

CLASS OF 2025

*The*  
CATHOLIC TIMES





## Blessings to the Class of 2025

My Dear Friends in Christ,  
Congratulations on your recent graduation! With your family members, friends, school administrators, teachers, and coaches, we rejoice with you, grateful to God for all you have accomplished and all that He has accomplished in you.

Recently, I was part of a panel discussion in New York with Dr. David Steiner of Johns Hopkins University, who authored *A Nation at Thought*. He lamented the state of education today, noting that very often we teach basic skills and technical skills, without truly preparing good citizens. Many students graduate today without a sense of history and

the richness of culture. Sometimes we think of education as mere training to get a good job to earn money to possess things.

Catholic education seeks to form the whole person. It is my sincere hope that your education has prepared you to rise to meet the challenges of life – that it has contributed something to the formation of your person – body, spirit, and soul. There is no doubt that a certain passion for knowledge and learning is necessary for students, but it is necessary throughout our entire lifetime. Years ago, when I was a seminary professor, I had a sign on my desk, which

had words, attributed to Michelangelo, “Ancora imparo,” which can be translated as “I’m still learning.”

We learn from our successes and from our failures. Hopefully, you have learned that there will always be challenges and disappointments in life, ones that can be confronted and overcome with the grace that comes from on high. Furthermore, the late-Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk of Cincinnati once told me, “Don’t let your studies get in the way of your education.”

I think what he meant to say is that we learn a lot from our peers, from our friends and elders – through relationships. I was leaving for my studies in Rome, when he said these words to me, and I think he wanted me to be caught up in wonder at the art, architecture, music, and people I would encounter. As a spiritual man, he also hoped that I would learn something outside the classroom, perhaps, in prayer in the chapel.

As I grow older, I continue to learn that Christ is the answer to all the major questions of life. For our part, we want to train minds and hearts to ask the right questions. I pray that we have suc-



ceeded or, at least, helped you along the journey of life.

Finally, during this Jubilee Year, we are “Pilgrims of Hope.” We have great hope for the future because of you. Hope does not disappoint because God has poured out his love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, whom He has given to us. (Romans 5:5).

Wishing you every blessing, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes  
Bishop of Columbus

## Congratulations to the Class of 2025

By Dr. Adam J. Dufault  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Dear Graduating Seniors,  
Congratulations on reaching this beautiful milestone! On behalf of the Office of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Columbus, it is my privilege and honor to welcome more than 1,000 of you into the alumni community of Our Catholic Schools. Along with your family and friends, we are so proud of all you have done throughout your high school career.

As you walk across the stage and receive your diplomas, know that you carry with you more than academic achievement—you carry the fruits of your Catholic education. Jesus tells us in the Gospel of Matthew, “By their fruits you will know them” (Matthew 7:16). The fruit of a Catholic education is not simply good grades or college acceptances, but a heart rooted in love—love for God, love for others, and the knowledge that you are a beloved child of God, created with purpose.

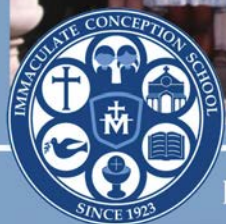
You have spent your formative years immersed in a community that not only challenged your mind but nurtured your soul. Through the sacraments, daily prayer, service, and the witness of your teachers and mentors, you have grown in faith. These years have been about more than textbooks and tests; they’ve been about discovering your unique gifts and learning how to use them in service of something far greater than yourself.

As you prepare to enter the next chapter — whether that be college, the workforce, military service, or another path — take with you this truth: you are never alone.

God walks with you and continues to call you into a deeper relationship with Him. The world will offer many distractions, but your faith is your anchor. Stay close to the Church. Get involved in campus ministry, attend Mass regularly, seek out opportunities to serve and grow in community. Your faith is not something to pack away as you move forward—it is your compass. Let your life continue to bear the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22–23).

And never forget who you are: a child of God, created in His image, with a purpose that only you can fulfill. The world needs your light. Let your love of God be evident in your choices, your relationships, and your integrity.

Graduation is not an end — it is a beginning. Go forward with courage. Remain rooted in Christ. And remember, we will know you by your fruits. May they always be abundant, and may they always point others to the love of God.



Immaculate Conception, Columbus

### Congratulations to our Graduating IC 8<sup>th</sup> Graders!

This exceptional group has grown together in faith, knowledge, and friendship. Your strength, kindness, and unity inspire us all. Congratulations, graduates! A special acknowledgment to the 13 students in this grade from St. Anthony School, who joined us last year. You adapted gracefully and enthusiastically and became essential to our school family. God bless the bright future of this class!

Matt McGowan's Granville Run for Theron - June 14th

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## Ready graduate overcomes medical challenges



Sophia Basil, a 2025 Columbus Bishop Ready High School graduate, places a crown of flowers on the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

*Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School*

Looking at student Sophia Basil, anyone might assume she is a typical 2025 graduate.

Watching her in the halls and classrooms at Columbus Bishop Ready High School, someone might see a beautiful young lady quietly working on an English essay, or maybe a witty teenager smiling with her friends as they head off to lunch.

Such activities are normal and part of a student's everyday life. For Basil, such events are a blessing that she does not take for granted.

Many might not expect that Basil endured much emotionally, physically and academically. For a time, her family was concerned that she might not complete high school or plan for a career. Nonetheless, Basil beat the odds and rose to the occasion, showing what is possible with hard work and faith in God.

Basil started having seizures in third grade. As years passed, the seizures intensified and drew closer in frequency, which affected her mentally, physically and academically.

When Basil was ready to transition to high school, there were concerns of what day-to-day life might look like and how she would navigate high school with medical needs. Basil need-

ed an individual by her side at all times to assist in case of an emergency.

After what could be considered a rollercoaster of doctor appointments, second opinions and medical testing, Basil was a candidate for brain surgery that could potentially alter her quality of life.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, surgery was delayed multiple times. At the conclusion of her sophomore year, Basil had her much anticipated surgery.

"We all knew that brain surgery was going to come with a lot of risk, but it also gave us hope that it would change my life for the better," she said.

"Everyone at Ready was so supportive and caring throughout the entire process. The day before my surgery, the staff gave me a basket filled with a few of my favorite things, and hats, since I had to shave my head. It was really sweet and very encouraging knowing I had so much support."

A long-term effect of surgery was loss of peripheral and lower vision. It was a risk Basil was willing to take to gain independence and prevent frequent seizures. After considerable hard work, she returned to school, enjoying day-to-day life as a Silver Knight.

"Sophia has come so far," school guidance counselor Jennifer Gramlich

said. "With the support of her parents, she advocated for herself medically and academically. She's been thrown a lot of challenges and each one she has overcome with a smile on her face. I'm so incredibly proud of her and can't wait to see her continue to achieve her goals."

Next school year, Basil plans to attend Columbus State Community College and study to become a patient care assistant (PCA). Her goal is to work at Nationwide Children's Hospital, having been a patient there.

"A lot of times, when you ask someone how they are or how they are feeling, they will tell you 'fine' even though you know deep down they are feeling something different. I want to be able to have my patients know I can relate, and it's OK to say how they really feel," she said.

During the past four years, Basil spent time with Bishop Ready school nurse Jessica Pfeiffer.

"I can absolutely see Sophia as a PCA at Children's one day," Pfeiffer said. "She's compassionate and will do wonderful(ly). As a mom, if I had the ability to pick a PCA for my child in that situation, it would be Sophia."

## Son follows in mom's footsteps as Ready valedictorian

The apple didn't fall far from the tree for a Columbus Bishop Ready High School mother-and-son duo.

While most children are eager to forge their own path and flinch at being compared to a parent, this Bishop Ready duo wears similarities like a badge of honor.

Dr. Shannon Roof, née Jenson, graduated from Columbus St. Cecilia School and began classes at Bishop Ready High School in 1991. While attending Bishop Ready, she was heavily involved with the football and basketball cheerleading squads, National Beta Club (an educational youth organization) and National Honor Society. She was also a member of the competitive dance team.

In 1995, Roof was named valedictorian of her class and began classes at the Ohio State University. She studied molecular genetics on a pre-medicine track. Roof quickly discovered a passion for learning and helping others.

She stayed to complete a master's degree in education after earning her undergraduate degree. After two years teaching in a public school, her dream job opened at Bishop Ready High School.

She currently serves as a school science teacher.

"I'll tell anyone that will listen that

I have the best job in the world," she said. "I love being here and I wouldn't trade it for the world. I had a wonderful experience here, and I hope I can provide that feeling and experience for the students in my class. I knew I wanted my own children to be able to experience Bishop Ready like I did."

Thirty years later, in 2021, Tyler, Roof's youngest son, graduated from Columbus Our Lady of Perpetual Help School and began classes at Bishop Ready High School.

While in high school, Tyler was a two-time bowling captain and state qualifier, rotating senior captain of the football team, a student ambassador, member of Beta Club and member of National Honor Society. Much like his mother, he was also named valedictorian of his class and plans to attend Ohio State University to study forensic anthropology on a pre-medicine track.

The mother-son pair share numerous similarities, from a love of science to love for Bishop Ready. Asked what word best describes the Bishop Ready community, they both responded in unison, "family."

Mother and son could be described as driven yet humble. They are known for being intelligent, compassionate, hardworking and faithful servants of



Bishop Ready valedictorian Tyler Roof (left) is joined at graduation by his mother, Dr. Shannon Roof, who received the honor 30 years ago and is now a teacher at the high school.

*Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School*

God.

Asked what it was like having a parent

as a teacher, Tyler said, "A lot of people assume that you probably have it easier when, in reality, the expectations were so much greater for me. It gave me an extra push to be at my very best."

Dr. Roof did not take it easy on her three children or three stepchildren, all of whom she taught at Bishop Ready.

"I never wanted people to think they had an unfair advantage," she said. "They all have such different personalities that we had to navigate sharing space together within the school. All six kids worked extremely hard for everything they achieved, and I'm very proud of each of them."

Dr. Roof has had at least one child in the building with her for the past 12 years. She recognized the joy and heartache of seeing her youngest graduate.

"I'm extremely proud, but my heart is definitely feeling the weight of my last child graduating," she said. "I think it'll feel a little sad without him, but I also am so excited to continue to see all my kids grow and achieve their goals."

Asked how it felt to follow in his mother's footsteps to become valedictorian at Bishop Ready and then attend Ohio State University, Tyler said that "it has always been my plan, so it feels really good."



# Congratulations to the Class of 2025



“During my time here, I’ve built lifelong friendships and developed into a resilient, confident individual.”

*Lesa Gardner*

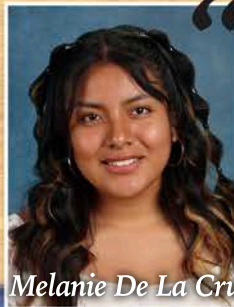
*Attending The Ohio State University*



“Ready has molded me into a stronger student and athlete, but more importantly, a better person and child of God.”

*Conlan Dent*

*Attending Ohio Dominican University  
playing Football*



“Being at Ready has brought me closer to God. This school feels like we are all one family!”

*Melanie De La Cruz*

*Enlisting in The United States  
Marines Corps*



“Bishop Ready has very high expectations for academics and character - that helped me excel as a student athlete.”

*Lia Wahl*

*Attending Kenyon College  
playing Basketball*

— + —  
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— HIGH SCHOOL —

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## Bishop Ready graduates 96 seniors

Columbus Bishop Ready High School principal Matthew Brickner presented diplomas to 96 graduates during the school's 61st commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 24 in the school gymnasium. A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 23 at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

The Class of 2025 earned \$12.7 million in scholarships. The valedictorian is Tyler Roof of Grove City. He plans to attend Ohio State University. The salutatorian is Gabriella Racanelli of Columbus, who plans to attend Walsh University.

Honors graduates are Kasen Abbott, Rowan Archer, Evan Budai, Hanna Caldwell, Jacob Cheatham, Maxwell Davis, Jayle Dawson, Melanie De La Cruz, Conlan Dent, Na'ryiah Floyd, Lesa Gardner, Cohen Glover, Danielle Hughes, Brooke Kwalton, Gabrielle Larger, Cecelia McCreary, Jayden McGhee, Lincoln Miller, Jessica Murray, Parvathi Paranthaman, Michelle Pham, Mateo Polt, Gabriella Racanelli, Tanner Michael Reeder, Emma Rieder, Mya Riggins, Tyler Roof, Ana Sanchez-Vega, Kayden Schaffer, Robert Sweetman Jr., Lia Wahl, Luke Whitmer, Natalie Wohrle and Celeste Woods.

Seniors Parvathi Paranthaman, Gabriella Racanelli, Tyler Roof, Lia Wahl and Natalie Wohrle were inducted into



Tyler Roof



Gabriella Racanelli

the school's Academic Hall of Fame. Eighty percent of the class will be attending one of 16 institutions of higher education. Ten percent will enter the workforce, seven percent will attend vocational schools, one will enlist in the U.S. Air Force and one in the U.S. Army and one will enter the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) mission program. The class contributed 9,468 service hours.

Receiving school awards were: Bishop Herrmann Service Award, All-Diocesan Academic Honor Team and Ready Award, Gabriella Racanelli; Principal's Award, Conlan Dent; Spirit Award, Luke Whitmer; Gifts of the Heart Service Award, Anthony Maurer.

Six seniors signed to play college sports. They are: Evan Budai, soccer, Heidelberg; Jacob Cheatham, football, Wittenberg; Conlan Dent, football, Ohio Dominican; Kayden Schaffer, bas-

ketball, Walsh University; Robert "Bo" Sweetman, wrestling, Otterbein and Lia Wahl, basketball, Kenyon.

Members of the Columbus Bishop Ready High School Class of 2024 are:

Kasen Michael Abbott, Emily Yamilet Aguilar Hernandez, Hunter Michael Akers, Rowan Maree Archer, Rylee Dane Avery, Angelo Lavoy Ayers, Sophia Elizabeth Basil, Demarc-O Francisco Birden, Tyra Renee Broadnax, Kaleb Andrew Brown, Evan James Budai, Elizabeth Darly Cabrera Duarte, Liam Alan Cain, Hannah Suzanne Caldwell, Anthony Patrick Campbell, Anthony James Caputo, Nathaly Esmeralda Cardoza, Jacob Quinn Cheatham, Charles Grant Cruikshank, Jean Luis Cuevas Noboa, Zoey Liliann Cunningham, Terriauna Octavia Daniels, Maxwell John Davis and Jayle Renee Dawson.

Melanie Dareli De La Cruz Gomez, Alexis Delarosa Saldivar, Conlan Keller Dent, Na'ryiah Ayreauna Floyd, Thomas Garcia Hernandez, Lesa D'shae Tamyia Gardner, Mila Elizabeth Gerardi, Cowen Bradley Glover, Marantz Guinn, Danielle Leigh Hughes, Caera Elizabeth Inks, Giovanni Joseph Ionno, Jorn Erin Jermann, Keara Paige Jones, Katie Marie Kamerer, Brooke Louise Kwalton, Gabrielle Kathleen Larger, Henry Charles Larger, Iveria Sokhom Lay, Anna Elizabeth Lee, Raquel Destiny Littler, Mohamed Foday Mansaray,

Thomas Anthony Maurer and Garret Robert McCoy.

Avalynn Royce McCoy-Hayes, Cecelia Rose McCreary, Jayden Michael McGhee, Sarah Josephine Michel, Lincoln James Miller, Cameron Thomas Montgomery, Evan Wayne Montgomery, Francisco Montoya Olvera, Giovanni Mora Montoya, Marlyn Elisa Morales, Marley Alexander Morrison, Jessica Grace Murray, Parvathi Zamora Paranthaman, Robinson Paucar Quiruga, Michelle Kim Pham, Britney May Phoubaykham, Mateo Enanod Polt, Gabriella Grace Racanelli, Tanner Michael Reeder, Emma Grace Rieder, Mya Nevaeh Riggins, Dulce Gisela Rivera Vera, Joey Ivan Ismeal Rojas and Tyler William Roof.

Mario Ivan Ruiz IV, Anthony Alexander Salto-Morocho, Ana Isabel Sanchez-Vega, Kayden Philip Schaffer, Bryan Anthony Schwab, Sophia Ella Scott, Mason Allen Skinner, Allanah Kaylean Swank, Robert Ryan Sweetman Jr., Preston James Tirey, Raul Torres Amaya, Cesar Gabriel Vallejo Nonato, Luis Villagran-Abarca, Lia Virginia Wahl, Jordan Lee Welch, Sophia Brooke West, Luke Anthony Whitmer, Abrianna Marie Williams, Dyani Marie Williams, Misha Abigail Wirth, Natalie Ann Wohrle, Celeste Irene Woods, Neli Veronica Yadaicela Garcia and Brian Zanabria Gonzalez.

## New graduate leaves Bishop Ready with a servant's heart

Columbus Bishop Ready High School graduate Gabriella "Gigi" Racanelli exemplified that service is not simply love and appreciation to others but a demonstration of God's abundant love for all of His people.

Racanelli believes that everyone is called to serve, and service can fill an individual with immense joy, love and fulfillment.

"What Gigi has been able to accomplish is very impressive," principal Matthew Brickner said. "Not only does she find the time to serve others, but she is involved in so many aspects of our school."

"She's the type of student you want to keep forever. It's bittersweet to see her graduate, but we are thankful for the example she has set for future knights, including her two younger siblings, Leo (class of 2027) and Rina (class of 2030)."

During four years at Bishop Ready, Racanelli, a member of the class of 2025, logged more than 700 service hours, with 225 of the hours completed during her senior year.

"Honestly, that 700 seems low. There are so many things Gigi could count for service hours that she doesn't because, to her, service is just something you do.

She doesn't need the glory or recognition of it. She does it simply because she knows it's the right thing to do," said school guidance counselor Jennifer Gramlich, a Ready graduate.

Racanelli was involved in many service opportunities. Asked her favorite organization to volunteer with, she responded, "Miracle League!"

"I have the honor of being a buddy to individuals with disabilities as we play baseball together," she continued. "It's really fun and something I look forward to being involved in every Saturday from mid-May through the end of July."

The Racanelli family is known to lead with a servant's heart, especially in their home parish, Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona. Members of the Racanelli family run a section of the parish's weekly fish fry during Lent. Gigi's brother and father lead parish school of religion classes on Sundays, and she lectures during Mass.

"Being able to be of service with my family is a really nice way for us to come together and forget about the grind of everyday life. It allows me to find a calm and centered version of myself. It allows me to refocus my energy," she said.

Once, during a fish fry, she began talking with a family about faith, high school, service and life. The following Monday, the family applied for their eighth grader to attend Bishop Ready the following year.

Asked how they heard about Bishop Ready or why they applied, the family responded that they wanted their children to be like Racanelli, a girl they met at the fish fry on Friday night, and believed Bishop Ready was the environment to foster their academic and spiritual growth.

While attending Bishop Ready, Racanelli also served on student council as executive board president, National Honor Society secretary, Beta Club, a student ambassador, theater, Castle Crew, the St. Vincent de Paul club, a lector at Mass and founder of Book Club.

Racanelli was named the salutatorian for the class of 2025 and plans to attend Walsh University in North Canton, where she received a full tuition scholarship. Racanelli is set to study psychology and was accepted into the university's pre-occupational therapy track, where she plans to earn a master's degree.



Gabriella "Gigi" Racanelli

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School





The 126 members of the Class of 2025  
will attend 60 different colleges and  
were awarded over \$35.8 Million in scholarships!

— BUILDING BETTER MEN —



## St. Charles graduates 126 seniors

Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School presented diplomas to 126 members of the Class of 2025 during its commencement ceremony, preceded by a baccalaureate Mass, on Friday, May 23 in the Robert C. Walter Student Commons.

Ninety-seven percent of the graduates will be going to four-year colleges, 2 percent to two-year colleges and 1 percent taking a gap year in the fall. They will be attending 60 different colleges. The class earned nearly \$34.3 million in scholarship money and performed 7,500 hours of community service.

Ten of the graduates were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corp./College Board. Alexander Dininni, Arav Fernandes, Jack Miller, and Jackson Soder were National Merit finalists and Edward "Quaid" Cahill, Emmett Galvin, Miles Hockenberry, Eli MacKim, John Paul Orenchuk and Ian Rotruck were commended scholars.

Colby DeShetler received the Joyce Scholarship to the University of Notre Dame and was offered a full U.S. Air Force ROTC scholarship to Duke University. Tiernan Hunter accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy Prep School at West Point, New York. Arav Fernandes (U.S. Air Force) and Emmett Galvin (U.S. Navy) accepted ROTC scholarships to Notre Dame.

Andrew Zarick was selected as the 2024-2025 Jack Ryan Scholar-Athlete. DeShetler, Fernandes, Ruiz, Galvin, Hockenberry and Miller received Ohio Governor's Scholarships.

Members of the Columbus St. Charles

Preparatory School Class of 2025 are:

Fredrick Joseph Ailabouni, Jaxon Christopher Anderson, Pape Amadou Anne, Benjamin Peter Badurina, Ethan Drew Berndt, Niraj Bista, John Fahy Booker, Richard Jonas Borland, Jack Lawrence Braidech, Nicholas Xavier Brokamp, Matthew Terry Brown, Edward James Cahill IV, Ivan Alonso Cañas-Heredia, Anthony Michael Caridi, Andrew Thomas Chambers, Maxwell Christopher Clotts, Levi Emmanuel Coffmon, Luke Ryan Conway, Brian Kahari Curtis, Aaron James Cyrus, Joseph Paul D'Alberto, Augustine Joseph Davis, Calder Andrew DeDino, Mikiyas Sentayhu Deleleghn, Alasdair Rhys DeLong and Colby Matthew DeShetler.

Grant Michael Dine, Alexander Jovani Dininni, Richard Valentino Dininni, Francis Sebastian Esker, Connor Michael Evans, Gregory Carlos Fagge, Ryan Paul E Ferguson, Arav Karol Joseph Fernandes, Emmett James Galvin, Richard Garcia, Luke Patrick Gibbons, Brennen Christopher Gough, Konrád Efrém Gózon, Gabriel Evan Graessle, Bren Matthew Michael Gronbach, Angel De Jesus Hernandez Acevedo, Tobias Charles Hobbs, Miles Andrew Hockenberry, Comekco Lewis-Edward Horton-Jamison, Jordan Michael Hudson, Ashton



Arav Fernandes



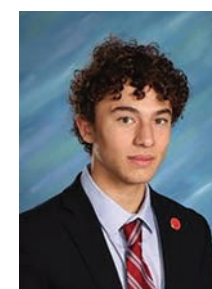
Andrew Zarick



Colby DeShetler



Emmett Galvin



Tiernan Hunter

Lewis Huffman, Collin Christopher Hughes, Tiernan Aidric-Callis Hunter, Sebastian Joseph Leo Isbell and Mathew Adam Jerrell Jenkins.

Giovanni Jesús Jimenez, Greyson Weber Jordan, Wyatt Alexander Julian, Steven William Kennedy III, Nathan Joseph Khourie, Eric Kinser Kimmerle, Elias Charles Koffler, Mauricio Alejandro Lahera-Castillo, Michael Salvatore LaSusa, Alex Hien Le, John Clark Lloyd, Eli Thomas MacKim, Michael Jonathan Majovsky, Erick Eduardo Marquez, Connor O'Malley McCarthy, Carter Scott McCrary, Louis Charles McKinney, Hogan Timonhy Mickey, John Joseph Miller, Liam Hays Miller, Ryan Robert Mooney, Adam Prince Muhirwa, Edward David Must, Wahome James Muteithia and Mason Nicholas Neader.

Noah Allen Nordstrom, Conner James Norman, Nolan Michael Nye, John Paul Orenchuk, Austin James Perdue, Ransom James Perkins, Alexander Michael Popadak, Jackson Matthew Reed, Adam Rachid Rehouma, Aidan Patrick

Rice, Grant John Rice, John Joseph Rice, Thomas William Rice, Isaac James Robinson, Daniel Robert Roncone, William Daniel Ross, Ian Monroe Rotruck, Benjamin Christopher Ruess, Ian Ezahed Ruiz, Jacob Michael Saad, Albert Joseph Sauer, Liam Russell Schmidt, Joseph Theodore Schmitt III, Michael John Schrank and Michael Mark Schwemlein.

Ezekiel Joseph Shalawlyo, Max Robinson Shank, Caden Thomas Shearn, Jackson David Soder, Philip Thomas Sotak, Eddie Lawrence Spooner IV, Paul Edward Stacklin, Demond Jonathan Dentson Stanford, Franklin Joseph Steinhart, Suprith Sudharshan, Logan Curtis Tharp, Mitchell Casey Timken, Donovan Charles Timm, Nathanael Eugene Tobokoue, William Camden Tremaine, Dylan Michael Trovato, Jordan Alfred Turner, John Edwin Vincent III, Henry Bennett Welling, Itotia Ciaran Miricho Wilcox, Maxx Graham Wilder, Isaac Ryan Willey, Ted Gregory Williams, Blake Joseph Wolf and Andrew Joseph Zarick.

## Inspirational St. Charles student receives Dilenschneider Award

Graduating senior Ian Ruiz was selected as this year's S.J. Dilenschneider Award honoree at St. Charles Preparatory School.

Recipients are chosen from among the school's junior and senior classes for having made a meaningful and positive impact on the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School community. The honoree exemplifies the qualities of the Borromeo spirit – in honor of the school's patron, St. Charles Borromeo – exemplified by service to others and upholding the ideals of St. Charles Preparatory. It acknowledges the student's personal character, leadership and civic mindedness.

"Ian is the type of student every college in America wants on their campus: intellectually curious, self-motivated and compassionate," said Thomas Giles, a college counselor at St. Charles.

"It is easy to see that Ian is admirable amongst his peers," Giles added. "I am so proud of Ian's accomplishments and determination to be the first in his family to go to college."

On his S.J. Dilenschneider Award application, Ruiz wrote, "By winning this

award, I would not have to burden my parents with my cost of attending college. They have worked so hard. In fact, they continue to work so hard for both me and my sister. They immigrated into the U.S. around 20 years ago, and they struggled to adapt to their new way of life.

"They worked as menial laborers for a couple of years before they advanced into more managerial roles. They were dutiful managers for a regional buffet restaurant. Yet, even in their new positions, they faced difficulties. They were disparaged for being immigrants, and their working hours were unusually long. Nevertheless, they endured, raised two children.

"At the time, I could not understand how profound their troubles were. I was only six years old after all. But once I grew older, and once they confided in me, I could not be prouder. Here were two people, living in a place far from their hometown, managing their working hours to provide for their family and still lovingly raising their children. How could I not be proud?

"So, to repay even the tiniest bit of that



St. Charles Preparatory School senior Ian Ruiz (left) is presented the 2025 S.J. Dilenschneider Award and a check for \$10,000 by the award's namesake's grandson, Ted Dilenschneider, at the school Academic Awards Assembly on Thursday, May 8.

Photo courtesy St. Charles

effort, I studied hard in school. I kept out of trouble. I protected my sister. Even if I do not receive this scholarship, I will not hesitate in finding other ways to lessen

my parents' burden. They have done so much for me, so I want to repay them in

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# Congratulations Class of 2025!



**They have earned over \$40 million in scholarships and grants, and will continue to share their gifts and talents at 58 colleges and universities across the country.**

*Eleos: Live with Kindness*

*"Be who you are, and  
be that well."*

*St. Francis de Sales*



## DeSales graduates earn \$40.3 million in scholarships

This year's 213 graduates of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School earned \$40.3 million in scholarships.

In the fall, 95 percent of them will be attending one of 58 two-year or four-year institutions of higher education. Four students will be entering the military – one each to ROTC at The Catholic University of America, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and Virginia Military Institute.

The school's commencement ceremony will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 31 at Alumni Stadium after a Baccalaureate Mass at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 29 in the New Albany Church of the Resurrection.

Members of the class of 2025 completed more than 9,340 service hours during the school year.

The following awards were given to members of the senior class: Father James M. Berendt Service Award, Matthew Bogue, Grace Castellano, Alejandro Garcia and Hillary Letzelter; Bishop Herrmann Service Award, Bella Miller; Alumni Award, Jacob Reash and Olivia Smith; Senior Spirit Award: Evie Frazier, Peter Haggard, Mimi Tesfay and Carter Ward; Campus Ministry Award: Chloe Bassnett and Derek Streitenberger.

Academic medals were presented to 125 students, 16 of whom received summa cum laude medals for posting grade point averages of 4.15 or higher. Another 89 students were awarded magna cum laude medals (3.75-4.149 GPA) with 20 receiving cum laude medals (3.6-3.749).

Earning summa cum laude honors were Stella Abad, Grace Castellano, Isaac Friend, Alex Kistler, Hilary Letzelter, Ella Lynch, Rachel Massman, Colleen Millenbaugh, Sarah Neighbor, Stella Newman, Jacob Reash, Alex Rush, Olivia Smith, Sarah Stevenson, Josephine Wesseling and Mallory Wolfe.

Eighteen student-athletes will continue their athletic careers in college.

Members of the Columbus St. Francis

DeSales High School Class of 2025 are:

Stella Abad, Joel Aboagye, Claudia Achampong, Lawrence Afrifa, Jeremiah Agyapong, Angel Akemati, Arianna Allen, Ila Allen, Mack Allen, Casey Althouse, Leo Amalaman, Baraka Ama-sakha, McKenzie Amonor, Davis Anderson, Laurenda Ankrah, Gabriel Arbona, Carlos Arciniega Moran, Chelsea Asiamah, Douglas Asiedu, Maria Baileys, Reese Baker, David Bangura, Jack Barber, Andrew Barford and Averie Barker.

Chloe Basnett, Samantha Bernard, Matthew Bogue, Theresa Bott, Ashton Boyd, Isabella Brader, Raema Brogdon, Ashlee Brown, Brooke Brown, Evelyn Brown, Ulises Bucio Villa, Phu-Nghia Bui, Alexander Buitron Rocha, Luke Burns, Rebecca Burt, Madison Butler, Clara Callahan, Anna-Claire Carr, Christopher Carter, Joshua Casas Cruz, Grace Castellano, Anthony Celebrezze IV, Adwoa Chrappah, Emma Conry and Maeve Cooney.

Joseph Cooper, Halle Coplen, Maria Coronati, Dane Crabtree, Carlos Cuazitl Tochimani, Macie Czerniak, Nana Diaby, Alan Diaz, Cassadi Dile, Jake Donaghy, Liam Donovan, Thomas Dougherty, Elizabeth Draher, Keymarra Draper, Sylvester Dwomoh, James Dytko, Ava Eckstein, Olivia Etheridge, Matthew Evans, Adam Faulkner, Emma Figliola, Leonardo Flores Rivas, Caleb Flynn, Paa-Awuah Forjoe and Evie Frazier.

Parker French, Isaac Friend, Guadalupe Cesar, Alejandro Garcia, Alexander Garcia, Samuel Gnani, Dillon Govekar, Brian Granger, Gavin Grimmatt, Michael Haas, Peter Haggard, Donovan Hawk, Lena Hawkins, Amara Hayles, Michael Henderson III, Jacob Herman, Nayeli Hernandez, Pedro Hernandez, Edward Herrera-Bacilio, Bryce Herrick, Melia Hervey, Lucy Hickman, Lilia Hocker, Riley Holbrooks and Joseph Hollback.

See **DESALES**, Page 23



Stella Abad



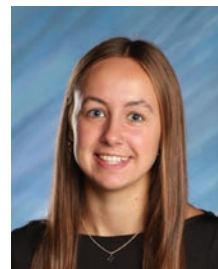
Grace Castellano



Isaac Friend



Alex Kistler



Hilary Letzelter



Ella Lynch



Rachel Massman



Colleen Millenbaugh



Sarah Neighbor



Stella Newman



Jacob Reash



Alex Rush



Olivia Smith



Sarah Stevenson



Josephine Wesseling



Mallory Wolfe

## Students consider careers in education after taking classes on teaching

By **Hannah Heil**  
*Catholic Times Reporter*

While seniors counted down the days until graduation, for some of them, it might be simply a few years until they're back.

Several students at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, located on the north side of Columbus, participated in a class teaching them how to teach. Principal Dan Garrick offered a sequence of education classes to juniors and seniors this past school year.

"We at the high school level offer electives in almost every area that a child may want to go into, but we don't do that for education, and that's our business,"

he said. "It would seem to me that it would be very logical."

The idea was also a response to a growing teacher shortage. Fewer young adults today appear to be interested in becoming teachers. As a result, Garrick set out to grow his own.

"We have fertile soil in our schools, kids that may be interested in education," he said. "What better way of encouraging them to go into education and then ultimately come back to their alma maters, whether it's a grade school or a high school, and consider making it a career within our diocese."

The first such class offered to students at St. Francis DeSales is known as Exploring Education, and the second, Foundations in Teaching. Garrick first

offered the Exploring Education class last school year during the spring 2024 semester.

The first class in the sequence focused on providing students an overview of opportunities in education.

"The large focus is clearly on teaching but also making sure kids understood other areas that you could be involved in when it comes to teaching, whether you want to be a guidance counselor or an intervention specialist, or you want to perhaps be some type of support, like an athletic director, or you want to go into school administration. We looked at all the various roles that you could theoretically play within a school setting," Garrick said.

Students observed teachers at the el-

ementary and high school level. They visited schools in the area and observed teachers at St. Francis DeSales who they were not taught by in class. Students reflected on effective teaching methods.

"In addition to being exposed to different roles, we talked about different types of educational settings that a student may want to look at and really a strong focus on Catholic education as well: the value, the advantages of a faith-based education," Garrick said.

The class proved to be a success, and students asked for continued instruction on education. Garrick designed the second class, Foundations in Teaching, in response and to "get into the more

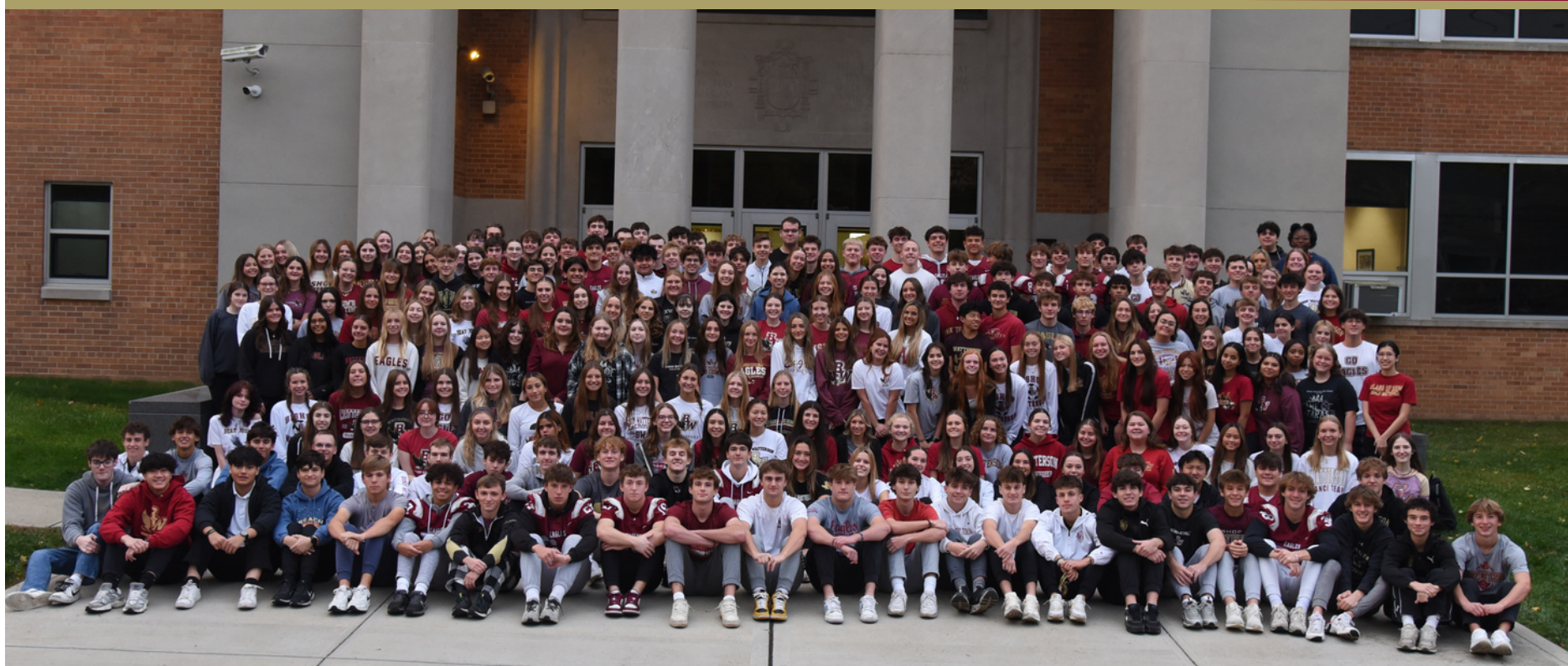
See **TEACHING**, Page 21





Bishop Watterson  
High School

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025!



\$43.7 million in college scholarships  
15,625 service hours  
Accepted at 170 colleges and universities



*"Be who you are meant to be and you will set the world on fire."*  
St. Catherine of Siena



## 238 graduate from Bishop Watterson

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School awarded diplomas to 238 graduating seniors on Saturday, May 24 in the school gymnasium. A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Thursday, May 22.

Ninety-eight percent of the class members were accepted by a total of 170 institutions of higher education and received \$43.7 million in college merit scholarship offers. They will be attending 62 different colleges and universities. Two percent will join the military, attend a trade school or take a gap or service year.

Seventy-eight students received the Presidential Award for Excellence. Twenty-eight class members had perfect scores in individual subjects on the American College Test. Class members totaled 15,625 service hours.

There were 202 academic medals, presented for an "A" average all four years, awarded in individual subjects. Eleven students received charity cords for at least 250 hours of community service.

Receiving scholarships and other honors in academics and achievements in other areas were: Emily Darnieder, Clare Feehan, Clare Garczewski, Megan Goehring, Megan Goshe, Sophie Hamrock, Jessica Kurtz, Nora Ott, David Rubal, Emily Schmidt, Natasha Shimp and Theodore White, Governor's Merit Scholarship; Lilian Ryan, Zonta Club of Columbus Scholarship; Emily Schmidt, recipient and Natasha Shimp, nominee, Wendy O. Ward Scholarship; Gigi O'Dorisio and Griffin Steinbrunner, Catalysts for Positive Change; Megan Goshe and Caden Davis, University of North Carolina Morehead-Cain Scholarship nominees; Megan Goshe and Emily Schmidt, National Merit Finalists; Chris Ault, Sophia Blum, Emily Darnieder, Sophie Hamrock, Grant Hays, Michael Ponesse, David Rubal, Emily Summanen and Matthias Wenning, National Merit Commended Scholars; Angelina Ferguson, Knights of Columbus Scholarship; Megan Terveer, Msgr. Spiers Service Award, Marissa Fogt, Angie Hanson, Sophia Reing-Hurley and Tad White; Bishop Herrmann Service Award, Lydia Steinbauer; and All-Diocesan Academic Honor Team, Emily Darnieder.

Academic medals were presented to 101 students, 11 of whom received summa cum laude medals for posting grade-point averages of 4.15 or higher. Another 60 students were awarded magna cum

laude medals (3.90 to 4.14 GPA) with 30 receiving cum laude medals (3.70 to 3.89).

Members of the Columbus Bishop Watterson High School Class of 2025 are:

Mary Regina Adamczak, Janelle Nken-gafeh Ajuseh, Gabrielle Emylett Alies Paulino, Lila J. Allen, Emily Anderson, Michael Antry, Bilen Samuel Aregui, Olivia Elizabeth Ash, Carlye Ann Auletta, Christopher Michael Ault, Marie Elisabeth Bakle, Taylor Marie Bechtel, Braeden Rockne Benjamin, Kaitlyn Marissa Bernotas, Samuel Andrew Berry, Alexander Blackstone, Sophia Antonia Blum, Claire Elizabeth Boeckman, Anna Jolyn Bowers, Reese Isabella Boyle, Rachel Renee Briscoe, Anthony Camargo, Brian Carbal, Madison Carpenter and Monica Carmen Carreno.

Macie Claire Carroll, Mary Katherine Butler Carson, Sophia Casimir, Nataliya Shea Chestnut, Clare Elizabeth Ciesinski, Emma Grace Cloran, Jaelyn Kay Combs, Greyson John Conyers, Keegan James Coyne, Mallory Joy Cromley, Catherine Dahman, Emily Margaret Darnieder, Caden Garrett Davis, Oliver Timothy Rex Davis, Conor Maxwell Dawson, Edith Anne Deberson, Michael DeLuccia, Anthony DeMassimo, Gwendolyn Elizabeth Dixon, Marcus Dixon, Ryan Patrick Duffy, Addison Elizabeth Eagan, Abby Campbell Emswiler, Clara Rose Marie Faulkner and Clare Feehan.

Angelina May Ferguson, Keagan Patrick Ferguson, Lauren Elizabeth Festi, Julianna Fisher, Catherine Fitzpatrick, William Fitzpatrick, Marissa Elizabeth Fogt, Penelope Marie Foley, Tanner Andrew Foley, Giovanna Francati, Sophia Maureen Frank, Anna Elaine Frost, Benjamin Sylvester Gabrich, Julieta Galvan, Clare Marie Garczewski, Abrielle Gaughan, Eliana Corinne Geraci, Angelo Joseph Ginocchi, Makenna McGrath Glenn, Kathleen Ann Goehring, Megan Virginia Goehring, Lucas James Goodfellow, Megan Katherine Goshe, Megan Margaret Graham and Parker Graney.

Vance Graney, Margaret Lynn Green, Grace Evans Greene, Leah Marie Griffiths, James Gusty, Thomas Vincent Haley, Sophie Hamrock, Paige Rylie Hanley, Angela Justine Hanson, Colin Matthew Hare, Emerson David Michael Hartshorn, Anthony John Harvey, Elizabeth Meta Haulund, Maximilian Ethan Haunn, Molly Aileen Hayes, Grant William Hays, Rob-



Emily Darnieder



Clare Feehan



Clare Garczewski



Megan Goehring



Megan Goshe



Sophie Hamrock



Nora Ott



David Rubal



Emily Schmidt



Natasha Shimp



Lydia Steinbauer



Theodore White

ert Andrew Hite, Kathryn Hoyt, Mary Huber, Jude Hummer, Rubie Grace Jackson, Ella Rose Jacobsen, Elizabeth O. James, Fagan Olivia Jenkins, Landon Johnson.

Margaret Mary Kane, Grace Isabelle Keller, Ava Elisabeth Kennedy, Bailey Ann Kerins, Rosemary Angela Kessinger, Luke Kish, Mya Kleinhenz, Jonathan Meyer Koeninger, John Patrick Kovalchin, Jacklyn Grace Kuehl, Jessica Grace Kurtz, Chase Michael Lanier, Elise Cynthia Latshaw, Noah Lawler, Mary Margaret Leathley, Jacob Christopher Lee, Jack Emerson Leonard, William George Lewis, Ava Elisabeth Liedtke, Joy Haruka Linton, Theodore Wallace Long, Lucia Kay Lardo, Henry Timothy Bernard Lyons, Stella Darlene Magee and Nicholas Maliwesky.

Patrick Cal Mangini, Andrew William Matthews, Meredith Rose McAdow, Jacqueline Evans McAuliffe, Colin Michael

McCandlish, Morgan Grace McCarthy, Bryn Maria McClain, Mari McCurdy, Nicholas M. McKay, Chase B. McKnight, Elizabeth Jane McLaughlin, Brady McNally, Brigid McNamara, Luka James Michtich, Devin Miller, Jocelyn Elizabeth Miller, Grace Monaghan, Chloe Ann Moreland, Macie Elizabeth Moreland, Isabella Muetzel, Mack Allen Murnane, Jessie Young Kahalewai Musselman, Alex Mai Nguyen, Hannah Vy Nguyen and Molly Nollenberger.

Carter Michael Nordstrom, Ellen Anne North, Thomas Gregory O'Brien, Giovanna Leigh O'Dorisio, Mithzy Sujei Olvera, Benjamin Henry Ortega, Nora Marjorie Kelly Ott, Biaggio Pagan, Emma Cashin Pawlik, John Steven Pedro, Carlin Willow Perry, Austin Riley Phillips, Blase Michael Pignotti, John Henry Pollner, Michael

See WATTERSON, Page 19

## Angelina Ferguson awarded Baesmann scholarship

Angelina Ferguson, a graduating senior at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, is the recipient of the annual T.J. Baesmann scholarship administered by The Catholic Foundation.

The \$2,000 college scholarship is awarded to one Columbus diocesan high school senior each year on the basis of financial need, academic excellence and participation in school activities. The scholarship fund was established

in 2007 by Mary Kelly, a retired diocesan teacher, and her husband, Sidney, in honor of their grandson.

Ferguson, who plans to major in biology, is a member of Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church. At Bishop Watterson, she was a Student Council member, student ambassador and leadership academy group leader, was part of Ohio State University's Buckeye Student Leadership Academy and was a member of the

school theater crew and the National Honor Society.

She did volunteer work for several organizations, including Mount Carmel St. Ann's Hospital, the YWCA, Mommies Matter, the Grace Clinic of Delaware, the Columbus Metropolitan Library, the Columbus St. Catharine of Siena Church Vacation Bible School and the Esperanza Para and Hogar Maurina Orfanato organizations, which raise money for improv-

erished children in Guatemala.

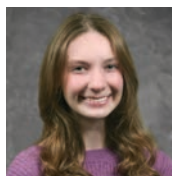
In her parish, she was a cantor and altar server. She also was a referee for the Westerville Amateur Soccer Association.



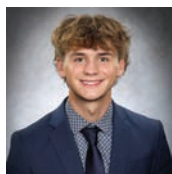
Angelina Ferguson



## BISHOP HERRMANN SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

**KAROLINE BARNER****Parish: Granville St. Edward the Confessor****School: Newark Catholic**

National Honor Society; Key Club; Kairos retreat leader; Freshman Welcome Week leader; St. Joseph the Worker service day; Nationwide Children's Hospital patient kit assembly; Trick or Treat for UNICEF; Eighth Grade Day; Baskets of Love project; Christmas cards and cookies for teachers and staff; Catholic Schools Week food drive; Look Up Center blanket making; Catholic Outreach Ministries; Volleyball camps for Newark Catholic and Granville schools; School auction; Utica ice cream festival; St. Vincent Haven homeless shelter

**AARYN BRADFORD****Parish: St. John Paul II Scioto Catholic****School: Portsmouth Notre Dame**

National Honor Society; Key Club; Altar server; Irish Festival volunteer; Vacation Bible School counselor

**LUKE GIBBONS****Parish: Delaware St. Mary, Columbus Immaculate Conception****School: Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School**

National Honor Society; Kobacker House snack delivery; My Brother's Keeper mentoring and tutoring; Catalyst for Change award; Lacrosse team

**BELLA JEAN MILLER****Parish: Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle****School: Columbus St. Francis DeSales**

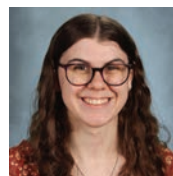
National Honor Society; National Society of High School Scholars; Parish gardening ministry; Westerville WARM food pantry; Cantor for parish Masses; Campus Ministry core team; Kairos retreat leader; School Mass choir; Encounter Adoration Night leader; Stallions in Worship Club; Swim team; School performing arts program

**MISTRE NEGATU****Parish: Columbus Ethiopian Tewahedo Church****School: Columbus Bishop Hartley**

Deacon at his church, instructing younger men, encouraging youth groups, leading Bible study, participating in liturgy, handling sound system and making sure lights are turned off

**LYDIA STEINBAUER****Parish: Columbus Immaculate Conception****School: Newark Catholic**

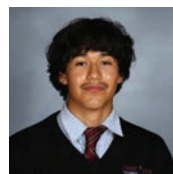
Athletic trainer; Mommies Matter babysitting volunteer; Northwest Swim Club coach; Latin Achievement Test ambassador; Open house ambassador; Freshman orientation

**GABRIELLA "GIGI" RACANELLI****Parish: Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona****School: Columbus Bishop Ready**

School Executive Board president; Theater dance captain; National Eucharistic Revival table leader; Parish fish fry; Miracle League buddy; Parish School of Religion; Meals on Wheels; Parish lector and extraordinary minister of the Eucharist; National Beta Club

**NOAH REED****Parish: Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption****School: Lancaster Fisher Catholic**

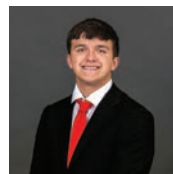
Basketball team; Soccer team; Spring musicals; Fall plays; Choir ensemble; Irish 4 Life; National Honor Society; Service Guild

**PEDRO ENCISO SANCHEZ****Parish: Columbus St. Cecilia****School: Cristo Rey Columbus**

Mid-Ohio Food Collective, Bible study

**REQUIEME SICA-CALEI****Parish: Dover St. Joseph****School: New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic**

National Honor Society; Parish altar server, reader, lector and choir member; Trumpet in the Land outdoor play; Youth to Youth; Basketball team; Senior prom court; Parish fish fry; School tour guide; Camp leader for fifth- and sixth-graders; Earth Day shirt design; Science Day volunteer; TCC Elementary School cleanup; Parish festival volunteer; Ticket seller for senior class fund

**CHRISTOPHER WILSON****Parish: Zanesville St. Nicholas****School: Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans**

Key Club district lieutenant governor; Hugh O'Brian Leadership School; Muskingum County Community Youth Foundation; Swimming, soccer and track teams; Altar server; Parish and school choirs; Campus Ministry; Drama Club; Middle school musical director and swim coach; Spanish Club; Green Club; Pep Club; Mock Trial team



ALL-DIOCESAN ACADEMIC HONOR TEAM MEMBERS



**STELLA AMOR BRIONES ABAD/COLUMBUS ST. FRANCIS DESALES**  
**Parish: Westerville St. Paul the Apostle**  
Buckeye Girls State; President and cofounder of school Asian and Pacific Islander Student Association; Pillar of Leadership officer; Generations PAC Leadership Council; Student Ambassador; Principal's Roundtable; Student Council; Tennis team; Run the Race Club  
**ATTENDING UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**



**SARAH STEVENSON/**  
**COLUMBUS ST. FRANCIS DESALES (CO-RECIPIENT)**  
**Parish: Westerville St. Paul the Apostle**  
National Honor Society; Spanish National Honor Society; Governor's Merit Scholarship; Westerville Rotary Student of the Month; Mount Carmel St. Ann's Hospital volunteer; Columbus St. Matthias School mentor; Mind Over Matter Club, Soccer team; Autism Awareness Club; Run the Race Club; Kairos retreat leader; E-Team; Spanish Club  
**ATTENDING OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**



**EMILY DARNIEDER/COLUMBUS BISHOP WATTERSON**  
**Parish: Columbus Our Lady of Peace**  
National Merit Commended Scholar; Governor's Merit Scholarship; National Honor Society; International Thespian Society; School theater program; Parish School of Religion volunteer; School dance team; Momentum-Excellence program; Environmental Club; Mock Trial  
**ATTENDING OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**



**COLBY DESHETLER/**  
**COLUMBUS ST. CHARLES PREPARATORY SCHOOL**  
**Parish: New Albany Church of the Resurrection**  
Glenna R. Joyce Scholarship; Air Force ROTC Scholarship; National Honor Society; USA Gymnastics Academic All-American; Ohio State University College of Engineering intern; Student Advisory Board; Gymnastics, cross country and lacrosse teams; Hugh O'Brian Leadership School; Student Council; Junior class president; Gospel Road; WARM food rescues; My Brother's Keeper; National Latin Exam magna cum laude; Dartmouth book award  
**ATTENDING UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME**



**SYDNEY ELLIS/LANCASTER FISHER CATHOLIC**  
**Parish: Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption**  
National Honor Society; Governor's Scholarship; Shane Roush Memorial Award; Student Council; Big Brothers Big Sisters; Tutoring/teaching assistant; Basketball, volleyball, softball and track teams  
**ATTENDING OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**



**CHRISTOPHER GEIGER/NEWARK CATHOLIC**  
**Parish: Newark Blessed Sacrament**  
National Honor Society; Chancellor's Scholarship; Governor's Merit Scholarship; Kairos retreat leader; Friday morning Rosary leader; Key Club; Track and cross country teams; St. Joseph the Worker community service day; Altar server  
**ATTENDING FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY OF STEUBENVILLE**



**JAMES GOGGIN/ZANESVILLE BISHOP ROSECRANS**  
**Parish: Cambridge Christ Our Light**  
National Honor Society; University of Notre Dame pre-college study in Ireland; Key Club; Spanish Club; Lucas House captain; Mentor group leader; Bishops Ambassador; Class secretary; Muskingum Valley League leadership/sportsmanship summit; Altar server; Campus Ministry; Big Brothers Big Sisters; Sophomore, junior and senior class secretary; Soccer and basketball teams; Cambridge High School tennis team  
**ATTENDING HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS**



**BRYSEN GRIMES/**  
**NEW PHILADELPHIA TUSCARAWAS CENTRAL CATHOLIC**  
**Parish: Dover St. Joseph**  
National Honor Society; Basketball team; Biddy Ball basketball camps and games; Senior class secretary  
**ATTENDING WALSH UNIVERSITY**



**AUDREY JONES/COLUMBUS BISHOP HARTLEY**  
**Parish: Columbus St. Catharine of Siena**  
Governor's Merit Scholarship; Scholarships to Ohio State, Cincinnati, Villanova and Case Western Reserve universities; Ohio State and Cincinnati university honors programs; House advisory leadership board; Ambassador core team; Debate Club; Physics team; Cheerleader; Homecoming court; Swimming, golf and lacrosse teams; Ministry to the military; Model United Nations; Prom committee; Student magazine; Bexley invention camp  
**ATTENDING OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**



**TAYLOR LASSWELL/PORTSMOUTH NOTRE DAME**  
**Parish: St. John Paul II Scioto Catholic**  
Governor's Merit Scholarship; National Honor Society; Key Club; Ohio Model United Nations; Student Council; Freshman-Senior Class President; Pep Club; Basketball, track and volleyball teams; St. Francis Outreach Center food pantry; Volunteer for STAR, Southern Ohio Medical Center and Children's Museum programs  
**ATTENDING OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY-NEWARK**



**GABRIELLA "GIGI" RACANELLI/COLUMBUS BISHOP READY**  
**Parish: Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona**  
Walsh University Founders Scholarship; School Executive Board president; Theater dance captain; National Eucharistic Revival table leader; Parish fish fry; Miracle League buddy; Parish School of Religion; Meals on Wheels; Parish lector and extraordinary minister of the Eucharist; National Beta Club  
**ATTENDING WALSH UNIVERSITY**



**SOPHIA SUERDIECK/CRISTO REY COLUMBUS**  
**Parish: Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona**  
Glenna R. Joyce Scholarship; Governor's Merit Scholarship; National Honor Society; Cougar Collective newsletter; Battle of the Books; Junior State of America; GOV Club; PAWsitive Impact; Ohio Association of Student Leaders; Columbus Trinity Catholic School volunteer; Columbus Metropolitan Library volunteer  
**ATTENDING UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME**



## MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Four students in diocesan schools have been awarded Gertrude C. Kuehefuhs music scholarships.

Outstanding instrumental and choral music students receive the \$250 awards to help them pay Catholic high school or college tuition. Two scholarships are awarded

to high school seniors and two to eighth-graders.

Kuehefuhs was a longtime member of the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral choir and a music instructor at Ohio State University. The awards are made possible from a gift received from her estate.

### HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

#### PHILIP SOTAK



Philip Sotak is a student at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, where he plays the trumpet in the concert band and the piano in the jazz band. His band director, Philip Meyer, said his ability to memorize music quickly and absorb new material is remarkable, especially because he is blind. Band members describe this as “filling his sponge.”

He has received his school's Brunetto Outstanding Music Award. His other school activities include membership in the Chorus Angelorum and participation in the Westerville Area Resource Ministry's holiday food drive and the Virtue Club. He hopes to attend the Cleveland Institute of Music, go into organ performance and be a music director for a church.

### HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC

#### AYDEN JONES



Ayden Jones is a senior at New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School, where she has been a cantor and a choir member for four years. At her parish, New Philadelphia Sacred Heart Church, she has been a soloist since elementary school. She played the lead role of the Evil Stepmother in the school's production of “The Big Bad Musical” this spring.

She is a National Honor Society member and has been a cheerleader and part of TCC's softball and volleyball teams. She plans to attend Walsh University in North Canton in the fall, majoring in nursing and taking part in choral activities.

### ELEMENTARY INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

#### MCKENNA RAINES



McKenna Raines, an eighth-grade graduate of Westerville St. Paul the Apostle School, will attend Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, where she was part of the marching band and concert band during the past school year.

She is a trumpet player and a soprano and was a member of the pep and marching bands and choir at her elementary school, taking part in the Ohio Wesleyan University honor band festival in 2024 and 2025 and earning a superior rating as a trumpeter in seventh grade. An injury kept her from being rated during the past academic year.

She is taking trumpet lessons with a member of the Ohio State University marching band, which she hopes to join when she goes to college. She also is an altar server,

choir member and youth ministry participant at St. Paul Church and was on the news crew, basketball and softball teams and Chess Club at her former school. She would like to major in aerospace or aeronautical engineering in college and is taking lessons in hopes of obtaining a pilot's license.

### ELEMENTARY CHORAL MUSIC

#### ABRAHAM MORRIS



Abraham Morris, a member of New Philadelphia Sacred Heart Church, will be attending Tuscarawas Catholic High School for the third year when he enters ninth grade for the coming academic year.

His natural gifts in acting, comedy and music were displayed as an eighth-grader in his performance as the Big Bad Wolf in the school's production of “The Big Bad Musical” and in work with the Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County.

He also plays piano, has been an altar server, Vacation Bible School volunteer and fish fry worker at his parish, has been part of his school's football and cross country teams and Chess Club and has been president of his 4-H Club for the past two years.

## WATTERSON GRADUATE RECEIVES WARD SCHOLARSHIP

Emily Schmidt, a 2025 graduate of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, is this year's recipient of the Wendy O. Ward Foundation memorial scholarship.

Her activities at Watterson included being a member of the marching, jazz, and concert bands, the pit orchestra and the swimming team for all four years there, serving as swim team captain in her senior year. She also was very involved in service activities at Bella Care Hospice and Friendship Village of Dublin. She plans to attend the University of Notre Dame and hopes to

study psychology.

Wendy Ward, a graduate of Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and of the University of Dayton, was grateful for her Catholic education and always said she counted herself lucky to do something not all English majors can – use her skills and write every day for her company, Constructive Communication Inc., where she was vice president.

Her husband, Chris, a graduate of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, established the scholarships in 2015 in memory of his wife, a Hilliard resident

who died of breast cancer on May 18, 2012 after a 10-year career as a writer and public relations consultant.

The scholarships are awarded to a graduate of a Columbus diocesan or Hilliard public high school who has been involved in school, community and parish activities and has demonstrated academic achievement, particularly in language arts. Schmidt received \$5,000 for college expenses. The Ward foundation pays the scholarship money directly to the institution the recipient plans to attend.



Emily Schmidt



## 33 graduate from Fisher Catholic

Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School will graduate a class of 33 members at a commencement ceremony at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 1. A baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 31 at Lancaster St. Bernadette Church.

Thirty class members will be attending an institution of higher education. They were awarded \$4.3 million in college scholarships. Three will join the workforce.

The class valedictorian was Sydney Ellis and the salutatorian was Gavin Stewart. Class members performed 1,025 hours of community service.

Members of the Lancaster Fisher High School Class of 2025 are:

Gage Armstrong, Clara Baker, Aubrey



Sydney Ellis



Gavin Stewart

Beauseau, Ava Brue, Poppy Clum, Abigail Crabtree, Samuel Croucher, Sydney Ellis, Vanessa Funk, Charli Gillum, Alyssa Hall, Olivia Haynes, Silus Hopkins, Grant Keefer, Lauren Kersell, Colin Michaelis and Thomas Moon.

Margaret Murphy, Daschel Neighbor, Luke Ohwofahworaye, Hyde O'Rielley, Lily Osborne, Noah Reed, Grace Reiling, Thomas Ristau, Charles Schoenlaub, Kierra Sexton, Mallory Stanton, Gavin Stewart, Anthony Teti, Jessica Thomas, Abigail Triplett and Brandon Watson.

## Fisher Catholic grad to attend Josephinum

Talking with Charles Schoenlaub, it is easy to see that there is something special about him.

Engaging, funny, kind and conscientious, Charles is being called to the priesthood – a source of pride for the Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School community.

Schoenlaub shared that last year during Lent he decided to try to get really close to God and be a better Christian. Throughout Lent, he abstained from social media and other distractions, trying to be more focused on his prayer life. During this time, he started to feel more open to the call that led him to make the decision to do God's will. He recognized that God's will is leading him down this road of seminary.

He considers theology one of his favorite classes, driven by the study of Christ and His One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Specifically, he said he loves studying Church history and about saints, especially martyrs, because it's important to hear about the adversity the

Church has faced throughout its almost 2,000 years of existence and how it is still alive and thriving today.

Father Tyron Tomson, a school chaplain until the past year, has been a mentor and guide. He has helped Schoenlaub understand what a good priest is supposed to be and to one day lead his own parish to watch over as a pastor.

While Father Tomson served a mentor for the priesthood, Schoenlaub's mother, Susan, is the catalyst behind her son's deep faith, raising him in the Catholic faith and showing him what it means to be a good Catholic layperson while helping him deepen his faith.

The new Fisher Catholic graduate hopes to use his gifts to bring converts to faith and assist people in need, spiritually or mentally. During his high school years, he has embraced those he has met -- teachers, people he has become friends with, all of whom have made Fisher the foundation for all that will come next in his life.

## Fisher Catholic graduate perseveres with help from family, trainers

Asked to share a little about herself, Vanessa Funk is quick to mention her family that has been so dedicated to her formation, motivation and drive.

A member of the Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School Class of 2025, Funk makes it clear that her family is her world. They are her number one fans at every softball game, and "my mama" records every play, cheers her heart out and

has always been unbelievably supportive.

A test of faith came during her junior year when she sustained a significant injury. After years of improving her abilities as an athlete, Funk was sidelined. Having to endure nine months of physical therapy and many setbacks, she acknowledged that her mental health suffered.

Supportive physical therapists changed her mindset and attitude. As the hours

turned into weeks and months during her rehabilitation, she often wanted to give up, but she worked twice as hard instead.

Witnessing the therapists' care for her made Funk realize that she wants to do the same thing for others. In addition to playing college softball at Wheeling University in West Virginia, she plans to major in athletic training to help athletes return from injuries to their sport.

Her Fisher Catholic coaches shared that while she was unable to directly participate in games while injured, she attended every practice, game and team function as a supportive teammate.

Supporting and believing in others makes Funk feel better about herself and her future.

## SAINT MARY SCHOOL

LANCASTER, OHIO



CONGRATULATIONS  
CLASS OF 2025!

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We honor your accomplishments,  
your spirit, and the light you bring  
into the world.

CONGRATULATIONS  
FISHER CATHOLIC  
*Class of 2025*





BISHOP  
HARTLEY

*Congratulations*  
**GRADUATES**

**We are so proud of you!**

The 137 members of the Class of 2025 earned

**\$18,523,159**  
in merit-based scholarships.



## Bishop Hartley graduates 137 seniors

The 137 graduates of Columbus Bishop Hartley High School's 65th graduating class received diplomas on Saturday, May 24 at Ohio Dominican University. A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 23 at Columbus Christ the King Church.

Members of the class will be attending one of 48 colleges and universities. They were awarded \$18.5 million in academic and merit-based scholarships, with 95 percent of the class going on to higher education. Four are entering trade programs; two will enter military service, including one going to a service academy; one will enter full-time employment and one will take a gap year. The graduates performed 6,026 service hours during the just-completed academic year and 21,756 hours over four years.

Receiving full-tuition scholarships were Elsie Adjei-Tetteh, University of Cincinnati; Nia DuBose, Ohio Wesleyan University; Nia Johnson, Alabama A&M University; John D. Moore III and Zora Womack, Ohio State University; and Sarah Thompson, Walsh University.

Connor Caltrider was appointed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Jillian Reeb was a National Merit Scholarship Finalist, Audrey Jones was selected for the All-Diocesan Academic Honor Team and Mistre Negatu received the Bishop Herrmann Service Award.

A total of 48 students received academic honors.

Summa cum laude graduates, who had a cumulative grade-point average of 3.9 to 4.0, were Esther Adeyele, Chinedu Anigbogu, Katharine Barlay, Ingrid Bedell, Zochi Chen, William Donnelly, Henry Gillies, Malcolm Gillies, Blake Goedde, Nia Johnson, Audrey Jones, Kendall Kirkbride, Hermela Lilay, Vincent Mampieri, Joseph Murray, Cameron Nail, Maleah Ogden, Jillian Reeb, Quinn Richardson, Natalie Saguisi, Sarah



Elsie Adjei-Tetteh



Connor Caltrider



Nia Dubose



Nia Johnson



Audrey Jones



John Moore III

Thompson and Isabel Vatter.

Earning magna cum laude honors (3.8 to 3.899 GPA) were Christopher Bartony, Connor Caltrider, Ryan Cartagena, Joseph Christy, Nia DuBose, Keeley Fishking, Miriam Frank, Taylor Hankins, Mariah Hooks, Bella Jackson, Olivia Malone, John Moore III, Emerson Remeis, Efeoghene Ugbarugba and Petros Yohannes.

Cum laude honors (3.7 to 3.799 GPA) were earned by Morgan Bailey, Yosef Denham, Alani Ferguson, Quinn Keiffer, Kelsie Kirkbride, Mistre Negatu, Zachary Parker, Hamilton Poindexter, Blen Solomon, Kidst Tarekegn and Anna Valin.

Members of the Columbus Bishop Hartley High School Class of 2025 are:

Esther Adeyele, Elsie Adjei-Tetteh, Reyana Allen-Hairston, Chinedu Anigbogu, Daniel Anomakoh, Daymond Ayers, Morgan Bailey, Angel Balderas Garcia, Katharine Barlay, Brooklyn Barnes, Christopher Bartony, Ingrid Bedell, Brady Beinlich, Cana Bernard, Esmeralda Bravo Botello, Mary Brick, ZoKiyah Broomfield, Donovan Buckey, Anaya Bumpus, Landon Burkey, Jaden Calloway, Connor Caltrider, Javyn Carmona-Tongor, Ryan Cartagena and Zochi Chen.

Joseph Christy, Denim Cook, Bryant Covington, Zoe Cuvo, Isaiah Day, Yosef Denham, William Donnelly, Nia DuBose, Cora Durbin, Nazariya Durr, Ava Dyer, Morgan Epler, Alani Ferguson, Keeley



Mistre Negatu



Jillian Reeb

Fishking, Kaleb Fleahman, David Flores, Miriam Frank, Aarren Franklin-Martin, Tanija Galloway, Henry Gillies, Malcolm Gillies, Blake Goedde, Emiliano Gonzalez Pina, Robert Grilli and Brandon Hambric.

Taylor Hankins, William Harriman, Emersyn Heil, Dylan Hermen, Madison Hewitt, Madison Hilsheimer, D'Adja Hollingsworth, Mariah Hooks, Ace Hoylman, Sarah Hurtado, Fidelis Ijomah, Bella Jackson, Nia Johnson, Audrey Jones, Quinn Keiffer, Ella Kerns, Aiden King, Kelsie Kirkbride, Kendall Kirkbride, Cornelius Kissi, Amelia Leonard, Hermela Lilay, Yajaira Lima Hernandez, Marco Macatangay and Isabel Macioce.

Olivia Malone, Vincent Mampieri, Emiliano Mariscal-Marquez, Vincent Mertz, Daniel Michael, John Moore III, Jackson Moxley, Jon Murphy, Joseph Murray, Cameron Nail, Gelila Negatu, Mistre Negatu, Safiya Nolan, Amiyah Odom, Maleah Ogden, James Otieno,



Sarah Thompson



Zora Womack

Aniyah Owens, Zachary Parker, Jennifer Parra Huerta, Lyaila Penn, Siennah Phoung, Kyle Pitcock, Hamilton Poindexter, Jocelyne Rangel-Quintana and Jillian Reeb.

Huery Reed IV, Jillian Reese, Emerson Remeis, Quinn Richardson, Elly Roush, Natalie Saguisi, Julia Salle, Peter Santorsola, Branden Sensabaugh, James Sewell, Austin Sharp,

Ethan Sheely, Blen Solomon, Olivia Stein, Carson Svetek, Kidst Tarekegn, Bamlak Teklebrhan, Katherine Thomas and Sarah Thompson.

Aniyah Thorne, Malik Tufts, Efeoghene Ugbarugba, Jaleyah Valentine, Evelyn Valerio Aleman, Anna Valin, Lane Vance, Isabel Vatter, James Verdadero, Jesse Wagner, Kennedy Wells, Makiyah Wheeler, Xaria Williams, Bryson Winbush, Zora Womack, Charlee Wyatt, Max Wymer and Petros Yohannes.

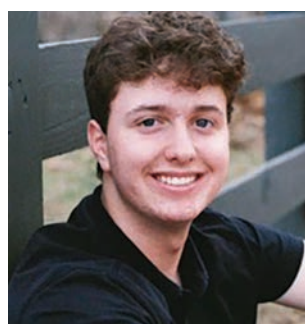
## 31 graduate from Bishop Rosecrans

The 31 members of the Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School Class of 2025 were awarded diplomas at a ceremony on Saturday, May 24 in the school gymnasium.

A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 23 at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

Twenty-five of the graduates will attend one of 14 institutions of higher education. They were offered \$4.5 million in scholarships and performed 3,241.5 service hours.

James Richard Goggin was the valedictorian and Jordan Noah Joseph was the salutatorian. Kinsie Nicole McVicker received the Phoenix Award for dis-



James Goggin



Jordan Noah



Kinsie McVicker

playing perseverance in the face of adversity.

Members of the Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School Class of 2025

are:

Evan Thomas Bauer, Lillian Grace Dosch, Jocelyn Marie Ford, James Richard Goggin, Ethan Asher Gray, Landon

Robert Hartman, William Benjamin Jackson, Emily Elizabeth Jenkins, Jordan Noah Joseph, Kaleb Michael Kosco, Sydnee Jane Maxwell, Kinsie Nicole McVicker, Ashlyn Renee Moody, Dominick William Moore, Anayah Jewel Newman and Madilyn Dawn Pugh.

Leeann Elizabeth Robinson, Stephen James Sagan, Tizian Jakob Schmelzer, Caleb James Scott, Caitlyn Sophia Snodde, Kenleigh Alyce Spears-Worden, Addison Anna Starnier, Shanya Marie Sumner-Reid, Kerry Ileen Thompson, Evan Parker Tolliver, Katherine Anne Ward, Alexander Joseph Wells, Conner Micheal Wells, Christopher Patrick Wilson and Caden Robert Wright.



# 31 seniors graduate from Portsmouth Notre Dame

Diplomas were awarded to 31 graduates of Portsmouth Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School by principal J.D. McKenzie and school board president Richard Kielmar at a commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 18 in the school gymnasium. A Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Friday, May 16 at Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church.

The Class of 2025 was offered nearly \$3 million in scholarships and accepted more than \$1 million of that total.

Ninety percent of Notre Dame's graduates are pursuing higher education, and one student is going to the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus in Knox County for training in missionary work. Twenty-eight of the 31 graduates will be attending 12 different colleges and two different career centers, including four outside of Ohio.

The class valedictorians were Aaryn Bradford and Taylor Lasswell, both of Portsmouth. Bradford is the son of Travis and Kristina Bradford and has accepted a scholarship to Ohio University, where he will major in mechanical engineering. Lasswell is the daughter of Vance and Karen Lasswell and has ac-



Taylor Lasswell



Aaryn Bradford



Eugene Collins

cepted a scholarship to Ohio State University, where she will major in business.

The salutatorian was Eugene Collins of Portsmouth, the son of Eugene and Marie Collins. He has accepted a scholarship to Shawnee State University, where he will major in plastics engineering.

Graduating with honors diplomas were Adyson Arnold, Taylor Lasswell, Landon Barbarits, Shei Mowery, Aaryn Bradford, Zoe Niekamp, Eugene Collins,

Layden Sallee, Madelyn Entler, Aleza Smith, Daynna Fuentes, Mason Tarr, Kaden Hadsell, Naydine Watson, Anastasia Lansky and Addie West. Class members performed a total of 383.75 service hours.

The school presents three special awards voted upon by the faculty. The citizenship award was given to Taylor Lasswell for her contribution of time and energy to civic, community and school projects. The senior service award was

given to Mason Tarr for his generosity with his time toward course work and extracurricular activities. The outstanding senior award was given to Aaryn Bradford for best fulfilling the roles of scholar and leader in the school and community, demonstrating outstanding character and service to others and, on a daily basis, demonstrating high Christian ideals in all of his activities.

Members of the Portsmouth Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School Class of 2025 are:

Adyson Arnold, Landon Barbarits, Morgan Boldman, Aaryn Bradford, Brody Coleman, Eugene Collins, Kaylyn Darden, Brady Davis, Madelyn Entler, Elijah Estep, Daynna Fuentes, Kaden Hadsell, Tally Herrmann, Brianne Hicks, Anastasia Lansky and Taylor Lasswell.

Logan Lawson, Kalyn Lester, Davin Logan, Emily McNutt, Chloe Moore, Shei Mowery, Zoe Niekamp, Richard Phillips, Sanford Rowe, Layden Sallee, Aleza Smith, Mason Tarr, Alivia Taylor, Naydine Watson, and Adeline West.

Congratulations!

## NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

# Class of 2025



**Left to Right: Elijah Estep, Addie West, Aleza Smith, Shei Mowery, Chloe Moore, Tally Herrmann, Emily McNutt, Sanford Rowe**

**Naydine Watson, Staci Lansky, Kalyn Lester, Daynna Fuentes, Taylor Lasswell, Kaylyn Darden, Morgan Boldman**

**Brody Coleman, Zoe Niekamp, Maddie Entler, Layden Sallee, Bree Hicks, Alivia Taylor, Adyson Arnold, Landon Barbarits**

**Aaryn Bradford, Davin Logan, Myles Phillips, Eugene Collins, Mason Tarr, Kaden Hadsell, Brady Davis, NP Logan Lawson**



Valedictorian  
Aaryn Bradford



Valedictorian  
Taylor Lasswell



Salutatorian  
Eugene Collins





## Cristo Rey graduates 96

Cristo Rey Columbus High School will graduate a class of 96 students at its ninth commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 7 at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School. The class baccalaureate Mass will be held Wednesday, June 4 at Columbus Holy Cross Church.

Class members received acceptance letters from 113 institutions of higher education and completed 6,715.75 hours of community service in four years.

Yoselin Mendoza Wiltron was valedictorian and Sophia Suerdieck was salutatorian.

Members of the Cristo Rey Columbus High School Class of 2025 are: Ezra Akililu, Tobel Akililu, Imelda Akpeko, Jamilly Alonzo Jimenez, Makala Amar, Ashley Angeles Gil, Camila Angulo Vargas, Selestle Anleu, Jason Arellano Gonzalez,



Yoselin  
Mendoza Wiltron



Sophia  
Suerdieck

Montserrat Ascencio Munoz, Natalia Ascencio Munoz, Fatimata Ba, Fatoumata Bah, Pure Bailey, Justin Barrientos Castaneda, Kadiatou Barry, Sameer Bastola, Autumn Bell, Jas-

mine Bell, Hamidou Beretay, Mariam Beretay, Zainab Berete, Cabrini Bondra and Eduardo Braca.

Samaria Brownlow-James, Isaac Cano, Samuel Cerda Garcia, Tony Crawford, Jordan Croom, Kaden Dupler, Michael Dyer, Pedro Enciso-Sanchez, Aniju Ewell, Nathnael Getahun, Amani Glaze, Chala Green-Bell, Ange Guiadem Ekolle, Anisha Gurung, Salina Gurung, Xavier Hargrove, Cambell Harper, Maryeli Hernandez Magana, Javier Hernandez-Bardales, Lilla Hohl, Jade Hooks, Alessandra Jimenez Amaro, Cynthia Juarez Rivas and Nardos Lakew.

Veronica Lastra Martin, Emmanuel Leal, Randy Lugo Guzman, Alisson Luna Davalos, Joselyn Mancia Rodriguez, Izabella Martinez Falcon, Ana Martinez Perez, Roman Mburu, Karma McKenna,

Yoselin Mendoza Wiltron, Angela Mensah, Trevell Mikell-Price, Jordan Miller-McMann, David Mojica Salgado, Jesus Mora, Juan Morales Cruz, Aurelio Morales Dominguez, Donna Mukuria, Billqis Nambane, Binta Ndiaye, Karla Osorio, Chris Pacheco Posadas, Allison Perez Santamaria and Isabela Pichardo.

Luis Piedra, Carrie Quinlan, Rosalinda Ramos Lopez, Nathaly Reyes-Guijosa, Troy Ross, Elmer Salinas Peres Jr., Ana Sanchez Lastra, Maimouna Seydy, Samuel Soiro, Dayshawn Stanford, Tyler Stevens, Sophia Suerdieck, Hapsatou Talla, Kaleb Thomas, Paris Thompson, Michelle Torres Anota, Gabriella Umaña Lemus, Natalia Velazquez Cervantes, Amani Via, Shahina Weir, Analise Wilson-Cancel, Essence Woods, Diana Yanez and Jeff Zeopuegar.

WATTERSON, continued from Page 11

Stephen Ponesse, Sofia Margot Pongonis, Rosalie Gayle Pramik, Maryef Valerie Quezada Perez, Mason Charles Ratliff, Alexa Grace Ray, William Augustus Read, Amber Maria Regan, Jake Thomas Richards, Jacob Rider and David Matthew Ritzenthaler.

Lucia Marie Rivera, Ava Lauren Ross, Ellie Rowlands, David Alan Rubal, Jack Ruebensaal, Jake Ryan, Lillian Margaret Ryan, Mackenzie Reese Ryan, Addison Claire Ryno, Connor Thomas Samenuk,

Nathan Reed Sauer, Carter David Schilling, Emily Elizabeth Schmidt, Sydney Kathryn Schultheis, Javier William Serantes, Natasha Anna Shimp, Isabelle Faith Shonk, Claire Elizabeth Smith, George Patrick Smith, Christopher Andrew Sokol, Cameron Milette Sparks, William Christopher Spiers, Daisy Staravecka, Benjamin James Stauffer and Lydia Louise Steinbauer.

Griffin Jerome Steinbrunner, Layla Rose Stewart, Chance Henry Straus-

baugh, Hannah Elizabeth Stuebe, Emily Marie Summanen, Isabella Lynn Marie Summerfield, Connor Swackhammer, Kaylynn Tatera, Zeeke Ernest Taylor, Megan Marie Terveer, Dominic Griffith Theado, Sadie Marie Thieken, Isabelle Thomas, Madeline Leah Rose Tinkler, Vincent Nicholas Tippet, Michael Phillip Tobias, Jacob Alan Uhlenhake, Halli Rose Valus and Matthew Vasquez.

Erzen Velu, Chloe Ariana Voelkel, Quinn Waldron, Jack Casey Warren,

Michael Shawn Watkins, John William Zachary Weber, Matthias John Wenning, Joseph James Wheeler, Adalheid Jane Cibulskas White, Theodore White, Charles Edward Wilson III, Collin Wilson, Jonathan James Wolock, Trevor Donald Woodland, Eve Julia Worley, Christopher Youell, Mitchell Younger, Sophie Elizabeth Ziel and Mia Zingery.

# CONGRATS TO THE CLASS OF 2025!



Continue to use  
**your gifts** to help  
build the **Kingdom  
of God** in the here  
and now.

**CRISTO REY**  
COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL





## Newark Catholic graduates 48

Newark Catholic High School graduated a class of 48 seniors in a commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 25 in the school auditorium. A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated on Tuesday, May 20 in Granville St. Edward the Confessor Church.

The class valedictorian was Chris Geiger and the salutatorian was Gracie Collins.

Eighty-eight percent of the graduates will move on to higher education, with one of them taking a gap year to continue training for USA Luge. They earned \$4.5 million in scholarships. Of the remaining 12 percent, totaling six students, four received technical trade cer-



Chris Geiger



Gracie Collins

tificates from the Licking County Career and Technical Education Centers while attending high school.

Forty-eight percent intend to major in STEM (science, technology, education and mathematics) fields of study, with 23 percent intending to take part in intercollegiate athletics.

The class performed 3,258 hours of community service.

Members of the Newark Catholic High School Class of 2025 are:

Halley Backlund, Karoline Barner, Bo Brenneman, Jackson Broyles, Emma Caudill, Gracie Collins, Hannah Cormican, Charles Doehring, Maria Dow, Sadie Eagle, Haile Farley, Christopher Geiger, Addison Gerber, Jillian Given, Antonia Grandjean, Paityn Green, Rylie Gross, Isabella Hacker, Madison Hamp-

ton, Keaton Helms, Michael Hess, Halley Holman, Miller Hutchison and Mason Jackson.

Fini Kaiser, Logan King-Hayden, Natalie Lane, Aris Lint, Emma Lohri, Jose Lopez, Emma Malherbe, Eryn McLain, Cole Miller, Leah Moberg, Hannah O'Rourke, Brooke Parkinson, Isabella Pribonic, Margaret Richardson, Austin Rigley, Rachel Robinson, Michael Schlesiona, Brogan Sullivan, Shamus Sutton, Griffin Urdarovski, Levi Wert, Sophie Chard Peloquin, Alexander Urbina-Valeriano and Kaedyn Yonker.

## 23 students graduate from Tuscarawas Central Catholic

New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central/Catholic High School's 55th commencement ceremony will be on Sunday, June 1, with a baccalaureate Mass followed by the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2025 in the school gymnasium.

Brysen Grimes is the valedictorian and Nathen Wright is the salutatorian for the class, which has 23 members, 65

percent of whom will be attending one of eight institutions of higher learning. One class member will join the U.S. Army. They earned \$1.6 million in college scholarships and performed 2,800 hours of community service.

Members of the New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School Class of 2025 are:

Roman Breehl, Braeden Brown, Al-

lie Decaminada, Jazsmin Geer, Brysen Grimes, McKinzie Harper, Jenna Houston, Jimenez Jimenez-Pascual, Ayden Jones, Savannah Jones, Summer Jones, Jayce McCollins, Julia Sciarretti, Requelme Sica-Calel, Luis Sica-Mejia, Osvaldo Sica-Mejia, Taryn Sunderlin, Warren Tienarend, Cristian Toc-Andres, Kolton Whitaker, Nick Williams, Mackenzie Witham and Nathen Wright.



Brysen Grimes



Nathen Wright



## Congratulations Class of 2025!





“Encourage one another and  
build each other up”

-1 Thessalonians 5:11

## ST. JOSEPH MONTESSORI SCHOOL





**We are so proud of the St. Joseph Montessori School 8th year graduates.**

**We wish them the best in the next chapter of their lives.**

<p>Wyatt Allsbrooks</p> <p>Enzo Anaya</p> <p>Zoe Arehart</p> <p>Sophia Celebrezze</p> <p>Zoe Crum</p> <p>Thea Dabilis</p> <p>Oliver Daigle</p>	<p>Jack Furniss</p> <p>Asucena Martinez Santiago</p> <p>Luca Paul</p> <p>Elliot Rapata</p> <p>Henry Warner</p> <p>Violet West</p> <p>Emma Zerbi</p>
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**TEACHING**, *continued from Page 9*

nuanced parts of teaching,” he said. The class was offered to juniors and seniors this past spring semester.

A few students who took the class are interested in studying education in college. Should they want to return to St. Francis DeSales, they will be well prepared. The class equipped students to return and teach in a diocesan Catholic school after earning their college degree.

Dillon Govekar, a senior at DeSales, had considered studying education for a while. He was intrigued when he heard a class would be offered on the subject.

“I thought it would have been best to experience it before I dedicated four years to it,” he explained.

“I was iffy on it until ... this year, but then, as it went on, I realized this is what I want to do. ... I’m really happy I did take this type of class.”

The recent high-school graduate will head to John Carroll University in Cleveland this fall to play soccer and study education. He plans to return to a high school setting one day as a history teacher.

Foundations in Teaching offered practical teaching tips, which, Govekar explained, he can implement in a classroom as a teacher. He found it helpful that Garrick also shared his teaching expertise with the class.

“He gave personal experiences he’s had when he taught, because he did



St. Francis DeSales principal Dan Garrick (center) is joined by (from left) Dillon Govekar, Phu Bui, Christopher Jeter and Derek Streitenberger in his Foundations in Teaching class designed to give students insights into the field of education.  
*Photo courtesy St. Francis DeSales High School*

teach history, too. He tries to tie that in to what we’re learning about,” Govekar explained.

His desire to be a high school history teacher was largely inspired by his sophomore history teacher at St. Francis De-

Sales, Nick Slupski.

“He inspired me to want to pursue the path altogether,” Govekar said. “I feel like if I follow in his footsteps – I learned a lot from his class – I feel like that would benefit me.”

Students who took Foundations in Teaching studied a variety of education-related topics. They learned about differentiated instruction, testing and different methods of teaching.

During one class period, Garrick instructed students on special populations, including special needs and gifted individuals. The students learned common characteristics of gifted students, average intelligence quotient (IQ) and a gifted IQ. They learned about various types of gifted students and how to identify and assist them.

Students in the class continued teaching observations at elementary schools and St. Francis DeSales. Each student also taught the class on a topic of choice.

Juniors Abbie Canter and Aedan Pallone, who took Foundations in Teaching this past semester, are interested in pursuing a career in education. Both took the class to learn more.

“It wasn’t exactly what I expected,” Canter said. “I think that it ended up being better because we go on observations and look at different schools, which, I think, is so much more hands on than always sitting, lecturing.”

Students in the class observed teachers in classrooms at Columbus St. Josephine Bakhita, Our Lady of Peace and Immaculate Conception schools as well

*See TEACHING, Page 23*



# Our Lady of Bethlehem School and Childcare

## Joyfully Building Our Best Nest Yet!



*A proud member of the  
Bishop Watterson  
High School  
feeder family*



*Congratulations to the  
Class of 2025  
throughout the  
Diocese of Columbus!*



**NOW ENROLLING Kindergarten**

***ourladyofbethlehem.org***



## School administrators honored for service

Catholic school administrators from the diocese came together for a Mass and awards presentation on May 1 at New Albany Church of the Resurrection.

Bishop Earl Fernandes was the celebrant for the Mass.

The following administrators were recognized for their service at diocesan schools:

**Five years:** Ryan Pettit, Cristo Rey Columbus High School; Jenna Yanko, Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem School; Courtney Caric, Gahanna St. Matthew School; and Michelle Ashley, Portsmouth Notre Dame Elementary School.

**Ten years:** Deacon Chris Campbell, Columbus Bishop Watterson High School; Lori Smith, Columbus St. Cecilia School; and Kayla Elrich, Lancaster St. Mary School.

**Fifteen years:** Lori Dulin, Our Lady of Bethlehem School; Ryan Schwieterman, Bishop Watterson High School

**Twenty years:** George Mosholder, Columbus St. Timothy School

**Thirty years:** Dan Garrick, Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School

**Thirty-five years:** Kathy O'Reilly, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School



Michelle Ashley



Chris Campbell



Courtney Caric



Lori Dulin



Kayla Elrich



George Mosholder



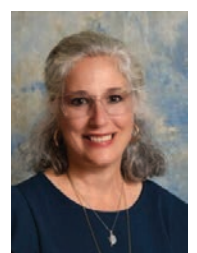
Kathy O'Reilly



Ryan Pettit



Ryan Schwieterman



Lori Smith



Jenna Yanko



Dan Garrick

### AWARD, continued from Page 7

whatever way I can."

Giles noted that Ruiz served as the primary campus guide for a fellow senior who is completely visually impaired. Ruiz waited for his peer after every period, regardless if they were in the same class, and took him to his next class.

"For that opportunity, I am so in-

credibly grateful," Ruiz said. "Although we began as simply fellow classmates, throughout sophomore year and especially through junior and senior year, he has grown to be one of my closest friends. In fact, I would go as far as to say he is the friend I talk to the most in school. Whether it is about our home-

work, class schedules or just mundane topics, we talk(ed) to each other every day for the past three years."

Ruiz also tutored, mentored and assisted several students during his years at St. Charles.

"I strove to help others whenever they were struggling in a subject," he said. "I remember this year especially I tutored a junior who was struggling in honors chemistry. After being asked by Mr. (Ryan) Mickle to help him, I gladly gave him my time. We set up shared times where he could come to me with any questions, either in chemistry or Algebra II."

Ruiz served as a mentor for the school's My Brother's Keeper mentoring group and as vice president of outreach. In the program, St. Charles students go into the community and tutor local students in an elementary school. Ruiz's mentee is now a freshman at St. Charles Preparatory School.

Ruiz mentored and tutored several St. Charles underclassmen, advising them on how to better prepare for exams, expectations for later years at St. Charles and how to mentally prepare for the rigorous schooling that St. Charles challenges its upperclassmen.

For the past year, Ruiz served on the Columbus Holy Spirit Church parish council – its youngest member – in addition to involvement in several community service projects at St. Charles.

Ruiz has a passion for writing. He served as editor-in-chief for the school's newspaper, The Carolian, and an editor for the school's yearbook, The Spectrum, for four years.

Ruiz, a member of the school's Borromeo Chapter of the National Honor Society, excelled in the classroom as well. He held a 4.33 grade point average, scored magna cum laude on the National Latin Exam his sophomore

year, and earned the Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award from the University of Rochester for being a four-year member of the school's honor roll.

He was named an advanced placement (AP) scholar with honor the past two years, earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams and scores of 3.0 or higher on four or more of the exams.

He was also a student-athlete. Ruiz ran track during his sophomore year and was on the St. Charles cross country and track teams his junior year.

The S.J. Dilenschneider Award was initiated in 2021 by Robert "Bob" L. Dilenschneider and his wife. Dilenschneider, a 1961 graduate of St. Charles Preparatory School, is CEO of The Dilenschneider Group, a leading public relations authority, and an alumnus of the University of Notre Dame. Jan is an internationally recognized expressionist painter and graduate of Ohio State University. The spouses are natives of Upper Arlington.

S. J. Dilenschneider (Bob's father), the award's inspiration, enjoyed a storied career in business and journalism. In the words of one who chronicled S. J. Dilenschneider, he was "a good citizen who loved his fellow man, his family and his newspaper." The award includes an engraved wooden box and \$10,000.

Since its founding in 1923, St. Charles Preparatory School remains focused on Catholic teaching, hard work, discipline, values, character development and service to the community. Offering a college preparatory program to 583 boys enrolled in grades 9-12, its students are instilled with the importance of being their brother's keeper and represent various economic and geographic backgrounds throughout central Ohio.

### St. Charles SUMMER CAMPS

<b>JUNE 2-4</b>	<b>Speed Camp</b> Have fun during 3 hours of professional instruction that applies to any sport!
<b>JUNE 3-4</b>	<b>Track &amp; Field Camp (Gr 4-6)</b> Individualized instruction to develop your athlete's individual technique and form.
<b>JUNE 5-6</b>	<b>Track &amp; Field Camp (Gr 7-8)</b> Individualized instruction to develop your athlete's individual technique and form.
<b>JUNE 9-11</b>	<b>Baseball Camp</b> Each camper will receive instruction on the fundamentals to become a better baseball player.
<b>JUNE 9-12</b>	<b>Quiz Bowl Mania</b> Come and test your trivia knowledge in an energetic environment in game form!
<b>JUNE 9-13</b>	<b>Ice Hockey Academy</b> Come and chill on the ice this summer at our St. Charles Ice Hockey Academy!
<b>JUNE 9-26</b>	<b>Camp Cardinal</b> Camp Cardinal is all about having fun and trying new things—no boring academic classes here!
<b>JUNE 10-12</b>	<b>Lacrosse Camp</b> Sharpen your lacrosse skills, with great coaching from an experienced camp staff.
<b>JUNE 16-19</b>	<b>Football Camp</b> Faith, Football and FUN! Focus on Leadership, Teamwork, and Position Specific Skills
<b>JUNE 23-26</b>	<b>Soccer Academy</b> Enjoy a FUN atmosphere and at the same time learn the FUNDAMENTALS
<b>JUNE 23-26</b>	<b>The Borromeo Project</b> The charisms of St. Charles Borromeo, humility, mercy, and solidarity, will be lived out through this project.
<b>JUNE 25-26</b>	<b>Basketball Shooting Camp</b> An opportunity to improve skills through shooting techniques, workouts, and games.
<b>JUNE - JULY 30-2</b>	<b>Basketball Camp (Gr. 7-9)</b> Develop skills, by placing emphasis on fundamentals, team concepts, and sportsmanship.
<b>JULY 7-9</b>	<b>Basketball Camp (Gr. 1-6)</b> Develop skills, by placing emphasis on fundamentals, team concepts, and sportsmanship.
<b>JULY 7-10</b>	<b>Robotics Camp (Week 1)</b> Have fun learning more about robotics at a beginner, intermediate, or advanced level!
<b>JULY 14-17</b>	<b>Robotics Camp (Week 2)</b> Have fun learning more about robotics at a beginner, intermediate, or advanced level!
<b>JULY 21-24</b>	<b>Volleyball Camp</b> Receive individualized instruction covering the fundamentals to learn and improve your skills.

Scan the QR code or go to [stcharlesprep.org/admissions/summer-programs](https://stcharlesprep.org/admissions/summer-programs) to Register TODAY!



**DESALES, continued from Page 9**

Elazar Hood, Lindsay Hopp, Christopher Jeter, Courtney Johnson, Hannah Keglowsch, Tiffany Kelley, Cassandra Kirkland, Alexander Kistler, Coen Klingbeil, Porter Lacey, Audrey Lackey, Trevor Lackey, Queenie Le, Skylar Leedy, Hilary Letzelter, Alexa Licea Villa, Maren Lilienthal, Patrick Lilienthal, Jacie Lipp, Jack Lofthouse, Karla Luna, Ella Lynch, Rember Magaña Posadas, Alyssa Mager and Zaira Mahoney.

Aylin Mai, Aireana Marteney, Margaret Martin, Rachel Massman, Kebin Cortez, Stephanie Mbugua, Brady McClain,

Declan McNamara, Nolan McSweeney, Alexander Melo, Sandra Mendez Alcauter, Lillian Mensah, Colleen Millenbaugh, Bella Miller, Jordyn Miller, Maria Nakagiri, Mira Napolitano, Sarah Neighbor, Ty Neubert, Stella Newman, Franklin Nnachetam, Patrick Noles, Andre Nori, Edward Nuñez Reyes and Joseph Ohalek.

Vanessa Ohene, Dotun Olubowale, Abena Opoku-Kesse, Ever Orellana Camacho, Amanda Orzechowski, Lynette Osei Tutu, Eunice Otu-Danquah, Daniella Pallaci, Deven Patel, Connor

Pond, Aidan Portillo, Luke Preston, Madison Profit, Michal Ann Gabrielle Ramirez, Chloe Ray, Jacob Reash, Ethan Riepenhoff, Chacelyn Riley, Jessica Rivera Yescas, Charles Rizek, Jaime Rodriguez, Nancy Rodriguez-Ramirez, Mikenzie Rogers, Xochil Romero Aguirre and Alexander Rush.

August Sabo, Kennedy Saggio, Gabriel Sanon, Yareli Saucedo, Annabelle See, Faith See, Amanda Shaffer, Ian Shannon, Lincoln Shulaw, Rylan Silcott, Thalyta Silva, Christopher Skaates, Olivia Smith, Landon Soales, Thomas Sorgini,

Sarah Stevenson, Isaac Stewart, Derek Streitenberger and Majid Strickland.

Caleb Teets, Miriam Tesfay, Peyton Thomas, Earnessa Thorpe, Itzel Tapia, Marcella Valentine, Kean Van Syckle, Alexander Vura, Matthew Walker, Cambria Ward, Carter Ward, Sophia Warner, Josephine Wesseling, Daniel Williams, Mallory Wolfe, Clara Woodruff, Elizabeth Woodruff, William Woodruff and Austin Zacherl.

**TEACHING, continued from Page 21**

as other schools in the area.

Pallone said she appreciated the opportunity to take trips, see students in a classroom and observe. She explained that a hands-on class is how she learns best. Pallone also benefited from the instruction on different learning styles.

"It just teaches you that not every kid learns the same way and just how to accommodate to each student in their own needs, in their plan, their own goals," she said.

"I think that the most important thing I learned is listening to your students and making sure that you're seeing them where they're at, and that there's more going on than just school, which is really important to build those relationships

with students," Canter added.

Garrick found that he appreciated teaching the class as much as students enjoyed learning.

"I thoroughly enjoy it," he said. "It's great for me. I think it's also good for the kids, too, to see their principal as a teacher because you don't necessarily always see your principal as a teacher, although most principals obviously started as teachers."

Garrick reported 30 students are signed up for Exploring Education next year. He will likely offer the class in the fall and spring semesters, he said. He also anticipates offering Foundations in Teaching again during spring semester next school year.

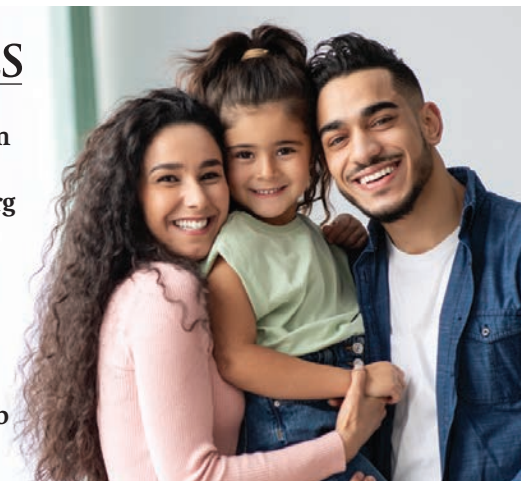
**CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025**

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**CONGRATULATIONS****to all the high school seniors**

on reaching this significant milestone in your lives! As you stand on the precipice of the next chapter in your lives, take a moment to reflect and pray on the tremendous dedication, hard work, and perseverance that has led you here. You have weathered the storms of adolescence, overcome a pandemic, and emerged stronger and wiser. May your future be filled with success, fulfillment, endless possibilities, and the Holy Spirit. Congratulations once again, and may all of your dreams carry you to new heights.



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CENTRAL OHIO ASSOCIATION  
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# Congratulations to the Class of 2025

*"By their fruits you will know them." - Matthew 7:16*



1100  
Graduates



\$170M in  
Scholarships



81,000  
Service  
Hours



12 to  
Military  
Service



2 to  
Missionary  
Work

The fruit of a Catholic education is not simply good grades or college acceptances, but a heart rooted in love — love for God, love for others, and the knowledge that each person is a beloved child of God, created with purpose.

Congratulations to the young men and women embarking on their next adventure — may they always hold close the fruits of their Catholic education in Our Catholic Schools.



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