

FALL 2023/WINTER 2024

YC YORK CATHOLIC
GREENSLEEVES



YORK CATHOLIC
YC *Grow Today*
IMPACT
TOMORROW

***Bishop Senior Dedicates the new Rosary Walk
to Close the \$12 Million Capital Campaign***



Experience the YC Difference

When you walk through the door, **you can feel it** - the indescribable energy that comes from a place where every student is known, cared for and inspired to learn. Join us to experience that energy firsthand and hear from students, teachers and parents what it means to be a part of the York Catholic Middle School and High School (we call it YC) family.

We Hope to See You!

Get in touch to learn more or to register for one or more events. We look forward to meeting you!

YC YORK CATHOLIC
MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

2023-2024 Student Visitation Events

SHADOW FOR A DAY

Available through
May 2024

Prospective students are invited to spend the day at YC. Check out classes, meet teachers, make some new friends and discover all the great ways to get involved.

OPEN HOUSE DATES

February 8: 6-7:30pm
April 23: 6-7:30pm

Enjoy a campus tour and connect with students, parents, teachers, and administrators to see what sets the York Catholic experience apart. Reservations required.

IMPORTANT DATES

February 15
Early Enrollment Deadline

April 1
Family Customized
Tuition Deadline

**Visit yorkcatholic.org
for the most up-to-date
information.**

717-846-8871 • yorkcatholic.org

601 East Spingettsbury Avenue, York, PA 17403

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear YC Family and Friends,

I've spent almost 17 years of my life walking the halls and grounds of York Catholic. Everyday something new happens that makes me more proud to be a member of our Fighting Irish community. One of the proudest moments of all my years was the recent blessing of the Rosary Walk by Bishop Senior. Seeing the entire school community of staff, students, friends, family, and Diocesan representatives gathered outside on a glorious fall day, where we celebrated the accomplishments of the last five years of our Capital Campaign, culminated by the dedication of the beautiful tribute to our school Patroness was breathtaking. The Rosary Walk is here for all of you. Please stop by with your beads in hand and spend some time with our Holy Mother in prayer. I promise the Holy Spirit is at work and you will feel it.

Maria Impende Juvamen – "O Mary, Bestow Your Aid"

Sincerely,

Katie Seufert '96
Principal

WELCOME BISHOP TIMOTHY C. SENIOR



The Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior made his first visit to York Catholic in October since being appointed bishop of the Diocese of Harrisburg in April by His Holiness, Pope Francis. He was installed as the Bishop of Harrisburg in June 2023.

During his YC visit, Bishop Senior celebrated Marian Mass with the 7th through 12th grade students, engaging them with a thought-provoking homily. During the Mass, Bishop Senior also commissioned our Student Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Following Mass, Bishop moved outside to

dedicate the new Rosary Walk with the entire student body in attendance. He toured the school to view all of the Capital Campaign renovations and enjoyed lunch with our donors before meeting with our School Board in the evening.

Bishop showed great interest in our students and connected to each person he met with a warm smile and handshake. We look forward to his future visits to York Catholic.

On the Cover: Bishop Senior blesses the new Rosary Walk



KATIE SEUFERT PRINCIPAL

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by a Christian moral compass, we educate our students in an atmosphere of faith, family, and mutual respect, preparing them to serve the global community.

FOLLOW YORK CATHOLIC

On social media



Facebook
York Catholic High School



Twitter
@YorkCatholicHS
@YorkCathAthlet



Instagram
York Catholic



YouTube
YorkCatholicHS

York Catholic Home Page

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbnACWhbDPivKA2i2QjAgjA>

York Catholic Gymnasium

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYv-h3EFOOCwCJWfOSwWwAYQ>

York Catholic Stadium

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4EXPG-mAYUN4xmUgpgUrQ>

Reaching our Latino Community

Rachel Shanko, English Teacher & LEI Team Member

The area where York Catholic is located has a large Latino community, primarily Caribbean in heritage. The Catholic faith holds great importance within the culture and York Catholic recognizes a calling to offer opportunities to include Catholic education as a part of the lifestyle.

In June, York Catholic sent a team of teachers and administrators to the University of Notre Dame to attend the Latino Enrollment Institute (LEI). The team spent four days learning how to best grow the mission of Catholic education with York County's fast-growing Latino community.

Notre Dame's beautiful campus was not only the perfect location for prayer and reflection, it also allowed Catholic educators from across the country to gather and share their passion for education and desire to reach more students. In addition to having the opportunity to collaborate with a diverse group of peers, the team attended classes designed to explain how to make Catholic education a reality for more families.



York Catholic Latino Enrollment Team: David Butler, Jr., Director of Admissions & Enrollment; Paul Miller, Director of Faculty; Katie Seufert, Principal; Rachel Shanko, English Teacher; Laura Richards, German Teacher & World Languages Chair

As a result of their experience at the Latino Enrollment Institute, the team has already accomplished the following highlights as a start to their new initiative:

- Met with all constituents to establish a shared vision regarding this work.
- Created an internal task force including representation from faculty, staff, and parishes.
- Participated in specific professional development for faculty and staff regarding this initiative.
- Designed marketing and informational materials to reach the Spanish community.
- Added Hispanic Heritage Month and a celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe to the annual school calendar.
- Included representation of Latino families on the YC School Board.
- Presented the benefits of a York Catholic Middle & High School education to the parishioners of St. Mary's Church during Spanish Mass.
- Leveraged federal funding resources to provide for students who are English language learners.

At the conclusion of the LEI experience, each member of the team felt recharged and excited for the future. Each school leader who attended the conference was placed with an LEI mentor to meet and work through monthly modules to help each school meet their on-going goals.

The YC team left South Bend, Indiana confident that the York Catholic community is ready to effectively and efficiently welcome a new community of learners who can grow in their faith while receiving the best possible Catholic education.

We look forward to sharing updates about this program in future issues of *Greensleeves*.

Students Voice for the Voiceless

As part of Respect Life Month in October, York Catholic students showed their support.



Twenty York Catholic students participated in the 2023 Pennsylvania March for Life. The March offered an excellent opportunity for advocates of life of all ages and backgrounds from across the state to join with one voice on behalf of the defenseless. The day started with Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Harrisburg before moving to the front steps of the Capitol Building.



Students also installed a Cemetery of the Innocents on York Catholic's front lawn as a reminder of the souls lost to abortion. The white crosses project a powerful image that leaves a lasting effect on those who view the display.



STUDENT SERVICE AT WILLIAMS PARK

Members of York Catholic's National Honor Society helped build the playground at Williams Park.

YC HOMECOMING 2023



York Catholic's students and alumni celebrated Homecoming this fall with a variety of activities.

Throughout the week, our students were the stars as they showed their creativity by dressing in star-themed outfits. One day it was Stars & Stripes, another was Favorite All-Star Sports Teams, and a third was Shine Bright Like a Star (Neon Day). The stars aligned at the Homecoming Dance where the theme was "Under the Stars."

The football team scored a win over York Tech and the Marching Band performed their field show "Sleepy Hollow" to entertain the fans. Andrew Schuler and Olivia Struck were named Homecoming King and Queen. After the football game, our alumni headed to Vito's Pizza. See more about that on page 7.





OLD FRIENDS ARE GOOD TO FIND

The York Catholic Alumni Association hosted an After Party at Vito's Pizza at the conclusion of the Homecoming football game in September. Alumni from as young as the class of 2015 mingled with more experienced alums from the class of '71. Mr. Dick Bowman from the class of 1954 even joined us.

Memorable stories were shared, some tall tales were told, and the YC community had a fun evening together. If you missed us at Vito's, stay tuned for our next social when we'll kickoff March Madness on March 14. Look for details on the YC website in February.



Luke Burnside '07, Stacie Burnside, CJ Burnside '15



Bobby Javitt, Katie (Doyle) Seufert '96

York Catholic's Diversity Club

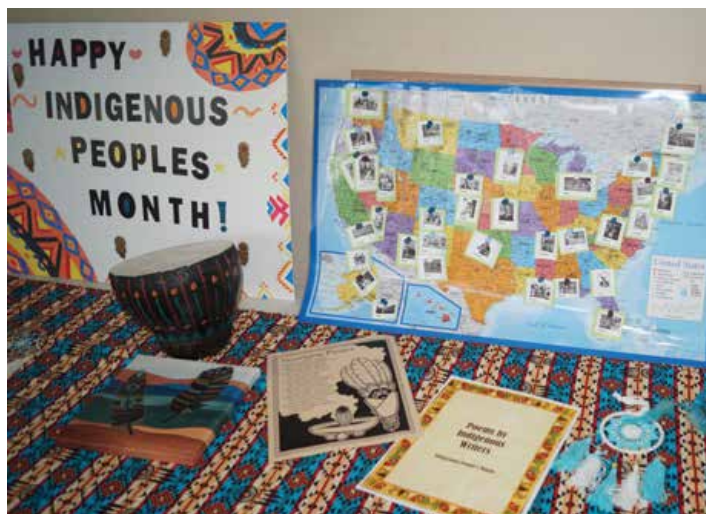
Carina Roberts '24, President of YC Diversity Club

Throughout the school year, York Catholic students in the Diversity Club are putting together events and activities recognizing and celebrating diversity in the school. The club's mission is to educate the student body about the importance of diversity and inclusivity while encouraging them to participate in making a change in our school and outside community.

Diversity simply means the condition of having or being composed of different elements, so there are many types of diversity such as diversity in race, diversity in thought, diversity in socioeconomic status, etc. Inclusion is the practice of recognizing and embracing differences so that everyone can feel like a part of the community.

So far, the club has created window paintings as well as table displays in the school's lobby to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and Indigenous People's Month. In addition, the club had a Fiesta for Hispanic Heritage Month with the YC Spanish Club in September. This December, the club partnered with the YC Music Association to host a Culture Fest mixed with the Coffee House event where there were performances from cultural organizations in the York community, as well as open-mic performances by YC students. Refreshments included food from a variety of countries. On April 13, 2024 (with a rain date of April 20), the Diversity Club will be hosting a Race for Change at the YC stadium to promote inclusivity in the YC community. All are welcome to join us for this 5k walk/run. Details will be on the York Catholic website in March.

The Diversity Club and the YC faculty and staff are excited to see the positive response these cultural experiences and educational pieces are inspiring with our middle school and high school students.



Music Students Entertain the Community

Cecelia Mezza, Fine Arts Department Chair

In the York Catholic Music Department, we believe in sharing the gifts that God has given us. We use our talents in service to God, to celebrate the community, and to teach others about the joy of music. In addition to seeing the Marching Band perform at our football games and in competitions this fall, the community had the opportunity to experience the talents of our music students in a variety of ways.

In September, the Concert Choir sang at St. Patrick's Catholic Church Anniversary as entertainment during the dinner. The Thomas More Society requested the Concert Choir to sing for the Red Mass at the Saint Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg. It was a beautiful service with the Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior, Bishop of Harrisburg, celebrating the Mass and Bishop Emeritus the Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer as the Homilist.

In October, the Marching Band visited the local Catholic partner schools to perform this season's show and teach the elementary students about the different instruments in the band to help inspire a life-long love of music. If you were in downtown York in late October, you had a chance to experience the continuing tradition of seeing the YC Marching Band perform in the York Halloween Parade.

In November, the choir members joined the St. Mary's Choir to celebrate The Feast of Christ the King.

In December, the choir will be singing at Misericordia Rehabilitation and Nursing Home, spreading Christmas cheer to all of the residents, while the band students will be playing their instruments and providing entertainment at the St. Joseph's Christmas Shoppe.



YC Choir Sings at the Diocese Red Mass



YC Marching Band Performs for Partner School Students



YC Marching Band Entertains Our Football Fans

It was a busy fall full of music and celebration. Our students enjoy sharing their musical blessings with the community as much as the community enjoys hearing them!

Soccer Teams Pitch In to Support Their Community

Meredith Smith '24, YC Girls' Soccer Team



The York Catholic girls' soccer team has spent the season focusing on service to the community both in and out of school. Service as a team has created a stronger relationship with each other, allowing us to grow individually and as teammates. Each week, we recognize individuals in our school, including custodians, guidance counselors, athletic trainers, etc., and thank them for their efforts and dedication to each of our successes as students and athletes.

As a team, we serve those outside of York Catholic, allowing us to highlight our values as students at YC. Before one Saturday game, we all came together and provided food for those in need, opening our eyes and giving us a more profound sense of gratitude for each other and the opportunity we have been given. Throughout the season, we worked with our "soccer sister" to provide hygiene products, snacks, and more to veterans, thanking them for their service.

The boys' soccer team has decided to incorporate acts of service into their team game plan too. They also purchased and distributed food for those experiencing homelessness and one player even gave the sweatshirt off his back to a gentleman who did not have a coat.

The opportunity to serve others has allowed all of us to embody the spirit of unity and compassion, creating strong teamwork that carries from the community onto the soccer field.



STUDENT SERVICE AT LEG-UP FARM

YC Student Council members helped set-up for Leg Up Farms' Fall Fest.



TAX CREDIT PROGRAMS

It's Not Too Good to Be True!

If you heard you could earn a 90% tax credit on your company's or your personal state tax returns, AND direct that credit to help York Catholic students, you might think it's too good to be true.

But through several programs: Educational Incentive Tax Credit (EITC), Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC), and the Special Purpose Entity (SPE); companies and individuals can earn those tax breaks and provide much needed financial assistance to YC, without taking money out of your pocket.

Funds that are donated to the school through these programs are specifically earmarked for tuition assistance. This allows YC to provide the quality education that families desire, but who might not be able to afford it. It is a true win-win proposal.

There are two windows of opportunity for companies and for individuals to apply to these programs each year, and our next window is from January until mid-April. It's advisable to have your accountant both guide you and help file the brief documentation to apply for the program. Can you qualify for both programs? Yes, there are some individuals whose company qualifies, and the family also might qualify. That's a double-win.

For more information, please reach out to Dave Salter, Director of Development, at dsalter@yorkcatholic.org or 717-846-8871 x1325.

GREEN & GOLD
Gala

Friday, April 19 | 5:30pm | Country Club of York

We are looking forward to another wonderful evening for our annual Green & Gold Gala. Tickets are \$125 per person and reserved tables of 8 can be sponsored for \$1,000. For more information on tickets or sponsorships, please check out the YC website in February at yorkcatholic.org/green-gold-gala.

Sweet Caroline

Heather Hoffman '91, Director of Middle School



Caroline Gross '29 – Photo Credit: Food Network

Not many people can say they run a successful business at age 13. Caroline Gross '29 can! Caroline's Cupcakes is famous in York for their chocolate cupcake with chocolate peanut butter icing. In addition to cupcakes, this 7th grader makes a variety of cookies, cakes, truffles, and caramel popcorn.

Caroline's love for baking started with her mother. They love to bake and decorate extravagant cakes and have been baking together since Caroline was two years old. Her mom introduced her to the television show, "Kids Baking Championship," on the Food Network. They watched the show together and Caroline decided she wanted to audition. She submitted the required pictures and video

and got a call back. The callback required creating 17 recipes and submitting pictures of each. She made it through the second round of auditions and was invited to a Zoom interview. During the interview she created a decadent lemon cheesecake and a gorgeous 2-tiered white cake with a cascading waterfall of flowers. Because of Caroline's amazing baking skills and charismatic personality, she was chosen to be a contestant on the "Kids Baking Challenge Season 10."

She spent two weeks in Knoxville, TN filming the show. The young contestants would bake one day and record interviews the next with a day off thrown in periodically. While the hosts, Valerie Bertinelli and Duff Goldman, weren't



Caroline Gross '29 and Kids Baking Championship host Valerie Bertinelli – Photo Credit: Food Network



Photo Credit: Food Network

always on set, when they were, they were always making jokes and encouraging the contestants. While Caroline didn't win season 10, the Food Network executives loved her so much they invited her back for the "Kids Baking Championship Gobble Goodies Thanksgiving Special."

Caroline shared some secrets about the show that many viewers don't know. While the show airs in a one-hour slot, some episodes take up to 3 days to shoot. The contestants do not get to see what other contestants create, nor do they always know who gets sent home. When asked if she needed to memorize each and every recipe, Caroline admitted that she does not have all of her recipes memorized.

While Caroline has retired from television, she still participates in baking competitions. Caroline is always up for a challenge. She says the hardest part of baking is decorating which also happens to be her favorite part of the process. She participated as a cupcake decorating demonstrator at the White Rose Sugar Art Competition this fall.

Caroline may be young in age, but her skills can rival the most accomplished professional. To view her artistic skills and see her beautiful creations, follow her on Instagram @sweetcarolinecreates.



YORK CATHOLIC **YC** *Grow Today* **IMPACT** **TOMORROW**

Capital Campaign Closes with Great Success



YORK CATHOLIC MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL IS CELEBRATING THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF ITS “GROW TODAY, IMPACT TOMORROW” CAPITAL CAMPAIGN!

Through the Capital Campaign, which kicked off in 2018, York Catholic aimed to provide resources for needed renovations and improvements to the middle school and high school with a focus on spiritual, academic, student life, and extra-curricular experiences.



Raising over \$12 million in five years, York Catholic has renovated over 40 classrooms with facility wide air-conditioning, upgraded and modernized science labs, renovated and relocated the chapel to the main lobby, installed an elevator, and created a new Student Center that includes a Media Center and College and Career Readiness Center.

Campus enhancements included parking lot and sidewalk improvements, and wayfinding directional signage. The athletic stadium was renovated to include a turf field, bleachers, press box, and concession stand allowing YC to host post-season events for the district and state. The final jewel was the installation of a Rosary Walk as a peaceful place of reflection and prayer that joins the middle school and high school.

The Rosary Walk is comprised of engraved stones to represent the beads of the rosary. A statue of Mary, the Mother of God and Patroness of York Catholic, is the center point of the rosary. A wooden crucifix is at the base of the rosary, and the grounds are filled with plants, flowers, shrubbery, and trees. The Good Shepherd brick mural that stood on the former Glen-Gery Brick property at the corner of Boundary and Albemarle was relocated to campus and will serve as a welcoming entrance to the Rosary Walk. Engraved bricks also adorn the walkway within the Rosary Walk.

Through the generosity of alumni, parents, businesses, foundations, and friends, York Catholic's teachers are instructing and guiding students in an environment conducive to optimum success.







YORK CATHOLIC
YC *Grow Today*
**IMPACT
TOMORROW**

*Thank you to all of our generous donors, School Board members, alumni, parents, and friends who made this vision a reality.
We truly did "Grow Today to Impact Tomorrow."*



Wildlife Biologist in the Utah Desert

Barbara (Ember) Full '78



Wildlife Biologist Patricia Mezza '15

Patricia Mezza '15 is a contracted employee with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and is currently the Volunteer Coordinator for both Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in Brigham City, UT and Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge in Ibapah, UT. Along with the paperwork that comes with supervising 64 volunteers, Patricia plans public events, hosts field trips, and runs the social media sites for both refuges.

Patricia is stationed at Bear River MBR, in northern Utah, 52 miles north of Salt Lake City. In contrast to the vast desert landscapes of the West, this region is shaped by the steep Wasatch Mountains and the Great Salt Lake. Bear River MBR is located at the delta of the Bear River which is 500 miles long, is the longest river in North America that does not feed into an ocean, and is the largest tributary of the Great Salt Lake. The refuge wetlands are an “oasis in the desert,” a veritable hotspot where hundreds of species of birds migrate and nest each year.

Wildlife biologists can conduct field research, control invasive species, monitor habitat conditions, study live or preserved specimens, run computer simulations, or make maps based on data collected by the science community. The work they do is as varied as the species they study.

Patricia’s extensive field study has included salamanders and raptors in North Carolina, temperate forest trees in Maryland, small mammals in California, and American black bears in Kentucky and Minnesota. At the Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary in northern Minnesota, Patricia interacted with hundreds of black bears, including an emotional encounter with a mama bear and her five cubs!

**“We don’t inherit
the earth from
our ancestors, we
borrow it from
our children.”**

-A Native American proverb



Patricia's love for nature came from seeing so many of our country's varied landscapes while she was growing up; she has lived in 11 states so far! She also had the benefit of an adventurous mother, Cecelia Mezza, York Catholic's Music, Band, and Choir Director since 2011, who Patricia credits as the greatest source of her love of the outdoors. When Patricia visited Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, NC and saw the overwhelming beauty of the campus nestled high in the Appalachian Mountains, she knew it was the perfect place to pursue her wildlife biology major.

Beyond the sciences, Patricia is passionate about writing and teaching. In her current position, she published an article for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on fish passage improvement projects along the Bear River. This year she also taught a Birding 101 course and gave a lecture on the history of Bear River MBR, both at Utah State University.

Since college, Patricia has held various contracted positions with the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Forest Service, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. She hopes to become a permanent employee of the USFWS in the near future. Based on her educational choices, broad life experiences, and her willingness to travel to remote locations, I'm predicting success.



Mezza Studies Bird Migration & Nesting



Mezza Gets Close-up to an American Black Bear



Cooking with Christian Farah '12

Barbara (Ember) Full '78

I love interviewing YC Alumni; they are always doing interesting things and I learn so much from them. I interviewed Christian Farah '12 because I heard last summer he competed in Season 1 of YouTube's new cooking competition show, "Top Vegan"; however, I came away impressed by his drive and work ethic when I learned more about him.

Christian's family (parents John & Lisa, sisters Nicole '14 and Sophie) came to York from Cleveland, OH in the summer of 2008 for his father's job with General Dynamics. His parents wanted the children to have a Catholic education so they sought out York Catholic. Even though Christian is now back in Ohio, he told me he still keeps in touch with YC friends and "the discipline and people I met there helped mold me into a better person and prepared me for college and the working world."

From YC, Christian went to the University of Pittsburgh, majoring in accounting. Christian's work path is varied and interesting. After college he took a finance internship at Coca-Cola. A few months later accepted a full-time job as a junior accountant at Independence Excavating; after 2 years, he was promoted to a staff accountant. In the fall of 2020 he looked for a remote position and was hired as a



Christian Farah '12

project accountant by telecom company, Suresite. In 2022 he moved onto Hyland Software, an enterprise content management software company, as a financial reporting analyst on their international accounting team. He thought he had finally found his niche but during Covid, Hyland laid off 20% of their 1,000 workforce and he was part of the layoffs. Christian is currently working for MAI Capital Management (started by Arnold Palmer in 1973) as a senior corporate accountant. He foresees working there for a long time because they promote internal and personal growth.

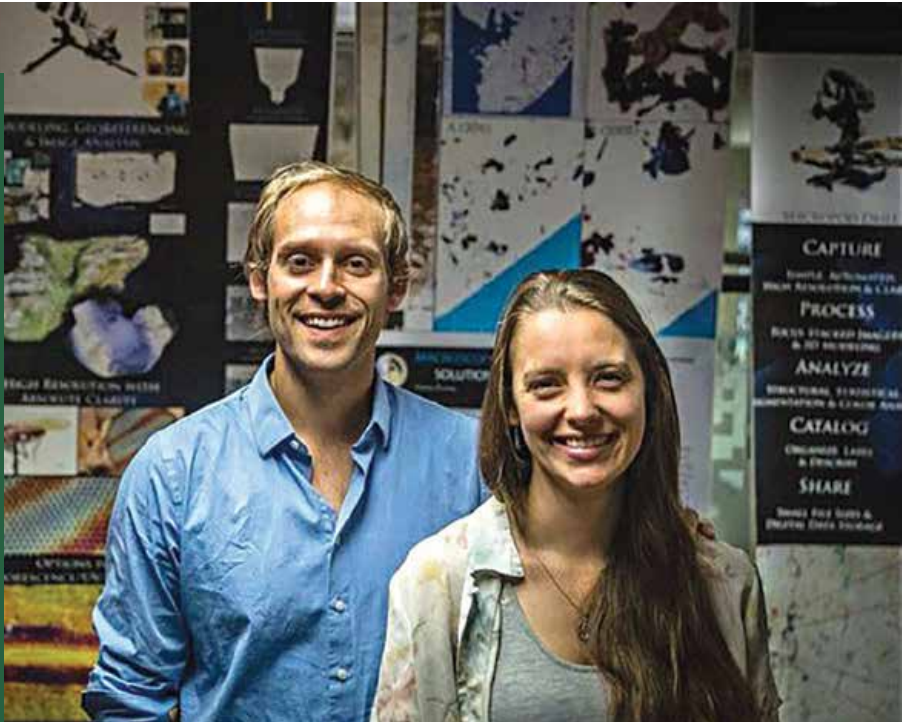
Meanwhile in the lull of the summer of 2020, Christian decided to join Cookingenie, an online business platform for personal chefs. He was experimenting with vegan cooking due to being lactose intolerant, found out he enjoyed it, and realized plant-based foods made him feel more energized. He also wanted to showcase his Lebanese heritage with the Mediterranean dishes he loved growing up on. Cookingenie is national and their chefs can provide 250 different dishes in 20 cuisines. Here's where the "Top Vegan" show comes in. One of his friends knew he was a chef specializing in vegan dishes and she also knew the host of "Top Vegan," so she suggested he apply to the show. "Top Vegan" takes place in Columbus State Community College's culinary facility, The Mix. Eight contestants were judged on creativity, kitchen aptitude, and business potential with the final prize of \$10,000 and future business mentorship by top chefs. He didn't win but learned a great deal and his Cookingenie side job has picked up tenfold. You can see Christian in action on the show at <https://www.youtube.com/@topvegan>. I heard his pad thai featured here is amazing!



Seeing the Big Picture

When I write articles about our alumni, I usually email them questions to prompt them for information to incorporate into my writing. I was pleasantly surprised when I reached out to Mark Smith '07 for this issue's feature. What Mark sent to me was fascinating and needed no additional writing. We're so impressed with Mark's accomplishments and initiative and we are proud to share his story with you.

Barb (Ember) Full '78



Mark Smith '07 and wife Annette

I was enrolled at York Catholic from 2003-2007 and I knew very little about who I would become. I focused on things other than my future. If it weren't for my mother's pressure to achieve better grades and my father's exemplary work ethic, I may not have pursued a university degree. I'd often occupy my time by working in my parents' garage or driveway. I'd always be messing around with a tool or building something. My neighbor, Dr. Anthony Gutierrez; a molecular biologist in the US Army, noticed this and invited me to his lab at Aberdeen Proving Grounds to machine metal parts on a lathe that were going to be used on an imaging system he had been designing. I'd periodically visit him during the summer to machine new parts or use the completed imaging system, which uses a DSLR camera and lens to function as a microscope would. The main difference being that no detail would be out of focus.

After graduating from York Catholic, I settled on Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) to pursue studies in criminology, and I admit I was extremely naïve. Something about the realization of paying for a university education changed my mindset from something I would need to endure to something I wanted to embrace. I made the dean's list my first two semesters, was hired by Becker & Company, a private investigation firm in Pittsburgh, PA in 2008 and enrolled in a dynamic earth studies class during the first semester of my sophomore year. I distinctly remember two of my professors being absent during the first 2 weeks of classes, Dr. Michael Poage, a geochemist stuck in the dry valleys of Antarctica, and Dr. Jon Lewis, a structural geologist returning from the Hsuehshan Range in Taiwan. When they finally returned, it was beyond obvious how much these guys and the rest of the department loved their

Continue reading on page 22 →



Smith's magnification of Darwinilus Sedaris, the only known sample in existence as collected by Charles Darwin in 1832 from Argentina, South America



Smith's magnification of a Juvenile Hawaiian Bobtail Squid

livelihoods and careers. I changed my major immediately. Ironically, this launched me on a path to learning advanced calculus, chemistry, physics, biology, and linear algebra; the very classes I aimed to avoid (one my biggest lifelong regrets...not learning these materials sooner)! York Catholic had many AP classes and I wish I had the foresight to take them. Geology is quite unique because the methods used to analyze observations and output results requires a strong understanding in STEM fields. Geoscientists often use physical, biological, chemical, and mathematical methods to derive and share their conclusions with broader members of the scientific community. I had to catch up to my classmates, fast.

Little did I know, but IUP had an extremely successful undergraduate geology program because of its proximity to the Marcellus shale gas play, talented staff, and successful alumni. Each undergraduate student was funded (paid salary) and paired with a professor that best aligned with his/her research interests. I paired with Dr. Jon Lewis after returning from a semester abroad in Auckland, New Zealand where I took a structural geology course. My undergraduate research focused on the analysis of micro-structures in samples collected from the Hseshan range in Taiwan that would help describe stresses responsible for creating and shaping the mountain range. I immediately remembered Tony and asked if I could incorporate his new imaging system (Macropod Imaging System) into my research to record and share my observations. The Macropod generates high resolution, color imagery of samples by capturing and overlapping thin focal planes scanned through an object's depth-of-field. The resulting packet of images are processed by computer software to generate a crystal-clear image showing only the in-focus areas merged into one final output image without degrading resolution. The method and technology was extremely novel among the scientific community. I took first place in a campus wide



Mark Smith '07 working on his magnification software

poster presentation competition and was immediately hired by Dr. Narayanaswamy Bharathan to capture time lapse imagery of fungus developing. DARPA and the DoD funded this research as the fungus being observed could be used to attack global potato and rice crops.

In the fall of 2011, I continued my interest in structural geology at the University of Connecticut as a graduate student under the advisement of Dr. Jean Crespi. Graduate students in the sciences often receive paid salaries (stipends) and waived tuition fees in exchange for teaching courses to undergraduate students. My graduate thesis had little to do with microscopy and imaging; instead, presented evidence contributing to the past and current seismic forces that shaped eastern North America as the Atlantic Ocean had been forming. In 2013, I pitched the Macropod system to a competitive campus-wide business plan competition called Innovation Quest, made possible by former Apple executive, philanthropist, and friend, Keith Fox. Upon placing first, the competition awarded me \$15,000 to launch my company, Macroscopic Solutions (Instagram: @macroscopicsolutions). At the same time, I was fielding recruitment invitations and opportunities from Exxon Mobil and/or advancing my studies in geoscience elsewhere. In the end, I could not have accepted \$15k in funds without making good on my promise. I pitched the business model elsewhere and raised approximately \$36k in non-dilutive funds and \$35k in loans. Having spent 6 years in and around the scientific community, I realized the Macropod systems capabilities far exceeded conventional microscopy and recognized the system's commercial potential. I learned the Macropod patent had been filed; therefore, Macroscopic Solutions paid the US Army to license and commercialize the technology. It took less than six months to achieve the company's first sale at the University of Nebraska and Macroscopic Solutions continuously observes revenue growth year-over-year.

Sometime around 2016, I started reading books by prominent investors and began to diversify and compound Macroscopic Solutions assets. Profit returns generated by the company would fund research and development activities for the creation and diversification of new products designed to tackle complex imaging problems in interdisciplinary science, health, oil and gas, aerospace, and environmental industries. In addition to 2D imagery, the systems could now accommodate microscope slides, aquatic specimens, tree core samples, rock cores, and materials as small as pollen grains. Advancements in photogrammetry now make it possible to model these materials in 3D. Over the years, my clients have included global leaders in our scientific natural history museums, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and Space Force to name a few. A current project I'm working on involves growing plants in zero gravity on the international space station where Macroscopic Solutions has been hired to 3D model the developed root structure once back on Earth. I've also had the rare privilege of handling and photographing biological specimens collected by authors and naturalists Vladimir Nobokov and Charles Darwin.

Since 2016, I have founded additional partnerships and businesses that continue to scale alongside Macroscopic Solutions. SocialSudo is a free online resource and YouTube channel for individuals searching for motivation and resources surrounding entrepreneurship and finance. CivilTalk is a new social media platform for paid subscribers that facilitates accurate and ethical communication online. Macroscopic Solutions, these investments, and other advisory rolls are owned by the parent organization, Peldspar, LLC; which I co-own with my wife Annette.

To my York Catholic teachers and graduating class of 2007, I think about you often and wish you well. To the current student body, I'd like to make it very clear that any career choices you may fear or are intimidated by doesn't automatically make them difficult. Follow your instinct, say yes, and figure it out later. I remember very vividly spending hours in the career center at York Catholic envying the careers I felt were out of reach for myself. I didn't understand that anything is achievable until after graduation, you simply must find a way to motivate yourself. The earlier the better. Thank you York Catholic for setting me on my path and for asking me to share my story with you.

ACADEMIC STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Advanced Placement Students

York Catholic students took 94 Advanced Placement exams and achieved an 83% pass rate of 3 or higher. Congratulations to AP Scholars with Distinction (3 or higher on 5 or more tests) - Daniel Giesselbach, Magdalene Motter, Luis Nguyen, Sean Warren, Mary Zelis; AP Scholar with Honor (3 or higher on 4 tests) - John Weisser; AP Scholars (3 or higher on 3 tests) - Jillian Bick, Madison Bick, Miranda Kovach, Madelyn McKee, Justin Melhorn, Emily Raugh, Carina Roberts.

AP Scholars with Distinction (3 or higher on 5 or more tests)



Daniel Giesselbach '23



Magdalene Motter '23



Luis Nguyen '23



Sean Warren '23



Mary Zelis '23

AP Scholar with Honor (3 or higher on 4 tests)



John Weisser '23

AP Scholars (3 or higher on 3 tests)



Jillian Bick '23



Madison Bick '23



Miranda Kovach '24



Madelyn McKee '23



Justin Melhorn '23



Emily Raugh '23



Carina Roberts '24



Ethan Andrews '24

National Merit Scholarship Commended Student

Ethan Andrews has been named a Commended Student by officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) based on his score earned on the 2022 Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®). Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise.

College Board African American Recognition Award

Congratulations to seniors Fahra Gwynn and Carina Roberts who earned College Board's national African American Recognition Award. Award winners must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher, score in the top 10% of PSAT/NMSQT® or PSAT™ 10 assessment takers in Pennsylvania, or have earned a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP® Exams; and either attend school in a rural area or small town, or identify as African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, or Indigenous/Native.



Fahra Gwynn '24 & Carina Roberts '24

Distinguished Honor Roll

The following students achieved Distinguished Honor Roll all 4 marking periods during the 2022-23 school year. That's a grade of 93 or higher in every class!

Grade 12: Reese Beck, Jillian Bick, Madison Bick, Lucas Blodgett, Anastasia Cartwright, Jessica Daugherty, Olivia Ebel, Kendall Ford, Grace Grandas, Joelle Jones, Katarina Kierkegaard, Kathleen McKeague, Mary McNamara, Caitlyn Noll, Adeline Phillips, Zachary Shanko, Sean Warren, John Weisser, Anna Zallnick.

Grade 11: Ethan Andrews, Mitchell Bradley, Kayla Dinh, Leah Gaito, Robert Gilbert, Miranda Kovach, Erika Lyter, Jacob McKnight, Allison Patera, Ashley Patterson, Grace Rapp, Andrew Schuler.

Grade 10: Ines Antuna Garcia, Erick Arevalo-Sandoval, Nolan Catone, Sara Czyzykowski, Jake Dallas, Cannon Eyler, Caroline Eyler, Alexa Firestone, Paolo Gurany, Catherine McCullough, Rosalyn Mulligan, Madeline Murphy, Bianca Po, Kyle Scott, Tyler Spangler.

Grade 9: Gabriella Colburn, Sean Devitt, Jonathan Dings, Emma Feil, Madeline Gilden, Finlay Humphris, John Kellett, Ava Klinedinst, Zoe Oskam, Sofia Prego, John Uphouse.

Grade 8: Ellis Alas, Katelynn Baker, Autumn Boyd, Leo Bradley, Jaydyn Brown, Meredith Doores, Sophia Gilden, Maura Hoffman, Hailey Hunter, Patrick Koury, James Lewis, Sean Melhorn, Ruth Motter, Eliza Oathout, Isaac Otremba, Joelle Sprunger, Nicholas Struck, Ava-Marie Williams, Austin Zallnick, Anthony Zelis, Isabella Zimlik.

Grade 7: Lillian Amspacher, Makenna Bradley, Lily Dellinger, Amelia Dobson, Elle Gilbert, Peter Kellett, Connor Latrechiano, Shannon McGuire, Nathan Mullen, Kyle Olinger, Olivia Otremba, Ricardo Po, Lauren Ulmer.



Grade 9-11 Distinguished Honor Students



Grade 8 Distinguished Honor Students



Grade 7 Distinguished Honor Students

ACADEMIC STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



National Honor Society Inductees

National Honor Society Inductions

Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into the National Honor Society:

Grade 12: Paige O'Brien, Sophie Perry

Grade 11: Gianna Bird, Annabella Breschi, Ryan Brown, Ashton Bruno, Katelyn Bullen, Izabella Chapman, Marley Costlow, Sara Czyzykowski, Jake Dallas, Annemarie Doores, Caroline Eyler, Alexa Firestone, Sarah Giesselbach, Paolo Gurany, Kara Jones, Nathaniel Kerr, Olivia Kury, Jack Lawrence, Rosalyn Mulligan, Madeline Murphy, Bianca Po, Kyle Scott, Christopher Sterling, Aiden Zallnick



Diamond Service Award Winners



Student Extraordinary Ministers



Rotary Students

Service Awards

Four students achieved the York Catholic Diamond Award that acknowledges 200 hours or more of service to the community during the 2022-23 school year. Pictured left to right: Lillian Vachino '26, Amelia Burkey '28, Tyler Alexander '25. Missing from photo is Kayla Alexander '23.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The following seniors were commissioned as our student Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. They will assist our chaplain, Father Kuchinski, in distributing Holy Communion at our school Masses this year. Shown left to right: Taylor Thomas, Chandler Miltsch, Luke Campbell, Father Kuchinski, Julianna Doyle, Ethan Andrews, Bill Gillmen.

Rotary Students

Bobby Gilbert '24 and Ashley Patterson '24 attended Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA) this past summer at Messiah University after being selected as Rotary Students of the Month during the 2022-23 school year. Ashley was selected as one of the top eight conferees and received a \$500 scholarship award.

ATHLETIC STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Girls Lacrosse Team – YAIAA County Champions

Athletic All-Stars

Congratulations to our spring athletes who were named to Spring Sports All-Star Teams:

GIRLS LACROSSE

YAIAA County Champions

Katie Bullen '25

YAIAA All-Star First Team

Jess Daugherty '23

YAIAA All-Star First Team

Delaney Staples '23

YAIAA All-Star First Team

Sophie Perry '24

YAIAA All-Star Second Team

Amanda Reed '24

YAIAA All-Star Second Team

Anna Seufert '25

YAIAA All-Star Second Team

Grace Grandas '23

YAIAA All-Star Honorable Mention

Sarah Perry '24

YAIAA All-Star Honorable Mention

BOYS LACROSSE

Nick Creisher '23

YAIAA All-Star First Team

Jacob McKnight '24

YAIAA All-Star Second Team

BASEBALL

Logan Sutton '24

YAIAA All-Star First Team

Brady Walker '23

YAIAA All-Star First Team

BOYS TENNIS

YAIAA Sportsmanship Award

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

John Forjan '23

All-State Honorable Mention

District III-AA All-Star Second Team

YAIAA All-Star First Team

Luke Forjan '23

All-State Honorable Mention

District III-AA All-Star Second Team

YAIAA All-Star Second Team

Brady Walker '23

All-State Honorable Mention

District III-AA All-Star Second Team

YAIAA All-Star Second Team

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

York Catholic High School's Athletic Booster Club is inducting four new members into its Sports Hall of Fame. The inductees will be introduced Saturday, January 27, between the girls' and boys' varsity basketball game versus Berks Catholic at approximately 4 PM. After the game, the inductees will be honored with a reception in the cafeteria. The Sports Hall of Fame honors former coaches and student athletes, administrators, and volunteers. Those being inducted include: Karli McFatridge '12 (basketball), Anna Spoden '13 (tennis), Ava Spoden '11 (tennis), Kenneth Staab '40 (service to country).



GOLF TOURNAMENT

We had another sold out crowd for our annual Golf Tournament in September. 120 golfers joined us for a beautiful day on the course at the Out Door Country Club.

Mark your calendar for next year's Golf Tournament scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2024.

A huge Thank You to our Sponsors: Accu Pad, Inc., Baron Food Group, Beer & Soda Mart, Beers & Hoffman, Ltd., Chick-fil-A East York, Collens-Wagner Insurance Agency, Dennis Uniform, Fink's Garage, Golden Considerations, The Harris Family, John W. Keffer Funeral Home, KS Tooling, Inc., Longview Wealth Solutions, Maple Donuts, Martin's Snacks, Piccolo Friendly Movers, Steven M. Carr, Attorney at Law, Stewart Companies, York College of PA.

Congratulations to our winners:

- Open Division: Matt Dellinger, Paul Garber, Matt Roth, Jason Weber
- Mixed Division: Brett Bauer, Michele Karnes, Mike Karnes, Heather McHale
- Ladies Division: Mary (Shuman) Bohn '76, Kathy Kostelak, Lisa (Shuman) Quinlivan '71, Noreen (Corcoran) Wenner '76
- Seniors Division: Troy Ingram, Don Reihart, Gary Reihart, Rev. Mark Weiss
- Super Seniors Division: Rick Billet, Todd Lau, Butch Newman, Ernie Sartolis

The following golfers won skills contests:

- Longest Drive - Male: Mike Rider '78
- Longest Drive - Female: Tracy McMahon
- Closest to the Pin: Mike Weaver, Keith Dougherty, Travis Wagman, Shawn McMahon
- Skins: Keith Dougherty, Dave Garber '90, Dave Potter, TJ Santos



NIGHT AT THE RACES

The YC gymnasium was filled with fun and laughter in October for another successful Night at the Races. Over \$17,000 was raised to support our athletic programs! This event is the largest fundraiser for York Catholic Athletics and is made possible by our Athletic Booster Club, our athletic department, and our amazing group of volunteers who spent the evening running the ticket booths and races and making sure everyone had a great time. Thank you to our Major Sponsors, Donegal Insurance Companies and Collens-Wagner Insurance Agency, and to Beer & Soda Mart, Martin's Snacks, and Alley Oops for their additional support.

Class Reunions

Our alumni have a special connection to York Catholic. Whether it's volunteering for school committees or hiring a YC grad, the Irish spirit runs deep. Class Reunions are typically held every 5 years for graduating classes, but many meet monthly. If you're planning a class get-together, let us know so we can help you spread the word.

We can place your notice in upcoming *Greensleeves* issues, post information on our website, and help you with a mailing list. Please contact the Advancement Office at 717-846-8871 x1322 or development@yorkcatholic.org to let us know about your upcoming reunion.

Class of 1955

Anyone interested in gathering with classmates for lunch on the first Thursday of each month should contact Louie Gangloff at 302-530-4291 or Joan (Orendorff) Witmer at 717-845-8128.

Class of 1958

Classmates meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 9 AM at the Stony Brook Family Restaurant, 3560 East Market Street in York. Please contact Charles Small at 717-578-6730 or Charlie Staub at 352-408-9604 at least 5 days in advance so a group reservation can be made at the restaurant.

Class of 1960

Members of the class meet for lunch at Boardwalks Restaurant on East Market Street in York at 12:30 PM on the 2nd Tuesday of every other even month. Please contact Mary "Fran" (Frey) Hughes at 717-755-9480 or Joann (Gaubeart) Hano at 717-755-2262 if you will be joining the group.

Class of 1962

Classmates gather monthly for breakfast on the 4th Thursday at the Lyndon Diner. Contact Liz (Wotherspoon) Kohler at 717-259-9082 or eak913@verizon.net, if you wish to be notified each month.

Class of 1967

Class members meet the last Saturday of each month at 11:30 AM at the Victory Athletic Association, 471 S. Ogontz St., York. For more information, contact Kay (Daniels) Kuhn at rkuhn7@comcast.net.

Class of 1969

The Class of 1969 meets monthly at 11:30 AM at Hoss's on White Street in West York. Class members can e-mail Marty Tassia at martytassia@comcast.net, Paul Faulise at paulfaulise@gmail.com, or Lynn (Gallagher) Maher at lynn.g.maher@gmail.com with questions or to update their information.

Class of 1970

Class members gather the 3rd Wednesday of the month at various locations published on Facebook on the YCHS Class of 70 Reunion page. For more information, contact Jeff Witman at 717-615-9002 or jmwitman63@gmail.com.

Class of 1973

Class members meet for monthly get-togethers. For dates, times, and locations, contact David E. Concino at 717-858-0880 or seabiscuit1108@verizon.net.

Class of 1974

Planning is underway for the 50th reunion for the Class of 1974 in 2024! Please mark your calendars for October 18-20, 2024 and more information and details will follow soon. To be sure the committee has your most recent contact information or if you have any questions, please contact Steve Sentz at ssentz74@yahoo.com. We look forward to catching up with all of our classmates!

Class Notes

John Matthew '69 had lived in Arizona for quite a number of years, but is now back in the York area to be with his children. He says, "past remembered places, friends, family tend to draw you back to your roots. I have always had the fondest memories of my past at YC – playing basketball, football, baseball, all sports and an educational curriculum that prepares you for your choices ahead. Life comes full circle. I will always be a fighting Irish YC alumni."

Cindy Aulbach '71 participated in the Women's Air Race Classic held in June. She was the pilot of a 2-person team flying a Grumman AA-5B which took them on an approximately 2,600-mile route from Grand Forks, ND to Homestead, FL. Cindy has been flying for many years and this was her first time participating in this type of competition.

Stephen Schrum '75 has published a memoir *Immaculate Misconceptions: Tales of Catholic School* where he writes about his experiences in Catholic grade school and York Catholic High School (available on Amazon). He has created a performance monologue poking fun at his experiences with one of the main takeaways being how the academic preparation he received in Catholic school readied him for the successful life and career as a PhD and a university educator for 31 years.



*Greg & Lauren (Waltman)
Rupp '08*

Lauren (Waltman) Rupp '08 married Greg Rupp in May. The couple reside in Lancaster PA.

Calum Wallace '13 was conferred a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree by The Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine. Dr. Wallace will be completing his four-year OB/GYN residency at the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA.



*Jacob & Lexi (Zambito)
Pintar '18*

Lexi Zambito '18 married Jacob Pintar on May 13, 2023 at St. Lawrence Chapel in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

HOW DO WE DO IT?

When one considers that the total cost to educate one York Catholic student is approximately \$12,500, while tuition remains the lowest of all Diocesan high schools at \$7,900, those with math degrees are curious how YC makes that work.

We would not be able to make this magic happen without so many in the YC family sharing their blessings with us every year. One of the big ways to do that is to participate in the York Catholic Fund. This annual campaign kicked off in September, and you most likely received a letter that asked for your support. Given the current economic conditions, if it's possible, we humbly ask that you consider increasing your gift from last year by 10%. Every gift, whatever the amount, counts and is truly valued. You can use the envelope that is enclosed in this issue of *Greensleeves*, or you can give a gift online by visiting yorkcatholic.org/give



We thank you for your continued support.

Memorials

Memorials are only printed when submitted in writing by the family.

Bonnie (Brezler) Fetrow '58, wife of Douglas Fetrow; mother of Anthony Fetrow '84, Christina Fetrow '85; sister of Gilbert Brezler '55, Julia (Brezler) Steward '59, Pandora (Brezler) Brickner '62, Samuel Brezler '64 (deceased), Theresa (Brezler) Fenstermacher '65, Michael Brezler '67, James Brezler '71, Marian Sue (Brezler) Darr '71.

Christine (Brady) Grim '87, daughter of Pete (deceased) and Betty Brady (deceased); sister of Peter Brady '81, Diane Brady '82, Elizabeth (Brady) Hull '84, Lorraine (Brady) Downie '90, Paul Brady '94; mother of Garrett Grim, Amber (Grim) Nissley; wife of Harold "Chip" Grim; aunt of Peter Brady IV, Michelle Brady, Daniel Frysinger, Heather Brady, Jennifer Ehteshami, Tyler Spear, Zachary Downie, Andrew Downie, Danielle Downie, Grasen Brady '22, Eden Brady '26, Landon Brady '26.

Margaret (Dorsey) Heidler '68, daughter of Margaret (Melia) and John Dorsey; mother of Andrea Heidler '93, Katherine (Heidler) Walker '95, Jessica (Heidler) Bardwell '02; mother-in-law of Jesse Walker, Sean Bardwell; grandmother of Emma and Sydney Wenger, Jacob and Reese Walker, and Sheamus, Teagan and Elora Bardwell.

Rita Land, wife of Tony Land; mother of Anthony "AJ" Land '70, Michael Land '72 (deceased), Thomas Land '78, Jennifer Land '80.



Mrs. Marguerite Leppo

Marguerite Leppo, mother of Michael Leppo, Patricia (Leppo) Noaker '66 (deceased), John Michael (deceased); grandmother to 3; great-grandmother to one; sister of Mary (Michael) Fogle '42. Marguerite was an Art Teacher at York Catholic from 1964-1978 and also helped with the set design and props for the fall plays and spring musicals.

Susan (Foster) Watson '64, daughter of George (deceased) and Margaret Foster (deceased); wife of Lawrence Watson '59 (deceased); sister of Daniel Foster '70 (deceased), Thomas Foster '57, Marjorie (Foster) Strong '65, Kenneth Foster '66, Patricia (Foster) Taylor '69; mother of Susanne (Watson) Nuccio, Matthew Watson, Christopher Watson; grandmother of Charlotte Nuccio, Beckam Nuccio, Nolan Watson, Ryan Watson, Summer Watson.

Greensleeves

is a publication of York Catholic Middle & High School for alumni, parents, and friends of the school.

All items for submission, suggestions, and correspondence should be addressed to:

Greensleeves

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**Deadline for next issue:
April 5**

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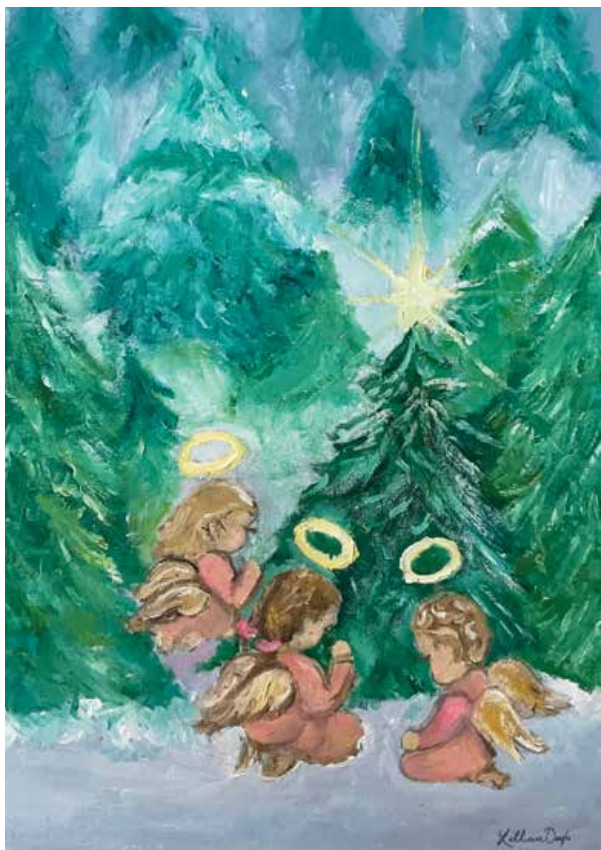
Layout & Design

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Photography

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York Dispatch





*Our Best Wishes
for a
Blessed and Merry Christmas
and a
Healthy and Peaceful New Year*

Katie Seufert, Principal
and the York Catholic Family