racine Diene, Sharyhan Dimmie, Binta Diop, Yarely Duran Garcia, Ashanti Edwards, Aracely Garcia Ramos, Abel Gaym, Mikiyas Getahun, Cecelia Goodridge, Emily Guillen Turcios, Frances Guizeh, Tiara Haggins, Samantha Hernandez Gonzalez, Vivian Hernandez Ortiz, Ayannah Hordge, Derek Howe, Jaelan Howell, Ar-



Mahkei Romero



Rita Diaz-Murillos

roya Jennings and Tristin Johnson.

Kaiya Jones, Lania Jordan, Omar Kaloko, Autumn Lee, Ruth Lobo, Fatmata Ly, Leslie Martinez Delgado, Alyne Matias Arroyo, Makailah McAlister, Ephrata Mersha, Makayla Moore, Gerardo Morales, Bernard Oppong, Ariana Perez, Chayrisanette Quinones-Santiago, Emily Rivas Irizarry, Holly Roberts, Kanai Robinson, Sharayah Robinson, Mahkei Romero, Maria Rosales Salto, Savannah Rowsey and Robert Ruark.

Juliet Sandoval, Quintana Abybatou Sarr, Thaabit Seabri, David Servin, Malona Shaffer, Iman Sow, Sidney Tabler, Shanal Thomas, Zarie Thomas, Newton Tiwari, Clara Tolbert, Patricia Torres Tenorio, Angely Torrijos Quintana, La-Niyah Vaughn, Isabella Villeda, Aissata Watt, Jamari Williams, LaHonesty Williams, Xavier Williams, Cali Woolfolk, Emma Wright and Esaey Yohannes.

CONGRATS TO THE CLASS OF 2024!



Take **PRIDE** in how far you've come.

Have **FAITH** in how far you can go!



26 seniors graduate from Portsmouth Notre Dame

Diplomas were awarded to 26 graduates of Portsmouth Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School by principal J.D. McKenzie and school board president Richard Kielmar at a commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 19 in the school gymnasium. A Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 17 at Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church.

The Class of 2024 was offered \$1.2 million in scholarships and accepted \$790,850 of that total. Eighty-eight percent of Notre Dame's graduates are pursuing higher education. Twenty-three of the 26 graduates will be attending 10 different colleges, including two outside of Ohio.

The class valedictorians were Kyndall Ford and Ella Kirby, both of Portsmouth. Ford is the daughter of Erica and Shad Ford. She has accepted an athletic scholarship to Northern Kentucky University, where she will major in biology. Kirby is the daughter of Summer and Charles Kirby. She has accepted a scholarship from Wilmington College, where she will major in psychology.

The salutatorian was Lillian Madden of Portsmouth. She is the daughter of Paul and Jaime Madden. She has accepted a scholarship from Marshall University, where she will major in medical imaging. Graduating with honors diplomas were

Grace Ashley, Wyatt Crawford, Kyndall Ford, Savannah Holtgrewe, Ella Kirby, Lillian Madden, Adam Schwamberger, Gwen Sparks, Katherine Strickland, and Alexandra Wallace.

The school presents three special awards voted upon by the faculty. The citizenship award was given to Katherine Strickland for her contribution of time and energy to civic, community and school projects. The senior service award was given to Gage McGraw for his generosity with his time toward course work and extracurricular activities.

The outstanding senior award was given to Grace Ashley for best fulfilling the roles of scholar and leader in the school and community, demonstrating outstanding character and service to others and, on a daily basis, demonstrating high Christian ideals in all of her activities.

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



Kyndall Ford



Ella Kirby



Lillian Madden

2024 are:

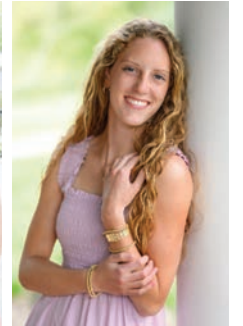
Grace Madison Ashley, AnnaBelle Madison Ball, CR Vetter Cochran, Wyatt Thomas Crawford, Jordan Alexander Davis, Jacob Matthew Edwards, Landon Matthew Emmett, Kyndall Shea Ford, Savannah Marie Holtgrewe, Ella Elizabeth Ann Kirby, Levi Orion Lewis, Lillian Mae Madden and Gage A. McGraw.

Alyra Jo Messer, Cody Gabriel Metzler, Myles Cole Sallee, Adam Ray Schwamberger, Brayden Joseph Shepherd, Brock Andrew Shepherd, Gwen Elizabeth Sparks, Katherine Jane Strickland, Savannah Vaughters, Ilan Michael Walker, Alexandra Rian Wallace, Kylee Roth Watson and Marcellus Roshun Woods Jr.

31 graduate from Fisher Catholic



Ava Albert



Ruby Hagy

Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School graduated a class of 31 members at a commencement ceremony on Sunday, June 2. A baccalaureate Mass was

celebrated on Saturday, June 1 at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Lancaster.

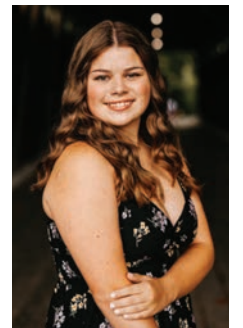
Eighty-seven percent of class members will be attending one of 17 institutions of higher education. They were awarded more than \$3.4 million in scholarships. One will be entering a firefighting academy and three will join the workforce.

The class valedictorian was Ava Albert and the salutatorians were Ruby Hagy and Bree Jones.

Members of the Lancaster Fisher High School Class of 2024 are:

Ava Albert, Cayden Anders, Naomi Bahule, Voni Bethel, Elyse Blackston, Elizabeth Bruce, Kyle Cormier, Carley Crow, Jayda Dixon, Atticus Doan, Jack Gentile, Ava Gundelfinger, Ruby Hagy, Bree Jones, Nathaniel Krile and Abigail Krooner.

Nathan Maier, Joseph Mannela, Andrew Mattei, Annie McGill, Simon Messerly, Elle Mitchell, Peyton Owens, Grayson Pike, Olivia Proctor, Christopher Robers, Emma Schmitt, Clarissa Sickafoose, Alexander Snoke, Jacob Taylor and Kaitlyn Watson.



Bree Jones

Validictorian
Ella Kirby

Validictorian
Kyndall Ford

Salutatorian
Lillian Madden

Front row L to R: Savanna Vaughters, Lillian Madden, Savannah Holtgrewe, Alexandra Wallace, Kylee Watson

Second row L to R: Brayden Shepherd, Jordan Davis, Ella Kirby, Grace Ashley, Alyra Messer, Annabelle Ball, Gage McGraw, Brock Shepherd

Third row L to R: Wyatt Crawford, Levi Lewis, Kyndall Ford, Gwen Sparks, Katie Strickland, Marcellus Woods, Ilan Walker

Fourth row L to R: Adam Schwamberger, Jake Edwards, Cody Metzler, Myles Sallee, Landon Emmett, CR Vetter Cochran

BISHOP HERRMANN SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

**ISABELLA CARFAGNA****Parish: Westerville St. Paul the Apostle****School: Columbus St. Francis DeSales**

National Honor Society; Student Council; Rotary Club Student of the Month; Morgan's Message Ambassador; Love One International Ambassador; Run the Race Club; Columbus St. Matthias School Volunteer; Vacation Bible School; Sophomore Retreat Speaker; Lacrosse Team

**JENNIFER DANIELS****Parish: Worthington St. Michael****School: Columbus Bishop Watterson**

St. Therese's Retreat Center Layette Bundling and Delivery; Soccer Camp Volunteer; Blanket Donations for Holy Family Soup Kitchen; Cranks Creek Mission Trip; Fortress Obetz Buddy Walk; Kairos Retreat Leader; Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church Mommy and Me Tea Volunteer; St. Michael Church Festival Volunteer; Special Olympics Volunteer; Women's Care Center Volunteer; Fill the Truck Food Drive; Mid-Ohio Food Collective; Sandwich Making for the Homeless; Youth Soccer Coach; St. Michael School Assistant Basketball Coach; St. Michael Child Care

**RITA DIAZ****Parish: Columbus St. James the Less****School: Cristo Rey Columbus High School**

National Honor Society; Student Council; Catechist Teacher; UNICEF; Nationwide Children's Hospital Surgical Exposure and Exploration Program; Persistence Award; Service Award; Tennis Team

**RUBY HAGY****Parish: New Lexington St. Rose of Lima****School: Lancaster Fisher Catholic**

4-H Club; Altar Server; Bottoms Up Diaper Drive

**ELLA KIRBY****Parish: St. John Paul II Scioto Catholic Community****School: Portsmouth Notre Dame**

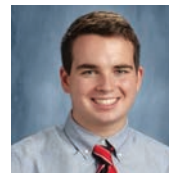
National Honor Society; Key Club Cool Kids Read Program; Shawnee State University Leaders Program; Academic Spirit Award; Volunteer at Candyland Children's Museum; St. Francis Outreach Center; STAR Inc., Southern Ohio Medical Center, Notre Dame Elementary School and Compass Community Health Center

**JULIA LUALLEN****Parish: Reynoldsburg St. Pius X****School: Columbus Bishop Hartley**

Fairfield County 4-H; St. Pius X Youth Group; Columbus Marathon Volunteer

**AVERY MAXWELL****Parish: Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas****School: Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans**

Parish Choir; Lector; Parish Breakfast; Oktoberfest; Bidy Soccer Camp Coach; Parish Bazaar; Costuming for School Plays; Food Basket Drive; School Office Aide; Concession Stand Worker; Salvation Army Volunteer; Zanesville Civic League; School Auction; Parish Festival; Safety Town; Halloween Bag Preparation

**BROGAN ROGERS****Parish: Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare****School: Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School**

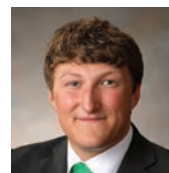
National Honor Society; Campus Ministry Core Team; Mid-Ohio Food Collective; Mass Musician; Parish Youth Group; St. Vincent de Paul Society; Benjamin Franklin Transatlantic Fellow; Buckeye Boys State

**SILVIA SICA-MEJIA****Parish: Dover St. Joseph****School: New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic**

Cheerleader; Homecoming Queen; Track Team; International Club; Pep Club; Power of the Pen; Trumpet in the Land Volunteer; Parish Festival Volunteer; Concession Stand Worker; Fish Fry Booth; Canal Days Festival Sausage Booth; Prom Committee

**STEPHANIE YADAICELA****Parish: Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr****School: Columbus Bishop Ready**

National Honor Society; Student Council; Scholarships to Capital, Denver, Kent State, Miami (Ohio) and Ohio Dominican Universities; Columbus Police Public Safety Corps; Parish Bible Study Teacher; St. Vincent de Paul Society; Parish Youth Group; YMCA Student Government Program; Distinguished Young Women of Ohio; Art Fusion Club; Ambassador Club; Diversity Club; Castle Crew; National Beta Club; Future Business Leaders of America; Global Seal of Biliiteracy; Soccer Team; Bowling Team

**BRADY YEHLER****Parish: Newark St. Francis de Sales****School: Newark Catholic**

National Honor Society; Key Club; Kairos Retreat Leader; Freshman Welcome Week Leader; Vacation Bible School; UNICEF Trick or Treat; Baskets of Love for the Homebound; Licking County Food Pantry Network; Fish Fry Bake Sale; Christmas Cards and Cookies for Teachers and Staff; Look Up Center; Books for Africa; St. Vincent de Paul Coat Drive; Gary Sinise Foundation; Auction Volunteer; Youth Football and Basketball Coach; Prom Committee

ALL-DIOCESEAN ACADEMIC HONOR TEAM MEMBERS


AVA ALBERT/LANCASTER FISHER CATHOLIC
Parish: Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption

Student Council; Irish for Life Club; Altar Server; March for Life; Life Chain; United Way Community Care Days; Sandwich Saturday; Boot Project for the Homeless; Canned Food Drives and Diaper Drives; Pregnancy Decision Health Care Center Dinner Server; Fill the Sleigh Project; Rosary Making Project Organizer; Rosary Distribution to Nursing Homes; Baskets for Brian; Cross Country Team; Track Team; Basketball Team; Soccer Team

ATTENDING OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY


BRENDAN BERNATH/ZANESVILLE BISHOP ROSECRANS
Parish: Zanesville St. Nicholas

National Honor Society; National Merit Scholarship Commended Student; Senior Class Vice President; House Captain; School Ambassador; Big Brother; Green Club; Campus Ministry; School Public Address Announcer; Rocketry Team Leader; Altar Server; Basketball Team; Football Team; Baseball Team; Old Timers Association Baseball Umpire; Muskingum County Youth Foundation; Christmas on the Hill

ATTENDING UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME


FAITH CAMPBELL/COLUMBUS BISHOP HARTLEY
Parish: Reynoldsburg St. Pius X

National Honor Society; University of Akron Jean Hower Taber Scholarship and Akron Honors Scholarship; Case Western Reserve University Scholarship; University of Toledo Rocket Scholarship; Ohio State University Provost's Scholarship; Earned College Credits at Ohio State University; Robert Telerski Scholar-Athlete Award; House Captain; Mentor Group Captain; Soccer Team; Softball Team; Ski Club; Military Ministry; Volunteer for Red Cross Blood Drive, Wagons Ho-Ho-Ho Christmas Toys Program and Events at St. Pius X and Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parishes

ATTENDING UNIVERSITY OF AKRON


SOPHIA CHESTER/COLUMBUS BISHOP READY
Parish: Not Listed

National Honor Society; Dual Enrollment at University of Findlay; National Beta Club; Environmental Club; Art Fusion Club; Student Ambassador; St. Vincent de Paul Club; Student Council; Ruling Our eXperiences (ROX) Club; Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation Leadership Award; All People's Fresh Market Pantry Volunteer; Father Huber Scholarship; School Exceptional Effort and Attitude Award

ATTENDING UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY


MICHAEL DANIELS/COLUMBUS BISHOP WATTERSON
Parish: Worthington St. Michael

National Honor Society; National Merit Scholarship Certificate of Recognition; Governor's Merit Scholarship; School Art Show Award; Soccer Team; American Sign Language Club; Student Ambassador; Special Olympics Volunteer; Buddy Walk; Village in the Ville; Food Pantry Volunteer; Columbus Immaculate Conception School Tutor; Youth Soccer Referee; Altar Server; Vacation Bible School

ATTENDING OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY


KYNDALL FORD/PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME
Parish: Not Listed

National Honor Society; Northern Kentucky University EDGE Scholarship; Softball Team; Cool Kids Read Program; Canned Food Drives; Concession Stand Worker; Volunteer at Southern Ohio Medical Center, St. Francis Outreach Center and Candyland Children's Museum

ATTENDING NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY


BRANDON HEIL/COLUMBUS ST. FRANCIS DESALES HIGH SCHOOL
Parish: New Albany Church of the Resurrection

National Honor Society; Senior Class President; Student Council; Junior State of America; Buckeye Boys State; Ohio Seal of Biliteracy; Business Club; Pickleball Club; Run the Race Club; In the Know Team; Spanish National Honor Society; Evangelization Team; Student Ambassador; Tennis Team; Cross Country Team; Salesian Leadership Retreat Leader; Parish Youth Leadership Team; Gospel Road Program; Lector; Parish School of Religion Teacher

ATTENDING UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME


NATALIE JUNGERS/NEWARK CATHOLIC
Parish: Johnstown Church of the Ascension

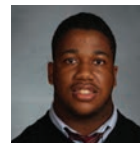
National Honor Society; Governor's Scholarship; Energy Co-Op Scholarship; T.J. Baseman Catholic Foundation Scholarship; Licking County 4-H Committee Scholarship; Society of Women Engineers Scholarship; University of Dayton Presidential and Leadership Scholarships; Ohio University Russ Scholarship; Ohio Representative at National 4-H Congress; Hartford Fair Queen; Hartford Fair Board; Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Council; Buckeye Girls State; Parish Youth Group; Robotics Club; Key Club; Student Council; Drama Club; Kairos Retreat Leader; Cross Country Team; Track Team

COLLEGE CHOICE UNDECIDED


ANDREW ROMBACH/
NEW PHILADELPHIA TUSCARAWAS CENTRAL CATHOLIC
Parish: New Philadelphia Sacred Heart

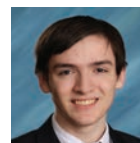
National Honor Society; Freshman, Sophomore and Senior Class President; Student Council; Buckeye Boys State; School Library Volunteer; Mock Trial; Academic Challenge; Just Write Ohio; Chess Club; Trumpet in the Land Volunteer; Bidy Cross Country Volunteer; Erie Valley Fire and Rescue Volunteer; Cross Country Team, Track Team; Baseball Team; Basketball Team

ATTENDING THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER


MAHKEI ROMERO/CRISTO REY COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL
Parish: Not Listed

National Honor Society; College Board National African American Award; QuestBridge College Prep Scholar; Student Council; UNICEF Club; Columbus Zoo Teen Eco Summit; Columbus Urban League Ready2Earn Program; Mid-Ohio Food Collective Volunteer; United Schools Network Volunteer

ATTENDING WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, ST. LOUIS


MATTHEW WEYER/COLUMBUS ST. CHARLES PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Parish: St. Mary of the of the Immaculate Conception, Wooster

Robotics Team; Chess Team; Graduating with Associate Degree from Stark State Community College, Canton

ATTENDING ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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 instructor at Ohio State University. The awards are made possible from a gift received from her estate.

HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC



JULIEN BRANDON

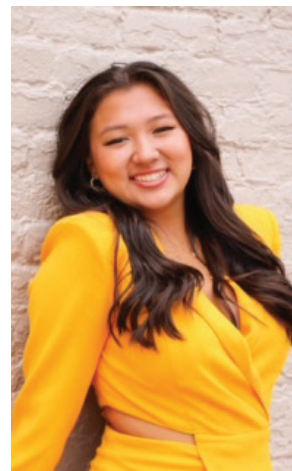
Julien Brandon is a percussionist with the marching, jazz, concert, honor and worship bands at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School and is band president. He was one of eight percussionists chosen from among 1,200 musicians who auditioned for this year's Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) conference. He has received OMEA superior ratings for snare drum every year since ninth grade.

From 2021 to 2023, he was part of the Cap City percussion ensemble that took part in the Winter Guard International competition. He also is drummer for the Columbus-based Social Reaction pop band and in the past played for the Lonely Fossa band. He is a drum, keyboard and bass guitar instructor at the School of Rock in Dub-

lin and plays in its house band.

At school, he has been an altar server, attended the diocesan Guadalupe youth summit and was a volunteer for the Columbus St. Andrew Church festival. He plans to attend Ohio State University, majoring in jazz composition in hopes of composing music and scores for media.

HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC



HAILEY LEPI

Hailey Lepi of Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School goes to Zanesville St. Nicholas Church and plans to attend Indiana University in the fall, majoring in merchandising and minoring in fashion design and marketing.

She has been an alto in the school choir since ninth grade and has been very active with the school's theater program, writing and teaching choreography for the school's production of "Grease" and the Bishop Fenwick Middle School presentation of "Frozen Kids."

She also has been a part of the school's traveling performing arts group and a varsity cheerleader and Mass lector and been a school ambassador, vice president of the Muskingum County Community Youth Foundation and a member of the National Honor Society, Drama

Club, Key Club, Pep Club, Big Brothers Big Sisters and the basketball and softball teams.

ELEMENTARY INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC



HENRY OSUJI

Henry Osuji, an eighth-grade graduate of Columbus St. Cecilia School, plans to attend Columbus Bishop Ready High School in the fall. He began playing in the Ready marching band as an eighth-grader, receiving the band's *esprit de corps* award, and represented both schools as part of a concert at Cristo Rey Columbus High School.

Besides being a talented trumpeter, he was a member of the diocesan honor choir and has performed in major parts in school musicals and been a Mass cantor. He is interested in creating digital music and plans to study development of software and computer rhythms in college.

ELEMENTARY CHORAL MUSIC



LEAH GHEFE

Leah Ghefe will be a student at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School after attending Columbus Holy Spirit School. In seventh grade, she had a solo in the school musical "Godspell Jr." and this past school year had the lead female role of Jasmine in "Aladdin Jr."

She has been a cantor and lector at school Masses and been a member of the diocesan honor choir, the school choir, the Beta Club, Power of the Pen and the basketball team.

She plans to continue studying music in college.

ST. CHARLES STUDENT RECEIVES WARD SCHOLARSHIP

Malcolm D'Souza, a 2024 graduate of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, is this year's recipient of the Wendy O. Ward Foundation memorial scholarship.

The \$5,000 scholarship is awarded to a graduate of a Columbus diocesan or Hilliard public high school who has been involved in school, community and parish activities and has demonstrated academic achievement, particularly in language arts.

D'Souza's activities at St. Charles includes being the founder and leader of the school's St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter, captain of the Quiz Bowl team

and a member of the National Honor Society and the St. Charles Student Advisory Board. He received a perfect score of 36 on the ACT college test.

D'Souza also spent the past two summers at Ohio State University as an intern researching a cure for breast cancer. While not yet committed to any university, he has been admitted to Ohio State and intends to study a pre-medicine track in college.

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

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



Malcolm D'Souza

Newark Catholic graduates 57

Newark Catholic High School graduated a class of 57 seniors in a commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 26 in the school auditorium. A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Tuesday, May 21 in Newark St. Francis de Sales Church.

The class valedictorian was Natalie Jungers and the salutatorian was Nathaniel Willis.

Ninety-five percent of the graduates will move on to higher education. They earned \$5.3 million in scholarships.

Twenty-one percent plan to take part in intercollegiate athletics, with slightly more than half intending to major in STEM (science, technology, education and mathematics) fields of study.

Fifty-four percent of class members were eligible for the National Honor Society. Their average grade-point average was 3.57.

The class performed 3,948 hours of community service and helped the school donate 608 pounds of food to a local pantry.

Members of the Newark Catholic High School Class of 2024 are:

Isabella Bartholomew, Janelle Brunton, Connor Campbell, Rocco Capretta, Andrew Caton, Trent Clark, Cy Cotterman, Kami Diaz, Minh-Anh Do, Collin Elkins, Andrew Fischer, Ashton Fitzgerald, Kylie Gibson, Zoey Green, Devin Gross, Ava Heffley, Owen Helms, Natalie



Natalie Jungers and Nathaniel Willis

Holsky and Grace Huffman.

Reagan James, Troy Johnston, Reagan Jones, Natalie Jungers, Erin Keck, Maris Knowlton, Ellie Knuth, Anjelica Lanza, Sofia Laviolette, Mary Ellen Lennon, Maxwell Lintz, Brian Luft, Elizabeth Matuska, Jacqueline Matuska, Bryan McAnally, Connor McKenna, Drew McKenzie, Mia McKinstry and Lauren Meier.

Tristan Musgrave, Avery Nagel, Aiden Parkinson, Roman Ridenbaugh, Nathan Riggleman, Adam Rigley, Mayci Sayre, Eloise Schirtzinger, Melana Shonebarger, Mary Snider, Matthew Spearman, Isabella Tirado, Grace Upton, Richard Urban,

Max Vanoy, Kelly Wendt, Nathaniel Willis, Nicholas Windholtz and Brady Yehle.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Congratulations
to our graduating
IC 8th Graders!

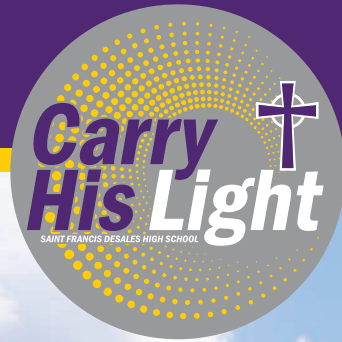
The IC community wishes you well as you begin the next step of your journey! Trust in the Lord and follow your dreams!

We are proud of our 8th grade
graduating class of 2024
Good luck on your next chapter!

Congratulations to the
graduating Seniors who are
Alumni of All Saints Academy.
You have made us proud and
we continue to wish you all the
best.



The *Class of 2024* truly embodies our school's mission to love God, seek truth, and live virtuously. They have made us proud over the past four years, and will continue to be people of *hope and light* in the future.



Congratulations to the 200 members of the Class of 2024!

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

They have earned over

30 million

in scholarships and grants.



University of Dayton



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA IRVINE



UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

John Carroll UNIVERSITY



University of Pittsburgh



UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE



CORNELL UNIVERSITY



INDIANA UNIVERSITY



DeSales graduates earn \$30.15 million in scholarships

This year's 200 graduates of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School earned \$30.15 million in scholarships.

In the fall, 183 of them will be attending one of 39 two-year or four-year institutions of higher education. Nine will attend trade school, four are undecided, two will enter the workforce, one will be in the University of Kentucky ROTC and one will join the U.S. Marine Corps.

The members of the class of 2024 completed 8,150 service hours during the school year.

The following awards were given to members of the senior class: Father James M. Berendt Service Award, Luke Aaron and Rebecca Fekru; Bishop Herrmann Service Award, Isabella Carfagna; Alumni Award, Brandon Heil and Lily Hartman; Senior Spirit Award, Adam Ward, Anthony Zegunis, Lily Verne and Mary Tano; Campus Ministry Award, Anmarie Trolli, Rachel Schroeder, Lucy Wills, Luke Aaron, Vince Marchese and Brendan Ballard.

Earning summa cum laude honors were Luke Aaron, Ashlyn Davis, Rebecca Fekru, Isabella Felter, Brandon Heil, John Kraker, Cailin Mascarin, Kenny Ngo, Sarah Nordmoe, Vincent Potina, Olivia Sanabria, Rachael Schroeder, Maria Thomas, Joshua Wade, Madison Walker and Anthony Zegunis.

There were 29 state champion athletes – either individuals or championship team members – in the class.

Members of the Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School Class of 2024 are:

Luke Aaron, Adonai Adae-Adusei, Kelvin Adu Gyamfi, Carlo Adu-Gyamfi, Carlos Aguilar, Nataly Alfaro Hernandez, Michael Amoako, Theodore Anderson, Nana Assibey, Samuel Baffoe, Maya Ball, Anna Ballard, Brendan Ballard, Lorelei Barker, Anastasia Baronov, Isabella Barry, Mercedes Bassitt, Ariana Beard, Noah Bedzyk, Jacob Bennett, Raesean Betton, Kate Bigelow, Priscilla Boateng, Israel Brambila Alegria and Grisel Bucio-Corona.

Tung Bach Bui, Jack Burgan, Gavin Burns, Luis Camarillo Hernandez, Blake Carawan, Isabella Carfagna, Benedetta Cecchetti, Elijah Charles-Mcalister, Angeline Chintala, Fabio Cipriani, Joseph Couhig, Ryder Cyre, Ashlyn Davis, Em-



Luke Aaron



Ashlyn Davis



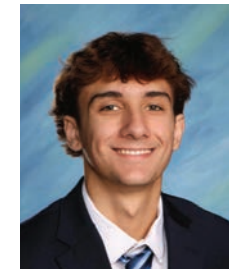
Rebecca Fekru



Isabella Felter



Brandon Heil



John Kraker

ily Davis, Isabel Davis, Francine De Medeiros, Andrea Diaz Rangel, Katherine Dortmund, Taylor Dreska, Grace Dziatkowicz, Brooke Eader, Victoria Easley, Colin Easley, John Jack Elgin and Kaitlin Emmerling.

Nicholas Ezyk, Ava Faiella, Rebecca Fekru, Isabella Felter, Alexandra Fickell, Aaron Miguel Firmalan, Jeremy Franco-Serrano, Sierra Frazier, Carly Freeman, Avery Garlock, Katherine Gehring, Ross Gibson, Nicholas Gillan, Arabelle Gilmartin, Margaret (Maggie) Godfrey, John Grace, Patrick Granata, Micah Grayson, Jenny Gutierrez, Cameron Gwinn, Paula Gyamfi, Ty Hampton, Vaughn Harber, Lily Hartman and Adam Hatcher.

Sarah Haunn, Brandon Heil, Addyson Hessler, India Holland, Yonas Issak, Delina Issak, Avery Jehn, Maria Jenkinson, Dasia Jones, Drew Jones, Rian Jones, Jackson Jordan, Jeremiah Kanu, Aiden Karimy, Benjamin Kazatsky, Brigid Keating, Areonna Keller, Evan Kopala, Manu Krac, John Kraker, Benjamin Krueck, Nicholas Kuhns, Theaddus Kyeremeh, Carmen Lacey and Gretchen Langhans.

Mia Lantz, Christian Lehman, Jessica Lipp, Zachary Lopez, Jocelin Lopez Vargas, Fernando Magana, Aiden Mann, Joseph Mannion, Dominic Marchese,



Cailin Mascarin



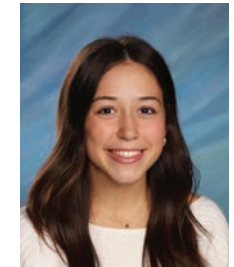
Kenny Ngo



Sarah Nordmoe



Vincent Potina



Olivia Sanabria



Rachael Schroeder



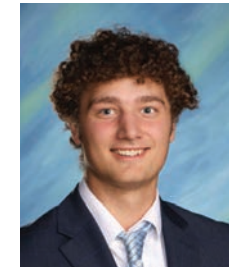
Maria Thomas



Joshua Wade



Madison Walker



Anthony Zegunis

Jessica Martinez Villarreal, Cailin Mascarin, Mary McAllister, John McDermott, Devin McInerney, Cody McKinney, Anna Meade, Hunter Messmer, Colin Meyer, Catherine Miller, Kaylen Miller, Marielle Mitchell, Quinn Moran, Anthony Moreno, Mariam Morgan and Rowan Morris.

Kevin Muema, Kimberly Munoz Zarazua, Kenny Ngo, Kevin Nguyen, Sarah Nordmoe, Angelmagdaline Nti, Philip Nyarko, Gabriel Offei, Andrew Ofosu, Brian Omameh, Augustine Opoku, Yaw Opoku-Kesse, Holden Osborne, Nicholas Parker, Audra Pina, Jack Pore, Vincent Potina, Jennifer Quijada, Kenyetta Quinn, Lydia Ratinaud, Joselyn Renderos, Liam Rice, Audrey Riddle, Neal Ritchie and Quinten Robinson.

Luca Romanelli, Aidan Rush, Jessica Salyer, Olivia Sanabria, Ria Sama, Eliz-

abeth Saucedo, Marlen Saucedo, Aaron Saucedo Huitron, Rachael Schroeder, Emmanuel Seidu, Cole Shearn, Aidan Shepardson, Maximus Shulaw, Walter Sibley, Cooper Simpson, Jaeleah Smith, Daisy Smith-Acquah, Justin Snelling, Ella Steiger, Adeline Stonis, Kevin Sullivan, Isabella Swallow, Lola Tanguay, Mary Tano and Preston Thai.

Maria Thomas, Andrea Tlahuel Flores, Aaron Tran, Anmarie Trolli, John Turay, Maureen Turner, Nicholas Vance, Daniel Vasquez, Jake Velazquez, Lily Verne, Joshua Wade, Madison Walker, Michael Walker II, Adam Ward, Delaney Weber, Lilian Wieging, Lucy Wills, Darrin Wilson, Bridget Womber, Colton Yochus, Emma Young, Kimberly Zamora, Anthony Zegunis, Kaitlyn Zehala and Thomas Zepp.

DeSales valedictorian honored for achievements

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School senior Brandon Heil was awarded the Glenna R. Joyce Scholarship that covers full tuition, room and board, book allowance and miscellaneous expenses to Ohio State University or the University of Notre Dame.

Winners of the annual Joyce Scholarships, established in 1961, are chosen based on outstanding academic achievement and commitment to service.

Heil, the son of two DeSales graduates (Doug, class of 1994 and Karen, class of 1995), will be attending the University of Notre Dame in the fall.

Brandon ranked first in the Class of 2024 and plans to major in computer engineering.

His favorite classes at DeSales have been AP Calculus, BC and AP Physics. Outside of the classroom, Heil is the senior class president, vice president of

the National Honor Society, on the leadership team of the Run the Race Club, and a student ambassador.

He is also the president of the Business Club, Junior State of America Club and Pickleball Club, and a co-captain of the school's tennis team.

In addition, Brandon is on the leadership team at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection.

"I think my most meaningful activi-

ty is being on the leadership team with Resurrection's youth ministry because I get to help teach the confirmation classes, and it means a lot to me to be able to help the younger kids learn more and grow in their faith, which is something that is very important to me," Heil said. "I just love being able to share something that matters a lot to me with the next generation of people so that they can hopefully feel the same way."

DeSales graduate reflects on high school, faith, college pursuits

Luke Aaron is a member of the Class of 2024 at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School and one of its summa cum laude graduates.

He will be attending Franciscan University of Steubenville in the fall to major in philosophy and eventually pursue a Master's in business.

The following is an interview with Aaron:

1. How did you come about deciding to major in philosophy? I knew I was interested in a degree that facilitated deep thought and meaning, so philosophy and theology were my two top choices. After a lot of discernment and prayer, I decided to pursue philosophy. The philosophy program at Franciscan University is founded in Catholic tradition, so I am blessed to learn how to think critically from a Catholic perspective.

2. If you are still considering getting a Master's in business, what is your end goal? If not, what are you planning (or considering) doing with your philosophy degree? I am planning on pursuing a Master's in business. Someday, I hope to work for a Catholic company or organization that has a positive impact on my society and the world. Philosophy will develop my critical thinking skills that

will help me wherever the Lord leads, and will also give me a head start if I end up entering seminary in the future.

3. Do you participate at Gahanna St. Matthew Parish in any special way? I am one of the lead altar servers at St. Matthew, and I have served there since sixth grade. It is such a blessing to participate in the Mass in such a unique, active manner. I also attend St. Matthew youth group where about 30 high schoolers gather every week to spend time together, pray, eat dinner, listen to talks, and have small group discussions. St. Matthew has a vibrant faith community that motivates me to pursue the best version of myself.

4. I know you are playing soccer at Franciscan University. How long have you been playing soccer? Do you play for a club team? I have been playing soccer since I was about four years old. This spring, I finished my final club season with Sporting Padula Soccer Academy. Club soccer has been a source of countless memories and valuable lessons over the years, and I am extremely grateful for the support my parents have given through it all.

5. Any special influences in your life — specifically relating to how you

chose your next steps in life — college, major, career? My parents played a very large role in my college search and major process. They were always there for me and had my back regardless of my uncertainty. My dad encouraged me to re-search the different academic programs offered at my prospective schools, and my mom urged me to just make a decision and trust in God's providence. The Lord guided me through my time of discernment and led me to choose Franciscan and philosophy. Although I am not entirely sure which career or vocation He is calling me to, I have no doubt God will continue to lead me along the path I was made for.

6. What are you involved in at DeSales? Do you have a favorite club that you are involved in (and why)? I am involved in various clubs at DeSales, including Stallions for Life Club, St. Vincent DePaul Club, Run the Race Club, Evangelization Team, and Student Ambassador's Club. My favorite club is Stallions for Life Club because of the important cause we support and the March for Life trip we take every January. We are so blessed to have a community that gives a voice to the voiceless and allows us to embark on such a memorable jour-



Luke Aaron

ney together each year.

7. Do you have a favorite class (and why)? One of my favorite high school classes is theology. I am fascinated by the Catholic Church's beautiful traditions and teachings, and learning about her wisdom is very inspiring. Catholicism is the source of the world's deepest, most profound wisdom. There is truly too much evidence not to believe what the Church teaches. I will take the formation I have received in the faith at DeSales and use it to propel me onward into my next phase of life.

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*

2024

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21 students graduate from Tuscarawas Central Catholic

New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central/Catholic High School's 54th commencement ceremony took place on Sunday, June 2, with a baccalaureate Mass followed by the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2024 in the school gymnasium.

Andrew Rombach was the valedictorian and Thomas Rennicker was the salutatorian for the class, which has 21 members, 17 of whom will be attending one of 10 institutions of higher learning. They earned \$535,750 in college scholarships and performed more than 2,200 hours of community service.

One class member, Gavin Douglass,

will be involved in college athletics, playing football at Ashland University.

Members of the New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School Class of 2024 are:

Avae Buss, Gabriel DeBois Winnie, Gavin Douglass, Lydia Ernest, Brody Ferrell, Zoey Fox, Casey Green, Salvatore Massarelli, Shelby Miller, Charles Montan, Carson Norris, Joseph Norris, Nathan Pugh, Kenton Renicker, Thomas Rennicker, Andrew Rombach, Coda Schumacher, Jameson Sedlock, Michela Sica-Mejia, Silvia Sica-Mejia and Garrett Swaldo.



Andrew Rombach



Thomas Rennicker

33 graduate from Bishop Rosecrans

The 33 members of the Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School Class of 2024 were awarded diplomas at a ceremony on Saturday, May 25 in the school gymnasium. A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 24 at Zanesville St. Nicholas Church.

Thirty of the graduates will attend one of 12 institutions of higher education. Two will join the workforce and one has enlisted in the U.S. Navy. They were offered \$26.8 million in scholarships and performed 3,804.75 service hours.

Evan William-Lee Backus, Brendan Joseph Bernath and Avery Margaret Maxwell

well were co-valedictorians.

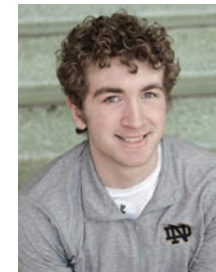
Members of the Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School Class of 2024 are:

Mia Rose Amato, Evan William-Lee Backus, Gavin Erik Bee, Brendan Joseph Bernath, Madelyn Elizabeth Bernett, Maddux Lee Burkhart, Micheal Thomas Burkhart, Owen Jacob Buxton, Mariana Lizbeth Cabrera-Lopez, Mia Lynn-Michelle Campbell, Michael Lee Joseph Dady, Joshua Alexander Daniels, Samantha Jo Delik, Andrew William Dollings, Mackenzie Lynn Goldsmith, Orion Enoch Hughes and Jack Winston Jones.

Rebecca Jeanne Kunkler, Grady Layne Labishak, Hailey Jane Lepi, Edan Bradley Lynch, Avery Margaret Maxwell, Luke Alan McKendry, Jocilyn Paige Mohler, Lexus Lynn Oldfield, Connor Allen Olney, Steven Daryl Porter, Timothy Michael Richardson, Kerris Ann Shonk, Abbigale Joy Solt,



Evan Backus



Brendan Bernath



Avery Maxwell

Elisha Sergey Swingle, Kendall Storm Wagner, Emily Kay Ward and Brendan Lee Wilden.



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Bishop Ready graduates 91 seniors

Columbus Bishop Ready High School principal Matthew Brickner presented diplomas to 91 graduates during the school's 60th commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 25 in the school gymnasium. A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 24 at Columbus St. Cecilia Church.

The Class of 2024 earned \$13 million in scholarships. The valedictorian is Angeliz Rivera-Martinez of Grove City. She plans to attend Ohio State University on scholarship. The salutatorian is Sophia Chester of Columbus. She plans to attend the University of Findlay on scholarship.

Honors graduates are Chris Andy Aponte, Leonela Lissette Ayovi Zuñiga, Lissette Benitez Mendez, Jacob Ryan Blubaugh, Elijah Thomas Brickner, Alejandro Ismael Cabrera Merino, Sophia Marie Chester, Connor Ray Crago, Caroline McKenna-Rose Fraser, Quinten Michael Gale, Tommy Joseph Garcia Santiago, Katrina Lynn Gossett, Maeghann Jewell Green, Isabella Theresa Diane Hain, Elizabeth Angela Jelinek, Alexandra Maria Montañó-Vallejo, Alexa Morales-Lopez, Joshua Ryan Paul, Melissa Abigail Perez Yadaicela, Evelyn Ramos, Benjamin Daniel Reinhart, Angeliz Marie Rivera-Martinez, Onyinyechi La'Rachel Sanders, Mia Lynn Savage, Valerie Lynn Sexton, Stephen Phillip Sheets, Jacqueline Lee Smith, Carson Russell Wheatley, Bailey Elizabeth Wright and Stephanie Beatrice

Yadaicela.

Seniors Sophia Chester, Connor Crago, Caroline Fraser, Angeliz Rivera-Martinez and Stephen Sheets were inducted into the school's Hall of Fame. Ninety percent of the class will be attending one of 29 institutions of higher education. Two percent of class members will enlist in the U.S. Air Force, Army, Navy or Marine Corps. The class contributed approximately 9,200 service hours.

Receiving school awards were: Bishop Herrmann Service Award, Stephanie Yadaicela; All-Diocesan Academic Honor Team, Sophia Chester; Principal's Award, Stephen Sheets; Ready Award, Alexa Morales-Lopez; Spirit Award, Ella Larger; Gifts of the Heart Service Award, Melissa Perez.

Eleven seniors signed to play college sports. They are: Jacob Blubaugh, track and cross country, Otterbein; Kayla Clevinger, volleyball, Tiffin; Micah Germany, basketball, Otterbein; PJ Julious, football, Marietta; Jude Kusan, football, Ohio Dominican; Amor Maker, basketball, Rock Valley; Dalton Miller, football, Marietta; Tylar Mix, football, Ohio Dominican; Josh Richter, baseball, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Onyinyechi Sander, basketball, Indiana University East and Mia Savage, soccer, Heidelberg.

Members of the Columbus Bishop Ready High School Class of 2024 are:

Chris Andy Aponte, Edith Elena Arre-

ola-Contreras, Amel Dinknesh Asefa, Leonela Lissette Ayovi Zuñiga, Brasen Louise Bailey, Lissette Benitez Mendez, Nathan Robert Bennett, Cinthya Bernal-Ordoñez, Jenna Ann Blount, Jacob Ryan Blubaugh, Elijah Thomas Brickner, Owen Joseph Browning, Alejandro Ismael Cabrera Merino, Samuel Anthony Carlinno, Jaylyn Dallas Catena, Jesus Cazales Quintero, Sophia Marie Chester, Kayla Ann Clevinger, Andrew Mark Craddock, Connor Ray Crago, Dimond Nicole Deeds, Ryan Joseph Deime, Jamae Leigh Dixon and Dominic Beatty Eiden.

Tyler Ryan Fields, Tyler Landon Anthony Foster, Caroline McKenna-Rose Fraser, Petrona Rose Gale, Quinten Michael Gale, Tommy Joseph Garcia Santiago, Micah Christopher Germany, Katrina Lynn Gossett, Maeghann Jewell Green, Pablo Guizar Franco, Isabella Theresa Diane Hain, Elizabeth Angela Jelinek, Branden Micheal Joseph, Perry Lee Julious Jr., Kenneth Allan Kight, Isaiah Charles Lawrence King, Jude Michael Kusan, Ella Rose Larger, Donovan Valerio Macioce, Amor Justin Maker, Yeili Kristal Martinez-Sanchez, Layne Avery McChesney, Dalton Steven Miller and Dylan Michael Miner.

Tylar Anthony Mix, Alexandra Maria Montañó-Vallejo, Betzy Michelle Montoya-Mora, Alexa Morales-Lopez, Jordan Raymond Mullens, Katelynn Elizabeth Nickell, Lucero Pacheco Suazo, Joaquin LaMont Patterson, Elvis Jiovaney Paucar



Angeliz Rivera-Martinez Sophia Chester

Salto, Joshua Ryan Paul, Melissa Abigail Perez Yadaicela, Dominic Enanod Polt, Giovanni Quiroz-Tlaseca, Evelyn Ramos, Benjamin Daniel Reinhart, Frank Reyes Ruvalcaba, Joshua Matthew Richter, Colin Richard Riter, Angeliz Marie Rivera-Martinez, Wilmer Esteven Saldaña Saico, Onyinyechi La'Rachel Sanders, Jacqueline Sandoval Marcial, Mia Lynn Savage and Ryan Allen Schnarr.


Valerie Lynn Sexton, Stephen Phillip Sheets, Giovanni Niccolo Smith, Jacqueline Lee Smith, Alyssa Nicole Starner, Abo Haile Talla, Dakota Quinn Simone Thomas, Isabella Lynne Tigner, John Joseph Tracy, Benjamin Michael Turek, Amy Libeth Vanegas, Carson Russell Wheatley, Anthony Phillip Wood, Bailey Elizabeth Wright, Elvis Estalin Yadaicela, Stephanie Beatrice Yadaicela Yadaicela, Tony Alexander Yadaicela Zuna, Alexis Zanabria Gonzalez and Eder Zepeda Ibarra.

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Teacher finishes 50th year at Ready, 51st in diocese

By Elizabeth Pardi

As the school year came to a close, Air Force veteran, Spanish teacher and former coach Dean Tower completed his 50th year at Columbus Bishop Ready High School and his 51st year teaching in the Diocese of Columbus.

The 81-year-old began his teaching career in 1972 at Columbus Father Wehrle High School on the south side. The school closed in 1991.

After one year at Wehrle, Tower moved over to Bishop Ready, where he has remained for the past five decades.

“When I signed my first contract to teach at Ready, I thought that I was just committing to a job,” Tower said. “Little did I know that I was committing to something more.”

“The Ready community is a tightly knit family. The students, parents, staff and faculty are all members of (that) family. Whenever I had any personal difficulties in my life, it was my Ready family that I could turn to for empathy and support.”

When Tower’s wife of 30 years, Maria, passed away in 1996, he said he found much consolation in the Ready community.

“The Ready family was there for me and my family with an outpouring of love and support in so many ways,” he said. “For me, Ready is more than a place to work. It has become a home away from home for more than half of my life.”

Matthew Brickner, who is finishing his



Longtime teacher Dean Tower (left) helps a Bishop Ready student.

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School

third year as Ready’s principal and 22nd year at the school, spoke highly of Tower and his ability to connect with the students.

“(He) ... has a blend of knowledge, passion and dedication to teaching,” Brickner said. “He (has created) a learning environment that students continue to find success in. Being in the classroom over 50 years, seeing the changes in the world and in our society, and being able to adjust and adapt to new ideas, technology, and changing curriculum (all)

demonstrate why he is a great teacher.” Tower, a Massachusetts native, enlisted in the Air Force immediately after his 1960 high school graduation.

“My first posting was in Columbus, where I met Maria. We were married in 1966,” he said. The couple settled in Columbus and were blessed with three children and four grandchildren.

After serving two tours of duty, Tower was honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1968 and then enrolled at Ohio State University. He graduated with a degree in education, specializing in Spanish and English, and was soon hired at Wehrle to teach English and coach wrestling and football.

After a year at Wehrle, he returned to Ohio State to pursue a graduate degree.

Currently, he teaches Spanish classes at Ready as well as Spanish I online to students at Columbus St. Cecilia School, Columbus Trinity Catholic School and Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School.

In addition to wrestling and football, Tower has coached both track and cross country over the years.

“Students that he taught and ... coached ... recognize his love for them,” Bricker said. “This past spring, two of his former cross-country runners called him from Boston the day before they ran in the Boston Marathon.”

The runners, who had been coached by Tower more than a decade earlier, wanted to tell him they were doing the marathon in his hometown.

Growing up in Massachusetts, Tower was raised Catholic and said the values

of the faith are part of his core beliefs to this day.

“Teaching in a Catholic school has given me the opportunity to infuse these values into my classroom and teaching,” [he said. “Hopefully, I have served as a positive role model for my students and they will not only learn the Spanish language and culture, but will also leave my class as better people, equipped with the values needed to be productive citizens.”

Tower said that throughout his decades of teaching the biggest change he has noticed is the use of technology in the classroom.

“Being from the chalk-and-talk generation, it was a challenge for me to make the change to the technology era,” he said. “But I have ... embraced it wholeheartedly.”

Reflecting on his years in the diocese, Tower said he recalls the names and faces of the many students he has taught and coached.

“They represent the fondest and warmest memories,” he said. “They were the reason that I walked into the building each and every day. It’s amazing that I am teaching the grandchildren of many of the students that I taught during the early years.”

Tower plans to continue teaching in the fall.

“I still enjoy the kids and teaching gives me purpose and a reason to get out of bed every morning,” he said. “I have reduced my class load, but I still have the same enthusiasm I had back in 1974.”

School administrators honored for service

Catholic school administrators in the diocese gathered for a Mass celebrated by Bishop Earl Fernandes on May 2 at New Albany Church of the Resurrection and an awards presentation.

The following administrators were recognized for their service at diocesan schools:

5 Years: Jennifer Calvo (Tuscarawas Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School), J.D. McKenzie (Portsmouth Notre Dame Junior-Senior High School), Terrina Fahnstock (Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School), Stephanie Paul-Tiberio (Newark Catholic High School) and Anna Tufano (Hilliard St. Brendan School, 6 years of service)

10 Years: Sally Mummey (Newark St. Francis de Sales School)

15 Years: Colleen Kent (Columbus Immaculate Conception School), Laura Miller (Columbus All Saints Academy)

20 Years: Jim Jones (Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School)

25 Years: Cindy Lombardo (Columbus St. Catharine School)



Jennifer Calvo



J.D. McKenzie



Terrina Fahnstock



Stephanie Paul-Tiberio



Anna Tufano



Sally Mummey



Colleen Kent



Laura Miller



Jim Jones



Cindy Lombardo

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NATHAN OGDEN

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us." –Ralph Waldo Emerson
 Congrats and good luck at Notre Dame! We love you, Mom, Dad, Piper and Maleah

ST. FRANCIS DESALES

CLASS of 2024



SARAH HAUNN

Congratulations Sarah! We love you and are proud of you. We pray for all of God's blessings on you as you attend the University of Dayton. Love Mom, Dad & Maria

MIAMI UNIVERSITY

CLASS of 2024



LEXI CANTRELL

Congratulations Lexi! Former graduate of St Mary School of Delaware. Good luck at Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati! We love & are very proud of you!

BISHOP HARTLEY

CLASS of 2024



JULIA LUALLEN

Congratulations on all of your achievements as a student and athlete! Good luck at Shawnee State. We love you! From Sweetie, EPa and your whole family

ST. FRANCIS DESALES

CLASS of 2024



MARIA THOMAS

Congratulations on all your achievements! We are so incredibly proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad, Matthew and Catherine

BISHOP HARTLEY

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NATALIE DINOVO

Congratulations Natalie! Thankful for the blessing that is you! Prayers as you begin your future at Jacksonville University. Love, Mom & Dad

ST. FRANCIS DESALES

CLASS of 2024



GRACE DZIATKOWICZ

We love you so much and are so very proud of you! We can't wait to see the amazing things you do at Otterbein University! Love always - Mom, Dad & Audrey

ST. BRIGID OF KILDARE

CLASS of 2024

MAGGIE VIVONA

Congratulations, Maggie! We are so proud of all your accomplishments at St. Brigid and can't wait to watch you soar at Watterson! Love, Mom, Dad, James, Mike and Mary

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CLASS of 2024



MICHAEL VIVONA

Congratulations, Mike! We are so proud of your hard work and are excited to see the great things you'll do on Rocky Top!

BISHOP HARTLEY

CLASS of 2024




NEVAEH ANDERSON

Congratulations Nevaeh! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad, Josiah and Noelle

BISHOP HARTLEY

CLASS of 2024



MASON MILLER

So proud of you! Good Luck with your next chapter!

SACRD HEART ACADEMY

CLASS of 2024



GERALDINE NOEL

Congratulations Geraldine! We are so proud of you, and can't wait to see you grow and thrive as a Damascus missionary! Love Mom, Dad, Catherine, Thomas, Clare, Logan, Agnes, Bella, Gerard, and Celeste

CONGRATULATIONS
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CLASS of 2024



LOGAN FIGUERADO

Congratulations Logan! We are so proud of you, and can't wait to see you grow and thrive at Walsh! Love Mom, Dad, Catherine, Thomas, Clare, Geraldine, Agnes, Bella, Gerard, and Celeste

BISHOP READY

CLASS of 2024



QUINTEN MICHAEL GALE

Congratulations Quinten! We love you and are so proud of your steadfast faith. We are looking forward as you shine the light of Christ in the business program at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh!

BISHOP READY

CLASS of 2024

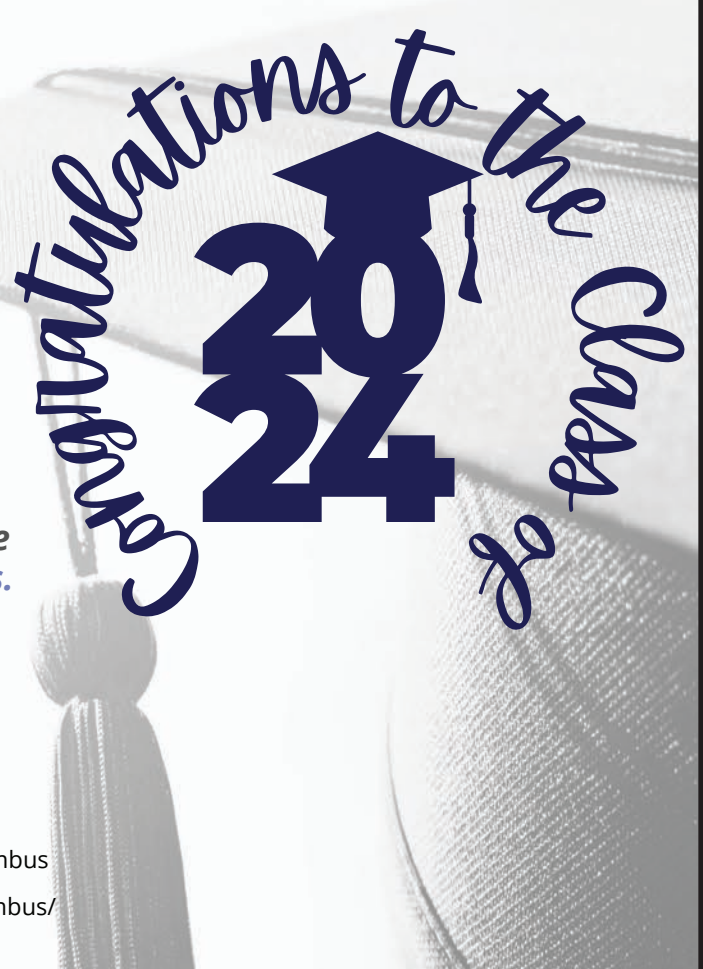


PETRONA ROSE GALE





Congratulations Petrona! We are so proud of you, especially your zeal in the faith. We are excited to see you carry the bright light of Christ to Franciscan University in Steubenville!

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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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