

# KNIGHTS NEWSFLASH SPRING 2020



#### KNIGHTS NEWSFLASH CONTENTS

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5 - SPRING 2020

02 A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **03** COVID UPDATES
- O4 CORATO FOOD SERVICE GROUP
- 04 ERIK URGILES '21

**TEACHER SECTION** 

- **05** STUDENT COUNCIL
- 06 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
- 07 DR. SEUSS FAMILY FUN DAY
- **08** SERVICE LEARNING

**SPORTS** 

- 13 COACH RAY CULLINAN
- 13 CINDY LEUNG '22
- 14 JAEDEN SMITH '20
- 14 TYLER CHAPMAN '20
- 15 CHEERLEADING
- 15 INTERNATIONAL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL EXHIBITION GAMES

**ALUMNI** 

17 CAREER DAY

19 ALUMNI NOTES 25 IN MEMORIAM

### A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

On Friday, March 13, 2020, while members of the classes of 2020 and 2021 participated with alumni guests in Career Day discussions, it was decided to move immediately to a platform of Distance Learning for all students. The outbreak of the Coronavirus looked ominous.

New York State and City officials were engaged in lively discussions on the topic of Distance Learning. Some said it could work. Others said it would be hard to do. Still others were apprehensive that it could ever work.

At Holy Cross we knew it would work. Over the previous four years we had embarked on a path to equip the building with state-of-the-art high speed WiFi for Internet access. We had successfully rolled out to each new class Chromebooks on a one-to-one basis. Faculty members had begun using the Google Classroom suite of educational tools in their course work. Distributing course content, providing assignments, receiving homework, and assessing proficiency through online quizzes and exams was already becoming the norm. Students were already accustomed to using the technology from the homes.

So, when the students left the building on that Friday, they were encouraged to take their Chromebooks home and to prepare to attend classes online beginning the next week. The switch was flicked, and in a flash, we learned much:

- Holy Cross students "get it!" They rolled with the change, and continue to do so.
- Holy Cross teachers are "amazing!" They adjusted their course content, and they shared ideas with one another on how to best present new material, and how to modify exams that can take on the nature of "open book assessments" in an online environment.
- Holy Cross coaches resorted to Instagram videos for physical exercise examples.
- Holy Cross campus ministers/service coordinators helped students find opportunities to be of service by providing essential hospital workers with boxed lunches.
- Holy Cross students recorded and posted videos for the daily prayers.
- Holy Cross student-athletes used Instagram to post a clever video of Softball team play, frame by frame, while cheerleaders offered examples of how to maintain physical fitness.
- Holy Cross technologists worked to make certain the Distance Learning pages on the Website were current and accurate.
- Holy Cross club moderators continued to provide an "online" space for their club members to continue their efforts.

This last example may have actually been enhanced by Distance Learning when it came to the fourth annual Computer Coding Club Contest. In years past, a small group of people attended the presentations. This year there were many more. It was terrific to join the Google Meet and listen to faculty members Mr. Evan LaGreca and Ms. Lynn Whelan join with board chair Mr. Frank Orzo '64 to serve as judges. Club Moderator Mrs. Fei-Wen Pirovolikos had encouraged Mr. Adam Muczynski '23 and Mr. Dominic DeCosta '20 in their submissions. Clearly they are both winners! They each earned cash awards, courtesy of Mr. Orzo. And Dominic earned applause from the several dozen in attendance on the news of his acceptance to the University of Virginia as his next academic step.

The title of this digital publication actually takes on a second meeting: In responding to the needs of our society to address the COVID-19 global pandemic, Holy Cross Knights "flashed" to a new and digital solution to educate our hearts and minds.

Go Knights! Stay Safe. God Bless, All!

Michael "Mike" Truesdell President

With Ssusher

# **COVID UPDATES**

In early March, the Administration was moving quickly to prepare for a possible emergency closing due to Covid-19. Nora Brandon, RN, our school nurse was in daily contact with the NYS DOH to get updated information regarding the outbreak. The Director of instructional Technology was holding readiness checkups with small groups of teachers to make sure they were ready to go to a distance learning platform. Mr. Burns, with the help of his team, made sure that CDC guidelines were posted throughout the building and that all NYSED, NYS DOH, NYCDOE, and Brooklyn Diocese communiques were reviewed and implemented. All trips were cancelled beginning March 12th. A PD Day was held on March 16, 2020 to review Google Classroom logistics and prepare for reaching all students, including those most vulnerable. Slides from PD were posted to the My HCHS Google Classroom message board so teachers could review, at their leisure, to assist with digital learning initiatives. Mr. Burns worked with Ms. Pirovolikos to set up the Distance Learning page on the website, which would serve as the hub of our distance learning initiative. Everyone's role in the distance learning model, including Administrative Office Staff, was clarified during the week of March 16th. A weekly conference schedule was set via Google Meet with Admin, SETTS providers, Department Chairs, and Guidance Department.

Responsibilities were laid out by Administration to faculty and staff on March 16th. Classroom Teachers are to post lessons each day of the cycle in which that class would meet in person. Lessons must contain an aim, a warm up or do now, a piece that they listen to (slideshow with voice or video), a reading, and an assessment. Lessons must contain both instructional and assessment pieces. Teachers will be responsible for monitoring and replying to emails during regular school hours. The idea that communication is key for removing barriers to understanding and ensuring students can confidently complete assignments on time was stressed. Additionally, each teacher will provide Office Hours to each of the classes they teach. The purpose is for students to check in, alert the teacher to any struggles they are having with the class, and to assure students that someone is there for them should they need help with any of the digital assignments. SETTSeachers will join the Google Classrooms of the students they are assigned. SETTSteachers will schedule support services according to their students IESPs. All paperwork for telecommunication meetings via Google Meet must be collected before these services may commence. Guidance Counselors will be available to all students during normal school hours via phone, email, or video conferencing via Google Meet. Counselors will reach out to any students who are falling behind in their work, are in danger of failing, or who have special needs that may present obstacles to success with distance learning. Teachers will reach out to counselors for assistance with students that are struggling in their class. The Director of Instructional Technology provides virtual assistance for teachers to set up Google Meet, Google Voice, and Screencastify. Run online sessions via Google Meet for teachers/staff to check in and get assistance with any technical issues they may be experiencing as often as is needed. It is not a requirement that teachers attend, but is there as a resource. Administrative Assistants are to monitor phones remotely, suggest needed updates to the Distance Learning page, review attendance check ins, call all students that are not checking in with attendance, alert Guidance to parent concerns, and provide a report of concerns/ messages to the Administration.

While educating the mind we have not forgotten to educate the heart, through the creative ideas of our APs for Campus Life and our Director of Service Learning we have incorporated service opportunities for our students and "Spirit Days" for the school community to participate in. We also celebrated our heritage with our first livestream mass in honor of St. Joseph the Worker on May 1st.

The Administration, faculty, and staff of Holy Cross High School has been busy at Distance Learning now for 8 weeks, and although there have been some challenges, we have risen to the challenge. Check out all that we have been up to on our Distance Learning at <a href="https://holycrosshs.org/hconline/">https://holycrosshs.org/hconline/</a>

# **CORATO FOOD SERVICE GROUP**

Our Cafeteria was featured in The Tablet and on

Net TV Currents News. Marco Cerbone of Corato Food Service Group was recognized for how he is reinventing school cafeterias!

The Tablet: <a href="https://thetablet.org/holy-cross-hs-cafeteria/">https://thetablet.org/holy-cross-hs-cafeteria/</a>

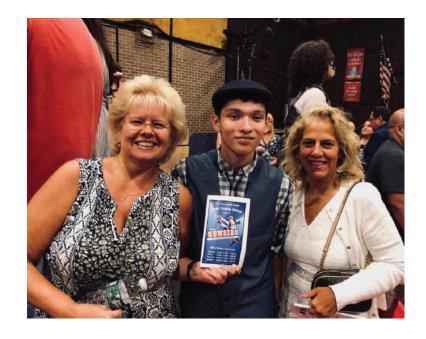
Net TV Currents News: <a href="https://netny.tv/episodes/currents/catholic-high-school-ditches-traditional-lunches-with-fresh-made-foods/?fbclid=IwAR0datDM">https://netny.tv/episodes/currents/catholic-high-school-ditches-traditional-lunches-with-fresh-made-foods/?fbclid=IwAR0datDM</a> pRiw8sZU\_2TYOIYWQr2anyrPjQIpYjevEk9OBdor2-qsbl4vjMw



Marco Cerbone and his father, Marco Cerbone, Sr.

# **ERIK URGILES '21**

Erik Urgiles '21, performed an outstanding role in the Broadway Musical "Newsies", presented by Holy Child Jesus' Teen Drama Group! Erik performed as Bill and was part of the Ensemble for the show. Holy Cross faculty and staff members Mrs. London and Ms. Diez were in attendance cheering on Erik.



# STUDENT COUNCIL



Student Council helping out at Accepted Students' Night



Student Council at Safe Trick or Treating for the neighborhood boys and girls.



Student Council Christmas collection - helping the homeless



Student Council making decorations for the schoolwide Halloween Dance



Schoolwide Dance



Student Council decorating the 911 Memorial



Student Council decorating the Display Case for all of the clubs/sports/activities

#### STUDENT COUNCIL SAYS HELLO!!!

Student Council wants everyone to know we miss the Holy Cross community!! We hope everyone is staying safe through these hard times and ask everyone to **stay positive**.



We encourage you all to take this time and catch up on schoolwork, try new at-home activities, and **stay healthy!!** Although not being able to do your normal day-to-day activities is hard,

find new ones! It is very important to stay positive and keep your head up because things will get better.

A MESSAGE TO OUR SENIORS: We hope all of you are doing well! We know this is the hardest for you, as it's your last year. Although we wish things could be different we have to stay strong and keep our heads up. On behalf of the Holy Cross faculty and staff, we miss you all and hope to see the class of 2020 one last time if the future allows.

As we all hope this will be over soon don't forget to BeHC!

Student Council positive message to the HC Community.

# **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**



A special day at Holy Cross High School, set up by Mr. Jack Rampulla, Santa Claus and one of his elf's came to visit! Local elementary schools were invited to our Second Annual Breakfast with Santa. The HC Cheerleaders performed for their wonderful audience and helped the children with writing letters to Santa and started a fun dance party! Mr. Rampulla ended the

afternoon with a Christmas

story time.

It was a magical day filled with laughter and fun!







# DR. SEUSS FAMILY FUN DAY

The Brother Karl Diemand Library Media Center celebrated its 1st Annual Dr. Seuss Family Fun Day in support of Read Across America on March 7th. The Library and halls were buzzing with the sounds of little hearts excited to see Thing 1 and Thing 2 join in on a read-aloud of a Dr. Seuss classic, arts and crafts, painting and carnival games based on all of the beloved Dr. Seuss books. More than 40 of our Holy Cross students helped introduce and foster the love of reading in celebration of Read Across America for the families of the community. The Library Media Center is looking forward to the celebration next year with more exciting and engaging activities for families to embrace the love of reading.













# **SERVICE LEARNING**

#### St. Marys' Children's Hospital

At St. Marys' Children's Hospital, Holy Cross students make crafts for the developmentally disabled children that reside at the hospital. While making these crafts, our students interact with these children by sharing stories and memories from their own lives. Although the craft may change based on the time of year, the joy that our students bring to these children and those who work with the children each day remains the same.

Dates Visited: 9/18/19, 9/26/19, 10/3/19, 10/10/19, 10/22/19, 11/6/19, 11/13/19, 12/19/19, 1/8/20















#### St. Joseph's School for the Deaf

Experiences at St. Joseph's School for the Deaf allow Holy Cross students the opportunity to communicate with deaf students by learning and using practical American Sign Language. During 'standard' trips, our students learn pieces of ASL from the middle school students at St. Joseph's.

Students from Holy Cross take on leadership roles while running various stations (pumpkin tasting, seed counting, pumpkin painting) during the Annual Pumpkin Patch.

Dates Visited: 9/27/18, 10/4/19, 10/24/19









#### St. John's Bread & Life

Each homeroom is given a specific canned food item to donate during our Annual Day of Service Food Drive. This year, the Holy Cross Community once again proved what we are capable of and the impact we can have by donating upwards of 5,000 food items.

The food from our food drive was then brought by bus to St. John's Bread and Life. Here students transported the food items donated by the school community and sorted said items in the pantry. Our students were able to serve lunch, hand out 'grocery items,' and learn the impact of the food donations from the volunteers and needy at St. John's Bread and Life.



Date: 11/14/19, 11/19/19

#### Clearview Assistance Program

At the Clearview Assistance Program, our students interact with the elderly residents from the Clearview Gardens Apartments. During these interactions, our students learn about the past through the experiences of the elderly, and Holy Cross students share their experiences of growing up during this time period. Prior to the Christmas Recess, our students shared a holiday meal with the elderly and engaged in singing classic Hanukkah songs and Christmas carols.

Dates Visited: 10/11/19, 11/18/19, 12/1/19



#### Ronald McDonald House

Girls Volleyball

Upon arrival, our students prepare and cook a Brunch capable of feeding the nearly 100 people staying at the Ronald McDonald House. Students are then tasked with serving these individuals. During this portion of the experience, students interact with the guests which allows them to feel the real impact of the meal they have just made.

Dates Visited: 10/1/19

#### Walter Kaner Children's Party

The Walter Kaner Foundation offers one Holy Cross Student a \$5,000 Tuition Grant each year through the Loretta Kenny Memorial Award. The recipient of this year's award, Isaia Vilalta-Ortiz, had attended the event last year and continued his great service at this year's event.





The group consisted of students from each grade level and these students played a major role in running this holiday party by directing groups to their tables and ensuring that their assigned tables were taken care of. This allows thousands of New York City Children to experience joy and a holiday celebration that they may not be able to have this year. Our very own Matthew

DeCanio, a sophomore, DJ'ed the event, allowing these children to experience a true 'dance party.'

Date: 11/26/19

#### **Annual HC Tree Lighting**



The Annual Tree Lighting at Holy Cross is a memorable event, in which members of the Holy Cross Band serenade a crowd of students with Classic Christmas tunes after the tree is lit. This event is made more memorable for the many students who played a role in

putting the tree up,as well as the student and faculty handcrafted ornaments, as they feel that it is truly 'their' tree.

Date: 12/6/19



#### Day of Service/Christmas Classic

Students contributed five dollars to dress down and receive five raffle tickets. These tickets were then placed into buckets featuring the seniors participants, hopeful of earning a spot in the Christmas Classic Basketball Game. The dress down collection was used to obtain the items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, ziplock bags, and towelettes) for the Day of Service Comfort Kits. The Comfort Kits provide basic everyday items that we often take for granted to those in need during the holiday season.

Date: 12/20/19

### REMOTE SERVICE LEARNING

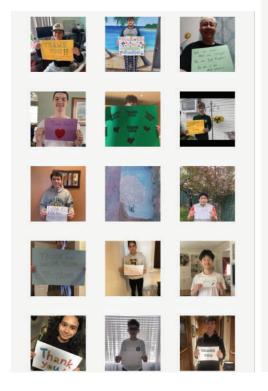
#### Palm Sunday 2020

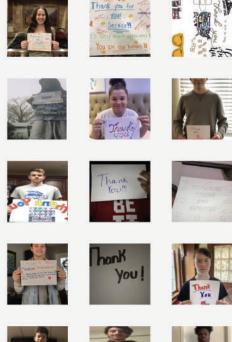
Students wrote inspirational and biblical quotes on their physical palms to celebrate Palm Sunday and show togetherness.

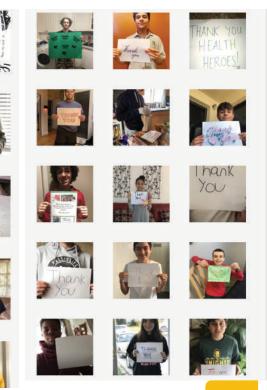
#### Thank You Medical Professionals

Members of the school community created signs of appreciation and took photos with their signs. These images will accompany a meal to show our gratitude for the medical professional.









# **COACH RAY CULLINAN**



Varsity Basketball Coach and Holy Cross Social Studies Teacher, Ray Cullinan, plays against his brothers teams at the 14th Tom Keenan Memorial Basketball Classic in Buffalo!

Check out the exciting article about the sibling's: <a href="https://buffalonews.com/2019/12/14/cullinan-sibling-rivalry-renewed-at-canisius-keenan-classic/">https://buffalonews.com/2019/12/14/cullinan-sibling-rivalry-renewed-at-canisius-keenan-classic/</a>

# **CINDY LEUNG '22**

Congratulations to Cindy Leung '22 on receiving a Student Athlete Leadership of Tomorrow award for track and field!





# **JAEDEN SMITH '20**

Jaeden Smith '20 took the title of CHSAA Brooklyn/ Queens 300 Meter Champion! Also placing 3rd in the City for the 300 meter dash.



# **TYLER CHAPMAN '20**



Senior Tyler Chapman '20 scored is 1000 point against Msgr. Scanlan. He is the 10th HC player in the history of our rich basketball program to reach this milestone!

# **CHEERLEADING**

Our Cheerleading Team cheered on the crowd at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Light The Night Walk!



# INTERNATIONAL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL EXHIBITION GAMES

Holy Cross kicked off the 2019-2020 school year with The International Girls Volleyball Exhibition Games! The competing teams were Holy Cross, Monsignor McClancy, Kellenberg Memorial and Amatori Atletica Orago Varese. The fun filled weekend left us with a new extended family that we are looking forward to seeing again in the near future.















# ALUMNI

# Stay Up To Date with Alumni Events & More

17 CAREER DAY

**19** ALUMNI NOTES

25 IN MEMORIAM

WWW.HOLYCROSSHS.ORG/ALUMNI

# **CAREER DAY 2020**

On Friday, March 13, 2020, Holy Cross High School welcomed back Holy Cross alumni to share their college and career experience with our juniors and seniors on Career Day.

The guest speakers represented 16 colleges and universities and 20 different occupations in Business, Law, Civil Service, Engineering, Architecture, Sports, Cybersecurity and Medicine. Students rotated venues to hear presentations from three different panels of speakers in industries of interest to them. While all speakers shared the same bond as Holy Cross Knights, their experiences and perspectives were unique in the path they took to achieve their goals.

Keynote speaker Judge Jerald Carter, Class of 1970, was powerful in his presentation and inspiration. A recent addition to the Holy Cross Board of Directors, Judge Carter attributed his academic success to Holy Cross and emphasized the importance of ensuring that the school survives. "Go to college, get a sense of who you are and what you can accomplish while you are here on earth, and come back, to give back." Following the presentations, faculty and staff joined the guest speakers for lunch and an opportunity to get reacquainted with former teachers and coaches.

If you would like to be a guest speaker at Holy Cross, please complete the <u>Guest Speaker</u> Profile on the Alumni page of the school website, HolyCrossHS.org.



Career Day 2020 Alumni Guest Speakers (l-r) Standing: Ed Burns '84, Principal, Judge Jerald Carter '70, James Quinn '81, Frank Orzo '64, Ian Bergstrom '10, John Foglio '02, Jonathan Williams '03, Brett Swiatocha '03, Benrich "Ricky" St. Louime '04, James Conboy '83, VP of Institutional Advancement, Bradley Everett '05, Mike Truesdell, President; Seated: Dimitrios Savva '10, Richard Cassata '76, Peter DiPietrantonio '07, Jordan Triantafilidis '07, Terrell Smith '06, John Freudig '07, Angelo Marsella '92, Carlo Acquista '96; Not pictured: Marios Haritos '07.

#### **List of Guest Speakers**

Carlo Acquista '96 Head Soccer Coach, Fordham University

Ian Bergstrom, Esq. '10 Deputy County Attorney, Office of the Nassau County Attorney.

Judge Jerald Carter '70 Supreme Court Judge, Retired and Attorney-at-Law.

Richard Cassata '76 Managing Director, Assured Guaranty.

James Conboy, CPA '83 VP of Institutional Advancement, Holy Cross High School.

Frank DiBisceglie '89 Detective, New York Police Department.

Peter DiPietrantonio '07 Specialist, Premium Sales & Service, New York Yankees.

Bradley Everett '05 Founder/Financial Advisor, EverettCapital, LLC.

John Foglio, P.E. '02 Manager, Con Edison.

John Freudig '07 Associate Director PHD Advertising Marios Haritos, DPT '07 Owner, MGH Physical Therapy PC.

Angelo Marsella '92 Sports Medicine Director, Professional Physical Therapy.

Frank Orzo '64 Co-Founder and Vice President, Non Profit Sector Strategies.

Jimmy Quinn '81 Captain, Fire Department of New York.

Ricky St. Louime '04 Human Resource Consultant, Paychex.

Dimitrios Savva, PharmD '10 Pediatric Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, New York Presbyterian Hospital/Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital.

Terrell Smith '06 Cybersecurity Project Manager, ManTech.

Brett Swiatocha, AIA '03 Associate Principal, Perkins Eastman DC.

Jordan Triantafilidis '07 District Representative, Nalco Water.

Jonathan Williams '03 Firefighter, Fire Department of New York; Infantryman, US Army.

# **ALUMNI NOTES**

#### NOTES FROM THE HOLY CROSS FAMILY

#### THE FIFTIES

Robert Carden-Capon '59 is a retired U.S. Army Special Forces Medic and served as an Operations/ Intelligence Sergeant. He is also a former member of the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES). In more current activities, Robert is a member of the Professional Association of Dive Instructors (PADI), where he has the rating of Dive Master. Additionally, he is a member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG.)

Still working as CEO of Special Testing Labs, Inc. in Bethel, CT, Richard Speciale '59 also manages to spend some time in the Cayman Islands and skiing at Mt. Snow.

Joseph (Joe) Zimmer '59 joined the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve when he was 17 years old and still at Holy Cross High School. After serving 43 years, at the age of 60, he retired as an E-9 Master Chief Petty Officer, holding the national distinction of being the longest serving member of the U.S. Coast Guard. At retirement, Joe was awarded the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, the third-highest Coast Guard award, for several rescues throughout his Coast Guard career.

In 1965, Joseph entered the NYPD and served during the Martin Luther King riots in Harlem, Bed-Stuyvesant and the East NY sections of Brooklyn. After three years, he resigned from the police force and was sworn into the NYFD, assigned to Engine Co. 42 in the South Bronx. During the 70's, his Engine Company became the busiest in the nation having over 5,600 responses a year.

Joe met his wife, Joy at the Coast Guard Training Center in Yorktown, VA on August 4, 1974, which, coincidentally, happens to be Coast Guard Day! Together, they operated J. Zimmer Inc., a building and home improvement company in the Louisville, KY area for 41 years before he went on to accept a Construction Manager position with the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). After 14 years at the GSA, he retired at the age of 73. Joe is a proud servant of the American people for 57 years of his life, as we, too, are proud to salute his service.

His address is MCPO Joseph Zimmer, USCG ret., PO Box 10, Goshen KY 40026.

#### THE SIXTIES

William Muskopf '61 is a retired FDNY Lieutenant. He is also a Vietnam veteran having served as a Sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps and a former Captain in the Huntington Fire Department. He and wife Annie have been married 52 years and have 4 children and 8 grandchildren.

Richard Dieter '63 recently published "Reflections on a Surprising Universe" through John Hunt Publishing and is available on Amazon and other book websites. He also is a Consultant, through his company, RDieter Communications. rdieter004@gmail.com

Having retired to Southwest Florida, **Jim Kelly '66** is enjoying the area with his wife, Mary. They are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year, blessed with a "loving relationship", three sons and six grandchildren. Jim is very grateful for the strong foundation he gained at Holy Cross High School. <u>jimmaryk@verizon.net</u>

After graduating from NYU in 1972, Jerome "Jerry" Pendzick '68 joined the U.S. Marine Corps. He completed Officer Candidate School, and went on to attend the Naval Aviation Flight School in Pensacola, FL where he achieved the designation as a Naval Aviator in June 1974. Assigned as a helicopter pilot, Jerry trained in California before his assignment to fly in Okinawa Japan.

In Japan, he met his wife Val (Hirzu) who, at the time, was teaching military dependents in Okinawa. They were married in 1976 and though Jerry spent much time deployed at sea, they both served in South Caroline, Hawaii and California. Their two sons were born at Tripler Army Medical Center in Oahu, Hawaii.

Jerry left the Marine Corps in 1984 and after a brief time in the defense industry, he joined the Federal Aviation Administration as an Aviation Safety Inspector, serving New York and southern California. He retired from FAA Management in 2014 with 40 years of combined military and government service. Jerry and Valerie now live in Jacksonville, OR, the heart of the Oregon wine country. Along with their two sons, they have five grandchildren.

Robert Corrado '69 went to Dayton, OH for school and never left! He received a BSBA in 1973 and an MBA in 1975, both from the University of Dayton. He retired in 2019 after a 40-year career as a Systems Analyst.

#### THE SEVENTIES

Arthur DeGennaro '73 is retired from the USPS as an Area Safety and Health Representative in the American Postal Workers Union. artie512@optonline.net

Joseph Valentino '74 attended the Tower to Tunnel Race with his three children. The event honors the heroic life and death of Stephen Siller, a NY firefighter who laid down his life in order to save others on 9/11 by strapping on his gear and running through the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel to the Twin Towers.

Author Frank Ricupero '75 (pen name Frank R. Cole) has two books available on Amazon: "Discussion from a Beginner Writer" and "Unbounded, A collection of Poems". Frank's English teacher at Holy Cross was Brother Karl Diemand.



Joe Valentino '74 and children Andrea, Teddy and Corinne at the Tower to Tunnel Race on Sunday, September 29, 2019 with FDNY firefighter Connor Geraghty, son of Battalion Chief Edward Geraghty '74, who perished in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

A Lieutenant in the FDNY, William Pickett '76 is also a part-time Paramedic at Lenox Hill Hospital in NY. He and his wife Joyce have a son, Bill Jr, and a daughter, Jessica who recently got engaged, making Bill and Joyce "parents of the bride"! William hopes to hear from his classmates. <a href="mailto:ltbpickett@aol.com">ltbpickett@aol.com</a>

Peter Venaglia '76 is Vice President of the Standardbred Owners Association of New York, and he is a Trustee of the SOA of New York's Welfare and Retirement Funds. He is a past Director of the United States Trotting Association, has testified before the New York State Advisory Commission on Racing in the 21st Century and before Committees of the New York State Senate and Assembly, and he has co-hosted the Yonkers Raceway TV Show since 2010. He has served as a volunteer in the MENTOR program, where he worked with students from Franklin K. Lane High School in Brooklyn, New York, and has also volunteered with the New York Cares program.

Gerard O'Connor '78 was recently named Director of Advancement at Maria Regina High School in Hartsdale, NY. Though his four children are now in their twenty's, he is still active as CYO Director at

St. Joseph's Parish in Maplewood, NJ. He and his wife Jackie are expecting their first grandchild in April 2020. goconnor96@gmail. com

Joseph Quinn '78 retired at the rank of Sergeant and served on the Sergeants Benevolent Association Board for years. He was assigned to Transit District 20.



Joseph Quinn '78 at his retirement walk out in October 2019. On the left is his brother, Thomas Quinn, 74 who is a court officer in uniform.

#### THE EIGHTIES

Roger DeBonis '80 was recently named the VP of Business Development for Lifetime Magazine and Emerald Media Group, serving all aspects of the Cannabis Industry.

After graduating HCHS, Peter T. Masiakos '82 obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry from NYU. Dr. Masiakos completed a Master of Science degree in physiology and biophysics at Pennsylvania State University (1990) and a Medical Degree at Boston University School of Medicine (1994) where he was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha National Medical Honor Society. He completed a general surgical residency at Boston Medical Center (2002), and specialized in pediatric surgery at the Hospital for Sick Children (2004), where he developed a clinical interest in pediatric trauma care and injury prevention. Dr. Masiakos has since focused his career on identifying and addressing the social determinants of traumatic and has become an internationally recognized expert in pediatric trauma and injury prevention. He holds leadership positions at Massachusetts General Hospital, is an elected Governor of the American College of Surgeons and Chairs the Advocacy Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He also presently serves on the 83-member American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, tasked with overseeing the development and implementation of local, regional, national and international trauma systems and programs.

Dr. Masiakos is a pediatric general and thoracic surgeon at MGH where he is also the Director of the Pediatric Trauma Surgery Service, and Associate Professor at Harvard Medical School. He was recently appointed to lead the MGH Center for Gun Violence Prevention by the hospital's president, Dr. Peter Slavin. Over the last 16 years, Dr. Masiakos has been actively engaged in educating the Massachusetts legislature, the U.S. Congress and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) on the inherent risks that certain products pose to children and has testified both at the Massachusetts State House and at CPSC on the need for new legislation that would prohibit the use of certain dangerous products among young age groups. He has aided in the development, enactment and evaluation of at least 10 injury prevention laws and continues to work alongside Massachusetts' legislators and Congress on other comprehensive injury prevention initiatives, including junior-operator laws, safe-driving laws and child-restraint laws. His work has been recognized by the Massachusetts' Legislature as well as by Governor Deval Patrick and Governor Charles Baker. His role in injury prevention has extended into the community through outreach programs that have positively impacted child wellness, including through his relationship with The Boston Police/Boys and Girls Club of Boston Youth Connect program, which provides health care access to those in need.

Dr. Masiakos teaches medical students and surgical residents at MGH. He has published nearly 100 manuscripts, has been an invited visiting professor to national and international university-based surgical programs, and has given numerous national and international lectures on advocacy and injury prevention. Additionally, Dr. Masiakos has authored over 10 book chapters and was recently tasked to edit a compendium of papers in Current Trauma Reports on the topic of firearm violence prevention. He has received many awards in recognition of his leadership, distinguished service and commitment to state grassroots advocacy, including the 2010 Arthur Ellenberger Award from the American College of Surgeons and the Nathaniel Bowditch Prize from the MGH Board of Trustees.

Peter is married to Dr. Lina Radzius and together they are raising two boys, Andreas (Age 16) and Lukas (age 11). Peter is active in his community (Sudbury, MA) where he volunteers at his children's schools and has coached both of his sons' youth soccer teams.

Submitted by Peter T. Masiakos, MS, MD, FACS, FAAP

Frank Fiume '86, visited our students to talk about entrepreneurship. Frank founded <a href="www.i9sports.com">www.i9sports.com</a> and just had his book published: Running With My Head Down, An Entrepreneur's Story of Passion, Perseverance, and Purpose.







Michael Mullahy '87, a Lieutenant in the NPYD, has been selected to be one of the recipients of the 11th Annual Irish Law and Order Award.

Weedens E. Blanchard '89, earned his Ed. D. in Educational Administration from St. John's University in 2017. Dr. Blanchard currently works as Director of Education at Hunter Business School in Levittown, NY. In addition, Dr. Blanchard also serves as Adjunct Assistant Professor for the School of Education at St. John's University. Weedens is married and has a son and daughter. During his downtime, he enjoys watching all Giants, Mets and St. John's basketball games and enjoys traveling as well. Recently, he traveled to Paris, France during the summer of 2019. woodyblanchard@hotmail.com

#### THE NINETIES

Andrew Verikokos '94, is a Senior Talent Acquisition Specialist at Canon USA.

#### THE 2000'S

Since graduating from Holy Cross, Eric Howard '07, joined the FDNY, competed in the 2015 season of Master Chef where he was a finalist, became a co-owner of Gramercy Ale House, participated in numerous food festivals and raised monies for a number of charitable organizations. In November, Eric competed as a finalist in the final episode of Food Network's Ultimate Thanksgiving Challenge, hosted by Giada DeLaurentis. "I've always loved Thanksgiving. It's a time for family coming together and I love Thanksgiving food", Eric said. "I didn't go to culinary school and I wasn't classically trained, but I grew up watching Food Network and we always cooked at the firehouse". He and his dad, who was also a firefighter, spent a lot of time in the kitchen honing his skills.

Michael Friedman '11 is a Fixed Income Trader Assistant/Portfolio Management at Bank of America Merrill Lynch.



Eric Howard '07 a third-generation firefighter wanted to follow his father and grandfather's footsteps as a good cook, too.

Rudy Gainey '14 is an Assistant Media Planner for Horizon Media.

On March 12th, Lawrence James Vodopivec '18, and son of teacher Cathy Vodopivec, performed at Carnegie Hall with the Norwich University (Vermont) Regimental Band. The Band celebrated their Bicentennial Anniversary with a celebratory concert at Carnegie Hall. The Band played original works and an array of military tunes. The band literally brought down the house in New York City as they were the last live performance in New York before the Coronavirus shutdown. Unfortunately, the Band was unable to complete their Bicentennial Tour to Washington, DC due to the government pandemic lockdown. The remainder of the tour, which included a tour of the White House and a Concert at the Lincoln Memorial, was canceled.









Jared Jagiello '19, Class of 2019 Knight of The Year, served Mass at Basilica of St. Peter in Rome!



# Stay Up To Date with Alumni Events & More

WWW.HOLYCROSSHS.ORG/ALUMNI

# IN MEMORIAM

#### NOTES FROM THE HOLY CROSS FAMILY

#### Brother William Ash, CSC

January 2020

#### Eugene Burbige '62

October 2015

#### Joseph Cacciatore '72

December 2019

#### Alan Cochran

Father of Alan '76, Ken '77, Dan '79, Tom '79 and Jim '82 May 2020

#### Martin Collier '79

March 2020

#### Richard Connelly '75

August 2019

#### Gary Courtenay '68

October 2019

#### Eileen Daly

Mother of Honorable Judge Eileen Daly-Sapraicone Mother-in-law of Michael D. Sapraicone '74 Board Chair Emeritus August 2019

#### Vincent A. DeMartino

Father of Rebecca DeMartino Dear friend of James Conboy '83 February 2020

Proudly served in the US Army as a combat soldier in World War II, Korea and Vietnam and was awarded France's Legion of Honor Medal for his time served in World War II

#### **Doris DeMarco**

Mother of late Gino DeMarco '78 and Chris DeMarco '80 Former Board Vice Chair November 2019

#### Gerard Devan '74

July 2019

#### Richard DeVoe '60

May 2020

#### Pasquale D'Orsi '77

November 2019

#### Daniel Farley '71

April 2020

#### John Fitzpatrick '60

March 2020

#### Muriel Fitzpatrick

Mother of Sr. Margaret Mary Fitzpatrick Former Board Member November 2019

#### Edward Flood '61

Brother of John Flood '59 August 2019

#### Father Walter Wilford Foley

Former Faculty

Coach of Basketball, Football and championship Track and Cross Country January 2020

#### Henry Franco

Director of Maintenance April 2020

A former Marine, Henry was a pillar of our school community, quick with a smile or a helping hand as he brightened the lives of all who were fortunate to have met him. He was man of integrity and respect who cherished his family.

#### Robert Furey '74

Brother of James Furey '77 Brother-in-law of Thomas Trufelli '78 March 2020

#### Barbara Greene

Mother of John '77, Michael '78 and Robert '79 April 2020

#### Kathleen Hand

Mother of Richard '81 and John '85 February 2020

#### Christopher Hayes '13

December 2019

#### George Heckman '64

Brother of Robert '65 and Bruce '70 April 2020

#### Brian Higgins '72

September 2019

#### Kevin Ludwig '92

Brother of Keith Ludwig '97 May 2020

#### Thomas Malone '72

Brother of James Malone Former Guidance Counselor and Coach

#### Joseph Mancino '61

April 2020

#### Joseph Maniscalco '92

March 2020

#### Mary Marchesini

Mother of Thomas '86, William '89, and Frank '89 Grandmother of Christopher '23 and Alexandria '23 April 2020

#### Patricia Mayer

Grandmother of James '97, John '00 and Daniel '08 October 2019

#### John McGowan '60

Father of Eugene McGowan '88 July 2019

#### John McHugh

Father of John McHugh '71 Grandfather of Joseph '95, Christopher '98 and Patrick '04 July 2019

#### Phil Morelli '83

July 2019

#### Charles Nobile

Father of Robert Nobile '70 former Board Member Grandfather of Robert Nobile, Jr. '06 January 2020

#### Terence O'Reilly

Father of Anthony '09 and Terence '11 October 2019

#### John O'Shea '75

November 2019

#### Omar Palmer '97

May 2020

#### Steve Pappas

Father of late Taso Pappas '89 May 2019

#### Olga Germano Piazza

Mother of Robert Piazza '67 April 2020

#### Craig Riviera '92

February 2020

#### Stephen Sangirardi '72

November 2019

#### Ann Santo

Wife of Hank Santo (deceased 2014) Mother of Michael Santo '73

#### Bruce Sautkulis '71

October 2019

#### Patrick Sclafani '79

March 2020

#### Joseph Sexton '61

Brother of John Sexton '63 March 2020

#### Jarrod Sockwell

Former Assistant Coach April 2020

#### Arthur J. Sonnick III

Father of Arthur J. Sonnick IV '11 October 2019

#### Hilde Stetter

Wife of former football coach Bill Stetter July 2019

#### Michael Stella '83

March 2020

#### Joseph Sullivan '72

December 2020

#### Joseph West '63

April 2020

#### Brother Joseph Zutelis, CSC

May 2020

Brother Joseph Zutelis, CSC, the oldest member of the Moreau Provence of the Congregation of Holy Cross was 98 years old and in his 70th year of vowed life in the Congregation.

### To submit a notification or schedule a Mass in memory of a loved one, contact

Gail Sicoli at gsicoli@holycrosshs.org



# **Upcoming Events**

# 38TH ANNUAL GOLF AND DINNER CLASSIC

Thursday, October 15, 2020

Old Westbury Golf and Country Club

For updates, visit <u>holycrosshs.org/golf</u> or contact Gail Sicoli at <u>gsicoli@holycrosshs.org</u>.

For more information about upcoming events, please visit Alumni News and Events on our website (www.holycrosshs.org/alumni), email Gail Sicoli (gsicoli@holycrosshs.org) or call (718) 886-7250, Ext. 577.

#### 2021 ALUMNI REUNION

Saturday, April 17, 2021

Celebrating classes

Class of 1960 and 1961 (60th Anniversary)

Class of 1970 and 1971 (50th Anniversary)

Class of 1995 and 1996 (25th Anniversary)

Along with 5-Year Celebrating Classes

1965, 1966, 1975, 1976, 1980, 1981, 1985, 1986, 1990,

1991, 2000, 2001, 2005, 2006, 2010, 2011, 2015, 2016

And Golden Knights Classes

1959, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1967, 1968, 1969

For updates, visit <u>holycrosshs.org/reunion</u> or contact Maria Kaloidas at <u>mkaloidas@myhchs.org</u>

VISIT US ON THE WEB! www.holycrosshs.org