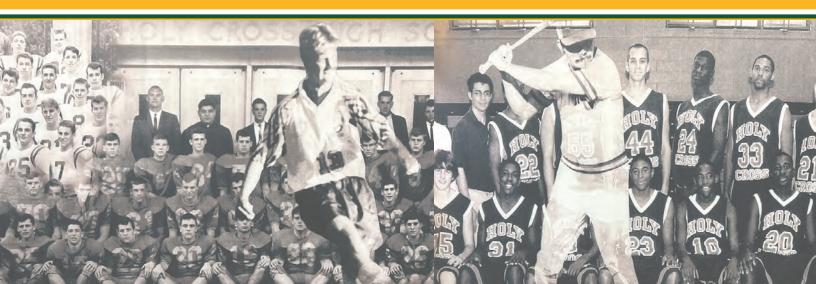


HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

Legends Hall Dedication and Celebration

OCTOBER 21, 2023



Congratulations to

HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL LEGENDS HALL HONOREES

especially my classmates

Joe Dombrowski

and

RICH RIZZUTO

and to

TIM LISANTE

in recognition of his dedication and commitment to Holy Cross High School's football program.



The Honorable Eileen Daly-Sapraicone and

Michael D. Sapraicone '74
Board Chair Emeritus



From the Office of the President

October 2023 Office of the President Room 205

Dear Holy Cross Legends and Friends,

Tonight is a night several years in the making. The idea for Legends Hall originated in 2016 when, in his first year as our athletic director, Keith Goggin '92 along with some members of the Board of Directors brainstormed a way to commemorate our rich athletic history with style. Eventually, like so many things, COVID-19 delayed this celebration. Tonight we salute the very best of our Holy Cross athletics story: all the Division I and professional athletes we have, over the past sixty-five years,



sent forth from within the cinderblock walls of this building as well as all the City and State championship teams (nearly 60 and counting) we have produced over the years. It is indeed an inspiring array of talent and an impressive story.

Tonight is a celebration of athleticism, commitment, diligence, effort, excellence, grit and legacy. Each jersey, each number, and each name displayed down the hall, and each banner hanging in the gym, tells a story of individual achievement and collective team effort; together they comprise a mosaic acknowledging the importance athletics has played in the mission of Holy Cross since its founding in 1955. From The University of Arizona to Yale, from the NFL to MLB and the NBA, Holy Cross Knights have left their mark. It is a legacy for which we can be proud and honored.

A special night like tonight means there are many people to thank. First, our many sponsors who generously supported this event and helped make it a success. To Bob Arnone '59, Denny Golden '59, John Douglas '61, Billy Schaeffer '69 and Carlo Acquista '96 for their heartfelt and inspiring reflections of athletics at Holy Cross and at the college and professional level. To Gail Sicoli P'06, Alexandra Allimonos, Jimmy Conboy '83, Bartholomew Johnson and Natalya Keir P'20 of our Advancement team who worked so diligently to pull tonight together in myriad ways; to Rev. Msgr. Tom Machalski (not only pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Bayside but also Chaplain to the New York Mets) who celebrated our Mass and blessed Legends Hall, and to Keith Goggin '92 for conceptualizing so brilliantly and researching so meticulously this showcase of our athletic prowess over the years. Thank you all!

Finally, my thanks to you for joining us here tonight. Whether a Knight of yore who went on to play at the next level in college, or professionally, a spouse, child, or friend here to pay homage, or a coach or faculty member who inspired initiative and expected excellence from our Holy Cross Knights. You are all a part of the story; a piece of you is sewn into every jersey displayed down this hall and every banner hanging in our gym.

What a story it is. I am honored to be here and part of the telling.

K-N-I-G-H-T-S!! Go Knights!!

Very truly yours,

Mark A. Mongelluzzo '92



Legends Hall Origin

Early in my tenure as Director of Athletics here at Holy Cross, I was invited to a committee meeting with members of the Board of Directors, coaches and alumni to discuss athletics. The topic of recognizing alumni athletes who played or were currently playing in college or the pros was raised. While various concepts were mentioned, none of them, in my opinion, were bold enough. Why not create a tribute Holy Cross could be proud of-something unique, impactful, and in view of the public?

The idea emerged of converting the basement hallway where the old Freshman lockers (for those of us old enough to remember and suffer the use of them) were located just outside the gym, into a showcase of our athletic history and success. While we already honored some of our professional and Division I basketball alumni with jerseys hanging in the gym, the execution was uneven and not really adequate. We needed to honor all of our athletic alumni who played pro and/or D1, not just basketball players. I wanted the jerseys to all be uniform in shape and size, and to be accurate renderings of what our graduates wore in the time when they competed. I wanted it to be adjustable, knowing full well that it would take time to conduct all of the research of who played what and where, while also allowing for the graduates who would go on to play D1 and/or pro in the future. With flexibility, we could always add to the exhibit as more information came in.

Every day throughout the school year while gym classes are conducted, in the Fall and Winter during basketball season, at alumni reunions in the Spring, and at various Masses and school gatherings throughout the year, the William J. O'Meara gym is in many ways the center of our campus. At the time, the hallway outside the gym was filled with unused, bolted-up, dented lockers and I hoped the committee would agree that if we were going to properly honor our athletic history, we needed to do it well in the part of the building that gets the most traffic. So I pitched the idea of Legends Hall at the meeting, and immediately I saw people on the committee taking notes (that's a good sign, I thought). Then they started asking me to repeat some of the ideas I had (another good sign). Then they were in agreement: this is a great idea! Finally, I heard the words that were both a sigh of relief and a cause of great anxiety: "Make it happen."

I can finally get the basement area outside the gym cleaned up, place the Holy Cross brand everywhere, and at the same time tell the amazing story of how successful our alumni have been in athletics. This will get people talking. What an opportunity!

Now began the arduous process of designing a flexible display, conducting research on our alumni, designing jerseys—and configuring all of it within the available space I had to work with.

I was honored to get the green light to tackle this project and the work began. Sifting through year-







After





books to gather photos, researching the colleges and professional teams our alumni played with (various eBay listings and photos, as well as YouTube videos, proved quite helpful) to find out what jerseys they wore (as well as the right jersey numbers and styles of the era), shopping for a display system that would meet our needs — as challenging and time-consuming as all this was, it became a labor of love.

Speaking of the jerseys — Jerseynameframe.com and Mr. Joe Hilseberg proved to be the perfect partners. Joe

is a uniform detail fanatic, and a pleasure to work with. He usually knows exactly what I mean without needing to look up jersey styles. "Joe, I need an early 2000s Blue Jays blue alternate top, and a mid-60's gray flannel Giants top. Oh yeah, and an early 80's Cosmos too." Within a day or two, I have all the accurate proofs. If it isn't familiar to him, a picture is all I need for the perfect facsimile. Even though it is a side job, his work is impeccable and a worthy honor to all those enshrined. This could easily be the hardest part, but it is often the easiest.

Getting the designs done for the walls was trial and error. I'd submit a concept, get it back, review it, change it, and lather, rinse, repeat. After four or five times I received what looked to be the right

fit. I went over it with Mike Truesdell and Jimmy Conboy '83 (who deserves the credit for naming the project Legends Hall), and we all agreed it was what we wanted. I then presented the concept to veteran coaches and players, members of the Board of Directors, Faculty and Staff at Holy Cross. That was it—good to go.

The before and after of getting the old lockers removed from the hallway and replacing them with the graphic wall coverings was quite a sight to behold. The dark, dingy, dusty space transformed into a vibrant, dignified green and gold centerpiece of our history. Putting up the first jer-



seys and consistently adding to them over the years has proven to be another enjoyable pastime. The best part of all of this is when people get to see Legends Hall for the first time. Whether they are alums honored on the walls, current students and their families, prospective students looking to come here, visiting players and fans from other schools, or administrators from other schools asking me how we had it done and who to contact, so they can do something similar in their own school (after all, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery). Over the year the reactions have been overwhelmingly positive, which has been extremely gratifying.

The goal of Legends Hall is to honor the past of Holy Cross, inspire our present student athletes, and attract the future athletes to Holy Cross who will continue to bring our program to excellence in the years to come.

Here's to hoping that we will need more hall space down the road.

Keith Goggin'92

Director of Athletics



Legends Hall Roster

<u>1959</u>

Robert Arnone, Baseball Tom Costello, Football Jim Glynn, Basketball Dennis Golden, Football Ron Mattana, Football Jim Raftery, Basketball

1960

George Hartwell, Baseball
Mike Hebron, Golf
Pat Keneally, Football
John Lucas, Track & Field
Charles O'Donnell, Football, Track
Bill Ricca, Football +
Len Santoro, Golf

<u> 1961</u>

Raymond Cook, *Track & Field* + John Douglas, *Track & Field* + Richard Fennelly, *Track & Field* + Marty Ferko, *Track & Field* +

<u>1962</u>

Richard Duggan, *Track & Field*Bob McIntyre, *Basketball*Joseph Neilson, *Football & Basketball*Richard Nespola, *Baseball*

1963

Tom Cassese, Football
Jack Guze, Swimming
Frank Honerkamp, Tennis
Jim Lembo, Golf
John Lynch, Baseball
Mike Riordan, Basketball
Daniel Sullivan, Basketball
Paul Sullivan, Golf, Basketball

1964

Albert Bruchac, Swimming
Anthony Giaccone, Swimming
Rich Goggin, Basketball +
Art Louise, Football
Donald McDonald, Track & Field
John Raftery, Basketball

1965

John Lynch, *Basketball* Pat Raftery, *Basketball* Mike Scally, *Basketball*

1966

Tom Nash, Football + Paul Nittoly, Track & Field Joe Raftery, Baseball Martin Schoepfer, Basketball Dennis Walsh, Basketball

<u> 1967</u>

John Bonistalli, Football
John Devaney, Football
Jim Friscia, Tennis
Bill Gerry, Basketball
Dan Juffey, Baseball
Bob Sicilian, Football
Ed Sweeney, Football +
Robert Wellner, Swimming

<u>1968</u>

Mike Carragee, Baseball Kevin Carroll, Baseball William Catone, Football Bobby Ehrhardt, Football George La Nicca, Diving Rich Lyons, Basketball Jim McGintee, Baseball Bob Slama, Swimming

1969

Lawrence Gerry, Basketball George Groom, Basketball Ed Renica, Baseball Billy Schaeffer, Basketball John Scotto, Baseball Kevin Stacom, Basketball

1970

Bobby Carroll, *Baseball* Peter Casey, *Swimming*

<u> 1971</u>

Tom DeVita, *Basketball* Keith Garvey, *Baseball* James Magee, *Football* Mike Spicer, *Baseball*

1972

Vincent Benazzi, Baseball Rich Dunphy, Basketball Ed Kelly, Golf Gerry McKiernan, Baseball John O'Leary, Football Richard Ramirez, Football Frank Romeo, Baseball John Valle, Baseball Henry Sarnataro, Track & Field

1973

Kevin Brown, Basketball Bob Candela, Baseball Kevin Dublynn, Basketball Kevin McAuley, Basketball James Skiba, Basketball Dennis Wolff, Basketball

<u>1974</u>

Joe Dombrowski, *Track & Field* Rich Rizzuto, *Basketball*

<u> 1975</u>

Jimmy Curran, Baseball Thomas Valle, Football Kevin White, Basketball Peter Zipf, Swimming

1976

Joe Bono, *Baseball*Barry Gunderson, *Basketball*James Hussey, *Football*Jack McHale, *Basketball*Thomas Neville, *Baseball*

1977

Mike Fuoco, Football Gerry Galvin, Basketball Frank Gilroy, Basketball Robert McKeon, Swimming Bob Regan, Football +

<u> 1978</u>

Rich Bailey, Baseball
Matt Downey, Football +
Angelo Ippolito, Football
Joe Martino, Baseball
Phil Pursino, Baseball
Thomas Radogna, Football +
Dave Valle, Baseball

<u> 1979</u>

Daniel Barr, Football Mark Lugris, Soccer Glen McMillan, Basketball Derrick Scott, Basketball

1980

Rich Calderon-Campillo, Soccer Chris Covington, Track & Field Chris DeMarco, Baseball Frank Florio, Soccer Bill Giannone, Football Brian Jamison, Soccer Paul Koster, Football

<u> 1981</u>

Tom Ehrhardt, *Football*Bob Guido, *Golf*Christopher Walker, *Football*

<u> 1982</u>

John Burgess, Football Howard Hudson, Basketball Don Pugh, Basketball Lancelot Theobald, Football

1983

Yves Labissiere, *Football* Robert Resnikoff, *Baseball* Terry Tarpey, *Basketball*



<u>1984</u>

Derrick Chievous, Basketball

1985

Thomas Squeri, Basketball

1986

Ken Bouyer, *Basketball* Kent Bryant, *Basketball* Kevin O'Hara, *Soccer*

1987

Armando Petruccelli, Soccer

1988

Jim Kerr, Jr., *Baseball* Dan Panitz, *Football*

1989

John Knesich, *Soccer* Billy Marchesini, *Baseball* Rich Strohmeier, *Football*

1990

Rich Ashmeade, Basketball Jack Gaeta, Soccer John Hyland, Football Brian Jung, Soccer Dino Marsella, Soccer Dennis McGowan, Soccer Chris Ortiz, Basketball Jean Simon, Track & Field

<u>1991</u>

Tom Guidice, Football Peter Lamantia, Basketball Vinny Maimone, Soccer Brian Tribble, Swimming

1992

Andre Alridge, Basketball Vinny Maddalone, Boxing Angelo Marsella, Soccer Brendan Murphy, Soccer Joe Navarino, Soccer Fred Palomo, Football

1993

Daniel Olivier, *Football*Giancarlo Petruccelli, *Soccer*Mario Wilson, *Football*

1994

Rob Cairo, *Soccer* Stefan Charles-Pierre, *Soccer, Track* Joe Francisco, *Baseball* Eucken Gabriel, *Football*

<u>1995</u>

Jimmy Buscemi, Soccer Anthony Davis, Basketball Andrew DeRose, Baseball Brian Farrington, Football Al Maimone, Soccer Armando Petruccelli, Soccer

1996

Carlo Acquista, Soccer Mike Bishop, Soccer Willie Dersch, Basketball Greg Lyons, Basketball Ryan Nevins, Baseball

1997

Charlie Cook, *Football* Ian Lang, *Bowling*

1998

Kendell Craig, Basketball Yves Kabore, Basketball Chris McHugh, Ice Hockey James Mondesir, Baseball Miguel Reyes, Football

1999

Justin Brisbon, Football Shaun Higgins, Football Kyle Swiatocha, Baseball

2000

Bryan O'Neill, *Soccer* Timothy Smith, *Football* Antonio Treglia, *Soccer* Rohann Vidal, *Football*

2001

Alessandro Acquista, *Soccer*Paolo Acquista, *Soccer*Douglas Anderwkavich, *Football*James Kosky, *Baseball*Dale Robinson, *Football*Dimitrios Theodoropoulos, *Soccer*

2002

Miguel Gonzalez, *Basketball* Widmaire Aime, *Football*

2003

Peter Zipf, Tennis, Squash

2005

Chris Colleran, *Baseball*Eric Johnson, *Baseball*Gordon McKenzie, *Track & Field*Kevin Ogletree, *Football*Chris Scopo, *Baseball*

2006

Fabio Acquista, Soccer Erik Anderwkavich, Football George Carroll, Baseball Tyrell Coon, Football Laurence Jolicoeur, Basketball Anthony Matos, Soccer Effrey Valdez, Baseball

2007

Andreas Chronis, *Soccer*Jonathan Costa, *Baseball*Mike Hay, *Football*Ian Leisenheimer, *Baseball*Justin Leisenheimer, *Baseball*

2008

Jaquan Bryant, Football Blaise Ffrench, Basketball Kevin Kilpatrick, Baseball Sylven Landesberg, Basketball Darryl Whiting, Football

200

Reginald Francklin, Football Derek Lamacchia, Baseball Tariq Tongue, Football Matt Valle, Baseball

2010

Dimetrius Bernard, Football Chris Brathwaite, Football Dale Codrington, Football Dean Marlowe, Football John Rose, Football

2011

Devon Cajuste, Football Evan Conti, Basketball Dominic Formato, Golf Marcus Hopper, Basketball Kedar Hunter, Football Andrew Murdock, Football

2012

Mairega Clarke, *Basketball* Marquise Moore, *Basketball*

2013

Lekeith Celestain, *Football* Andrew Florides, *Baseball* Malachi Hoskins, *Football*

2014

Jordan Francklin, *Football* Brandon Jackson, *Football* +

<u>2015</u>

Jermaine Bishop, *Basketball* Jonathan Rosero, *Baseball*

2016

Steven Barongi, Football

2017

Dylan McCutchen, Football Nikolas Pravata, Football Nick Torres, Football

2018

Jaylen Palmer, *Baseball* Michael Taylor, *Football*

2020

Jaeden Smith, Track & Field

2022

Devin Grant, Football Anthony Marin, Football Aidan Pericic, Soccer

If you notice an error or omission in this listing of Division I and Professional Holy Cross athletes, please contact Alexandra Allimonos at aallimonos@myhchs.org or (718) 886-7250, Ext. 544.



Championship Teams

Baseball

1978 CHSAA City Champs 1982 CHSSA City Champs

Soccer

1977 CHSAA City Champs 1978 CHSAA City Champs 1981 CHSAA City Champs 1984 CHSAA City Champs 1985 CHSAA City Champs 1989 CHSAA City Champs 1990 CHSAA City Champs 1993 CHSAA City Champs 1994 CHSAA City Champs 1995 CHSAA City Champs 2000 CHSAA City Champs 2002 CHSAA City Champs 2005 CHSAA City Champs 1999 CHSAA State Champs 2000 CHSAA State Champs

Golf

1988 CHSAA City Champs 1991 CHSAA City Champs 1993 CHSAA City Champs

Football

1963 CHSFL City Champs 1965 CHSFL City Champs 1977 CHSFL City Champs 1994 CHSFL City Champs 1997 CHSFL City Champs 2004 CHSFL City Champs

Basketball Varsity A

1968 CHSAA City Champs 2008 CHSAA City Champs 2008 CHSAA State Champs

Basketball Varsity B

2006 CHSAA City Champs

Track Indoor / Outdoor

1961 CHSAA City Champs 1980 CHSAA City Champs 1981 CHSAA City Champs 1989 CHSAA City Champs 1990 CHSAA City Champs

Cross Country

1960 CHSAA City Champs

Swimming

1994 CHSAA City Champs

Ice Hockey

1998 CHSAA City Champs 2002 CHSAA City Champs 2006 CHSAA City Champs 2008 CHSAA City Champs 2009 CHSAA City Champs 2010 CHSAA City Champs 2012 CHSAA City Champs 2013 CHSAA City Champs

Bowling

1986 CHSAA City Champs 1997 CHSAA City Champs 2000 CHSAA City Champs 2002 CHSAA City Champs 2015 CHSAA City Champs 2023 CHSAA City Champs

Tennis

1963 CHSAA City Champs 1964 CHSAA City Champs 1965 CHSAA City Champs 1967 CHSAA City Champs 1972 CHSAA City Champs 1973 CHSAA City Champs 1997 CHSAA City Champs 2003 CHSAA City Champs



Event Sponsors

-Owner-

WILLIE DERSCH

Class of 1996

JOHN A. DOUGLAS

Class of 1961

DORI AND JOHN GERSPACH

Class of 1971

- Coach -

CAROL COOK

THE O'MEARA FAMILY

ANTONIO TREGLIA

Class of 2000

- Captain -

KENNETH BOUYER

Class of 1986

ROBERT CANDELA

Class 1973

CHRISTOPHER DEMARCO

Class of 1980

GENE AND JOANN DOYLE

Class of 1959

ARMANDO PETRUCCELLI

Class of 1995

MICHAEL SPICER

Class of 1971

-MVP-

ERIK GRZAN

Class of 1997

JOHN KNESICH

Class of 1989

JOHN A. LYNCH

Class of 1963

ROBERT WELLNER

Class of 1967



Thank you to Our Contributors

JOHN AND ROBERTA ADAMOVICH '71

In Honor of Billy Schaeffer '69

BOB ARNONE '59

DANIEL BARR '79

DANIEL BARTOLOMEO '73

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Burnett P'26

KEVIN CARROLL '68

PETER CASEY '70

In Memory of Walter Lynch

STEFAN CHARLES-PIERRE '94

RICHARD DUGGAN '62

RICHARD FENNELLY '61

ANGELIA GARDNER

THOMAS GIRARD '80

BARRY GUNDERSON '76

MICHAEL KANE

PATRICK KENEALLY '60

JULIE KERR

In memory of Coach Kerr

PAUL KOSTER '80

In Memory of the late Michael Pergolizzi '77

JOHN LUCAS '60

ALBERT MAIMONE '95

RON MATTANA '59

JAMES MCALEER '61

JOSEPH NAVARINO '92

PAUL NITTOLY '66

In Honor of Brother Francis Ellis, Steve Carre '65, Rudy Krizan '66,

Tom Nash '66 and

Stu Banfield '66

ROBERT J. NOBILE '70

In Memory of Joseph Collins '70

JOHN O'HARE '61

FRANK ORZO '64

PATRICIA McCrossen Reimerdes

In Memory of Rudy Krizan '66

JAMES SAHAKIAN '65

LEN SANTORO '60

MARTIN SCHOEPFER '66

In Memory of Martin Schoepfer, Sr.

JAMES SCIGLIANO P'91,'95,'98

WILLIAM SEITZ '78

JACK SHARKEY '61

ROBERT SLAMA '68

In Memory of Gary Courtenay '68



Reminiscing...

BOB ARNONE '59
Baseball

DENNY GOLDEN '59

Football

JOHN DOUGLAS'61
Track and Field

BILLY SCHAEFFER '69
Basketball

CARLO ACQUISTA '96
Soccer



Bob Arnone'59

There were several firsts that occurred in 1955. Dr. John Salk's polio vaccine was approved; Disneyland made its debut in California; Mickey Mouse Club launched on ABC; cans of Coca-Cola first appeared; gas was .23 cents per gallon; the minimum wage was one dollar; the average yearly salary was \$4,130; the average cost of a new car was \$1,900 and a house \$10,950.

But as extraordinary were the above, the opening of Holy Cross High School would have a far greater impact on my life, imprinting a path that would define a four-year journey, which to this day, the catalyst of my world.

When entering Holy Cross in 1955, my exposure to baseball was not unlike other young teens, playing on neighborhood teams sponsored by the Police Athletic League or Babe



Ruth League. Our baseball heroes were fermented by televised games of the New York Yankees, Brooklyn Dodgers, and New York Giants. Playing for a newly opened school provided an equal level of opportunity, as all competitors were freshmen, thereby eliminating a higher grade of players. We were eager plebes, anxious to demonstrate skills that would solidify a position on the team. For most, we were a squad of strangers blended into a team, although some were members of other groups, such as football, basketball, or track. Considering that all of the team coaches were also new, player prejudices was non-existent, so unbiased evaluation dictated.

The camaraderie of players led to the growth of self-esteem as an individual and toward others, an attribute applied to our interpersonal relationships and vocational selection.

Baseball, like other team sports, provided a golden opportunity to grasp the euphoria of winning and the disappointment of defeat. It was a barometer of our effort, skills, and the unknown factors beyond our control. And, as we processed each factor, our expansion of understanding and acceptance propelled us from boyhood to adulthood.



After graduating from Holy Cross, I was fully prepared for the next journey, not only competing on a college level, but facing the challenges that life imparts, both expected and unexpected.

My baseball and basketball coaches at St. John's University also provided a future foundation, building upon lessons learned at Holy Cross.

Baseball generated a four-year scholarship, relieving a monetary burden from my parents. When Yankee great Lefty Gomez presented me with the coveted Frank C. Haggerty Award in 1963 as the Outstanding Student-Athlete Representing St. John's University and the Peter P. Smith Award as Most Valuable Player, the glowing smile of my mother, and the expanded chest of my dad, cobbled together my baseball experience at Holy Cross and St. John's.

Brother John Donoghue, first Principal at Holy Cross, once reminded me that, "Talent is a blessing from the Lord, not to be wasted with indifference." Those words brought to light how truly blessed I was when considering those who aspired, but fell short, in their attempt.

When St. John's baseball coach, Jack Kaiser, would remind us of our responsibility to honor our scholarship through dedication to our studies and efforts on the field, Brother Donoghue's words would come to mind.

I was very fortunate, as was my fellow graduates in 1959, attending a Catholic school from their inception, led by devoted educators who sculpted their students in preparation as future leaders of society. For that, I'm honor-bound to Holy Cross in providing the foundation of my education, and a participant in athletics.



Denny Golden'59

Congratulations to all Legends Hall Inductees.

I am both humbled and honored to have been asked to share my thoughts regarding the inaugural Legends Hall ceremony that will take place at Holy Cross High School on October 21, 2023.

On a personal basis, sixty-nine years ago I was thirteen years young and one of the initial 580 students who comprised the first class at HCHS.



Fortunately, in the early 1950's, there were three CSC Brothers who were core essential regarding the Dream, Construction, Dedication, and Actualization of the first ever all boys' Catholic high schools in Queens.

Those Brothers were Br. Ephrem O'Dwyer C.S.C. – Provincial of the Eastern Province, Br. Maurice O'Malley C.S.C. - who was appointed to publicize the concept, importance, need and value of establishing Holy Cross High School. The third Brother was our respected, admired, and outstanding Principal, - Br. John Donoghue C.S.C.

Succinctly stated, absent these three great men, we might never have had the marvelous opportunity to attend HCHS and be the beneficiaries of the CSC education of our minds and hearts. So, please prayerfully take some time to thank the Brothers Ephrem, Maurice and John.

On a personal basis, I can assure you that absent from my Holy Cross HS education, I would never have been offered student-athlete scholarship opportunities back in 1958 – 1959.

As a result, I'm very thankful that I was accepted to attend The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. In both high school and college, I was a dedicated student and I played to the best of my God given ability. This evolved into dual honor and responsibility to Captain the first Varsity Football teams at HCHS 1957 – 1958. In addition, I was also the Co-Capt. for Holy Cross College in 1962. In great part, this was due to the outstanding high school coaching of Mr. Gerry Begley and Mr. Bill Stetter. Their influence, combined with the experienced college coaching of Dr. Eddie Anderson, led to two post college NFL opportunities.



I declined the first opportunity in 1963 because I believed that it was more important to serve our country as an officer in the US Marine Corps.



I also declined the second opportunity when I received my honorable discharge from the USMC in 1966 to begin my career in Higher Education (1966 - 2014). In summation, I went from NFL prospect to University President.

Going forward, I wish our President Mark Mongelluzzo and everyone who works at HCHS, continued and enhanced success — academically, spiritually, socially, interpersonally, and most certainly athletically.

I also wish all the male and female HCHS student-athletes enormous success. Thus, I hope that they will always remember to take pride in the opportunities that they have to represent Holy Cross Knights in their Green and Gold uniforms.

Brother John Donoghue C.S.C. always told the members of the first class 1959 that it was our responsibility to lead to serve, to get good grades, and to exemplify our very best conduct. We did our very best and now your generation has the same responsibility.

Along with many of my 1959 classmates, I'll conclude this communique by stating that We KNOW Holy Cross, We OWE Holy Cross, We LOVE Holy Cross, and We SUPPORT Holy Cross. May God bless you always!

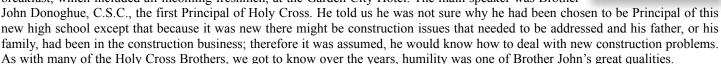




John Douglas'61

In the Fall of 1956, I was beginning the 8th grade at St. Anastasia's school in Douglaston. Two of my brothers, who were considerably older than I, had gone to Bishop Loughlin in Brooklyn and the commute was terrible. Because of that commute, my father did not want me to apply there. He told me there was this new high school in Flushing, Holy Cross, which would be much better for many reasons, not the least of which was a much easier commute.

In the Spring of 1957, after having been accepted at Holy Cross, there was a Father/Son Communion breakfast, which included all incoming freshmen, at the Garden City Hotel. The main speaker was Brother



Among the Brothers who had a great and lasting influence on my life were Brother John Joseph Donnelly, C.S.C., Brother William Babbitt, C.S.C., and Brother Walter Foley, C.S.C.

Brother John Joseph, or JJ as we called him, was the Class Moderator for the class of 1961. He became a lifelong friend. He, along with Brother William Babbitt, counseled me when I decided to enter a seminary after my freshman year, and when I decided that was not for me, they helped me return to Holy Cross. It was a difficult time for me, and Brother John Joseph and Brother William could not have been more supportive and encouraging as I faced the usual challenges of adolescence and returning to Holy Cross. As someone dedicated to helping others, JJ brought Dorothy Day to speak to us about social justice. She was a founder of the Catholic Worker and Pope Francis mentioned her when he visited the U.S. a few years ago. JJ also went to the Bronx to counsel drug addicts and prostitutes as a way of living out the Gospel.

Upon returning to Holy Cross in 1959, I went out for track under the new track and cross-country coach, Brother Walter Foley, an outstanding coach and teacher. He also became a lifelong friend. A very humble and spiritual man, he coached us to several championships in 1961 including the 2-mile relay at the Penn Relays and both the 2-mile relay and the distance medley relay at the Queens-Iona Relays (runners were Richard Duggan, John Douglas, Richard Fennelly and Marty Ferko); the CHSAA and Fordham Invitational Eastern States Cross Country titles in the Fall of 1960. The Eastern States Championship was reported to be Holy Cross's

first major championship in any sport and it earned Holy Cross the praise of Sports Illustrated as the top Cross Country team on the East Coast that year. There were many other championships, both individual and team, too numerous to mention here. A few of the more notable ones are:

John Lucas (HC '60) First Place: CHSAA Cross-Country Championship – 13:52; CHSAA Mile – 4:23.7; Eastern States 880 Yard Run - 1:54.8; First in all dual meets in 1960. Marty Ferko (HC '61) First Place: CHSAA Mile – 4:26.1; Eastern States 880 Yard Run – 1:51.5. Richard Fennelly (HC'61) First Place: CHSAA 2 Mile Run – 9:50.9. Richard Duggan (HC '62) First Place: St. John's Invitational Cross Country – 13:39.

As of June 10, 1961, Marty's 1:51.5 in the Eastern States 880-yard run was the fastest half-mile for a high school runner in the United States for that year. Brother Walter simply looked at his stopwatch and told Marty, "not bad." John Lucas is reported to have humorously said, "I remember when 1:54 was pretty good."

Everyone who ran for Brother Walter at Holy Cross attributed their success to this humble, quiet, and very inspiring man. It was not until many years later that we learned that he had been a champion hurdler in Princeton, N.J. where he grew up. In 1961, after we graduated, he went to Uganda as a missionary for 11 years and then returned to the U.S. and entered St. Meinrad's Seminary in Indiana to become a priest for the Archdiocese of Atlanta, GA. He was ordained in 1976. In September 2010, we had a reunion with him in Hartwell, GA where he had been assigned. He was quite visibly moved that we remembered him so fondly 50 years later. In attendance were Tom Walsh (formerly Brother Jogues Walsh who had been the Athletic Director back when we were running and attended many of our races), as well as John Lucas, John Douglas, Richard Fennelly, Richard Duggan, Mike Ferko, Dave McCann, Charlie O'Donnell and John O'Hare. Others who were there in spirit were Jack Sharkey, Jim McAleer, Ken Reid, and Charlie Walsh, all great men who went on to live exemplary lives.

As an example of the character and integrity that was instilled in us by Holy Cross, I conclude by relating the following story. In January 1961, our senior year, the late Ray Cook (who was our best sprinter running 10.5 for 100 yards) approached Brother Walter and told him that he had actually started high school in January 1957 before starting at Holy Cross in September 1957. Since Ray had been in high school for 4 years, Brother Walter said "Ray, I wish you had not told me that. Now I can't run you." How many athletes or coaches today would make the same difficult decision? Ray sacrificed being a member of Holy Cross's winning relay teams in the Spring of 1961 because of his honesty and integrity. That is the kind of "man for others" that Holy Cross and the rest of us who knew him can be very proud of.





Billy Schaeffer'69

Holy Cross High School changed my life.

Way back in 1965, I had a momentous conversation with my eighth-grade teacher, Sister Mary Alessio, at St. Gregory's the Great School. We discussed where I was going to High School and I informed her that I was planning to attend St John's Prep in Brooklyn. She immediately corrected me and guided me that if I was accepted by Holy Cross HS, that is where I should attend. Sr. Mary explained to me that I would receive a great catholic education and the Brothers of the Holy Cross would develop me into a fine young man. That was it – I told my



parents and the decision was made. Soon enough, I was enjoying the summer while tackling my HCHS summer reading assignments. I will always remember my first selection: "The Essence of Aristotle." YIKES!

Then, on a nice sunny day in early September 1965, I took two buses and arrived at Holy Cross HS for my first day of freshman year. I made sure my uniform blazer was buttoned, my gray pants had the correct 18-inch circumference bottoms, and my hair did not touch any part of my ears. The school had a special mission and was a well-oiled machine. I knew right away it was the place for me. The ground rules were clearly set and everyone was to abide. I survived my first day without incident or detention.

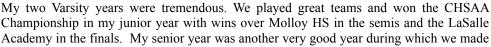
Thinking I was an athlete being all of 5'3" and pudgy, I tried out for the football team. I lasted two days before the first cut came. Not a great start to my HS athletic career, but I looked forward to basketball tryouts that would be in just a few months. I made the freshman hoops team by the skin of my teeth. I battled Kevin Stacom for the 14th slot of the 15-man roster. I was awful. Freshman Coach Chuck Gallo felt my abilities were best suited for the last 30 seconds of the games we had well in hand.



After my freshman season was over, my life changed forever with a conversation with the Varsity Coach, Mr. Bill O'Meara. He told me he thought I had potential as a basketball player. I was shocked to hear it and questioned – was he actually talking to me? He saw something in me and he was determined to get it out. Coach knew I had tall parents and a size 12 shoe, so had a sense that something would happen! He introduced me to a 25 lb weighted vest that he instructed me to wear every day in the gym after school. Coach O'Meara had a vision for me and I loved that he believed in me. Wow! My basketball career was now in full swing. With Mr. O'Meara's support, I worked on my game every day. My parents were supportive as well by sending me to basketball camps they could not afford.

As I started my sophomore year, I was a skin and bones 6' basketball player. Jim Kerr was the new JV coach and I bugged him with tons of questions on how to improve my game. He answered everyone and helped me tremendously in developing

my skills. Now I had two coaches who believed in me. Since basketball and academics were going well, I was enjoying my early HCHS experience. We had a very successful year and won the CHSAA JV title. On to the Varsity!







it to the semis, but unfortunately lost to another very strong Molloy team. In four years at Holy Cross High School, I received a high-quality education, learned from a great faculty and staff, developed lifelong friends, and had a great athletic career. Sr. Mary Allessio certainly made the right call.

Now standing 6'5", St. John's University was my next stop – a great basketball tradition and another chance to grow as a student-athlete. Great teammates brought us four successful years of competing as an NCAA independent. I made the All-American team and was drafted into the pros. I played three years in the ABA for the New York Nets with the legendary Hall of Famer, Julius Erving. What a privilege to play professional basketball and especially to play against Dr. J every day in practice.

My athletic and academic career would not have been possible without the encouragement, guidance, and support of Holy Cross High School. I look back fondly upon my high school

days on Francis Lewis Blvd. where we all walked in the front doors as freshman kids and graduated as young gentlemen. I will always feel I received a special blessing being a graduate of "CROSS."



Carlo Acquista'96

My journey to Holy Cross started in 7th grade. Anytime we were on Francis Lewis Blvd driving by Holy Cross High School, I would say to myself that's where I want to go to play soccer.

Growing up in Whitestone and starting my youth soccer career at St. Mel's (CYO) and Bayside Soccer Club (Travel), I started noticing many of my teammates' older siblings pick Holy Cross consistently and emphatically. It sparked my curious, young, ambitious mind.

Year in and year out, the best soccer players were "flocking" to this all-boys school in Flushing. In 1991 I went to my first "Battle of the Boulevard" game at 73rd Avenue. What I witnessed was not just a soccer game, but a passion for the name on the front of the jersey. I was sold.





My goal now was to attend my dream high school. It did not disappoint. Holy Cross shaped my future in soccer, academics, and networking.

While attending, we had many great mentors and leaders, especially Mr. Gilvary and Mr. G. Both men were a huge part of what we call Legends Hall. The care they placed on academics, discipline, competition, and mentoring, was, and still is, irreplaceable. I am lucky to know both of them and to have a great relationship with them to this day.

During my time at Holy Cross, we won many games, championships, and most of all "bragging rights." Still, to this day, when we see friends from St. Francis Prep and Molloy, we are always talking about those games.

Holy Cross helped to prepare me for my college career. I accepted a scholarship to play soccer at St John's University. The preparation and experiences at Holy Cross provided my foundation in competition, academics, and life's journey.

I was fortunate enough to play with incredible soccer players and win several Championships: 3 City Championships at Holy Cross; 1 Big East Conference Championship and 1

National Championship at St. John's.





I am honored and blessed to be a part of the Knights family for life.

Congratulations

to all of the

Holy Cross Legends Hall

Members

and to

All the Championship Teams throughout the decades



The Dersch Family



On the Occasion of the
Dedication and Celebration
of Legends Hall,
The Board of Directors of Holy Cross
Salute the players and coaches
Who for decades have made the history of
Holy Cross Athletics
a source of great pride.

You are all Legends!

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CONGRATULATIONS

8

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Congratulations

to all the

Hall of Fame Honorees

1

With sincere appreciation for the contributions to academic excellence on the part of the entire Holy Cross High School Administration and Staff



Dori and John Gerspach '71

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Emma Della Vecchia 2022

Dedicated to the members of the Class of '62 now playing their favorite sport with angels... well maybe!



Rích "Bear" Nespola

Congratulations to all Holy Cross Legends.

Special thanks
to those with whom I had
the privilege of sharing the Gridiron

Bob Ehrhardt '68

John O'Leary '72

Rich Ramirez '72

and classmates from other sports

Tom DeVita '71

Keith Garvey '71

Mike Spicer '71

JAMES MAGEE '71



On this night of the Dedication and Celebration of Legends Hall:

Heartfelt congratulations to all our Knights who, since 1959, have gone on to play at the college and university level and in the pros.

Your success stands as testament to the prowess of our past; you inspire our athletes of today; you fuel our desires for the future of Holy Cross athletics.

And to the coaches who, since 1955, have mentored our athletes and inspired these lofty endeavors. Heartfelt thanks and congratulations for a job well done.

Tonight and always you are all *Legends*. We salute you.

AVE CRUX SPES UNICA

ac su

Mark A. Mongelluzzo '92

President

CONGRATULATIONS TO HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL AND ALL LEGENDS HALL HONOREES ESPECIALLY MY CLASSMATES JOE DOMBROWSKI AND RICH RIZZUTO

ANGIE AND MICHAEL CASCIATO

CLASS OF 1974

Best of Luck To All Legends Hall Honorees



Tom & Barbara Sullivan Foundation

Congratulaciones
Chris aka O,
aka Ortiz,
aka El Diablo Bianco!!!

Way to make us all proud.

Kudos as well Ashmeade, Jack, Johnny, Brian, Dino, Dennis & Jean!

By our count only one class tops us and it's no coincidence
'72 is the year we were all born.

'90 Rocks

Fitzy'90 & Vinny C'90

CONGRATULATIONS TO HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL AND ALL THE LEGENDS HALL HONOREES

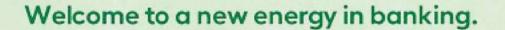


FRANK P. LE VENESS
CLASS OF 1959

Thank you Holy Cross High School Coaches, Teachers, and Administration



Jack Lyons 1966 Bill Lyons 1967 Rich Lyons 1968 Greg Lyons 1996



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Congratulations to the honorees for their well-deserved recognition! Through your achievements, philanthropic work, and service to our community, you have made a positive impact.

The Cook & Krupa family applaud your hard-work and dedication. We wish you steady growth and success.

May you continue enriching and enhancing the Holy Cross virtues of Love, Humility, and Compassion.

In Memory of Raymond J. Cook '61





In tribute to the Great Class of 1959 and

In memory and with

my greatest respect and appreciation

for football coaches,

Gerry Begley and Bill Stetter

Forever Grateful, Ron Mattana '59



Congratulations to all of the Legends Hall Athletes

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The Raftery Brothers

James '59 John '64 Patrick '65 Joseph '66





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and Cook and Damil

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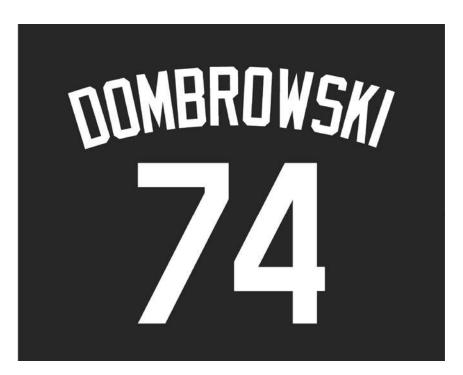
Congratulations
to
Art Louise '64
Mike Scally '65
Richard Rizzuto '74
Joseph Dombrowski '74
and
all of the honorees



Mary and Marty Stein '74



Congratulations Joe Dombrowski '74



Joe Dombrowski '74
Track & Field
Fordham University

The Class of 1974

Kevin Brady
Michael Burke
Peter Burrows
Joe Calderone
Michael Casciato
Bob Cassidy
Jack Costantin

James Fenstermaker
Anthony Frasca
Robert Guglielmo
Michael Kerrigan
Timothy Lisante
Chris McManus
Brian O'Loughlin

Eric Pilotti
Tom Picarella
Remy Rodas
John Saladino
Michael Sapraicone
Stephen Sergi
Marty Stein



Congratulations Rich Rizzuto '74



Rich Rizzuto '74
Basketball
Princeton University

The Class of 1974

Kevin Brady	James Fenstermaker
Michael Burke	Anthony Frasca
Peter Burrows	Robert Guglielmo
Joe Calderone	Michael Kerrigan
Michael Casciato	Timothy Lisante
Bob Cassidy	Chris McManus
Jack Costantin	Brian O'Loughlin

Eric Pilotti	
Tom Picarella	
Remy Rodas	
John Saladino	
Michael Sapraicone	
Stephen Sergi	
Marty Stein	



Congratulations to our 1959 Legends:

Bob Arnone
Tom Costello
Jim Glynn
Denny Golden
Ron Mattana
Jim Raftery

Brother Knights,

Thank you for your individual incredible performances.

We are extremely proud and blessed with

your immense achievements.

Well done every one of you.

You are all true legends,

Blessings from members of the Class of 1959

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PGA Hall of Fame Michael P. Hebron

Class of 1960



Best Wishes to all the Holy Cross High School Legends Hall Honorees

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VINNY MADDALONE '92 AND AND ANDREAS CHRONIS '07



KEITH CAPARELLI CLASS OF 2006



Congratulations to all Legends Hall Honorees

especially

Denny Golden '59 Ron Mattana '59 Mike Hebron '60 Pat Keneally '60 Bill Ricca '60 + Ray Cook '61 +

CARMEN FLAMINO
Class of 1960

+ deceased



Congratulations to all of the Legends Hall Honorees



Jack Gentile '60



Congratulations to all

Legends Hall Inductees

Especially

My teammates on the 1963 CHSFL Championship Football Team and

Dennis Golden '59

Ron Mattana '59

Pat Keneally '60

Anthony Giaccone '64

Art Louise '64

John Raftery '64

Rich Goggin '64 +

Mike Scally '65

Tom Nash '66 +

Bob Ehrhardt '68

Billy Schaeffer '69

Chris DeMarco '80

Tom Ehrhardt '81

Terry Tarpey '83

Reginald Francklin '09

Dale Codrington '10

Jordan Francklin '14

Michael Taylor '18

Frank & Florence Orzo

† deceased



Congratulations to all who contributed to Holy Cross High School's legendary athletic history.

GO KNIGHTS!

Joe Grimaldi Class of 1969



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL LEGENDS HALL HONOREES

TOMMY DEVITA
MIKE SPICER
JIMMY MAGEE
KEITH GOGGIN



NEIL FILOMENA '71



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Congratulations Joe Neilson #32 Class of 1962

On your induction into Holy Cross' Legends Hall

On your induction into Holy Cross' Legends Hall
While you were an extraordinary football player
At Holy Cross and lettered three years at
William and Mary being named
All Conference and Honorable Mention
All American as a Senior
You are an even better person in life as a
Husband
Father/Grandfather
Brother
Businessman
Author/Poet
Santa Claus
Gentleman
Army Combat Veteran

A well-deserved honor

Joe thanks Holy Cross; Mom and Dad for their support and dedication over the years; and Guido for teaching him the toughness and tenacity that football and life requires.

KATHLEEN, PEGGY, AND BILL (Class of 1965)



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL LEGENDS HALL HONOREES AND THANK YOU TO THE COACHES, MENTORS AND LEADERS WHO HELPED ME ACHIEVE MY GOALS BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD.

Carlo Acquista

Class of 1996











CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR LEGENDS



A MOST SINCERE THANKS FROM THE HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

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This is to thank
Mr. G
and to salute
Rich Rizzutto
and
Joe Dombrowski

Mr. G you are nothing but one of the finest human beings on this earth.
Would love to see you more often.
I think of you quite often and my memories are always of fondness and appreciation.

YOU ARE THE MAN!

Frank "OTTO" Ottaviano '74



Congratulations

to my fellow classmates

and gratitude to our amazing coaches,

whose guidance and support

were invaluable in shaping us

into the athletes and people we became.

Here's to the memories

and the legacy we've built together.



YVES LABISSIERE, PHD CLASS OF 1983



Congratulations to the

HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL LEGENDS HALL HONOREES



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Entire Parish Family

Congratulations to All Legend Hall Athletes

→...

Carolyn and Bob Candela 1973





Congratulations to Joe Dombrowski!

From the Archbishop Molloy College Staff: AJ, Joe, Dylan, John, Zack, Pat, Lauren, Jerry, Jeff & Frank

Congratulations to all the Legends Hall Inductees — *The Best of Holy Cross*

Michael Spicer '71



A Big Holy Cross
Thank You to
My Former Holy Cross Coaches:

Coach Griffin
Coach Malone
Coach Kerr

TERRY '83 & KAREN TARPEY

Congratulations Bobby Guido

Mazel Tov!



Congratulations to all in Legends Hall Especially our Son and Brother Terry Tarpey '83

And our classmates from 1959 "Always # 1"



Jeanne, Terry Sr. '59, Michael '85 and Christine

Tired of Winters and the Snow and Cold Come join me in a little piece of Paradise Vero Beach Florida AL Benkert, Class of 1962

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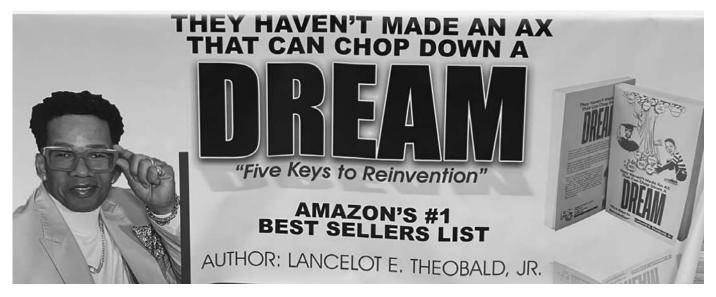
Congratulations to all the HC Athletes
Past and Present

Go KNIGHTS!



Gene and JoAnn Doyle

Class of 1959



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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE HOLY CROSS LEGENDS WITH SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO A LEGEND, MY HIGH SCHOOL COACH, JIM KERR



Best to all,

DOUGLAS J. HAYDEN '81

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Congratulations to the

Best of the Best
(including my "two-sport star" brother, Bill '80).

Your achievements bring honor to a most honorable place. Enjoy the evening!

 \sim

John Giannone Class of 1981



John A. Ferretti, MD, FACR Class of 1971

Professor of Clinical Radiology and Surgery
School of Medicine
Vice Chair of Radiology Operations
Section Chair of Interventional Radiology
Department of Radiology

Congratulations to all Legends Hall Honorees



John Lynch
Class of 1963





Erik Grzan

Class of 1997

CONGRATS
TO ALL OF THE GREAT
HCHS ATHLETES
BUT MORE FOR BEING
Better PEOPLE

GO KNIGHTS!

Robert Wellner
Class of 1967

Congratulations to my teammates

Bill Giannone
Paul Koster
Tom Ehrhardt
Chris Walker
Lance Theobald

Congratulations to all the Legends Hall Honorees



Joseph DaProcida
Class of 1981

Congratulations to the 1968 City Basketball Champs



John P. Libretti
Class of 1971



Congratulations to all of the Legends Hall Athletes

To my Classmates of 1960
"We Were and Still are
2nd to none,
Keep on Keepin On"

Thank you, Holy Cross



CHARLIE ZAMBRANO '60

Congratulations to all Legends Hall Honorees

> John Knesich Class of 1989

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Congratulations
Bobby Guido

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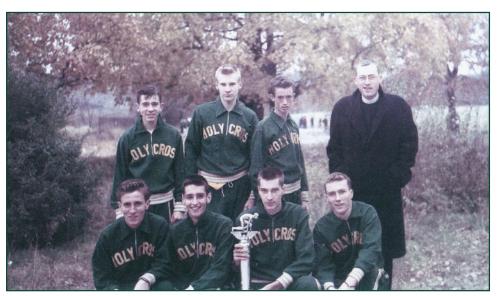
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Dedicated to the Memory of a True Legend, FATHER WALTER FOLEY

(formerly Brother Walter Foley, C.S.C.)

An outstanding Brother of the Holy Cross, Priest, Teacher, Coach and Mentor to so many



Front row kneeling, left to right: Rich Duggan, Richard Fennelly, Marty Ferko, John Douglas. Back row standing, left to right: Ted Folkman, Mike Ferko, Jerry Frain, Brother Walter Foley, C.S.C.



Front row sitting, left to right: Charlie O'Donnell, John Lucas, Father Walter Foley, Tom Walsh (formerly Brother Jogues Walsh, Athletic Director), Richard Fennelly. Back row standing, left to right: Rich Duggan, John Douglas, David McCann, John O'Hare.

RAY COOK '61 †
JOHN DOUGLAS '61
RICHARD DUGGAN '62
RICHARD FENNELLY '61
MARTY FERKO '61 †
MIKE FERKO '63
JOHN LUCAS '60
JAMES MCALEER '61
DAVID MCCANN '61
JOHN O'HARE '61
CHARLIE O'DONNELL '60
JACK SHARKEY '61





