



CHARLESTON CATHOLIC ALUMNI NEWS



A New Year Begins...

Dear alumni

Nelson Mandela once remarked that **"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."**

I believe that. Our teachers believe that. And I hope that you, too, share this sentiment. While it sounds pretty lofty, that's what we are about here – transforming the world, one student at a time.

The Charleston Catholic High School program is the sum of all its parts, academic, faith-related, personal, and social. Our mission is pretty clear cut: "Staff, students, and parents work together to develop a community of shared values based on respect and concern for self and others while at the same time guiding students to use their gifts and values to better the world in which they live."

At Charleston Catholic, we believe that confidence grows from persistence and genuine achievement. We encourage our students to create their own good luck through hard work and to meet the school's high standards for academics, service, and faith and personal development. And while we are vigilant in paying attention to the needs of our own students, we impress upon them the importance of lending a helping hand to others. Creating responsible leaders of the future requires opening students' eyes, minds, and hearts to the needs of the world.

Our students are prospering academically in notable ways. At all grade levels they are outperforming students statewide and nationally on standardized academic achievement tests. Elsewhere in the newsletter there is specific information about results from several tests. I think you will be pleased!

And why do we care about such information? It's not about the numbers. It's about the message it sends about our students' preparedness to take the next step. They are not going to be measured by grades and numbers all their lives. What will make a difference in the end is the value of the **work ethic** they develop, the **self confidence** they feel, and their **ability to think** and analyze and come up with good solutions to life's issues.

Yes, it's an exciting time in the history of Charleston Catholic High School. But without you, the alumni, what is happening today could never have happened. All of us are standing on the shoulders of those who came before us, benefiting from the sacrifices and dreams of those who nurtured the seeds that have taken root so tenaciously at the corner of Leon Sullivan Way and Virginia Street.

So on behalf of today's students, I say "thank you." And, with the continued advocacy of all involved, twenty years, forty years, one hundred years from now, Charleston Catholic High School will continue to be one of West Virginia's most important treasures.

May this newsletter find you in good health and happiness. Keep in touch and, if you haven't been to visit us, stop by sometime. I think you'll like what you see.

Warmly,

Debra K Sullivan, Principal

FALL 2012

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We have a great

new website!

Please check it out!

charlestoncatholic-crw.org

We also have an alumni page on Facebook!

CLASS OF 2012 ACCOLADES

The 2012 senior class recorded an impressive composite score of 26.8 on the ACT college entrance exam for the 2011-2012 school year. The composite ACT score for West Virginia seniors in 2011-12 was 20.6 and the national average was 21.1.

Charleston Catholic graduated 64 seniors in the class of 2012. CCHS seniors received a total of 235 acceptances to colleges and universities for this school year, with 92% being offered scholarship monies. One requirement to earn the state's Promise Scholarship is a minimum composite score of 22 on the ACT exam. 82% of Charleston Catholic seniors earned the Promise.

"We are very pleased with our most recent graduating class and its exceptional composite ACT score. They established themselves as high achievers and certainly underscored our emphasis of high academic standards," said CCHS Principal Debra Sullivan. "Our primary focus here at Charleston Catholic is to prepare our students for a challenging and ever-changing world. These ACT scores demonstrate we continue to follow that path and our staff and our parents deserve much of this credit as well."

A SNAPSHOT OF THE CLASS

- 100% were involved in community service, contributing over 4086 hours of service during their senior year, including 2,900 hours to serve special needs populations
- 98% are attending college in the fall – 1 graduate is playing hockey
- 5% were named National Merit Semi- Finalists, a national recognition bestowed upon the top 2% of college-bound students
- 82% qualified for the PROMISE scholarship
- 92% were offered academic, athletic, and service-based scholarships totaling over \$8.2 million
- 94% attended CCHS middle school
- 84% attended Catholic elementary schools
- 92% took Advanced Placement exams (255 exams during their high school years)
- 94% were involved in CCHS extracurricular activities and the others participated in out-of-school opportunities

THE TRADITION OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE CONTINUES

ADVANCED PLACEMENT RESULTS

In 2012, a remarkable 72.6% of our high school (grades 9-12) students took at least one AP exam (and many students took multiple exams) with a total of 324 exams taken by CCHS students! Even more impressive are pass rates (percentage of students who scored 3 or higher) of the exams taken. Over **seventy-three percent** of the Class of 2012 took and passed an AP exam during their high school career! Please review the results in the table below.

% of students "passing" AP exams	Eng Lang&Comp (11 th grade)	Eng Lit&Comp (12 th grade)	Calculus AB	Calculus BC	Comp Sci	Physics	US Gov't & Politics	Human Geography
CCHS	82.6	73.1	67.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	66.7	75.6
WV	44.9	43.6	47.1	76.6	67.2	77.6	38.0	63.8
US	60.0	56.4	59.1	83.0	63.2	76.9	52.2	52.1

ASSESSMENT OF CATECHESIS/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (ACRE) – is a nationally-normed test that helps school, parish, and diocesan leaders evaluate the faith knowledge and attitudes of students in our Catholic schools. The test, administered annually to 8th graders and juniors, measures religious beliefs related to God, the Church, Liturgy and Sacraments, Revelation, Life in Christ, Church History, Prayer/Religious Practices and Catholic Faith Literacy. Our CCHS students, regardless of faith tradition, significantly outperformed national averages in all categories. **It is remarkable that 96.9% of our 8th graders, scored at the Advanced or Proficient levels in the faith knowledge domain as compared to 70.6% of 8th graders nationally. Similarly, 90.7% of CCHS juniors scored at the Advanced or Proficient level, in the faith knowledge domain as compared to 61.3% nationally.**

Class Updates

1947 – **Jean Ann (Smoot) Gould** lives in a retirement community in Gainesville, Virginia. A registered nurse, Jean and her husband Jerry have 9 children. Jean keeps busy with their 18 grandchildren.

1956 – **Dave Bartemes** recently published “*We Call Her Kili*,” his story of a 23-year journey with cancer and of his January 2012 journey to Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa. The book is available at AuthorHouse.com and all profits from the book will go to Above and Beyond Cancer.

1956 - **Lynne (Gallagher) Ferber** lives in Arcadia, Florida. She and her husband Jack have four daughters. Their 18 year-old granddaughter Jenifer has the lead role of Belle in “Beauty and the Beast” on the Disney Cruise Line.

1961 – **John Lacia** is a member of the Air Force Security Forces Police and Security Forces Association. He resides in Austin, Texas.

1961 - **David Cramer** is retired and is living in Eureka, Illinois with his wife Diane. They have two children, Joe and Julie, and are enjoying the grandkids.

1961 - **Tom Scales** is a child advocate, speaker, and author on the issue of child abuse prevention and healing. He recently was recognized with the 2012 Unsung Hero Award and is executive director of VOICE today. He resides in Georgia.

1964 - **Mary Lee Layne** is a retired land use planner and lives in Old Town, Florida. She and Eric Daniels were married on Nov. 23, 2011, after a 16-year engagement and 24 years of being together. They wanted to be sure they got it right! They were lucky enough to have their two sons and two grandchildren stand up with them.

1966 – **Evelyn (Kirwin) Burke** recently moved from a house to a condominium in Gahanna, Ohio, and is employed as an administrative assistant. Evelyn has eight children – Maureen, Monica, David, Paul, Steven, Anne, John and Katie. Her youngest daughter, Katie, graduated December in 2011 with a BS in International Studies.

1966- **Chris Gall** is a lawyer and resides in Charleston with his wife, Annette Rashid Gall. They have two children, Megan Annette and Francis Christian III.

1968 – **Elise Power** is retired from teaching French and Spanish in Pittsburgh. These days, she is a substitute teacher who plays bluegrass guitar, rides her horse, and juggles for fun. She is a member of the International Jugglers Association. Elise is active in the movement to stop mountaintop removal in West Virginia and other states.

1974 – **John D. Matheny** is an engineer and lives in Charleston. He has four children – Quinton, John, Adam, and Sarah.

1977 – **Mike Mitchell** resides in Chicago, Illinois. He and his wife Lori have two children, Robert and John. Mike is employed at Mitchell Innovation.

1991 - **Aaron Vest** resides in California with his wife and two children. A visual effects artist, he has been involved in such films as *Argo*, *The Odd Life of Timothy Green*, and *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*.

1994 - **Preeti Bhanot Yonker** is director of neurology at Atlantic General Hospital in Berlin, Maryland. A feature on her life of balancing her career and family was the cover story of the August issue of *ShoreWoman*.

1996 – **Christine (DiVita) Kessell** resides in Huntington, West Virginia, with her husband, Charlie, of four years and their son Samuel, who was born in 2010. Christine is a registered nurse in the cardiac ICU at St. Mary's Medical Center. Christine has a BA in Psychology and a BS in nursing.

2002 – **Betsy Blatt** married Brandon Davis on August 1, 2012, at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada.

2003 - **Kelsy Johnson** is working as a Sustainability Consultant/Environmental Scientist for the US Navy at N.A.S. Patuxent River in Lexington Park, Maryland.

2003 - **Matthew Stump** completed a one year fellowship specializing in implant dentistry. Dr. Stump practices in the dentistry office of Howard and Howard in Charleston.

2004 – **Jacqueline Stump** graduated from WVU School of Dentistry in May 2012. Dr. Stump resides in Charleston and is a practicing dentist at Dr. Howard and Howard.

2004 - **Sarah Mohler** is a physical therapist at CAMC. She married Aaron LaPoe on May 12, 2012.

2007 - **Nick Schumacher** was named Director of Baseball Operations for High Point University.

2008 – **Joshua Koontz** is completing his studies at the University of Kentucky with a double major in International Relations with a Middle East concentration and Arabic Languages with a minor in French and Islamic Studies. He has studied in London and the Middle East and worked over a summer in Sen. Jay Rockefeller's office in Washington, D.C.

Continued next page...

2008– **Nora Sheridan** is currently a teaching assistant in Manhattan, New York. She works with the Blue Engine Organization, national service group involved in helping increase college preparedness and academic rigor in inner city schools in New York.

2010- **Max Gottlieb** is studying at Georgetown University. He recently returned to CCHS to speak to the AP US Government classes.

HISTORICAL FACTS NEEDED

Mrs. Sullivan is currently compiling facts to write a history of Charleston Catholic High School. If you have any information to contribute as she reconstructs the past, please share it with us! Past principals' names, state championships, and unique stories are welcome! Please mail information to the school or contact us by phone (304-342-8415) or by email to Theresa O'Leary at toleary@charlestoncatholic.crw.org.

Class Reunions

A reunion for the **Class of 1963** is in the process of being organized. It is their hope to assemble next year. Contact **Rick Yarborough** (302-478-9566 or fmy59@comcast.net) for more information or to update your contact information.



CONDOLENCES - MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

1940 – **Robert Ridenour** died on December 17, 2011. He and his wife Marjorie (Rowan) Ridenour, also Class of 1940, were married for 66 years.

1947- **Faris Zain** passed away on May 12, 2012. He served in the U. S. Army until 1960 and retired from Union Carbide. He previously served on the board of directors of CCHS.

1960 - **Ron Lawrence** died on October 20, 2012, in Charleston, West Virginia.

1962-**Suzanne Pleska** lost her battle with cancer on May 15, 2012. She was an art teacher and served as a judge for the Kanawha County Secondary Art Exhibition for many years.

1963- **Robert Rappold** passed away on September 11, 2012. He and his wife Cathy lived in South Charleston. He was a U.S. Air Force Vietnam veteran and was a member of Blessed Sacrament Parish.

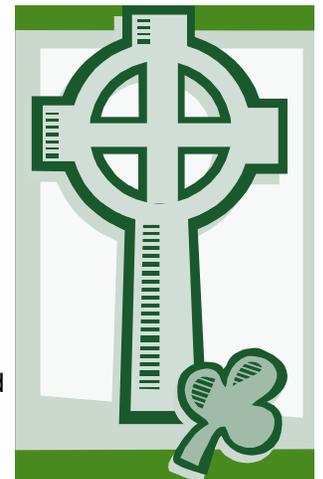
1966 – **Katherine Mary (Solsten) van Mourik** passed away peacefully in her home in Mesa, Arizona, on April 7, 2012. Katherine is survived by her husband, Jerry, and her three children Eric, Ethan and Lauren. She earned an MBA and a Master's in Computer Science, and her life's travels took her to Kenya, Great Britain and Australia.

1967- **Carolyn Perry Chambers** died on October 5, 2012. She was active for many years in public relations and video productions. She also successfully lobbied for the passage of the 1993 West Virginia seat belt law.

1970- **Daniel Dewayne Cash** passed away on May 15, 2012. He is survived by his children and a host of nieces and nephews.

1971-**Connie Lacaria Collins** died on July 2, 2012 at her home in Charleston.

1977-**James Lane, Jr.** passed away June 11, 2012 in Boca Raton, Florida. He worked in the restaurant business most of his life, including Rose City Cafeteria in Charleston.



ALUMS BEGIN A NEW VENTURE IN CHARLESTON

Mary Jo (Femia) Paterno (1970) has teamed with other Charleston Catholic alumni to open a new Italian restaurant in Charleston at Applachian Power Park. "Paterno's at the Park" features many Paterno family classic recipes, under the direction of executive chef and CCHS alum **Brent Pauley** (1977). Mary Jo's daughter, **Niki Paterno Kurten** (1995), is the managing partner of the restaurant, while **Tony Paterno** (1998) oversees the bar and wine operations. Cousin **Mary Frances Panzera Casey** (1971) assisted in a variety of ways to help launch the operation and brother **Sam Femia** (1977) served as a fabulous taste tester. The Paternos have secured **Dickinson Gould's** (1995) Buzz Food Products as a supplier and work with his corporate chef and supplier **Paul Smith** (1993). Best of luck to Mary Jo and her "Irish dominated" Italian eatery!

LOOKING AHEAD TO OUR ANNUAL APPEAL

Our annual appeal information will be mailed soon. As you well know, a Charleston Catholic education is an investment that pays its rewards many times over. We ask your help in providing the quality education that is synonymous with Charleston Catholic. Many of our families make significant sacrifices to send their children to school here. Please consider a financial gift to your alma mater. Your support is much appreciated.

DID YOU KNOW?

Several alumni are members of our faculty and staff:

- **Colleen McCartney Hoyer** (1994) serves as Assistant Principal for Student Affairs.
- **Sarah Elliott** (2007), **Alissa Rathbun** (2000), **Jennifer Ream Shaf** (1989), and **Ashley Shepler** (1999) are members of the faculty.
- **Zach Bogan** (2007) and **Bret Hart** (1979) are coaches for our middle school soccer teams.
- **Ryan Tierney** (1999) and **John Baird** (2009) have been assistant baseball coaches.

In addition, ten faculty/staff members are parents of alumni, and six are parents of current students!

CCHS LIMITED EDITION FIESTAWARE COFFEE MUGS

For the first time in school history, CCHS has partnered with the Homer Loughlin China Company in Newell to offer a bit of West Virginia memorabilia. These Fiestaware shamrock green mugs have white lettering on the inside rim spelling out Charleston Catholic. They make wonderful gifts and cost \$12. Mugs can be purchased through the CCHS office. Call Kristyn Anderson at 304-342-8415 for more information!

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

We continue to expand our "wall of supporters" at the athletic facility. If you'd like to advertise your business and show your support for CCHS, please consider getting involved in our banner program. To learn more and order a banner for your business, contact Kathy Crain at 304-541-4182.

CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ARCHIVES

Special thanks to **Dr. Michael McCann** (1955) for his donation of items commemorating events from his graduation year. Such items are wonderful to display to give our current students a sense of the great traditions of the school!

DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS NAMED

Mrs. Theresa O'Leary joined the CCHS administrative staff in August, 2012, as the new Director of Advancement and Community Relations. She formerly taught social studies and theology at Charleston Catholic and served as principal of St. Agnes School. Mrs. O'Leary holds degrees from Concord University and Wheeling Jesuit University. Her sons are current sophomores at CCHS. Theresa will work with alumni and on projects such as the Annual Appeal, the yearly memory book, and development. If you have information about events, alumni, or ideas for public relations regarding CCHS, please contact her at toleary@charlestoncatholic-crw.org or 304-342-8415.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Charleston Catholic's athletic program is thriving! Congratulations to the following teams on their accomplishments:

- The 2012 baseball team made it to the final four of the state tournament before falling to Weirton Madonna in the semi-final game held at Appalachian Power Park.
- The boys' and girls' tennis teams won the 2012 AA-A state tournament.
- The 2012 boys' track team finished 4th in the state, while the girls finished 6th.
- Winning ways are continuing into 2012-2013, as the CCHS golf team captured the state title in early October, the high school volleyball team won their section, and the boys' cross country team qualified for the state meet. The middle school girls' soccer team won the county championships, and the high school girls' team made it to the state semi-finals. The boys' soccer team snagged its fourth straight state title, capping off 55 straight games without a loss.

Charleston Catholic was awarded the Charleston Gazette's Excellence in Sports Award in the Spring of 2012 for a fourth straight year, winning by a whopping 18 points over Williamstown!

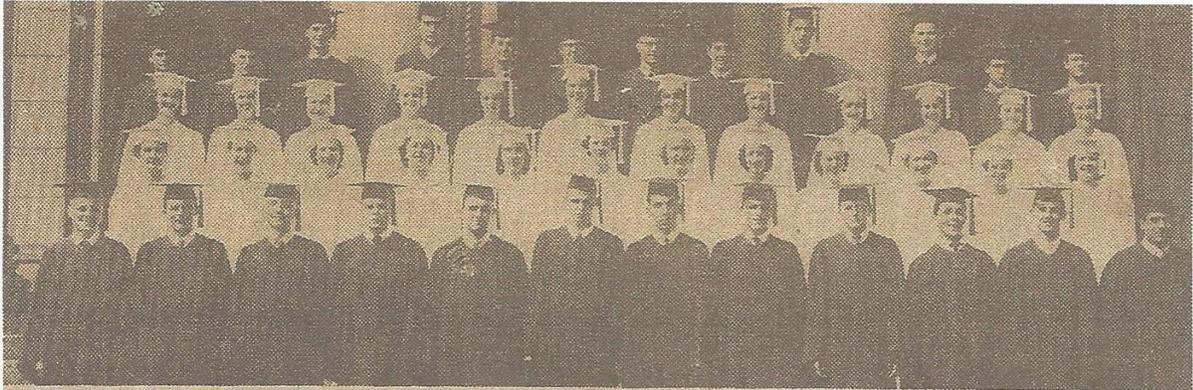
ALUMNUS ORDAINED



Thomas Gallagher was ordained a Catholic priest for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston on June 23, 2012, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling. Fr. Gallagher graduated from Charleston Catholic in 2002 and continued his studies at Wheeling Jesuit University and the Pontifical North American College in Vatican City. He joins Fr. James Deviese of our diocese (1998) and Fr. Bryan Babick (1996), Vicar for Divine Worship and Sacraments for the Diocese of Charleston, South Carolina, as recent Charleston Catholic alumni answering the call to priesthood. Congratulations, and may God bless you in your ministry!

HOMECOMING 2012

Charleston Catholic celebrated Homecoming 2012 during week of September 24. The theme, "CCHS Wears Stars and Stripes," was evident as each class used a decade in American history for decorations and fun dress down days. The ever popular attempt to defeat Mr. Mehle in the door decorating contest was successful, as Mrs. Lycan's senior English class prevailed. The week culminated with a spirited pep rally, wins by the soccer teams, the crowning of Jenny Borman and Mark Cassis as queen and king, and a dance.

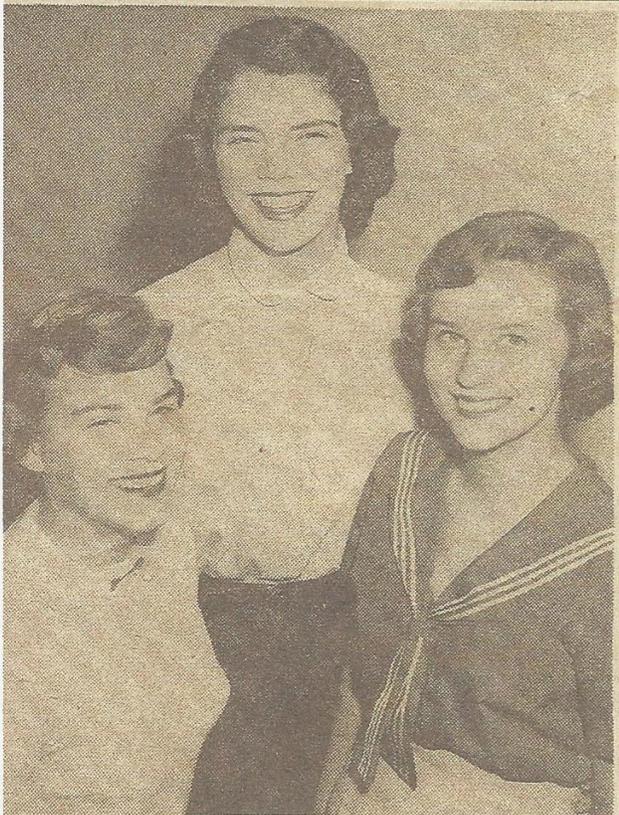


COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES will be held at 7:45 this evening in Sacred Heart Church for these 49 graduates of Charleston Catholic High School. Fr. Michael E.

McDonald of Montgomery will give the graduation address and Fr. Joachim Cain, pastor of Sacred Heart will award the diplomas.

Catholic Graduates 49 Seniors Tonight

Charleston Catholic High School, Michael G. Lytton, John M. Malloy, Ruth A. Malone, J. Terrence Marchal;



Miss Fighting Irish' And Attendants

OFFICIAL
FOOTBALL PROGRAM

PRICE 10c



Boys Town
v.
Charleston
Catholic

SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 8, 1942
2:30 P. M.

LAIDLEY FIELD
Charleston, West Virginia

MEMORIES

- The newspaper announcement of the graduation of the Class of 1955
- Miss Fighting Irish 1954, Judy McMurrer, and her court, Ann Horan and Nancy Woodward
- A program cover -Fr. Flanagan's Boys Town football team travelled from Nebraska to play CCHS!

**Charleston Catholic High School
1033 Virginia Street East
Charleston, West Virginia 25301**

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Please help us keep up-to-date!

We want to hear your news and share it with fellow CCHS alumni! Please update your information on-line at www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org. Go to "Alumni" and then "Click here to update your alumni information." Or, return this form to Charleston Catholic High School, 1033 Virginia St. East, Charleston, WV 25301, email us at alumni@charlestoncatholic-crw.org, call us at (304)342-8415, or fax to (304)342-1259.

Name _____ Maiden _____ Class _____
Address _____
Email address _____
Spouse _____ Children _____
Employment _____
News about you _____

