



# Parish Times

Special Graduation Issue

MAY 2019

Living the Faith Together

FREE

## New Beginnings

As we approach the end of the school year, you may be among the many readers of *Our Parish Times* getting ready to watch children or grandchildren graduate. It may be from their earliest years of education, like kindergarten, or it may be from eighth grade, high school, college or graduate school.



Fr. John Enzler

I always think this time of year about how another word we use for graduation is commencement, which signals a beginning rather than an end. We celebrate past accomplishments, and rightfully so, but graduations are

*Continued on page 13*

## Being Catholic

As a Catholic mother I wanted my children to understand that they were given gifts from God, and that those gifts were meant to be used for good. As we worked hard to raise young people who understood that they were not the center of the universe, and as we regularly reminded them that they were here for a reason we did not work alone. We were supported by their teachers and by friends who shared our values and our belief that what we do with our time on earth matters.



Patricia McGann

Our kids' heroes were Luke Skywalker, Anne of Green Gables and Michael Jordan;

*Continued on page 14*

## In Everything, Give Thanks

Thank God for springtime and the coming of summer. We use this final issue of the OPT publishing year to thank those who enrich parish life through service and example. Whether in schools, sports activities, liturgy, social concerns, or other acts of love, inspired parish life is dependent on the efforts of parish leaders and those who support parish ministries. So, thank you priests, deacons and seminarians



Chuck Short

*Continued on page 28*

## A Mission to Evangelize and Build Up the Kingdom of God

This spring, Saint Francis International School, along with St. Camillus Parish is spending a lot of time remembering and reflecting in recognition that a lot was started 65 years ago in 1954. Today, the school and parish are vibrant because of the commitment to a fundamental Christian mission that started in those early days over six decades ago.

St. Camillus Parish started in 1951 in a white house near the intersection of Carroll Ave. and University Blvd. It quickly became apparent to the first pastor, Fr. James Grace, and the early parishioners that the young community would not fit on its four-acre church property. Within months of opening, so many people were attending Sunday masses that parish had to arrange to use the brand-new Langley Movie Theatre which was in the shopping plaza where the Langley-Takoma

*Continued on page 37*



Sr. Janet Cahill, SND, who taught second grade in 1954 when St. Camillus School opened, is joined by Fran Gallagher Arch and Jeannette Renzi Reinecker, members of the Kindergarten class from 1954.

## God Be With You, Mrs. Ryan!

## HR School Bids Farewell to School Principal this June

Holy Redeemer School families, faculty, and parishioners are preparing to make their fond farewells to Colleen O'Brien Ryan, who has devotedly served the HR community as school principal since mid-March, 2012. Mrs. Ryan's first official duty was to attend the school's bi-annual Shamrock 'n Roll fundraiser, where she witnessed the remarkably generous commitment of HR parents to their children's Catholic school education.

The following Monday morning, Mrs. Ryan got to work demonstrating her strong dedication to the Catholic faith and her constant reliance on the Holy Spirit in all of her interactions with students, parents, and colleagues. At HR, everything begins and ends with prayer—whether a small team meeting or an all school assembly. As a devout woman of faith, Mrs. Ryan has continuously enriched the daily spiritual and prayer life



Mrs. Ryan with Brenden Bretting and Connor Morin at First Holy Communion.

at Holy Redeemer, working closely with Pastor Father Mark Hughes to embed the liturgical calendar in the academic calendar through special prayer services, regular school Masses, Rosaries, and Confessions.

The role of a Catholic school principal is a demanding occupation that is more vocation than career. Mrs. Ryan's path to school leadership

illustrates this well. As a new undergraduate, Colleen completed her first year in a business program. Reflecting on her many positive experiences working with children as a youth—babysitting, camp counselor, CYO work—Colleen changed her major to Early Childhood Education. Upon graduation, Colleen began teaching kindergarten at her own *alma mater*, St. Michael's in Silver Spring. This was the start of Colleen's 22-year career in Catholic education.

*Continued on page 34*



Saint Peter's Principal Mary Elizabeth Whelan to retire in June 2019

## Principal Whelan to Retire

### *A Decade of Dedication and Service Ending*

Principal Mary Elizabeth Whelan came to Saint Peter's School in September 2009 and will be retiring in June 2019 as was announced to the school community in February. At the beginning of her tenure at Saint Peter's, the September 2, 2009 edition of the Gazette quoted Principal Whelan "I want to work with all of the stakeholders

*Continued on page 33*



**CBN SIGNATURE EVENTS**

Awards Gala • Monthly Breakfast • Quarterly Evening  
Receptions • High School Essay Competition •  
Scholarship Breakfast • Youth Coaches Hall of Fame  
Breakfast • Christmas Mass and Reception

**JOIN TODAY**

www.cbnmc.com  
800-555-1212

# SIGNS<sup>®</sup> BY TOMORROW

**SIGN & GRAPHIC SOLUTIONS PROVIDER**

Located in Rockville, MD near the Shady Grove Metro Station  
Call us 301-881-7446 or visit us online at [SBTRockville.com](http://SBTRockville.com)

The Goehrung Family serving the Archdiocese for over 25 years

## Traditional Catholic Latin Mass

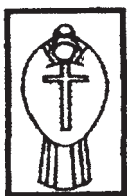
*You are Cordially Invited to Attend***Sundays at 8:00 a.m.**

**Traditional Latin Mass Congregation**  
**Old St. John the Evangelist Church**

9700 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910  
1/2 mile west of Georgia Ave.,  
off Forest Glen Rd., Rt. 192

**www.tradlatinmass.org****E-mail: JSteis@aol.com**

Latin Mass in accordance with the "Motu Proprio"  
of Pope Benedict XVI, issued July 7, 2007



## Celebrating San Pedro Calungsod

The Archdiocese of Washington and the Filipino Ministries from various parishes celebrated San Pedro Calungsod on March 31, 2019 at the Holy Redeemer Church in Kensington, Maryland. The second of two saints of the Philippines, Calungsod was canonized October 21, 2012 by then Pope Benedict XVI at Saint Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City. He was a teenaged Roman Catholic Filipino migrant, sacristan, and missionary catechist who suffered religious persecution and martyrdom in Guam for his missionary work in 1672.

Sandra Coles-Bell (center, seated), program director for the archdiocese's Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach, and Fr. Ryan Islo Pineda, parochial vicar of the Holy Redeemer church, joined churchgo-



Photo by Angelyn Tugado-Marzan

ers from various parishes in the celebration. The afternoon celebration was marked by a talk on Calungsod as a model of the youth by Jesuit

priest Fr. Ruben B. Orbeta, Jr., assembling packages of goodies for the homeless, and Rosary making.

OPT

## Archbishop Gregory's Installation Mass to Take Place May 21 at National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

*Location change will allow more laity to attend the installation of the seventh Archbishop of Washington*

**O**n Thursday, April 4, Pope Francis named Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory as the seventh Archbishop of Washington. As the planning for the Mass of Installation began, both Cardinal Wuerl and Archbishop Gregory desired that the faithful of the Archdiocese of Washington be able to attend the Mass on May 21. At the time of the Vatican announce-



Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory

ment, the installation was planned for the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle, the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Seating, however, is limited in Saint Matthew's and in order to accommodate the large number of laity who expressed interest in attending, the decision was made to move the Mass to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the largest Roman Catholic Church in North America. The Mass will be broadcast on Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) and will be live-streamed on social media.

Tuesday, May 21, 2019  
2:00 PM (liturgical procession  
will begin at 1:30 PM)  
Basilica of the National Shrine  
of the Immaculate Conception  
400 Michigan Avenue, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20017

Archbishop Gregory will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, May 26, 2019 at 10:00 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle in Washington.

OPT

## Index

Christ the King.....	55	St. Francis International School...	50
Holy Cross.....	18-20	St. Jane de Chantal .....	6
Holy Redeemer.....	34-35	St. John Neumann.....	13
Mary of Nazareth.....	38	St. John the Baptist.....	30
Mother Seton.....	21	St. John the Evangelist .....	32
Our Lady of Lourdes.....	42	St. Jude.....	48
Our Lady of Mercy.....	53	St. Martin of Tours.....	51
Our Lady Queen of Poland.....	62	St. Mary - Rockville .....	8
Resurrection.....	4	St. Mary - Barnesville .....	41
Senior Services .....	56-58	St. Michael.....	52
Sports .....	63	St. Patrick.....	61
St. Bartholomew .....	17	St. Peter.....	36
St. Bernadette.....	46-47	St. Raphael .....	59
St. Elizabeth.....	44	Woods Academy .....	10-11
St. Francis of Assisi.....	22-23		



**DYER & ASSOCIATES, P.C.**  
Certified Public Accountants

Providers of "surrogate- CFO™" services  
as well as tax and financial reporting services  
to some of the most successful businesses and individuals  
in the region...

**IS PLEASED TO JOIN OUR PARISH TIMES  
IN SUPPORTING  
CATHOLIC EDUCATION BY CONTINUING OUR**

### CATHOLIC EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

5% of fees from participating clients are donated to  
The Washington Jesuit Academy for tuition assistance.  
Contributions are made in the client's name, up to \$100 per year, and will be matched  
by the SHEPHERD FOUNDATION.

Gregory B. Dyer, CPA  
Holy Redeemer Parish  
Georgetown Prep '76  
De Chantal '72

Past President, Catholic Business Network - MC

Dominic Cipollone  
Mother Seton

Dana Evans  
Holy Redeemer Parish

Vanessa Smith-Terrell  
St. John the Evangelist

Michelle Fegan  
St. Patrick

Adam Giegel  
St. Sebastian

10415 Armory Avenue  
Kensington, Maryland 20895  
(301) 654-6200  
[www.dyerepa.com](http://www.dyerepa.com)



Kathleen &  
Lawrence Hamm  
PUBLISHERS

Danny Gannon  
Michael Roseleigh  
DISTRIBUTION

Prepress by Electronic Ink  
[www.eink.net](http://www.eink.net)

**Parish Community Services, Inc.**

5212 Goddard Road Bethesda, MD 20814

Phone: 301-706-9684

[OurParishTimes@gmail.com](mailto:OurParishTimes@gmail.com)

PUBLISHED IN ALTERNATE MONTHS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

# IT'S GOOD NEWS!

**... AND GOOD FOR  
YOUR BUSINESS**

**Advertise in  
Our Parish Times  
CALL**

**(301) 706-9684**[OurParishTimes@gmail.com](mailto:OurParishTimes@gmail.com)



## Justice and Advocacy Council

# Affordable housing crisis challenges Montgomery County

By Brian Dorsey

Montgomery County is in the midst of an affordable housing crisis. In 2018, the fair market price for a two-bedroom rental unit in Montgomery County was \$1,793 a month. This cost is out of reach for many low-income residents.

A renter making minimum wage, \$12.25 per hour, would need to work full time to get close to covering only these housing costs. Other expenses such as food, clothing, and healthcare would not be covered. It should not be a surprise to learn that in a recent study over half of all renter households in the county are cost-burdened, meaning those households pay more than 30 percent of their income toward rent.

This issue is worsened by a lack of housing options for low income residents. In 2014, for residents

making less than 30 percent of the Area Median Income (approximately \$30,000 a year), the housing unit gap was approximately 20,000 units. Additionally, over 55 percent of rental units were built before 1980.

All of this put together means that for many low-income residents are working hard but struggling to barely afford rent. If they can afford rent, they are often living in units that are likely at least 40 years old.

### Catholic Response

As Catholics, how do we respond to this challenge? The solution is rooted in "solidarity," one of the principles of Catholic social teaching. Simply stated, solidarity states that "We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they live." (Search: USCCB, "Sharing Catholic Social Teaching:

Challenges and Directions)

More specifically, the Church teaches: "The family has the right to decent housing, fitting for family life and commensurate to the number of the members, in a physical environment that provides the basic services for the life of the family and the community." (Search: Vatican, "Charter of the Rights of the Family." See Chapter 11.)

The J&A Council embraces this calling as we seek to support efforts in Montgomery County to find solutions to the housing crisis. One possible solution is the accessory dwelling unit (ADU).

### Opportunity – Accessory Dwelling Units

ADUs are separate dwelling units that are on the same lot as an existing unit. These ADUs have their own entrance, full kitchen, and bathroom. Think of a garage, base-

ment apartment, or a "tiny house" in a side lot. While the Montgomery County zoning code does not ban ADUs, there are high restrictions on building these types of units. Recently, Councilmember Hans Reimer, At Large, has proposed zoning amendments (ZTA 19-01) to make ADUs available in the zoning code, mostly for multigenerational families.

Proponents of accessory dwelling units argue that such changes would help to increase the availability of

housing units on existing lots. They also note that demographic trends indicate that by 2030, 19 percent of Montgomery County's residents will be 65 years of age and older. This could provide an opportunity for older adults to age in place in their homes while also providing residents with additional housing options, desperately needed for residents.

Others, however, remain concerned that ADUs may not provide

*Continued on page 24*

## Unplanned changes everything

By Lawrence Hamm

Washington Post columnist Mark Thiessen describes *Unplanned* as the movie "abortion supporters don't want you to see." Because if you are an abortion rights supporter and you do see it, you may begin to rethink your commitment. If you are young and want to be considered "woke," *Unplanned* will wake you up, big time. Truth is stronger than fiction.

*Unplanned* is a conversion story based on the memoir of Abby Johnson. Abby was an abortion rights activist – a Planned Parenthood clinic director and employee of the year – until she witnessed an ultrasound-guided abortion on a fetal monitor. Her consciousness raised by the vivid reality of the "procedure" she had witnessed, Abby became a prolife activist. She has since personally shepherded more than 500 other abortion industry insiders to freedom.

Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle*



*Tom's Cabin*, published in 1952, was the nineteenth century's best-selling novel. Based on a true story, it exposed the full horrors of slavery and had a profound effect on the public's understanding and tolerance of "the peculiar institution."

In his National Catholic Register review of *Unplanned*, Nicholas Healy, president of Newman College Ireland, suggests the film may be the *Uncle Tom's Cabin* of our era: "For those willing to watch it, the idea

that abortion can be safely discussed in terms of 'women's rights,' with no need to consider the details of what is actually done, is no longer tenable. No more than could slavery be thought of only in the abstract, or in its economic effects, after *Uncle Tom's Cabin* related what was actually being done on slave plantations."

Do a few internet searches. Read a few reviews. Then watch the film.

OPT

**Saturday, July 27**  
**144th Annual Chicken Dinner from Noon - 7 pm**  
**Jousting Tournament - 1 pm - 4 pm**  
**Maryland's State Sport**



**Delicious Barbequed Chicken Dinner,**  
**served Family Style with all the trimmings**  
**Dine in \$16 (children 12 and under are free, dine-in only)**  
**Carry-Outs \$16**

**Country Store, White Elephant, Children's Games, Crafts, Candy Store, Baked Goods, Cake Wheel, Snack Bar, Book Sale & Live Music**

**Mass Saturday, July 27 - 4 & 5 PM**

*All are Welcome!*



**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
 18230 Barnesville Road  
 Barnesville, MD  
[www.stmaryonline.com](http://www.stmaryonline.com)  
 301-972-8660



**Georgetown Visitation**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

**BOYS & GIRLS SUMMER PROGRAMS**



**BASKETBALL**



**FIELD HOCKEY**



**TENNIS CAMPS**



**LACROSSE**



**GIRLS SOCCER**

**Our 13th Year**

**301-530-5472**

**www.TenniStar.com**



## Parish Council Looking for New Members!

By Emily Kranking

**D**o you love Resurrection? Do you wish to make a difference for the parish? Do you want others' voices to be heard? Well, this is your chance! Join the Resurrection Parish Council. The council meets on the second Tuesday of every month between September and June at 7:30 pm. To apply or for more information, please e-mail Carmela Cowgill at [carmelacowgill@gmail.com](mailto:carmelacowgill@gmail.com) or Brian McCagh at [brian@mccagh.com](mailto:brian@mccagh.com). When emailing Carmela or Brian, please be sure to include any skills that would be valuable (i. e., fundraising, nonprofit) and one or two sentences that describe why you would like to serve on the Parish Council. You must be available to serve on the council for two years.

OPT

### Church of the Resurrection Parish

3315 Greencastle Road  
Burtonsville, MD

Rev. John M. Barry, Pastor  
301-288-4662

Susan Ahearn, Emily Kranking  
Parish Editors  
240-205-3195

## New Contemporary Music Ministry at Resurrection

By Susan Ahearn

**A** new contemporary music ministry has begun at Resurrection. The new ministry takes place at the 9 a.m. Mass. Paul Quesnel of Rockville, a 21-year old sophomore at the Catholic University of America (CUA), performs the music. Pastor Father John Barry wanted to make some changes to the 9 a.m. Mass, which is considered the Youth Mass because it takes place right before religious education classes. "So, he wanted someone to bring the music to a more relatable level, so that the kids would enjoy coming to that Mass more often," said Quesnel. "It hasn't necessarily been the



Photo by Susan Ahearn

Paul Quesnel, a 21-year old sophomore at the Catholic University of America (CUA), performs the music for the Youth Mass.

case, but that was the plan."

During the 9 a.m. liturgy, Quesnel plays the piano and sings and is sometimes accompanied by other singers. He describes how the contemporary music he sings is chosen for the Mass. "Father Barry and I will go through songs that are on the radio, or on the Internet, or are around the Christian world, and we'll play those instead," Quesnel explained, "it's the Christian contemporary vibe we're going for as opposed to the songs inspired by scripture." Songs of choice include "Lord I Need You" by Matt Maher, "I Shall Not Want" and "Be Thou

Continued on page 54



Photo by Ana Maria P. de Jesus

Youth-led Stations of the Cross participants posed at the Church altar.

## Preparing for the Resurrection at the Resurrection Parish

By Ana Maria P. de Jesus, EPS DC15

**T**his Lenten season, the Lenten Liturgies and Programs offered many ways to get back to the basics and to "recharge the spiritual batteries" of the parish. Not to be overlooked are the opportunities for the participation in Daily Mass at the church, the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the church and at the Riderwood Chapel, and the Stations of the Cross every Friday (except April 5)

after the mass.

Wednesday evenings of Lent were appropriated to "Soup and Spirituality" nights when participants were invited to bring whatever soup and/or bread they can bring to share a light meal with other participants. Aside from the opportunity to taste culturally diverse culinary delights, a brief meditation and discussion were conducted by Fr. John Barry and Deacon Chuck Bieberich. The youth of the parish

Continued on page 40



Tim Barloon  
Gonzaga



James Barnacle  
St. John's



Audrey Bohi  
Stone Ridge



Marley Daniel  
Visitation



Dominic DeBritz  
Gonzaga



Victoria DeSomma  
Holy Cross



Olivia DuFour  
St. John's



Sadie Eisenberg  
St. John's

Love of Learning Faith in God Service for Others



Megan Gannon  
Visitation



Darby Gerth  
Visitation



Emma Gomes  
Holy Cross



Graduating Class of 2019



Grace Harvey  
St. John's



Tim Henneberry  
St. John's



Liam Kallen  
St. John's



Liz Kolesar  
Visitation



Hattie Leasure  
Visitation



Delia Linstrom  
St. John's



Sophie Mattheus  
St. John's



Sophie Mays  
St. John's



Declan Monahan  
Gonzaga



Emma O'Leary  
Severn School



Katie Patterson  
St. John's



Henry Sechser  
Undecided



Andre Serra  
St. John's



Olivia Vassiliou  
Stone Ridge



Grace Wallace  
Holy Cross



Julia Wood  
Walt Whitman



Shea Yeager  
Visitation





# The Academy of the HOLY CROSS

ONCE A HOLY CROSS GIRL  
ALWAYS A HOLY CROSS GIRL!



## Congratulations CLASS OF 2019

Abigail Elizabeth Akers  
Caroline O'Neill Alshab  
Lourdes Amaro  
Belane Ayelework  
Daniella Mbombo Balumuene  
Lauren Elizabeth Barclay  
Mary Claire Basso-Luca  
Katherine Ellen Beall  
Grace Noelle Bonato  
Alexandra Grace Bruno  
Ashley Michelle Caceres  
Julia Katherine Calandra  
Taniya Renee Caldwell  
Arianna Josephine Checchia  
Emily Ann Clark  
Claire Elizabeth Anne Coyle  
Maria Vitoria Da Silva  
Nicole Cac-Loan Dao  
Josephine Victoria De La Oliva  
Mary Rose DePont  
Emily Jane Dimond  
Eileen Ruth Dinn  
Julie Vanessa Dluzniewski  
Madeline Hope Doukouris  
Kylie Emma Draddy  
Katherine Marie Durbin  
Madelijn Helena Ewers  
Barbara Louise Ewing  
Mercedes Marie Feldhaus  
Ashley Foley  
Katherine Gerard Foley

Leslie Annetta Fontaine  
Zhe Fu  
Bria Joy Fuller  
Daniella Fernanda Giron Reyes  
Laila Alexandra Grant  
Sarah Ahmed Hagos  
London Avai Hall  
Elizabeth Joanne Holt  
Caroline Anne Howley  
Martha Elizabeth Hrdy  
Angela Ifeoma Iweka  
Mairead Elizabeth James  
Charlotte Jane Jones  
Julie Marguerite Joseph  
Cassidy Virginia Keehan  
Christina Dianne Kelly  
Serena Helene Kemp  
Tori Elizabeth Kestel  
Clare Elizabeth Kimiecik  
Yvette Jepkonga Kiptoo  
Catherine Bina Kiyonaga  
Mary Margarita Kolbe  
Haley Corinne Krause  
Marin Elizabeth Larkin  
Lia Chaide Prima Latham  
Chae Yeon Lee  
Sofia Julia Leusch  
Morgan Brittany Lewis  
Fionna Ann Long  
Maura Kathryn Lyons  
Maria Agnes Maloney

Meghan Elizabeth Maloney  
Victoria Martinez  
Janet Titilope Martins  
Josephine Varner Matta  
Maria Cecile McCleary  
Grace Elizabeth McCord  
Lauren Frances McDermott  
Ashlyn Grace McDonald  
Leah Marie McNamara  
Melanie Shaw-Ying McNamara  
Sara Marie Melley  
Carleigh Margot Meyer  
Aidan Emily Mooney  
Ann Bridget Myers  
Elizabeth Hellen Myers  
Adriana Lucia Navarro  
Honorine Oprah Noubissi  
Munachiso Ifunanya Nwokike  
Grace Darcy O'Connor  
Tyler Juliette O'Leary  
Ifeoma Courtney Okwara  
Jennifer McAllister Olcott  
Annya Monet Onyekwere  
Emily Rose Orem  
Nana Oye Owusu-Koranteng  
Sydney Katherine Evelyn Parbs  
Carolyn Rose Parker  
Katherine Sofia Pawlowski  
Wutiantian Peng  
Martha Philipos  
Dulmi Kalara Ratnasiri

Luciana Jacqueline Rieke  
Jenna Kaitlin Rizik  
Kelly Ann Robertson  
Cecilia Ellen Rogers  
Nora Mulryan Rossi  
Margaux Sinnott Ryan  
Naya Alejandra Salinas  
Emily Judith Salmonsens  
Camille Patricia Schmidt  
Melina Lorraine Skinner  
Samantha Hope Slark  
Nya Stanley  
Christina Grace Stavish  
Molly Clare Sullivan  
Megan Alexis Thompson  
Ella Catherine Torp  
Sophia Marley Vaccaro  
Danielle Marian Valcarcel  
Mira Alexandra Comilang Varghese  
Hannah Elizabeth Venable  
Breanna Rose Vitak  
Elisse Voysest  
Rebecca Mary Welton  
Emma Lauren Witt  
Eleasa Ilene Woodson  
Xiaoquan Xu  
Lucy DuZhen Young  
Olivia May Young  
Antonella Guila Rose Zara  
Wenchun Zhang

**Over \$14,700,000 in College Scholarship Awards**

**8 Advanced Placement Scholars**

**10 NCAA College Athletes**

**123 Women of Courage, Compassion and Scholarship!**

4920 Strathmore Avenue • Kensington, Maryland • [www.academyoftheholycross.org](http://www.academyoftheholycross.org)





Mr. Skip Mahon, from the St. Jane de Chantal Pastoral Council's Committee on Safety and Security, mans a table set-up in the Narthex of the church to familiarize parishioners with the equipment that is on hand in the church to deal with a variety of emergency situations.

## Highlighting St. Jane de Chantal's Safety & Security Readiness

On a weekend in March, the St. Jane de Chantal Pastoral Council's Committee on Safety and Security presented an exhibit in the Narthex of the church after each of the masses. The purpose of this activity was to familiarize parishioners with safety, first-aid and advanced trauma equipment that is located within the church. Several kits were on display, and committee members were present to show all the medical capabilities

that the Parish has on hand to deal with emergencies. This activity provided advance awareness for parishioners who possess professional or a certificated training in medical, law enforcement, fire/rescue/EMS, military or related disciplines. The idea was to be prepared in case of an emergency, which would allow for a faster response that can make the difference between life and death. Adverse events occur with little to no warning, which may warrant immediate care even within churches, as we have sadly seen recently with terrorist attacks targeting churches and other places of worship. Many parishioners stopped by the exhibit and were very impressed by the large display of first response equipment that our parish possesses. The committee on Safety and Security is doing an excellent job in preparing our church for any eventuality, and although we hope it will never happen, we will nonetheless be well ready for it.

OPT

### St. Jane de Chantal Parish

9601 Old Georgetown Road  
Bethesda, MD

Fr. Samuel C. Giese  
Pastor

301-530-1550

### St. Jane de Chantal School

Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton

301-530-1221

Susana and Mario Cerritelli,  
OPT Editors

## Soup, Saint & Stations Lenten Tradition at St. Jane de Chantal

Every Friday during Lent, the St. Jane de Chantal Parish continued the very popular event initiated last year called: Soup, Saint and Stations. The evening starts with a simple but very delicious soup that is coordinated to match the cultural background of the Saint that is being discussed immediately following. With a happy and full stomach, parishioners listened to a presentation about a saint or someone in the process of become a saint. That process was explained by Fr.



At the start of the event, volunteers serve soup and bread to participants of Soup, Saints & Stations, just prior to the Saint portion of the program.

Burney during the first session and includes several steps, beginning with the person being named a "Servant of God" by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, the department that makes recommendations to the Pope on saints, at the instance of the bishop of the diocese where the person died. At the recommendation of the Congregation, the Pope approves the cause and the person is then called "Venerable". To become

*Continued on page 49*



### Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Jane de Chantal Church

Together with Fr. Pierre-Henri Montagne and members of the St. Louis de France French parish, St Jane de Chantal parish celebrated the Mass of our Lord's Supper with readings in English and French and hymns in Latin. It was an especially moving celebration given the fact that the tragedy at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris happened just a few days earlier. It was a very sacred event, and the St. Jane parishioners were very grateful to join their French brothers and sisters from St. Louis de France for Holy Mass. Following the Mass there was a solemn procession following the Most Blessed Sacrament to Christopher Hall where the Eucharist was reposed and exposed for adoration.

## St. Jane's Lightbulb Exchange – Saving Both Energy & Money

By Maureen Wilkerson

Saving both energy and money are worthwhile goals, and for a second time, the St. Jane de Chantal Parish Environmental Committee invited a representative from the Residential Energy Program Manager from the Montgomery County Department

*Continued on page 25*



*Photo courtesy of Maureen Wilkerson*

Ms. Johnson, a representative from Montgomery County DEP, stands at the display table set-up in collaboration with the St. Jane de Chantal Environmental Committee to provide an opportunity for parishioners to learn about and exchange light bulbs.

Trust the NALLS with your real estate needs from  
*Start to Finish.*



Find Your Home with...

Tom Nalls, REALTOR®

301-237-5170, O: 301-340-8700  
Georgetown Preparatory School, Class of 1978



Settle Your Home with...

John Nalls, Attorney at Law  
202-686-0100

Gonzaga College High School, Class of 1982



Get Your Money with...



Joseph Nalls  
Loan Officer

301-529-8611

Gonzaga College High School  
Class of 1983



## HAPPENINGS IN OUR BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

*School reports provided by Mrs. Catherine Skibo*

### Field Day Exercise Fun & Games

On a beautiful Friday in May, the entire student body spent the day outdoors competing in field day games. Events included a 50-yard dash, the seated throw, the long jump, and the obstacle course. Ms. Lisa Tehan, PE teacher, and dozens of volunteers, spent many hours preparing to pull off yet another spectacular field day. The Harry Potter relay was the newest event this year, but the beloved tug-o-war remained the strong favorite. Teachers even joined in on some of the competitions. The weather was perfect for a fun-filled day of exercise and games for all.

*Continued on page 40*





**Isabella Aguilar**  
Visitation  
*Fall seven times  
and stand up eight.*



**Will Ammerman**  
Gonzaga  
*Life is short, so  
smile while you  
still have teeth.*



**Jean Bader**  
Georgetown Prep  
*Talent without  
working hard is  
nothing.*



**Mary Bailey**  
Visitation  
*Always forward,  
never back.*



**Isabella Baldwin**  
Stone Ridge  
*Carpe diem. Seize the  
day, boys. Make your  
lives extraordinary.*  
- "Dead Poets Society"



**Zoe Beuzelin**  
St. John's  
*When you can't  
find the sunshine,  
be the sunshine.*



**Lucas Bichy**  
St. John's  
*No act of  
kindness, no matter  
how small, is ever  
wasted.*



**Tyler Burgess**  
St. John's  
*If no one comes back  
from the future to stop  
you, how bad of a  
decision can it be?*



**Billy Carlsen**  
St. John's  
*Good, better, best.  
Never let it rest, until  
your good is better, and  
your better is best.*



**Katie Celeste**  
Holy Cross  
*Everything will be  
okay in the end.  
If it's not okay, then  
it's not the end.*



**Mary Celeste**  
Holy Cross  
*Don't worry about  
failure. Worry about  
the chance you miss  
when you don't try.*



**Thomas Chalfant**  
Georgetown Prep  
*If you're not first,  
you're last.*



**Olivia Cox**  
Holy Cross  
*Hogwarts, if you see  
this, know that I am  
still waiting.*



**Andrew Geary**  
Gonzaga  
*Trust the process.*



**Liza Goetcheus**  
Stone Ridge  
*Ohana means family.  
Family means no  
one gets left behind or  
forgotten.*



**Caroline Gotzman**  
St. John's  
*Stand up for what  
is right, even if it  
means standing alone.*



**Meredith Gotzman**  
St. John's  
*When your legs can't  
run any more, run  
with your heart.*



**Paige Haines**  
Walter Johnson  
*You can never  
plan the future  
by the past.*

# ST. JANE DE CHANTAL SCHOOL

Fr. Samuel Giese Pastor • Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton Principal  
9525 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814 / 301.530.1221 / www.dechantal.org

## Congratulations to Our Class of 2019!



**Mackenzie Irving**  
Visitation  
*Lucy took my quote.*



**Gabby Jacobs**  
Poolesville HS  
*They've done studies -  
you know 60%  
of the time,  
it works every time.*  
- "Anchorman"



**Annelise Jefferson**  
Visitation  
*You miss 100%  
of the shots  
you don't take.*



**Audrey Kaden**  
Visitation  
*Strive to be  
unapologetically  
yourself.*



**Sanyi Kish**  
Georgetown Prep  
*When life shuts  
a door, open it again.  
It's a door. That's how  
they work.*



**Maddie Koger**  
Stone Ridge  
*We must encounter  
defeats, but we must  
not be defeated.*



**Nicholas Kreta**  
Good Counsel  
*It will take a  
nation of millions  
to hold me back.*



**Reese Long**  
Holy Cross  
*Fairy tales are more  
than true: not because  
they tell us dragons  
exist, but because they  
tell us that dragons  
can be beaten.*



**Erin Lynch**  
Holy Cross  
*Don't worry.  
Everything  
happens for a  
reason.*



**Kaley McDermott**  
Holy Cross  
*I'm not superstitious,  
but I am a little  
stitious.*  
- Michael Scott,  
"The Office"



**Michaela McDonald**  
Good Counsel  
*We came, we  
learned, we left.*



**Tommy McKinnon**  
Gonzaga  
*Whenever I'm about  
to do something, I think,  
'Would an idiot do that?'  
And if they would, I do  
not do that thing.*  
- Dwight Schrute



**Gerry McLoughlin**  
St. John's  
*The school year is like  
light. It moves fast  
and stands still at  
the same time.*



**Juan Molinari**  
Gonzaga  
*Winning isn't  
everything; it's the  
only thing.*



**Joseph Morris**  
Walter Johnson  
*I'm too busy working  
on my own grass  
to notice if yours is  
greener.*



**Lucy Morris**  
Holy Child  
*Life is hard.  
It's harder when  
you're stupid.*



**Bryn O'Grince**  
Holy Cross  
*Be a pineapple.  
Stand tall, wear a  
crown, and be sweet  
on the inside.*



**Joanna Pagedas**  
St. John's  
*If Tetris has taught  
me anything, it's that  
if you try to fit in,  
you will disappear.*



**Tyler Petersen**  
St. John's  
*Education is a  
weapon whose effect  
depends on who holds  
it in his hands and at  
whom it is aimed.*



**Collin Porter**  
Georgetown Prep  
*You either make  
yourself accountable  
or you will be made  
accountable by your  
circumstances.*



**Ellie Priest**  
Stone Ridge  
*A champion is  
defined not by their  
wins but by how they  
can recover when  
they fall.*



**Catie Rhea**  
Visitation  
*Let's get a little  
crazy.* - Bob Ross



**Paolo Rivero**  
Churchill HS  
*My favorite things  
in life don't cost any  
money. ... The most  
precious resource we all  
have is time.*



**Kelly Russell**  
Visitation  
*Don't give up on  
your dreams... keep  
sleeping.*



**Sara Ryan**  
National Cathedral  
School  
*It always seems  
impossible until it's  
done.*



**Bridie Shaffer**  
St. John's  
*Don't cry because  
it is over. Smile  
because it happened.*



**Piper Stamos**  
Holy Cross  
*Everything happens  
for a reason.*



**Nina Swartz**  
Visitation  
*The greatest oak was  
once a little nut that  
held its ground.*



**Jack Tierney**  
St. John's  
*Everybody is a  
candle, true. But  
not everybody is lit.*



**Lauren Tucker**  
Stone Ridge  
*Before you can  
achieve, you must  
believe... in yourself.*



**Ben Varanelli**  
St. John's  
*You know what they  
say, those who can't  
farm, farm celery.*  
- Dwight Schrute



**Anna Veith**  
Visitation  
*What a wonderful  
thought it is that some  
of the best days of  
our lives haven't even  
happened yet.*



**Kirk Wall**  
Georgetown Prep  
*Disappointment is  
anger for wimps.*



**Oliver Weng**  
Gonzaga  
*I like to save the  
penalty, that's it.*



**Felicity Yetter**  
St. John's  
*Florals for spring?  
Groundbreaking.*  
- Miranda, "The  
Devil Wears Prada"



## First Holy Communion

Students from St. Mary's School and Parish CCD program celebrated their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 4. What a wonderful day to celebrate this beautiful sacrament with our second grade students. We thank Monsignor Amey and Father Kevin for making this such a special day for our first communicants.

OPT



## Teacher Appreciation

NBC4DC honored St. Mary's Teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week by filming live from St. Mary's on Tuesday, May 7 on the 6 am Morning Show. Molette Green and her crew brought the teachers breakfast treats and spent an energizing morning with our wonderful staff and students. #whystmarysrockville

OPT



## Grandparents Day

Grandparents and other special people were welcomed to attend mass with our students, served a wonderful breakfast provided by our school parents, and

then visited classrooms. This time-honored tradition is always one of the most special days of the school year, especially for our eighth grade students who will be graduating at the end of May.

OPT

**St. Mary's Parish**  
520 Veirs Mill Road Rockville, MD  
**Msgr. Robert Amey, Pastor**  
301-424-5550  
**St. Mary's School**  
**Mrs. Debby Eisel, Principal**  
301-762-4179  
**Mrs. Debby Eisel, Parish Editor**  
301-762-4179



## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2019 ! ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, ROCKVILLE, MD

Students attending these schools:

Academy of the Holy Cross, Clarksburg HS, Colonel Zadok Magruder HS, Georgetown Preparatory School, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Richard Montgomery HS, Rockville HS, Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart



# Congratulations, St. John's Graduates!

The Class of 2019 collectively earned more than \$30 million in scholarships.

Jalin Jobe Abbott\*  
Edward Adjei-Prempeh, Jr.  
Marjorie Bright Albert\*  
Brenda Maria Aleman Mayoral\*†  
Jarrett Alston, Jr.  
Nkati Amare  
Kyle Thomas Anderson\*†  
Tigran John Anlian  
Lauren McHugh Antonucci\*†  
Erin Renee Arceo\*  
Maria Ascanio Alino\*†  
Erik Gunnar Assarsson  
Shawn Caleb Baker  
Deen Oscar Bakir  
Shelby Faith Ball  
Brayden Albert Bapst  
Jack Alexander Barbour  
Daniel Sumner Beck\*  
Ainsley Janel Benton\*  
Drew Hunt Berggren  
Gabriella Francesca Bertozzi\*†  
Cecilia Teresa Bowe\*  
Nicole Elizabeth Briscuso  
Leon Noel Brittain  
Aden Paul Brody-Ogborn  
Francis Joseph Bromley  
Keyla Maria Brown  
Emily Taylor Bruner  
Malik Jahari Burgess  
Rajhad Aatif Burks  
Jared Michael Byrd\*  
Blaine Ryan Cahill-Welsh  
Victoria Iris Canfield  
Jovan Daniel Caraballo Navarra  
John Shea Carey\*  
Isabella Luna Celentano  
Anna Charles Cestari\*  
Catherine Eden Chua\*  
Allyson Caitlyn Clipper\*  
Terence Adrian Coles  
Edward Francis Collins  
Ronald Jerome Cook, Jr.  
Spencer George Cook\*  
Christopher John Cooper II  
Nolan Patrick Coronado  
Timothy Daniel Costello\*  
Alexandra Dominique Cowan  
Anyia Marie Crawford\*  
Robert Francis Cruz  
Rory Barrins Culkin  
Sean McDermott Culkin  
Margaret Caroline Curtis\*  
Teresa Lynne Cygnarowicz  
Thomas Jonathan Cygnarowicz  
Andrew Murphy Dailey  
Lance Durante DaSilva  
Isabella Maria Davila\*  
Justin Kyle Davis  
Alicia Lise Dawson  
Kyras Judah Dawson  
Liam de Beaufort\*  
Dylan Marshall Deffinbaugh\*  
Alexander Arthur Dematatis\*  
Marakah Ori Dennis  
Sarah Katherine DeVol\*

Kenyan Sherman Douglas  
Jack Patrick Downs  
Gavan Michael Duffy†  
Grace Anna DuFour\*  
Devon Arman Dunn  
Caitlin Rose Early\*†  
Eric Dugan Eichler  
Anika Eigen-Zucchi  
Sophia Marina Eloschway  
Esteban Miguel Espinosa\*  
Grace Nicole Falcone\*†  
Regina Familiar Avalos\*  
Emma Barbara Farrell\*  
Sari Patricia Finn\*  
Nicolas James Fitzgerald-Shavers  
Colin Xavier FitzPatrick\*  
Parker John Flynn\*  
Gina Rose Fookes\*  
Garrick Codrington Francis II  
Bryce Thomas Galey\*†  
Darcy Elizabeth Gallagher\*  
Riley James Gardiner\*†  
Luca Anthony Wrona Giallongo  
Kevin Patrick Gibbons\*  
Kaitlin Rose Giles\*†  
Peter Christopher Goodwin\*  
Amia Joi Graye\*†  
Aman Burnette Myles Greenwood  
Marlena Hanna Gitter Groves  
Anne Thoren Hagerty\*  
Jack Martin Hahn  
Luke Nathaniel Hahn  
Rian Kraig Haigler  
Dane Christopher Hall\*†  
Laura Elizabeth Harlan\*†  
Liana Arielle Harris\*  
Caroline Foley Hechinger  
William Francis Heinle\*†  
Isabelle Khoury Heintz\*  
Hector Herbert  
Diego Isaias Hernandez  
Loy Jacobi Hickmon  
Robert Joseph Hickmott\*†  
Jada Nicole Hill\*  
Matthew Anthony Jansen  
Stephen Francis Jasinski\*†  
Quinten Stephen Johnson  
Riley Elizabeth Johnson\*  
Alexander Virgilio Joya  
John Patrick Kavanagh\*†  
Joseph Angotti Kevorkian\*  
Nathan Eugene Kim\*†  
John Michael Koczela\*  
Luke Alexander Kodak  
Maia Lana LaFrance  
Francesca Elizabeth Larson  
Jordan Haley Leathers\*  
Sabrina Madison Leatherwood\*  
Jason Tucker Lerner\*  
Naomi Elaine Lester\*  
Thomas Henry Lewis  
Alan Kelly Long  
Michael Patrick Long\*  
Kieran Lowery Maddox  
Karla Alejandra Maldonado\*

Alexa Rose Mancabelli\*†  
Madison Noel Martin  
Reilly Degnan McCormick  
Sophia Marie McDonald  
Molly Ginette McGovern  
Kathleen Elizabeth McLoughlin\*  
Sean S. McNamara\*  
Jose Alberto Melendez  
Hannah Elizabeth Meyer\*  
Laila Symone Michel\*  
Zachary Melady Micklos  
Sara Eugenia Miller\*  
Joseph Thomas Minutoli  
Ca-She' Jariya Mitchell  
Emma Grace Mitchell\*†  
Raygan Margaret Mona\*  
Vincent Fitzgerald Morin  
Maliah Ashley Morris  
Tremor Morris-Brash  
Clara Rose Morrison†  
Matthew Casey Morsell  
Evan James Moses\*†  
Lomax Martin Mulheron  
Gabriella Marie Nastasi\*  
Chizimuzo Jose Nwokike  
Meaghan Murphy O'Donovan  
Quinn Thomas O'Keefe  
Nzubechukwu Ebele Oboh  
Mary E. Shu Yu Offner\*†  
Austin Nnanna Okorie  
Irene Adenike Otunla  
Erin Christina Paik  
Ellen Blake Palmiere  
Erica Marie Patton\*  
Michael Philip Penafiel\*†  
Marvin Omar Perez Vega, Jr.  
Olivia Kirsten Perna\*†  
Caroline Ciara Peters\*  
Joshua Sung-Woo Petruzzelli  
Emily Kathleen Place\*†  
Megan Jacokes Powell\*  
Malik Payton Lee Priest\*  
Haile Marie Proctor\*  
Matthew Conway Quast\*  
Christian Alexander Ramirez  
Annette Antonia Rangoussis\*†  
Ian Michael Andrew Remalia\*  
Erick Alfredo Rivadeneira\*  
Carlyn Elizabeth Rivera\*†  
Jasmine Rae Roberts\*  
Ramon Ethan Roberts  
Daniel John Robey  
Keilan Prince Robinson  
Aidan Alexander Rocha  
Rafael De Jesus Rodriguez  
Megan Allison Roldan\*  
Natalie Marie Romero\*†  
Amy Lillian Rose  
Cameron Tyler Ross  
Lukas Paul Rother  
Nathaniel Patrick Rutledge\*†  
Sophie Patricia Ryan\*  
Alahna Zakia Sabbakhan\*  
Hennessy Elizabeth Sak\*  
Mary Anne Salvador\*†

Marguerite Andrea Katherine  
Saunders\*†  
Vivienne Anna Sayle\*  
Robert Patrick Scalzo  
Zoe Rose Schmitt\*†  
Jacob Rumsey Schramm\*†  
Greta Marie Scott\*  
Victoria Jane Scott\*  
Seamus Michael Selmi  
Maria Gloria Shepp\*†  
Calli Marie Singdahlsen\*  
Andrew Leigh Skinner  
Joshua Michael Slager\*  
Reese Alexander Smith\*  
Ryan Alexander Smith  
Eloise Anderson Snedden  
Patrick Dudley Snee  
Thomas Donald Steele  
Megan Elizabeth Strachan\*†  
Matthew Robert Surette  
Timothy James Swope, Jr.\*  
Roberto Alonzo Tan IV  
Katherine Blanche Terry\*  
Matthew Howard Thomas  
Raye Lyneer Thomas  
Alexandre Gabriel Toner\*†  
Joseph Patrick Touhey  
Alan Duc Tran  
Emma Van Khai Tran\*  
Mary Eileen Treacy  
Malu Charlotte Tshitenge\*  
Hannah Rebecca Tulip\*  
Matthew Andrew Tull  
Jacob Edward Turner  
Rosemary Anne Vagnoni\*†  
Daniel Juan Valdez  
Olivia Sophia Valdez  
Alexander Vannoy\*  
Cristina Vannoy\*  
John Benjamin Varney  
Jesse Alejandro Champlain Vega  
Zoe Stockmon Walls\*  
Lilly Christine Wardour  
Alexander Richard Warren\*  
Caitlyn Ann Weeks\*  
Taylor Juliette West\*  
Stephen Joseph White  
Ryan Patrick Whitty  
Maxwell Austin Willens  
Elijah Jamarr Williams  
Gabriella Marie Williams\*  
Nicholas Francis Wolf\*  
Elizabeth Irene Woodhull  
Emily Barbara Woodhull  
Joie Alexis Wright\*  
Gwendolyn Enid Yetter\*  
Quinton Spencer Young  
Matthew Nicholas Zuppas\*†  
Zoe Nicole Zuppas

† De La Salle Scholar

\* National Honor Society



## The Woods Academy Hosted 36 Students from Belfort, France Building International Friendships

At right, Grade 7 Woods students and their French partners explore some microorganisms during a science lab.



Above, Grades 7 and 8 Woods students who study French spent 10 days over Spring Break exploring Paris and the town of Belfort, France where they enjoyed a homestay with families from the Section Internationale Américaine (SIA) at Collège Vauban a public school in Belfort.



At the beginning of April, The Woods Academy welcomed 36 students and their teachers from the Section Internationale Américaine (SIA) at Collège Vauban a public school in Belfort, France. The Woods is one of the only Pre-K-8 schools in the area to offer a daily world language curriculum beginning in Kindergarten and culminating with an exchange program in Grades 7 and 8.

Students in Grades 7 and 8 who study French at The Woods just

returned from a language immersion trip to France at the end of March. During their 10-day visit, Woods students toured Paris, the town of Belfort, attended classes at Collège Vauban, and enjoyed a homestay with the students from SIA. SIA is one of only 19 magnet programs in France. Students in the SIA study the language, culture, civics, history, literature, and geography of the United States.

While in America, the SIA students attended classes at The Woods,

and toured DC area landmarks like Mount Vernon, the White House and the Capitol Building, while staying with several Woods host families.

Exchange programs like this are extremely beneficial to the personal growth of middle school students. The students gain confidence, knowledge, maturity, cultural awareness, open-mindedness, and independence while experiencing rich language-learning opportunities in authentic situations. **OPT**

## Getting Down to Business

### Grade 5 Students Gain Skills and Expertise to Thrive in the Real World

One of the highly anticipated opportunities provided to students at The Woods Academy is a trimester of Business School led by Head of School Joe Powers. Not only do the students in Grade 5 learn the basic principles of investment, they also provide advice for the investment of real funds for the school. The Class of 2019's Student-Advised Investment Fund has earned over 40% in the last three years and the class has chosen to give the investment earnings back to the school upon graduation this spring.

In addition, the students in Mr. Powers' Business class explore entrepreneurship. In small groups,

*Continued on page 60*



Grade 5 students (left to right) Javier Ascanio Aliño, Mae Mathis, Brooke Bender, Braxton Davis, Nicholas Chong, Johnny Fields, and Quentin Toner (not pictured) recently donated their \$151.33 profit from their Water 4 Whales startup to 4Ocean (www.4Ocean.com), an organization committed to removing trash from the ocean and coastlines.



Former teachers were delighted to see their students now on The Woods faculty. (Left to Right) Curriculum & Media Specialist Katya (Cunnane) Pilon (1998), Former Montessori Director Joanne Gerber, Former Montessori Preschool Teacher Anu Iyer, Former 2nd Grade Teacher Birgitta Shay, Associate Teacher Stephanie Clark (2005), and 6th Grade Math & Science Teacher Samantha Firstenberg

## Once an Owl Always an Owl

*"It takes a long time to grow an old friend."*

– John Leonard, Former Faculty

On a lovely spring morning in March, The Woods welcomed nearly 20 former faculty and staff members back to campus. Current faculty and staff members were excited to see old friends and they were excited to see all that was new at The Woods.

Former Montessori Preschool Teachers Joanne Gerber and Anu

Iyer along with former 2nd Grade Teacher Birgitta Shay were delighted to see their former students – Curriculum & Media Specialist Katya (Cunnane) Pilon (1998), Associate Teacher Stephanie Clark (2005), and 6th Grade Math & Science Teacher Samantha Firstenberg – now on The Woods faculty.

**OPT**

### The Woods Academy

6801 Greentree Road  
Bethesda, MD 20817  
301-365-3080

**Head of School**  
Joseph E. Powers

**OPT Editor**  
Jodie Shoemaker  
Director of Marketing,  
Communications, & Alumni  
Relations  
www.woodsacademy.org



### Save the Date

**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts  
Celebration**

**Thursday, May 16 &  
Friday, May 17**

**Featuring The Wizard  
of Oz performed by Grades 7 and 8**

**Visit [www.woodsacademy.org/artscelebration](http://www.woodsacademy.org/artscelebration)  
for details and to purchase tickets.**





# THE WOODS ACADEMY

## Congratulates the Class of 2019



### **The Class of 2019 has been accepted to the following High Schools:**

Academy of the Holy Cross • Connelly School of the Holy Child  
Georgetown Preparatory School • Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School  
Gonzaga College High School • Landon School  
MCPS Magnet Program at Montgomery Blair High School  
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School • Peddie School (NJ) • St. Albans School  
St. John's College High School • Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart  
The Heights School

**The Class of 2019 has been awarded \$295,000 in merit scholarships.**





# ST. ANSELM'S

## ABBAY SCHOOL

*The Monks and Faculty of St. Anselm's Congratulate Our Seventy-third Graduating Class*

### THE CLASS OF 2019



**Nathan Alakija**  
Washington, DC  
*Lehigh University*



**Hammat Babin**  
Alexandria, VA  
*University of Chicago*



**Joseph Blum**  
Washington, DC  
*University of Michigan*



**Jesse Broderick-Sokol**  
University Park, MD  
*Georgia Inst. of Technology*



**Peter Clark**  
Warrenton, VA  
*Davidson College*



**John Commins**  
Greenbelt, MD  
*St. John's University (NY)*



**Ian Conrad**  
Arlington, VA  
*College of William and Mary*



**Thomas Dugan**  
Alexandria, VA  
*University of Virginia*



**James Duke**  
Chevy Chase, MD  
*University of Notre Dame*



**Yves Eisenberg**  
Hyattsville, MD  
*University of Maryland, College Park*



**David Feira**  
Arlington, VA  
*St. Olaf College*



**Ryan Fennelly**  
Washington, DC  
*University of Notre Dame*



**Declan Friel**  
Chevy Chase, MD  
*Boston College*



**Michael Gerrety**  
Washington, DC  
*College of William & Mary*



**Brendan Grau**  
Bethesda, MD  
*Rochester Institute of Technology*



**Aman Hardie**  
Ft. Washington, MD  
*Loyola University New Orleans*



**Hollis Howe**  
Washington, DC  
*University of Kansas*



**David Huang**  
Rockville, MD  
*University of Rochester*



**Austine Le Van**  
Great Falls, VA  
*George Mason University*



**Patrick Maco**  
Washington, DC  
*The University of Edinburgh*



**Max Maimone**  
Fairfax, VA  
*George Mason University*



**Ryan McFeeters**  
Silver Spring, MD  
*Loyola University New Orleans*



**Rhys Melcher**  
Washington, DC  
*University of New Hampshire at Durham*



**Forest Miller**  
Lorton, VA  
*Georgia Institute of Technology*



**Matthew Noone**  
Alexandria, VA  
*Loyola University New Orleans*



**Jimi Olopade**  
Silver Spring, MD  
*Salisbury University*



**Joshua Paniagua**  
McLean, VA  
*St. John's University (NY)*



**Cameron Pino**  
Washington, DC  
*University of Florida*



**Carlo Pizzano**  
College Park, MD  
*Loyola University Maryland*



**Xavier Preston**  
Upper Marlboro, MD  
*Loyola University New Orleans*



**Nicholas Sansone**  
Alexandria, VA  
*University of Notre Dame*



**Christopher Sherman**  
Washington, DC  
*Dartmouth College*



**Lucas Shi**  
Rockville, MD  
*Boston College*



**William Stubner**  
Rockville, MD  
*The George Washington University*



**David Terry**  
Bowie, MD  
*University of Florida*



**Carlos Velez**  
Alexandria, VA  
*Virginia Tech*



**Kyle Whitlock**  
Silver Spring, MD  
*Emory University*



**Tyler Young**  
Silver Spring, MD  
*University of Maryland, College Park*



**Henry Yuan**  
Silver Spring, MD  
*Princeton University*

## PAX IN SAPIENTIA



# SJN Prepares New Catholics in English and Spanish

By Jean Shema and Maria Ortiz

This year's RCIA members reflected the cultural diversity of our neighborhoods and our parish with a total of 27 participants in both English and Spanish programs. Those who received the sacraments included a former Muslim couple, a former Buddhist and a former Jehovah's Witness. Throughout the year our RCIA group shared their unique journey in choosing to become Catholic. It was evident that a spiritual hand guided their choices of names for Confirmation as they explained a particular incidence that led them to their patron saint.

This year brought many unique circumstances. Bob's wife, Diane, served as his godmother and sponsor following her reception in the Church in 2018 and subsequent evangelizing of her husband. Beth and Gary's son Nicholas joined them in receiving First Communion as a family. While raised Jehovah's Witness, by her grandmother, Judy came to the faith through other family members. Finally, Cynthia and Mariel, a mother and daughter, prepared side-by-side for baptism. Kimberly viewed RCIA videos on YouTube before joining our parish preparation. We hope that their witness gives rise to the Holy Spirit stirring in the minds and hearts of others.

OPT



Above and below: Members of the St. John Neumann RCIA for 2019 were instructed in both English and Spanish.



## ENZLER

Con't from page 1

also about the future and beginning a new experience of life.

When we think of graduations, we usually think of the big celebrations at universities, high schools and eighth grade. Those are important and worthy celebrations, but there are many others that are also important but get less attention.

Through my work at Catholic Charities, I am blessed to have a front-row seat to these joyous new beginnings for many who have struggled, are now completing very special efforts to change their lives and looking forward to beginning anew.

For example, I will soon attend the graduation of five students from our Kennedy School, which provides support and education for those with developmental differences or traumatic brain injuries. These young people have been with us for many years, and at 21 years old, they are aging out of the programs. We have come to know them well. They are like family to us. Some are graduating to new supportive employment here in the Washington area, helped by the great work of our team at the Kennedy School.

I will also attend graduations for those completing the English as a Second language (ESL) program. What a joy to see 20 to 30 adults who came here from other countries work hard to achieve a higher level of English proficiency and be able to communicate in ways they formerly could not. It's an exciting time for them, particularly as their careers move forward.

I also celebrate all at Catholic University who graduated or will soon graduate from the National Catholic School of Social Service. We have been blessed to help seven of those graduates earn their master's degrees in social work, and they will work for us at Catholic Charities for the next three years. We look forward to all the good they will do.

I think of countless others graduating from our various job programs this spring. Some have earned certificates to be bank tellers. Others work in green construction or one of our supportive employment programs, such as food preparation or maintenance. Their hard work and desire to improve their lives inspires us.

It's fitting that these new beginnings take place right after Easter and the Resurrection, when all was made new again. It is exciting to watch each of these events and to

celebrate the hard work of the past and the promise of the future. We rejoice in the belief that every time someone graduates from one of our programs they have a new beginning, an opportunity to start their careers with a sense of purpose and an expertise that were not formerly theirs to enjoy.

I celebrate and give thanks as well for those who will be ordained in the very near future, having completed their theology studies at one of our major seminaries. We are blessed to have 10 new men from Washington DC joining the priesthood. What a great gift to our archdiocese!

So my heartfelt congratulations to all graduates, big and small, old and young from any and every school or program. I wish them all peace, joy, and happiness. I am thrilled that Catholic Charities is a part of helping many people find their way in a world that has become more and more difficult for them.

As these brothers and sisters of ours begin the next chapters of their lives, I can't wait to see all that they will accomplish and the good they will do. As we say at the end of Mass, may they "go forth in peace, glorifying the Lord by their lives." May we all do the same.

OPT

# Evangelization at St. John Neumann

By Susan Saint-Rossy

Pope Paul VI stated in his 1975 encyclical *Evangelii Nuntiandi* (Evangelization in the Modern World): "Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses."

Inspired by the truth of such a statement, the Evangelization Team of St. John Neumann parish has been collecting the personal conversion and faith journey stories of parishioners for the last several years and presenting them in books that are given out free to those in their parish and beyond. The stories run the gamut from the convert from Islam whose family completely shunned her after an attempted honor killing of her failed, to the revert who decided to return to the Church after realizing that the fulfillment he had been seeking over many years in the materialism of the world was illusory.

It is impossible to read these stories and not be moved by them. What would make a person go from being a disinterested, rather bored Catholic who was simply "going through the motions" to one who, after a supernatural and completely unsolicited religious experience

while driving one day, suddenly exhibit such a relentless thirst for God that even her family had difficulty recognizing her? In the face of such irrefutable evidence of God's actions in our daily lives, it is difficult to remain impassive.

We handed these books out free at Easter with the hope that, in addition to encouraging and strengthening the faith of practicing Catholics, other visitors and "cultural" Catholics who attend Mass only rarely would be caught in that wider net. There are perhaps those who regard the biblical stories as somewhat on a par with fairy tales. To read about the lives and experiences of their contemporaries whose stories are in many ways every bit as amazing as those in the biblical narratives is hopefully to give them pause. Or perhaps they will find cause to question how accurate their view of God as a fault-finding, vindictive rule maker really is.

On the contrary, it is the hope of the Evangelization Team that they may discover through the lens of others His awesome mercy and love, realizing that their lives are the pages upon which He desires to continue to write His love story. St. Faustina, pray for us!

OPT

# The Lifestyle of Evangelization

By Henri T. Maindizze

On Tuesday, May 1st, 2018, I walked into Maureen Joseph's office seeking to do anything that I could to testify to the good news of Jesus Christ. Her cordial offer for me to join the RCIT team lit a fire in my soul, as it was a window for me to further discern what I wanted to do with my life. I was the last of the 4 to join the team, the others being Juancarlos Ramirez, Cristian Galvez, and Michaela Hiles, and the presence of the aforementioned trio on a weekly basis made my first year of being a catechist go that much more smoothly.

If I had to choose one out of the many lessons that I have learned this year, it would be this: evangelization is a lifestyle choice. I have found that the most memorable days that stick out to me are the days that we did not teach so they would know of God, but rather that they may understand who God is, and that God cares deeply for their souls. Whether it was through personal testimonies of encounters with Him, abstract

references that are the catechist and student version of inside jokes, or through stirring conversations about the trials of a Christian lifestyle, the days we allowed God to speak through us as messengers rather than as mere vaults of knowledge shine brightest to me.

God granted the four of us the incredible opportunity to testify to 16 wonderful teens from different walks of life and with different life stories, and I pray that they got as much out of this year as I did. As they prepare to be Baptized and Confirmed on Sunday, May 12th, I pray that they remember that this faith is about who they are when they take off the jacket, and that this is only the beginning.

OPT

**St. John Neumann Parish**  
9000 Warfield Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20882

**Fr. Kevin Regan**  
Pastor

**Rus Wester**  
OPT Editor

It pays to advertise in  
Our Parish Times



**IT'S GOOD NEWS!**  
**... AND GOOD FOR YOUR BUSINESS**  
**Advertise in Our Parish Times CALL (301)**  
**706-9684**  
**OurParishTimes@gmail.com**

*Shady Grove*  
**PREGNANCY CENTER**

*Do you have a heart for women and babies?*

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

*Do you have experience with  
fundraising and outreach?*

Would you like to use your talents to forward the pro-life mission? The **Shady Grove Pregnancy Center** in Gaithersburg is seeking a part-time Community Development and Outreach Coordinator. This paid position will focus on developing and implementing the Center's overall fundraising strategy and outreach to churches, foundations and other donors. Time commitment is 9:00 to 5:00 three days/week.

Interested candidates should send resume to  
[director@pregnancy-options.org](mailto:director@pregnancy-options.org).

**Shady Grove Pregnancy Center**  
 16220 Frederick Road #118  
 Gaithersburg, MD 20877

# Stone Ridge Seniors Earn Prestigious Scholarships

**A**malia Marmolejos, Melanie Pane, Madeleine Sateri and Nia Williams, seniors at Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart, all earned top scholarships at universities.

Amalia Marmolejos was awarded a Morehead-Cain Scholarship at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. This four-year, fully-funded program seeks out those with strong leadership skills, scholarship skills, physical vigor and character. In addition to excellent academic achievements, Amalia is the leader of Amigas, Stone Ridge's Hispanic affinity group, sits on the Student Diversity Board, swims, dances, and is an avid volunteer and advocate of others.

At Stone Ridge since kindergarten, Melanie Pane has been awarded a four-year Navy ROTC scholarship. She will use this scholarship at the University of Virginia, where she will be a part of Navy ROTC. Melanie is a Petty Officer Third Class in the U.S. Naval Academy's Sea Cadets Corps, leader of Stone Ridge's Planet Student Community Governance organization, and active in the Handbells Choir.

Madeleine Sateri has been awarded the Presidential Scholarship at



Villanova. This merit-based award, covering full tuition, room, textbooks and board for eight semesters, honors those who "have demonstrated a love of learning and a commitment to enhancing both their local and broader civic communities." Outside of the classroom, Madeleine is deeply committed to a variety of organizations. She is an athlete, a debater, a musician, and a dedicated servant-leader.

Nia Williams is a Reginaldo Howard Scholar at Duke University. This scholarship pays full tuition,

room and board. Nia, known for challenging herself academically at every turn, also has a extra-curricular resume that reflects a deep commitment to issues of justice and equality. As a three-year member of the Stone Ridge Student Diversity Board, Nia has played a critical role in advancing the difficult yet necessary conversations about race and its role in our society.

The Stone Ridge community is proud of these four seniors in their accomplishments and in earning these well deserved awards. **OPT**

## McGANN

*Con't from page 1*

but they also learned to admire the patriots who shaped our country. They studied the lives of the Saints and learned that each of us must make sacrifices for the good of others. The Catholic education

my children received at Saint Jane DeChantal, The Academy of the Holy Cross, DeMatha Catholic, and Georgetown Prep supported and reinforced the lessons we taught our children, and I am grateful for the life lessons that they learned in Catholic schools and in those school communities.

It can be tough today for children to find heroes. Thanks to unfettered access, our children are exposed to the worst sins of people - a Governor discussing murder as a reasonable option for pregnant mothers, priests violating a sacred trust, actors and actresses having children with their latest boyfriend or girlfriend, athletes feeling free to abuse their wives and disrespect their country, and unstable isolated people expressing their anger with guns in the halls of elementary schools.

Do the lessons taught in our Catholic schools hold their own against the lessons taught on the internet and the television? Are parents able to stand steady against the obstacles that exist as they work to raise young people of character and faith? We are in the midst of a battle for the souls of our children, and no parent can do this alone. Catholic education remains Catholic - Catholic school communities allow families to make positive connections and to support

one another.

At the Spanish Catholic Center doctors and dentists provide care to children and adults; at the Jeanne Jugan House the Little Sisters welcome the ill and the elderly. Volunteers serve Christmas dinner at the Shrine, and parishioners across the Archdiocese serve meals to homeless people daily. Parish priests open their doors at all hours to those in need and rush off to the hospital in the middle of the night to share someone's final moments on earth. Catholic school teachers spend hours creating lessons that will reach all their students, not just the ones who learn easily.

It's important to show our children these quiet heroes who live out the social values of our church. Martin Luther King said that home is not only the place you can return to. He said that home is the place where we go from - with the lessons learned, with the knowledge of who we are. As parents and grandparents, we need to communicate to our children that this is where we come from - that as Catholics this is how we live. We, each of us and all of us, are the Catholic Church and we are in the business of looking for the Face of God in others. It's our mission to share our faith not just by our words, or by attending Mass, but by the way we treat others. **OPT**

## When your home needs improvement I CAN HELP.



I am Dan Gannon, and my company is  
**Gannon  
 Construction &  
 Improvements, Inc.**

- Like you, I own a home and know that something always needs to be done.
- I own a company that values its clients.
- We have been helping your neighbors with their needs and would like to help you with yours.
- We take care of windows, roofing, siding, kitchens, and other projects.
- You are invited to look at our jobs in your neighborhood.
- Hope to hear from you.

Call me at 301-455-8626 for a FREE estimate  
**Gannon Construction & Improvements, Inc.**

Licensed, bonded and insured by the Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC#66333).  
 All labor is guaranteed for a minimum of one year and in most cases two to five years.

541 W. Montgomery Ave., Rockville, MD 20850

**It pays to advertise in  
Our Parish Times**





### COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

American University ♦ Auburn University ♦ Belmont Abbey College ♦ Benedictine College ♦ Boston College ♦ Boston University ♦ Ca Foscari University of Venice, Italy ♦ Case Western Reserve University ♦ Catholic University of America ♦ Charleston University ♦ Christendom College ♦ Clemson University ♦ Colorado State University ♦ Delaware State University ♦ Frostburg State University ♦ Gannon University ♦ George Mason University ♦ George Washington University ♦ Georgetown University ♦ James Madison University ♦ Lafayette College ♦ Loyola University of Maryland ♦ Loyola University, New Orleans ♦ Lycoming College ♦ McDaniel College ♦ Miami University ♦ Monmouth University ♦ Montgomery College ♦ Mount St. Mary's University ♦ North Carolina State University ♦ Ohio State University ♦ Old Dominion University ♦ Omega Recording Studios School ♦ Penn State ♦ Radford University ♦ Roanoke College ♦ Rutgers University ♦ Salisbury University ♦ Shenandoah University ♦ St. John's University ♦ Stetson University ♦ Texas A& M University ♦ University of Dallas ♦ University of Delaware ♦ University of Maine ♦ University of Maryland, Baltimore County ♦ University of Maryland, College Park ♦ University of North Carolina, Wilmington ♦ University of Vermont ♦ Virginia Tech ♦ Washington and Jefferson College ♦ Washington State University ♦

### AVALON'S GRADUATES

John Paul Jose Alicea	Seif Karl Ingram	Tyler Jack Nishi
Jayden Carrol Ashby	Carlo Erico Jones	Charles Costello Plumb
Ryan Christian Barnes	Chase Walker Kimball	Salim Yusuf Samura
Alexander Austin Bell	Khadere H. Kounta	Jason Derrick Scott
Daniel Michael Boyle	Francesco Ludovico Kushner	Peixun Shi
Victor Phillip Calvetti	Zhe Yu Ma	Todd Wesley Simmons
Tobias Contini	Matthew Stephen Marinucci	Owen Jude Sloan
Joshua Thomas Cotting	Korey Jonathan McLeod	Paolo Pietro Stohlman
Nicholas William Gamble	Huandong Meng	Justin Brian Trent
Aaron Avorey Gibson	Vincent Stewart Moore	Yidi Wu



## Congratulations CLASS OF 2019



### COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

American University ♦ Ave Maria University ♦ Baylor University ♦ Belmont Abbey College ♦ Boston College ♦ Catholic University of America ♦ Christendom College ♦ Clark University ♦ Denison University ♦ Duquesne University ♦ George Mason University ♦ Loyola University Maryland ♦ Manhattan College ♦ Marymount University ♦ Michigan State University ♦ Mount St. Mary's College ♦ Penn State ♦ Providence College ♦ Queens University of Charlotte ♦ Salisbury University ♦ Salve Regina College ♦ St. Francis University ♦ St. John's College ♦ St. Mary's College of Maryland ♦ Towson University ♦ University of Dallas ♦ University of Oregon ♦ University of Maryland, Baltimore County ♦ University of Maryland, College Park ♦ University of Rhode Island ♦ University of Richmond ♦ Virginia Tech ♦ Washington and Lee University ♦



### BROOKEWOOD'S GRADUATES

Caitlin Marie Bierwirth	Alessandra Eliana Mann
Symone Alisha Brooks	Marianna Sofia Marin
Bridget Elizabeth Croarkin	Sophia Elizabeth Parker
Marisa Noelle Salgado Galvez	Marianna Pepicelli
Noelia Maria Gonzalez	Christina Natalia Roa
Tatiana Sarai Zelaya-Gonzalez	Sofia Lourdes Rodriguez
Margaret Frances Hawley	Yiluo Xu
Elizabeth Catherine Karavangelos	Sophia Izabel Zavala
Xinrui Lu	

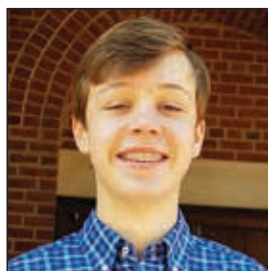




# CLASS OF 2019 GRADUATES

## St. Bartholomew School

Reverend Mark D. Knestout, **Pastor** • Mr. Frank English, **Principal**



**Luke William Bowen**

GEORGETOWN  
PREP

*"It does not matter  
how slow you go  
as long as you  
do not stop."*  
Confucius



**Grace Bryant**

ACADEMY OF  
HOLY CROSS

*"Darkness cannot  
drive out darkness,  
only light can do that,  
hate cannot drive out hate  
only love can do that."*  
MLK



**Anthony Thomas Castiello**

GONZAGA COLLEGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Be the change  
you wish to see  
in the world."*  
Mahatma Gandhi



**Giuliana Marie Conte**

OUR LADY OF  
GOOD COUNSEL

*"The way I see it, if you  
want a rainbow, you gotta  
put up with the rain."*  
Dolly Parton



**Sean Patrick Culkin**

OUR LADY OF  
GOOD COUNSEL

*"Do you control your  
impulses or do your  
impulses control you."*  
Mr. Bartl



**Kevin Christopher Fay**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

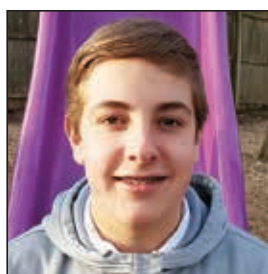
*"Hard work beats  
talent when talent  
doesn't work hard."*  
Derek Jeter



**Jacqueline Reese Federowicz**

HOLTON ARMS  
SCHOOL

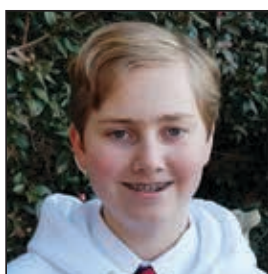
*"In order to be  
irreplaceable, one must  
always be different."*  
Coco Chanel



**John Patrick Gallagher**

GONZAGA COLLEGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

*"The time is always  
right to do  
what is right."*  
MLK



**John Francis Xavier Loughran**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

*"If you focus on  
what you left behind,  
you will never be able  
to see what lies ahead."*  
Chef Gusteau



**Caitlin Elise McLearn**

VISITATION HIGH  
SCHOOL

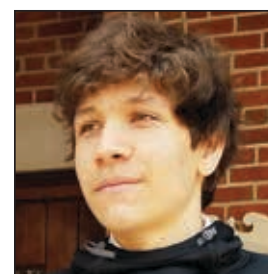
*"Keep your face  
always toward the  
sunshine and shadows  
will fall behind you."*  
Walt Whitman



**Samuel Joseph Meyer**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

*"A life is  
not important  
except in the impact  
it has on other lives."*  
Jackie Robinson



**Tyler Neal**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

*"Faith is taking the  
first step even  
when you don't see  
the whole world."*  
MLK



**Anthony Michael Rettew**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

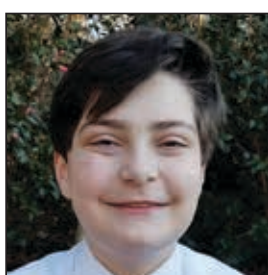
*"Feed your soul daily,  
or else it dies."*  
Joji



**Sydney Alden Schwenker**

CONNELLY SCHOOL OF  
THE HOLY CHILD

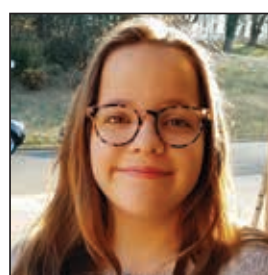
*"I decided long ago never  
to walk in anyone's shadow;  
if I fail or if I succeed,  
at least I did as I believe."*  
Whitney Houston



**Theodore R. Smith**

SIDWELL FRIENDS  
SCHOOL

*"There is excellence  
all around you.  
You need only to stop  
and savor it."*  
Chef Gusteau



**Erin Kathleen Stevens**

VISITATION  
HIGH SCHOOL

*"I've learned that people  
will forget what you said,  
people will forget what  
you did, but people will  
never forget how you  
make them feel."*  
Maya Angelou



**Liza Jane Isabel Triandafilou**

CONNELLY SCHOOL OF  
THE HOLY CHILD

*"For beautiful eyes, look  
for the good in others;  
for beautiful lips, speak  
only words of kindness; and  
for poise, walk with  
the knowledge you are  
never alone."*  
Audrey Hepburn



**Julieta Vesperoni**

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

*"You can be anything  
you want to be,  
just turn yourself  
into anything  
you think that you  
could ever be."*  
Freddy Mercury





Principal Frank English with students Will Triandafilou and Charlie Gallagher

## St. Bart's seventh graders carry on siblings' tradition of service

**D**ozens of backpacks filled with vital necessities are now available to local homeless children, thanks to the second annual Lenten Promise Packs initiative at St. Bartholomew School. With support from school families and the Bethesda Rotary Club, seventh graders Charlie Gallagher and Will Triandafilou led efforts to collect backpacks, school supplies, dental products, socks, blankets, and gift cards.

The Promise Packs service project was launched last year by Gallagher and Triandafilou's older siblings. "Will and I felt it was really important to continue the service project," says Gallagher, "We want to continue to help children in homeless shelters, and make them feel that someone is thinking about them."

The collected items were delivered to the Montgomery County service center for children and families, which is served by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington. The effort is one of many service projects the school engages in each year. "At St. Bart's we are always learning about ways to help others that are less fortunate than we are," says Gallagher. "Our teachers make us aware of ways to help others and of the different ways we can help."

OPT



Dozens of packs ready to go to Catholic Charities

## St. Bart's teacher wins Golden Apple Award

**C**heers erupted in an all-school assembly as William Ryan, the Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Washington, announced that St. Bart's teacher Kerry Parker is a 2019 Golden Apple Award winner. The prestigious award honors excellence in teaching and a commitment to Catholic education. "She's an outstanding teacher," said Ryan, "Ms. Parker can feel very good that she's recognized as one of the best in the ADW. It's a reflection on the whole school and staff at St. Bartholomew."

To win the award, nominated teachers must write an essay on why faith is important to them and how it is important to their work. Parker, a third-grade teacher at the school since 2008, creates a faith-centered classroom by

weaving reliance on God into all aspects of her students' lives. She says, "We visit our Church often on what I call 'Holy Field Trips.' On these trips, my third graders can focus on reverence and centering themselves to share a prayer or gratitude list, or simply a moment to be with Jesus during a bustling school day."

In the classroom, Parker is known for creative lessons that often involve kinesthetic learning and for her adherence to Responsive Classroom methodology, which encourages sharing of ideas and social/emotional growth as key components of classroom success. "Morning meetings and closing circles are my third graders' favorite parts of the day," says Parker. "It is time to discuss a variety of topics, and it strengthens our bond as classmates and



Golden Apple winner Kerry Parker with Principal Frank English and Pastor Mark Kneestout

friends." Parker adds that she is humbled to win the award and feels that every part of her life connects to being a Catholic school teacher. "God

is ever-present and celebrated in every aspect of my life. To be able to fulfill this calling at St. Bart's is my greatest joy."

OPT

## St. Stephen Ministry Active at St. Bartholomew

**S**t. Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place in congregations that use the "St. Stephen Series" system. Stephen Ministry congregations train, equip and empower lay caregivers—called St. Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are going through tough times.

At St. Bartholomew Parish, St. Stephen Ministers are ready to bring God's love and care to individuals in need! They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for those in need, and provide weekly support for as long as the need persists. Those in need or who know someone who might benefit from receiving care from a St. Stephen Minister, please contact Deacon Julio Blanco-Eccleston, Director of Stephen Ministry, at (703) 821-1654 or jublec18@earthlink.net



St. Stephen Ministers recently commissioned at St. Bartholomew Parish: Deacon John Class, Bonnie Carr, and Esteban Vesperoni.

OPT

# IS YOUR INSURANCE AGENT FREE TO GET YOU A BETTER DEAL?

**AN INDEPENDENT AGENT HAS FREEDOM OF CHOICE.**  
With access to many different providers, **Trusted Choice® Independent Agents** have more options at their fingertips. They can competitively shop around for you and put together a plan that suits both your needs and your budget. The only one they answer to is you.  
Find your independent agent. Find a better deal at [trustedchoice.com](http://trustedchoice.com)

**Free to do what's right for you<sup>SM</sup>**



**LET'S TALK ABOUT WHAT FREEDOM OF CHOICE CAN DO FOR YOU.**

**JWM**  
JOSEPH W. MCCARTIN  
INSURANCE, INC.

Joseph W. McCartin Insurance, Inc.  
[www.mccartin.com](http://www.mccartin.com)  
301-837-1095

**It pays to advertise in  
Our Parish Times**



### Holy Cross Rejoices in the Easter Sacraments!

Holy Cross Church welcomes Crystall Carmen, Rosa Diaz, Zorina Keiser and Kimberlee Tapia in their new life in Christ! These ladies received the Sacraments of Initiation during the Easter Vigil with the support of their sponsors and fellow parishioners.

A special congratulation goes out to Tanya Abrams who was confirmed in the Holy Spirit! These wonderful group of women journeyed together in prayer, study and the sharing of their lives as they prepared to receive the sacraments and grow deeper in relationship with God. Your Holy Cross Parish keeps you close in prayer and looks forward to accompanying you in our shared journey of faith.



It was a glorious day at Holy Cross Church for the children who received First Holy Communion and their families on the morning of Saturday, May 4. First Communicants posed with Father Robert Buchmeier following the mass.

## Holy Cross, A Community of Welcome



Long time parishioners and newly baptized enjoying the food and company at the reception following the Easter Vigil.

The beauty of the Easter Vigil is fittingly extended in the hospitality of the parishioners of Holy Cross. Every year, parishioners and members of Holy Cross' Hospitality Committee and other ministries prepare a reception to celebrate Easter and warmly welcome those who received the Sacraments of Initiation. An invitation is extended to the whole parish and guests visiting for the evening. Sweet and savory treats are baked by parishioners as a labor of love that always satisfies the attendees.

The Easter Vigil reception is one of the hallmarks of the kindness and love shared in the community of Holy Cross Church. Opportunities to gather in friendship and celebration are offered throughout the year in Holy Cross. Doughnuts and Coffee are served after the 9am Mass during the school year, summer is marked by a Parish Picnic and every Friday in Lent is observed with a simple supper before Stations of the Cross.

OPT



Liam Austin pictured with his grandmother who traveled from Uganda for the event, and a special friend.

## Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day at Holy Cross

Special guests filled Holy Cross School with love and smiles on Friday, May 3, for the annual Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day. The morning began with a prayer service, lead

*Continued on page 28*



Summer 2019 is just around the corner...  
so get ready for **FUN!**

POOL ♥ STEM CLASSES ♥ ARTS ♥ SPORTS ♥ ADVENTURE CAMPS ♥ AND MORE!



Full-day, weekly summer programs  
for boys and girls ages 4-18  
June 17-July 26, 2019

9101 Rockville Pike · Bethesda, Maryland  
301.657.4322 ext. 5001

[www.stoneridgesummercampus.org](http://www.stoneridgesummercampus.org)



**Congratulations**



**2019 Graduates**

					
William Applegarth <i>Good Counsel</i>	Karly Bacarissas <i>St. John's</i>	Sara Basile <i>Albert Einstein Visual Arts Magnet</i>	Erin Belson <i>St. John's</i>	Simon Bueno <i>Montgomery Blair STEM Academy</i>	Sarah Cestone <i>St. John's</i>
					
Alessandra DeGroat <i>Holy Cross</i>	Croix Harris <i>Georgetown Prep</i>	Jordan Kellam <i>DeMatha</i>	Sky Kim <i>St. John's</i>	Jessica Kotchenreuther <i>Good Counsel</i>	Patrick Lidiak <i>Good Counsel</i>
					
Chloe Raymond <i>Holy Cross</i>	Anna Rhodes <i>St. John's</i>	Siena Ruzicka <i>St. John's</i>	Michael Ryan <i>St. John's</i>	Hector Serrano <i>St. John's</i>	Simon Wallace <i>Georgetown Prep</i>



**Congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2019!**





## Holy Cross Finds Neverland!

The Middle School students of Holy Cross had a rollicking good time in Neverland on April 5 and 6 as they performed *Peter Pan, Jr.* to an appreciative audience. The cast and crew performed three amazing shows under the direction of Ms. Karen Rappaport.

Ms. Rappaport expressed her pride in the students who dedicated two months of time and energy to make the performance a success. "The cast and crew prepared a wonderful adventure to Neverland where we found the magical world of Pirates and Lost Ones, Brave Girls and, of course, the infamous crocodile! I am also grateful to all of the parents who helped us create the magic by donating props, and costumes as well as their time." The magic lasted through each performance, but the memories will last a lifetime.



OPT

The entire cast and crew of *Peter Pan, Jr.* poses after the dress rehearsal.

## Holy Cross, A Second Home

By Michael Ryan, eighth-grade student

As I reflect back on my time at Holy Cross School, I can truly say that it has been a wonderful experience. Every day, Holy Cross is like a second home. Even though I did not come until 5th grade, I learned so much there.

On my first day, everyone was kind and welcoming, I did so many fun activities, and I even made some friends. After that first day, I knew Holy Cross was the right place for me. Every day since then, I have learned even more, and I believe all that knowledge will help me in the future, in high school and beyond.

I did so many very fun projects and activities along the way. I created an analogy for the cell, wrote poems about emotions, read very good books (including *The Odyssey*, *The Cask of Amontillado*, and *King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table*), used cookies to model the phases of the moon, visited important sites such as Mount Vernon and Gettysburg, participated in the Montgomery County Science Fair, prepared for Confirmation, and so much more.

In addition to learning and doing fun things, I had very kind teachers. I want to thank them all for making learning fun and for making everyone feel loved. I also had a wonderful principal, Mrs. Kane, who always has encouraging and wise words for everyone, a great office manager, and some true friends. I want to thank everyone at Holy Cross for making my experience so great there and for making it a second home for me.

OPT

## Lenten Food Drive a Huge Success

The Social Concerns Committee at Holy Cross School collaborated to make this year's Lenten Food Drive a huge success. Over one hundred bags of groceries were donated to the food pantry at St. Martin's in Gaithersburg; twenty bags of groceries went directly to area families in need; and grocery gift cards were purchased for area families and local shelters to use for perishable food items for Easter dinner.

Homemade Easter cards accompanied each of the grocery bags provided to area families. In addition, the children made very special Easter cards to send to the Sisters of the Holy Cross, many of whom lived adjacent to the Holy Cross property in Saint Angela's Hall until last year.

The Social Concerns Committee extend a warm thank you to the parish and school families who donated their time and effort to the food drive.

OPT



**FOR 50 YEARS, FITZGERALD AUTO MALLS  
HAS EARNED THE TRUST OF OUR CUSTOMERS  
BY DOING BUSINESS THE FITZWAY**

Our ISO 9001 Certification sets us apart from other auto dealers.  
It is the highest recognition available for quality with a focus on the customer.  
**We are the only dealer group in North America with this distinction.**

First dealership to be named an  
EPA Green Power Partner in the USA

Recipient of the National Capital Business Ethics Award

The nation's largest private  
Child Safety Seat Inspection Program



**FitzMall.com**



# Living Stations of the Cross at Mother Seton

By Joan Gerard

The Living Stations of the Cross were read and enacted by the youth of our Parish on Good Friday, April 19. The cast was: Jesus: Pascal Owona; Mary: Pamela Turcios Ventura; Veronica: Sophia Chaskes; Simon: Michael Wnek; Pilate/St. John: John Paul Wnek; Joseph of Arimathea: Peter Van Roie; Soldiers: Lilian Owona and Emilio Orr-Gonzalez; Holy Women: Samuella Padonou, Sharon Chacon Enamorado, Bryana Guevara.



Living Stations of the Cross readers

Continued on page 40



2019 Candidates Retreat at Sandy Hill Camp.

## 2019 Mother Seton Parish Confirmation

By Cathy McTighe, Director of Youth Ministry

Mother Seton would like to congratulate our 2019 candidates who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, May 18. Here pictured are some of our 8th grade Confirmation Candidates on

their weekend Confirmation Retreat at Sandy Hill Camp. Also being confirmed are 22 high-schoolers in our RCIA Adapted for Teens program. May you each be filled with the Holy Spirit and lead lives of witness to your faith!

OPT



On Saturday April 27, at the 5:00 PM vigil Mass we welcomed 10 of our RCIA-AC children into the church and two of our second graders received their First Holy Communion. Six of our students were baptized and received First Communion and four were fully initiated into the church. As you can see from the picture it was a beautiful evening. Congratulations to all twelve of these students.

## Annual Sodality of Our Lady Daughters of Mary Communion Breakfast. Saturday, May 25, 2019

Please join us for a morning that honors Mary, Our Blessed Mother. **Carol Monaco, Guest Speaker.** Mother Seton Parish, 19951 Father Hurley Boulevard Germantown, Maryland 20874.

Program includes: Full breakfast buffet, door prizes, raffle baskets, 50/50 raffle, gifts for the children, and beautiful handmade rosaries and books by Carol Monaco for sale. Tickets will be on sale after all Sunday Masses on May 18/19, also in the parish office. Ticket prices: \$20.00



(age 12 and up), \$5.00 (ages 4-11), (ages 3 and under are free). For information, email Jeanne at jmpolcsa@gmail.com or Marilyn at mbspirit77ust@aol.com.

OPT

### Mother Seton Parish

19951 Fr. Hurley Boulevard  
Germantown, MD

Fr. Lee Fangmeyer, Pastor  
301-924-3838

Brenda Rosado, OPT Editor  
Bulletin@Mothersetonparish.org

## SUMMER DAY CAMP CAMP OLYMPIA

Serving the Community For 60 Years

Horseback Riding • Swimming • Gymnastics • Tennis  
Soccer • Basketball • Mountain Biking and more

**OPEN HOUSE**  
Saturday May 18  
at 3:30

**CO-ED Instructional  
Sports Program**  
June 17–August 30  
2 Week Minimum  
Ages 3½–15

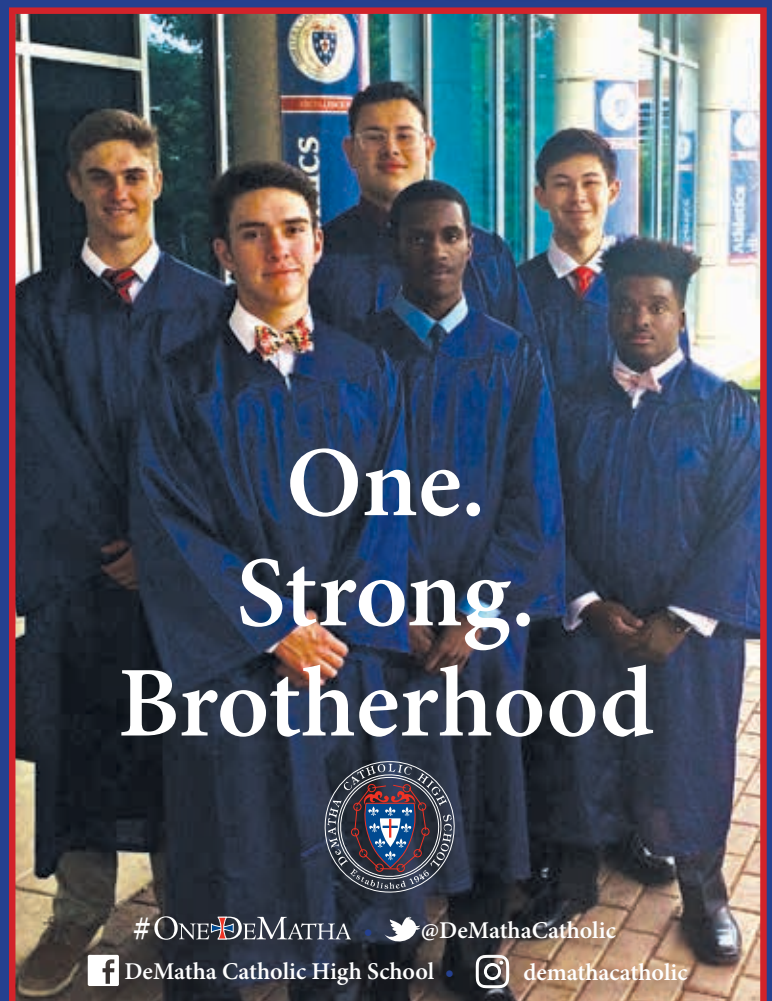


5511 Muncaster Mill Road • Rockville  
301-926-9281

[www.camp-olympia.com](http://www.camp-olympia.com)

DOOR to DOOR Transportation • Extended Day  
Year Round Nursery School and Horseback Riding

## DeMATHA



One.  
Strong.  
Brotherhood



#ONEDeMATHA • @DeMathaCatholic

f DeMatha Catholic High School • demathacatholic

[www.dematha.org](http://www.dematha.org)



# St. Francis Youth Join Three Other Parishes in Experiencing Jesus Christ

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

Matthew 18:20 tells us “where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” That Bible verse resonated deeply March 29-31, when four St. Francis of Assisi teenagers joined nearly 50 youth from three other Montgomery County-based parishes at a joint Spring Youth Retreat in Middletown, MD.

The Spring Youth Retreat at the Skycroft Conference Center drew from youth at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Derwood, St. Patrick Parish in Norbeck, St. Peter Parish in Olney and St. Raphael Parish in Rockville. St. Francis Parochial Vicar Fr. Jack Berard, who also serves as the parish’s youth minister, said St. Francis of Assisi Parish and St. Peter Parish originally only planned to combine resources and

teenagers for their joint Spring Retreat. However, when he and St. Peter Director of Youth Ministry and Community Life Angela Busby discovered youth from St. Patrick and St. Raphael also planned to meet for their joint Spring Retreat at Skycroft the same weekend, they decided to join the larger group.

“We decided to do it together,” Fr. Berard said. “[The Montgomery County Youth Ministers] already meet and we jumped into their stuff.”

Gathering under the theme of “Joyful Noise,” the St. Francis and St. Peter youth experienced a packed weekend, beginning Friday with talks and a Mass. On Saturday, the youth celebrated another Mass sandwiched between two talks and had lunch. The afternoon was filled with several games, Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Adoration and Confession, while the evening featured a bonfire and fellowship. On Sunday, the group celebrated Mass again before departing.

With a hope to have all the teenagers experience Christ, Fr. Berard observed that the four St. Francis teens and two St. Peter participants grew closer, bonding over shared interests and a mutual dynamic

*Continued on page 25*



From left to right: Zoe, Kaia, Denver, Kristin, Sarah and Mary – all teens from St. Francis of Assisi Parish and St. Peter Parish – participate in a small group discussion at the Spring Youth Retreat on March 29-31.



On May 5, St. Francis of Assisi parishioners enjoy the last sales day of the Second Annual Plant Sale benefitting St. Francis of Assisi Church. The Plant Sale, spearheaded by the St. Francis of Assisi Special Events Ministry, sold annuals, perennials, hanging baskets and herbs for anyone trying to fill out their yards and beautify their homes or offices.

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish**  
6701 Muncaster Mill Road  
Derwood, MD

**Rev. John J. Dillon,**  
Pastor  
301-840-1407

**Melissa M. Egan**  
OPT Editor  
301-972-4844  
melissa.egan74@verizon.net

**IT'S GOOD NEWS!**

**... AND GOOD FOR YOUR BUSINESS**

**Advertise in Our Parish Times**  
**CALL (301) 706-9684**

**OurParishTimes@gmail.com**





## Congratulations Class of 2019



### College Acceptances

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ave Maria University</li> <li>Belmont Abbey College</li> <li>Benedictine College</li> <li>Boston University</li> <li>Case Western Reserve University</li> <li>The Catholic University of America</li> <li>The Catholic University of America (Nursing)</li> <li>Cedarville University</li> <li>Christendom College</li> <li>Christopher Newport University</li> <li>Colgate University</li> <li>College of William and Mary</li> <li>Colorado School of Mines</li> <li>Cornell University</li> <li>Drexel University</li> <li>Duquesne University</li> <li>Florida International University</li> <li>Fordham University</li> <li>Franciscan University of Steubenville</li> <li>George Mason University</li> <li>High Point University</li> <li>Hillsdale College</li> <li>Holy Cross College at Notre Dame</li> <li>Iowa State University</li> <li>James Madison University</li> <li>Jefferson (Philadelphia University &amp; Thomas Jefferson University)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Paul the Great Catholic University</li> <li>Johns Hopkins University</li> <li>La Salle University</li> <li>Lehigh University</li> <li>Liberty University</li> <li>Longwood University</li> <li>Louisiana State University</li> <li>Marymount University</li> <li>Massachusetts College of Pharmacy &amp; Health Sciences</li> <li>Miami University</li> <li>Northeastern University</li> <li>Old Dominion University</li> <li>Pennsylvania State University</li> <li>Pennsylvania State University (College of Engineering)</li> <li>Purdue University (College of Engineering)</li> <li>Radford University</li> <li>Saint Joseph's University</li> <li>Southern Methodist University (School of Engineering)</li> <li>Sweet Briar College</li> <li>Syracuse University</li> <li>Taylor University</li> <li>Texas A&amp;M University</li> <li>The University of Alabama</li> <li>The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</li> <li>The Ohio State University</li> <li>Thomas Aquinas College</li> <li>United States Air Force Academy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>United States Coast Guard Academy</li> <li>University of California, Los Angeles</li> <li>University of Cincinnati</li> <li>University of Dallas</li> <li>University of Dayton</li> <li>University of Mary Washington</li> <li>University of Maryland, College Park</li> <li>University of Maryland, College Park (School of Engineering)</li> <li>University of Michigan</li> <li>Universidad de Navarra</li> <li>University of Notre Dame</li> <li>University of Pittsburgh</li> <li>University of Scranton</li> <li>University of South Carolina</li> <li>United States Military Academy</li> <li>University of Vermont</li> <li>Villanova University</li> <li>Virginia Commonwealth University</li> <li>Virginia Military Institute</li> <li>Virginia Tech</li> <li>University of Virginia</li> <li>University of Virginia's College at Wise</li> <li>West Virginia University</li> </ul>
---	---	--

**Oakcrest School • 1619 Crowell Road, Vienna, VA 22182 • Oakcrest.org**

*An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church*



## Beatitudes Serve as Guide and Inspiration for Participants in Lenten Day of Reflection

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

**O**n April 13, about 50 St. Francis of Assisi parishioners and other Catholics meditated upon the Beatitudes in considering their own holiness and happiness during the Lenten Day of Reflection held at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

With a theme of "Rejoice and Be Glad: Our Call to Holiness and Happiness," the event marked the second year the parish's Adult Faith Formation Team organized a Lenten Day of Reflection to help prepare St. Francis of Assisi parishioners for Holy Week. However, once the initial framework was created, members of Singles for Christ – a family ministry in Couples for Christ made up of young Christian adults – took the reins to plan and execute the actual program.

St. Francis parishioner and Singles for Christ member Christian Flores coordinated the program around the eight Beatitudes, giving participants a framework to reflect



Singles for Christ members Carlos Bustos and Apple Ignacio share their musical gifts during the Lenten Day of Reflection at St. Francis of Assisi Church on April 13.

upon the Lenten season in the context of these statements that tell Christians how we ought to live. "Nowadays, with so many distractions in our world, it's so easy to lose focus on holiness, especially when we are seeking worldly happiness," he said.

our daily lives as young adults and as Christians," Flores said.

Both Fr. Dillon and Parochial Vicar Fr. Jack Berard spoke at the Lenten Day of Reflection, respectively, addressing the sev-

The day began with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with some opening remarks by Fr. John Dillon and a program introduction by Adult Faith Formation Team Member Medy DeAussen. The Music Ministry made up of Singles for Christ members then set the tone for the program's focus: a reflection on the Beatitudes called the Beatitude Examen. For each Beatitude, participants experienced a recorded mini talk by Bishop Robert Barron, either a sharing or song by a Singles for Christ member and silence to reflect on the Beatitude. "We thought it would be a good idea to align each Beatitude with either a sharing or a song to expand further on how these teachings apply to

*Continued on page 49*

## Nearly 25 St. Francis Parishioners Roll up Sleeves to Help Maintain Local Home, Church Grounds

By Melissa Montealegre Egan

**F**or the 16th year, St. Francis of Assisi parishioners used their home maintenance, repair, cleaning and organizational skills on the last weekend of April to help a local homeowner refurbish his or her home to working, efficient order.

In partnership with Rebuilding Together Montgomery County, 15 parishioners worked at a home in Rockville, as part of a program that addresses the needs of low-income homeowners, primarily the elderly, people with disabilities and families with children. Recipients of the services have worked hard to own their homes but are unable to cover the costs of home repair, often because of failing health or fixed income.

Although fewer volunteers came forward to work than in years past, House Captain Mike Rogewitz said the hard-working, veteran volunteers were excellent workers. They accomplished all of their goals, including repairing and repainting the exterior foundation of the



On April 27, St. Francis of Assisi parishioners Rosa Smith and Bob Fangmeyer mulch the Stations of the Cross area adjacent to the Rectory.

house; installing a water drainage system from the gutters; repairing a fence around the yard; repairing and rehanging sagging kitchen cabinets; repairing bathroom walls and ceiling; caulking and painting bathroom fixtures; cutting and trimming tree limbs; and cleaning the deck, out-

*Continued on page 49*

## SUMMER AT HOLY CROSS

*I am a thinker, an athlete, an artist.*

### CO-ED SUMMER STOCK PERFORMING ARTS GRADES 6 - 11

Classes in: Musical Theatre Dance, Musical Theatre Singing, Improvisation, Filmmaking, Acting

June 17 - 28

Final Performance: Mary Poppins Jr.  
Friday, June 28 • 7:00 pm



MARY POPPINS JR.

A Musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film MARY POPPINS JR. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.MTISHOWS.com](http://www.MTISHOWS.com)

### CO-ED SUMMER ENRICHMENT GRADES 7 - 8

High School Placement Test Prep (HSPT) Course  
June 17 - 21



### GIRLS SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS GRADES 1 - 12

Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Lacrosse, Softball, Volleyball

June - August



For more information visit  
[WWW.ACADEMYOFTHEHOLYCROSS.ORG/SUMMER](http://WWW.ACADEMYOFTHEHOLYCROSS.ORG/SUMMER)



The Academy of the  
HOLY CROSS

All-Girls, Grades • 9-12  
301-942-2100  
4920 Strathmore Ave.  
Kensington MD



# Fearless and Faithful: Brookewood Graduating Senior Maggie Hawley

By Glencora Pipkin

**N**olite timere, the Bible's injunction to "be not afraid," is the motto of Brookewood School for Girls. It has become not only an echo heard in the hallways but also a way of life for the students here.

For class of 2019 graduate Margaret (Maggie) Hawley, *nolite timere* is an essential mark of her character, formed from ten years of a Brookewood life. During her career at Brookewood, teachers have noticed that Maggie's grit and her openness to acquiring new skills have enabled her to lead well.

This year, in particular, Maggie



Photo by George Hawley

Maggie Hawley sings a solo at the Avalon-Brookewood Gala.

has excelled in her leadership roles: she was awarded outstanding delegate for her representation of Egypt at the Model UN delegation, she played Titania in the school's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (a major challenge, she recalls, which entailed convincing the audience she was in love with a donkey!), she captained the girls' soccer team, and she was named house captain of one the school's houses (the highest role of leadership for a Brookewood girl).

Maggie says that classroom discussions, especially, have helped her connect her reason and faith life. Her Christian faith has been stretched and strengthened during

her stay at Brookewood. Maggie remarked on her religion courses, in particular, which challenged her deeply:

[I found myself] asking big challenging, sometimes painful, questions and wrestling with their answers. And though it is painful and difficult, the discussions I have in the classroom shape how I live my life.

Graduating this May, Maggie will be attending Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, as a journalism major. This summer she will be shadowing with ABC News before she leaves for college.

OPT

## CRISIS

Con't from page 3

additional housing units for those who must need them – low income residents, such as individuals and families making \$30,000 or less annually. Creating these housing units could exacerbate the issue of other limited housing options for low-income residents.

There is significant additional opposition to ADUs. Space limits our ability to consider them here, but you can search the Web for more information.

## Justice & Advocacy Council of Montgomery County

Since 2006, the Justice & Advocacy Council of Montgomery County, a voice of the Archdiocese of Washington, has advocated for the poor and vulnerable, especially around issues of affordable housing. The opportunity to build ADUs is attractive, especially to housing advocates, who seek to expand the availability of housing options. But as with all things, it is just part of the solution.

It may be easy to think, "This would create more housing units, wouldn't that be enough?" While this could provide some options for those who desperately need them, we must also seek and consider other options. Out of charity, the biblical challenge remains: "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25: 40).

Catholic social teaching, based on natural law and scripture, continues to stretch us!

Join us at our next meeting – May 22

The Justice & Advocacy Council of Montgomery County meets the fourth Wednesday of every month from 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm at Holy Redeemer in Kensington. Our next meeting is May 22. Please call Brian Dorsey at (240) 888-4736 if you have any questions. All are welcome.

Brian Dorsey is co-chair of the Justice and Advocacy Council of Montgomery County.

OPT



## Congratulations

## Blessed Sacrament's Class of 2019!

(from bottom left) Sasha Vacarro, Burke Jarrett, Conor McInnis, Charlie Stogoski, Aidan Linnartz, Nadia Ruhlmann, Crista Amaya, Bea Chadwick, Molly Grimberg, Caroline Lamanna, Julia Anderson, Sam Van Dyck, Nallie Gallagher, Caroline Whitty, Michael Henry, Chris Cullen, Kiki Hilligass, Gretchen O'Brien, Emerson Bonham, Phoebe Ernst, Danny Kiley, Nebiyu Zerefa, Patrick Leonard, Luke Dean, Willem DeSimone, Patrick Robinson, Will Gletner, Ella Hayes, Redeat Getachew, Genevieve Willens, Shallom Hailu, Genna Hayes, Mateo Frye, Teddy Santiviago, Patrick Jacobs, Charlie White, Brody Strachan, Faith Packard, Mary Williams, Ella Baechli, Maggie Hohman, Charlie Emery, Tommy Roldan, Luka Komives, John Moody, Jack Deerin, Charlotte Weimer, Emily Micklos, Winn Sechriest, Mary Grace Mastal, Shea Keating, Elle Hogan, Billy Molloy. Not pictured, Cristina Banda and Ben Sozio

Blessed Sacrament School, 5841 Chevy Chase Parkway, NW, Washington, DC 20015



# Oakcrest Teacher Receives Dissertation Award from Georgetown

**D**r. Celia Zamora, Foreign Languages Master Teacher at Oakcrest, has been named the recipient of Georgetown University's 2019 Harold N. Glassman Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Social Sciences. This award is intended to honor truly distinguished dissertations in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences, with one award available in each of the three broad disciplinary areas.

Dr. Zamora's dissertation is entitled *The Secret is in the Processing: A Study of Levels of Explicit Computerized Feedback in Heritage and L2 Learners of Spanish*.

She holds several advanced degrees including a Ph.D. in Spanish Linguistics from Georgetown University; M.S. in Spanish Linguistics, Georgetown University; M.A. in

Linguistics, Florida International University; and B.A. in English Literature and Japanese Culture Studies, Florida International University.

Dr. Zamora will be recognized for her achievement at Georgetown's Graduate Commencement Ceremony on Friday, May 17.

"Dissertations such as yours help to identify Georgetown as an institution where serious graduate work takes place," said Norberto Grzywacz, Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. "Thank you for your contribution to the intellectual life of this institution. I am confident that we will be increasingly proud of your work in the years to come."



OPT

Dr. Celia Zamora

## LIGHTBULB

Con't from page 6

of Environmental Protection (DEP) to conduct a lightbulb exchange. Ms. Johnson from the Montgomery County DEP set up her table after the morning Masses one Sunday in April. She provided displays about the different options that LED lightbulbs can offer. Parishioners of all ages asked a variety of questions about the use and disposal of this type of lightbulb.

The goal of this activity was to educate and incidentally provide up to three LED bulbs in exchange for the traditional incandescent or CFL bulb. The members of St. Jane de Chantal Parish brought in over 300 lightbulbs for exchange. This type of event is designed specifically for congregational gatherings, and other parishes might wish to avail themselves of this great opportunity. Our Environmental Committee would also appreciate learning of any conservation and/or "green" activities of our neighboring parishes!

OPT

## CHRIST

Con't from page 22

of navigating a much larger peer group. At the same time, the youth ministers of the four parishes created a congenial large group dynamic, with all attendees going to Mass together, sharing confessions, meals and small group discussions.

Ted Modrick, a 16-year-old junior at Wheaton High School, said he enjoyed going to daily Mass, the bonfire and the simple act of seeing the expansive night sky without the glare of lights from suburban Montgomery County. He particularly enjoyed the five talks on the psalms. "It was interesting how all the psalms can show a different time in your relationship with God," Modrick said.

Without their parents present, the teens experienced an opportunity to grow in their faith as individuals, Fr. Berard said. "[The teens] see the need to step up in leadership," he said. "It's a safe way to kick the baby bird out of the nest."

OPT



Robert Flanagan Anderson  
John Thomas Austin  
Christopher Cloud Barre  
Justin Charles Basinger  
Nicholas Robert Beatty  
Dominic Thomas Berry  
Philip Louis Brach, III  
Thomas Bradley Brown  
Timothy Thayer Bryan  
Michael Gerard Cannon  
Paul Anthony Cardoni  
Mason Peter Castle  
Scott Gregory Chapman  
Theodore Gerald Clement  
Kevin Maximilian Corkery  
Jacob Augustinus Cremers  
Anthony Maximilian Crnkovich  
Daniel Augustin Diaz-Bonilla  
John Alexander Diederich  
Michael John Dragone  
Christopher James Falcone  
Christian Joseph Gadiano

Robert Martin Hamberger  
Sebastian Paco Jacome  
Augustin Jauregui  
Nicholas Elijah Kelly  
Casey Joseph Kirk  
Hal Vernon Lackey, IV  
James Greenleaf Lawrence  
Matthew Allen Lingle  
Connor Edward MacDonald  
Stephen McDonough Malloy  
Nathan Richard Manthei  
Javier Andres Mazariegos  
Luke Patrick McClorey  
John Healy McCreery, Jr.  
John Patrick McDonald  
Michael Paul McLaughlin  
Ethan Rye McMillen  
Conn Patrick Mehigan  
William Matthew Moore  
Liam Kevin Murray  
Patrick John O'Connell  
Robert Joseph O'Donnell

Jaymin Darius Ortega  
Gabriel Andres Paz  
Gonzalo Percovich  
Peyton Croft Peterson  
Colin Joshua Powell  
Liam Stephen Regan  
Matthew R. Ribeiro  
William Michael Riechers  
Antonio Ruiz Hernandez  
Patrick Francis Santorum  
Spencer Warren Sedmak  
Luke Gabriel Senftle  
Francisco Serrano Gonzalez Luna  
Nolan Lee Sheehan  
Darryl Jamison Swiggett  
Jose Antonio Tavera  
Matthew Allen Thomas  
Gabriel Joseph Van Roie  
Miguel M. Virador  
Qin Han Wang  
Andrew Esteban Wood  
Nicholas C. Yantiss

## COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

The following list is representative of the wide variety of colleges and universities where Heights students have been accepted over the past three years:

Ave Maria University ■ Baylor University ■ Boston College ■ Boston Conservatory at Berklee ■ Bowdoin College ■ Bucknell University ■ University of California at Berkeley ■ University of California, Los Angeles ■ Carnegie Mellon University (Carnegie Institute of Technology) ■ Case Western Reserve University ■ Catholic University of America ■ College of Charleston ■ University of Chicago ■ Christendom College ■ The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina ■ Clemson University ■ Claremont McKenna College ■ Colby College ■ Colgate University ■ Columbia University ■ Cornell University ■ University of Dallas ■ Dartmouth College ■ Davidson College ■ Denison University ■ Dickinson College ■ Duke University ■ Emory University ■ Fordham University ■ George Mason University ■ The George Washington University ■ Georgetown University ■ Georgia Institute of Technology ■ Gettysburg College ■ Harvard University ■ University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign ■ Indiana University ■ James Madison University ■ Johns Hopkins University ■ The Juilliard School ■ Loyola University Maryland ■ Marymount University ■ University of Mary Washington ■ University of Maryland, College Park ■ Miami University, Oxford ■ University of Michigan ■ Mount St. Mary's University ■ University of Navarre ■ New York University ■ The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ■ Northwestern University ■ University of Notre Dame ■ University of Pennsylvania ■ Pennsylvania State University, University Park ■ Pepperdine University ■ Princeton University ■ Providence College ■ Purdue University ■ Rice University ■ University of Southern California ■ Stanford University ■ St. Joseph's University ■ Texas A&M University ■ Tulane University ■ United States Coast Guard Academy ■ University of Vermont ■ Villanova University ■ Virginia Military Institute ■ Virginia Tech ■ University of Virginia ■ Wake Forest University ■ Washington and Lee University ■ Wesleyan University ■ College of William and Mary

# THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL

THE HEIGHTS IS AN INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS IN GRADES 3-12 LOCATED IN POTOMAC, MD

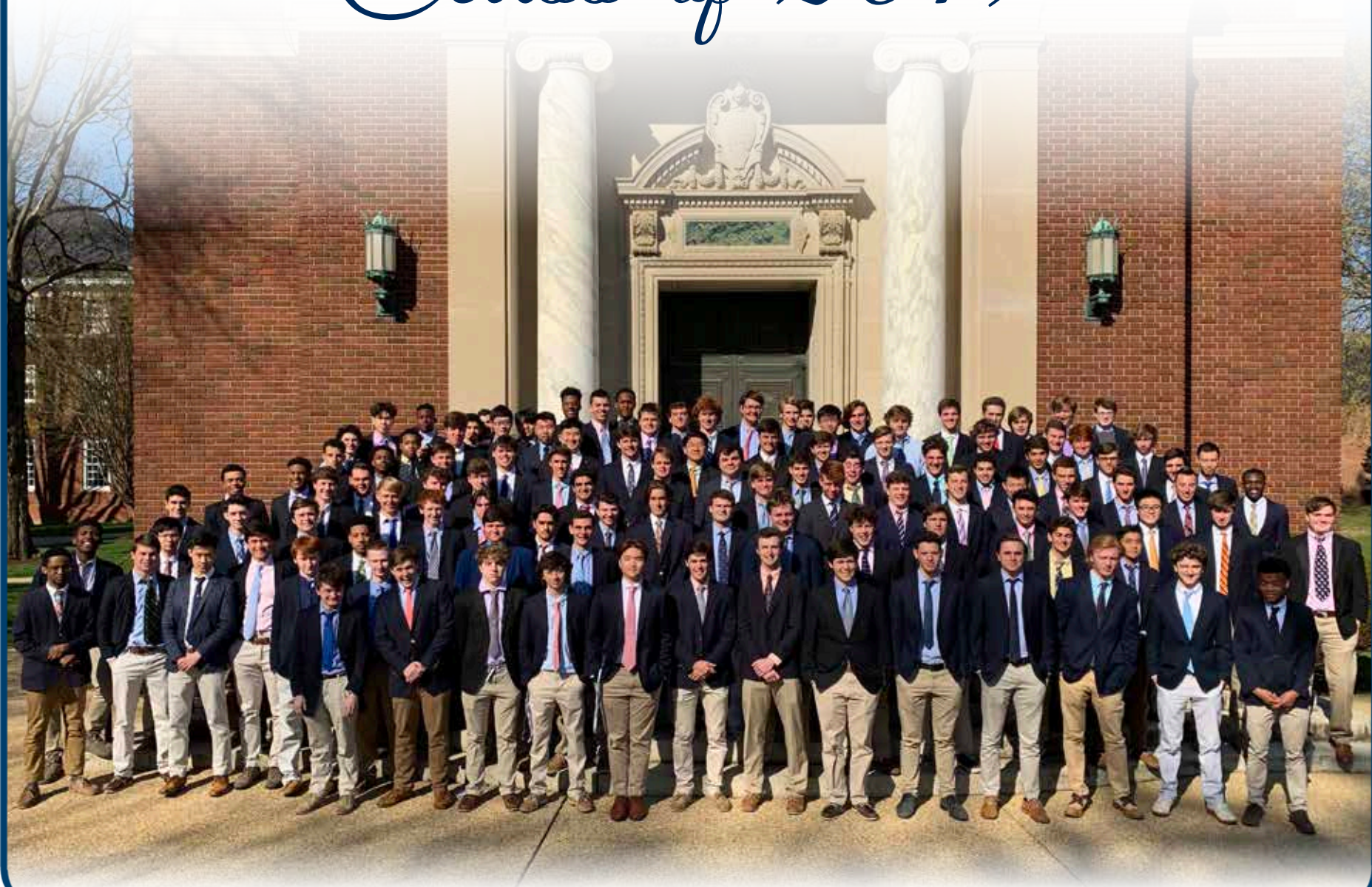
10400 SEVEN LOCKS ROAD POTOMAC MARYLAND 20854 T: 301.765.2093

[www.heights.edu](http://www.heights.edu)





# *Congratulations to Georgetown Prep's Class of 2019*



[WWW.GPREP.ORG](http://WWW.GPREP.ORG)





## CONGRATULATES THE CLASS OF 2019!



*Be who you are and be that well.* — St. Francis de Sales



## SHORT

Con't from page 1

for spiritual guidance and sacramental service and to those who provide inspiring music, ceremony, and worship space. Thank you to parish council and school board members for wise and responsible counsel. Our parishes are more compassionate thanks to volunteer ministries caring for the poor, the elderly, sick, unemployed and disabled. New Catholics are gracefully informed, soon to be wed Catholics lovingly prepared and confirmed Catholics more aflame in faith and service thanks to the nurturing of mentors and ministers of sacramental preparation. We are grateful to school and religious education staff

and volunteers who foster our children's faith and learning. We are grateful to those who lead athletic and youth social activities. Thanks to those who seek to make us all more just by advocating for fairness and to protect the environment. Our buildings and grounds are beautiful and safe because of diligent maintenance and landscape staff. And all coordinated by dedicated, multi-tasking rectory staff. Some of you will be off this summer, some not. In every case, please know of our sincerest appreciation for what you do.

**"In everything, give thanks".** So teaches St Paul. These four words synthesize thousands of years of complex theological writing into an understandable and actionable definition of faith. Each moment

of our lives, each encounter, each joy, sadness, success and failure are part of God's plan for us and the world for which we should be grateful. Hard stuff that comes to us only through the gifts of grace and faith. I witness faithful gratitude each week when visiting the Little Sisters of the Poor residence for the elderly in Northeast Washington. I've written from time to time about this loving home and the Sisters who serve there. The Sisters are celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> year in the United States. During the dozen years that I have been visiting, I've been blessed with the friendship of inspiring residents, remarkably Christ-like sisters, and compassionate and skilled staff. I'm thankful beyond meager literary skill to describe the impact these friend-

ships have on me and the gratitude I feel. My faith matures as I witness their thankful acceptance of God's plan each day. Whatever the dawn brings, good health or ill; loss or joy; loneliness or visits, fresh air or dreary weather, the attitude of gratitude is present everywhere in the home.

Let me tell you about a few of my friends, some living and some with God, and the grace they bring to my life. Miriam greeted everyone with her **optimism**. How are you, Miriam? Smiling, she confidently replies, "Peaceful, grateful and joyful". After seeing Miriam, my day was brighter. Richard's arrival at lunch was marked by his personalized, **engagement** with other residents in the dining room. He made each of us feel special, as if we

were the most important person in the room. Mr. "V" blessed us with his sharp **intellect**. Joe with his painful disability inspired with his gift of **perseverance**. Though in pain, he moved about the home and participated in activities bringing his unquenchable curiosity. My friend Leonard was a **pious** servant of the Lord and to the Little Sisters. For years he served as a skilled tailor to the home and as devoted alter server at Mass. Dave brings **humor** to every circumstance, even the painful ones. My grand-children are grateful for the weekly jokes Dave shares with me for them. I regret I cannot remotely do justice to his hilarious style. Friend Phillip has a **charitable** heart. Even with modest resources, he shares with organizations serving people less fortunate than himself. Mary, our home's petit-framed, but powerfully willed gardener, tends to scores of indoor plants in the home assuring year-round natural beauty and providing inspiration for others to give thanks to God for a **healthy environment**. Each week for more than a decade my faith has been inspired through chats with Msgr. Bazan. His enduring **pastoral care** is a blessing to all at our home. He often reminds us to give thanks to God. Brother John's smile brightens the home with **joy**. He does whatever needs to be done and every week drives the sisters to collect donated food at the market. Sr. Mary Bernard is among the older of the Little Sisters at the home. Yet she joyfully serves meals to the resident each day. She once was "the boss" Mother Superior, yet today she **humbly** serves her beloved residents. She's also not too proud to beg...you have likely seen her begging for funds to support the home in the rear of your parish church. In all, she gives thanks.

The Little Sisters of the Poor have created a loving family home guided by their vigorous faith and inspired by joyful gratitude for God's presence in each person each day. It is a home where aging is not so much a matter of time in people's lives as it is a place in their time. Here is a home where in everything they give thanks. Have a blessed, safe summer.

God Bless!

Chuck Short

cshort5@verizon.net

OPT

## GRANDPARENTS

Con't from page 18

by the Student Council and representatives from each class, followed by a concert. Later, guests visited the classrooms to meet the teachers and engage in learning activities. Some ended the day with a trip to the book fair!

"It is one of my favorite days of the year," shared Mrs. Kane. "Our school is blessed with loving, caring families and it is beautiful to see them enjoying time together. It is also a time to remember family members who are unable to travel here for the day—their love is still present in our hearts and minds."

OPT

**Amara Alexander**

Academy of the Holy Cross

**Isaac Baum**

St. John's College High School

**Hannah Bazer**

Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart

**Juliana Bove**

Academy of the Holy Cross

**Elizabeth Browning**

St. John's College High School

**Maximilian Cardillo**

DeMatha Catholic High School

**Jillian Donahue**

Academy of the Holy Cross

**Richard Drummond**

Winston Churchill High School

**Joaquin Espinola**

St. John's College High School

**Thomas Flaherty**

St. John's College High School

**Richard Johns II**

St. John's College High School

**Gabriela Musalem**

St. John's College High School

**Miranda Obando**

Academy of the Holy Cross

**Timothy O'Connor**

Georgetown Preparatory School

**Isabella Potakey**

Georgetown Visitation

**Joseph Rascher**

St. John's College High School

**Margaret Rose**

Academy of the Holy Cross

**Christopher Somefun**

Gonzaga College High School

**Daniella Suarez**

Academy of the Holy Cross

**Mary Washko**

St. John's College High School

**Adelaide Wildermuth**

Academy of the Holy Cross

**Hayden Williams**

Walter Johnson High School

**Alexander Wilson**

St. John's College High School

**Isabella Wood**

Academy of the Holy Cross

**Sophia Zelaya**

St. John's College High School

ST. RAPHAEL SCHOOL: 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville, MD 20854 | 301-762-2143 | [www.straphaelschoolmd.org](http://www.straphaelschoolmd.org)



[illegible]

**Auburn University. Belmont University. Brown University. Clemson University. Davidson University. Denison University. Dickinson College. Elon University. Emmanuel College. Endicott College. Fairfield University. Franklin & Marshall College. Hampton University. High Point University. Hood College. Indiana University at Bloomington. James Madison University. Liberty University. Louisiana State University. Loyola University Maryland. Lynn University. Marist College. Montgomery College. Providence College. Saint Joseph's University. Saint Vincent College. Sewanee: The University of the South. Syracuse University. Texas Christian University. The Catholic University of America. The University of Alabama. The University of Arizona. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Tulane University. University of Dayton. University of Kentucky. University of Maryland, Baltimore County. University of Maryland, College Park. University of Miami. University of Michigan. Virginia Tech. Xavier University.**





Group picture of First Holy Communion celebrants at the front of Saint John the Baptist church on May 5, 2019

## Saint John the Baptist Parish's First Holy Communion

Children from Saint John the Baptist received their First Holy Communion on May 5, 2019 at a special Mass held at 2pm. Father David Brault, SJB's pastor, led the Mass, and during the Homily, spoke to the children

about this special occasion and the importance of receiving God. Girls and boys, dressed in their Sunday's best, sat in the two front rows as a group, and families and friends filled the remaining aisles. "I still remember my First

Holy Communion," Father David recalled fondly, expressing the importance of nourishing our spirits with God's presence. "Just like we eat food for our bodies, we need food for our spirit."

OPT



Daisy troop group picture after finishing service project to clean up school grounds at Saint John the Baptist

## Daisy Troop 31040 Cleaning School Grounds

On April 10, the Saint John the Baptist (SJB) Daisy Troop 31040 could be found scouring the school grounds to pick up litter and trash. This service project, made part of one of the bimonthly meetings led by Lauren Moehring and Anne-Marie Stepling, were to help teach the Daisies the importance of helping create a cleaner and healthier world.

"This was such a fun service project to teach the girls the importance of taking care of this world," a Daisy parent expressed, "It is such a joy to watch these children learn such important values intrinsic to being a Scout."

OPT

**St. John  
the Baptist Parish**  
12319 New Hampshire Ave.  
Silver Spring, MD

**Rev. Y. David Brault, Pastor**  
301-622-1122

**Brian Blomquist, Principal**  
301-622-3076



Daisy Girl Scout leader, Lauren Moehring, closing out the Daisy meeting with the Troop 31040

## Fourth Graders' President Presentations

By Judy Jenkins

Who doesn't dream of becoming president one day? Our fourth graders had the opportunity to be one of the presidents when they dressed up and gave an oral presentation to an audience including Mr. Blomquist, teachers, parents, grandparents and the third grade. After conducting research and completing a written report on one of the presidents, the fourth grade prepared note cards organized props, and practiced speeches.

OPT



Fourth Graders gather together dressed as their favorite presidents at Saint John the Baptist Catholic School



SJB Students found practicing on stage for their musical performance of The Lion King, Jr.

## School Musical, The Lion King, Jr.

The school musical, The Lion King, Jr., was performed on May 1, 2, and 3 at Saint John the Baptist, Catholic School (SJB). Music and lyrics were by Elton John and Tim Rice, based on the Broadway production directed by Julie Taymor. This much-anticipated production was produced by Saint John the Baptist middle school students and SJB faculty. Many hours were devoted to rehearsing, creating the sets, organizing costumes and working backstage for a fantastic performance.

OPT



Lion cast of SJB's Spring Musical The Lion King, Jr.



Hyena cast of SJB's Spring Musical The Lion King, Jr.





## Elizabeth Seton High School

5717 Emerson Street,  
Bladensburg, MD 20710  
301.864.4532



## Congratulations to the Class of 2019

Isabella Abdul-Khalek  
Tian Addison  
Alyssa Anderson  
Lauren Artis  
Jennifer Asbury  
Jada Batacan  
Rebecca Beavers  
Maria Beckert  
Afriasia Bermudez-Crespin  
Jade Bidjou  
India Blake  
Ashley Bogley  
Raquel Bowles  
Gabrielle Braswell  
Jane Brinley  
Kimera Broadie  
Courtney Brown  
Jillian Buchanan  
Casey Carroll  
Jimena Cartagena  
Mikayla Clements  
Nadia Cooper  
Infiniti Craig  
Kaylin Cratty  
Kylah Davis  
Lucyna Davis  
Catherine Doyle  
Annie Fowler  
Yoselin Garcia Avila  
Dalena Garcia  
Stefany Garcia-Yanez  
Faith Goodman

Madison Grocia  
Krysia Guerrero  
Kamryn Guile  
Celiyah Harper-Terry  
Taylor Harris  
Christina Harrison  
Hailey Hart  
Laila Hayes  
Nicole Herrera  
Sophia Hill  
Isabelle Hoang  
Katrina Hresko  
Cyndie Jean  
Diamond Jenifer  
Jenise Jones-Coleman  
Kenedi Jordan  
Malasia Kennedy  
Megan Keppler  
Adeyinka King  
Lauren Kircher  
Jenna Kobel  
Zamira Kornegay  
Stephanie Kouadio  
Gabynelle Pride Kwekam  
Yanet Leul  
Illyana Logan  
Brielle Loman  
Nya Loman  
Margaret Lonergan  
Ashley Mack  
Katherina Mahabir  
Ashanti Mangrum

Maria Jose Martin del Campo  
Olivia Martin  
Dymond McCormick  
Reina McIntyre  
Emily Mendoza  
Mary Miller  
Cameron Minor  
Meghan Mitrione  
Ingry Moreno  
Laelah Morris  
Miranda Moss  
Madeleine Murphy  
Madeleine Naleski  
Kennedy Nash  
Olivia Nazelrod  
Rebecca North  
Angel Okeagu  
Naomi Omomah  
Siann Omorogieva  
Morenike Onifade  
Dhara Patel  
Anna Catherine Patino  
Oluwamayomide Pecku  
Oluwamayomikun Pecku  
Abigail Potter  
London Powell  
Sarah Quartey  
Satie Ramdat  
Karen Ramos Menjivar  
Malaika Reed  
Brianna Rice  
Mya Richards

Amy Rivera  
Sarah Rodeffer  
Paola Rodriguez-Martinez  
Kennedy Sampson  
Janette Seaton-Evans  
Genesis Severino-Ellis  
Brielle Simmons  
Alyse Smith  
Rebecca Spurgeon  
Kylie Stinson  
Amber Stokes  
Alaia Teklemariam  
Amelia Theobald  
Dieyi Thiam  
Chayla Thomas  
Brianna Thurston  
Tyler Tilmon  
Emily Torres  
Kacie Torres  
Ashly Trejo Mejia  
Logan Van-Guine Jennings  
Fatima Vasquez-Molina  
Elena Visoso  
Anissa Walker  
Ashley White  
Kalyse Wood  
Kai Wright  
Kairi Wright  
Shawna Yearwood  
Alisson Zarco  
Chloe Zuk



Anand  
Abraham



Adrian  
Anthony



Abigail  
Botkin



Symon  
Bundi



Joseph  
Caporizzo



Matthew  
Chin



Micha  
Cunningham



David  
Damiano

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND CLASS OF 2019



Michael  
Davis



Obi  
Enweze



Carmela  
Garcia



Mary Clare  
Hazleton



Caroline  
Hickey



Nicholas  
Hipphen



Andrew  
Jenkins



Neville Pascal  
John Ayi



Morgan  
Kimathi



Kevin  
Monge



Anthony  
Nguyen



Caitlin  
Ober



Oluwayemi  
Oladotun



Andrea  
Quintanilla



Ellie  
Shelton



Thomas  
Sigg



Sofia  
Tassara



Heaven  
Yohannes



Julie  
Zalalutdinov



Danilo  
Zukic

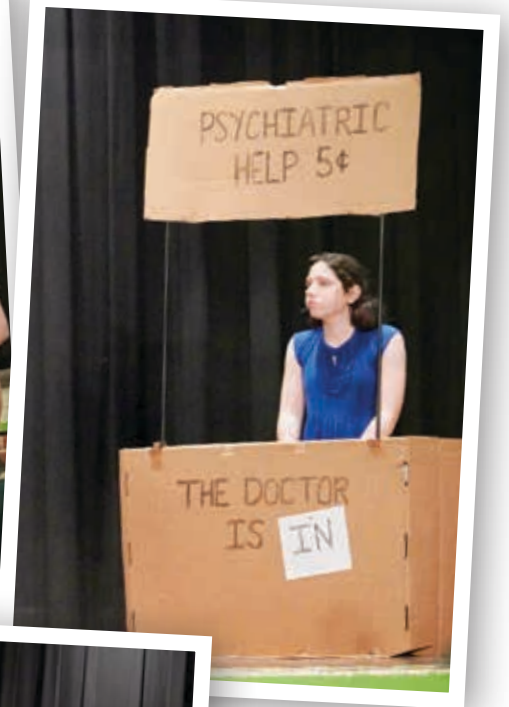


# SJE Drama Club Presents Its Inaugural Production

By Colleen Zarzecki

**O**n April 12 and 14, the newly-formed St. John the Evangelist School Drama Club presented its first show to a delighted crowd of family, friends, and schoolmates. "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" was a huge hit with audience members of all ages. This musical was chosen because it played to the children's strengths. As drama club supervisor, SJE parent Eva St. Clair said, "It's about children; it has simple costumes and sets that are supposed to look like they were made by children, the music is (for the most

*Continued on page 33*



Above: Lucy waits to provide sage advice for 5 cents.



At left: Snoopy and Woodstock entertain the audience with snappy dance moves.



At top: Charlie Brown hanging out with all the neighborhood kids.

Above: Charlie Brown listens as Linus and Lucy banter back and forth.

## St. John the Evangelist Parish

10103 Georgia Ave.  
Silver Spring, MD  
301-681-7663

Rev. Joseph Calis  
Pastor

St. John the Evangelist School  
Mrs. Margaret Durney,  
Principal  
301-681-7656

Monica M. Bradford,  
OPT Editor  
bradford2@comcast.net



Darby Anderson  
Academy of the Holy Cross



Portia Briceno-Hawkins  
Brookwood School



Betsy Bromley  
St. John's College HS



Jolie Chretien  
Georgetown Visitation



Isabel Contreras-Naranjo  
Elizabeth Seton HS



Dakota Dannett  
Academy of the Holy Cross



Elkany Deada  
Good Counsel HS



Javier Fox  
Gonzaga College HS



Brigid Hathway  
Georgetown Visitation



Mary Grace Hathway  
Georgetown Visitation



## St. John the Evangelist CLASS OF 2019

We Congratulate You!

Rev. Joseph Calis, Pastor  
Mrs. Margaret Durney, Principal  
Miss Emily Pacconi, Eighth Grade Teacher



Madeline Hoeftling  
Montgomery Blair HS



Alexander Johnston  
Gonzaga College HS



Anna Klein  
St. John's College HS



Nick Langley  
Undecided



Jaci Mason-Yates  
St. John's College HS



Colella Digital



Andrew Niebur  
Good Counsel HS



Alex Ogilvie  
Academy of the Holy Cross



Christa Opoku-Asare  
Good Counsel HS



Maria Petrizzo  
St. John's College HS



Megan Raines  
Sussex Acad. of Art & Sci.



Bethlehem Seyoum  
St. John's College HS



Selina Sosa  
Academy of the Holy Cross



Georges Taddonki  
DeMatha Catholic HS



Azaria Tewodros  
Undecided



Niyat Theodros  
Georgetown Visitation



Nora Torp  
Academy of the Holy Cross



Fiona Wood  
St. John's College HS



## SJE DRAMA CLUB

*Con't from page 32*

part) not particularly difficult.”

Ellie Langley excelled as the lacking-in-confidence title character, conveying his essential sweetness as well as his unfortunate propensity to quit too easily. Maddie Desrocher portrayed Charlie's frenemy, Lucy, with verve. Other members of the cast ranged from fourth through eighth grade and all brought a special sparkle to their various characters in the Peanuts gang. Rene Cathelineaud brought the house down with his jazzy rendition of “Suppertime,” which aptly describes the love of a dog for his dinner.

Rehearsals began in January. The students learned all the choreography and musical numbers in the show while also learning stage management, how to publicize their play, and technical aspects of drama production such as lighting and sound. Ms. St. Clair said, “I had been thinking for the last several years that I would love to put together a Drama Club for the school because I had grown up doing theater and wanted the kids at SJE to have the opportunity to learn drama. This year was the first time I felt like I was in a place in my life where I could give the time that I knew it would talk to put on a full production.” She continues that she wanted the club to be “a

place where the kids really learn how to ‘do’ drama. I didn’t want to do anything for them – I wanted them to do everything themselves. I was just the scaffold as they ‘built’ the show.”

One challenge for this extra-curricular club was securing a large enough budget to pay for performance royalties, sets, and costumes. The club members themselves decided on a creative and fun way to raise funds: they held a school-wide karaoke night in the month before the production, raising almost \$600 profit. This enabled the club to charge a minimal \$5 admission fee for the performances and ensured that the club would have a nest-egg for future productions. Another significant, and good, challenge was the fact that the original play was written for six characters, while there were sixteen cast members in the SJE production. Ms. St. Clair significantly altered the script so that every character had a speaking role with a monologue or dialogue scene, as well as a solo singing part. Only the dual role of Woodstock, played to adorable perfection by Mark Johnson and Clara Desrocher, was silent. They amazingly conveyed Woodstock's loyalty and sassiness through pantomime and dance.

A highlight of the final Sunday afternoon performance was the “doghouse raffle,” in which one lucky family won the right to take home Snoopy's doghouse, which

was custom-built by club members under the supervision of SJE dad, Paul Kopplin. This playhouse-sized structure was won by the Klein family of SJE. Their daughter, eighth-grader Anna, played Rerun. Production weekend was capped off by a rollicking cast party in the SJE gym.

The full cast list includes Ellie Langley as Charlie Brown, Colleen Whitty as his sister, Sally, Rene Cathelineaud as Snoopy, Mark Johnson and Clara Desrocher as Woodstock, Maddie Desrocher as Lucy, Maddie Tankesley as Linus, Anna Klein as Rerun, Bernadette Zummo as Pig Pen, Simone Foster as Frieda, Baeza Demeke as Violet, Arsema Tewodros as Eudora, Kika Sideris as Franklin, Nora Pauley as Schroeder, Caroline Zarzecki as Peppermint Patty, and Christa Opoku-Asare as Marcie. The production was directed by eighth-grader Megan Raines and technical services were provided by sixth-grader Emily Dukes. Eighth-grader Jolie Cretien was the prop manager, while eighth-grader Fiona Wood and fifth-grader Anya Nizovtseva were crew members. Sixth-grader Patrick Kopplin was set designer, with assistance from his father, Paul Kopplin. Seventh-grader Dante Tedeschi provided musical accompaniment.

## WHELAN

*Con't from page 1*

to form a vision because I feel this school has so much to offer. I see it in layers, including the areas of academics, Catholic faith and the plant facility.” Principal Whelan accomplished exactly what she has envisioned.

Principal Whelan immediately began working on creating and educational system in Saint Peter's that embraced the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) curriculum. Although this was a great accomplishment, it was not enough for Principal Whelan. She knew that Arts needed to be an integral part of the curriculum which moved us into the STEAM educational program. Some of the art programs that began since Principal Whelan's arrival are the fifth-grade playwriting class and fourth-grade monologue class with the Olney Theater and the fourth-grade puppetry class. Officially, Saint Peter's full academic program is known as STREAM because of our strong religious (Catholic) Identity standing for the “R”.

Using this STREAM curriculum, Principal Whelan felt confident that Saint Peter's was providing a first-class educational program so she applied for the National Blue Ribbon of Excellence Award. The National Blue Ribbon Award is only given to a few hundred schools per

year that meet stringent academic results as determined by the US Department of Education. In 2012, Principal Whelan was successful in obtaining the coveted Blue Ribbon Award. In all 6 years since being awarded the Blue Ribbon, Saint Peter's has continued to achieve the necessary testing results to apply for the designation.

Even with her retirement at the end of this year, Principal Whelan continues to persevere in her efforts to improve Saint Peter's. Recent changes include air conditioning throughout the school, new playground equipment, enhanced security features to the buildings, technology improvements and a brand-new STREAM or “makerspace” lab will open in September 2019 which will enhance the STREAM curriculum.

When Principal Whelan announced her retirement, many people in the school community were surprised and saddened by the news. Home and School Executive Board President, Kathleen Songer, said “Mrs. Whelan has laid a strong foundation and put in place a strategic plan to ensure the success of Saint Peter's for years to come. The wonderful programs and strong staff she has developed makes me feel good about the future.”

Although Principal Whelan will be missed and her shoes will be extremely hard to fill, we wish her the best with her retirement plans which include seeing more of her grandchildren!

OPT

OPT



**Congratulations**  
ARCHBISHOP CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL

**Class of 2019**  
CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF  
**100% COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE**







Kindergartener, Molly Manfredo working hard on making her rosary.



Fifth graders give up their recess to make rosaries for the missions.



Kindergartener Brooks Capobianco is proud of the rosary he made for the missions.

## Rosary Making at Holy Redeemer

By Pamela Hurley

**H**oly Redeemer's Faith in Action Team along with the 5th grade and Kindergarten students made over 100 Rosaries for mission projects, for which Holy Redeemer Parish supports.

Our pastor, Fr. Mark Hughes, and two parishioners, Mr. Paul Kuzma

and Mr. John McKenna, travelled to Togo, West Africa to see the great work Fr. Bill Ryan has been doing at the Mission he started in Togo and presented to him Rosaries made by the HR students. Fr. Ryan grew up in Holy Redeemer Parish and was a student at Holy Redeemer School.

In 2006, Fr. Ryan was able to fulfill his dream of starting a mission parish in the village of Atchanvé, Togo. Our Lady of Guadalupe mission center was inaugurated on November 11, 2006 with Fr. Ryan as the founding pastor. (cf. [www.togomissionparish.org](http://www.togomissionparish.org)). Holy Redeemer is the sister parish of Our

Lady of Guadalupe Mission Parish in Togo.

Father Ryan Pineda, our Parochial Vicar, brought more Rosaries to the Farm of the Child in Trujillo, Honduras. The Farm of the Child (Finca del Nino, Honduras) is a mission modeled on the Holy Family. It educates, protects, and promotes

healing and spiritual formation for orphaned and abandoned children. (cf. [www.farmofthechild.org](http://www.farmofthechild.org))

The Kindergarteners did such a great job making Rosaries for the missions, that they are now making Rosaries to present to their mothers at their Mass and Muffins for Moms on May 13.

OPT

## Celebrating New Life

**L**ast month the PreK children at Holy Redeemer were witnesses to 10 little miracles of life: the hatching of baby chicks in our classroom incubator! Teachers love this process as a science lesson, of course, but as Catholics it also provides a wealth of teaching moments with regard to our faith. We celebrated God's creation of these eggs and the developing chicks, and we talked about how, when the eggs cracked and a baby chick emerged, it can be a reminder of when Jesus emerged from the tomb. What a truly wondrous surprise and a sign of how much God loves us!

Everyone had a chance, every few days for 3 weeks,



Pre-K 3B and Mrs. Monahan play with the baby chicks.

to visit the eggs as they were being kept at the proper temperature and humidity levels. There was lots of scientific wonder from the students during this time. How can a baby chick fit in that little egg? Does the color of the egg mean that will be the color of the chick? Where is the mommy chicken? What do they eat inside the egg? Is that one cracked? I CAN HEAR THAT ONE CHEEPING!

Finally, the chicks began to hatch, and several were even considerate enough to make their appearance during school hours so that

the students could cheer them on. Children sang happy birthday to the chicks and began naming and describing their favorite chick to exercise their literacy skills. They also counted the chicks' toes, counted the chicks, and noted similarities and differences among them by size, feather color, feet color, etc. Each class had chicks in their room for a few hours and after a couple of days, the chicks were returned to the farm to be reunited with their families. Thank you, God, for the gifts of learning and of new life!

OPT

## MRS. RYAN

Con't from page 1

Mrs. Ryan understands and respects the hard work and dedication of her own faculty, as she spent many years in the classroom herself, teaching at both St. Michael's and later at Blessed Sacrament. She also encourages teachers to further their education and to pursue higher degrees. Holy Redeemer is very proud of their outstanding faculty. Parenting and teaching while earning not one, but two Master's degrees certainly kept Mrs. Ryan busy. After earning her Masters in Curriculum Instruction and Supervision of Reading in 2006, Mrs. Ryan left Second Grade at Blessed Sacrament to become a resource teacher at Blessed Sacrament in 2007.

It was as a resource teacher that Colleen's call to leadership began. She discovered a new appreciation for the principal's role. Her resource work brought home the importance of aligning the curriculum vertically—from grade to grade, and the critical role school leadership plays in curricular alignment. Given new responsibilities and leadership opportunities at Blessed Sacrament, Colleen was inspired to become a principal. "Working together with such motivated and committed teachers, students, and parents to make positive changes was thrilling," Mrs. Ryan shared. Then, while attending Marymount University's Catholic School leadership program from 2009-2011, Colleen was named Blessed Sacrament's Assistant Principal and Director of Admissions in 2010, in addition to her fulltime teaching role.

After interviewing for the principal position at Holy Redeemer School, Colleen and her son, Joel, attended Sunday Mass at Holy Redeemer. "We were randomly selected to bring up the gifts at the Offertory," Mrs. Ryan remembers. "I felt that was a sign that this is where I needed to be. I fell in love with the parish and joined right away." Mrs. Ryan's weekly presence at Sunday Mass fulfilled one of her dreams: to be principal of the parish school where she worships. Mrs. Ryan truly felt that she was where God meant her to be.

Like all Catholic school principals, Mrs. Ryan wears many hats—facilities, admissions, marketing, development, communications, curriculum, teacher supervision, standardized testing—to name a few. One that she dons cheerfully each school day morning is official greeter. Standing at the school door, often sporting one of her trademark red-and-white ensembles, Mrs. Ryan greets each arriving student by name—from PreK3-through Eighth Grade. She always offers a smile, a word of encouragement, and a happy thought as the students begin their school day.

While any activity with HR students is a highlight of Mrs. Ryan's day, her work as HR principal is as demanding as it is rewarding. In her seven-year tenure, Mrs. Ryan has accomplished so much. She will be the first to credit each achievement to the wonderful support of Holy Redeemer's pastor, Father Mark Hughes. Together, they have made a dynamic team. Both Principal Ryan and Pastor Hughes proudly acknowledge the talent and dedication of the HR faculty and

Continued on page 37

### Holy Redeemer Parish

9705 Summit Avenue  
Kensington, MD

**Rev. Mark Hughes**  
Pastor

301-942-2333

### Holy Redeemer School

**Mrs. Colleen Ryan,**  
Principal

301-942-3701



**Cathryn Rose Beggy**

The Academy of the Holy Cross

*Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.*

-Dr. Seuss

**Trevor Edward Bonavita**

Gonzaga College High School

*It ain't about how hard you hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward.*

-Rocky Balboa

**Kathleen Vivian Brown**

St. John's College High School

*Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.*

-Dr. Seuss

**Caroline Marajke Covell**

Connelly School of the Holy Child

*Always remember that you're unique. Just like everyone else.*

-Anonymous

**Lucy Elizabeth Crowley**

Georgetown Visitation

*By doing what you love, you inspire and awaken the hearts of others.*

-Satsuki Shibuya

**Clarissa Zoe De Armas**

Albert Einstein

*There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.*

-Albert Einstein

**Anna Jeanne Draggon Dildine**

Montgomery Blair

*I've seen the world, lit up as my stage now.*

-Lana Del Rey

**Joseph Owen Enright**

Walter Johnson

*I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work.*

-Thomas Edison

**Margaret Lily Foxman**

Georgetown Visitation

*A woman is like a teabag-you can't tell how strong she is until you put her in hot water.*

-Eleanor Roosevelt



*Congratulations*  
**HR** HOLY REDEEMER  
 CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
 Class of 2019 Graduates

Father Mark F. Hughes, *Pastor* • Mrs. Colleen Ryan, *Principal***Mia Caroline Graham**

St. John's College High School

*Let us make our future now and let us make our dreams tomorrow's reality.*

-Malala Yousafzai

**Ryan Patterson Hinton**

St. John's College High School

*Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.*

-Dr. Seuss

**Luke Carl Hoffeditz**

St. John's College High School

*The harder the battle, the sweeter the victory.*

-Les Brown

**Michael Maguire Kehoe**

St. John's College High School

*Is mayonnaise an instrument?*

-Patrick Star

**Andrew Jack Lombardo**

St. John's College High School

*It's not about where you've been. It's about where you're going.*

-Bryant Moreland

**Ryan Anthony Lucas**

St. John's College High School

*The ceiling is the roof.*

-Michael Jordan

**Katherine Gertrude Mahoney**

Undecided

*Find your fire.*

-Unknown

**Ryan Thomas May**

Gonzaga College High School

*A man can get lost in the sauce, but the same man can be lost without the sauce.*

-Gucci Mane

**Brady Rich McCarthy**

The Heights School

*The most rewarding things you do in life are often the ones that look like they cannot be done.*

-Arnold Palmer

**Anthony Joseph Molina**

Georgetown Preparatory School

*If you continue to work hard, let that be the fuel to your fire.*

-Pitbull

**Paul Joseph Molinaro**

Gonzaga College High School

*Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts.*

-Winston Churchill

**Michael Thomas Morin**

St. John's College High School

*Practice makes perfect.*

-John Adams

**Megan Elizabeth O'Neil**

Academy of the Holy Cross

*She believed she could, so she did.*

-Unknown

**Santiago Tomás Palacios**

St. John's College High School

*The sky is the limit.*

-Unknown

**Jacob Ashby Robey**

Georgetown Preparatory School

*A mistake just gives you something new to work on.*

-Jim Robey

**Reagan Elizabeth Rufe**

Bethesda-Chevy Chase

*The person who follows the crowd will usually go no further than the crowd. The person who walks alone is likely to find themselves in places no one has ever been before.*

-Anonymous

**Joseph Charles Sheehan**

The Heights School

*You have to hurt in order to grow, fall in order to know, lose in order to gain; because most of life's lessons are learned in pain.*

-J Cole

**Claire Margaret Sligh**

St. John's College High School

*I'm glad we had the times together just to laugh and sing a song. Seems like we just got started and then before you know it, the times we had together are gone.*

-Dr. Seuss

**Rachel Ann Styslinger**

Our Lady of Good Counsel

*Forever is composed of nows.*

-Emily Dickinson

**Luke Ashton Sullivan**

Gonzaga College High School

*A man with a smile is a man worthwhile.*

-Judge Smalls (Caddyshack)

**Maria Terminiello**

Connelly School of the Holy Child

*What's life without a little risk?*

-J.K. Rowling

**Julia Gray Vaughan**

Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart

*Forever is composed of nows.*

-Emily Dickinson

**Olivia Catherine Vaughan**

Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart

*The secret to doing anything is believing that you can do it.*

-Bob Ross

**Shea Elizabeth Weltler**

Undecided

*Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.*

-Dr. Seuss



# Saint Peter's Choir is in Bloom at the Cherry Blossom Parade

**O**n April 13, 2019, Saint Peter's choir was honored to participate as one of the local area choirs in the National Cherry Blossom Parade's Youth Choir which also included many traveling and out of state choral groups. Being selected to participate in the Annual Cherry Blossom Parade is an honor for any school choir. According to Choir Director, Peter Nguyen, the parade was "a great experience to share in the rich culture and tradition of the parade and all of the history that comes along with it."

The forty-two members of the Saint Peter's choir that participated in the parade performance practiced many extra hours includ-



Members of Saint Peter's Choir at the National Cherry Blossom Parade

ing a special "dress rehearsal" at the University of the District of Columbia with the choreographers from the live production. It was amazing how quickly all the individual choirs joined to formed one large choir singing and dancing in unison.

The 700+ members of the entire Cherry Blossom Youth Choir stood on the steps of the National Archives Building throughout the entire parade which provided the background for all parade performance that were televised on WJLA. The choir flawlessly performed "This is Me" during the parade and you could even see a few members of

the Saint Peter's choir when they did close-ups during the televised performance!

The members of the Saint Peter's choir that participated in this unique opportunity felt the experience was very rewarding and worth the extra time. Fourth grader, Camden Ranero, said if given the opportunity to perform again next year, she would absolutely love to do it again. Peter Nguyen said he felt "very proud to see our own choir members shine amongst the other groups and display the discipline and values taught at Saint Peter's School."

*Continued on page 37*

## The Nuts and Bolts of Cinderella



Crew members for Saint Peter's Cinderella production ready for Lights! Camera! Action!

**T**he Saint Peter's Drama Program performed the play Cinderella in three performances March 29-31 in the Good Counsel Theater. While the acting, singing and dancing provide a night of magic for the audience, the play would not have been possible without all the specialized teams that perform their art "behind the scenes".

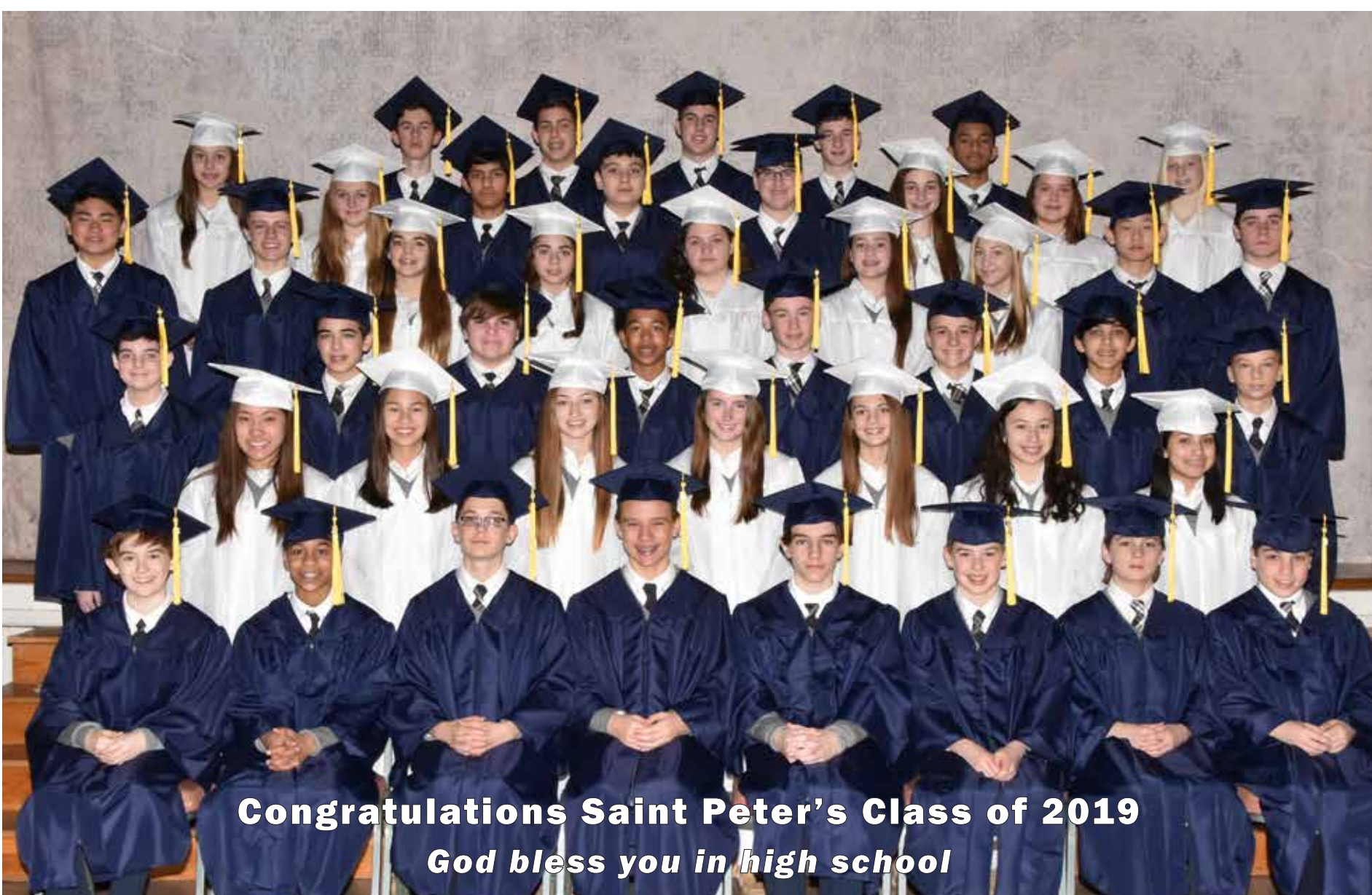
The producer, the director, the choreographer and set designer positions were all done by the teachers/parents with some assistance from the seventh and eighth grade students. Students and parents alike spent many nights and weekends designing, building and painting the set.

The scenes took us through a magical journey transform-

ing from an outdoor market, the castle to Cinderella's living room. There were many scene changes which were done quickly and efficiently. Throughout the performances, the lighting and sound quality were excellent. According to stage crew member, Nick Dowdell, "Being part of the crew is exciting as you have to be able to solve problems quickly. We had the smoke machine fail but we had a backup plan and were able to overcome that obstacle. I love being part of the crew."

The students rehearsed the technical and support roles with the assistance of mentors, however, the students were in-charge of the stage, lighting, costumes

*Continued on page 37*



**Congratulations Saint Peter's Class of 2019**  
*God bless you in high school*

### St. Peter's Church

2900 Sandy Spring Road  
Olney, MD

**Rev. Thomas Kalita, Pastor**  
301-924-3774

**St. Peter's School**  
**Mary Elizabeth Whelan,**  
Principal  
301-774-9112

**Sheila Pfeifer, Parish Editor**  
301-570-5551  
www.stpetersolney.org



## St. Francis International



The SND sisters who ministered at St. Camillus standing in front of the same statue in the 1960s.



## KINGDOM

Con't from page 1

Crossroads Transit Center is today.

The archdiocese purchased 15 acres for the parish a mile or so up New Hampshire Ave. and on February 20, 1954, the ground was broken for a new parochial school, auditorium (to hold masses on Sundays), and a convent. On September 23 of that year, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur started commuting from Trinity College, because the convent wasn't complete, to welcome 456 students to grades K through 4 at the new St. Camillus School. But, the need for a school was so great, that St. Camillus Parish had already opened 1<sup>st</sup> grade a year earlier with a borrowed room at Our Lady of Sorrows School where Mrs. Winifred Canavan taught 60 students starting in September of 1953.

On March 13, 2019, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur returned to

St. Camillus Church to celebrate a special mass with the students of Saint Francis International School in honor of National Catholic Sisters Week. Over a dozen SND Sisters traveled to join the students. The group included Sr. Janet Cahill, who was the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at St. Camillus School in 1954, and Sr. Marie Romejko, who was the last SND Sister to teach full time at St. Camillus School. Not only were the Sisters honored at mass, but afterwards the members of the SFIS Student Council and the No Place for Hate Committee joined them for a reception in their former convent.

While they were together the Sisters told the students about Sr. Dorothy Stang, an SND Sister who was martyred in the Brazil for social justice work in the Amazon, and then the Sisters talked with the students at roundtables about their own experiences working for social justice throughout their ministries as Sisters. The day concluded in a space that was recently renovated from what had been Sisters' bed-

rooms in the former convent where tutoring and social work activities take place now being named the "Notre Dame Sisters Room."

Remembering and reflecting on the past, however, is a key part of renewing the mission today. On Wednesday, May 1, eight SFIS students were baptized at the weekly school mass. Over 50 students have been baptized at SFIS since 2012. According to the record books, St. Camillus Parish's very first baptism took place in an old wash basin on November 25, 1951, after the first Sunday mass was celebrated. The work of evangelizing this corner of the Washington Metro Area and building up the Kingdom of God began with the passion of Fr. Grace, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, and so many parishioners and Saint Francis International School is proud to still minister with that same passion today as part of the vibrant and complex community that is St. Camillus Parish!

OPT



Youth Choir performance on the steps of the National Archives during the televised National Cherry Blossom Parade

## PARADE

Con't from page 36

The final public performance for the Saint Peter's choir will be at the Festival of Music inside Kings Dominion on May 10, 2019 where they will perform two pieces, "I Sing a Prayer for America" and

"Time to Say Goodbye" for three judges who will be rating them on the criteria of musicianship, tonality, diction, interpretation and several other categories. This will be the third year participating in the Festival of Music and Saint Peter's has earned the highest rating of Superior for the previous two years. Best wishes to Saint Peter's Choir!

OPT



Castle scene from Saint Peter's Cinderella production.

## CINDERELLA

Con't from page 36

and makeup during the productions. The makeup artists and costume crew helped transform the students into their characters and all the actors and actresses were radiant. Reagan Gleason, an eighth-grade student that assisted with costumes,

said "It was interesting seeing the outcome of the show knowing how much work went into the show. I loved how much energy people put off behind the scene and on stage."

Congratulations to all involved in the Cinderella production including the faculty, parents, cast and crew as it was truly a magical journey. We are looking forward to what the talented staff will do next year!

OPT

## MRS. RYAN

Con't from page 34

staff whose work in and out of the classrooms lifts up every school-wide endeavor. Mrs. Ryan praises the stellar service of parents and parishioners for their service on the School Advisory Board and on the Home & School Association.

A quick look back shows that, with Mrs. Ryan's as principal and Father Hughes as pastor, the school community created and launched the 4C's/Go RED values program to teach Courtesy, Compassion, Commitment, and Community while Respecting Everyone Daily across the curriculum and across the grade levels. Everyone starts their day at HR by praying the 4C's Morning Offering. Catholic identity always ranks at the top for Mrs. Ryan. The new school logo that places Christ's symbol of the cross between H and R is a sign itself of the focus on Catholic identity throughout the school building and in every classroom.

The HR values and Catholic identity are the foundation of Mrs. Ryan's commitment to building an inclusion program for students with special needs. With her strong background in special education, the commitment of concerned parents, and the hard work of an expanded resource team, Holy Redeemer Catholic School was recognized as a Trailblazer School by the Catholic Coalition for Special Education this past March.

Mrs. Ryan also prioritized many different objectives in order to accomplish critical administrative and planning requirements of the archdiocesan Catholic Schools Office. HR now has a strong School Advisory Board that has completed a Five Year Strategic Plan. Father Hughes and Mrs. Ryan's teamwork led to the merging of the parish nursery school with HR, bringing our youngest learners and their gifted teachers and director Debby Monahan under one roof.

Most members of the HR school community will remember Mrs. Ryan's grace-filled leader-

## A few words from Mrs. Ryan

I would like to thank...

...Fr. Hughes for all of his trust and support. It was a dream working with such a supportive Pastor.

...all of our hard-working and dedicated teachers who truly love this school and their students. It was a dream working with such committed professionals.

...all School Advisory Board and Home and School Association members who helped to implement so many positive changes within our school community.

...all of the parents for their support over the years.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the students who opened their hearts to me. The love I've received from them will stay with me forever. God be with you!

ship of the many special events that fill every school year: First Communions, Confirmations, and Graduations. Mrs. Ryan herself treasures the every-day moments: playing with the children at recess, cheering on sports teams, applauding drama, band and choir performances. Students will long remember the fun-filled incentives Mrs. Ryan was willing to experience: dunk tank immersions, water bal-

loon soakings, and even duct-taping to a wall. Everyone has benefited from working together to build the strong relationships that make a strong school.

Mrs. Ryan remembers that first Monday in the principal's office. Perched on her desk was a carved cardinal, the HR mascot. If that bird could tweet, it would have much to tell about weekend hours spent at that desk, compassionate interviews

with students, tough decision-making with Father Hughes. Mostly, though it would tweet laughter. Mrs. Ryan brings a Spirit-filled hopefulness to every situation and shares it often in laughter with students, parents, and colleagues.

Mrs. Ryan leaves Holy Redeemer, to become Director of Studies at the National Presbyterian School in Washington, D.C. There, she will be responsible for the development and implementation of the curriculum, standardized testing, teacher mentoring, and professional development. This PreK-Grade Six Independent School can look forward to welcoming a dedicated professional who will work hard and serve their school community well. Interestingly, they are the Cardinals as well. So, Mrs. Ryan can bring all of her HR Cardinal spirit to her new workplace and set that carved cardinal on her desk to remind her that the HR teachers, students and parents will hold her in their hearts and keep her in their prayers. God be with you, Mrs. Ryan!

OPT



# Theatre Ain't Ogre at Mary of Nazareth

By William Antonetti

Last year, Mary of Nazareth made waves with their debut musical, *Seussical Jr.*, which left many wondering how they would top that this year. They didn't disappoint. There were bigger sets, a bigger cast, bigger sounds, and a bigger plot with *Shrek the Musical Jr.* The production took students from grades five through eight and made use of volunteer parents, teachers, alumni, siblings, and an enthusiastic and hardworking group of middle schoolers. Some nights kept people working away at Mary of Nazareth till 11 at night.

It all paid off though. From April 5 to 7, Mary of Nazareth was transformed into Duloc complete with a drawbridge and inflatable dragon welcoming guests to the theatre. The cast featured veterans from last year's production, Meghan Stone and Leonardo DeLude, as the lead roles of Princess Fiona and Shrek the Ogre respectively. These two were joined by several other students playing younger versions of their characters letting the progres-



sion of time be shown on stage, and in the case of Princess Fiona,

harmonize with herself. The cast also featured a sixth grader, Liam

Coskun, debuting as the main antagonist the diminutive Lord Farquard.

Younger members may have joined for their first performance, but some eighth graders branched out and appeared in their first role. Eight-grader Olivia Martinez appeared as the fire breathing dragon and sang a number that brought laughs and kept the audience engaged.

The sizable crew worked non-stop to ensure a top-notch performance making adjustments even as the show went on to ensure the smoothness of the run. The director, Roxanne Stone, and producer, John Feeney, were out doing as much as they could to help the run including at one point asking a teacher to be an emergency understudy. Thankfully, they were not called upon, but the cast was fighting a bad string of sicknesses in the weeks leading up to the show. It all turned out for the best in the end, and the final performance featured a brief cameo from the lead from *Seussical Jr.* as a tip of the hat and a nice way to close out the show. Many students have expressed interest in the program, and it can reasonably be expected to grow next year.

OPT

## A Knight to Remember



By William Antonetti

Mary of Nazareth held their 24th annual benefit gala night and auction. The theme this year could be seen as a bit medieval. The Katie Fitzgerald Center of the school was decorated in a Middle Ages themed manner. Guests were greeted by trumpeters and made their way through rows of armor to enjoy a night of food, fellowship, and friendly bidding wars. The school had been promoting this event with a "Strive for Five" challenge for students to raise money for a tuition raffle. It was a resounding success and many times what was expected was gathered to offer tuition assistance. Teachers and parents mingled both in the silent auction and the dinner tables and generally had a grand time. Queen Elizabeth the I, or at least an actress filling the part, was present to preside over the event and the general jollity of the evening. Parents and teachers got into the part wearing everything from period tunics and tights to armored outfits and crowns.

Alumni participated in the outreach and member of the class of 2018, Matthew Dirlam, edited many of his former teachers and administrators' faces onto period paintings which were hung around the event. Some of these have made their way into teachers' classrooms to add a bit of pomp and gravitas to the decor.

The live auction was conducted by Mr. James Koutsos who led the crowd through several bidding wars and kept the good times rolling. All the proceeds of this night are being directed to tuition assistance and remodeling the chapel at Mary of Nazareth.

OPT



## Annual May Crowning Remains a Highlight of Eighth Grade

By William Antonetti

On May 3, Mary of Nazareth held their annual May Crowning event and Mass. Father Lee Fangmeyer from Mother Seton Parish presided over Mass. The whole school celebrated in smaller classroom May Crownings. In the Sixth Grade, Piper McBride led her classmates in "Immaculate Mary" including singing without accompaniment for a whole verse.

Students were encouraged to bring flowers in to celebrate their school's patron and the Mother of Christ.

The honor of crowning Mary at the school Mass was reserved for the Eighth Grade. Students prepared far in advance. Girls brought their dresses in to ask the approval of their Religion Teacher, Marion Strishock, and their Middle School Principal, Rosemary Adams. Boys shopped for new suits and some went the extra mile with accessories

with a few bright bow ties standing out from the crowd. Mary was crowned during Mass by two eighth graders. Nathan Abromavage carried the crown to place on Mary's head, and Maria Ayoub placed the crown on Mary's head. Following Mass, there was a brief luncheon where eighth graders and their parents mingled with staff and each other.

OPT

**Mary of Nazareth**  
**Roman Catholic School**  
14131 Seneca Road, Darnestown,  
Maryland 20874

**Principal: Mr. Michael J. Friel**

**Assistant Principal:**  
**Mrs. Rosemary Adams**  
301-869-0940 (tel)  
301-869-0942 (fax)

**Mary of Nazareth**  
**OPT Editor: William Antonetti,**  
wantonetti@maryofnazareth.org

**Website:**

[www.maryofnazareth.org](http://www.maryofnazareth.org)

Affiliated with the following parishes:  
Mother Seton, Germantown; St. John  
Neumann, Gaithersburg; St. Mary's Shrine,  
Barnesville; St. Rose of Lima, Gaithersburg;  
St. Paul, Damascus; Our Lady of the  
Presentation, Poolesville; Our Lady of the  
Visitation, Darnestown.

**It pays to advertise in  
Our Parish Times**





Carlos Abreu  
St. John's College HS



Nathan Abromavage  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel HS



Mari Breana Alcantara  
St. John's College HS



Maria Ayoub  
St. John's College HS



Kaitlyn Barrow  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel HS



Alexi Burns  
Clarksburg HS



Tin Cheatham  
Georgetown Prep



Michaela Dailey  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel HS



Jacqueline DeJesus  
Decision TBA



Leonardo DeLude  
St. John's College HS



Erin Fagan  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel HS



Emma Filliben  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel HS



Jason Fischer  
Quince Orchard HS



Josiah Flanner  
St. John's College HS



Timothy Gorman  
St. John's  
Catholic Prep



Christopher Gregorian  
St. John's Catholic Prep



Bailey Guessford  
St. John's College HS



John Himes  
Seneca Valley HS



Benjamin Jose  
Bullis HS



Jennifer Juhring  
Georgetown  
Visitation HS



Madison Kelly  
Georgetown  
Visitation HS



William Koutsos  
Clarksburg HS



Nicholas Laffey  
St. John's College HS



Andrew Long  
St. John's College HS



Amelia Maffeo  
Clarksburg HS



Hayley Marques  
St. John's College HS



Olivia Martinez  
St. John's College HS



Aidan Melley  
Gonzaga College HS



Adithya Menon  
Clarksburg HS



Habib Najjar  
St. John's College HS



Katherine Nonnenkamp  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel HS



Kamdi Nwakibu  
Clarksburg HS



Lukas O'Day  
Georgetown Prep



Caroline Owan  
Academy of the  
Holy Cross



Luke Pappano  
Poolesville HS



Adam Reinsch  
St. John's Catholic Prep



Luke Sanchez  
St. John's Catholic Prep



Charles Scherer  
Gonzaga College HS



Angelina Serrano  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel HS



Alexa Sofia  
St. John's Catholic Prep



Erin Souder  
Tuscarora HS



Paige St. Clair  
Northwest HS



Ian Stewart  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel HS



Meghan Stone  
Academy of the  
Holy Cross



Isabelle Thomas  
Clarksburg HS



Melina Torres  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel HS



Sofia Tran  
Clarksburg HS



Tam-Anh Tran  
Northwest HS



Philip Williams  
Gonzaga College HS

**Congratulations  
Mary of Nazareth  
Class of 2019**





Photo by Ana Maria P. de Jesus

**Fr. John Barry led a Lenten Pilgrimage at the National Gallery's Tintoretto Exhibit on Monday, April 1.**

## RESURRECTION

*Con't from page 4*

were also invited to serve and participate in the evening activity.

At the Youth Center, Thursdays of Lent were dedicated to "The Journey" with Paulist Seminarian Rich Whitney leading the discussions which focused directly on how Jesus' teachings inform and improve lives. The six-week series provided a powerful experience of prayer and sharing life-encounters in the light of the teachings of Jesus. With a short video clip and a booklet made available through the Paulist Evangelization Ministry, the participants set themselves in the moment and the setting of the gospel reading to have a personal

meditative encounter with Jesus' teachings in a Lectio Divina way.

As in the past years, the **Youth-Led Stations of the Cross** presented Christ's way to Calvary in a fervently composed meditative journey with the young members of the parish participating in a somber, skit-like presentation from the first to the last station. Led by the Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry, Helene Stever, this Lenten activity had attracted dedicated Religious Education students who had participated in this activity annually. While Germany has its Oberammergau Passion Play every decade, the Church of Resurrection has its annual youth-led passion journey in its Stations of the Cross.

OPT

## HAPPENINGS

*Con't from page 6*

### Hatching Chicks in Kindergarten - Life Cycle Learning

The Kindergarten classes began their 21-day countdown as they prepared for their eight fertilized chicken eggs to hatch! The class is learning about the life cycle of the chicken and its daily development as an embryo inside the egg. Once the chicks hatch, the children will observe the chicks and their behaviors. The students will also learn what the chicks need to survive and will even get to take the chicks home for the weekend! Once the chicks begin to fly, the kindergarten will say their goodbyes, and the chicks will head back to their farm home.

### Junior Sodality Essay Contest Winner

Congratulations to eighth-grade

student, Caroline Gotzman, for winning the Junior Sodality Essay Contest Scholarship. The scholarship contributes \$2,500 towards high school tuition. The topic for this year's essay was "Physician Assisted Suicide". This was not an easy topic to discuss through an organized and timed essay. Congratulations to Caroline Gotzman!

### Lollipop Day - An Orientation Tradition

The school welcomed new and returning families to school to celebrate the time-honored tradition of Lollipop Day. This is the day when new incoming students visit the de Chantal classrooms to meet the teachers and make new friends. Parents are invited to a reception and information session about the St. Jane de Chantal school community. Many of the new children are future kindergarten and pre-k students. These children are welcomed into

the classroom and celebrate their orientation-like visit with a lollipop treat at the end!

### Easter Break Ends with Activity-Filled Weeks

The teachers and students returned from their Easter break vacations with just weeks left to wrap up the school year. The school is alive during these upcoming last few weeks with many activities, including sports, field trips, and learning. Field Day, Mother's Day program, Grandparent's Day, choir and band concerts, May Crowning, Candle Ceremony, Wilderness Adventure, Williamsburg eighth-grade trip, Battle of the Bands, and much more will fill the weeks. Before you know it, the eighth-grade students will be graduating, and everyone will be off for summer vacation. The fun and excitement never stop at St. Jane de Chantal School!

OPT

## STATIONS

*Con't from page 21*

Readers were: Daniela Cornejo, Erica Akueson, Jacqueline DeJesus, Elizabeth Delgado, Marie Olympio, Alessandra Orr-Gonzalez and Elizabeth Wnek.

The enactment and readings by our youth moved many in the congregation to tears. We are so



Living Stations of the Cross cast

thankful for these youth who gave up their vacation time to rehearse and participate. The Parish is also grateful for the following adults who helped: Sound and PowerPoint: Mary Beth DeLuzio and Michael Polcsa; Reader Directors: Katie Forbrich, Sachy Orr-Gonzalez, and Aileen Kelly; Costumes/Props: Jeanne Polcsa; Cast Director: Joan Gerard.

OPT



## Congratulations Graduating Class of 2019!



Roman Arensmeyer  
St. John's  
Catholic Prep



Rebecca Barnes  
Brookwood School



Isha Bhandary  
Brookwood School



Mariah Brown  
Northwest HS



Adrianna Cortes  
St. John's  
Catholic Prep



Roberto Cortes  
St. John's  
Catholic Prep



Alejandro Ford  
Wakefield School



David Giandrea  
St. John's  
Catholic Prep



Shona Hakiza  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel



Eli Jackson  
Watkins Mill HS



Lorenzo Jaramillo  
Undecided



Laila Johnson  
Northwest HS



Lucy Meng  
St. John's  
Catholic Prep



Claudia Nachega  
Georgetown Visitation



Matthew Ngatta  
Gonzaga College HS



Sophia O'Connor  
Our Lady of  
Good Counsel



Jacquelyn Pancoast  
St. John's  
Catholic Prep



Adam Rofayel  
Pooleville HS



Georgia Roy  
Urbana HS

WWW.MOGSCHOOL.COM



# Joys of Spring and New Sacraments

The youth of St. Mary's have been on a journey of faith, prayer, exploration, and study in preparation for Confirmation and First Holy Communion. The Most Rev. Michael Fisher officiated the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on a beautiful Spring evening. The candidates were excited and well prepared. The presence of the Holy Spirit was most definitely experienced in the joy displayed by those Confirmed.

The younger children received their First Holy

Communion on May 4. The children are provided with a large Miraculous Medal on a blue ribbon from the Parish. The children are dedicated to the Blessed Mother and are asked to wear their medal each time they attend mass during the month of May.

A May Crowning is held after all masses the same weekend. The First Communicants attending at each mass lead the congregation in procession and crown the Blessed Mother.

OPT

First Holy  
Communion  
Class



Above: Lucy Walton and sponsor Eve Rothenberg and sponsor Eve Rothenberg.

At right: May Crowning of Our Blessed Mother



Confirmandi  
with Fr. Kevin  
O'Reilly,  
Bishop  
Michael  
Fisher, Deacon  
Dave Cahoon.  
Not pictured  
are catechists  
are Roger  
Hayden and  
Leslie Poe.

## St Mary Barnesville Confirmandi

Anna Carol Bodmer  
Gabriella Mary Burdick  
Catherine Marie Casella  
Benedict Edward Chmelik  
Erin Lily Fagan  
Helena Evalyn Grace Garrett  
Abigail Baxter Hanson  
Sophia Gani Kozauer  
Ainsley Elizabeth Mate

Charles Wilson Matia  
Joseph Matthew O'Brien  
Anna Sophia Porch  
Jennifer Adele Rothenberg  
Luke Richard Voigt Sanchez  
Erin Elizabeth Souder  
Rocco Alexander Volpe  
Lucy Elizabeth Walton  
David Jonathan Yokum



Parishioners taking CPR training at Upper Montgomery County VFD.

## Safety and Security

In an effort to provide a safe environment for our parishioners, the Ushers, Greeters, and local police met to discuss safety measures for our Church and grounds. As a result of their planning improved First Aid Kits have been provided for the Pavilion and Church. A group of fifteen parishioners attended CPR AED certification to be prepared for emergencies that may arise. The training was provided by the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department.

OPT



Parishioners who received first aid certification training.

## 2019 Haiti Festival a Huge Success



Rendering of the new church to be built in Carcasse, Haiti

St. Mary's 11th annual Haiti Festival raised more than \$26,000 to benefit St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Carcasse, Haiti.

The two parishes entered into a twinning relationship more than eleven years ago resulting in a new school, teacher salaries, medical mission, health clinic, new rectory, solar power, water wells, and the most ambitious project to date, a new church. St. Mary's is taking the lead in constructing a new church to replace the one destroyed by Hurricane Matthew in October of 2016. The new church will use all metal framing anchored into the concrete slab and finished with a high strength stucco shell inside and out. The interior and exterior will resemble the concrete construction common throughout the country, but

will not have the hazard of falling concrete in the event of an earthquake. The building is engineered to withstand winds of 200 mph in comparison to the highest sustained winds from Hurricane Matthew of 150 mph.

This church will be a beautiful house of worship and a safe place of refuge in the event of future storms.

*Continued on page 52*

**St. Mary's Parish**  
18230 Barnesville Road  
Barnesville, MD 20838  
**Rev. Kevin O'Reilly,**  
**Pastor**  
(301) 972-8660  
www.stmaryonline.com



## Seventh Graders Celebrate Saint Patrick

By Joseph Krauth

On Sunday, March 17, to celebrate the feast of Saint Patrick, the seventh graders in the CCD program at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Bethesda put on a play commemorating the life and legacy of Saint Patrick. Mr. Joseph Monte, the teacher of the seventh graders, has been teaching religious education for 43 years at OLOL. When Mr. Monte first started teaching, he believed that the seventh grade “ought to celebrate Saint Patrick’s Day.” According to Mr. Monte, the play was originally written by a girl interested in theater and playwriting. Over the years there have been several different renditions of the play, but the general concept of honoring St. Patrick has stayed true.

The play opened with Vaughn Garcia, playing the role of the child, and August Cheshire, playing the father. The child asks to hear a story about St. Patrick, setting the stage for the play. A slaver captured Saint Patrick (played by Espen Herrera) and took him to Ireland. In



Msgr. Edward Filardi, Joseph Monte and the seventh-grade CCD class.

Ireland, Saint Patrick clashed with the pagans, and converted many to the Catholic faith.

Leading up to the play, the seventh grade practiced their lines for several weeks. Mr. Monte commented that the play was one of the best he has seen in his time as a teacher. Monsignor Filardi noted that the teamwork amongst the actors was exceptional. All in all, this play was a great experience for all seventh graders, and we hope the sixth graders are looking forward to performing the play next year!

OPT

## A Visit to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

By Lily Capizzi and Gigi DuFour

On Tuesday, April 16, 2019, the seventh grade at Our Lady of Lourdes school took a field trip to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in D.C. When our class first arrived, we went to a garden outside the Basilica with mosaics of the mysteries of the Rosary. After, we went in and we met our three tour guides, all from St. Anselm’s, who showed us around the whole Shrine. First, we took a tour of all the chapels and learned why each of them were unique. Then, we looked at Memorial Hall in the basement of the Basilica where we found many important names and figures, such as Knute Rockne and Babe Ruth. Next, we went to Mass at The Heart of Mary Chapel, where our pastor Monsignor Filardi led the mass for

us. The two of us (Lily Capizzi and Gigi DuFour) read the first reading and the responsorial psalm. Afterwards, a student from our class, Claire Quinn, was interviewed about the recent fire at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris.

One cool thing we saw in the main church, was the Holy Trinity Dome which showed God in three persons. The Trinity Dome is the biggest of the five domes in the main church. The second really interesting thing we saw in the church was a mosaic of Jesus behind the altar. There was a statue of Mary right in front of Jesus. The tour guide told us that the statue of Mary was blocking Jesus on purpose because Mary intercedes for us.

Our last stop, which was our favorite, was the Our Mother of Africa Chapel. The sculptures within the chapel tell the story of the African-American experience from slavery to emancipation. The tour guide explained how all the sculptures in the Chapel connect with each other in order to bring this story to life.

We learned a lot on our trip and had a blast! It was a great way to connect with Mary during Holy Week and realize the important role she has for us.

OPT

## Celebration of the Sacrament of the Eucharist

By Bridget Launi

On Saturday morning, May 4, 42 students from Our Lady of Lourdes school and Religious Education program together attended 10:00 am Mass to celebrate their First Eucharist.

The celebrant of the Mass was Our Lady of Lourdes Pastor, Msgr. Edward J. Filardi. Musical direction was provided by Mr. Paul Newport, Director of Choir at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, with musical accompaniment by organist Mrs. Patricia Severinsen.

The children anxiously gathered in the school just before mass, girls wearing beautiful white dresses and veils, and boys wearing suits, dress shirts and ties. In their beautiful attire, it was evident that the children were outwardly ready for the occasion. Thanks to the work of our dedicated teachers at Our Lady of Lourdes School and Church, the students were spiritually prepared for the occasion as well. Under the guidance of teachers, Ms. Kathleen Carliner, Mrs. Kathryn Wasp, Ms. Kristin Addison, Mrs. Alison Interlandi, and Mrs.



Students are ready to celebrate their First Eucharist.

Maricar Parcon, students grew to understand the Catholic teachings surrounding the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

As 10:00 am drew near, the children reverently processed over to the church and stood at the back ready for their entrance. As the beautiful hymn, Ave Maria, began to play, the students entered the church and took their places in the pews, ready to meet

Christ Jesus for the very first time in His Sacrificial Meal of Holy Communion.

At the conclusion of the mass, the children walked over to the Grotto and sang Immaculate Mary, to honor and praise Mary for watching over them on this day as they celebrated this special moment in their spiritual lives.

OPT



Photo by Angelyn Tugado-Marzan

Students and volunteer teachers led by Maya Wilson (standing left) of Our Lady of Lourdes’ ESOL (English) classes held an end-of-the-year luncheon May 5, 2019 at OLOL’s Convent in Bethesda. Adult students from Spain, Japan, Peru, Ecuador, Columbia, Mexico and the Philippines attend ESOL classes (a ministry of OLOL church) every Sunday.



Photo by Angelyn Tugado-Marzan

### May Crowning

Our Lady of Lourdes Pastor Monsignor Edward J. Filardi (kneeling) leads prayers May 5 to the Blessed Virgin Mary before children of the parish offer flowers in her honor.

### Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

7500 Pearl Street  
Bethesda, MD

Msgr. Edward Filardi, Pastor  
301-654-1287

Ms. Amy Moore, Principal  
301-654-5376





## OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL

**Congratulations Class of 2019 Graduates**Amy Moore, *Principal* • Rev. Msgr. Edward Filardi, *Pastor***Robert Apgood**Undecided  
*"Anything is possible."***Yngrid Bermudo**The Academy of the Holy Cross  
*"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning."***Gracie Cardwell**Connelly School of the Holy Child  
*"Doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment."***Justin Chan-Degroot**St. John's College High School  
*"Work for a cause not for applause, live life to express not to impress."***Harrison Combs**The Heights  
*"The empires of the future are the empires of the mind."***Helina Daniel**Georgetown Visitation High School  
*"All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them."***Henry DuFour**St. John's College High School  
*"Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards."***Ismail Ebrahim**Georgetown Preparatory School  
*"If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way."***Sean Harmon**St. John's College High School  
*"You could complain that a rose bush has thorns or you could be happy a thorn bush has roses."***Blane Makonnen**The Academy of the Holy Cross  
*"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."***Natalie Malarkey**Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School  
*"To accomplish great things, we must not only act but also dream, not only plan but also believe."***Georgia Myers**Walter Johnson High School  
*"Be easy to love, hard to break, and impossible to forget."***Gabriel Perassi-Vilcarromero**St. John's College High School  
*"Don't cry because it is over, smile because it happened."***T. S. Roth**Undecided  
*"If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up, figure out how to climb it."***Kylie Squier**Connelly School of the Holy Child  
*"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time, we are the ones we've been waiting for, we are the change that we seek."***Mikayla Stephens**The Academy of the Holy Cross  
*"A warm smile is the universal language of kindness."***Sage Thomas**The Academy of the Holy Cross  
*"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says I'm possible."***Jasmine Velasquez**Connelly School of the Holy Child  
*"Good, better, best. Never let it rest. 'Till your good is better and your better is best."***Peyton Walsh**St. John's College High School  
*"Making a million friends is not a miracle, the miracle is to make such a friend who can stand with you when millions are against you."***Sariaka Walsh**St. John's College High School  
*"Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift. That's why it is called the present."*



## Blessing Bags



Students arrived to school early to assemble Blessing Bags for those in need in our community. #StEsStrong!

## Truck Touch Day

We dedicated our Truck Touch Day in Mr. Rex Reed's memory.



## Donuts for Dads

Dad's joined their Kindergarten and First-grade children for breakfast and a performance at our annual "Donuts for Dads."



Over 200 parishioners gather for dinner, during the *Life in the Spirit* Lenten retreat.

## Life in the Spirit Lenten Program

On February 24, St. Elizabeth launched registration for their upcoming Lenten retreat *Life in the Spirit*. This program consisted of six weekly sessions that began with free dinner, a DVD presentation, praise and worship, and small group discussion. Over 200 parishioners participated in this event, and a team from St. Mary's Bryansstown with Fr. Conley came each night to volunteer and help successfully launch the program and encourage St. Elizabeth team members.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the program was the community building and faith sharing that happened. Longtime parishioners were able to meet other's in the parish who they may not get a chance to know by just going to Sunday Mass. The tables were split by age group and a lot of the newer Young Adult parishioners grew in fellowship and were happy to find friends their age who were a part of their parish community. The program, *Life in the Spirit* helped to encourage participants to pray with expectation that something happens and to build a relationship with the Holy Spirit and ask for the gifts of the Holy Spirit that were given through Baptism and Confirmation.

Following *Life in the Spirit*, St. Elizabeth is now having participants help to plan the next event to further build community and faith formation throughout the parish.

OPT

**It pays to  
advertise in  
Our Parish Times**

**St. Elizabeth Parish**  
917 Montrose Road  
Rockville, MD

**Msgr. J. Wilfrid Parent**  
Pastor  
301-881-1380

**St. Elizabeth School Principal**  
Vincent P. Spadoni  
301-881-1824

**Gerry Moore,**  
OPT Editor  
202-887-6475

## The Hogans Visit

Thank you, Governor and Mrs. Hogan for visiting our school family.



## Multi-cultural Day

We learned about so many different countries at this year's Multi-cultural Day.







**Julia Anschutz**  
Connelly School of  
the Holy Child



**James Brown, III**  
Richard Montgomery  
High School



**William Burgess**  
St. John's College  
High School



**William Castro**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Cameron Conrad**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Tyler Cornet**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Javier Correa**  
Georgetown  
Preparatory School



**Malia Croker**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Carys Davenport**  
The Madeira  
School



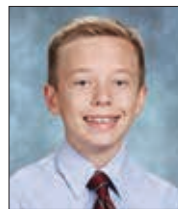
**Thomas Deitz**  
Gonzaga College  
High School



**Gabriel Delosreyes**  
Gonzaga College  
High School



**Teresa Edwards**  
Academy of the  
Holy Cross



**Daniel Evans**  
Thomas S. Wootton  
High School



**Mairead Ferris**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Peyton Fitzpatrick**  
St. John's College  
High School



**Anna Fox**  
Cathedral Catholic  
High School



**Matthew Fox**  
Quince Orchard  
High School

## St. Elizabeth Catholic School

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2019

**Mr. Vincent P. Spadoni** *Principal*

**Monsignor J. Wilfrid Parent** *Pastor*



**Cameron Frick**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Easton Fries**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Elizabeth Frisbie**  
Richard Montgomery  
High School I.B.



**Nicholas Garner**  
Gonzaga College  
High School



**Alexis Gentile**  
Connelly School of  
the Holy Child



**Sofia Gonzalez**  
Connelly School of  
the Holy Child



**Joseph Griffin, IV**  
Gonzaga College  
High School



**Gracie Grimberg**  
St. John's College  
High School



**Adam Harless**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Clara Harney**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Kathryn Hennessy**  
Thomas S. Wootton  
High School



**Claire Johnson**  
Richard Montgomery  
High School I.B.



**Cormac Keating**  
Georgetown  
Preparatory School



**Kalie Khayami**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Simon Kim**  
Georgetown  
Preparatory School



**Evangeline Kirvan**  
Academy of the  
Holy Cross



**Alexander Lacaze**  
Winston Churchill  
High School



**Daniel Lacaze**  
Winston Churchill  
High School



**Gavin Leighton**  
St. John's College  
High School



**Meghan MacFarland**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Declan McAndrews**  
St. John's College  
High School



**Grant McArthur**  
Poolesville  
High School



**Molly McDonough**  
Academy of the  
Holy Cross



**Kerry McKeon, Jr.**  
Georgetown  
Preparatory School



**Madeleine Milota**  
Georgetown Visitation  
Preparatory School



**Alexis Miskelly**  
Northwood  
High School



**Emma Mulford**  
Stone Ridge School  
of the Sacred Heart



**Mollie Murphy**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Devin Myers**  
St. John's College  
High School



**Alethea Nagahara**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Mark Nakamura**  
St. John's College  
High School



**Ana Natale**  
Academy of the  
Holy Cross



**Anya Pilgrim**  
Stone Ridge School  
of the Sacred Heart



**Gabrielle Reed**  
Quince Orchard  
High School



**Luke Robertson**  
Georgetown  
Preparatory School



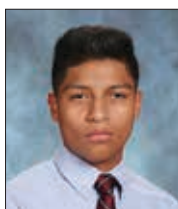
**Dakota Rosebush**  
Georgetown  
Preparatory School



**Audrey Rushing**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Maya Saad**  
Stone Ridge School  
of the Sacred Heart



**Joseph Skurla**  
St. John's College  
High School



**Stephanie Vannoy**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School



**Bryce West**  
Gonzaga College  
High School



**Shane White**  
St. John's College  
High School



**Preston Worch**  
St. Andrew's  
Episcopal School



**Taylor Worch**  
Our Lady of Good  
Counsel High School





On May 4, 51 second-grade parish school and religious education students made their First Holy Communion at St. Bernadette Parish.



Forty-eight eighth-grade parish school and religious education students were confirmed by Bishop Dorsonville at St. Bernadette Parish on March 27.

### St. Bernadette Parish

70 University Blvd., East  
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Msgr. K.  
Bartholomew Smith  
Pastor

301-593-0357

St. Bernadette School  
Mr. Ted Ewanciw, Principal  
301-593-5611

Kate Doyle Rodgers, OPT Editor  
301-593-5611

## IT'S GOOD NEWS!

... AND GOOD FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Advertise in Our Parish Times

CALL (301) 706-9684

OurParishTimes@gmail.com



With this school year, Academy of the Holy Cross has established its chapter of the National Science Honor Society. We are thrilled to share in the bragging rights, as six of this inaugural class of 20 inductees are St. Bernadette School alumna! We are delighted and so proud to see their success continue with this noteworthy recognition. From L-R: Grace Miller SBS '16, Fiona Sheridan SBS '16, Rose Weisgerber SBS '16, Serena Kemp SBS '15, Fionna Long SBS '15 and Cecilia Rogers SBS '15

On March 31, our school completed our latest Greater Love service day. The theme for March was Refugees and Immigrants. We packed personal care kits that included basic need items such as soap, toothbrushes and socks, for refugees ages 13-18 served by The Refugee

Center of DC. We discussed why a teenager might need to flee from their country often traveling alone without money or speaking the language, seeking safety and an improved life. The students created colorful notes to be tucked into the kit offering a kind and loving welcome.



On April 11, St. Bernadette School had the honor of welcoming Holocaust survivor and human rights activist Marione Ingram to our campus. Marione, born in Hamburg, Germany, shared her harrowing and affecting experiences with our Middle School students while graciously answering each and every question they had. She is a powerful demonstration of courage, strength, hope and resiliency. Her Holocaust memoir, "The Hands of War" became a New York Times bestseller in 2014. Marione Ingram is pictured here with her husband Daniel, her grandson and SBS student Noah and Sally Ingram, SBS MS ILA teacher and Marione's daughter-in-law.

## CAMP SOUBIROUS AT ST. BERNADETTE PARISH FOR 2019 PRESENTS:

## A WILDERNESS ADVENTURE THROUGH THE 7 SACRAMENTS!

Get together with friends and be wilderness explorers through the 7 sacraments!

JULY 8 - 12, 2019 | 9AM TO 12:30PM M-F

REGISTER AT:

[HTTPS://SILVERSPRINGCATHOLIC.COM/CAMP-SOUBIROUS/](https://silverspringcatholic.com/camp-soubirous/)

For rising Pre-K to 4th graders. Registration Deadline: Friday, June 7th, 2019 \$60/camper | \$100/two siblings | \$130/three or more siblings! Cost covers tuition, daily snack, and a T-Shirt!

80 University Blvd. East Silver Spring, MD 20901



# CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2019



**DOMINIC BAKER**  
Montgomery Blair High School



**JULIA BECKMANN**  
Eleanor Roosevelt High School



**BROOKE BURGESS**  
Walt Whitman High School



**JOSEPHINE BURKE**  
St. John's College High School



**JORDAN CHAMBERLAIN**  
Elizabeth Seton High School



**NOELLE CUMMINGS**  
Elizabeth Seton High School



**MARY SAGE DENNIS**  
Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School



**HENRY FRICKE**  
St. John's College High School



**EMMA GALLAGHER**  
Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School



**ISABELLA GOLLADAY**  
Montgomery Blair High School



**ABIGAIL GUEVARA**  
Montgomery Blair High School



**MACKENZIE HOEFER**  
Academy of the Holy Cross



**ALLIANA JANSEN**  
Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart



**XAVIER JONES**  
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School



**PATRICK KERNAN**  
Dematha Catholic High School



**NICHOLAS KETTERING**  
St. John's College High School



**KOFI KYEI**  
Dematha Catholic High School



**KELSEY LAWSON**  
Academy of the Holy Cross



**CHRISTINA LONG**  
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School



**JACINDA LONG**  
Academy of the Holy Cross



**TOBIAS MACKENZIE**  
Bishop McNamara High School



**LILLIAN MASLAR**  
Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School



**ANNA MILLER**  
Academy of the Holy Cross



**KEVIN MULLANEY**  
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School



**REED NESTER**  
Gonzaga College High School



**DANIEL O'DONOGHUE**  
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School



**RILEY PEAKE**  
Connelly School of the Holy Child



**GRACIELA RAMOS**  
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School



**LEUAN RICHARDS**  
Montgomery Blair High School



**LUCAS SANTOS**  
St. John's College High School



**JULIA TEARE**  
St. John's College High School



**FAITH UKO**  
Connelly School of the Holy Child



**TIMOTHY WAKEFIELD**  
Gonzaga College High School



**WILLIAM WALLISH**  
St. John's College High School



**WILLIAM WEISGERBER**  
Gonzaga College High School



**LUDOLPH WELANETZ**  
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School



**SOPHIA ZANGER**  
St. John's College High School





Photo by Tom Roach.

### St. Jude Regional Catholic School Journeys "Into the Woods"

With Sondheim's challenging score and tricky technical elements (climbing Rapunzel's hair, Cinderella's mom singing inside a tree, a real working clock), the talents of the St. Jude Regional Catholic School Drama Club shone through and wowed audiences April 12 and 13. Hats off to director Ms. Becky Sella and music director Mrs. Amy White for bringing the joy of acting, singing, and dancing into the lives of these talented students!

### "Into the Woods" Presented by St. Jude Regional Catholic School Drama Club

Little Red Riding Hood (Tina Young) bothers the Baker (Michael Nicolas) and his wife (Katie Sheetz) for, "just a loaf of bread, please," but ends up snagging about a dozen cookies as well in St. Jude Regional Catholic School's Spring musical production of "Into the Woods."



Photo by Tom Roach.

### Easter Bunny Surprises St. Jude Kindergarteners



Just in time for Easter, the kindergarteners at St. Jude Regional Catholic School had to "catch" this cute little bunny before it hopped away to deliver Easter baskets. Along with "catching the Easter Bunny," the young students also had to find the eggs the Easter Bunny hid for them. "This is so magical!" "This is the best day of my life!" and "I'm going to remember this day forever!" are just a few of their memo

## Reflection Period Continues at the Shrine of St. Jude

In March, the Shrine of St. Jude held its second session in the Parish Council-sponsored Discipleship Series. In this session, the focus was St. Jude parish's role in facilitating faith education. The spirited conversation presented several ideas of how the parish can build upon its strengths of a robust

faith formation program, strong Catholic school, and adult outreach. The event was well attended and had a wide representation of the parish's diversity.

This reflection was inspired by a Parish Council retreat, where they conducted a parish self-assessment. Based on the results of the assessment, the council is hosting monthly reflections to gather input from the wider parish, where they will identify areas of strength and growth. Titled the Catholic Discipleship at St. Jude series, the council will facilitate the assessment in the areas of education, administration, service, community, and worship.

The next event will take place in May. Be sure to check the Shrine of St. Jude website for more information on this and other programs in this series.

#### Shrine of St. Jude Parish

12701 Veirs Mill Road  
Rockville, MD

Rev. Paul Lee, STD, Pastor  
301-946-8200

St. Jude Regional  
Catholic School  
Mr. Glenn Benjamin, Principal  
301-946-7888

Maureen Martin, OPT Editor  
MaureenCMartin@verizon.net

OPT

# Celebrating the Sacraments at the Shrine of St. Jude



### Welcome to the Lord's Table!

On Saturday, May 4, 165 young people of the Shrine of St. Jude parish received their First Communion at one of two masses: 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.



### Confirmed in the Holy Spirit!

Congratulations to the 88 youth of the Shrine of St. Jude who were confirmed in the Holy Spirit on March 23. The newly confirmed are pictured above with Bishop Michael Fisher and St. Jude Pastor Fr. Paul Lee.



### Happy Anniversary!

On Sunday, April 28, three couples from the Shrine of St. Jude celebrated their milestone anniversaries at the 8:30 a.m. mass. Afterwards, Our Lady of the Wayside Sodality treated the couples to brunch. Pictured above are Mike and Jane Goss (40 years), Deacon Nick Sholtz and Fr. Paul Lee, Mike and Jane Kolf (40 years), and Tom and Michelle Ardillo (30 years).

Photos by Tom Roach



## LENTEN

Con't from page 6

"Blessed" a verified miracle has to be attributed to prayers made to the person after his/her death. The final step of canonization as a Saint required an additional miracle, although in the case of a martyr of faith only a miracle is required.

This year all the presentations were about North American Saints or soon to be Saints, and in several cases, experts in each subject were invited. During one of the first talks we learned about Servant of God, Mary Virginia Merrick - a native of Washington, D.C. who founded the Christ Child Society. This future saint was presented by Patty Myler, historian from the National Christ



Saint presentations took place in Caulfield Hall with special guest experts in each subject area being invited to present and lead the discussion.

Society. Another presentation highlighted the Servant of God Augustus Tolton, the first African American and former slave to be ordained a priest in the United States in 1886. Other talks versed about Servant

of God Fr. Emil Kapaun and Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, a native American saint known as Lily of the Mohawks.

After each of the informative presentations, participants went to



The evening activities concluded with a celebration of the Stations of the Cross. Members of the Youth Group recited and presented the Way of the Cross.

the church to end the evening with the celebration of the Stations of the Cross. On one of the evenings, the most particularly moving and popular annual traditions took place when St. Jane de Chantal Youth

Group members recited and presented the Way of the Cross. Seeing the faith and devotion of the young members of our parish was very inspiring for all attendees.

OPT

## BEATITUDES

Con't from page 23

enth and eighth Beatitudes. Fr. Dillon spoke of St. Mother Teresa as a peacemaker, describing her work in August 1982 to save 60 orphaned children with special needs in war-torn west Beirut, Lebanon. Fr. Berard addressed those persecuted for righteousness' sake, illuminating the lives of Blessed Stanley Rother and St. Maximilian Kolbe. The Lenten Day of Reflection then ended with an invitation to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and stay for the 5 pm Vigil Mass.

Fr. Dillon said the Beatitudes were a wonderful topic on which the Singles for Christ build the Lenten Day of Reflection, since *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us, "the Beatitudes confront us with decisive choices concerning earthly goods; they purify our hearts in order to teach us to love God above all things."

"I might also add that I was very pleased that the Singles for Christ volunteered to prepare the Lenten Day of Reflection," Fr. Dillon said. "It showed a desire to serve all their brothers and sisters in the parish."

OPT

## HELP

Con't from page 23

side table and chairs.

In addition to the house project, an additional nine parishioners performed general maintenance work on the St. Francis of Assisi parish grounds. Volunteers at St. Francis restored a broken staircase to better-than-new condition; groomed, reconditioned and mulched the Stations of the Cross area; cleared walkways of fallen limbs and hazardous debris; and raked and cleaned up other areas that needed attention.

"When this work is done, it's obvious we are improving the lives of the recipients," said Rogewitz, who has served as the Rebuilding Together House Captain for the past five years. "The recipients are grateful to the point of tears and it's very gratifying to see what a difference we're making. For the parishioners, we take pride in the success we've just achieved."

OPT



Principal: Dr. Glenn J. Benjamin

Pastor: Rev. Paul D. Lee

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES OF 2019!



**We are . . . St. Jude!**



**Elijah Arevalo**

*Our Lady of Good Counsel High School*



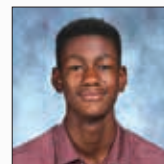
**Riley Barnes**

*Sherwood High School*



**Stephanie Barrios**

*John F. Kennedy High School*



**Jaden Cesar**

*Undecided*



**Isabelle Flores**

*The Academy of the Holy Cross*



**Justin Gibbins**

*Rockville High School*



**Brigid Gibbons**

*St. John's College High School*



**Michael Gitau**

*Wheaton High School*



**Nicole Koehler**

*Our Lady of Good Counsel High School*



**Daniel Landry**

*St. Anselm's Abbey School*



**Shawn Mashburn**

*Rockville High School*



**William Mayer**

*Northwest High School*



**Chris Mayora**

*Undecided*



**Anellize Morales**

*St. John's College High School*



**Michael Nicolas**

*Our Lady of Good Counsel High School*



**Andrew Loey Rapisura**

*Our Lady of Good Counsel High School*



**Diego Reynoso**

*Dematha Catholic High School*



**Sequoia Santoro**

*Northwood High School*



**Katherine Sheetz**

*The Academy of the Holy Cross*



**Sara Stanley**

*Poolesville High School*



**Alyssa Tull**

*St. John's College High School*



**Breanna Kailin Valcarcel**

*St. John's College High School*



**Amira Shamaya Villanueva**

*Einstein High School*



**Christina Young**

*The Academy of the Holy Cross*

[www.StJudeRockville.org](http://www.StJudeRockville.org) • [MainOffice@StJudeRockville.org](mailto:MainOffice@StJudeRockville.org)





Fr. Chris Posch, pastor of St. Camillus, baptizes and SFIS student.

## Save the date

**S**t. Camillus Parish is having a homecoming celebration the weekend of October 19 and 20, 2019. Former parishioners and alumni of St. Camillus School are invited for a whole host of activities

including a special morning mass on Oct. 19 exactly 65 years after Fr. Grace and the SNDs celebrated the first mass at 1500 St. Camillus Drive. There will be an interactive open house in the school building to show off the amazing young people who attend Saint Francis International School and the St. Camillus Faith Formation Program. There will be a block party at lunch time on Beacon Road with food, games, and entertainment for the whole family followed by a gala dinner celebrating the parish founders in the Camillia Room on the evening of the 19th. A special Sunday mass is also scheduled for October 20 to include a re-dedication of the Parish Life and Education Center.

OPT

### St. Francis International School

[www.saintfrancisinternational.org](http://www.saintfrancisinternational.org)

**Tobias A. Harkleroad,**  
Principal

**St. Camillus Campus**  
1500 Camillus Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20903

**St. Mark Campus**  
7501 Adelphi Road  
Hyattsville, MD 20783



SFIS parents and students pack breakfasts for Catholic Charities' shelters as part of Family Service Day.



An SFIS student accepts recognition from the Anti-Defamation League for the school's commitment to the No Place for Hate campaign.



The girls of SFIS take responsibility for their community by fixing up their middle school restroom.

**More SFIS News on Page 37**



Get Ready for Kindergarten  
&  
Get Ready for First Grade

Enrichment for students in grades 4 thru 7

STEM Experiences  
&  
Digital Arts

Small group focus for grades 1 thru 7  
Math, Reading & Writing

**July 1 to 26 in Silver Spring**

**8 am to 1 pm daily**  
before and aftercare options available

**Students *currently* in  
Pre-K thru 7<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Breakfast & lunch included**

**\$525 for the summer  
(including materials and meals)  
if you register *before* June 14th**

**[Summer.SaintFrancisInternational.org](http://Summer.SaintFrancisInternational.org)  
(301) 434-2344**

**For students from all Catholic,  
public, and private schools!**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



Photo courtesy of St. Martin's Parish.

Students and parishioners gather outside the church after receiving their First Holy Communion. In total, the Parish's Religious Education Program had 69 First Communicants this spring.



## Longtime St. Martin's Teachers Retire

By Anne Gemunder

Linda Joseph and Annamaria Zimmerman have touched the lives of thousands of children, parents, and staff in countless ways over the past several decades at St. Martin's. Both these longtime educators plan to retire at the end of the 2018-2019 school year. We congratulate and thank Linda Joseph and Annamaria Zimmerman for their many years of faith, dedication, and hard work to St. Martin's School.

### Linda Joseph

Fourth grade teacher Linda Joseph has taught hundreds of St. Martin's students over these past twenty-six years. Mrs. Joseph is the name often repeated by so many alumni as their favorite teacher. Prior to St. Martin's, she taught at international schools in Europe and in an urban school in San Francisco, where many students were English language learners. She was excited to come to St. Martin's because of our vibrant and diverse community. "Our families and our diversity are our strengths," she emphasizes. She has put in great effort to infuse tolerance, kindness, and patience on to the next generation. Mrs. Joseph conscientiously encourages and models good character through-

out the school day. Student after student has said that she instilled Catholic values that have carried them through high school and beyond. She says, "I expect them to be great people and to lead lives of significance."

Mrs. Joseph is a product of Catholic schools and believes in the solid academic foundation that Catholic schools offer, such as exceptional reading and writing skills. She has a reputation for teaching strong Language Arts skills and for her ability to get the best from her students. When technology such as Smartboards, notebook computers, and internet

*Continued on page 54*

Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School.

**Congratulations to our talented St. Martin's School Band for receiving a Superior Rating at the 57th Annual Archdiocese Music Festival!**



**More St. Martin of Tours News on Page 54**

### St. Martin of Tours Parish

201 South Frederick Ave.  
Gaithersburg, MD

**Fr. David Wells,**  
Parish Administrator  
301-990-3203

**St. Martin School**  
**Stephen Lamont, Principal**  
301-990-2441

**Catherine Cooksey,**  
Parish Editor  
240-477-8706  
[www.smsmd.org](http://www.smsmd.org)

## St. Martin's Catholic School

### Class of 2019

#### Academy of the Holy Cross

Mia Branham

#### Clarksburg

Madeline McClure  
Kristopher Nguyen

#### Gaithersburg

Belicia Bonanno

#### Magruder

Isabella Siedlecki

#### Northwest

Sunkarie Samura

#### Our Lady of Good Counsel

Viangelo Cedeno  
Simon Cooksey  
Andrew Diaz  
Mao LaMotteo  
Joseph Peralta

#### Poolesville

Samson Lynch  
Andrew Subida

#### Quince Orchard

Jefferson Duarte Martinez  
Thomas Fegley

#### Watkins Mill

Jack Griffith  
Samuel Herrera  
Julien Payen

**Undecided**  
William Harris



**Principal: Mr. Stephen C. Lamont**  
**Administrator: Rev. David G. Wells**

**115 S. Frederick Ave. Gaithersburg, MD 20877**  
**[www.smsmd.org](http://www.smsmd.org)**  
**Phone: 301-990-2441**





St. Michael the Archangel's Hispanic Community braved the weather to reenact the Stations of the Cross throughout Downtown Silver Spring.



## St. Michael the Archangel Lenten Revival and Faith Renewal Mission

By Janice Hamilton Outtz

I love Lent. It reminds me to slow down and reflect on God's goodness and mercy. I am not always successful, but I try. The St. Michael the Archangel Lenten Revival and Faith Renewal Mission provided me with an opportunity for both. The revival over three evenings included: praise, worship, testimonies and inspirational music.

What I learned from the revival is that God teaches us lessons in a variety of ways. We just need to listen. The lessons for me came from: the faith filled, heartwarming and sometimes challenging revival messages by Father Dominic Foster; testimonies of fellow parishioners of faith, pain, persistent prayer and God's love; and the Eucharist! God was truly present in all three. Fr.

Dominic's messages were right on and revealed his own faith. The testimonies showed that we can't keep quiet when God has brought us through difficulties and showed us love and mercy. We have to praise and thank Him.

I have been to many Lenten revivals over the years, but this was a first to experience the Eucharist as part of the revival. What a blessing that was. The inspirational music was just that—inspirational and very well done. St. Michael's team did a great job putting this together. There was something for everyone as was evidenced by the applause, shared tears, laughter and feel good moments. While I was doubtful in the beginning that I would attend all three evenings, I am so glad that I did and feel blessed.

OPT

## Reflections of RCIA Neophytes

By Nicole Calaro

On April 20, 2019, St. Michael the Archangel was blessed to welcome 29 people more fully into the Catholic Church during Easter Vigil. We celebrated 12 baptisms, 3 professions of faith, 27 confirmations, and 29 first communions. Two weeks after they received their sacraments, we asked for some reflections on how some of the Elect and Candidates felt that night.

Abigail - It feels so good to finish because at first, I doubted if I was going to complete it. God is good.

Adaora - I really felt God's presence that night, especially in the solemnity of the beginning of mass. It feels good to have fulfilled my last sacrament (Confirmation) because it's something I've always wanted to do. I feel a huge sense of accomplishment.

Marta - I feel like I have a community at the church. RCIA class has become my family. That night

felt so special and I felt included.

Lina - It felt so special. I felt like I was already in heaven. I was so happy that it's hard to explain.

Jasper - It was a great night. Looking around I saw a lot of joy, smiles, and there was so many hugs being shared. I feel accomplished and I really enjoyed it. It almost felt like a movie, especially in the first part of mass that started outside and you walked back into the church and it was just light from the candles.

OPT

## Christians Responding to Climate Change

By Yamide Dagnet and Jason Giovannettone

April is internationally recognized as Earth Month, with April 22nd specifically designated "Earth Day," but have we remembered, celebrated, and been a steward of Mother Nature?

### Where We Are

Despite the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015, which was adopted by 196 countries, global emissions continue to increase. Our youth around the world are striking in the name of climate change, questioning the good faith of our leaders and efforts to preserve a decent planet for future generations. Despite some progress being made in many countries, not enough is being done, and change is happening too slowly.

Forests and oceans absorb half of the greenhouse gasses produced by human activities. Without them, our planet would not be livable. And yet, since 2014 tropical deforestation has consumed an area five times the size of England. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report gives us fewer than 12 years to reverse this destructive trend and offers suggestions on how to transform our society by changing our consumption patterns, adopting more sustainable economic models,

creating healthier and more competitive jobs, and making the most of renewable technologies.

### Our Christian Duty

Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment and human ecology, "Laudato Si", recognizes that climate change is real and the "result of human activity." It calls on the 1.2 billion Catholics worldwide to lead a more sustainable daily life, which ultimately requires "honesty, courage, and responsibility."

The Pope's call for a moral and spiritual transformation in our relationship to Earth's ecosystems is aligned with God's command to care for his creation. "Laudato Si" calls us to focus on protection of our environment and recognize that climate change is the greatest challenge of our time. It also highlights the relationship between climate change, global poverty, and growing inequality. This relationship is driven by our consumption patterns and invasive human footprint on the environment.

### Parish Impact

The responsibility to make changes does not land solely on our governments. The faith-based community, like businesses, civic associations, and private citizens, also has a role to play. We must start by

reducing our own carbon footprint. By doing this, we can save money, improve our environment, and safeguard the health of our parishioners. A few ideas are emerging from St. Michael the Archangel Parish's Green Team:

- Undertake an energy audit to establish an energy consumption baseline, identify opportunities to reduce consumption, and track the progress of our reduction efforts
- Install rainwater harvesting equipment on church buildings to capture and store rainwater, which can be used both indoors (e.g., for flushing toilets) and outdoors to irrigate gardens, and reduce storm water runoff
- Produce educational materials for parishioners and the local community

Broad implementation of such projects would enable the Catholic Church and other private and public institutions to fulfill their roles as stewards of the environment. Embracing such efforts would demonstrate that the Church is thinking and acting in a progressive way and in line with its core principles. The transformative power of the church and its ability to raise awareness of climate change and stimulate effective stewardship would be leveraged by its access to all communities, regardless of demographics.

OPT

## HAITI FESTIVAL

Con't from page 41

St. Mary's has raised more than \$180,000 toward the \$480,000 cost of the church.

Contributions can be made by check payable to St. Mary's Church with "Haiti" in the memo line and

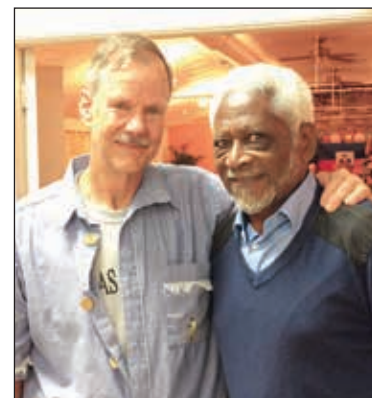
sent to St. Mary's Catholic Church P.O. Box 67, Barnesville, MD 20838 or through our GoFundMe site, [www.gofundme.com/carcasse-haiti-church-rebuild-fund](http://www.gofundme.com/carcasse-haiti-church-rebuild-fund).

St. Mary's annual Haiti Festival is a mix of "fun" and "fundraising." The night begins with live bluegrass music and a cocktail hour where guests peruse the silent auction items, place their bids and enjoy

fellowship with the many guests who attend each year. Bids can be updated throughout the evening until the auction is closed. A fabulous dinner to include choice of two entrees, two sides, salad, and dessert is served buffet style. There are many opportunities to support our efforts to provide



Father Kevin O'Reilly, Pastor St. Mary's, Barnesville, and Father Verdieu Joassaint, Pastor St. Joseph's, Carcasse, Haiti



Raymond Joseph (right), past Haitian Ambassador to the US and Jack Reid (left), Haiti Twinning and Projects Coordinator, St. Mary's Church

services in Carcasse, that we in America take for granted.

St. Mary's Haiti Festival is an annual event held in the Spring of the year (usually April). Please look for our announcement next Spring for Haiti Fest 2020!

OPT

### St. Michael's Parish

805 Wayne Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Msgr. Eddie Tolentino,  
Pastor

301-589-1155

Edwin Méndez,  
OPT Editor

301-589-1155

## IT'S GOOD NEWS!

... AND GOOD FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Advertise in Our Parish Times

CALL (301) 706-9684

OurParishTimes@gmail.com



## Grandparents' and Special Visitors' Day

Over 200 grandparents and special guests visited Mercy for this beloved annual tradition. The morning began with visitors and students attending a special mass together, followed by a wonderful breakfast reception. Student artwork was displayed throughout the reception room, highlighting Mercy's many talented artists! Guests then enjoyed a concert

featuring our instrumental band and singing performances by each grade. Grandparents and special visitors ended this memorable day by visiting the student classrooms. We are grateful that so many of the students were able to share this day with their loved ones and are already looking forward to next year!

OPT

## A Night at the Carnival for Mercy Mothers and Sons!

On Saturday, May 11, Mercy moms and sons spent a fun evening together beginning with the 5pm mass, followed by dinner, carnival games, and a special presentation by Channel 4 newscaster Leon Harris. Guests enjoyed a BBQ dinner, carnival games

such as Football Toss, Air Hockey, Basketball Minute Shot, and the always popular Fish Bowl Toss! Lots of prizes were given out including gift cards, free dress days, and an ice cream party. This promises to be the start of another special tradition at Mercy.

OPT

## International Day at Mercy

Mercy fifth-grade students brought countries from all over the world to Mercy during this year's International Day! Led by fifth-grade teacher and Assistant Principal Christine Green, these students transformed the Kennedy Room into the Hall of Nations. Wearing the colorful clothing that represented their chosen countries, the fifth graders impressed staff, parents, and fellow students with their presentation skills and informative visual displays. Pre-K students brought their "suitcases" and had their passports stamped at each country. After



The Hall of Nations at Mercy

the presentations, the students and staff enjoyed a table filled with international foods prepared by the students and their parents.

OPT



Mercy broadcast students visit AU production department

## MML Students Visit American University's Production Studio

MercyLive! students toured the broadcast studio and participated in a student run game show during a field trip to American University. Mercy students enrolled in the spring and fall studio classes and attended a live taping of Multitask, a student production that requires contestants to answer trivia questions while completing tasks such as folding laundry or playing Jenga. Students also shadowed production crews and learned the back-stage roles involved in producing the in-house university production.

MercyLive! students produce, write and create a morning news program four times a week. The studio was recently redesigned with state-of-the-art equipment and the

field trip was organized to teach students all the elements of studio production.

OPT

### Our Lady of Mercy Parish

9200 Kentsdale Drive  
Potomac, MD

Fr. William Byrne, Pastor  
301-365-1415

Our Lady of Mercy School  
Ms. Deborah Thomas, Principal  
301-365-4477

Gerry Burgess, OPT Editor  
301-330-5676

More Our Lady of Mercy  
News on Page 63

# Congratulations Our Lady of Mercy Class of 2019!

The Class of 2019 has been accepted to the following high schools:

Academy of the Holy Cross  
Connelly School of the Holy Child  
Georgetown Preparatory School  
Churchill High School  
St. John's College High School  
Georgetown Visitation  
Landon School  
Our Lady of Good Counsel  
St. Andrews Episcopal  
Gonzaga College High School  
Portsmouth Abbey School (RI)



Back Row (L-R): Lucas Canedo, Laughlin Sullivan, Dahmaux Kouassi-Brou, Edmund Tetteh, Miller Geer, Chris Sanchez, Cole Puccini, Charles Gill  
Front Row (L-R): Grant Ward, Jordyn Lane, Bridget Bayles, Delara Farzin, Julie Baker, Zyley Bender, Gabriel Soria



Our Lady of Mercy School  
9222 Kentsdale Drive  
Potomac, MD 20854  
301-365-4477

www.schoololom.org



## St. Martin of Tours

## RETIRE

Con't from page 51

access were introduced to the classrooms, Mrs. Joseph was inspired by these new educational capabilities and their potential impact on learning. She encourages both staff and students to share their time, talent and treasure with others. In addition to her classroom duties, she has led many clubs and edited quite a few yearbooks.

In her twenty-six years, her passion and love for teaching has never diminished. We are grateful and blessed by her years of distinguished teaching and for the legacy she leaves with the lives she has touched. In her retirement, she plans to visit family and to travel with her husband.

### Annamaria Zimmerman

Mrs. Zimmerman is a warm and caring educator who goes beyond her responsibilities in assisting staff and caring for children in all grades. For her first sixteen years at St. Martin's, she worked alongside Kindergarten teacher Roxanne Moore, welcoming our youngest students as the Kindergarten aide. For the past sixteen years, Mrs. Zimmerman has teamed up with first grade teacher Susan Feudale as her aide. Her ever-present smile and abiding patience encourages her students as she works with small groups in reading and math. "When I am with my students,

I give them my all," she notes. Mrs. Zimmerman is one of the first educators to arrive at school each day and is soon busy preparing her room and the school. She is always quick to volunteer to help fill in for a teacher, to set up for special events, and to help with special projects. Mrs. Zimmerman leads our Library Club and diligently heads our SMS's Safety Committee to ensure our school is prepared for any emergency.

Mrs. Zimmerman has been a parishioner of St. Martin's since 1977, just two years after Fr. Americo DiNorcia became pastor. She began volunteering in the parish and school offices when her son, Dan, started Kindergarten at St. Martin's. In all she does, her Catholic faith and gentle spirit provide an example for our school community.

As she prepares to preside over her "walkers' dismissal" post for the very last time at St. Martin's, she does so feeling grateful for the experiences she's had and the community she's grown to love. She says, "Although much has changed, what has stayed the same is our school mission, our commitment to faith, and our sense of community." In her retirement, Mrs. Zimmerman hopes to spend more time traveling with her husband. We are grateful and blessed for the love Mrs. Zimmerman has lavished on innumerable children and adults in our school community these past thirty-two years.

OPT



Family STEM Night was an amazing event of discovery, exploration, and creativity for the whole family.

Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School



St. Martin's students welcomed their grandparents to their classrooms on Grandparent's Day.

Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School

## Pope Francis Orders Worldwide Response to the Evil of Sexual Abuse

On May 9, via a *motu proprio* titled *Vos Estis Lux Mundi* (You Are the Light of the World),

Pope Francis established new procedures for reporting sexual abuse and violence and ensured that Bishops and Religious Superiors are held accountable for their actions. The rule includes the obligation for clerics and religious to report abuse and it requires every Diocese to have a system that allows the public to submit reports easily. The new law comes after a meeting in Rome that brought together all episcopal conference presidents from across the globe to discuss the Church sex abuse crisis.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, issued the following response:

"Today, Pope Francis ordered a worldwide response to the evil of sexual abuse. It calls for the establishment of easily accessible reporting systems, clear standards for the pastoral support of victims and their families, timeliness and thoroughness of investigations, whistleblower protection for those making allegations, and active involvement of the laity. It also leaves latitude for national bishops' conferences, such as the USCCB, to specify still more to account for their local circumstances. We receive the Motu Proprio ... as a blessing that will empower the Church everywhere to bring predators to justice, no



matter what rank they hold in the Church. It also permits the Church the time and opportunity to bring spiritual healing.

The Holy Father said a 'continuous and profound conversion of hearts is needed, attested by concrete and effective actions that involve everyone in the Church.' Pope Francis was clear that this responsibility 'falls, above all, on the successors of the Apostles.' As part of this responsibility, bishops also will be held accountable under the authority of this Motu Proprio, which covers sexual abuse of minors

or vulnerable persons, sexual acts compelled through the abuse of authority, and any cover-up of such crimes.

In publishing this new law, which is applicable to the Church throughout the world, Pope Francis has made clear that protection and healing must reach all of God's children. Following on the meeting just two months ago of all episcopal conference presidents, the Motu Proprio shows Pope Francis expects swift and comprehensive progress."

OPT

## MUSIC MINISTRY

Con't from page 4

My Vision."

Quesnel, who is studying philosophy at CUA, says his pastor at St. Raphael's in Rockville recommended him for the contemporary music ministry at Resurrection after hearing him perform with a youth band at St. Raphael. "I owe it actually to my pastor, Father Mike Salah, who's a friend of Father Barry's," said Quesnel. "He heard that Father Barry was looking for someone who could play that kind of stuff, and I think he remembered hearing me a few times at Mass...so Father Salah proposed my name to Father Barry."

Quesnel is happy about the response from Resurrection parishioners about the new the contemporary music he performs at the 9 a.m. Mass is encouraging. "I've been really, really honored and blessed to have many people over several weeks, almost every week actually, come up to me after Mass, or in the vestibule, and just say that they appreciate what I've been doing. They think I'm doing a great job. They're happy to hear some new music...so I'm happy that I'm making some people happy."

OPT





L to R: Eric Refsland, Fr. Steve Carter, OFM Cap., and Ada Refsland

## My Spiritual Journey

By Ada Christine Refsland, nine-year-old CTK parishioner

**O**n April 20, during Easter Vigil at Christ the King, I received the Sacraments of Initiation along with my dad, Eric Refsland, and several other Catechumens and Candidates. As required, I took two years of Catechism in preparation. The first year was with my grandmother, Christine Tan. My mother, Rhena Tantisunthorn Refsland, either brought us to my grandmother's house or my grandmother came to our house. We spent about 2 hours one or two days a week together. She was the one to teach me about God and how He is three persons in one.

After my grandmother had taught us for a little bit, we started to go to Church. A year passed and by then I was very hungry to learn more. I joined the Christ the King

religious education program. I was put in RCIC for children who are above seven and have not received Baptism or First Communion.

At the Easter Vigil the Catechumens and I received Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation. After the Blessing of the Fire we (the Catechumens) went up into the choir loft to observe the Liturgy of the Word separated from the rest of the community. It was one of the most beautiful experiences of my life. Everyone had tiny candles that, together, bathed the whole church with golden light.

As soon as the Homily started, we left the choir loft and lined up in front of the main aisle. Father Stephen Carter, our parish priest, lead us down the aisle and to the front of the altar to be Baptized. My sponsor, Katy Ward, helped me climb into the pool and Father

Steve dunked me three times. After we changed into our white robes, Father Steve confirmed us. Later that evening we all received First Communion.

Throughout my spiritual journey I have had constant support from both my family and my loving sponsor, Katy Ward. And my journey has brought all of us closer together in God's family. In fact, my mother received all her Sacraments at Christ the King. My dad also received First Communion and Confirmation at the same Easter Vigil as me. My grandmother joined the Order of the Secular Franciscans the week before my Sacraments. My sister and brother, Zelda and Magnus, both received Baptism at Christ the King. It truly has been a blessed family affair this Easter season.

OPT

## The Invitation Accepted

By Katie Holland, parish editor, assisted by CTK DRE Isidra Molina

**D**uring the Easter Vigil at Christ the King, ten Catechumens and eight Candidates for the Sacraments of Initiation were brought (back, for the Candidates) into the Church. The Catechumens were Andrea Castillo, Audrina Bonilla, Eduardo Ramirez, Christian Ruiz, Cristina Ramirez, Luis Raimundo, Dora Santos, Ada Refsland and Donna Jones. The Candidates were Steven Arias, Will Pinto, Dayana Villamil, Will Hernandez, Maria Lopez, Andrew Amarin, Eric L to R: Christ the King's Parochial Administrator Fr. Steve Carter, OFM Cap. with parishioner Refsland and Matthew Wong.

OPT



## Franciscan In Our Midst

By Chris Tan

**O**n April 13, 2019, I made my profession in the Order of Secular Franciscans at the Capuchin College in NE Washington, DC. We believe that St. Francis founded this order for lay Catholics over eight hundred years ago. Secular Franciscans promise to follow the Gospel life of Our Lord by observing the OSF rule of life.

The fraternity that I have joined meets on the third Saturday of the month at the Capuchin College on the campus of Catholic University. Meetings begin at 8:30am with Mass, Morning Prayer and continuing formation until 11:15am. If you would like to ask questions or even come to a meeting to see if this life might be for you, please contact me at [annop.tantisunthorn@gmail.com](mailto:annop.tantisunthorn@gmail.com).

OPT



At top right, Fr Steve Carter lighting the Easter Vigil candle alongside Dcn Nehemias Molina



Full emersion Baptism for Donna Jones

Above, Fr. Steve leading the Catechumens into the Nave



L to R: Edward Hoyt, Fr. Jacek Orzechowski, OFM Cap. and Charlene Lockwood

## Christ The King's Seder

By Suzanne Sigüenza, parishioner and RCIA assistant

**T**his Lent, Christ the King parishioners had the opportunity to experience a traditional Jewish Passover Seder on Saturday, April 6. The Spanish-language community prepared this portion of the Pesach in the large Colonial Room, which was beautifully decorated and filled to capacity for this special event. Most of the women donned white garments including a white shawl or head cover. Many of the men wore yarmulkes.

Although the majority of the attendees were Hispanic (in origin) and the Passover was held in the Spanish language, our Parochial Administrator, Fr. Steven Carter asked the catechumens and par-



Reina Flores at the table

Continued on page 60

## Christ The King Parish Notes

**C**hrist the King has had the honor of musicians on loan from Sacred Heart parish in NW DC. During our Parochial Administrator Fr Steve Carter's May vacation, Fr. Jacek came to "say" the Mass in his absence. Edward Hoyt and Charlene Lockwood returned to stand in for our musicians while some were on vacation as well, or just taking a well-deserved break, twice.

Confirmation at Christ the King will be Friday, May 31, with Bishop Herbert Bevard of the Diocese of

The U. S. Virgin Islands celebrating.

OPT

**Christ the King**  
2301 Colston Drive  
Silver Spring, MD  
301-495-2306

**Fr. Stephen Carter, OFM, Cap.,  
Parochial Administrator**

**Katie Holland,  
OPT Editor**  
[kh7@georgetown.edu](mailto:kh7@georgetown.edu)



**O**lder adults are a growing and increasingly vital part of our country. The contributions they make to our communities are varied, deeply rooted, and include influential roles in the nation's economy, politics, and the arts.

The contributions of older people began to be acknowledged in 1963 by using the month of May to celebrate Older Americans Month (OAM). Led by the Administration for Community Living, the annual observance offers the opportunity to learn about, support, and celebrate our nation's older citizens.

This year's theme, "Connect, Create, Contribute" emphasizes that you are never too old (or young) to take part in activities that can enrich your physical, mental, and emotional well-being. It also celebrates the many ways in which older adults make a difference in our community.

The following websites offer information and tools to help you Connect, Create, and Contribute.

## Connect

A big part of the new way to age is a focus on physical and mental wellness.

### Local Resources:

**The Eldercare Locator** connects older adults and their caregivers with trustworthy resources across the nation: <https://eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx>

### Health Insurance:

**State Health Insurance Assistance Programs** provide free

assistance to Medicare beneficiaries and their families: <https://www.ship-tacenter.org/>

### Bring Generations Together:

**Generations United** works support intergenerational collaboration through public policies and programs: <https://www.gu.org/>

### Long-term Care:

**Administration on Aging** assists older adults of any age to plan ahead for a lifetime of care: <https://long-termcare.acl.gov/>

### Rights Protection:

**The National Center on Elder Abuse** helps aging networks decrease elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation: <https://ncea.acl.gov/>

### Resident Rights:

**The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care** helps residents understand their rights and get help if they need it: <https://the-consumervoice.org/>

### Pension Rights:

**PensionHelp America** helps consumers understand and protect retirement security: <https://pension-help.org/>

### Veterans:

**The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs** offers a range of services, including benefit support and crisis services: <https://www.va.gov/>

## Create

Many people are redefining aging by trying new careers, classes, and hobbies.

### Explore the Arts:

**The National Center for Creative Aging** provides resources that help older adults amplify their creative potential: <https://creativeaging.org/>

### Inspire Creativity:

**Creativity Matters** is a toolkit

to support those who direct or want to start community arts and aging programs: <https://nationalguild.org/resources/resources/free-guild-resource/creativity-matters-the-arts-and-aging-toolkit>

### Keep Fit:

**Go4Life** is campaign designed to help older adults incorporate physical activity into daily life: <https://go4life.nia.nih.gov/>

### Take a Class:

**The Lifelong Learning Institute Directory** provides a national listing of programs in older adult education: <http://nrc.northwestern.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/A-Directory-of-Lifelong-Learning-Institutes-1.pdf>

### Financial Plan:

**The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau** provides resources for older adults and their families: [www.consumerfinance.gov/practitioner-resources/resource](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/practitioner-resources/resource)

[es-for-older-adults/financial-security-as-you-age/](https://www.usda.gov/older-adults/financial-security-as-you-age/)

### Eat Healthier:

The **USDA** explains how healthy eating can encourage a sense of well-being: [www.choosemyplate.gov/older-adults](http://www.choosemyplate.gov/older-adults)

### Activities for Fun:

**National Institute on Aging** shares benefits of participating in activities that promote health and personal enrichment: [www.nia.nih.gov/health/participating-activities-you-enjoy](http://www.nia.nih.gov/health/participating-activities-you-enjoy)

## Contribute

More than ever, older adults are making a difference for themselves and in their communities through civic engagement.

### Volunteer:

The **Maryland Department of Aging** offers opportunities for volunteering! Learn more: <https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/join-our-team.aspx>

### Train for Employment:

The **U.S. Department of Labor** provides a community service employment program for older adults: <https://doleta.gov/seniors/>

Aging Programs: **ACL** posts grant opportunities to support and expand emerging programs that serve older adults: <https://acl.gov/grants>

*Continued on page 58*

# Let's Talk Assisted Living.



It's a conversation we've been having with seniors and their families for over 30 years. At Victory Housing, you'll discover our simple and straight-forward approach to assisted living. From all-inclusive rates to individualized care, our award-winning communities offer the ideal setting to call home. **Call or visit us today, let's talk.**



## OUR ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITIES

**Bartholomew House**  
Bethesda • 301-320-6151

**Byron House**  
Potomac • 301-469-9400

**Grace House**  
Silver Spring • 301-924-4424

**Malta House**  
Hyattsville • 301-699-8600

**Marian Assisted Living**  
Olney/Brookeville • 301-570-3190

**Raphael House**  
Rockville • 301-217-9116



[www.VictoryHousing.org](http://www.VictoryHousing.org)

A Non-Profit Organization





# Volunteering Helps Keep Seniors Healthy, New Study Suggests

*Older adults show reduced depression and loneliness, increased life satisfaction after serving as Foster Grandparent or Senior Companion*

A new independent report that provides evidence that consistent volunteering can improve the health and well-being of people age 55 and older was released in February by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency responsible for volunteer and service efforts.

The study examined how participation in national service contributes to changes in health and well-being of Senior Corps volunteers in the Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent programs—who help homebound seniors maintain independence and tutor and mentor at-risk youth, respectively. A companion study explored the health benefits to caregivers who receive support from Senior Corps Senior Companion volunteers.

According to the research, Senior Corps volunteers report much higher self-rated

health scores, which is considered a valid marker of actual health, compared to older adults in similar circumstances who do not volunteer. They also reported feeling significantly less depressed and isolated compared to non-volunteers.

Senior Corps volunteers found their community service satisfying and meaningful, and they reported having opportunities for personal growth, a sense of accomplishment, and friend-making, all factors associated with improved health, psychological, and emotional well-being and connection to the community. The national study, launched in 2014, collected data from 1,200 first-time Senior Corps volunteers throughout their service with the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion programs to determine the effect of national service on older adults' overall health and well-being.

Each year, Senior Corps engages approximately 220,000 Americans 55 and older through its Foster Grandparent, Senior Companion, and RSVP programs—all addressing some of the nation's most pressing challenges—everything from fighting the opioid epidemic, reducing crime and reviving cities, connecting veterans to jobs and benefits, preparing today's students for tomorrow's jobs, ensuring seniors age independently and with dignity, and helping Americans rebuild their lives following a disaster.

These studies are part of a larger body of research that highlights the positive impact of national service, particularly for senior volunteers and the communities in which they serve. More information on this research and Senior Corps programs is available at [seniorcorps.gov/healthyvolunteers](http://seniorcorps.gov/healthyvolunteers).

OPT



## Pope Francis Thanks Mothers Around the World

After praying the midday Regina Coeli with those gathered in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis extended a special greeting to moms around the world on May 12, 2019:

"Celebrated in many countries today is 'Mother's Day.' I would like to send a dear greeting to all mothers, thanking them—an applause for all mothers!—for their precious work in the upbringing of children and in guarding the value of the family. We also remember the mothers that look at us from Heaven and continue to watch over us with prayer. Our thought goes also to our heavenly Mother, whom we will celebrate



tomorrow, May 13, with the name Our Lady of Fatima. We entrust ourselves to Her to continue on our way with joy and generosity."

OPT



## To Participate Is to Win!

The 40th season of the Maryland Senior Olympics opened May 1 and will run to October 7.

Each year, MSO offers around 100 events through two dozen sports in age groups of 50-54, 55-59, 60-64 and so forth. The top three finishers in each event win medals; every odd year is a qualifying year for the National Senior Games. The top four in each state-level event qualifies for nationals.

You don't have to be a world-class athlete to compete in the Maryland Senior Olympics. The motto is "To Participate Is to Win!" Athletes compete because of the fellowship and friendships, personal challenge and for the competitive nature. The games are conducted in partnership with Montgomery County Recreation. Many of our events are held in Montgomery County but events are also held in Anne Arundel, Frederick, Howard and Prince George's counties.

Sports include: Air Gun Shooting,

Archery, Badminton, Basketball, Billiards, Bocce, Bowling (10 Pin), Croquet, Cycling, Golf, Horseshoes, Lawn Bowling, Pickleball, Raquetball, Running 10k, Running 5k, Shuffleboard, Softball, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Track & Field, Trap Shooting, Volleyball, and—new this year—Wii Bowling.

The new 2019 MSO Information and Registration guide is available. Call 240-777-4930 or email [info@mdseniorolympics.org](mailto:info@mdseniorolympics.org) to get a copy.

For information about qualifying, a complete schedule of events, and online registration, visit:

[www.mdseniorolympics.org](http://www.mdseniorolympics.org)

The Maryland Senior Olympics is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization for proactive residents aged 50 and above. Since 1980, the Maryland games have provided great competition and camaraderie for mature adults.

OPT

## Assisted Living and Memory Care with a whole lotta heart.



**NOW TOURING!**

In other words, The Landing has a whole bunch of heartfelt help and care. And, grammar aside, you'll feel a whole lotta at home here, too. But don't take our word for it, come see for yourself. Please call 301.388.7700 now to schedule a tour. And bring a friend. Or come meet a few new ones.

**THE LANDING**  
OF SILVER SPRING

13908 New Hampshire Ave • Silver Spring  
301.388.7700 • [TheLandingofSilverSpring.com](http://TheLandingofSilverSpring.com)

A LEISURE CARE ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE COMMUNITY





# SOAR Summer Trips!

The Montgomery County Department of Recreation has released its Summer 2019 Senior Outdoor Adventures in Recreation (SOAR) travel program for active adults age 55 and over. Each activity or trip requires substantial walking and/or physical exertion. Program participants should be in good physical condition and consult with their physician if they have any concerns before registering or participating in an activity.

Programs are held rain or shine; participants should dress accordingly.

You may register for a SOAR trip in any of four ways. The fastest and easiest way is to use the internet and go to [ACTIVEMONTGOMERY.ORG](http://ACTIVEMONTGOMERY.ORG). You may also mail your trip application, fax it to 240-777-6818, or register in person at 4010 Randolph Road. Full payment is required with your registration. Non-County residents must pay an additional \$15.00 per person per trip.

If you have questions about the registration process, please call 240-777-6840. If you have questions or require more information about a specific trip, call the SOAR Coordinator at 240-777-4926. Unless noted, all transportation is provided on restroom-equipped motor coaches. All trips depart from and return to the Olney Manor Recreational Park.

## Summer SOAR trips include:

Walking tour of Ladew Topiary Gardens, Harford Co.	June 21	\$65
Sacred Spaces – Cathedrals in Baltimore City	June 26-27	\$76
Tour of Dupont Estates and Gardens, Wilmington, DE	July 11	\$87
Skipjack Sailing on Bay and St. Michaels	July 25	\$65
Trip to Tangier Island on May	August 1	\$85
Tour of Poplar Island, boat ride from Tilghman Island	August 6-7	\$47
Crab Feast, Paddlewheel Riverboat, Choptank River	August 15	\$96
Boat Tour of Chesapeake Bay Lighthouses	August 29	\$75
Walking Tour of Pentagon, Tour of Caisson, Ft. Myers	October 30	\$59
Walking Tour of White House Holiday Décor	Dec. 10-12	\$45

## Major League Baseball

Seats are located in gallery/upper box seats. There is walking and step climbing required at each game. All games are \$59 per person and include chartered motor coach roundtrip transportation.

Departure			
Thursday, May 16	Afternoon game	Nationals vs. NY Mets	10:30 a.m.
Thursday, May 23	Afternoon game	Orioles vs. NY Yankees	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, June 5	Afternoon game	Nationals vs. White Sox	10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, July 17	Night game	Orioles vs. Nationals	4:30 p.m.

OPT



## A Field Guide for People with Disabilities

# Choosing a High-Quality Medical Rehabilitation Program

The National Rehabilitation Hospital Center for Health and Disability Research has prepared a free consumer guide to help you find the right rehab program for you or your family member.

Selecting a high-quality medical rehabilitation program after you experience an injury or illness can be hard to do. You want a rehabilitation program that will give you the best possible care and that takes into account your own circumstances. For instance, you will want a program that considers how well you get around, the type of transportation you use, where you live, your level of family support, and your insurance coverage. You also want a program that will help you to become as independent as you can be in your daily living.

When it comes time to choose a rehabilitation program, where do you start? How can you tell which rehabilitation programs offer high-quality services that will meet your needs, and which programs will not? Unfortunately, people often must decide where to go for rehabilitation when they do not have the time to gather details about all available programs. Typically, decisions about which rehabilitation program to use are made when a person is already in an acute care hospital. If someone has not talked with you or a family member within the first few days after being admitted to a hospital, ask to see a

hospital social worker. The social worker can help you begin the process of choosing a rehabilitation program.

The goal of this 56-page guidebook is to help you to choose a high-quality rehabilitation program. It includes four major parts. Part 1 describes medical rehabilitation—what it is, how it can help you, and the different rehabilitation professionals who will work with you. Part 2 discusses health insurance plans so that you can understand what your plan will and will not cover. Part 3 talks about the different types of rehabilitation programs available to you, and Part 4 looks at ways that can help you find a high-quality rehabilitation program to suit your needs.

At the back of this guidebook, you will find a glossary of terms.

The electronic edition is available at <https://search.naric.com/public/choosingquality.pdf>. The print edition may be ordered at [https://naric.com/sites/default/files/Pubs%20List%202015\\_0.pdf](https://naric.com/sites/default/files/Pubs%20List%202015_0.pdf).

OPT



Select homes available

## Maplewood PARK PLACE

### Declare Your Independence!

**Self-Governance Means You Make the Decisions**

You will notice the difference at Maplewood Park Place because it is managed distinctly different than other communities. Maplewood is self-governed, run for residents, by the residents. Working hand in hand with a premiere management firm, the board is able to focus on the community's success from the only perspective that matters ... the residents.

**Own Your Home and Make It Your Own**

Unlike most communities, Maplewood residents own their own homes. In addition, there are several tax and financial benefits that you won't find anywhere else. With a wide selection of residences, which you can customize to suit your style, you'll find it easy to bring your treasured belongings with you — including your beloved pets!

Best of all Maplewood Park Place allows you to declare your independence by giving you the freedom to enjoy life and let our professional and caring staff take care of the details. Enjoy Maplewood's full calendar of lively events and social activities, as well as fine dining, indoor swimming & fitness center, workshop, on-site medical clinic — just to name a few of our services. Plus, on-site assisted living and skilled nursing — if and when you need it.

Schedule your appointment to discover the difference 301-530-0500.

## OAM

Con't from page 56

### Protect Natural Resources:

**Volunteer.gov** is an online portal that connects volunteers to projects that match their interests: <https://www.volunteer.gov/>

### Teach Children to Read:

**Experience Corps** screens, trains, and connects people 50+ with children who need help learning to read: <https://www.aarp.org/experience-corps/>

### Give Back:

**Senior Corps** volunteers address community needs, including tutoring, mentoring, and disaster relief: [www.nationalservice.gov/programs/senior-corps](http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/senior-corps)

### Fight Hunger:

**Feeding America** can put you in touch with the local food banks and meal programs in your area: [www.feedingamerica.org/](http://www.feedingamerica.org/)

### Be Heard:

**ACL** regularly seeks input from older adults, caregivers, researchers, and practitioners on aging topics: <https://acl.gov/about-acl/public-input>

OPT



## St. Raphael School's Mr. Jerry Nash, Golden Apple Award Winner!

By Nina Cardillo

Catholic school teachers play a tremendous role in the lives of students by teaching academics, arts, and athletics and in everything witnessing to the Catholic faith through words and actions. At St. Raphael School, fifth-grade teacher Jerry Nash does this and more, mixing education, faith, and fun and making him a well-deserving recipient of the Golden Apple Award! The honor recognizes excellence in teaching and commitment to Catholic education and will be formally presented to 10 local Catholic school teachers May 16 at the Mayflower Hotel.

Continued on page 60



Photo by Anna Quattrone

St. Raphael School fifth-graders celebrate their teacher, Jerry Nash, after he was named a 2019 Golden Apple Award winner for teaching excellence.

## How God Completed a Jewish Man

On April 9, 2019 Richard Meyer spoke with the women of St. Raphael's Sodality and other parishioners about his conversion from Judaism to Catholicism in a talk entitled *How God Completed a Jewish Man*. Richard used his personal conversion story to explain the four steps involved in conversion: religious, intellectual, affective and moral. His story shows God's patience as He took a man who refused to be married in the Catholic Church into RCIA, the Church, and now into Diaconate formation.

Richard attended several years of Hebrew School and attained his Bar Mitzvah at 13 years old, but never attended synagogue regularly through his years of higher educa-



Edith Galvin, Martha Verme, Ursula Boesch and Janet Leonard Walker listen to Richard Meyer.

tion or as he began his career as a patent attorney. He met his wife Mary, a devout Catholic, in 1991. They were married by a rabbi and a priest in September 1992, and now have three children. After years of occasional Mass attendance with

Continued on page 60

## A 43-Year Mystery Solved

Mission: Find the person who drew "Raffi," the familiar children's drawing in the logo for St. Raphael Nursery School. The quest begins in 2015, when the school Development Office publishes a "Who Drew Me?" announcement in the parish bulletin. An unidentified caller leaves a voicemail, saying the drawing was made by the child of then SRNS Director Janet Brewer. The number is tracked to parishioner Sharon Discavage, who gets credit for the first great clue.

MJ Zafis-Garcia of the



This item in the parish bulletin kicked off the quest to find the artist.

Continued on page 60



Photo by Tom Carrington

Mary Washko plays The Cat in the Hat in St. Raphael School's production of "Seussical Jr."

## St. Raphael School Presents 'Seussical Jr.'

Colorful costumes, spectacular sets, sensational songs, and awesome acts... "oh, the thinks you can think" about "Seussical Jr.!" This year's school musical, directed by music teacher Mary Kate McGetrick and supported by numerous staff and stage crew, told the story of "Horton Hears a Who!" along with other Dr. Seuss classics. SRS middle-school students showcased their talents in singing, dancing, and working together in drama production for a wonderful portrayal of "Seussical Jr." This "amazing" musical is a beautiful reminder that "a person's a person, no matter how small!"

OPT



Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia, St. Raphael School

Elizabeth Stanislav (bottom row, center) is surrounded by SRS and SRNS students wearing shirts bearing the picture she drew in 1976.

## Spring Celebrations

If you were lucky enough to be at SpringFest on St. Patrick's Day, then you were lucky enough! This year's SpringFest featured an online auction with charming prizes and gift packages, and bountiful baskets that benefited the school like a pot of gold. All who came enjoyed the blessing of good food and fellowship, and many pressed their luck at the cornhole competition that has become a favorite tradition. Thank you to all the volunteers, participants, and sponsors who made this year's SpringFest a success!

Bursting with color and buzzing with excitement, the annual Girls' Night Out was the place to "bee"... once again, SRS hosted the all-in-one spring shopping boutique, fill-

ing the Trumpet Room with great vendors and merchandise, appetizers and drinks, and SRS family and friends. At this year's spring shopping extravaganza, everything came up roses!

In May, the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation were joyfully received by 95 Communicants and 116 Confirmandi at St. Raphael Catholic Church. Bishop Herbert Bevard of Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands, and Bishop Michael Fisher of the Archdiocese of Washington each celebrated one of two Confirmation Masses at our parish. Congratulations to the children and everyone who helped them reach these milestones in Catholic faith formation!

OPT

## Catholic Business Network Essay Winners

Every year, the Catholic Business Network of Montgomery County holds an essay contest for eighth-graders in local schools. Students who will be entering a Washington metropolitan area Catholic high school are eligible to win scholarships, and at SRS, we are proud to say that the Class of 2019 has four winners! Jillian Donahue placed fourth of seven girls, and Alex Wilson placed fifth, Timmy O'Connor placed seventh, and Isaac Baum placed eighth of eight boys who were awarded scholarships. The theme of this year's essay was the Beatitudes and how they are lived out in the students' lives—well done, eighth-graders!

OPT

### St. Raphael Parish St. Raphael School

1513 Dunster Road  
Rockville, MD

Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor

Teri Dwyer, Principal

MJ Zafis-Garcia,  
OPT Editor

301-762-2143

www.straphaels.org  
www.straphaelschoolmd.org  
Facebook, Twitter, Instagram:  
@SRSRockville

Please see page 28 for St. Raphael's  
Class of 2019 congratulations ad



## St. Raphael

## JEWISH

Con't from page 59

his family, mostly at Christmas and Easter, his conversion began at age 40 when he decided to figure out for himself whether Jesus was the Son of God. He began to read about Christianity, and he attended meetings of the Christian Legal Society. He began his intellectual search by reading the New Testament and books such as "From Skeptic to Christian" by Gordon Pearce, and "Mere Christianity" and "The Great Divorce" by C.S. Lewis. Lewis' books challenged Richard to make an intellectually honest decision: is Christ a Liar, a Lunatic, or the Lord? Richard decided Jesus is the long awaited Messiah, the Son of God and our Savior. In the fall of 2003, he entered the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program at St. Raphael's.

In Easter 2004 he became a Catholic and his faith and love for the Eucharist has grown. He stayed involved in RCIA, but his



Richard Meyer explains his four-fold conversion process from Judaism to Catholicism.

desire to learn even more about his faith led him into discernment and eventual acceptance into the ADW Diaconate Formation program. He

is currently about half way done and hopes to be ordained with the rest of his class in June 2021.

OPT

## NASH

Con't from page 59

Standing 6 feet 9 inches tall, Nash's own Catholic upbringing and schooling helped to form the deeply rooted faith within his towering frame, which brightens and lifts up our SRS community through his lightheartedness, gentleness, and genuine compassion for students. Nash's inspiration to become a teacher is credited to his faith-filled parents, Patricia and James (who have passed away in the last six years), influential teach-

ers, and Catholic education from preschool through college. God's call to teaching appears to run in the family because his father, after having worked as a lawyer, taught ancient history and religion at The Heights, Nash's high school alma mater.

This is Nash's first year teaching fifth grade. He previously taught seventh-grade homeroom and middle-school language arts for six years, as well as third- and fourth-grade math and language arts and sixth- and seventh-grade social studies. After the previous fifth-grade teacher, Patty Quinn (win-

ner of the Golden Apple Award in 2014), died of cancer last June, Nash stepped up to fill the gap. In the classroom, he left in its place Quinn's poster with the message: "When faced with two choices, always choose the kinder." He continues to encourage his students to live out the "choose kind" challenge that is part of Quinn's legacy and has spread throughout the SRS community. Congratulations, Mr. Nash, on winning the Golden Apple Award! Above all the qualifications this award recognizes, it truly distinguishes the golden hearts!

OPT

## MYSTERY

Con't from page 59

Development Office pores through parish directories and the internet in search of Janet Brewer. She uses other online tools to narrow down the possibilities by age and location, eventually zeroing in on a woman in Potomac whose profile seems to check all the boxes. Zafis-Garcia mails a letter and waits. Janet Brewer calls. The Janet Brewer. And her information is gold.

No, it wasn't her child who drew Raffi but she remembers who it was. It was a student named Elizabeth O'Connell. It was probably 1976, she estimates, back when St. Raphael Nursery School was a co-op run by parents. The school had the four-year-olds draw pictures and the parents chose the winning drawing. "We put it on T-shirts and tote bags," Brewer says. "It's still on T-shirts and tote bags!" Zafis-Garcia replies. Brewer even

remembers the name of Elizabeth's parents, Maureen and Dan.

The mission to find Raffi's artist gets overtaken by more pressing needs and the project is put on hold. When 2019 arrives—the year of SRNS's 50th anniversary—Zafis-Garcia resumes her search. She finds three people who seem to be a match for Elizabeth, Maureen, and Dan O'Connell, and she mails more letters. Jackpot. Elizabeth O'Connell calls. The Elizabeth O'Connell (now Elizabeth Stanislav). "I actually did draw that," she says giddily on a voicemail. "My mother will be so excited."

Stanislav still lives in the area and turned 47 last month. She is a physical therapist for the Montgomery County Infants and Toddlers Program. The Stanislavs are parishioners at St. Patrick's. Zafis-Garcia invites her to stop by SRNS to see the school. On her visit, she is surrounded by students of all ages—rounded up by SRNS Board President Ashley Mendez with help

from teacher Camila Samper—all wearing SRNS T-shirts and sweat-shirts in her honor. Stanislav is beaming as she comes upon the sea of kids wearing her masterpiece. She talks about the contest to draw the school logo. "I remember them making a big fuss of it and telling me how awesome it was," she says. She mentions she has a hazy recollection of the picture being of her mother. So maybe Raffi is really... Rafaela?

It is a happy visit, with hugs and smiles, backdropped by the ambient sounds of children playing—multiple generations woven together by a drawing made by a little girl 43 years ago.

The SRNS 50th celebration is June 1, starting with 5 p.m. Mass and followed by festivities on campus. Visit the anniversary webpage at [www.srnsmc.org](http://www.srnsmc.org) for details and to RSVP. Walk down Memory Lane with SRNS by visiting the ongoing photo gallery.

OPT

## SEDER

Con't from page 55

ticipants from the English-language RCIA program to attend as well in order to experience and to reflect on the significance of this part of our Christian history. This group sat together at a large table with the others, and with the help of a couple of translators, participated fully throughout the evening. Once the women lit the candles at the tables, Father Steve led the readings and rites which the community followed enthusiastically, most, for the first time.

The retelling of the Passover in this celebration brought to light the yoke that ties some ancient Jewish traditions to present day Catholic rituals. It was an important reminder to all, that Jesus Christ, our Lord, was a Jew. He celebrated the Passover much like this. He ate bitter herbs, retold along with his parents, Mary and Joseph, and his friends and family, the historical escape across the Red Sea during the narrative of the Exodus. Perhaps Jesus more than once was one of the children asking the traditional questions! Also, importantly, some of us also recalled that a young Jesus remained at the Temple after the Passover – at His Father's House. (See Luke 2:41-52.) This event was surely a precursor to a more significant transforma-

tion related to Pesach: The Blood of the Lamb. Lifesaving markings in Old Testament homes changed their texture, fiber, content. As Catholics we see a new, glorious, lifesaving, life giving essence. Jesus is our Sacrificial Lamb.

Along with the Haggadah text that was recited at the Seder, the celebration included a plethora of music and singing – with a Latin twist. There was also a lovely traditional Jewish dance performance by a group of our youths. Of course, when the easily recognized Jewish folk song "Hava Nagila" was played, most of the full house broke out onto the dance floor. What began as a small circle of dancers became a seemingly endless spiral of dancing feet and waving arms that transformed into a very long conga line! As usual, a delicious dinner was cooked by some of the parishioners and was served in very generous portions to the hungry attendees.

Overall, the evening was educational, it inspired reflection in some, and it was also very much fun for both adults and the many children in attendance. (Get kids to dip their finger in salted water or wine – grape juice, in this case – and sprinkle it on anything, and that's an automatic fun thing for them!) This attendee hopes the Seder will continue as an annual tradition at Christ the King. Shalom!

OPT

## The Woods Academy

## Prayers &amp; Pizza

On Sunday, May 5, the Class of 2015 (now high school seniors) and their families gathered at The Woods for an intimate Mass celebrated by Father Raymond Kemp from Georgetown University. Everyone was thrilled to meet and greet old friends and former teachers while enjoying a casual pizza dinner.

OPT



Members of The Woods Class of 2015, now high school seniors, enjoyed catching up after Mass on May 5. (Standing Left to Right) Will Pappert, Nicole Briscuso, Sidra Swift, Patrick Dolan, David Hobart, Inés Andrés, Margaret Maloney (Seated Left to Right) Zubin Eimen, Alexandre Crepin, María Ascanio Aliño, Catherine Heming Briana Lantuh, Molly O'Connor, Grace Yang

## SKILLS

Con't from page 10

the students create a business that will solve a problem or meet a need. After they brainstorm ideas, research and collect data, and finally develop a polished business plan, the students pitch their ideas to a room full of investors – Mr. Powers and their parents. This Shark Tank-like presentation requires the students to hone their public speaking skills and practice resilience and flexibility. The young entrepreneurs must remain poised and confident as the investors contemplate a deal.

In a recent presentation, a group of seven students scored a deal for their Water 4 Whales startup. The startup offered customizable water

bottles for sale to encourage conservation and decrease the use of plastic. In just one week of operation, the students turned a profit of \$151.33 which they donated entirely to 4Ocean ([www.4Ocean.com](http://www.4Ocean.com)), an organization committed to removing trash from the ocean and coastlines.

At The Woods, students learn to use complex technology to express themselves, solve problems, and create opportunities as innovators, leaders, and entrepreneurs. Students participate in authentic projects and gain applicable skills that include collaboration, critical thinking, communication, character, and creativity, growing in the context of the world they will one day lead.

OPT



### Under the Sea

St. Patrick's School recently finished a weekend of performances of its third annual school musical, "The Little Mermaid, Jr." More than 60 students in grades five through eight formed the cast and crew of the production. The play was directed by Mrs. Gina Swanda and Mrs. Jill Fecko with Mrs. Cindy Ladd leading the stage crew.



### Library Theater Returns For a Third Year

The third-grade play "The True Story of Jack and the Beanstalk" was the culmination of a yearlong "Library Theater" program, a feature of the regular Library curriculum. Students experienced the art of storytelling, performance, and drama basics in a workshop format this past fall. Then for eight weeks this spring, led by Mrs. Swanda and Mrs. Guarini, third-grade students prepared their roles in this 20 minute play which required memorization of lines, costuming, and stage blocking. We are very proud of the cast of this "Library Theater" play!



### Spring into Service

The fourth- grade class of St. Patrick's School, in partnership with the Kindergarten students, conducted their annual Lenten service project to make bagged lunches for the Men's Shelter on Gude Drive in Rockville. In five weeks, they made more than 2,000 sandwiches, which resulted in 1,000 bagged lunches. Lunch bags were filled with sandwiches and fruit and the bags were decorated with prayers and encouraging messages.

### St. Patrick's Parish

4101 Norbeck Road  
Rockville, MD

Rev. Msgr. Charles J. Parry  
Pastor  
301-924-2284

St. Patrick's School  
Ms. Christie Anne Short,  
Principal  
301-929-9672

Parish Editor  
New Volunteer Needed  
Contact rectory to apply

It pays to advertise in  
Our Parish Times



St. Patrick's Class of 2019



## Easter Resurrection Procession and Mass at OLQP, A Polish Tradition



The youth of Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Silver Spring participated in the outdoor procession before the Easter Resurrection Mass.



The Knights of Columbus, St. Maximilian Kolbe Council, took an active part in the outdoor Resurrection procession on Easter Sunday, April 21. OLQP Pastor, Rev. Fr. Jerzy Frydrych, carried the Blessed Sacrament in the procession and then celebrated the festive Holy Mass.



Everyone came dressed in their finest outfits for the Resurrection procession and Mass at Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish on Easter Sunday. Some of the ladies of OLQP Parish wore their traditional Polish heritage outfits and proudly posed with OLQP Pastor, Rev. Frydrych, after Holy Mass.



### Katyn Remembrance

Again this year, scouts from the Polish Scouting Organization ZHP Washington DC metro area in Silver Spring, MD, joined many other groups in participating in the Katyn Remembrance 2019 at the Katyn Memorial in Baltimore, MD. After the wreath-laying ceremony in which they took part, scouts Daniel, Gabrysia, Artyom, and scout leader Bozenna Buda posed with another participant of the ceremony, who was dressed in historical Polish attire.



### Welcoming Spring

Students from Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish Polish Supplementary Saturday School in Silver Spring, MD, welcomed the season of Spring with their traditional Marzanki outdoor activities in March, 2019. Even though the weather was nippy, signs of spring were visible. A group of students and teachers posed for a picture.

### Our Lady Queen of Poland

9700 Rosensteel Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD

Rev. Jerzy Frydrych,  
S. Chr. Pastor  
301-589-1857

Bozenna Buda,  
OPT Editor  
301-495-3377  
bbudadc@gmail.com

It pays to  
advertise in  
Our Parish Times



### Blessing of Easter Baskets

The Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Silver Spring, MD, Rev. Fr. Jerzy Frydrych prayed over the baskets on Holy Saturday on April 20, 2019 before blessing them, and those who brought them, with holy water. Many parishioners and OLQP friends travelled long distances to come to OLQP and join in the traditional Polish pre-Easter atmosphere and camaraderie.



### Keeping watch at the tomb of Jesus on Holy Saturday

The St. Maximilian Kolbe Council of the Knights of Columbus coordinated the watch at the tomb of Jesus on Holy Saturday at Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Silver Spring. The Polish Legion of American Veterans (PLAV) and Polish Scouting Org ZHP also participated. Andy Michaels is standing watch here.



## Our Lady of Mercy

## Eighth-Grade Basketball Game Supports PCR and MC Special Olympics

**M**ercy's annual basketball game to support Montgomery County Special Olympics and Potomac Community Resources was an amazing success! Spectators filled the gym, cheered on the athletes, and cleaned out the concessions stand (100 hotdogs were sold)! A special shout-out goes to

members of the Student Council for planning and executing this fun and memorable event.

Seth Duncan, PCR Program Director shared his thoughts on the event: "PCR is extremely grateful for the support of the entire Our Lady of Mercy community, especially the 8th grade class at Our Lady of Mercy

School. The students' dedication and effort allow PCR to further its mission and are proof that this upcoming generation is fully vested in the social justice ministry of the Church. It was a fun event and we look forward to participating again next year."

OPT



Mercy eighth-grade basketball game with PCR and MC Special Olympics players



Pre-K students at Mercy honor Blessed Mother Mary in a beautiful May Crowning

### Thank You Sister Pat

**O**ur wonderful Pastoral Associate for Social Justice, Sister Pat Mensing, who has been ministering to Our Lady of Mercy Parish for over ten years, will be leaving Mercy to return to her community, the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Philadelphia. She will leave our parish on June 1, 2019.

We will miss her and we are thankful that she has been a part of our lives and our faith journey. Sister Pat wrote in the parish bulletin that "I feel called to return to live in community with my sisters in Philadelphia and to minister in the area of spirituality." May God bless Sister Pat in her new ministry.

OPT

### Graduation Celebrations

**T**he Sodality of Our Lady of Our Lady of Mercy hosted the graduating eighth graders and their mothers at a luncheon in the Kennedy Room. The graduation luncheon is a parish tradition that has been celebrated for many years. The COR youth group celebrated the achievements of the graduating high school students with a brunch in the Father Don Youth Group Room. The youth group in addition to honoring their seniors will be working on the Second Annual COR Car Wash, which is scheduled for Sunday, May 19. They promise to "make your car squeaky clean while you are at Mass."

OPT

## Our Lady of Lourdes



OLOL student celebrates as she crosses the finish line.

## Annual Lions' Roar/Kate Truax 5K Race and 1K Fun Run

By Deirdre Walsh

**E**ach year the community of Our Lady of Lourdes comes together to celebrate the life of former teacher, Kate Truax, at our annual Lions' Roar/Kate Truax 5K Race and 1K Fun Run.

Participants experience both the spirit of friendly competition and camaraderie, two of the many positive influences Kate brought to her students and co-workers as a middle school teacher at Lourdes. Kate lost her battle to leukemia in December of 2012, but we keep her joyful spirit alive through this annual fundraiser.

We were blessed with perfect weather on the morning of April 19th. The skies were overcast and the temperatures cool for the race but the sun broke out later and warmed things up for the outdoor festivities, where over 500 participants feasted on delicious breakfast and lunch foods and enjoyed the moon bounces, face painting, games, a DJ and dancing.

Following a warm-up on the turf

field, Msgr Filardi led us in prayer at the starting line and the runners were off. This year's overall race winner, with a finishing time of 18:23, was Nick Palazzo, a Lourdes class of 2018 graduate. OLOL seventh grader, Lilly Capizzi, was the first female to cross the finish line timing in at 22:14. Her brother, OLOL fourth grader, Peter Capizzi, finished first in his age group and seventh place overall, clocking in with an impressive time of 20:42. Onlookers cheered at the finish line as it was crossed by children with their parents, groups of classmates, grandparents, alumnae, teachers, and friends of the Lourdes community, including members of Kate Truax's family.

We are grateful for the life of Kate Truax and the gifts and talents she shared with Our Lady of Lourdes. This annual event is not just a race or school fundraiser, but a day to celebrate her generous spirit and encourage us to live as she did, with kindness, humility, gratitude and always a smile.

OPT

### It's Time to Spruce Up!



- Interior & exterior painting
- Wallpapering - removal & hanging
- Pressure cleaning - walks, siding driveways, decks
- Fully licensed and insured
- Neighborhood references
- Free Estimates
- Serving your community since '80
- Quality custom work

**Jim Kuzma • Painting**  
301-608-0988  
2326 Montgomery Street  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

email:zmapaint@aol.com

Member St. Jude's Parish

Joe Maier

Billy Silk

Plumbing Repairs and Remodeling • Drain Cleaning  
Water Heaters • Hot Water and Steam Heat

**MASTER PLUMBING  
& MECHANICAL INC.**

**301-650-9100**

Serving the parish community in Montgomery County since 1986

Senior citizen discount • Gas company financing

Licensed - Bonded - Insured

in MD and DC #878



It pays to advertise in  
Our Parish Times





OUR LADY  
of  
GOOD  
COUNSEL  
HIGH SCHOOL

# Congratulations CLASS OF 2019!



Sochi Ulumma Abii  
Olusimisola Eniola Adenaiya  
Pilar Isabel Aguilar ✱  
Andre Alvarez Diaz  
Edward Josue Aragon ✱  
Nicolas Luis Arias  
Julio Abbas Ayamel  
Alexia Okala Ayuk ✱  
Kenneth Robert Baer ✱  
Isaac Balladares  
Louis-Paul Nomba Bama  
Zahra Renee Barnes  
Andrew Emmanuel Barrios  
Eileen Elizabeth Bartlett  
Allison Mary Battista ✱  
Linus Eling Birkenes ✱  
Diana Marie Black  
Malena Rose Martina  
Blankenship ✱  
Grant Solomon Blessingame  
Daniel Richard Bond-Fink  
Isabella Jeanmarie Bossie  
Drew Harris Brenowitz  
Brandon Archer Brown ✱  
Caroline Marie Brown ✱  
De'Keithlyn Lynell Brown  
Jillian Nicole Brown ✱  
Alexandre Emile Brun ✱  
Ryan Edward Butcher  
Camille Marie Calure ✱  
Mario Alid David Camara  
Fiorella Deyanira Cardozo  
Flores ✱  
Christina Fallon Carroll  
Sabrina Daniela Castellon ✱  
Rachael Susannah Castle  
Clara Elaine Cersovsky ✱  
Chloe Christina Chapman  
Manav Tilak Chaudhary ✱  
Yuxiao Chen ✱  
Mary Anneliese Childs ✱  
Paige Sanville Christensen  
Grace Marian Claggett ✱  
Jacob Scott Clements ✱  
Ellinore Stanton Coakley ✱  
Miela Ruth Cohen  
Michael William Corriere  
Cybelle Elizabeth Coskun  
Jack Phillip Cottle  
Elijah Jonte' Coulter  
Daniel Browning Cummins ✱

Donlan O'Connell Dailey ✱  
Madalyn Marie Dancer  
Ethan David DeLalio  
Ava Francesca Della Ratta  
Thomas Connor Devlin  
Dulce Maria Diaz Alvarenga ✱  
Teagan Marie Diss  
Johanna Marie Dunkers ✱  
Marcus Jack Edmunds  
Rana Eskandari Zadeh  
Caitlyn Karis Ettienne ✱  
Amanda Marie Evans ✱  
Amadi Joseph Ezeani  
Brittney Ferguson ✱  
Connor McHugh Finnegan  
Ana Candau Fisk ✱  
Faith Anne Flaherty ✱  
Michaud Fonrose Jr.  
Rocco Francis  
Chad William Frick ✱  
James Michael Anthony Furbush  
Patrick Dean Gaalaas  
Shivika Sekhri Gaind ✱  
Erica Marie Garner ✱  
Lev Jawny Gawdiak  
Hong Ge  
Zihao Ge  
Samuel Solomon Geneti  
Melisse Caitlyn Irene George  
Myron George Georgakopoulos  
Sean Remo Ghion ✱  
Karina Grace Giampetroni  
Kristen Lee Gload ✱  
Carmela Nicole Gorres ✱  
Brandon Miles Grammer  
Jalen Isaiah Green  
Clara Bernice Griffin ✱  
Maura Claire Griffin  
Bless King Guillette  
Graham Patrick Curtin  
Haederle ✱  
Dylan McDonald Hamill  
Tongyao Han  
Leland Joseph Hannapel ✱  
Kathleen Cecilia Hanrahan ✱  
Cameron Antonio-Sterling Hart  
Christopher David Hauser  
Gabrielle Tereece Hernandez ✱  
Heather Elizabeth Hinz  
David Edward Hobart  
Christopher Michael Honarmand

Haley Christopher Hopkins ✱  
Chasen Thomas Horich  
Olivia Nicole Houck  
Jacqueline Faustina Hritz  
Hechen Hu ✱  
Michael Joseph Hudren  
Matthew Garland Hull  
Tahsin Islam ✱  
Andre Roberto Jackson ✱  
Grant Leon Jackson  
River Cade Jackson  
Ziyin Jia ✱  
Heng Jiang  
Rodrigo Alejandro Jimenez  
Megan Elise Johannes ✱  
Gabriella Nicole Johnson  
Jameese Britney Joseph  
Thomas Abraham Kallarakal ✱  
Thomas John Kaminski  
Michael Chaparas Kearney ✱  
Colby McCord Keefe  
Elise Link Kelderman  
Bridgette Hyunju Kim ✱  
Caroline Maureen King ✱  
Emily King ✱  
Cole Thomas Kirchner  
Stephen Albert Patrick Kish ✱  
Lauren Elizabeth Kiss ✱  
Hilerie Eleni Knights  
Kyle Bruce Knolmayer  
Latre Anthony Kornegay  
Olayinka Isioma Koso-Thomas ✱  
Caroline Adair Koutsos ✱  
Paul Alexander Kuhns  
Sophia Rose Kurnot ✱  
Danielle Elizabeth Lanham  
Gabriel Enrique Laracuente  
Celia Elizabeth Amelia Larson  
William Arlington Lewerenz  
Yiqi Lin  
Robert Thomas Liniak ✱  
Travis Tafari Brent Livingstone  
Summer Elizabeth Loftus  
Kelly Elizabeth Long  
Carlene Justine Lucombe ✱  
Mason Duane Lunsford  
Anna Katharina Lussier ✱  
Yuqi Ma ✱  
Julianne Marie Madden ✱  
Maxwell Gauss Magladry ✱  
Lauren Elizabeth Malone ✱

Perri Tyler Mangrum  
Harrison Gregory Mann ✱  
Charles Garnett Mansfield III ✱  
Christopher George Margarites ✱  
Michael Joseph Marlo  
Cameron Sadie Marshall  
Jillian Rose Martinko ✱  
Seth Daniel McCann ✱  
Nicole Victoria McConaty ✱  
Taylor Grace McLaughlin ✱  
Charles Wayne Meredith  
Avery Reid Miller  
Emily Marie Miller  
Ah-Meir Zyare Mills  
Reina Marie Mitrik ✱  
Amanda Faith Moebus ✱  
Matthew Daniel Monninger  
Elizabeth Ann Montgomery  
Spencer Ryan Morgan ✱  
Travis Scott Mueller  
Andrew Vincent Munson  
Cornelius Neh Nagbe II  
Mona Nazarian  
Dylan Truong-An Nguyen  
Dike Jason Jack Nnawuchi  
Rachel Lauren Noorani ✱  
Caleigh Rose O'Connor ✱  
Olivia Claire O'Hare ✱  
Caroline Grace O'Neil ✱  
Alea Monay Oliphant ✱  
Jaclyn FuXun Oliver  
David Ibikunle Olumilua ✱  
Nicholas Jerry Opack  
Alexander Philippe Oport  
Olivia Grace Orr ✱  
Latrele Larnell Palmer  
Michael William Anthony Parker  
Isabelle Rose Pendy  
Zaskya Irma Perla Diaz  
Caroline Nicole Peter ✱  
Hannah Marie Piepol ✱  
Amanda Lee Piotrowski ✱  
Bridget Maureen Poirier ✱  
Lucas Connor Portes  
Luis Fernando Pugarita  
Tarsus Olutomi Rao  
Evelyn Grace Reeder ✱  
Jacob David Rezash  
Wesley Clyde Rhodes ✱  
Reagan Susanna Rice  
Sean William Richardson ✱

Gage Matthew Rickert  
Joshua Scott Rickey  
Brandon Luis Riddle  
Kayla Natalie Rieu ✱  
Katherine Ann Riggs  
George Tynan Roach  
Sara Yun Robb ✱  
Brianna Marie Roberts ✱  
Cole Joseph Robilotto  
Jasmine Freesia Robinson ✱  
Renald Bernadin Romulus  
Eileen Logan Rosewater  
Jennifer Theresa Rossi  
Sarah Rose Russo ✱  
Jamie Nicole Ryan  
Fontini Christina Sakkos  
Ricardo Samayoa  
Catherina Victorica Cruz  
Samson ✱  
Jakob Thomas Sandridge  
Oluwadurotimi Jonathan Sanni  
Danielle Lindsay Satola  
Claira Elizabeth Schiffrik ✱  
Caroline Grace Schilling  
Emma Rose Scholl ✱  
Grace Katharine Schuler ✱  
Mason George Schwartz ✱  
Shannon Hayley Scott ✱  
Emily Katherine Scuderi ✱  
Mariam Shahid Shamim ✱  
Sienna Augustine Ferraro Shiblee  
Dakota James Skinner ✱  
Declan Joseph Slattery  
Brenton Alexander Smith ✱  
Mekhi Damani Smith  
Samuel Carlton Smith  
Shayna Marie Smith ✱  
Kamerun Esquire Snell  
Dylan George Feerick Snow  
Rakel Emiliana Solis  
Matthew King Spear ✱  
John Alexander Strzelec  
Sydney Catherine Sweeney ✱  
Sidra Ann Swift ✱  
Christine Tanis ✱  
Ryan Christopher Tasto ✱  
Jacob Anthony Taylor ✱  
Grace Noelle Theriot  
Raquel Simone Thomas ✱  
Taylor Nicole Thomas ✱  
Dominic Philip Thompson

Clarke Gabrielle Thompson-Gay ✱  
Audrey Elizabeth Tirrell  
Joshua James Titus ✱  
Gabriella Lok-Ping Torres  
Benjamin Thanh-Sang Tran ✱  
Caroline O'Malley Trusty  
Sommer Leigh Tucker  
Grace Porter Tuttle ✱  
Joseph Michael Vazzana  
Ritika Kodali Vemulapalli ✱  
Christopher O'Brien Verdi  
Ryan Parker Vipavetz  
Ava Elisabeth Walker ✱  
Curtis Lee Walker Jr.  
Yuqi Wang  
Sarah Jane Weber  
Anthony Lyden Wehrung  
Ryan Ashton Weisman  
Amber Noelle Wells  
Paige Alexandra Wells ✱  
Brayden Jacob Werner ✱  
Eleanor Harrington Whalen ✱  
Jake Douglas Whitman ✱  
MiKinley Kay Williams ✱  
Ryan Patrick Williams ✱  
Christopher Joseph Woodburn ✱  
Leila Janaye Woods  
Mawunyo Kwesi Wurapa  
Shuwen Xiao  
Wei Xu  
Melinda Yuxin Yan ✱  
Marilyn Prosser Yang ✱  
Julianna Marie Yapur ✱  
Mechal Yohannes ✱  
Christopher Peter Zabriski ✱  
Jun Zhang ✱

✱ National Honor Society Member  
✱ International Baccalaureate Candidate  
✱ Science, Technology, Engineering, Math Member  
✱ National Art Honor Society



WE INSPIRE OUR STUDENTS TO **EXCEL, SERVE, AND LOVE.**

17301 Old Vic Boulevard | Olney, MD 20832 | [olgchs.org](http://olgchs.org)