



Monday, October 14, 2024

11:00 AM Lunch & Registration | 12:30 PM Shotgun Start

Edgewood Country Club

100 Churchill Road | Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Register now www.centralcatholichs.com/golf 2024 sponsorship packages available!



For more information:

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Lettermen's Club President: Steven Massaro, '84



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Have news to share for the next edition of The Quadrangle?

Send it to us via email at Quadrangle@CentralCatholicHS.com

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Welcome

Dear Fellow Vikings and Friends of Central Catholic,

IT IS WITH DEEP GRATITUDE, PRIDE, EXCITEMENT

that I share my first letter as President of Central Catholic High School for The Quadrangle Magazine! In the Lasallian spirit of "Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve," I am committed to sustaining the tradition, which began in 1927, to ensure that those values continue to be instilled in our students. My own journey through these halls taught me those values and made it clear to me that nothing that is "worth it" comes easily. To be in this role as an alumnus and have the opportunity to serve the Central Catholic community through leadership is beyond my wildest dreams.

As we reflect on another school year in this edition of The Quadrangle Magazine, I am filled with deep gratitude for the enduring connection we share within the Central Catholic family. Whether you walked our halls decades ago or are a recent graduate, your presence and contributions continue to enrich our school community.

This past year has been a testament to our collective resilience, faith, and commitment to the values that define our Catholic identity. Despite the challenges we have faced, our students, faculty, and alumni have continued to exemplify excellence in academics, the arts, athletics, and service to others. We are delighted to share with you the remarkable achievements of our students and faculty. From academic awards and championship victories to inspiring artistic performances and impactful community service projects, the stories within these pages reflect the vibrant and faith-filled life of our school. Looking forward, we are excited about the new initiatives and programs being introduced, which aim to further enrich the educational experience and prepare our students to navigate and succeed in an ever-changing world.

Equally inspiring are the stories of our alumni, who continue to shine as beacons of faith, hope, and charity in their professional and personal lives. Your successes and endeavors serve as a testament to the strong foundation and values instilled during your time at Central Catholic, and they provide a source of inspiration for our current students. Your journeys remind us of the limitless possibilities that lie ahead when we remain rooted in the Gospel values of *integrity*, respect, service, justice, and peace.

Central Catholic looks to the future with zeal as our next chapter takes shape with the school's new principal, Mr. John "Jack" R. Wallace beginning his tenure. Mr. Wallace's commitment to Catholic education and a school atmosphere that reflects the values of St. John Baptist de La Salle will ensure that our school remains a special place as we form the next generation of Central Catholic leaders for our world.

Lastly, I want to let you know how grateful I am for the continued support and engagement of our alumni, friends, and the wider school community. Your contributions, whether through mentorship, volunteering, or philanthropy, play a crucial role in advancing our mission and enriching the lives of our students. Thank you for being an integral part of the Central Catholic family. Together, guided by our faith, we will continue to build on our tradition of excellence and create new opportunities for generations to come.



May God bless you and your families.

With warm regards,

Tuth IST

Matthew J. Stoessel, '95 President, Central Catholic High School

St John Baptist de LaSalle ... Pray for us! Live Jesus in our Hearts ... Forever!

Dear Fellow Vikings and Friends of Central Catholic,

I MUST BEGIN WITH A NOTE OF THANKS APPRECIATION

FOR THE WELCOME
YOU HAVE SHOWN
ME, AND I AM
THRILLED TO BE
WRITING THIS LETTER
TO YOU AS YOUR
NEWLY APPOINTED
PRINCIPAL.

It is truly an honor to serve in this role at Central Catholic with its rich traditions and strong sense of faith. I am eager to work with all of you as part of the wider Viking community to build upon the legacy of the Christian Brothers and the Lasallian traditions and values that have made Central Catholic a beacon of excellence in education.

As we embark on this new chapter together, I want to also acknowledge the profound loss our community has recently experienced with the passing of Mr. Robert "Bob" Anderson. Mr. Anderson's dedication and service to Central Catholic were unparalleled, having left an indelible mark on so many students, alumni, and faculty over the last two decades. We, as a community, will miss him dearly, and we will honor his legacy by continuing to strive for the excellence he championed.

In reflecting on our journey ahead, I am reminded of the story of the Road to Emmaus in Luke 24. Just as the disciples experienced a journey of discovery and revelation, we too will navigate our journey together with open hearts and minds, ready to embrace new understandings and deeper connections within our Central Catholic community. I am excited to become a part of the nearly hundred-year history of Central Catholic and to continue to learn and uphold the Lasallian values, traditions, and legacy that make Central Catholic such a special place.

Thank you once again for your warm welcome and for entrusting me with this role at Central Catholic. I look forward to seeing you all at events both on and off campus as we support the growth of our young men into *Men of Faith*, *Scholarship*, and *Service*.

Live Jesus in our hearts forever, and Roll Vikes!

Jack Wallace

John "Jack" R. Wallace Principal, Central Catholic High School























Central Catholic distributed diplomas to the families of two students of the Class of 2024 who lost their lives and would have graduated this year.

Jafar Brooks,



and Steven Eason



were recognized during the commencement ceremony with a standing ovation.



Gentlemen, as you commence, may the values instilled in you during your time at Central Catholic continue to guide you in your future endeavors, and we expect nothing but great things as you continue your lives while following the teachings of Jesus Christ!









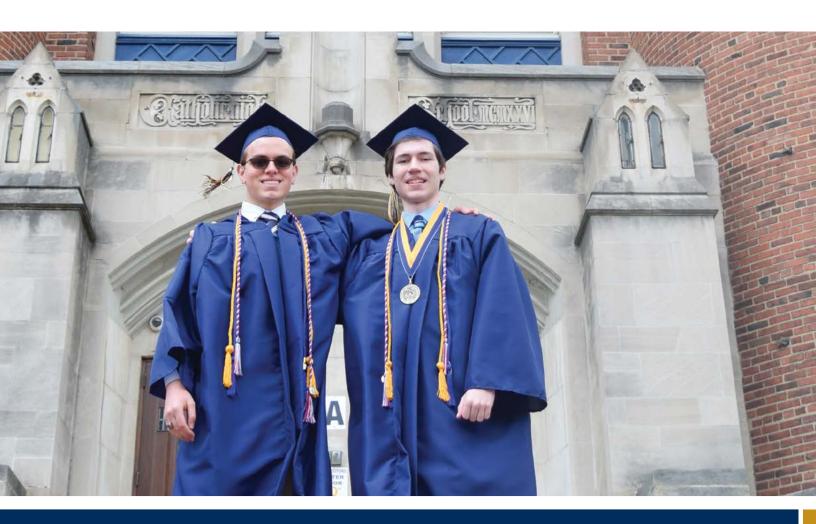








STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



CHILDHOOD FRIENDS TO THE TOP OF THE CLASS





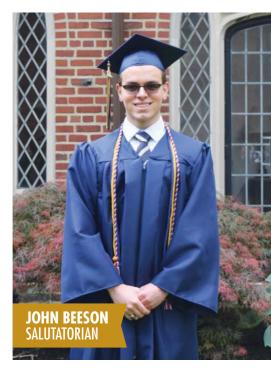


WRITTEN BY: TATE HELMS, '24, AND RYAN O'TOOLE, '24

PHOTOGRAPHY BY: NICK KEPPERLING, '24

Matthew Jordan, '24, and John Beeson, 24 met as young students at Mother of Sorrows School in Murrysville. The two formed a strong bond that grew throughout the course of their shared Catholic education. They became inseparable on the playground, in the classroom, and even in their extracurricular activities.

Both chose to attend Central Catholic for high school, where their drive for academic excellence was on full display. They took full advantage of everything Central had to offer, and each developed a reputation as an academic standout.





The culmination of their story came when Matthew and John stood together as valedictorian and salutatorian during the Class of 2024's commencement ceremony.



MATTHEW JORDAN,

CLASS OF 2024 VALEDICTORIAN

TATE HELMS' INTERVIEW WITH MATTHEW JORDAN:



TATE: First off, how did you and John meet?

MATTHEW: We first met all the way back in kindergarten,
but at that time, it was more of a "knowing of" one another.

The first time we were in the same class was in first grade,
but if we talked with each other back then, it was only
for a group activity.

TATE: How did your friendship develop over time?

MATTHEW: One day, I went to recess but found myself bored of the usual games I played with my group of friends. I decided to take a break from my usual gang and hang out with John for a few recess periods. Our creative mindsets ran wild, blending ideas from video games, mythological tales, real-life warfare, board games, and any other interests we felt like inserting into the storyline.

TATE: What has your Central Catholic experience been like balancing activities and school?

MATTHEW: One word sums up my effort: relentless. Central has so much to offer for every student, that it was easier to find activities than coordinate them in a timely schedule. I tried to maximize every opportunity at Central Catholic, which is a special place; I do not exaggerate in saying that I averaged nearly eighty hours a week in satisfying my passions and academic pursuits. I'm grateful that I was able to enrich my interests in robotics, science, math, chess, trivia, and other fields with all that Central offers. Outside of extracurriculars,

I did need to balance service activities at my parish as well as my responsibility as an older brother, with my school life.

I was able to manage all of these pursuits with careful organization and daily planning. I would encourage anyone who attends Central to make the most of the gifts and sacrifices of those who make it possible for us to live this Lasallian experience of "faith, scholarship, and service."

TATE: What do you think has had the largest impact on you in making you who you are today?

MATTHEW: It's very simple: God and family. I do not exaggerate in saying that nothing I did, nothing I do, and nothing I will do is possible without them. Family is the fundamental building block for society, and emphasizing core values in this family structure is imperative for building successful people. A good family reflects the communion that exists in the Trinitarian essence of our creator. While my family is an imperfect rendition of this ideal, they do a pretty good job at embracing the image of selflessness and sacrifice.

TATE: What are your plans for the future (College and or potential professions)?

MATTHEW: I am enrolling in the University of Pittsburgh's computer engineering program and plan to minor in physics and computer science. I am working toward a career in astrophysics, perhaps integrating some computational science into my profession.



JOHN BEESON,

CLASS OF 2024 SALUTATORIAN

RYAN O'TOOLE'S INTERVIEW WITH JOHN BEESON:

RYAN: Tell me about your upbringing in grade school and journey through Central Catholic.

JOHN: At Mother of Sorrows, I became involved in many STEM activities, including FIRST LEGO League robotics, where I discovered my love for engineering. I later chose Central Catholic because of the faith, STEM activities, and jazz band. I made many great friends at Central and continued pursuing STEM in robotics and other activities.

RYAN: Have you and Matthew always been best friends? JOHN: At the beginning of grade school, we didn't know each other well. We were often in different homerooms. Around 4th grade, we became very close friends.

RYAN: Why Central Catholic?

JOHN: I chose Central Catholic because I wanted a Catholic education with excellent academics. When I took a tour and went to Viking for a Day, I knew it would be a great fit. My time at Central has been a great experience, and I'm glad I made that choice.

RYAN: In your eyes, what has had the largest impact on you personally and your success at Central Catholic? JOHN: I was able to succeed largely because of my parents' love, support, and guidance. Having a great group of friends also helped.

RYAN: What was your reaction to being awarded salutatorian?

JOHN: When I was named salutatorian, I was ecstatic. I felt honored, especially because I know how many intelligent, hard-working friends and peers I have at Central. I was also very happy to hear that Matthew would be valedictorian and that we would both speak at graduation. I felt that my hard work throughout my time at Central was recognized.

RYAN: What are your plans for the future? JOHN: I will study mechanical engineering at Georgia Institute of Technology in their Honors Program. I plan to minor in robotics and continue playing piano in their jazz ensemble. I look forward to working in the robotics industry.

Now that their formative years are complete, both Matthew and John plan on continuing the inseparable friendship that began as youths. This fall, their educational expeditions will place them in separate parts of the United States – roughly 680 miles apart – while chasing their dreams in college. However, their life-long bond has been solidified during their time at Central Catholic High School and they will forever share the title of ALUMNI!



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2024

"CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: UNITED IN FAITH AND COMMUNITY"
WAS THE THEME OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK, WHICH TOOK PLACE FROM JANUARY 28 TO FEBRUARY 3.

Students, faculty, and staff from Central Catholic and Oakland Catholic High Schools participated in a combined Mass to begin Catholic Schools Week at Saint Paul's Cathedral.



PHOTO 1: Central Catholic and Oakland Catholic High Schools represented all Catholic schools in Pittsburgh when the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh received a proclamation from City Council recognizing excellence on Jan. 30 during Catholic Schools Week.





Councilwoman Theresa Kail-Smith (PHOTO 2) read the proclamation to a room filled with Council members and citizens. Michelle Peduto, (PHOTO 3) superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, spoke on behalf of the assembly and praised the long-standing tradition of Catholic education.

"WE ARE SO VERY PROUD OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OUR STUDENTS AND GRADUATES HAVE MADE TO THE CITY WE LOVE SO MUCH THROUGH THEIR SERVICE. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE CITY FOR THIS HONOR AND FOR INSPIRING ALL OF US TO SERVE OTHERS."





THREE-PEAT! FORENSICS SOCIETY WINS THIRD CONSECUTIVE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

BY: PAUL BEER, '19, ASSISTANT COACH CENTRAL CATHOLIC FORENSICS SOCIETY

The Central Catholic Forensics Society tied a 57-year-old record at the Pennsylvania State Championship. Central Catholic last won the State Championship three years in a row in 1965-1967. Through the continued dedication of the coaching staff and outstanding student performance, our team was able to clinch the victory once more.

With the graduation of so many talented seniors, the Central Catholic team was relying on the hard work of our new leaders and a new crop of novices to get the job done. Our upperclassmen placed highly across numerous events. On the debate side, Policy team Nick Athanassiou, '26, and Eddie Richardson,'25, Public Forum team Michael Murphy, '27, and Michael Brienza, '24, and Lincoln-Douglas debater Santino Balistrieri, '25, all made it to the quarterfinal, representing the team's ability to succeed in every debate event. On the speech side, Daniel Patton, '25. and Benjamin Wingerter, '24, made it to the semifinals in Prose and Poetry, respectively. Vincent Jackson, a freshman, finished in 3rd place in Poetry, one of the highest-placing novices at the tournament.



The Central Catholic Forensics Society coaching staff, alumni, and parents could not be more proud of the team's commitment and energy for the activity. We are looking forward to breaking that record next year!

MATTHEW EVANS, '25, TOOK HOME THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP, 1ST PLACE, IN INFORMATIVE SPEAKING.





MECHANICAL JOURNEY

CENTRAL CATHOLIC ROBOTICS IN PITTSBURGH!

Team 2641 competed at the Greater Pittsburgh Regional Robotics competition at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center!

Students built a robot that had to be capable of tossing rings through a goal and climbing up a chain in the last fifteen seconds of each contest.





SCHOLARS TAKE CENTER STAGE

BY: PATRIZIA COSTA, PHD, CO-DIRECTOR, THE BROTHER DAVID S. BAGINSKI, FSC SCHOLARS PROGRAM



IN LATE APRIL, THE BROTHER DAVID S. BAGINSKI, FSC SCHOLARS PROGRAM CELEBRATED THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS SENIOR SYMPOSIA.

THIS REMARKABLE EVENT REPRESENTS THE CULMINATION OF THE SENIOR SCHOLARS' EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY AT CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL.

The forum was founded in 2004, two years after the Scholars Program was founded. It showcases some of the interesting discoveries they made while working on their thesis projects. It is also an opportunity for the Central Catholic community to experience the intellectual vitality that is created when talented students work under the direction of dedicated faculty and outside mentors.

The breadth and scope of the oral presentations reflected not only a wide range of academic interests but also spoke to the noble efforts of students in advocating for positive change in the world. Eleven theses were presented this year. Some of the pressing issues they tackled included: ways to reduce car dependence in Pittsburgh, alternative ways that sociologists can study video games sociality, improvements to the workforce that would contribute to the wellness of autistic adults, social-emotional learning programs and community rehabilitation as a preventive measure for school shootings, and the multi-cultural decolonization of museum and practices of archeology.

This year's winner for Best Thesis was Luke McCartney, '24, for his work entitled: Aftertaste: Deconstructing the Perpetual Colonial Dynamics of the Coffee Industry. Outstanding work on the thesis was awarded to Will White, '24, Matthew Jordan, '24, and Jack Kaczmarski, '24. Best Presentation went to Kolbe Viator, '24.



"BEING A PART OF THE BAGINSKI SCHOLARS
PROGRAM REALLY HELPED ME TO DISCOVER
MY LOVE FOR LEARNING AND THAT I CAN DO
ANYTHING I PUT MY MIND AND HEART INTO.
SEEING MY FELLOW SENIORS AND MYSELF
PRESENT OUR WORKS AT THE SENIOR SYMPOSIA
SERVED AS A GREAT CULMINATION OF TWO
YEARS OF HARD WORK."

- JACK KACZMARSKI, '24



"THE SENIOR SYMPOSIA WAS THE CULMINATION OF TWO YEARS OF HARD WORK WITH DR. ALLEN AND DR. COSTA. IT WAS REWARDING TO NOT ONLY SEE MY OWN WORK AND PLANNING COME TO FRUITION, BUT TO SEE MY CLASSMATES SUCCEED AS WELL."

- LUKE MCCARTNEY, '24























SERVICE LEARNING IN WEST VIRGINIA

BY: JOHN ALLEN, PHD, CO-DIRECTOR, THE BROTHER DAVID S. BAGINSKI, FSC **SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

The students in the Baginski Scholars Program traveled to Wheeling, West Virginia in April. The Junior Seminar Scholars course asks students to engage with social ethics throughout the year and this is just one of the opportunities for a formative servicelearning experience.

Working closely with the Appalachian Institute, the Program has returned to the same location in Wheeling for the last eight years, which has allowed for sustained engagement with a particular community, providing service at an urban farming cooperative, Grow Ohio Valley, as well as the Wheeling Soup Kitchen. These service experiences have produced transformative encounters and perspectives in our students and seek to fill a real need in the community of Wheeling. At the same time, the scholars learned about the history of the Appalachian region and the many economic, health, and environmental problems it faces.

As scholars who are part of the Catholic intellectual tradition, the Program seeks to foster community and strive to better participate in the universal call to care for one another.



"Grateful. Oh, so very, very grateful." That was the reflection offered by sophomore Dario Aliberti as we shared a final meal at the Holy Family Mission in Browning, Montana. The Mission was the austere "home-base" for six young Vikes who in April traveled to serve the children of the De La Salle Blackfeet School. All were honored to be selected for the OKI-NI-SOO-KA-WA ("Come and See") Blackfeet Indian Reservation Immersion Program. Founded in 2001, the school is operated today by an amazing and tireless group of Christian Brothers and their staff.

With excitement and uncertainty, the journey began for the six (along with Deacon Michael Fekete '87 and me) as our flight approached the Rocky Mountains and landed in Great Falls, Montana. Although not Niitsitapi ("The Real People" in the Blackfeet Language), we were greeted warmly by the curious and energetic group of Blackfeet students at the school. Our six Vikes were assigned to different classrooms in grades 4 through 8 and, from that moment, the action did not stop. Zachary Fuchs, Mathias Murdock, Dario Aliberti, Colton Jackson, Lucas Conley and Fionn McGinley were deployed however and whenever the De La Salle teachers needed. They assisted children with recording class notes, completing math assignments, brainstorming research papers, and continuously offered encouragement. For this unique group of Vikes, no job was too small, no job was too big, and everything was done with

class and grace. As a result, the Blackfeet students came to befriend these strangers from Pittsburgh.

A truly transformative aspect of the immersion trip was the opportunity to host and dine with those "enrolled" in the Blackfeet Tribe – some were graduates of the De La Salle School. In our dinner discussions, these Blackfeet men and women candidly and sincerely shared personal stories, individual and collective challenges, as well as historical anguish and unresolved struggles of the Tribe. The Blackfeet are burdened not only by the vestiges of past cultural travesty, but also current economic and educational inequity. Drug and alcohol abuse is prevalent. Over 70% of the De La Salle students are raised by adults other than their parents. The respect, maturity and empathy displayed by our sons of Central during these poignant interactions was truly remarkable.

It is undeniable that the concluding expression of "grateful" by one was the sentiment shared by all in this immersion - grateful for the courage to confront hardship; grateful for the opportunity to develop new and meaningful bonds; grateful for the blessings many take for granted; grateful to touch those in need; and grateful to receive hope from those some may deem hopeless. Central Catholic certainly can be grateful for these young men who typified "Men of Faith, Men of Scholarship, Men of Service."



DESTRUCTIVE DECISIONS WEEK

BY: PHILLIP DIRENZO, '04, DIRECTOR OF COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT SPONSORED ITS 5TH ANNUAL DESTRUCTIVE DECISION AWARENESS PROGRAM IN APRIL.

The goal was to create awareness within our school community on the effects of distracted driving (texting, snapchatting, etc.) and drinking and driving. The program included small group presentations by Jimmy Woods (Owner and Operator of Mission Mahi food truck) and Mark Babuscio (A.R.M—Addiction Recovery Ministry).



We welcomed Stephen Zappala, '75 (Allegheny County District Attorney) and Casey Mullen, '92,

Owner of the Law Office of Casey P. Mullen, back home to their alma mater as our keynote speakers for the week. Mr. Zappala launched a new safe driving campaign called, "Protect Your Privilege" and brought along with him a representative from the Pennsylvania State Police to share some information and statistics on distracted driving related accidents.

Mr. Mullen shared his inspirational personal testament of addiction and recovery, offering students real-life scenarios of what can happen with poor decision making. We finished out the program with our "Grim Reaper



Day" experiment which allowed students to witness firsthand the real and life-changing impact of poor decision-making.

There were roughly 30 student victim-volunteers for the event who shared their personal testimony as to how they "passed away" from a distracted driving related event. Our annual "wrecked car in the Quad" was on full display and simulated a real distracted driving accident with a storyline to go with it.

Over 300 students signed a safe driving pledge and received various give-a-ways for promising to make good choices. We are thankful to the entire Central Catholic community for their continued support and helping to spread awareness!

PERFORMING ARTS

CHOIR HEADS TO THE BIG APPLE!

Members of the Central Catholic
Choir traveled to New York City in
February to perform a featured concert
at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The students
also enjoyed taking in all the sights
and sounds of NYC. In addition to
admission to several museums, they
saw the Broadway musicals "Wicked"
and "Spamalot" and participated in
a song-and-dance masterclass with a
"Spamalot" cast member!





"HELLO, DOLLY!"

In March, the Masque celebrated Golden Age
Broadway with all the glitz and glamour of the classic
musical "Hello, Dolly!" Students from Central Catholic
and Oakland Catholic came together on-stage and
behind the scenes for three months to work with faculty
and local theatre professionals to produce what was
another truly memorable show.



BLUE, GOLD AND GREEN!

The Central Catholic Viking Marching Band, donning the traditional Blue and Gold school colors performed during the 2024 St. Patrick's Day Parade for attendees celebrating the green-themed holiday! Students from both Central Catholic and Oakland Catholic High Schools participated in the event which was attended by roughly 200,000 people through the streets of Downtown Pittsburgh.



JAMMING ON THE BIG STAGE

Raymond Porter, III, '26, was one of three high school honors pianists (and the youngest) to participate in West Virginia University's Jazz Festival this spring. Ray attended master classes taught by Pittsburgh jazz legend, Roger Humphries, Dr. Alton Merrell and played in the high school "Little Big Band."

INSTRUMENTS AND VOICES CREATE MELODIC EXPRESSION

Central Catholic and Oakland Catholic High Schools held a joint spring concert and performed numbers with accompaniment and a capella. The theme was "Steal Away to Spring."





PROMOTING MENTAL HEATH AND WELL BEING

Zion Scales, '25, was part of a panel of high school students live on-the-air on radio station Star 100.7 FM. The topic of discussion was about maintaining strong mental health by stressing the importance of self-care practices, open communication with trusted peers, parents and educators, and how to navigate the challenges that many teens face on a daily basis. Scales is a Central Catholic baseball player and this interview was in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Hardball Academy which is a "non-profit entity that strives to enrich the lives of underrepresented and underserved youth in the Greater Pittsburgh area."









COLLEGE FAIR BY: BRANDY GERSHON, DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Representatives from approximately 250 colleges and universities participated in the Pittsburgh National College Fair at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center on Wednesday, February 7th, and Thursday, February 8th. 100 Juniors had the opportunity to attend the college fair and kick off their college search process. The College Fair is sponsored by the National Association for Admission Counseling.



BRANDY GERSHON SITS ON THE COMMITTEE THAT BRINGS THE NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR TO PITTSBURGH EACH YEAR.







S EDGOS, '24 NIC JESSO,

EAGLE EYES

This school year, three students reached the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest level one can reach within the Boy Scouts of America. Congrats, gentlemen!

GENTLEMAN, START YOUR ENGINE!

In a surprise visit, Eric Garcia, '24, received a scholarship from Rosedale Technical College and #1 Cochran! After graduating from Central Catholic,



Garcia will continue his education at Rosedale Tech to pursue a career in the automotive and collision repair field.



CONQUERING ADVERSITY

Nate Tunno, '27, has been living with type-1 diabetes since the age of 13. He continues to demonstrate strength and resilience daily.

In April, he was recognized for being a champion against his condition. Nate and the Tunno family were recognized at the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's (JDRF) 32nd Annual Promise Gala. JDRF also recognized Nate's younger sister, Muiriel.

The family's resilience and bravery in tackling the hardships of overcoming diabetes was highlighted in a video presentation at the end of the evening.

M-POWERHOUSE PROGRAM

BY: DEACON MICHAEL FEKETE, '87, DIRECTOR OF LASSILIAN INCLUSION

Following a selection process and recommendation by faculty, several members of the Central Catholic Black Student Union participated in the M-Powerhouse of Pittsburgh's "Medical Milestones" Anatomy and Healthcare Sciences teaching initiative program with the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. The opportunity was an outgrowth from conversations with Biology faculty member Mark Krotec and Deacon Michael Fekete, Director of Lasallian Inclusion.

Central students Jyhir Hatten, '25, Jayden Brown, '24, Bradley Wanjiru, '25, and Chase Heard '25, had a unique opportunity to utilize state of the art technology interacting and learning about future careers in healthcare with an emphasis on anatomy and various systems such as cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, neuro and skeletal. Joining Central Catholic were students from Oakland Catholic, The Ellis School, and Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy.

Due to the national shortage of healthcare workers there is a need to find nontraditional, experiential approaches at addressing the problem. M-PowerHouse has been an advocate and leader for years, offering youth a window into diverse and aspirational fields with past programs at Children's Hospital and Allegheny General Hospital.

M-PowerHouse is a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to connecting underserved youth and adults to careers and educational opportunities through life skill exploration, mentoring, and hands-on experience, specifically in artificial intelligence, healthcare, engineering, and S.T.E.A.M. related fields.

"THE ENGAGEMENT OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN OUR INITIATIVES HAS BEEN TRULY COMMENDABLE," said Founder, President & CEO Terry Smith. "THE RECENT M-POWERHOUSE "MEDICAL MILESTONES" PROGRAM FURTHER EXEMPLIFIED YOUR PROACTIVE APPROACH IN EXPOSING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO DIVERSE CAREER PATHS. YOUR COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, SHOWCASED INNOVATIVE PRESENTATIONS AND HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES THAT FOSTERED A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF MEDICAL SCIENCE AMONG THE STUDENTS."







"I REALLY ENJOYED AND
APPRECIATED THE EXPOSURE TO THE
MEDICAL FIELD M-POWERHOUSE
PROVIDED ME. THE ACTIVITIES WE
DID ENCOURAGED ME TO PURSUE
STUDYING MEDICINE."

- JYHIR HATTEN, '25





SPIRIT WEEK

Students, faculty and staff had a great deal of fun competing against each other and enjoying a stress free week filled with games, food trucks and activities! Everyone enjoyed partaking in themed dress-down days, and the annual seniors vs. faculty volleyball and basketball games which is always a favorite among attendees.













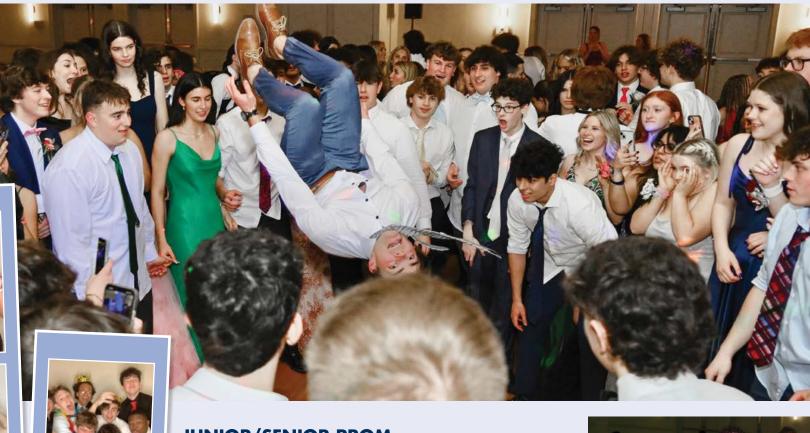












JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM

The 2024 Junior/Senior Prom was held at the Pittsburgh Sheraton in Station Square and was attended by a total of 325 students. The dance featured a sit-down dinner, selfie station photo booth, light up stages to dance on and a DJ. The highlight for many of the students was the late night sliders and fries that kept energy flowing on the dance floor!











ATHLETICS



SLAP SHOT!

JV IN-LINE HOCKEY BACK-TO-BACK CHAMPS

BY: ZAC DEJAMES, '14, HEAD COACH, CENTRAL CATHOLIC JV IN-LINE HOCKEY

THE JUNIOR VARSITY INLINE HOCKEY TEAM SECURED THE PITTSBURGH INTERSCHOLASTIC ROLLER HOCKEY LEAGUE (PIRHL) CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW!

The amazing season was capped off with a convincing victory over Norwin High School with a final score of 7-2. The team accomplished a rare organizational feat after they won three consecutive championships for the first time

in over ten years, which is a testament to their skill, resilience, and exceptional teamwork. The victory not only showcased the team's abilities but also highlighted the overall growth of the organization.

"LEADING THIS ORGANIZATION TO THREE CONSECUTIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS HAS BEEN AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY FILLED WITH PRIDE AND GRATITUDE FOR THE DEDICATION OF OUR PLAYERS AND COACHING STAFF," said Head Coach Zac DeJames, '14. "THEIR DETERMINATION AND LOVE FOR THE SPORT HAS SHAPED A LEGACY OF GREATNESS THAT WILL ENDURE FAR BEYOND THE RINK THAT WE ALL PLAY ON!"



LEFT TO RIGHT: **STANDING HEAD COACH: ZAC DEJAMES ASSISTANT COACH: TY DEJAMES** PLAYERS: DAVID KLECHA, LUKE SWEENEY, DOM ORLANDO, JONAH CARENBAUER, CHRISTIAN RILEY. JAMES SWEENEY BEN COX, GUY KLECHA, GREG DOERING, ASSISTANT: STEVE DOERING KNFFLING: FIONN MCGINLEY,

ANDREW OPIELA,

MIKE KOMAN



SENSATIONAL STUDENT RECOGNIZED **LEADING INTO SUPER SUNDAY**

The "Big Game" is noted as one of the most notable and popular platforms in all professional sports, and this year, the festivities leading up to the Super Bowl included one of Central Catholic's own!

For the first time in history, the National Football League held the NFL Latino Youth Honors in partnership with the Hispanic Heritage Foundation (HHF). During the week leading into Super Bowl LVIII, Central Catholic standout wide receiver Peter Gonzalez, '24, won the NFL Latino Youth Honors, designed to honor those of Hispanic heritage to represent NFL teams. In this case, Gonzalez was nominated to represent the Pittsburgh Steelers.



"I'M INCREDIBLY PROUD TO HAVE WON SUCH AN AMAZING AWARD AND BE ABLE TO REPRESENT MY HISPANIC ROOTS. IT MEANS A LOT TO BE ABLE TO BRING PRIDE TO THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AND MY FELLOW BROTHERS," Gonzalez exclaimed.

"THE WHOLE WEEKEND, INCLUDING THE SUPER BOWL, WAS UNREAL AND SOMETHING I'LL DEFINITELY NEVER FORGET."

THE NFL LATINO YOUTH HONORS "RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL TACKLE AND FLAG FOOTBALL ATHLETES FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY FOR THEIR ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE."



NEW COMMANDER OF THE ICE

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ANNOUNCES THE HIRING OF ANTHONY RACO AS THE NEXT HEAD COACH OF THE ICE HOCKEY PROGRAM!

"I AM THRILLED TO BE JOINING THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC ATHLETIC COMMUNITY. CENTRAL CATHOLIC HAS A RESPECTED TRADITION AMONG ITS SCHOOL, STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND ATHLETICS, AND I ASPIRE TO CONTINUE UPHOLDING THAT TRADITION. I HAVE BEEN AROUND HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY FOR NEARLY TWO DECADES AND HAVE ALWAYS RESPECTED CENTRAL CATHOLIC'S HOCKEY PROGRAM, AND I AM HONORED TO BE A PART OF IT. WE WILL WORK TOWARDS BEING ONE OF THE BEST HOCKEY PROGRAMS IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA WHILE HELPING TO DEVELOP LIFE SKILLS FOR OUR ATHLETES."

- ANTHONY RACO, HEAD COACH CENTRAL CATHOLIC ICE HOCKEY

SENIOR WINS WILLIE THROWER AWARD

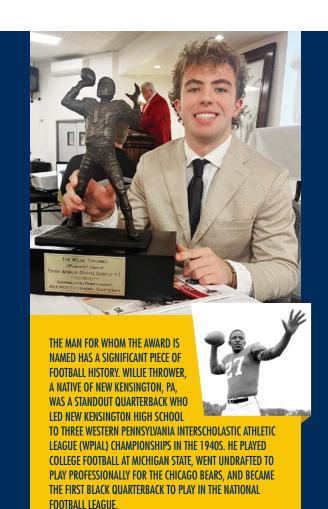
Payton Wehner, '24, won the Willie Thrower award, which recognizes the best high school quarterback in Southwestern Pennsylvania! In the 2024 season, Wehner racked up 2,940 yards and reached the endzone 36 times, solidifying the top spot for the accolade.



"IT WAS AN HONOR TO WIN THIS AWARD, ESPECIALLY TO BE ABLE TO REPRESENT WILLIE THROWER, IS A TRUE PLEASURE," Wehner said.
"A YEAR AGO I SAID I WOULD WORK TOWARD WINNING THIS AND IT WAS PART OF MOTIVATION ALL YEAR. IT WAS A GREAT BANQUET, AND I'M HAPPY TO HAVE WON."

Throughout his football career at Central Catholic, Wehner completed 474 of 741 passes with 6,958 yards and 71 touchdowns.

On the ground, he gained 737 rushing yards and 16 touchdowns.



RIGHT ON TRACK

ELIJAH FAULKNER, '25,

had a strong season and came out on top winning the WPIAL in the long jump, which qualified him for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) State championship.



XXAVIER THOMAS, '25,

had a tremendous showing this year. Thomas finished first in the triple jump and second the long jump at the Baldwin invitational. He also finished first in the triple jump at the Butler invitational. He finished third in the long jump and triple jump at the WPIAL championships which qualified him for the PIAA state championship.





SWIMMERS DIVE INTO NATIONAL RANKING

Jameson Raynak, '27, Jake Watson, '24, Luke Hartman, '25, and George Horey, '24, represented Central Catholic at the National Catholic Swim Meet at Loyola University.

As a team, they placed 14th out of 45 teams. Their 4x100 relay made the finals and placed 15th. Luke Hartman placed first in the 500 free and second in the 200 free to earn high point winner for the meet. Jameson Raynak and George Horey earned new WPIAL qualifying times.



MAC CLARK, '25, WAS NAMED ATHLETE OF THE WEEK BY THE PITTSBURGH **POST-GAZETTE IN MARCH!**

At the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) championships at the University of Pittsburgh's Trees Pool, Clark won the Class 3A boys 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:25.26, breaking a 15-year-old championship record.

CLASS OF **2024**

COLLEGE ATHLETIC SIGNINGS





GEORGE HOREYPennWest Clarion (Swimming)



PAUL KOUPIARIS
Allegheny College (Football)



CHARLIE COLANTONIOFranklin and Marshall (Wrestling)



PETER GONZALEZPenn State University (Football)



GAVIN KELLY
West Virginia University (Baseball)



CONNOR LUDWIGLehigh University (Football)



TANNER FUCHSIndiana University of Pennsylvania (Football)



ANDRES HURKMANS
Mercyhurst University (Baseball)



MICHAEL KISTLER
Florida Southern College (Lacrosse)



GRAYSON NUGENTPennWest California (Football)



MARC PIETO John Carroll University (Baseball)



VICTOR ROSSI Seton Hill University (Lacrosse)



JACOB SASSIC University of Pittsburgh (Football)



VERNON SETTLES West Liberty University (Football)



ANTHONY SHOVLIN Indiana University of Pennsylvania (Football)



ANTHONY SPECA Penn State University (Football)



GAVIN STANEK Fordham University (Football)



PHILIP STORTI Fairfield University (Rugby)



JAYDEN THRIFT Alvernia University (Football)



TY TURKOWSKI Grove City College (Football)



PAYTON WEHNER Saint Francis University (Football)



TY YUHAS University of Pittsburgh (Football)

SPRING **SPORTS RECORDS**



10 WINS - 11 LOSSES



VOLLEYBALL: 9 WINS - 9 LOSSES



LACROSSE: 13 WINS - 6 LOSSES



TRACK-N-FIELD: 6 WINS - 1 LOSS



TENNIS: 5 WINS - 7 LOSSES

FACULTY AND STAFF SPOTLIGHT







CHRISTIAN BROTHERS CONTINUE TO IMPACT CENTRAL CATHOLIC!

CENTRAL CATHOLIC CELEBRATED RELIGIOUS BROTHERS DAY, WHICH IS MAY 1!

We thank our Christian Brothers worldwide, especially those on campus, who continue to inspire our students to become "Men of Faith, Scholarship, and Service."



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Kevin Sheridan, who served the 2023-24 school year as Interim Principal, spent 10 years at Central Catholic as a teacher and Assistant Principal of Faculty and Curriculum Development. Sheridan, who left an indelible mark on both students and fellow staff members, sent a heartfelt letter to co-workers that read in part:

"I am deeply grateful for all that you have done for me and my family. The memories I have from my time at Central are countless. As I move on to new opportunities, I am confident that Central will continue to thrive. I wish you all the best and am always here if you need anything."









ALSO, IN MAY, CENTRAL CATHOLIC RECOGNIZED ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LASALLE.

Since 1927, Central Catholic High School has educated students within Lasallian traditions. We joyously celebrated Founder's Day 2024 in honor of our Patron Saint of education and founder of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools., and the essence of his legacy.

MAESTRO BIDS ADIEU

Dr. Michael Mackey has been Central Catholic's Director of Vocal Music since 2018, pouring his heart and soul into students. His passion for music has been infectious, as he led the choirs with dedication for the past six melodic years. In 2020, Dr. Mackey became Director of the Masque Drama Society and produced seven memorable theatre productions. "I'm so blessed to have been part of the Central Catholic family. Words cannot express how proud I am of everything we've accomplished together," said Dr. Mackey. "I will cherish my memories of Central Catholic forever." Students admired not only his musical expertise but also his genuine care and encouragement.

Although his time at Central has come to an end, his impact on students will resonate for a lifetime.

Take a bow, Dr. Mackey, we applaud you!



HABURJAK PROMOTED!

Brandon Haburjak, '06, has been promoted to Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Central Catholic High School. "For nearly 100 years, Central has fulfilled its mission of inspiring young men to become leaders in our community. That mission inspired me to return to Central a number of years ago to give back to the school that has given so much to me," said Haburjak. "I am honored to be asked to play a critical role in ensuring that Central Catholic's future is every bit as bright as its past."

\$

Haburjak, who has served as the Director of Alumni Engagement and Giving since 2016, brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and love for Central Catholic and will pave the way for even more significant contributions in the future.





CHAPLAIN RECEIVES ACCOLADE

Father Christopher Donley, '97, is a champion for giving back to the community across the United States and around the world. In May, Fr. Donley was recognized for his fantastic humanitarian work and received The Caritas Award which honors the outstanding achievements of individuals and organizations dedicated to improving the lives of others.

COACH GETS TOP NOD

HEAD BASKETBALL COACH BRIAN URSO WAS NAMED KDKA RADIO'S SUPER 7 BASKETBALL COACH OF THE YEAR IN CLASS 6A! URSO HAS AN OVERALL RECORD OF 76 - 49 (61% WIN PERCENTAGE) AND WON A WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC LEAGUE (WPIAL) CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2023, IN WHAT WAS HIS FOURTH YEAR AS HEAD COACH.

"I am humbled to receive the recognition from our local media, but this award represents a lot more than just me. The award reflects where we are as a program and the current culture of Central Catholic basketball," said Urso. "It begins with the players in the program, and because of their commitment and passion, we all are able to experience success."

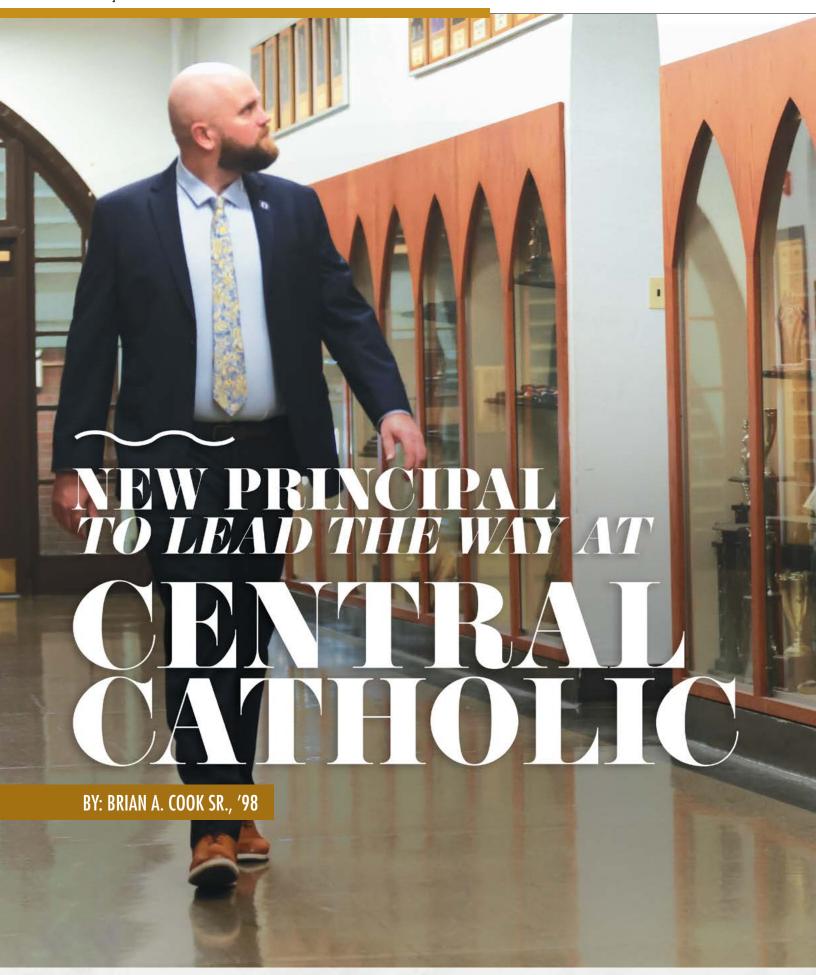
The awards were announced on February 29th, "leap day," the extra day for an extraordinary coach!





ATHLETIC TRAINER CROSSES THE FINISH LINE

Regis Visconti, '08, has served as the athletic trainer at Central Catholic since 2015 and was instrumental in the well-being of student-athletes. While his departure marks the end of an era, he leaves behind a legacy of support, and contributions to the Central Catholic community and will always be remembered with appreciation.

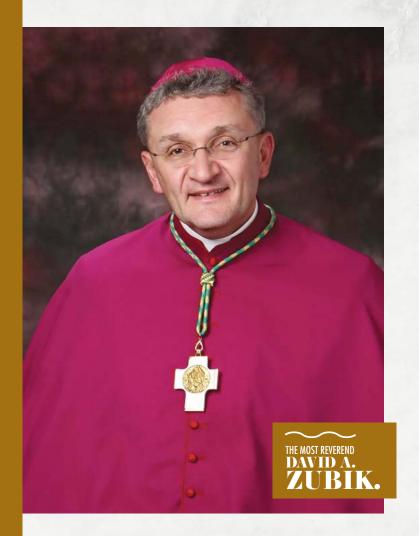




The school conducted a national search for its next principal and retained the services of Carney, Sandoe, and Associates to assist with leading the search. This process began in January 2024 and sought the input of the school community, including students, parents, faculty, staff, and alumni. In May, Central Catholic High School publicly shared the announcement that John "Jack" R. Wallace would become the next principal.

Wallace comes to Central Catholic after serving as the Dean of Student Affairs at Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas. Jesuit Dallas is one of the largest all-boys Catholic high schools in the United States, with an enrollment of nearly 1,200 students and over 200 faculty and staff. As a senior administrator, he was responsible for managing student activities, community outreach initiatives, and student formation and discipline. His career has been dedicated to Catholic education. Before serving at Jesuit Dallas, he taught social studies at Fairfield Preparatory School, an all-boys school in Fairfield, Connecticut.

Wallace earned a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Master of Arts in American and European History from Providence College in Rhode Island. His educational journey took him to South Bend, Indiana, where he received a Master of Education from the University of Notre Dame's prestigious Alliance for Catholic Education program.



THE BISHOP OF PITTSBURGH, MOST REVEREND DAVID A. ZUBIK, EXTENDED AN APPOINTMENT LETTER TO WALLACE THAT ACCENTUATED THE ESSENCE OF LEADING SUCH A HISTORIC LASALLIAN-BASED SCHOOL AS CENTRAL CATHOLIC.

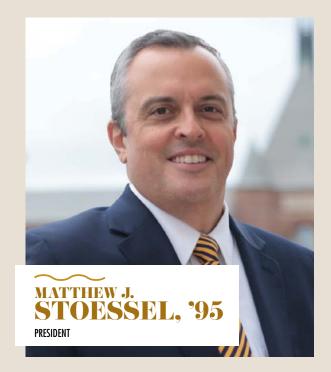
Of particular importance is your desire to serve the Catholic mission and identity of our schools. The strengthening and sustaining of our Catholic schools and their Catholic identity is of the highest importance for the future of our Church,

"You bring many gifts and talents to this new position. You are a highly regarded educator and leader...
Your vast experience as an administrator, teacher and coach are evidence of your passion for Catholic Education and working with young people."

SINCE 1927, CENTRAL CATHOLIC HAS STRIVED TO ENSURE THAT THE YOUNG MEN ENTRUSTED TO ITS CARE RECEIVE A CATHOLIC, LASALLIAN EDUCATION ROOTED IN GOSPEL VALUES.

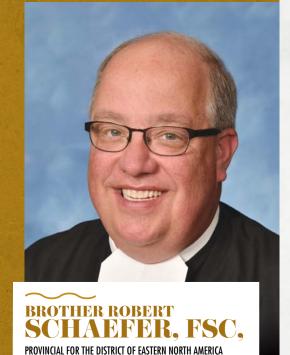
After a thorough search process, we are confident that Wallace is prepared to enthusiastically embrace the school's Catholic Lasallian mission to continue the tradition of and foster a sense of brotherhood and community among the students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni, says Central Catholic President Matthew J. Stoessel, '95.

"He brings a clear commitment to Catholic education and an understanding of the unique student experience at an all-boys Catholic school."



WALLACE OFFICIALLY BEGAN HIS TENURE AS PRINCIPAL ON JULY 1 AND PLANS TO IMPLEMENT POSITIVE PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

> I am wholeheartedly committed to upholding and enhancing the Catholic, Lasallian mission of Central Catholic, and I am looking forward to collaborating with the mission-driven men and women of Fifth Avenue to continue to make



Central Catholic a place where men come to develop their intellectual competence, conscience, compassion and a commitment to doing God's work in the world, 99 says Jack Wallace.

"I profoundly appreciate the hard work and prayerful discernment of the Principal Search Committee. I am excited at the opportunity to contribute to Central Catholic's rich history of forming 'men of faith, scholarship, and service."

"On behalf of the Christian Brothers, I want to thank the Central Catholic Board and search committee for a very thorough and intentional search for the next principal. The Brothers will continue to collaborate with the school administration to provide quality formation for all faculty and leadership that will ensure the Lasallian identity and mission of Central Catholic as it gets ready to mark its centennial."

On behalf of the Board of Directors. it is a pleasure to welcome Jack Wallace to Central Catholic, I am confident that his professional background, coupled with his charisma. will be a tremendous addition to our community."





PARENT TESTIMONIALS

As a father of two young men, I am more than pleased with the exceptional education bestowed upon my sons at Central Catholic High School. They are being equipped with academics, and life skills that will take them far in life.**



My oldest son, Ian Alexander, '24, began as a student during the global pandemic. This was a stressful time for everyone, especially for a student beginning high school as a freshman. My youngest son, Aiden Alexander, '27, is enjoying his time as he grows within the brotherhood at Central. I look forward to him continuing

to advance to become a Central grad one day! I am proud of our young men as they excel academically and in maturity. Having these young men become part of the Central Catholic Family eternally has been a blessing.

- VERNARD ALEXANDER, P'24 & '27



We chose Central Catholic for our sons because of its commitment to shaping Central students into men of faith, integrity, and scholarship, which we also view as our primary calling as parents.

Central has exceeded our hopes and expectations for our sons. It is an incredibly supportive environment, its faculty is outstanding and care about our boys' academic progress and faith formation, there are a lot of great activities and organizations to be a part of, and the boys feel like they are a part of something bigger than themselves, a true fraternity of brothers.

We have sent three boys to Central
- Aidan, '22, a sophomore at Penn
State, Colin, '24, Liam, '26, and we
have two more behind them – Drew,
in 7th grade, and Ryan, in 5th grade
- who are excited about attending
Central!

- SCOTT BRADY, 'P '22, '24, '26

WRITERS WANTED

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

is **SEEKING** TALENTED WRITERS

to contribute exclusive content THE for its official magazine,



This volunteer opportunity is for those who wish to write stories of reflection or contribute historical moments about Central Catholic

in the area of academics, sports, school community, alumni, and more about anything that positively impacts the school community.

Any writers who are interested in sharing unique perspectives and stories are encouraged to apply to be part of this ongoing exciting project.

CONTACT

Brian A. Cook Sr., '98, Director of Communications and Marketing 412.622.6181 | BCook@CentralCatholicHS.com.

34TH ANNUAL VIKING VICTORY AUCTION

SPECTACULAR EVENING!

THE 34TH ANNUAL VIKING VICTORY AUCTION WAS A SUCCESS!



Central Catholic celebrated the countless women whose contributions continuously help to make Central a special place. The female faculty and staff, the Mothers' Guild, family members, supporters, and benefactors were recognized on April 27.

"THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED THE 34TH ANNUAL VICTORY VIKING AUCTION TO CELEBRATE THE WOMEN OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC," SAID MELISSA ANDERSON P'24, CHAIRPERSON FOR THIS YEAR'S AUCTION. "A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND STAFF FOR THEIR INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS. IT WAS TRULY AN EVENING TO REMEMBER!"







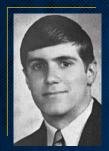




SPECIAL RECOGNITION

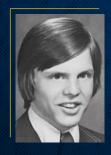
Central Catholic President Matthew J. Stoessel, '95, presented Mrs. Mary Ann Lynch with the prestigious Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award. Mrs. Lynch, a teacher at Central Catholic since 1981 and the Director of the Bishop McDowell Program, was honored for her outstanding contributions to educating students and leaving a lasting impression on their growth and development. An endowed fund was named in her honor and was announced during the "Fund the Mission" portion of the evening, which helped raise money for students to receive a robust Catholic education.





HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES TOOK CENTER STAGE

Central Catholic inducted LEN PASQUARELLI, '68, an accomplished sports writer who spent over 40 years as a sports journalist, nearly all spent covering the NFL. He wrote for several newspapers, most notably the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, before becoming a senior NFL reporter at CBS Sports and then ESPN.



TERRY TOTTEN, '76, retired with an overall record of 188-40 after a 21-year storied career as head football coach. Under his leadership, Central Catholic achieved two Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) state championships and six Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) titles. Central Catholic's football program achieved unprecedented success. Six of his former players went on to play in the National Football League.



35TH ANNUAL VIKING VICTORY **AUCTION**

> Saturday, May 3, 2025

Westin Convention Center Hotel 1000 Penn Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15222





ALUMNI



CAREER DAY

Central Catholic hosted Viking Career Day for the sixth year.









Alumni were invited to campus to share their professional experiences with sophomores within the classroom. The students had the opportunity to attend various breakout sessions, ask questions of the guest speakers, and explore different career paths.





Juniors prepared for the college application process by speaking with admissions personnel. They learned about what is to be expected when attending institutions of higher learning, during a college fair in the gym.

Throughout the day, students engaged in a college essay writing workshop, and recent graduates shared their personal experiences while offering advice on transitioning to higher education.





2024 SPRING TRAINING

Central Catholic hosted the annual Pittsburgh Pirates Spring Training Alumni Game in Bradenton, FL. in February! Several members of the Central Catholic community attended and thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon at the ballpark with family and friends.













VIKING MASTER OF THE COURSE

Golfer Neal Shipley, '19, completed his first trip to The Masters and became the 2024 Masters Low Amateur in Augusta, GA this spring!

Shipley sat alongside Masters
Champion Scottie Scheffler in
the post-match interviews on
CBS Sports. Augusta's Butler Cabin is
the historic room where the Masters
champion is award the legendary
"Green Jacket" and the Low Amateur
is recognized for their performance
following the tournament.





During the fourth and final round of golf, he was paired with five-time Masters champion Tiger Woods and told Jim Nantz of CBS Sports, "IT'S A DAY THAT I'M GOING TO CHERISH FOREVER. HE WAS GREAT TO ME OUT THERE, AND TO HAVE THE PATRONS CHEERING BOTH OF US ON WAS PHENOMENAL," said Shipley. "THIS WEEK IS GOING TO BE ONE OF THE BEST WEEKS OF MY LIFE."

SAVE DATES

IMPORTANT FALL **2024 DATES**

JOIN US FOR OUR FALL EVENTS!



JAM ON THE QUAD **CIGAR & BOURBON NIGHT**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, Quadrangle | 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

LETTERMEN'S CLUB GOLF OUTING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, Edgewood Country Club



ALUMNI REUNION DATES



CLASS OF 1959 REUNION LUNCH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., STEM Building

CLASS OF 1949 & 1954 REUNION LUNCH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., STEM Building

CLASS OF 1979 REUNION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., STEM Building

FOR MORE INFO VISIT US AT: **CENTRALALUMNI.COM**

CLASS OF 1964 REUNION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., STEM Building

CLASS OF 1994 REUNION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., STEM Building

CLASS OF 2014 REUNION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., STEM Building

CLASS OF 1974 REUNION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., Dining Hall

CLASS OF 1984 REUNION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., STEM Building

CLASS OF 1989 REUNION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., STEM Building

CLASS OF 1969 REUNION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., South Hills Country Club

CLASS OF 1999 REUNION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 6:00pm - 9:00pm, STEM Building

NEWS FROM VIKING NATION

1940s

Brother Colman Coogan, FSC, '48, (seated) celebrated 75 years of being a Christian Brother



on June 29 during District Day at the Christian Brothers Academy in Lincroft, NJ.

1950s \{ Bill Hillgrove, '58, the legendary "Voice of the Panthers," was presented with the prestigious Lindsey Nelson Broadcasting Award from the Knoxville Quarterback Club in Tennessee.

Maurice Snyder, '58, published his first book titled: "Structures Beyond Structures: How Japan Created Them," which is about five infrastructures in Japan like no other in the world. A result of incredible engineering, imagination, and a never-give-up attitude by Japanese engineers.

John "Junior" Kennedy, '64, and Gary DiCroce, '67, attended the Duquesne University basketball game during the spring semester. "Junior" played basketball at Duquesne from 1964-68 and Gary was the student manager from 1967-71.

Dave Troiano, '65, joined the basketball team in their championship photo at the Boardwalk Basketball Classic in Wildwood, NJ. Troiano lives in the area and worked (retired) in the Wildwood School District.

Congratulations to *Terry Russell*, '69, for being inducted into the Western PA Sports Hall of Fame.

1970s \ During Destructive Decisions
Week at Central Catholic High School, District
Attorney Zappala, '75, returned to campus to
launch the "Protect Your Privilege" campaign to
thwart dangerous driving among motorists.

Brother *John Crawford*, *FSC*, '72, celebrated 50 years as a Brother of the Christian Schools.

Congratulations to *Dr. Tony DiGioia*, '75, on receiving The College of Engineering Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award at the Carnegie Mellon University College of Engineering Awards dinner.

Three Former Central Catholic Ice Hockey teammates had a mini-reunion during a Pittsburgh Penguins vs. Florida Panthers game at Amerant Bank Arena in Sunrise, FL (LEFT TO RIGHT): Dennis Sharon, '78, Bill Cummings, '77, and Dan DiTomasso, '77.

1980s { John F. Ollis, '89, published a book that is now available on Amazon titled: "Bigfoot The Truth."

1990s (Steve Cubarney, '94, is named 2024 Partner at Guidehouse, which is a leading global provider of consulting, digital, and managed services to commercial and public sector clients.

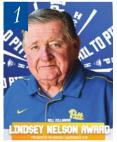
Devin Crummie, '97, was named City League Coach of the Year by KDKA Radio, as the head basketball coach of Allderdice High School!

Joe Rossi, '97, was named defensive coordinator for Michigan State Football.

David Onufer, '98, has been named President of the Realtors Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh.

Congrats to *Christopher Snodgrass*, '99, and his wife Anna Dvorchak, OCHS, '00, who happily welcomed the birth of our first child, Joseph Edward, born on February 22.

Robert Taylor Jr, '99, managing editor of the Pittsburgh Courier, wins a prestigious journalism award from the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters (PAB) for excellence in reporting for his work as a news reporter on 100.1FM KDKA NewsTalk Radio.































2000s \ Scott Green, '00, and Todd Green, '08, won the WPGA 74th Brothers Tournament at Shannopin Country Club.

Congratulations to *Jason Ott*, '02, for being recognized in the 2024 edition of Pennsylvania Rising Stars. Each year, only 2.5% of attorneys are included in the Pennsylvania Rising Stars list. To qualify, attorneys must demonstrate a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement.

Matthew Quirin, '03, named Rising Star in NYC by Super Lawyers.

Pitt Women's Assistant Volleyball Coach *Kellen Petrone*, '04, was named Assistant Coach of the Year by the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA).

J.R. Hess, '06, will be featured in the Top 100 People in Real Estate magazine. J.R. Hess is the vice president of DBC Real Estate and managing member and partner of Pennwood Capital.

Noah Karn, '07, Vice President, Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania, was recognized as one of the 2024 Who's Who in Government Relations.

Tino Sunseri, '08, was named co-offensive coordinator at Indiana University.

2010s (Billy Rielly, '12, senior vice president and head of Public Affairs at Consumer Bankers Association, has been named one of Ragan's 2023 Game Changers, sponsored by Omnicom, an honor that recognizes trailblazing leaders in the communications and PR industries.

Luke Mafrica, '13, earned his PhD in Economics from Temple University! He will be teaching at Penn State Abington in the fall.

Austin A. Adomitis, M.D. '13, graduated from Tulane University School of Medicine with the distinction of Creative Scholar. He now serves with the Tulane Family Medicine Residency at East Jefferson General Hospital.

Michael Grady, '15, is heading back to the Olympics. He is a member of the Us Rowing men's four and will represent the U.S. in the event in Paris.

Damar Hamlin, '16, won the Professional Football Writers of America's Comeback Player of the Year honors.

(LEFT TO RIGHT) Former Central Catholic Football teammates *Rodney Thomas*, '17 (Defensive Back, #25, Indianapolis Colts), and *Cal Adomitis*, '17 (Long Snapper, #48, Cincinnati Bengals) exchanged jerseys after their game on December 10, 2023 at Paycor Stadium in Cincinnati.

Christian Romano, '17, was named as one of the 2024 Pittsburgh Business Times' 30 Under 30 honorees.

Coyne McDermott, '19, was selected as a recipient of the 2024 Massachusetts Institute of Technology Supply Chain Excellence Award.

IN APRIL, CARTER PITCAIRN, '22, CADDIE, AND NEAL SHIPLEY, '19, GOLFER,

participated in the world's most coveted golf competition, The Masters Tournament, which took place at the Augusta National Golf Course in Augusta, Georgia.



20205 \ Patrick McGinley, '21, was recognized by LaSalle University for his work inside of the classroom.











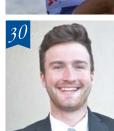
























TALK WITH YOUR ACCOUNTANT

or tax advisor to ensure a Viking education today!



Decide how your tax dollars are used. Through the EITC/OSTC programs you can give the money you owe to the State of PA to Central Catholic students instead!

More than 200 students receive need-based scholarships from tax dollars designated to Central Catholic through contributions to the Diocese of Pittsburgh's SOS Fund.

When you make a 2-year commitment, 90% of your gift is applied as a credit to your state tax liability. Your tax dollars, invested in young Vikings, have the power to change lives.





"We are happy to support Central Catholic through this program. Receiving tax credits for a contribution to the school is a "win-win", and we get the satisfaction of knowing exactly how our state tax dollars are being used. We love knowing that young men are benefitting from a Central Catholic education thanks to our support."

- Mr. & Mrs. James Meyers, '88, P '19, '21

CENTRAL CATHOLIC

THANKS

THE FOLLOWING
BUSINESSES & INDIVIDUALS

who put their state tax dollars to work for Central Catholic students through the Pennsylvania DCED's EITC and OSTC programs:

Anonymous Aqua Pennsylvania Ms. Valerie Blatt **Bridge Foundation** Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Broadhurst CentiMark Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Cestra, '67 Mr. Gennaro Dibello Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Donahue, '98 Mr. and Mrs. William Donahue, Jr., '74 Fazio Mechanical Services, Inc. Federated Hermes/Federated Advisory Svcs. First National Bank Mr. and Mrs. John Fisher, '74 Mr. and Mrs. Edward Friel, '84 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Garver, '79 Mrs. Karen Greb Glimcher Brokerage Group Mr. & Mrs. Howard Hanna III. '65 Mr. and Mrs. John Henne J.J. Morris & Sons, Inc. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kelly, '78 Kelly Realtors, Inc. Mr. Karl Kimmich Mr. Paul Kraisinger Lois. F. Leeper Company Mr. James Leeper, '70 Mr. Mark Loskamp Maher Duessel Mr. and Mrs. Gavin Mann Mr. and Mrs. Steven Massaro, '84 MASSolutions, LLC Mr. Greg McDonald, '94 Mr. John McGinley, '61 Mr. and Mrs. Jim Meyers, '88 **NexTier Bank** PA Partners for Education, LLC Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Pais Mr. Matthew Price Mr. and Mrs. William Rielly, Jr., '79 Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rohan Mr. James Spencer Mr. and Mrs. John Stalev. IV. '61 Sterling Land Co.- Mr. Blake Stanton Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Steitz, '82 Mr. Daniel Stuthers, '54* **Super 8 Corporation** Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tabaka Jr., 87 Mr. and Mrs. Francesco Tirone Trumbull Corporation Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Tunno W.N. Tuscano Agency, Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Whalofsky
*deceased

Please call the Advancement Office at 412-622-6171 for details on how you or your company can join this list and turn tax dollars into tuition assistance funds for Central Catholic.



CENTRAL CATHOLIC IS HONORED

TO BE AMONG SCHOOLS IN THE PITTSBURGH AREA AS PARTIAL RECIPIENTS OF

THE BRIDGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION & U.S. STEEL'S DONATION

OF OVER \$618,000

OF SCHOLARSHIP MONEY TO THE MON VALLEY FAMILIES.

Scholarship funds are made possible through Pennsylvania's
Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. The formal
presentation took place at Imani Christian Academy in the East Hills
neighborhood of Pittsburgh and brought together each school's
leadership and local government officials.

MOTHERS' GUILD RAISES FUNDS TO SUPPORT SCHOOL SAFETY



The Mothers' Guild donated \$33,000 to Central Catholic for the enhancement of campus safety and security. The funds were raised at the annual Fashion Show in November 2023 and officially presented at the 2024 Viking Victory Auction.

Over the past three years, the Mothers' Guild has donated over \$75,000 to Central Catholic High School in support of mental health services, campus safety, and security updates through their largest and oldest fundraising event, the Fashion Show.

LEFT TO RIGHT: MICHELLE CARNES, CO-VICE PRESIDENT (P'24), JENNIFER GRIFFIN, PRESIDENT (P'23, 26, 27), AMY BALLA, TREASURER (P'25), JAMIE MURPHY, CO-VICE PRESIDENT (P'26), AND RENEE KNIPP, SECRETARY (P'26.)

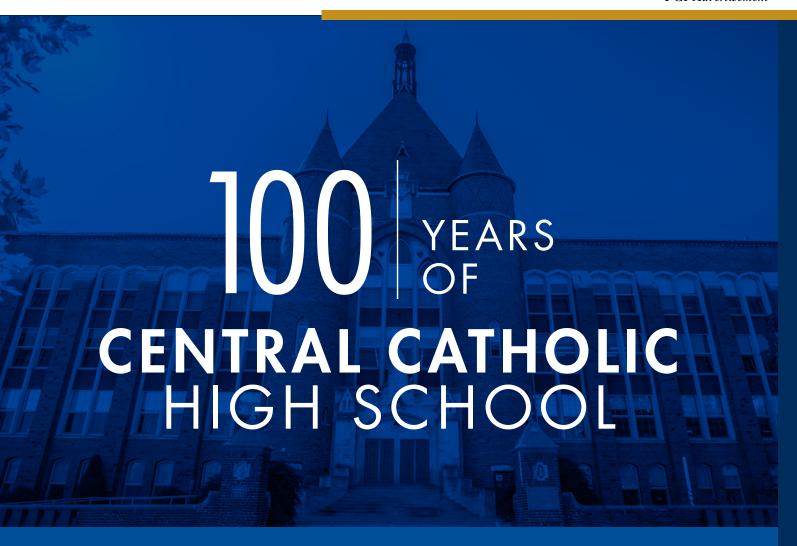




NEW FUND ESTABLISHED AT CENTRAL CATHOLIC

Greg McDonald, '94, P' 25 recently established the McDonald Family Education Fund in support of tuition assistance. Sponsored by the McDonald Family and State Farm, the fund will annually benefit two Central Catholic students. Central is deeply grateful for the support of alumni and parents, like Greg, who help to make a Central experience possible for so many of our students!

LEFT TO RIGHT: MATTHEW J. STOESSEL, '95, CENTRAL CATHOLIC PRESIDENT, GREG MCDONALD, '94, BRADY MCDONALD, '25, CLAUDIA STEFFEY, DIRECTOR OF ANNUAL GIVING, BRANDON HABURJAK, '06, VICE PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT



Publishing Concepts, PCI is joining the Advancement and Communications departments in commemorating Central Catholic High School's 100th anniversary by publishing its first Alumni directory since 2006.

Starting in September, PCI will be contacting you via mail, phone, and email asking you to participate by updating your information.

Let's make the Centennial Celebration of Central Catholic memorable for all members of the Central Catholic Community!

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL DIRECTORY



CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Hall of Fame!

Nominations for the 2025 induction to the Hall of Fame are now being accepted!

PURPOSE

The Central Catholic Hall of Fame was established to recognize and honor alumni who exemplify the traditions and values of our school. No matter their profession, these men have been honored for their character, lives of service to others, and being men of integrity.



HALL OF FAME NOMINATION CRITERIA

- The nominee is a graduate of Central Catholic High School.
- The nominee is not currently a member of the school Administration, Board of Directors, or a member of the Advancement Hall of Fame sub-committee.
- The nominee to the Hall of Fame must have graduated at least 25 years ago.
- The nominee should demonstrate personal integrity, service to the community, and meritorious professional achievement.
- The nominee has contributed meaningfully, but not necessarily financially, to Central Catholic.
- A Central Catholic alumnus has submitted the nominee.

NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE BY

BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

www.centralcatholichs.com/nominations





VIKING NATION, FOR ANOTHER VERY SUCCESSFUL VIKING MATCH WEEK!

From May 20 – May 24, alumni, parents and friends helped us surpass our goal and contributed over \$235,000 in just one week! Central is so grateful for this generous support that helps provide much needed tuition assistance and supports student programming.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF '68

on being crowned the champs for the fourth consecutive year – truly amazing! The Class of '95 and the Class of '60 deserve a special shoutout for a tie in second place.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND AN ANONYMOUS DONOR FOR PROVIDING THE POOL OF MATCHING FUNDS AND TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED! ROLL VIKES!

CENTRAL CATHOLIC GIFTS





THE BOOKSTORE IS OPEN ON REGULAR SCHOOL DAYS:

2024 - 2025 SCHOOL YEAR STORE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. or by appointment. 412.208.3498

bookstore@CentralCatholicHS.com

SHOP ONLINE AT CENTRALCATHOLICHS.COM/BOOKSTORE







IN MEMORIAM

Remembering Robert "Bob" Anderson, 1961 - 2024



Robert "Bob" Anderson, a nearly 20-year physical education and health teacher at Central Catholic High School, unexpectedly and tragically passed away following a bicycle accident in North Park on Tuesday, June 18.

Throughout his time at our school, Mr. Anderson played an important role in educating students on the need for personal health and wellness and was dedicated to the students entrusted to his care and the mission of Central Catholic. Everyone who knew him mourns his passing, as he was an integral member of our school's community.



Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

St. John Baptist De LaSalle ... Pray for Us Live Jesus in Our Hearts ... Forever



IN MEMORIAM

Remembering Anthony M. DiGioia Jr.,

Ph.D., '52

1934 - 2023

Anthony was actively involved with his graduating class until his passing, he made life-long friends at Central. He volunteered the DiGioia family to chair the 2010 Viking Victory Auction and was the chief corporate sponsor. His 5 sons and 4 of his grandsons graduated from Central Catholic High School and he would often talk about his high school days, especially that he took street cars to get there and it was a sacrifice for his parents to send him, even though tuition was free and they only had to pay for books. He and his late wife

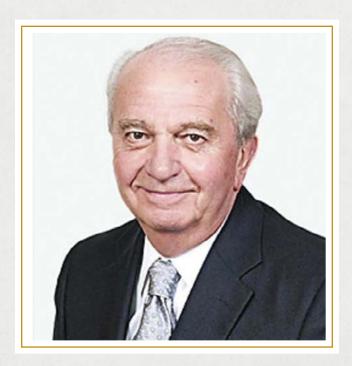


Carole believed in the values learned and education received at Central so much-in their very early years of marriage, unbeknownst to Anthony, Carole paid the tuition for one of her brothers to attend Central!



Remembering Kenneth Dishart, '49

Ken grew up in the Pittsburgh neighborhood of Lawrenceville, and he attended Central Catholic High School where his love of chemistry began. Ken earned his PhD in organic chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh and then joined DuPont in 1958 as a research chemist. Throughout his DuPont career of 35 years, he held a variety of positions in basic research, new product development, customer technical service, marketing, and sales. He contributed multiple scientific publications and numerous patents to his field. After retiring as a research fellow he dedicated another 15 years as an industry consultant.



Remembering Angelo A. Martini, Sr., '58 1940 - 2024

A 1958 graduate of Central Catholic High School, Angelo went on to join the Carpenter's Union. In the late 60's, he joined his father's construction company. In the early 70's, he took over A. Martini & Co. as President. Over the next 50-plus years, his steady leadership grew the company. Angelo was known in the industry and to friends as a kind-hearted, humble gentleman. His word was his bond.

Remembering Patricia K. Zupancic

Beloved wife of the late Rudolph F. "Rudy" Zupancic, '50, Pat was an accomplished pianist and loved to knit. She also enjoyed golfing and traveling with her husband. Together, the Zupancics were instrumental in building Central Catholic High School's STEM building.



"Eternal rest grant to them O' Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them forever. May their souls and all the



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THESE RECENTLY DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY.

1939

Raymond Guttendorf, '39

1942

Dominic Frasca, '42

1945

John O'Keefe, '45 William Wiseman, '45

1946

Eugene Armocida, '46 Paul Fuhs, '46 John Molyneaux, '46

1947

John Geier, '47

1948

Francis Giovannitti, '48 Robert Lentz, '48

1949

Richard Fowler, '49 Kenneth Dishart, '49 William Palmer, '49 John Patterson, '49

1950

Louis Tarasi, Jr., '50

1951

Thomas Kulikowski, '51 Benny Mannella, '51 Raymond Osekowski, '51

1952

David Anderson, '52 Timothy Boyle, '52 Frank Conte, '52 Anthony DiGioia Jr, PhD, '52 Gene Gorman, '52 Richard Ott, '52 Col. Harry Pawlak, '52

1953

Paul Beck, Esq, '53 John Blaha, '53 Dr. Robert Conte MD, '53 James F. Dillon, '53 Bernard Gibbons, '53 James Ruffing, '53 Thomas Wroblewski, '53

1954

John Foley, '54 Richard O'Leary, '54 Robert Piskurich, '54 Daniel Stuthers, '54 James Wirth, '54

1955

William Brashear, '55 Martin Mulkerrin, '55 Frank Stratiff, '55

1956

Lawrence Hunter, '56 Albert Stiehl, '56

1957

Eugene Chamboredon, '57 Reverend William Fay, '57 Richard Hammer, '57

1958

Robert Dugo, '58 Mr. & Mrs. Angelo A. Martini, Sr., '58 Daniel Milton, '58

1959

Edmund Burke, Jr., '59 James Carr, '59 John Cush, '59 Robert Quinlan, '59 Charles Tyson, '59

1960

Donald Burke, '60 Jerome Deriso, Esq, '60 William Och, '60

1962

Joseph Nascone, '62

1963

John Carlin, '63 Francis McSteen, '63 Frederick Steiner, '63

1964

Frank Pecman, '64

1965

William J. Davis, '65 Stephen Scholze, '65 Michael Thorsen, '65

1966

Timothy Dean, '66 Paul Ryms, '66 Craig Simmons, '66

1968

James Bulger, '68 Rev. Gino Donatelli SJ, '68 Daniel Pototo, '68

1969

Raymond W. Luczak, '69

1970

William McGinley, '70 David Tunney, '70

1971

<mark>James Vertu</mark>llo, '71

1973

George Mathews, '73

1977

George Kieszek, '77 Arthur Nance, '77 David White, '77

1982

Ted Kelly, '82 Paul McHale, '82

1984

Joseph Camillo III, '84 John Yost, '84

1985

Michael LeDonne, '85

1986

Mario Nicassio, '86

1987

David Naylor, '87

1991

William Wetmore, II, '91

2011

Anthony LaRussa, Jr., '11





35th Annual Viking Victory Auction Saturday May 3, 2025

THE WESTIN PITTSBURGH

1000 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Since the first auction in 1990, the event has raised over \$6.5 million to benefit the young men of Central Catholic High School.

For more information or to join the auction committee, contact: 412.208.3443 | Events@CentralCatholicHS.com.





CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 4720 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2952

Non-Profit Org. **US** Postage **PAID** Pittsburgh, PA Permit No. 11

Central Catholic High School, a college preparatory school for boys, is guided by the educational principles of St. John Baptist de La Salle.

The school strives to provide a challenging, relevant, and diverse program of studies and extracurricular activities in an environment that fosters a life of faith and learning and develops leaders rooted in the Gospel values of integrity, respect, service, justice, and peace.

SAVE THE DATES!

WE ARE INVITING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES TO JOIN US FOR TWO IMPORTANT DATES DURING THE FALL OF 2024!

"Viking for a Day" allows eighth-grade boys to visit Central Catholic and shadow a current student throughout the school day. The experience gained will give Future Vikings a dynamic perspective of the day-to-day operations on our campus and showcases the curriculum that we offer to our students.

We also invite families and children of all ages to our Open House, which includes campus-wide tours and activities to show the true essence of Central Catholic High School!

VIKING FOR A DAY: OCTOBER 18, 2024 OPEN HOUSE: NOVEMBER 3, 2024



CENTRALCATHOLICHS.COM/ADMISSIONS FOR MORE INFORMATION!

PARENTS:

If your son has moved from your home, please notify Brandon Haburjak, '06, Vice President of Institutional Advancement at 412.208.3488 or BHaburjak@CentralCatholicHS.com.

Connect with more than 3,700 other alumni at centralalumni.com!







@CCHSVIKINGS @CENTRALVIKINGS @CENTRALVIKINGS

