

Always a Saint

St. Mary's High School Alumni Newsletter Vol. 2



NEW! Sisters of St. Joseph Medal of Honor award

St. Mary's High School is hosting a Green & Gold Gala March 4, 2023 to honor alumni and award the first-ever Sisters of St. Joseph Medal of Honor.

The award recognizes an individual or individuals who have distinguished themselves in their loyalty to St. Mary's High School and supported the school in a variety of ways.

The *7 from 57*, a group of alumni from the Class of 1957, will be the first recipients of the award.

The *7 from 57* members -- Anne Marie Buikus, John Daley, Joyce Morrissey

Donohue, Gail Duso, Eileen Florek, Marion Moreau and James Shea – created a tuition assistance fund for St. Mary's High School students several years ago and have consistently supported the school and students in need.

The Sisters of St. Joseph have a long history at St. Mary's Parish School and High School. St. Mary's School opened in September of 1898 with 150 children taught by five Sisters of St. Joseph. The high school opened the following year, also taught by Sisters.

"The Sisters are an important part of the history of St. Mary's," said Peter Miller



Principal Matt Collins with past 7 from 57 recipient Ben Richter and donors James Shea and Anne Marie Buikus and alumna Anne Cressotti in 2019.

(’69), a member of the high school board. "The younger alumni may not know just how important they are to us and how they paved the way for today's students. We hope this award will remind us all of their legacy."

The Green & Gold Gala is March 4, 2023 at Tekoa

Country Club in Westfield beginning at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$55 and sponsorships range from \$250-\$5,000.

Contact Director of Institutional Advancement Hope E. Tremblay at htremblay@stmsaints.org for more information.

Enrollment growth sparks need for new school van

St. Mary's High School is growing, and that's a good thing.

For the first time since 2014 there are 100 students, many of whom come from communities surrounding the Westfield school. Agawam, Blandford, Chicopee, Holyoke, West Springfield, Southampton and Southwick are just a few of the places students live in -- and commute to and from - each day.

St. Mary's has always partnered with the Westfield Public Schools to offer transportation to Westfield students,

but the need to transport out-of-town students has grown. To meet this need, St. Mary's High School is purchasing a van to bring students to and from school, with a central pickup/drop-off site in several communities, starting with Chicopee/Holyoke and Agawam/West Springfield this fall.

"This has never been done here before," said Principal Matthew Collins ('92). "I am so pleased that we are finally going to provide transportation to these students and

communities and make it easier for families to send their children to St. Mary's High School."

With assistance from Northampton Ford, the 2022 Ford Transit, at a cost of \$50,000, was ordered. Delivery is expected this summer.

Collins credited alumnus Michael Rockwal ('86) and his wife Eileen, along with their son Kevin ('18), with helping



this become a reality with a \$10,000 donation from the Rockwal Family Foundation to the school, as well as a \$5,000 donation from alum William Murphy.

"The generosity of our Saints family is such a blessing. I am always grateful when our alumni and student families show their faith in what we do by offering support -- whether it's financial or the gift of their time," said Collins.

Donations are now being accepted to "Help us Buy the Bus."

Class of 1990 Fund supports high school

Staying connected after high school isn't always easy. Friendships wane when colleges, careers and families become the priority. That's just life.

But sometimes, classmates do stay in touch, which is the case for the St. Mary's High School Class of 1990.

One of the larger classes at the small Catholic school, the Class of 1990 was always close-knit. Over the years some drifted apart, but most remained in contact -- often through social media -- and many friendships stood the test of time.

The class lost several members too soon and during a memorial celebration to honor graduate Chris Avery in the summer of



Members of the Class of 1990 gather in July 2021 to celebrate the life of Chris Avery. Photo by Jacob Golen ('93).

2021, some members of the class who had not seen many of their peers in person since graduation day came to pay their respects and reconnect.

It was as if little to no time had

passed as the friends chatted and caught up.

It was clear that St. Mary's was more than a school, it was a family. Many members of the class had been together since first grade

and formed bonds as strong as siblings. A small group of classmates came together to continue supporting their St. Mary's High School family by establishing the Class of 1990 Fund.

The fund was created to support non-recurring needs of the school and donations to the fund are accepted at any time from anyone.

The Class of 1957 set the stage when seven members created a scholarship fund to assist families with the cost of education.

Any alumni interested in establishing a scholarship, assistance or other fund should contact Director of Institutional Advancement Hope E. Tremblay, htremblay@stmsaints.org or call 413-568-5692.

In Memorium

Mary Allen	Edward Kleczak
Corinne Aspden	John MacKay
Chris Avery	Christine Michonski
Mary Bates	Vivian Monfett
Maureen Bennett	Raymond Moquin
Robert Callahan	Karen O'Brien
Phyllis Casey	Gary Pignatare
James Dowd	Leslie Pistilli
Richard Falcetti	Francis Quirk
David Farrell	Karen Ann Raymond
Clare Fouche	James Shea
Angelo Furioni	Thomas Trant
Mary Gilhooly	Dennis Yefko
John Glynn	
Kevin Harraghy	
Shirley Hotaling	
Judy Jenks	



Fall/Winter Saints' Sports Standouts!

Amelia Willenborg, 13 game shutout, Girls Soccer

Emma Goodreau, 100 high school career goals, Girls Soccer

Jonathan Baillargeon, 50 goals, 16 games, Boys Soccer

Brady Collins, Most 3-pointers in a game (8) and school record for Most 3-Pointers (137), Boys Basketball

Girls Basketball Team 13-1 regular season Record/League Champs and Western Mass and State qualifiers

**St. Mary's Golf
Tournament**
May 20, 2022
Tekoa Country Club

Contact Robin Jensen
rjensen@stmsaints.org

CALENDAR

April 2

Spring Craft Fair
St. Mary's High School
9 a.m.—3 p.m.

May 7

Class of 1971 Reunion
Sons of Erin Pavilion
1-6 p.m.
nmorin1130@gmail.com

May 20

Golf Tournament
Tekoa Country Club
11 a.m. lunch,
Noon shotgun start

Nov. 25

All Alumni Reunion
Sons of Erin
6 p.m. \$10 cover

Dec. 3

Christmas Bazaar
St. Mary's High School
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

March 4, 2023

Green & Gold Gala
Tekoa Country Club
5-10 p.m.

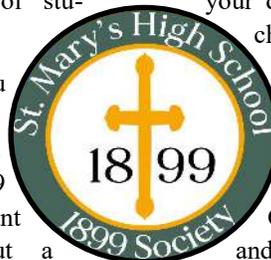
1899 Society continues spirit of first alum

Nellie Roache may not be a relative of yours, but she is part of your family.

In 1899, Nellie Roache became the first St. Mary's High School student after insisting on finishing her education at St. Mary's. There was no high school at the time, but one was created for Nellie. Even as a teenager, Nellie knew the importance of Catholic education and was the school's first graduate in 1903.

We know that all Saints are fam-

ily, and as a family we honor Nellie's fortitude with the 1899 Society, an affordable annual giving program that supports St. Mary's High School students. Today, we invite you to sustain Nellie's spirit by becoming a member of the 1899 Society. Any amount is appreciated, but a pledge of at least \$18.99 per month is encouraged. Giving is future.



easy – just visit stmsaints.org and click on the Give Online button, choose Recurring Gifts and select 1899 Society to make your donation. Or, mail a check to STMHS. For 122 years St. Mary's High School has provided an exceptional Catholic education and with your help, will continue to do so well into the future.

Congratulations Class of 2022

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Jonathan Baillargeon | Nathaniel Knowlton |
| Audrey Burke | Ryan Major |
| Brady Collins | Niamh Matthews |
| Trevor Corriveau | Nicholas Montanero |
| Cameron Cusack | Isabella Morganelli |
| Jacob Dilley | Maura O'Neill |
| Evan Durkee | Jordan Panniello |
| Hunter Edwards | Colin Ramos |
| Aidan Fitzgibbons | Corrine Sabat |
| Collin Freeman | Julia Sabat |
| Alison Goodreau | Matthew Sabat |
| Benjamin Howes | Seamus Smith |

Support the Class of 2022 with a scholarship donation! Contact htremblay@stmsaints.org to help a student preparing for the next phase of their education!

College Acceptances

- Belmont Abbey College*
- Catholic University*
- Colorado School of Mines*
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University*
- Fairfield University*
- Fitchburg State University*
- Indiana University, Bloomington*
- Merrimack College*
- Nichols College*
- Penn State*
- SUNY Cobleskill*
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst*
- University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth*
- UMass Isenberg School of Management*
- UMass School of Science*
- Western New England University*
- Westfield State University*

* as of February, 2022



All Alumni Reunion 2021

Photos by Kathleen Angco-Vieweg ('87)



SAVE THE DATE!
Friday, Nov. 25, 2022
for the next
All Alumni Reunion!
All classes are
welcome!



