



# Spring/Summer 2015

**Pursuit for Excellence** Playing for second place was never an option for Ray Hopkins '83, President of Television Networks Distribution for CBS Corporation.



**The Formative Years** See how Steve Fortunato '84, founder and CEO of Fortch Unlimited, used the leadership skills learned at BC to succeed.



**View from Capitol Hill** Patrick Rigby '05 began his career in public service with a clear view of what was in store.



**Modern-Day Crusaders** Meet Joe and Charlie Niece '15legacies, twins, and shining examples of what it means to be a Crusader in 2015.



2015 Hall of Fame It was some celebration as the nine newest members of the Bergen Catholic Hall of Fame were inducted.



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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We welcome your letters. The magazine will publish only letters that comment on the most recent issue's editorial content. Letters may be edited. Please include your return address, an email address (if you have one), and a daytime phone number for verification purposes.

**BERGEN CATHOLIC CRUSADER** MAGAZINE is a publication of Bergen Catholic High School, a college preparatory school for young men, grades 9–12. It is published twice a year by Christian Brothers (New Jersey) Institute under the direction of Brian M. Walsh, C.F.C., President.

# Upcoming

#### Monday, June 8, 2015 Bergen Catholic Golf Classic

Upper Montclair Country Club Honoring John Amoratis '77 & Mike Maron '77 Noon Shotgun Start

#### Thursday, June 11, 2015 Hoboken on Tap

Biggie's, Hoboken, NJ – 6:00 pm

#### Wednesday, September 23, 2015 Theology on Tap

Bacari Grill, Washington Township, NJ 6:00 pm Speaker: Jack Kakalewski

#### Friday, October 2, 2015 & Saturday, October 3, 2015 Reunion/Homecoming Weekend:

#### Friday, October 2, 2015

Noon Alumni Golf Outing Emerson Golf Club

#### Saturday, October 3, 2015

10:30-11:30 am - Bagels, Coffee & Tours of BC Noon - Pregame Food & Family Festivities – Woodland Avenue 1:00 pm Homecoming Football Game - BC vs. Paramus Catholic -Crusader Stadium 6:00 pm Homecoming Mass – BC Chapel 7:00-11:00 pm - Reunion Reception (BYOB) (Alumni Years ending in 0 & 5) All are welcome.

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Saturday, October 31, 2015

10:00 am Mass - BC Chapel

Friday, November 20, 2015

Venetian, Garfield, NJ – 6:30 pm

Following Mass

Crusader Gala

**Alumni Association Memorial Mass** 

Brunch at Bacari Grill - Immediately



www.youtube.com/user /BergenCatholic1955



BC Gymnasium

Unless otherwise noted, please contact Marge Millus at 201.634.4142 for event information, RSVPs, and payment.

# Message FROM THE PRESIDENT



June 1, 2015

Dear Supporter of Bergen Catholic,

Greetings in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ and of Blessed Edmund Rice, founder of the Christian Brothers. May you have an abundance of peace and health. I wonder if when Robert Frost wrote the following he had experienced the type of winter we did:

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today And give us not to think so far away ...keep us here All simply in the springing of the year.

A PRAYER IN SPRING

Our cover story features twin brothers Charles and Joseph Niece in this year's graduating class. Two young men in the "springing" of their lives focused on deepening faith, developing academic excellence, and strengthening social consciousness and responsibility in accordance with the Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Education (Bergen Catholic mission statement). As you read the story you will see that each of them is doing so in his own way.

In the poem Frost asks, "give us not to think so far away." Other stories in this issue tell of Bergen men and add highlights from the Hall of Fame to show that (when you think far away) the Bergen Catholic Mission Statement serves through the seasons of life.

May God and His Blessed Mother ever guide and guard Bergen Catholic High.

Sincerely,

On HWall CFG

Br. Brian M. Walsh President

Bergen Catholic Crusader alumni have reached the top in many professions, but only a select few have been described as a "big gun" and as "one of a kind, a tremendous executive and colleague." Both are monikers given to Ray Hopkins, class of 1983.



# THE NEVER-ENDING PURSUIT FOR EXCELLENCE

ay is president of Television Networks Distribution for CBS Corporation. In this role he works to secure new retransmission and affiliation agreements for CBS's broadcast and cable networks, including the CBS Television Network, Showtime Networks, CBS Sports Network, and Smithsonian Networks. He also heads up negotiations for distribution deals with CBS's more than 60 affiliated television station groups. It's a big job, but one that Ray is well-suited for, due in large part to his Bergen Catholic education.

Looking back on his years at Bergen Catholic, Ray recalls the pursuit of excellence, where "playing for second was never an option, be it academically or athletically," Ray said. "While you didn't always win, or didn't always have the top mark, you were always pushed beyond your comfort zone to deliver your best effort." Ray remembers, "The Brothers and teachers encouraged and supported me, both in the classroom and on the field; in particular, algebra teacher/track coach Brother Jake Crowley and history teacher/baseball coach Al Barton."

Brother Crowley, who taught at the school from 1979

to 1983, also held the role of athletic director. More important, he served as a friend and mentor to Ray and many other students. Prior to Brother Crowley passing away in 2012, Hopkins dedicated a basketball scoreboard at Bergen Catholic in Crowley's honor. "Now when Crusader fans look at the scoreboard, we recall Brother's tireless dedication to the Bergen Catholic student-athlete."

Ray is in regular contact with many friends from high school days. In particular he, Chris Lota, and John Mangini enjoy getting together to listen to Mangini's revisionist history of his "feats" on the football field and baseball diamond. Ray also makes sure to take in a game with Al Barton at least once a year.

It was this environment of camaraderie, loyalty, and friendship that Ray feels prepared him for life. He explains, "I was taught to treat people with respect, and I carry that with me today. I don't look at a person's job title. I look at the person, who they are, how they treat others, and their level of dedication." Most of all, Ray is still always pursuing excellence.





sk the average adult on the street, "When were your formative years?" and you will most likely hear, "At college" as the answer. But Steve Fortunato, founder and CEO of Fortch Unlimited, Inc., isn't the average person. Steve, class of 1984, answers, "during high school." Why the difference?

# THE Formative Years

Steve is the Founder and CEO of Fortch Unlimited, Inc., a sports and entertainment services company specializing in athlete and celebrity management, television and film development and production, media training, and image consulting. Steve reflects, "At Bergen Catholic Persian Gulf during Desert Shield/Desert Storm, and I learned how to look at my strengths and my weaknesses, and how to set goals for myself based on an honest assessment. This skill has carried me through life, from getting started as an officer in the U.S. Air Force and into business today." Leading Steve along the way were the nurturing teachers and Edmund Rice Christian Brothers.

"The Brothers were really a guiding light to me during my years at school," recalls Steve. "Be it on the retreats, travelling for sports, in Chapel, or in the classroom, their level of dedication and commitment to excellence clearly shaped me into the person I am today. They helped me grow as a person and taught me valuable life

experience helped him develop crucial leadership skills. Many Crusaders are athletes; Steve was the captain of the track team his senior year. But far fewer are involved

in student government. It's his involvement in both of these activities that Steve credits for many of the leadership skills he needed as an air force officer, when he commanded joint service Combat Camera teams in the during the heaviest combat operations in Somalia.

Today Steve is a multi-Emmy Award-winning producer who stays connected to Bergen Catholic through the alumni network and by keeping in touch with former teachers, such as Brother Peter Zawot, Brother Arthur Williams, and Brother Raymond Vercruysse. He has returned to BC through the years, and he has been a keynote speaker at alumni career days, often sought after for his connections with and stories about Major League Baseball players. Steve is happy to use his experience in the sports management industry to mentor other Crusaders, young and old, who are interested in a career in the industry. "I knew when I was at Bergen Catholic that I was part of something special. God blessed me with In particular, Steve explains how his Bergen Catholic specific talents; my teachers, coaches, and advisors pushed me and guided me in developing and making the most of those skills, and now it's about giving back."







# THE VIEW FROM CAPITOL HILL



atrick Rigby '05 began his career in public service with a clear view of what was in store. No starry-eyed view of government clouded his vision. From an early age, Patrick often tagged along with his father, Kevin T. Rigby, chief of staff to Senator Bill Bradley. Some meetings were long and boring; many conversations were over young Patrick's head. Most days were filled with stuffing envelopes or running errands, but it didn't matter to Patrick. It was all preparation for a future in public service.

After Bergen Catholic, it was on to the Eugene Lang College at the New School in New York City, where Patrick graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in international relations, political science, and economics. He then attended Oxford University, which he described as an "academic boot camp" to study international relations and comparative political economy. Today he calls Washington DC home where he works as a legislative/research assistant for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "It's a great job," said Patrick. "Every experience I've had, including my years at BC, have helped prepare me for this kind of position."

A typical day starts at 5:30 am so he can be at his desk by 6:30 am. Much of the world has been awake and making news while the U.S. slept, and there's plenty to catch up on. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee is on the front lines of foreign policy. Its members and staff work with elected congressional members and staffers, the Pentagon and State Department, as well as our diplomatic corps and ambassadors from nations around the world. A day filled with briefings, committee meetings, and international phone calls usually lasts until 6 pm. Several evenings a week, dinners with foreign delegations, caucuses, or committee members extend the workday until nearly midnight. This whirlwind schedule demands organization and discipline but also a well-developed ability to get along with all types of people.

As the fifth Rigby to attend BC, Patrick followed in the footsteps of his father, uncles, and brother. He could probably have rested just a bit on their legacies, but instead worked hard to achieve his own BC success. In his senior year he was elected student government vice president, giving him a strong presence throughout the school. His fond memories include helping to host a weekly TV broadcast from Mr. Flynn's studio, which honed Patrick's public speaking skills and clarified his ability to present a point of view and persuade others to it. About his years at BC Patrick said: "There were no cliques or in-groups/out-groups in BC, and that was an amazing thing. There were certainly different points of view, but when it was time to come together for school events or support the sports teams, everyone cheered across the board. I learned the importance of honoring others' viewpoints and how to get along with everyone."

One of Patrick's enduring passions is working with the Friends of Rigby Foundation, a nonprofit organization he co-founded with Jay Tedino '01, in memory of his brother, Daniel "Danny" H. Rigby '01. Daniel died in a tragic off-campus house fire while attending Georgetown University. The Rigby Foundation's mission is to promote fire safety among college students. Jay and Patrick return to BC to speak with graduating seniors about fire safety to help prepare them for their years in college. The foundation's goal is to ensure that there are no more heartbreaking deaths like Danny's.

With a promising future in front of him, Patrick isn't ruling anything out. Effecting positive change in our world is his goal. And while he's currently embedded on the staff side, he can't rule out a run for elected office at some point in the future. "I serve at the pleasure of the ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (SFRC)," he said. "I will have to wait and see how things develop. I'm learning every day from a lot of really bright people. If some day, running for office is the best way to make things happen, then I'd consider it." Right now his future seems wide open. We'll watch his progress and wish him well.

# MODERN-DAY CRUSADERS











## You know the Bergen Catholic mascot the Crusader. It's emblazoned on the walls, in the halls, and on our uniforms. But how often do you stop and think about what it means to be a "Crusader"?

The first Crusaders fought to protect Christianity, but in today's parlance, a crusader is someone who fights for any worthy cause. In the Class of 2015 there are two young men who can truly be considered Crusaders—and they're twins.

Meet Joe and Charlie Niece, sons of Joe Niece, Bergen Catholic Class of 1986. In the fall, the boys will go their separate ways. Joe is headed to Rutgers University on a four-year ROTC scholarship. Charlie is planning to major in theology at St. Andrew's Hall College Seminary at Seton Hall University. While the paths are diverging, their end goals are the same—to serve others.

Joe wants to serve his country as an army engineer. Upon completion of the Army ROTC program, he will be commissioned as a second lieutenant. "He's always liked the structure and order in his life," says BettyAnn Niece, Joe's mother. At 16 he joined the Civil Air Patrol. This program, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a year-round program where young men and women fly, learn to lead, hike, and camp. It is a starting point for many military personnel. Joe is also an Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America.

Even at Bergen Catholic, Joe has taken on the role of Crusader multiple times. As a freshman he decided to start the Engineering Club. He garnered interest from fellow students, found a faculty advisor, and got the club sanctioned by the school. Today, the club has 20 members and is entirely student-run.

As a junior he joined his peers on a weeklong trip to Peru, where the students visited an orphanage and built a home for a Peruvian family. "It was a fantastic trip," recalls Joe. "We had the opportunity to really be useful and build something the family needed. For me it was a lot of fun and very rewarding. I've always enjoyed building things, and I got to practice speaking Spanish with the kids in the orphanage."

Charlie wants to serve in a more spiritual manner; he

wants to be a Priest. In middle school he received the calling, and his four years at Bergen Catholic have strengthened his conviction. He explains. "I can't see myself doing anything else. I want to be a conduit between God and people." When talking about his high school experience, Charlie describes the support he has received from the faculty. "I've really enjoyed getting to know the teachers, especially Mrs. Travaline, Mrs. Barone, and Father Tony Ricarte. They're always there when you need someone to talk to."

At Bergen Catholic, Charlie has been in the fore-ground of the pro-life movement. As president of BC Alive, an anti-suicide and anti-abortion group, he and 20 of his peers work to ensure students know there are options. The group also helps out at the Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center on a regular basis and had the opportunity to meet with Congressman Scott Garrett and share high school students' perspectives on these important issues.

Charlie and his friends have even taken their crusade on the road. As a freshman and again as a senior, Charlie and others from Bergen Catholic attended the March for Life in Washington DC. "When we marched in Washington, we joined thousands of people in a peaceful demonstration showing our support for the pro-life movement."

Both boys plan to keep in touch with friends and teachers after they move on to the next steps in their academic and personal lives. They want to become active in the alumni network and perhaps mentor students. "They've lived their whole lives in the Bergen Catholic community," adds BettyAnn. "Many of Joe and my closest friends are Bergen Catholic alumni. The school has reinforced the importance of core values and core morals. I'm convinced Bergen Catholic is the best thing that has happened to them and they have the skills they need to be successful in the future."

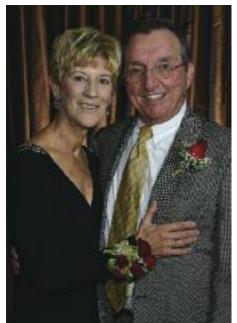
## Crusader Gala 2014

#### THREE ARE HONORED AT THE SEVENTH ANNUAL GALA

The Seventh Annual Crusader Gala was another great success. We were delighted to welcome 500 guests to the Venetian in Garfield, NJ, to celebrate Bergen Catholic and our three outstanding Founder's Medal recipients. Our enthusiastic crowd was there to salute, congratulate, and applaud our honorees: Joan Saingas, Joe Azelby '80, and Carl Haas. Thank you to all who came out to support our honorees and the Bergen Catholic Student Tuition Program.



Joe Branciforte, Br. Brian Walsh, and Marge Millus pulling the 50-50 winners



Rose Baumeister and Carl Haas



Christian Malenda, Sheri Giacomini, Joan Saingas, and Mynette and Chris Saingas



Christine, Joe, and Janet Azelby



Mike Salvatore, Jeff Spendly, Joe Azelby, Ralph Ruggero, Scott Fletcher, Chuck Lester, and Joe Bossolina



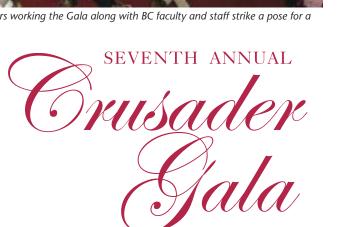
John and Karen Mackie, and Barbara and Larry Freirich



Some current Crusader volunteers working the Gala along with BC faculty and staff strike a pose for a



Claire O'Toole, Gerard Maron, Dan O'Toole, Maris Sattely, Jim Sattely, and Christine



#### Joe Azelby '80



Joe was born in the Inwood neighborhood of Manhattan and raised in Dumont. His father was a New York City police officer, and his mother was a substitute teacher at St. Mary's in Dumont, where the four Azelby children began their Catholic school education. Terri was Holy Angels '78. Tom was

BC '82. Bob was slated for BC '86, but he completed his senior year at Dumont HS where starting positions in football and basketball and interactions with girls awaited him.

At Bergen Catholic, Joe was an honor student and played football, basketball, and baseball. He was captain of the 1979 BC state championship football team and was a First-Team All State and All County selection as line-backer. Joe was recruited by Harvard University, where he majored in economics and was a three-year starter as inside linebacker. He played for two Ivy League championship teams and received a variety of All Ivy, All New England, and All American honors. He was captain of the 1983 Harvard football team and played in the 100th Harvard/Yale game. Joe was selected in the 10th round of the 1984 draft by the Buffalo Bills, for whom he played both inside linebacker and special teams.

After bouncing around the NFL for two years, Joe joined JP Morgan Asset Management. He spent his first 12 years in the fixed income unit and picked up an M.B.A. in finance from NYU's Stern School of Business along the way. In 1998 he was promoted to run the firm's US Real Estate investment unit. Today he is the CEO of JP Morgan's Global Real Assets Group, which manages \$73 billion of real estate, infrastructure, and maritime assets on behalf of the large, sophisticated, institutional investors. Joe leads a team of 450 investment professionals located across the United States, Europe, Asia, and Australia. He travels extensively to review investments, mentor colleagues, and meet with clients and prospects.

Joe resides in Cresskill, NJ, with his wife, Janet, and has

three daughters, Christine (NJ Medical School), Colleen (U.S. Peace Corps-Guatemala), and Jackie (Mt. Holyoke College). In his free time he likes to write. In 2013 he coauthored the management book, *Kiss Your BUT Good-bye*, with his brother Bob, which was published by Harper-Business. Today he gives talks and speeches on the topics of people management and self-awareness in the work-place.

Joe has been a strong financial supporter of Bergen Catholic, a class chair ('80), and an organizer of various reunions. Most recently, he was the master of ceremonies for Bergen Catholic's 2014 Hall of Fame Dinner, where he was lauded for getting everyone home on time.

#### Joan Saingas, P '90



The Saingas' affiliation with Bergen Catholic began over 40 years ago when the family attended football games to watch their neighbor's son, Brian Gallagher, play quarterback for the BC Crusaders. It wasn't until 1986, when Joan's son, Christopher, became a freshman (and, eventually, a tight end

for the varsity football team, while setting three school records) and her daughter, Sheri, became the captain of the BC Cheerleaders, that the Saingas family personally experienced what it meant to be a member of the BC community.

Joan Vandalinda Saingas is a graduate of Hackensack High School and Katharine Gibbs Secretarial School in New York City. She began her professional career at BC in the Business Office in 1988, where she worked directly for Terry McGovern, business manager, and Kathy O'Brien, controller. Moving forward, Joan also worked for the Admissions Office at the same time and enjoyed this area of her job tremendously because, as a parent herself, it was quite easy to share the BC experience with prospective parents.

As time moved on, Joan was asked to become the office manager and the assistant to the president and principal, which she was thrilled to accept. Over the years, Joan has worked for Br. Killelea, principal, Br. Sullo, president, Br. Murphy, president, Dr. Fusco, principal, Br. Walsh, president and Tim McElhinney, principal. Joan also serves as the recording secretary for the Board of Directors and the moderator of the Parents' Association. Joan also was the cheerleading advisor for four years from 1988 to 1992.

Joan is a member of the Sports Award Banquet Committee of the YMCA and was recently honored for her volunteerism at a special awards ceremony in Hackensack. She also received the school's Pro Operis Award in 2008 for 20 years of service.

In 1967 Joan married her soul mate, Nicholas Saingas. They were blessed with two children, Christopher and Sheri, and resided in Paramus. Unfortunately, Nick passed away in 2001, but Joan is able to look across the school parking lot at the "Saingas Center" every day and think of him and his legacy. Joan is blessed with five grandchildren—Drew, Connor, Zoe, Luke, and Eva—the loves of her life!

#### Carl Haas, P'87



Carl Haas lived and grew up in Wyckoff, NJ, for most of his early life, with a short tenure in Hawthorne, NJ. He graduated from Ramapo High School in Franklin Lakes and attended Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck. Growing up, Carl was one of five children, attended the Wyckoff public school

system, and played multiple sports. He continued certain athletic activities while at Ramapo, enjoying the camaraderie associated with athletics. His passion led to coaching Pop Warner football for 13 years in Wyckoff and Hawthorne. During this time, he married and became the father of a bouncing baby boy.

He was introduced to Bergen Catholic when his son, Dr. Donald Haas, was accepted to the school in 1983. He became a member of the Crusader Touchdown Club that year and was elected as the club's president for the 1986 football season. That season produced a state championship and Carl continued as a member of the club, acting as its treasurer for several seasons. During the next 10 to 15 years, while remaining a member of the TD Club, Carl, along with others, created the Club's McGovern Award. Carl also became involved in the Br. Martin P. Burns Golf Classic, chairing the event and acting as its treasurer for several years, while serving as a committee member. He also became involved in the Bergen Catholic Hall of Fame Dinner as a committee member and, along with Jim Jacobsen, designed the dinner's program and journal format.

Carl initiated the annual football alumni reception that is currently held at Bacari Grill each Thanksgiving weekend. In addition, he created the Carl Haas Family Fund for financial aid and has funded it annually for the past 15 years. Carl currently serves with distinction on the Advancement Committee for the past 13 years, while also serving as the moderator and treasurer of the Crusader Touchdown Club for the past eight years.

Carl recently retired from ADP, after a 36-year career at the company as director of an MIS department, and is enjoying his four grandchildren, his beach house on LBI, and all his Bergen Catholic endeavors.

Over the years, Carl has received the following awards, distinctions, and accolades: The McGovern Award, The Brother Martin P. Burns Award, Horizon and Cornerstone Awards for Lifetime Giving, the Scarlet Award for 15 or more years of consecutive giving, and the Legacy Society Award for his planned, estate gift to the school.

# 2015 Hall of Fame

#### NINE NEW MEMBERS INDUCTED INTO BC HALL OF FAME



2015 Hall of Fame Honorees

ine new members were inducted into the Bergen Catholic High School Hall of Fame when the Alumni Association presented its Eighteenth Hall of Fame Dinner on Sunday, March 29, 2015, at the Fiesta in Wood-Ridge (owned by our very own Matt Landy '77).

The new inductees, who joined the 170 people already in the Bergen Catholic Hall of Fame, are Mike Connelly '70, Mark DeRosa '93, Joseph S. Fusco, Ph.D., Frank Matarazzo '01, Mike Minogue '85, Kevin O'Hara '88, Mary and Kevin Rigby '72, and Greg Schwake '86. BC Principal Tim McElhinney presented plaques to the honorees, while Master of Ceremonies Joe Azelby '80 distributed the medals.



Master of Ceremonies Joe Azelby

#### Mike Connelly '70

Mike Connelly, a 1970 BC graduate, was one of the star players on BC's 22-3 basketball team in 1969–1970. A two-year starter for legendary coach Chris Donfield, Connelly led the Crusaders in scoring and rebounding during his senior season, averaging 20 points,



13 rebounds, and three blocks per game. Mike was a versatile "big man," who could score inside and outside, handle the ball, pass, rebound, and play tenacious defense. He was named All-County, Third Team All-Parochial, and Honorable Mention All-State, as well as *The Record*'s Athlete of the Week in 1970. Mike first played collegiately at William & Mary before transferring to Villanova, where he became a starter. At the time of his graduation from BC, Mike ranked third all-time in scoring and first overall in rebounding. Mike lives in Mahwah with his wife and daughter. He teaches physical education and also coaches at Columbia Prep School in New York City.

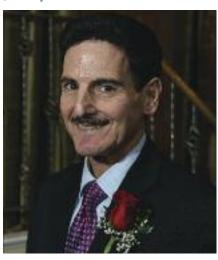
#### Mark DeRosa '93



Mark DeRosa, B. Class of 1993, is one of the most heralded studentathletes in school history, while earning accolades on and off the playing field during his time at Bergen Catholic. An All-County and All-State selection in football, Mark quarterbacked the nationally ranked

HALL OF FAME Crusaders to the 1992 state championship in a game voted "Game of the Century" by The Record. Mark also earned All-County and All-State honors in baseball, as a shortstop for the Crusaders. He was also the recipient of the Eugene D. McKenna Award at graduation, given to the student who best typifies the "BC Man." Mark attended The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, where he played both football and baseball. He was drafted by the Atlanta Braves in the 1996 MLB Draft, later making his major league debut in 1998. Mark played 16 seasons for eight different organizations, winning the 2010 World Series with the San Francisco Giants. Today, Mark works as an analyst on the MLB Network.

#### Joseph S. Fusco, Ph.D.



Dr. Joseph S. Fusco was the first lay principal in the history of Bergen Catholic, serving in this position for 12 years (1994-2006). Dr. Fusco's extraordinary career in education includes teaching and administration positions in public and alternative schools,

at the high school and collegiate levels, in New Jersey and New York. With a rich and impressive educational background that includes an undergraduate degree in philosophy, a master's in foreign language education, a master's in educational administration and supervision, and a doctorate in educational leadership, Dr. Fusco's career embodies BC's quest for "excellence in all things." He lives by the saying "Doce ut dicas: Teach in order to learn." Dr. Fusco continues to believe strongly in the rich educational tradition of Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice—and prays that students leave BC committed to the pursuit of lifelong education and with an ardent responsibility to themselves, their community, and their God.

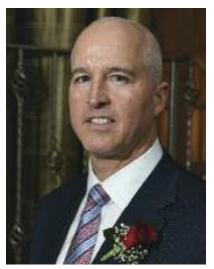
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#### Frank Matarazzo '01

Frank Matarazzo, BC Class of 2001. served as a three-year captain and four-year varsity starter for the Crusader lacrosse team. Throughout his illustrious career, Frank was recognized as one of the best lacrosse players in New Jersey. After being named Freshman of the Year by The Ridgewood News in



1998, he went on to earn All-League and All-State honors in each of the next three seasons. During this period, he led Bergen Catholic to its first championship in program history in the Catholic Schools Lacrosse Tournament in 1999. He finished his career as the program's all-time leading goal and point scorer. He became the first-ever BC lacrosse player to play lacrosse at the Division I level and attended the University of Notre Dame, where he was a three-year monogram winner. Frank's accomplishments were instrumental in helping to raise the visibility and prestige of the BC lacrosse program in the state of New Jersey.



#### Michael Minogue '85

Michael Minogue, BC Class of 1985, served as an infantry officer in the U.S. Army, receiving multiple distinctions including: Airborne, RANGER, Desert Storm Veteran, and Bronze Star. He received his B.S. degree in engineering management from the

United States Military Academy at West Point and his

M.B.A. from the University of Chicago. Michael is currently chief executive officer, president and chairman of Abiomed Inc. Since joining the company in 2004, he has transitioned the corporate strategy and mission toward creating breakthrough heart support technologies for minimally invasive procedures, heart muscle recovery and cost-effective patient care. Prior to his time at Abiomed, Michael spent 11 years at General Electric Healthcare as vice president for the Information Technology Division, developing expertise in sales, marketing, product development, and service operations in diagnostic imaging centered on anatomy, cancer, and cardiovascular disease. Michael is married with five children and enjoys reading, mentoring, running, coaching, and playing sports.

## Kevin O'Hara '88

Kevin O'Hara, a graduate from the Bergen Catholic Class of 1988, was a standout soccer player during one of the most successful periods in Crusader soccer history. A three-year varsity starter, he was a member of the 1985 BC team that won the school's first-ever



Bergen County championship, a Parochial A North sectional title, and Bergen County Team of the Year honors. During his senior year, Kevin captained BC's first-ever Parochial A state championship team, while leading the team in goals from his midfield position. A two-time First-Team All-County, All-Suburban, and All-League selection, Kevin was also named Second-Team All-State in 1986, First-Team All-State in 1987, and Honorable Mention for *The Record*'s All-Decade Team for the 1980s. Kevin continued his playing career at Loyola College in Maryland, and he was a member of three MAAC conference championship teams in 1989, 1990, and 1991. He remains involved with the Crusader soccer program, and he founded the annual alumni game in 1997.

#### Kevin '72 and Mary Rigby, AP '01, '05



Kevin and Mary Rigby have shared a long and meaningful relationship with Bergen Catholic. Kevin is a proud member of the Class of 1972, and he and Mary are prouder yet to have two alumni sons, Daniel '01 (RIP) and Patrick '05. Daniel died tragically in an off-campus housing fire while a senior at Georgetown University in 2004. This led to the formation of the Friends of Rigby Foundation, which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to promote fire safety, education, and community activism. Additionally, two financial aid scholarships were created at Bergen Catholic in loving memory of Dan, each focusing on helping students with demonstrated need, as well as those who exhibit passion and commitment to community volunteerism. Kevin and Mary have generously contributed their time, talent, and treasure to different charitable organizations including Lamp for Haiti, United Way, Alliance for Aging Research, and many others. The Rigbys truly value being a part of the Bergen Catholic family and are forever grateful for all the love, support, and guidance that BC has provided so many young men over the years.

#### **Gregory Schwake '86**

Gregory Schwake, Bergen Catholic Class of 1986, is one of the most accomplished soccer players in program history. In 1985, Greg co-captained the Crusaders to the Bergen County championship win and the Parochial A North sectional title —both "firsts" in school history. The standout



Crusader defenseman was named First-Team All-County, All-League, and All-Suburban as well as All-State, while leading BC to a 34-7-3 record over his two-year varsity career. Greg later went on to captain Boston College's soccer team, where he played 72 games at various positions during a four-year career. He was named a Big East Academic All-Star, and New England Intercollegiate Soccer All-Star, and he led the Eagles in scoring his junior year as a forward. Following college, Greg received an M.B.A. from Fordham University and is now a managing partner for Gellos Capital in Greenwich, CT. Greg currently resides in Oradell with his wife, Christine, and coaches his 11-year old-son.



Hall of Famers present at 2015 reception

# Academic

Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends,

We have recently entered the fourth quarter of the school year, so graduation is right around the corner for the members of the senior class and summer vacation is in sight for the underclassmen. As spring has arrived and the difficult winter weather is becoming a distant memory, there is a great amount of energy in the building.

This school year has been an exciting one in terms of technology. The freshman class has utilized online textbooks as well as two Apple devices—iPad Minis and MacBook Airs. Next school year, both the freshman and sophomore classes will be utilizing the two Apple devices while the juniors and seniors will continue to use their Lenovo laptops. Each successive incoming freshman class will utilize the Apple devices, which means by September 2017 every member of the student body will have two devices for their use in each class setting.

Over the past six weeks, the academic departments have been engaged in an evaluation of online textbooks provided by Pearson Education Books. While the current freshman class has solely used online textbooks this school year, the upper three grade levels have continued to use physical textbooks. However, come next school year the entire student body will utilize online textbooks. So, the evaluation conducted by each department is a critical part of the process to ensure the students are presented with the most challenging of online resources. As a reminder, the online textbooks are not simply static versions of the physical texts, but rather they are embedded with a significant amount of interactivity, which brings them to life through videos, web searches, labs, mapping exercises, and much more.

During the second semester of this school year, we have utilized a software product called ExamSoft. ExamSoft It is an exciting time at Bergen Catholic. allows students to take assessments through their laptops with a significant amount of security and ease. Teachers Sincerely, provide tests and guizzes to students to be downloaded through ExamSoft. The assessments are not accessible by students until the teacher provides a password specific to the test or quiz. The ExamSoft software is Timothy J. McElhinney extremely secure as it restricts student access to files on Principal



### It is an exciting time at Bergen Catholic.

their computers, disables Internet access on their machines, and does not provide an option for students to close out of an assessment in any manner prior to its conclusion. When the test or quiz is completed, it is submitted electronically to the teacher's account. An additional valuable feature of ExamSoft is that it is compatible with PowerSchool, which is where the teachers' electronic grade books are housed. This means that the grades from ExamSoft assessments sync seamlessly and immediately to the PowerSchool grade books.

This year, final exams for all grade levels will be provided through ExamSoft. So, for the first time in school history—no paper based final exams will be administered.



## PREPARE TO LEAD.

Founded on the 7 Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Education, Bergen Catholic challenges students to pursue excellence in all endeavors—intellectual, physical, and spiritual. We challenge students in all they undertake and provide them with the tools they need to succeed so they fulfill their potential as leaders—in the classroom, on the field, and in service to others.

#### Ask us about our:

- iPad & Laptop Program
- eBook Curriculum & Wireless Campus
- 37 Honors & AP Course Offerings
- Excellent College Placement
- Mandarin Language Program
- Over 500 Athletic Championships Since 1959
- 40+ Clubs and Organizations
- Visual & Performing Arts Program
- SHIELD Leader Development Program
- Reigning Bergen County Mock Trial Champions
- 68% of the Class of 2014 Who Received \$17.8 Million in Scholarships and Grants

To learn more about how a Bergen Catholic education develops leaders, call the Admissions Department at 201.634.4151. PREPARE TO LEAD.



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# 2015 Winter Sports in Review

In one of the most successful winters in school history, Bergen Catholic teams won five Bergen County championships, three league titles, one sectional title, and one state championship.

#### **Basketball**



For the first time since 2003, Bergen Catholic (19-7) was crowned the king of Bergen County basketball, as the Crusaders won the school's ninth

Jamboree title in program history after defeating fourtime defending champion Teaneck (66-44) at Ramapo College. **Justin Salem '15** was named the tournament's MVP, as he also joined **Pierfrancesco Oliva '15** and **Riley Welch '15** as All-County players for BC this winter. The Crusaders also made history when they claimed the 1,000th win in BC basketball history in their season opener against Eastside. The BC freshman team also won their own Bergen County championship.

#### **Bowling**

BC finished their season in second place in the Big North United Division and with an overall record of 12–5. The Crusaders were led throughout the season by four bowlers who earned Second-Team All-League honors: Stephen Daly '15, Rich Capone '15, Kyle Laube '17, and Hunter Butkera '18.

#### Hockey

The Crusaders (14-12-1) produced their best season since 2009, as BC put together great postseason runs in the Gordon Cup playoffs and the overall Non-Public state tournament, and assured themselves their first winning season in six years. BC advanced to the confer-



ence final for the first time since 2004, and in the state tournament, the Crusaders advanced all the way to the state semifinals, where they lost a 3-2 game to eventual state champion CBA. This winter BC defeated Don Bosco Prep twice and eliminated St. Joseph Regional from the state playoffs, and were named Team of the Year by *The Record*. **Kyle Marano '15** and **Evan Wisocky '16** were named First-Team All-County and head coach **Brian Monteverdi** was named Coach of the Year.

#### **Indoor Track**



BC enjoyed one of its finest winter seasons in recent history, as the Crusaders claimed their first Bergen County team championship since 2002, in addition to winning their third straight league title. Several Crusaders earned All-State honors including **Kyle Ellerson** '15, Matt Morano '15, Tom Selvaggi '15, and Eddie De-Hais '15. After leading the Crusaders to a banner winter, head coach Bill Magee was named Big North Conference Indoor Coach of the Year, and BC finished ranked in the top 10 in the state for the winter.

#### Skiing



Crusader senior **Joe DiFilippo '15** made history on the slopes this winter, as he became the first Bergen Catholic skier to ever earn All-State honors in a season, as DiFilippo finished in the top 12 in New Jersey to earn All-State honors.

#### **Swimming**



For the third straight season and for the fourth time in school history, Bergen Catholic (7-2) won the Bergen County swimming championship, as the Crusaders cemented their recent dynasty in the pool. BC was once again led by All-County swimmers John Om '15, Ralph

Cannarozzi '15, and Anthony Bradshaw '15, in addition to Luke Boswell '15 and Tom Scrivanich '18. BC advanced to the semifinals of the Non-Public A state tournament, and finished ranked in the top 10 in New Jersey.

#### Wrestling

BC (15-2) finished arguably the greatest season in school history this winter, as the Cru-



saders claimed their fourth straight Non-Public A state championship, their second consecutive #1 ranking in New Jersey, and finished ranked in the nation's top 10 for the second straight winter at #10 in the United States. The Crusaders also tied a modern-age record by becoming only the third school to ever produce four individual state champions, as Shane Griffith '18, Joe Grello '16, Kevin Mulligan '16, and Nick Suriano '16 each stood atop the podium at the NJSIAA state tournament in Atlantic City. Joining the four state champions as All-County performers on the mat this year were Pete Lipari '15 and Connor O'Brien '15. BC became the first Catholic school to ever repeat as the #1 team in New Jersey, and are poised to be one of the best teams in the nation again next winter.

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## **Inside the Halls**

#### 37 Crusaders Honored at BC Commitment Day



Bergen Catholic had a record number of senior student-athletes participate in the school's annual "Commitment Day" event on February 4, in Hoehl Gymnasium, as 37 Crusaders represented eight different BC sports. Some of the colleges and universities that the BC student-athletes will attend next fall included Yale University, Johns Hopkins University, the U.S. Naval Academy, Boston College, and Stevens Institute of Tech-

#### USO Club Collects Over 1,200 DVDs for Veterans

The Bergen Catholic USO Club's DVDs4VETs collection drive collected over 1,200 DVDs during the month of January, setting a new record of generosity from members of the BC school community. All of the donated DVDs were sent to the nationally known organization DVDs4VETs to be distributed to various veterans hospitals throughout the country.



#### Crusaders Against Cancer Raises Money for St. Baldrick's Foundation



Day, the Bergen Catholic Crusaders cer research. This year, the club has Against Cancer club runs their St. raised over \$10,000, and since 2012, the students, staff, and BC's own president,

Baldrick's head shaving event to raise club has raised over \$36,000 for pediatric

As is the tradition on every St. Patrick's money and awareness for childhood canyear's event were Bergen Catholic Br. Brian M. Walsh!

#### **BC Hosts Prescription Drugs and Heroin Assembly**

For the second consecutive year, Bergen Catholic hosted an assembly for all of its students on the dangers of prescription drugs and heroin at Hoehl Gymnasium. Guest speakers included Christopher A. Jakim, an assistant special agent in the DEA, and Glenn Duncan, the executive director of the Hunterdon Drug Awareness Program. BC students were educated on the current epidemic of prescription drugs and heroin in North Jersey, and were also told about the personal side of drug abuse and addiction by Bergen Catholic alumni parent Gail Cole AP '09.



#### Mock Trial Team Wins 10th Bergen County Championship

This winter the BC Mock Trial team claimed their 10th Bergen County championship in school history, and their first since 2010.

The 10 county titles is the most for any school in county history.



#### **BC Student Wins Prestigious Regional Art Award**



Bergen Catholic junior Peter Yoon '16 received a Gold Key Award by participating in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards contest, a 92-year-old national program that recognizes outstanding creative teenagers and offers scholarship opportunities for graduating high school seniors. Yoon's winning entry was a photograph entitled "Reptilian Nature."

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# **Admissions**

On February 7, 160 young men and their families registered for the BC Class of 2019.

Thirty-nine of the incoming boys have had a relative attend BC.

The class included four boys who were the leads in their school musicals.

The top 23 COOP test takers were awarded \$298,963 in scholarship money from BC.

While most of the class is coming from towns around Bergen County, we have students from six other counties in New Jersey, Orange and Rockland Counties, and New York City.

The town with the most Crusaders enrolling in the fall is Paramus (11), followed by Oradell, River Edge, and Ridgewood. Saint Elizabeth School (Wyckoff) has the highest number (9) of students who are registered.

The boys gathered on Saturday, February 28, for what will be the first of many memorable events at BC, for the Freshman Experience Day led by Mrs. Tambone-Puzio and the SHIELD Leader Development Program. The boys participated in activities that focused on team building, leadership, and communication.





Student leaders Steven Luglio '15, Ethan Nouhan '15, and Frank Minson '15 welcome the Class of 2019.



Members of the Class of 2019 took advantage of the chance to get to know one another during the Freshman Experience.



Steven Luglio '15, William Frassetto '19, Nicholas '19 and Alex '15, Wolodkowicz share some laughs with Mrs. Tambone-Puzio during group activities.

#### **Summer Academy**

This summer BC will be offering summer courses in English, math, technology, and art. These courses are for students who are looking to get ahead and gain educational value yet still have fun. For more info, please go to www.bergencatholic.org.

On May 5, in conjunction with the celebration of Blessed Edmund Rice's Feast Day, 180 members of the Class of 2019 celebrated orientation.



# Performing



n the heels of wrapping up the annual spring musical, *Anything Goes*, the Performing Arts Program at BC has been extremely active the first few months of 2015.

The Jazz Ensemble "tore the house down" at Trumpets Jazz Club in Montclair in February, while the Vocal Ensemble and Orchestra have been flourishing under the direction of Mrs. Peraino and Ms. Payne.

In May, the Vocal Ensemble performed during the Feast Day Mass celebrated by Archbishop Hebda. The Vocal Ensemble then traveled with the Jazz Ensemble to Pennsylvania to participate in the Music in the Parks Festival at Hershey Park. The groups also had the pleas-

ure of taking master classes and performance clinics at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA, en route to the festival. The groups wrapped up the end of the year with their annual spring concerts.

Bergen Goes to Broadway—the popular bus trip into NYC—has given the opportunity for members of the BC community to enjoy Broadway shows at a fraction of the retail cost. This year's musicals included *Beautiful*, *Kinky Boots*, and *Pippin*. Dates and times are being selected for next school year. If you would like to attend or want more info about the BC Performing Arts Program, please email arts@bergencatholichs.org.

# Community

#### By John P. Maher, '15

President of the Crusader Mission Club

he Crusader Mission Club has one goal: to raise as much money as possible for the impoverished people of Lima, Peru. The mission money goes to the Christian Brothers stationed in Lima and is used to help pay for education, food, and shelter for the children. As a club, all we can do is our best to raise as much money as possible to reach our one goal. As people who live in Bergen County, one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, it is important to realize that others are not as fortunate. Every Mission Club member has seen the photos of Lima and talked to the people who have been there. That is where the motivation comes from, putting ourselves in their shoes.

How do we raise money? Pretty much any way we can, by painting pumpkins to sell, stuffing grocery bags with popcorn to look like a turkey, and even during

homeroom period with an envelope asking for money. All of our members are dedicated and fully willing to give their time to help without gaining any community service hours.

With the help and support of every Mission Club member, donors, and moderator, the Crusader Mission Club has raised over \$10,000 this year. We have broken the school record for the most money raised by the club, ever. Obviously, this is not the only thing to celebrate. Many families will be supported and lives will be changed. The success of the missions this year was a positive side effect of all the hard work put in by all members and especially our moderator, Mrs. Travaline.

Thank you to all of the people who have donated; it will make a difference.



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# Visual

ergen Catholic's Visual Arts Department is alive and well! The newly constructed art room (Room 42 in Monastery Hall) has proven to be a wonderful new space for creativity and art making for all BC students. In the first half of the 2014-15 school year, sophomores experienced the new room, as did the AP Studio Art students who use the room throughout the full year. In the second semester the freshmen have art classes.

This year's senior AP art students submitted their art portfolios to College Board for a score the first week of May. They, along with the junior AP art students, have been working on 24 college-level works of art over the course of two years. Some of the wonderful pieces they are doing are shown here.

Students have submitted some of their artwork to various art competitions. Peter Yoon '16 an AP art junior, received a Gold Key Award for his photograph "Reptilian Nature" which was exhibited at the Montclair Museum of Art (see Inside the Halls page 25), where 30 jurors reviewed 3,750 submissions. Brendan Kelly '16, Peter Yoon '16, and Kevin Kim '15 have also submitted photographs for the Ocean County Photography Competition, which is in conjunction with the Photographic Society of

America (PSA). Additionally, AP art students submitted works for the 2015 Congressional Art Competition in

The underclassmen have completed a variety of works including Photoshop CD covers and digital selfportraits, pencil fruit still lifes, oil pastels, non-objective colored pencil drawings, and inventive creations, some of which have been displayed around the school.

On April 22, the Visual Arts Department hosted the annual Youth Arts Festival in the gym. Local Catholic grammar schools were invited to compete for ribbons, awards, and prizes while all selections were exhibited and the winning pieces digitally exhibited on the large screen. Refreshments were also served, and it was a funfilled night for all involved.

More recently, two of Mrs. Smith's AP Studio Art students won awards sponsored by the Ocean County Camera Club with over 500 New Jersey schools participating (in conjunction with the Photograph Society of America). Photographer's Choice: 2nd place went to Peter Yoon of BC for "Reptilian Nature" and also for Judges' Choice "Becoming A Painting." Also, Brendan Kelly won Judges' Choice for "Blue Pool." All in all, it's been a great year for the Visual Arts Department!



Art Class: JUNIORS Peter Yoon, Lorcan Cannon, Jack O'Connor, Kevin Kim, Milton Luo, Mike Morrissey.



SENIORS Munsu Kim and Kyle Pavlik



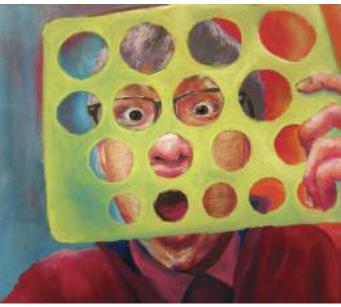


Peter Yoon '16



loe Ferrara '15





Peter Yoon '16

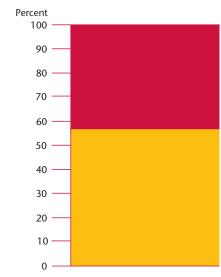


Brendan Kelly '16

## 2014–15 Crusader Annual Fund



It's not too late to make a difference in the Crusader Annual Fund results for the fiscal year concluding June 30, 2015—approximately one month from now. In May and June of 2014 (traditionally two of our three highest months of participation), over \$282,000 was received for the Crusader Annual Fund alone. By the time you receive this Crusader magazine, you will have less than one month to do your part in helping us to achieve the collective goal of \$525,000. We can do it, with your generous participation! Deus Vult!



Goal \$525,000.00 **Current** \$282,688.85 **Remaining** \$242,311.15 **As of Date** 5/11/2015 **Start Date** 7/1/2014 **End Date** 6/30/2015



## **Honor and Memorial**

**OPPORTUNITIES** 

ould you like to honor or memorialize a loved one or friend? Or a special occasion? If so, a brick in Crusader Promenade, located at field level just outside the Nicholas G. Saingas Training Center, may be just for you!

Or, perhaps you would prefer a leaf or a stone on our Tree of Life, located at the entranceway to Hoehl Gymnasium and Hoehl Hall.

Either option will offer you the opportunity to create a perpetual remembrance or recognition for that special loved one, friend, or occasion. Whether you choose a brick under the sun and the stars, or a leaf on our cozy, indoor Tree of Life, is up to you.

For further information, please call or email Joe Branciforte '64, vice president for advancement at 201.634.4140 or jbranciforte@bergencatholic.org.

#### **Crusader Promenade Brick-by-Brick Pricing Chart**

Crusader Promenade is located on the outside eastern edge of the Saingas Training Center, at field level.

Brick Paver Parameters		Price per brick
4" by 8"	3 lines*; 13 characters/spaces per line	\$250
8" by 8"	3 lines*; 13 characters/spaces per line	\$500
12" by 12 "	3 lines*; 16 characters/spaces per line	\$1,000

<sup>\*</sup>Extra lines available at additional cost.



#### Tree of Life

Leaf Cost: \$1.000

**Stone Cost: \$5,000** 

The Haemmerle Family Joe '86 Mike '88 Dan '91

> A Gift from The Misischia Family

In Loving Memory of My Grandfather Louis Iannello

> A Gift of the **Plantz Family** Class of 1962

David C. Russo Class of 1971

# **Alumni Association**

elcome! You are welcome! As alumni, alumni parents, current parents, fans, and friends of Bergen Catholic, I extend a sincere welcome and an open invitation to any of our Alumni Association events.

2015 kicked off with CAREERS4CRUSADERS—a networking event designed to connect recent grads with "more senior" alum. In February and March, we brought you a Wine Tasting and the increasingly popular March Madness Pool. May saw the official launch of the Alumni Summer Golf League, along with the annual events like Cigar Night and the Ridgewood Memorial Day Run.

The Alumni Association has so many great events. Please know that as part of the Bergen Catholic family you are welcome. Come on out and don't forget to invite your brother-sister-mother-father-family.

On behalf of the Bergen Catholic High School Alumni Association, best wishes for good health, much wealth, and unbridled joy!

Michael Haviland '78 President, Bergen Catholic High School Alumni Association



#### **Upcoming Events**

Thursday, June 11, 2015 **Hoboken on Tap** 

Biggie's, Hoboken, NJ – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, September 23, 2015 Theology on Tap

Bacari Grill, Washington Township, NJ 6:00 pm Speaker: Jack Kakalewski

Friday, October 2, 2015 & Saturday, October 3, 2015 Reunion/Homecoming Weekend:

Friday, October 2, 2015 Noon Alumni Golf Outing Emerson Golf Club

Saturday, October 3, 2015 10:30-11:30 am - Bagels, Coffee & Tours of BC Noon - Pregame Food & Family

Festivities – Woodland Avenue

1:00 pm Homecoming Football Game – BC vs. Paramus Catholic – Crusader Stadium 6:00 pm Homecoming Mass – BC Chapel 7:00–11:00 pm – Reunion Reception (Alumni Years ending in 0 & 5) All are welcome. BC Gymnasium

Saturday, October 31, 2015 **Alumni Association Memorial Mass** 

10:00 am Mass – BC Chapel Brunch at Bacari Grill - Immediately Following Mass

Friday, November 20, 2015 Crusader Gala

Venetian, Garfield, NJ – 6:30 pm

### **SAVE THE DATE Reunion and** Homecoming Weekend October 2-3, 2015 Check www.bergencatholic.org for more information.

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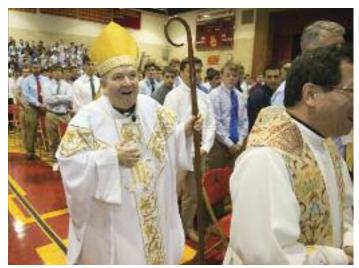


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www.youtube.com/user /BergenCatholic1955

# Archbishop Bernard Hebda VISITS BERGEN CATHOLIC



Archbishop Hebda processes into Mass led by BC's chaplain, Fr. Anthony Ricarte

oadjutor Archbishop Bernard Hebda of the Archdiocese of Newark made his first-ever visit to Bergen Catholic on May 5, to help celebrate the Feast of Blessed Edmund Rice with the entire school community.

Following Mass, Archbishop Hebda blessed the new academic wing on the BC campus, Monastery Hall, and enjoyed lunch alongside Bergen Catholic students and various visiting dignitaries in the school library.



Br. P. Sean Moffett '59, Fr. Kenneth Boller, S.J., Sr. Pat Carroll, and Sr. Susan Shantz



Archbishop Hebda enters into the BC library



Archbishop Hebda blesses Monastery Hall



Fr. Kenneth Boller, S.J., Archbishop Hebda, Fr. Anthony Ricarte, and Fr. Jim Heuser celebrate Mass.



Archbishop Hebda blesses BC students

# **Class Notes**

#### NEWS AND NOTES FROM YOUR CLASSMATES

James T. Webb let the Advancement Office know that he is enjoying his retire-

part time at St. Thomas More Academy, a Catholic high school in Magnolia, DE.



**1** Lou Baldanza, Dave Bell, Art Birkmeyer, Charlie Creekmore (Koltz), Dave Faherty, Al Hall, and Mike Horan, members of the Track team (in photo above) got together for a weekend in November at Dave Faherty's house for a luncheon with their favorite coach, Coach Sok.

County. Rich, now retired, created Elyse. George Mason University's Arts Management Master's Degree Program and its Board Member Institute in 2004, one of the first of such programs in Virginia. He was bestowed the prestigious Jinx Hazel Arts Award, intended to honor individuals and organizations whose vision and commitment have played a significant role in the quality of life in the county. Rich and his associate, Bill Reeder, dean of GMU's College of Visual and Performing Arts, were honored together for building "one of the nation's most respected higher education programs for the arts and arts management."

John "Kel" Tonsmeire recently received his sixth national recognition award, national the Crystal Star Award of Excellence, from the National Dropout Prevention Dennis Lahiff has rejoined Network, for his contributions in the the workforce. He is teaching a Law & Society course field of dropout prevention. Kel has devoted over three decades of his career to providing leadership throughout the state of Alaska in several critical areas of dropout prevention. As director of the Alaska Staff Development Network, Kel and his team provide staff development services to educators in Alaska's K-12 grades and, through the Rural Alaska Principal and Support Program, he reaches out to Alaska's remote districts in order to provide support and administrative education. Kel received his award in February 2015 in Myrtle Beach, SC, along with the other recipients including Kentucky First Lady Jane Beshear and Governor Steven L. Beshear, former U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao, and Seith Bedard of the Peabody Learning Academy in Massachusetts.

**Paul Pruchia** is retired and lives in Bedford, MA. He enjoys spirited golf matches Rich Kamenitzer was honored in October 2014 by the Winchester, MA. Paul and his wife, Bar-Arts Council of Fairfax bara, have two adult children, Jamie and

> **Ron Pasquino** was ordained as a deacon on April 25, 2015, in the Diocese of Allentown, PA.

Kevin Freeman recently commented "I haven't been able to attend each Alumni Hockey Game but every time I have it's been great. While the younger guys are much faster than us old men, they have always shown us respect on the ice and on the bench. This year, there was a young guy playing on a forward line with Jerry Rella '73 and me—I didn't get his

me that it was all in good fun. These are the kind of people that Bergen Catholic produces, making me really proud to be

**Gerry Daniello** advised us that he graduated from Lafayette College in 1977. He married Kate Elter, who graduated from Holy Angels. They have three wonderful kids, Chris, Jenna, and Tom. Gerry is managing director at Cerberus Capital.

**Time** Fisher and his wife, Tracey, were recently recoginized in the National WWII Museum newsletter as "two of our greatest supporters." The couple has underwritten the Air War gallery in the upcoming Road to Berlin: European Theater Galleries at the museum, in memory of Jim's parents, Jim, Jr. and Frances. In the newsletter, Jim describes his great love and admiration for his father and his courage in WWII as part of the "greatest generation." Because of his father's stories and WWII medals, Jim developed a great interest in the history of the war, ultimately leading him to become a trustee of the museum and then a supporter with the couple's significant underwriting, noting: "When I first got involved in the Museum's mission there were six million living WWII veterans...now, the last statistic I've seen said there are less than two million and, by the time we finish the capital campaign, it will be down to one million." Jim hopes to inspire others so that "the expansion can be finished before they are all gone."

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**Ernest Caponegro** and his wife, Ida, have won The 2014 Asbury Park Press "The Best of the Best" Award for Insurance Agencies and the 5 Star Professional-NJ Monthly Magazine Award for Home/Auto Insurance Agents, published March 2014.

Robert Gazic has been named the executive director of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. As director, he organizes and promotes programs that benefit Chamber members and the corporate and business community. Robert is a board member of the Strand Theater and Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus Foundation.

Chris, his wife, Mary, and six-year-old son, Jack, welcomed identical twin girls on March 9, 2015. Isabella Rose weighed in at 4 pounds 8 ounces, while Siena Addison weighed in at an even 4 pounds. Proud grandma is Pat Fesen, BC Admissions, and proud uncle is **Brian '99**.



Matt Moroney and his wife, Kristin, welcomed their second son, Samuel Brendan, on September 30, 2014. Samuel joins his big brother, Benjamin. Proud uncles are Tim '98 and Sean '02.

Matt Garofalow, along vard Business School. with his wife, Mary, and daughter, Katie, were thrilled to welcome their new addition, Michael Nicholas, on December 15, 2014. Michael weighed 7 pounds 8 ounces. Proud uncles are Mark '93 and Dave

gaged to Lauren Nardin on October 25, 2014. They are preparing for their wedding, which will take place on October 17, 2015.

Dave Garofalow and his wife, Alexandra, welcomed their first child, a daughter, Christopher Fesen has been living and working in Switzerland for five years.

Christopher Fesen has their first child, a daughter, Isla Jane, on September 28, 2014. She weighed 6 pounds 8 ounces. Proud uncles are Mark '93 and Matt '97.



Matt Radoslovich and his wife, Jackie, are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Grace Radoslovich. Emma was born on February 16, 2015, in Greenwich, CT. She weighed 8 pounds 4 ounces and was 21 inches long. Proud grammie is Regina Radoslovich, BC Advancement.

Mike Scirocco separated from the Navy in September 2014. He is attending Har-

Mike Annecchino noticed that the class notes section was a little thin in the previous edition of the Crusader magazine. "I just wanted to offer a contribution since a great deal of my success began with Bergen Catholic, most notably with one Gianni Incontro was en- of the directors helping me get an internship at Marsh & McLennan when I was 20. This began my journey in the insurance business, which has provided me security, a home, and the ability to hone my skills and aid local business in our area and currently around the country. I am forever grateful for that." Mike and his wife, Kathryn, are presently living in Hackensack, NJ. Their wedding was officiated by Fr. Stephen Fichter '84. Mike's groomsmen included Matt Donahue '04. John Kokowski '04. and John Flood '04. Mike is currently employed as an account executive with Wells Fargo Insurance Services in New York City. He holds his Associate in Risk Management designation from the American Institute of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters.

> **— James Polifroni** and his wife, Sonni, welcomed their first child, daughter Poppy Rose on February 6, 2015. Proud uncle is Tom Polifroni '99.

Matt O'Brien is currently working on Football Night in America and Pro Football Talk at NBC Sports as an analyst/consul-

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## **Alumni Events**

#### Wine Tasting – February 11, 2015





Chris & Arthur Kent







Bob Doidge, Kathy Fable, Monique Doidge and Ed Shaw

On February 11, 2015, the Alumni Association had its second Wine Tasting Event. Thank you again to **John Amoratis** '77 and Bacari Grill for organizing another fantastic event! We hoped to sell out with 75 guests; we were thrilled to go over the limit with 82 guests! All who attended were delighted and astounded by the outstanding selection of wines available and the wide variety of delectable hot and cold hors d'oeuvres to accompany the tasting. Thank you to all our guests who responded to our call to action: "When you buy wine, we raise money!" Please let us know if you have an interest in attending our next Wine Tasting.



Diane and Mike Maron

#### CAREERS4CRUSADERS – January 8, 2015

On January 8, 2015, we had our second Careers4Crusaders event in the BC gymnasium. All alumni currently in college or recent college graduates were invited back to network with BC alumni from many professions. The young alumni brought their questions and their resumes. The evening started at 7:00 pm with a mix and mingle session. At 7:15 our guests were welcomed by BC

Alumni Association President Mike Haviland '78 and Vice President, Brian Hughes '86. Our young alumni were given the opportunity to visit with our alumni presenters from 7:30 to 8:45. We wrapped the evening up with closing comments and questions from 8:45 to 9:00 pm. Please look forward to our next Careers4Crusaders event in January 2016.





#### Alumni Hockey Game - November 28, 2014





The 2014 Alumni Hockey Game was held on November 28 at The Ice House in Hackensack, NJ. BC Hockey Coach Brian Monteverdi announced that the Greg Miller Award would be a new award at the end of the 2014–15 hockey season to the team's high scorer. Greg Miller and his brother, Phil '72, are a big reason that Bergen Catholic started a hockey program. They had a lot of arm twisting to do back in the late '60s. Greg is the only alum who has played in all 16 Alumni Games. At the very first Alumni Hockey Game in 1999, Greg commented, "I have been waiting for this to happen my whole life."

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## **Alumni Events**

#### **Class Chair**



Zeke Rodgers Awards the Class of 2003 the President's Cup Dan Long, Stephen Nolan, Conor McManus and Nick Benvenuto

Thank you to our 65 class chairs who came to our biannual Class Chair event on Tuesday, December 2, 2014. We couldn't do this without John Amoratis '77 and Bacari Grill, which once again provided the perfect setting for our class chairs to mingle and socialize with their fellow class chairs. We had to say goodbye to a few Alumni Association board members and welcome some new board members. We spent the evening talking about how we can work together to help Bergen Catholic in its mission to prepare the next generation of leaders.



Zeke Rodgers awarding Mike Panos and Ted D'Amico (Class of 1972) the Crusader Cup

#### The Highlights of the Evening:

Class of 2003 wins the President's Cup Highest alumni participation rate with 59 donors (33.15%)

Class of 1972 wins the Crusader Cup Highest dollar amount with a resounding \$87,745.00

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!

#### Class of 2004 10-Year Reunion Celebration



On November 29, 2014, a total of 40 alumni from the Class of 2004 met in Hoboken, NJ, to celebrate their ten year reunion. Among the topics of conversations discussed: fond memories and stories about former teachers, the birth of the "One Way" traffic pattern, and Jerry's breakfast sandwiches. Special thanks to Mike Tedino '04 and Joe Mindak '91 for helping organize this special event.

## **BC** Goes on the Road

#### BC in DC April 16-18, 2015





Jay Tedino '01, Ray Ficca '85, and Patrick Rigby '05



Kevin Rigby, Marge Millus, Mary and Katie Rigby, Allison Singleton, and Patrick Rigby

"Br. Walsh's report on the state of Bergen Catholic was impressive. It was reassuring to learn that BC is standing on much firmer ground, financially, than it was only five years ago and exciting, though not surprising, to hear that we are on the forefront of academic achievement and leadership in the region. While I already had high expectations for BC's alumni, it appears the bar has been raised: the administration's brave and determined leadership, and its commitment to flagships of achievement (presently, Technology, Leadership, and Internationalism), has positioned BC students to reach new heights; couple this with the Christian Brothers' emphasis on social consciousness and responsibility, and BC's next generation of young leaders appears poised to effect great change in the world. It is an exciting time to be a member of the BC family."

- Gio DiMaggio '04

#### **Rigby Weekend**

Br. Brian Walsh and Marge Millus were so pleased to join with the Rigby Family and support the 11th Annual Rigby Weekend while they were in DC for the BC in DC Alumni Reception. It is hard to believe it has been 10 years



Kevin Rigby '72 kicking off the Run for

since Danny Rigby '01 passed away on October 17, 2004. We were there to support the Run for Rigby on Friday at Georgetown and enjoyed the Rigby Ball on Saturday evening. Thank you to the Friends of Rigby Foundation and Jay Tedino '01 for your loyal, generous support of Bergen Catholic. We appreciate all you do to continue your mission to educate Bergen Catholic seniors and college students about the need for fire safety and awareness in order to prevent this tragedy from happening again.

## BC Goes on the Road

#### **Rhode Island: March 2015**



Rita and Frank '71 McGoff, Rick '95, Lindsay, and Parker Miller, Ed Hart '71, and Dave Soranno '02. Seated: Br. Brian Walsh and Tim McElhinnev

On Tuesday, March 24, 2015, Br. Walsh, Tim McElhinney, and Marge Millus traveled to Rhode Island for an evening of conversation, cocktails and light fare hosted by Rita and Frank McGoff '71.

Many thanks to Rita and Frank McGoff for their gracious hospitality.

"The BC on the Road to Rhode Island gathering was awesome—great to see fellow alumni from all years and to see just how much brotherhood there really is among fellow Crusaders, no matter the separation in age or graduation year. Wish there were more of these gatherings. My wife, Lindsay, and I enjoyed it and would be happy to partake in other events going forward, either here in Rhode Island or back in New Jersey."

- Dr. Rick Miller '95



Dave Soranno '02 and Tim McElhinnev

# BERGEN CATHOLIC GOES On the Rolling

#### Florida: March 2015

As a huge alumni supporter who always looks for ways to give back to Bergen Catholic, I felt there was nothing better than meeting with former classmates Vince Sindone '62 and Jim Robinson '62 in our home here in Coral Springs, FL. The icing on the cake was having the pleasure of meeting Nancie and Tom Keegan '69, who live in our town, and that two young guys, Garrett '06 and Jordan '09 Pearce, took the time to come from the Miami area to be with us.

It was great to hear Br. Brian Walsh's comments on the happenings at BC. His reflections were so very interesting and great to hear; it looks like BC will always be the "flagship" Roman Catholic high school in NJ, not only for sports, but more importantly, for academics.

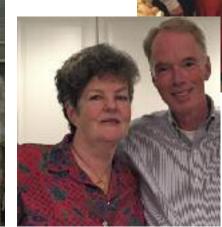
I so enjoy the company of Brother Walsh. He was in a few of my classes in the late 1960s at Iona. He was a student Brother at the time. The reason I remember him is because he was the smartest guy in all the classes!

Finally, I was really glad to speak to my fellow alumni about my strong feelings for BC and confidently asked them all to continue supporting BC financially. I was not embarrassed to say that my wife, Diane, and I will leave a portion of our estate to Bergen Catholic.

– Jim Petrolino '62



Nancie and Tom Keegan with Jim Petrolino



Nicki and John Brunner, Vero Beach hosts

"Thank you so much for arranging the Friday night in Vero Beach. It was a nice, relaxing evening away from the work grind. Thanks to Nicki and John Brunner for hosting us. I hope we can get more out the next time you do one of these in north or central Florida. I was sad to hear that there are so few Brothers left at BC. When I graduated I joined the Brothers, but only made it to April of my first (Novitiate) year. Hearing how Brothers are needed made me feel slightly guilty, but being married almost 50 years with four children and 12 grandchildren, somehow I think I did the right thing. Thanks again."

Jim Clark '61



Vero Beach Chapter at the Brunner home



Coral Springs Chapter at the Petrolino home

Three IHA gals hanging with the BC guys, Nancie Keegan, Linda Robinson, and Marge Millus.

## In Memoriam

#### **NEVER FORGOTTEN**

**Violet Acker** 

Grandmother of Christopher '02

**Guiseppe Belgiovine** 

Grandfather of Joe '99

John E. Blake

Father of John Blake '86

**Helen Branciforte** 

Mother of Joe '64, Grandmother of Joe '03

**Mary Alice Britz** 

Sister of Michael '64 and Robert '68

**Anne Cagney** 

Mother of Tim '75, Peter '79, Tom '81, and Jim '87

Joseph M. Callan

Father of Jim '82

**Jack Campi** Father of John '81

**Barney Cannon** '73

Uncle of Billy Schwitter '04

Steven Casalino '74

Brother of Lawrence '66

Frances Catarcio Mother of Joseph '76

Albert R. Cavalluzzo

Father of Dave '93

David Ciampo '63

Brother of Jim '66

Stephen A, Ciocci '76

Brother of Richard '74

Louis Colon, Sr.

Father of Louis '69

**Noriel Cruz** 

Mother of Jonathan '15

Joseph DeBella

Father-in-law of John Hund '79, Grandfather of Brian '12 and Eric '17 Hund

**Dolores DeFelice** 

Mother of Edward '73, Grandmother of Edward '01

**John DeGasperis** 

Father of William '75, John '76, Thomas '83, and Michael '87

**Antoinette DeStefano** Mother of Louis '73

Richard Forcellati '96

**Sharon Farrell** 

Sister of Bob '61

Brother of Paul '95, Cousin of Aniello Forcellati '94 and Anthony Persico '15

Lucia Germano

Grandmother of Salvatore '03, Joseph '06, and Jonathan '13

Colleen Hautau

Sister of Pat '65 and Tom '74 Finnegan, Aunt of Patrick '92, Riley '12, Conor '10, Aidan '14, and Miles '16 Finnegan

Megan L. Healy

Sister of Bernie '69 and Kevin '76, Aunt of Brian Witney '10

Anna Horan

Mother of Michael '63, John '66, Paul '70, Tom '75, and Jim '78 (RIP)

Ferdinand Jacobsen

Father of Jim "Jake" '66

George J. Kantakis

Grandfather of John-David '15

**Sue Anne Keegan** 

Wife of Bill '60, Sister-in-law of Robert '63, and Tom '69

Anne Keel

Mother of Edwin '61

**John M. Kelly, Jr**. Father of John '79 and Rob '81

Grandmother of Joseph '96

John J. Lucca Father of William '83

**Hildegard Lamoriello** 

John J. Lynch '70 Brother of Christopher '71, Stephen '74, and Brendan '78 (RIP)

Francesco Matarazzo

Grandfather of Frank '01

**Rose Mary McAndrew** 

Mother of Bob '75 and Tim '77, Grandmother of Timothy '10, and Kevin '11

Larry & Eleanore McGee

Parents of Larry '81, Tim '84, and Chris '88

Lawrence M. McGovern '71 Brother of Mark '88

Daniel McNamara

Father-in-law of Michael Ulshoefer '90, Grandfather of Sean Ulshoefer '17, and Daniel Ulshoefer '19

**Carl Mellone, Jr**. Grandfather of TJ Kourgelis '10

Marge Miller

Mother of Robert '78, Grandmother of Chris '98 (RIP)

Martin Moran

Father of Chris '77, and Rob '80

Iames D. Morin '96

Stephen Napolitano '75

Brother of Russell '79

John Nissen '62

Uncle of Jason '97, Brendan '99, and Matthew '04 Bartlett

Marvanna Oberdorf

Mother-in-law of Jim "Jake" Jacobsen '66

**Josephine Owens** 

Aunt of Bill Speciale '85

Sigrid Pannuzzo Mother of Brian '95

Vivian Peene Mother of Ryan BOD

**Mariette Mulder Perdiao** 

Sister of Bob Mulder '69, Sebastian Mulder '75 and Mark Mulder '84

Stephen J. Petruzzello

Son of Ron '75

**Lucy Pitruzzello** Wife of Anthony '63

Angelo P. Pizzi

Grandfather of Gregg '89, Michael '92, and Robert '93

Walter K. Prucnel

Father of Paul '89 Angela Rancan

Mother of Robert '71

James H. Reid '77

Brother of Thomas '74

John "Jack" C. Reynolds Father-in-law of Chris DePhillips '83, and Grandfather of Timothy DePhillips '16

**Karen Richter** Wife of Jim '64

Alphonse J. Rickli Father of Richard '70

Robert D. Rush '74 Brother-in-law of Paul '89, and Peter '87

Tarsney, and Stepbrother of Matthew Visconti '90

**Ioan Sciame** 

Mother of Chris '96, Michael '98, and Stephen '03

**Rose Setteducati** Mother of Michael '72

**Jay Sherlock** 

Brother of Brian '79, and Uncle of Matthew '15

Gerard "Jerry" L. Smith '60

Michael A. Tabacchi '06 Son of James '73

**Dolores Taylor** 

Mother of Rich '70 Jeffrey Tyne '62

JoAnn Verrier Mother of John '84

**Mary Louise Weyand** Mother of Jeff '71

# **Crusader Legacy Society**

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

Have you named Bergen Catholic in your will? Or, have you designated Bergen Catholic as beneficiary of your life insurance policy, IRA, 401K, or 403B retirement plans?

Bergen Catholic's Crusader Legacy Society formally recognizes investors who have chosen to leave a legacy to the school through a variety of planned giving techniques, such as: will bequests, life insurance policies, retirement plan assets, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts,

If you have been so thoughtful, we thank you for your forward planning and for your generous spirit. Just let us know of your intentions and we will add you as a member of our growing list of those who have chosen to leave some of their legacy to Bergen Catholic High School. A simple email to jbranciforte@bergencatholic.org, describing your intentions, will add your name to our list of those who have chosen to make a difference to future generations of Bergen Catholic students. Deus Vult!





To learn more about estate planning/planned giving opportunities, visit our webpage at www.bergencatholic.org → Giving → Ways to Give → EstatePlanning/Planned Giving

#### Crusader Legacy Society Membership Roll\*

Joseph L. Branciforte '64 Roger W. Breslin, Jr., Parent John M. Brunner '65 Francis X. Donlan '63 Robert E. Fortsch '73 Deirdre Fortune, Parent

Thomas J. Furlong, Jr. '80 (RIP)

Carl G. Haas, Parent

Thomas I. Alrutz '61

Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Harrington '62 (RIP)

Michael I. Haviland '78 Jack C. Howley '79 Michael James Jordan '61

Mr. (RIP) & Mrs. John Lowe, Parents Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mady, Parents

Peter Manzetti, Jr. '78

Mr. & Mrs. Gerard J. Maughan, Parents Thomas McCarthy '72

Mr. & Mrs. James W. O'Brien '62, Parents The Honorable John B. Paolella '67 (2 gifts)

James C. Petrolino '62 Artie Prior '59

Robert J. Rapport '69 Dennis M. Sigrist '82 (RIP)

Frank J. Sposato '69 (RIP) Mary C. Steidl. Parent

Mr. & Mrs. Brian A. Tramontozzi '90

Kathleen M. Treubig, Parent John A. Uzzi '63

Mr. & Mrs. James Whelan, Parents

Joseph A. Zodl '66 Anthony M. Zupcic '66

<sup>\*</sup>Represents all self-reported planned gifts through publication date

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#### MISSION STATEMENTS

#### **Bergen Catholic High School**

Bergen Catholic High School is a Catholic community that prepares young men to become leaders by deepening religious faith, developing academic excellence, and strengthening social consciousness and responsibility in accordance with the Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brothers Education.

#### Office of Advancement

The Office of Advancement, guided by the spirit of Blessed Edmund Rice, seeks to build growing, sustainable relationships with people and organizations who care about the mission of Bergen Catholic High School and to spread the "good news" of Bergen Catholic to all who care to hear it, embrace it, and support it with their time, talent, treasure, and prayer.

