

SPRING 2018

BLUE & GOLD

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HIGH SCHOOL



ROBOTICS TEAM
QUALIFIES FOR STATES



LOURDES WELCOMES
CARDINAL DOLAN

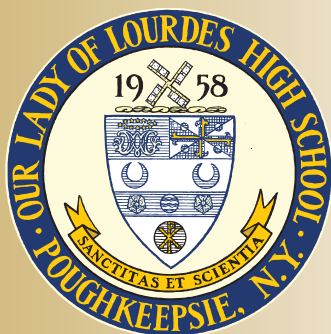
BOYS BASKETBALL
RECORDS HISTORIC
SEASON

Exceptional Academics. Extraordinary Futures.



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Principal's Message

Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends,

On the 2018 Feast of the Ascension, Our Lady of Lourdes High School was blessed with a visit from Cardinal Dolan who not only inspired us with his homily but, touched our hearts and calmed the stirring soul of all who heard the gospel message on that day. His message that resonated to all whose hearts and minds were open to hear it, was God's peace and love lives in us but we must be proactive in inviting the Holy Spirit to work through us. In order to quiet our egos and our worldly distractions, and allow Christ's message to emulate through our very life, a person must be disciplined and ask for God's will not our own will to be done.

How fitting was his message as this is the mission of Our Lady of Lourdes High School. When families choose Our Lady of Lourdes High School, they are essentially buying into a cooperative that stands firmly on the truth that a Christian is a person in whom and through Christ lives. They are equally buying into an educational philosophy that acknowledges that a Christian life requires self-discipline that calls us to withstand the temptations of the world, requires opportunities for intellectual inspiration that is a catalyst towards pursuing an intimate relationship with our Creator, and demands opportunities for theological knowledge to deepen our understanding of the faith and daily and constant prayer.

Our educational plan is fundamentally rooted in offering all of these things. The fact remains that a person's life's work in the pursuit of truth is not easy. Our Lady of Lourdes High School works to answer the call to educate the student's body, mind and spirit. We work to challenge them to be in the world and not part of it, to make a daily work out of calling on the Holy Spirit such that our students may know the joy of bearing the fruit of God's gifts in their lives.

Enjoy the pages of this edition of our Blue and Gold Magazine. We are excited to have this opportunity to share with you all that is happening here at Our Lady of Lourdes High School.

May God bless you and your families.

Faithfully,

Catherine B. Merryman

Catherine B. Merryman
Principal

Top Achievements and News Stories

Lourdes Students Support National School Walkout



On Wednesday, March 14, 2018 Our Lady of Lourdes High School's Student Government Association (SGA), in solidarity with students all over our nation, led a school-wide seventeen-minute prayer service.

While many schools were participating in a "walkout" of their buildings, Lourdes chose to go this route. In support of this national effort, Lourdes senior, Joe Scaglione, came up with the idea of a school-wide prayer service. "Our goal," he states, "was to put it in the limelight and partake in the movement trying to make a change."

Focused on the 17 victims of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, each of the SGA representatives took turns celebrating each victim beginning with 17 seconds of silence and then offering individual prayer intentions for each one. SGA President, Brandon Hoolihan stated that "Very often in these type of events, you don't know them as individuals. By stating their names, ages and a personal story about each victim, it humanizes them, you understand them as people and it makes the event itself much more meaningful."

Lourdes Principal, Catherine Merryman, in full support of this initiative, remarked, "Our SGA had been discussing and preparing a fitting response to recent acts of violence in schools. The officers formed a panel discussion which resulted in a beautiful and fitting response to the call for action. While our students feel passionate about the issue, they felt that a perfect response from our Catholic high school community would be to raise our voices in prayer."

After the service, students and faculty were encouraged and positive about this moment. Faculty member, Tony LaRocca commented, "This was a great way for our Student Government to be an advocate for change and lead our entire student body in supporting this issue." Lourdes students, Katie Manning and Jess Hamel both felt that the service was "perfect and very meaningful." Jess went on to state, "I liked that we remembered the victims and their families today. That made it real."



Cardinal Dolan Inspires Lourdes Community

With great anticipation and enthusiasm, our students, faculty, and guests welcomed His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan to celebrate the Mass of the Ascension of the Lord on Thursday, May 10, 2018.

Father James Ferreira, Secretary to the Cardinal and Master of Ceremonies accompanied the Cardinal and Bishop Peter Byrne, Monsignor James Sullivan, Father Richard LaMorte and Father Michael McLoughlin also joined Father Lutz as concelebrants.

This Mass was celebrated in memory of Mr. Michael Gartland, OLL Class of 1965 who was a great friend and benefactor to our school. Mr. Gartland was a true Lourdean and a true Warrior who understood the value of Catholic Education. His work with the McCann Foundation, Inc. and the James J. McCann Charitable Trust, along with his personal commitment and dedication to our school was, without doubt, crucial in solidifying our school's continued growth and prosperity in Dutchess County. Mr. Gartland passed away in April and his family and friends joined us for this special occasion. Honored guests, New York State Senator Sue Serino and Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro were also in attendance for this momentous occasion.

From the moment Cardinal Dolan arrived on our campus you could feel the excitement as he made his way through our hallways speaking to all he met along the way and even indulging our students with selfies. His message of prayer and patience resonated throughout, and his infectious smile and personality connected him to our students in an exceptional way. Cardinal Dolan provided special blessings to our senior class, even taking the time to take a special group photo with them. The Class of 2018 Valedictorian (Anna Gregory), Salutatorian (Joseph Scaglione) and Faculty Award Nominees (Mia Ardochini-Brooker, Mackenzie Farrell, Anna Gregory, Julia Schlottmann, Brandon Hoolihan, Roberto Leito, Daniel Ruiz, Joseph Scaglione) were also announced and experienced some informal time with the Cardinal.

Amongst the many memorable moments, Cardinal Dolan offered his "gift" of a day off from school to our students with Mrs. Merryman's blessing. Most definitely, the most popular moment of the morning!

Certainly a memorable day. Thank you, Cardinal Dolan. We are truly blessed!



National Merit Scholars Named



Congratulations to seniors Braeden Darragh, Mark Gambeski, Kaleigh Hilal, Brandon Hoolihan, Joe Scaglione and Katherine Serencsics who were named Commended Students in the 2018 National Merit® Scholarship Program. In addition, Brandon Hoolihan has been recognized as a National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) Scholar. According to the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, 34,000 commended students were recognized for their “exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their outstanding performance.”

Well done!

Mrs. Merryman Honored by Catholic Schools Region of Dutchess

On a beautiful fall evening, Mrs. Merryman was honored on Friday, September 22, 2017 at the Inaugural Cocktail Party for the Catholic School Region of Dutchess.

She was honored along with Lisa and Luigi '87 Coppola from Claudio Cares Foundation, and were selected by the Board of Trustees for the Region of Dutchess. In her role as a Catholic educator and administrator, Mrs. Merryman exhibits extraordinary vision and leadership each and every day. In addition, the Coppolas were honored for their outstanding commitment to the Dutchess County Catholic schools from the work they do through Claudio Cares.

The Catholic School Region of Dutchess is one of nine Catholic elementary school regions in the Archdiocese of New York. Each region is a separate, not-for-profit, educational corporation chartered by the New York State Department of Education. The Dutchess Region’s five schools educate over 1,200 students throughout the county.

A wonderful evening and well-deserved recognition of these “champions” of Catholic education!



From left to right: Mary Jane Daley, Regional Superintendent, Mrs. Merryman, Luigi Coppola, Lisa Coppola and Dr. Timothy McNiff, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of New York.

Our Lady of Lourdes High School Providing Success for San Miguel and Nora Cronin Students



Current OLL students who attended San Miguel and Nora Cronin pose with Mrs. Merryman.

“Blazing a path to their futures,” is how Lourdes Principal, Catherine Merryman describes the education and experience provided to students who attend Lourdes from the San Miguel Academy and Nora Cronin Presentation Academy.

Located in Newburgh, NY, both San Miguel and Nora Cronin, exist to educate the underserved middle school aged students in their communities. In 2010, the opportunity for a Lourdes high school education was offered to the San Miguel boys, and two years later, we accepted our first group of girls from Nora Cronin. Mrs. Merryman further states, “We are proud to nurture these young men and women and foster their strengths and abilities. As graduates, they have successfully navigated our rigorous curriculum and gone on to become successful in college and career.”

“New memories get made every day”, comments Lourdes senior, DeWilliam Carter when discussing his experience as a Lourdes student. DeWilliam, along with 29 other students in the 2017-2018 school year, are able to attend Lourdes as recipients of scholarships we offer to these schools. Receiving a Lourdes education is not something any of these students take lightly. Juniors, Annaleigh Fernandez and Leslie Mendoza both discuss the outstanding education they know they are receiving here. “If I did not attend Lourdes,” states Leslie, “I know I would not be as focused on school.”

Annaleigh emphasizes, “It is the structure, discipline, and uniform that also play into the experience here.” DeWilliam and fellow senior, Nayib Portillo agree that Lourdes faculty inspire each of them to excel beyond their potential. Nayib comments, “My English teachers really worked with me on improving my writing.” Several faculty have served as mentors and both stated that “Since freshmen year, Mrs. Merryman has motivated and challenged us to be the best we can be.”

These students work very hard and all have dreams for their futures. Leslie plans to become a surgical nurse, DeWilliam is interested in a career in International Maritime Trade and Annaleigh and Nayib both plan to study accounting. These students are well aware of the advantages they have been afforded at Lourdes and have filled their schedules with college level and/or advanced placement courses.

“Under the guidance and leadership of our administration and faculty, Lourdes has given them a path to college and career,” remarks Mrs. Merryman. “They have brightened our hallways, athletic teams and clubs and we are so proud to be a part of their dreams and success!”



Mrs. Merryman chats with students during a recent library visit. DeWilliam Carter; Shesly Zambrano, Joshua Quinones, Liliana Vaquero, Christian Salinas, Alexis Marin, Gabriela Ordonez and Marc Ramos.

March For Life Creates Extraordinary Memories



By Father Thomas Lutz, OLL Chaplain

The Respect Life Club organized a memorable trip to the Annual March for Life in Washington, DC which was held on Friday, January 19, 2018.

The March for Life has been held every year since the perfidious Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision on January 22, 1973, which legalized abortion in the United States. This year marks the 45th Annual March for Life.

Buses, trains, and planes delivered over 100,000+ American citizens from nearly all fifty states who peacefully and prayerfully marched from the National Mall to the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court. Nearly 70 percent of the marchers were women 30 years old and younger.

Our Lady of Lourdes students who attended met for an early morning Mass at 4:30 am and boarded one of two buses departing and returning to St. Columba Church in Hopewell Junction.

Our students filled with enthusiasm, wearing new *Lourdes for Life* hoodies, met high school, college and American youth from across the United States. Our Lady of Lourdes proudly carried our school banner and a New York State flag.

Lourdes student Cody Romani said: “It was a great experience to stand up for what you believe in with other

teenagers including Catholics and people of all faiths.” He plans on attending every year that the March for Life is held.

This was the first trip to Washington, DC for many of our students, and a great opportunity to witness the sanctity of human life and exercise their right to peacefully protest an unjust law.

Before the March for Life began, President Donald Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, Speaker of the House Paul Ryan and many other noted speakers addressed the crowds. The President declared each January 22nd as National Sanctity of Human Life Day.

Special thanks to Our Lady of Lourdes Respect Life Club for organizing and attending this year’s March for Life.

God Bless.



Engineering Tomorrow Conference a Hit With Students

Over 75 students from three area Catholic high schools, came together on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 for the Engineering Tomorrow Conference held at Our Lady of Lourdes High School. This is the second year in a row that Lourdes hosted this conference.

Founded in December 2014 by Bill Woodburn, Engineering Tomorrow’s mission (www.engtom.org) is to introduce high school students, particularly female and minorities to the field of engineering. The agenda for the day, which involved students from Our Lady of Lourdes, John A. Coleman and John S. Burke High Schools, included short presentations and then students were divided into 2 groups to perform different experiments. This conference concentrated on Wind Turbine, which utilized an iterative process and 3D Printing. All groups had the opportunity to work on both experiments.

Michael Legg, Executive Director of Engineering Tomorrow discussed that they have boosted their curriculum in the past year to include different experiments that they rotate amongst the conferences that can include Robotics, Wind Power, Solar, Civil Engineering, Computer Science or Water Reuse and Desalination.

January’s program was run completely by engineers who volunteer their time to participate. Erik Einset and Jim McHale of Global Infrastructure Partners and Tukneka Noble of GE ran the program with the help of additional student volunteers from Manhattan College and the University of Delaware. During the lunch break, the engineering students provided some discussion on their paths and answered questions from the groups. “We find the students benefit greatly hearing from college students closer to their age,” remarked Legg. “We are thrilled these students can be here to share their experiences with them.”

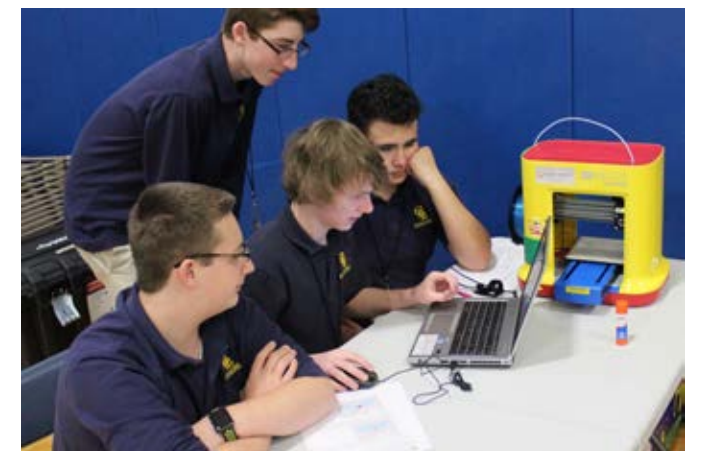


Lourdes seniors Kaleigh Hilal, Katherine Serencsics and Brianna Yi and Julia Schlottmann work with the wind turbine experiment.

Summing up the day, Lourdes students Jacob Cerdana and Kayleigh Goebelbecker, who both plan to study biomedical engineering in college were thrilled with the day, remarking “It was very worthwhile and a lot of fun!” Cerdana went on to say, “I did not realize I had an interest in this type of work until today.” Goebelbecker commented, “Today was great, and I am really happy to have had this opportunity to participate.”

All agreed that they liked that most of the day involved “hands-on” activities. It really gave them a chance to engage and learn about what was happening in the experiments.

Sophomore, Jan Anthony stated, “I really enjoyed the experiments and activities. Right now I am trying to figure out if I will study chemical or biomedical engineering in the future and this type of experience helps a lot.” Junior, Alex Giangrasso was in agreement with the whole day and mentioned, “This experience really opened my eyes to the profession.”



Lourdes sophomores, Jason Kozak, Theodore Friedrich, Ethan Noto, and Jan Anthony work with 3D imaging software to create models.

Robotics Team Qualifies for State Championship

Warrior Bots, otherwise known as the Our Lady of Lourdes High School Robotics team, qualified for the New York State Championship that was held on March 3, 2018.

This was the first year of competitions for the **Warrior Bots**, and they participated in two competitions and were able to make it to the finals both times. According to the Robotics Club moderator, Mr. Matthias Johnson, “This was an amazing accomplishment and it was made possible by all of the members working together and solving problems. I would like to congratulate two students, in particular, Sam Gallery who was able to score our highest score in the skills challenge and Theodore Friedrich who meticulously tested and rewrote his code so that the robot would automatically stack cones without a driver. It is because of these two achievements, our successful autonomous skills challenge (most schools could not complete this task) and our high score in driver skills, that the **Warrior Bots** have been accepted into this state championship.”

In their first competition in December, **Warrior Bots**, ranked 5th out of 22 teams at the Catskills New Bot Battle.

This competition included 22 teams from 10 schools throughout the region, the Lourdes team made it all the way to the semifinal round.

Preparation for competition began in October with a core group that met weekly after school with the Robotics club. First steps included examining other tournaments via Youtube and discussing the positives and negatives of various team designs. Students worked on creating two completely unique designs with over a dozen

variations and modifications to each. They then began to implement their design using parts from several *VEX EDR Robotic Kits*.

After the robot was assembled, it was programmed using *RobotC*. Students wrote functions containing a collection of commands and mapped them to buttons on the robot remote controller. This allowed the robot to move forward, backward, grab, and lift the cones necessary for scoring points in the competition.

Open to the public, this competition is the first bracket toward the worldwide competition. Teams were paired up and would compete against another pair of teams in each contest. Teams would score points for stacking cones on top of other cones to produce the highest stack of the match or pushing a several pound cone of their team’s color into the scoring zone.

In summarizing the experience, Mr. Johnson remarked, “I am so proud of our students and what they were able to accomplish in such a short amount of time. Advancing to the semifinals was thrilling and a testament to their hard work. I was greatly impressed by their willingness to rebuild the robot and create a functional autonomous cone stacking program in the few minutes between matches, improving our chances along the way.”

Mr. Johnson continued, “Looking ahead, we will take the knowledge and experience we have gained and apply it to future competitions.”



Girls Basketball Finishes Phenomenal Season 23-1



Heading into the sectional final on March 3, these Lady Warriors were 22-0 on their season and believed that this was the year they could topple Ossining. In fact, all year that was their driving thought towards winning the prestigious “gold ball” as they progressed through the season. And progress they did! With a roster that included seniors, Becca Townes, Dani Valdez, Olivia Babb, Katie Manning, Villanova bound Maddy Siegrist and freshmen Ava Learn, this team poured their heart and souls into every practice and every game. Never taking anything for granted, even when they were beating teams by 40 plus points. No team worked or performed harder than these girls, whether they start or play off the bench. Each was prepared to give their all.

In the first half of the sectional final Lourdes dominated and ended the half with a nine point lead. The mighty Ossining team, however, would come back and ultimately take the win at 75-63. Although a crushing blow, these girls accomplished so much more than winning games. Their work ethic, focus and mental toughness will carry them through the rest of their lives and set the bar for all those future players coming behind them. These girls exhibit all the best qualities of our students and represented our school with character, heart, determination, dignity, friendship and brains. They have it all. Well done ladies!



The Drowsy Chaperone Opens to Rave Reviews



Hilariously funny dialogue, great dancing, and singing all came together for the cast and crew of *The Drowsy Chaperone* as they opened last weekend.

The Drowsy Chaperone, a parody of American musical comedy of the 1920's, concerns a middle-aged, asocial musical theatre fan. As he plays the record of his favorite musical, the (fictional) 1928 hit *The Drowsy Chaperone*, the show comes to life onstage as he wryly comments on the music, story, and actors.

The show, which first appeared on Broadway in 2006, won five Tony awards and seven Drama Desk awards. The book is by Bob Martin and Don McKellar with music and lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison. The show is produced at Lourdes courtesy of Music Theatre International.

The 50+ student cast, pit band, and crew are assisted by parent volunteers with stage and musical direction by Tom Lawrence and conducted by Paul Bellino.

In this, their last Lourdes production, the seniors who performed in this show share their thoughts.

Mackenzie Farrell: *Janet Van De Graaff, Choreographer*

"I have been dancing since I was three, and started choreographing sophomore year. Last year was my first Lourdes show. I am thrilled to be playing a leading role this year and love playing a character that incorporates all my interests and loves. She is strong, confident and good at many things and it appears without really trying. I am glad I could bring her to life and show all sides of her. This is a fun, happy show. Love the 1920's style of music and it is fun to bring that era alive. I am very happy with how all the choreography went. We lost our last

tech rehearsal because of snow so opening night was it. However, when there is an audience in front of you the excitement kicks in and you rise up."

Kerry Fitzgerald: *Kitty*

"I have been involved in musical theater since elementary school which includes local community theater productions. Here at Lourdes, I have performed in *Urinetown*, *Seussical*, and *Godspell*. I love my character this year and enjoy playing her. She's different and funny so it takes me out of my comfort zone. Comic relief in a comedy. Very fun for me."

Brandon Hoolihan: *Man in Chair*

"My drama career really took off here at Lourdes and I have participated all four years. This is really my last performance for at least a while. I feel all the shows went really well and were a lot of laughs. Love this character, as he is very funny and cynical. This is definitely a nice way to end my Lourdes career. It is also the largest role I have had so that makes it very special. Overall the show was really funny with lots of good singing parts. In addition, the choreography was excellent. Mackenzie did a great job!"

Maggie Roach: *Mrs. Tottendale*

"I have been in musical theatre since fifth grade and that includes local community theatre. I LOVE playing Mrs. Tottendale! Such a typecast. She is me! She is happy and enjoys life. Always looking for the happy in life. Loving it and making the most of every situation. This show is definitely one of my favorites. Similar to *Urinetown*, it has a great life message. I am so sad this part of my life is ending. This show makes me cry for that reason. Especially during Brandon's monologue at the end."

Sarah vonEgyt: *The Drowsy Chaperone*

"Great shows every night! I really enjoy playing Chaperone. She's really fun. I enjoy it because she tries to be the center of attention and has a lot of fun animated moments. It's a great part to end my Lourdes career. I have been performing since middle school in local community theater. My plan is to study musical theatre in college. Drama is my home here at Lourdes. The program has really grown and I am excited about its future. My favorite part of my role is my song, "As We Stumble Along". It is the one moment when I can give it my all. Symbolically it is about how we can struggle through life and recover from temporary difficulties."



Andrew Lam Named "Merit Scholar" in 2017

Andrew Lam was named a National Merit Scholarship winner in the spring of 2017. In February 2017, Andrew, along with classmate Emily Mantaro was named a finalist in this program.

According to the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), Andrew is one of 7,500 winners chosen from a pool of 15,000 Finalists in the 2017 National Merit® Scholarship Program. In a press release from NMSC, these "Merit Scholars" are "judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills, and potential for success in rigorous college studies." By the conclusion of the 2017 program last summer, these "Merit Scholars" received a combined total of \$35 million in college scholarships.

NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 420 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

Andrew entertained offers from Cornell, Brown, Duke and the University of Rochester Medical School before making his decision to attend the University of Pennsylvania. At UPenn, he is one of 20 Vagelos Scholars in the Molecular Life Sciences, which will allow him to earn a B.A in Biochemistry and a Master's Degree in Chemistry in four years, while receiving a stipend to perform scientific research in neuroscience.

Outside of his academics, Andrew is an active member of the National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, Math Team President, Science Club, and the Track & Field and Cross Country teams here at Lourdes. In preparation for a career in medicine, he also works as an Operating Room Surgical Auditor/Emergency Room volunteer at Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital.

An outstanding resume already, Andrew is certainly on his way to do amazing things.

Seniors Acevedo and Carver Named National Hispanic Scholars in 2017

Congratulations to seniors Nina Acevedo and Kiana Carver who were recognized as 2016 - 2017 National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) Scholars.

Nina and Kiana are just two of more than 5,000 academically outstanding students across the country to receive this honor.

Nina hails from Peekskill, New York and graduated from St. Columbanus Elementary School. Team Captain of girls Epée for the Lourdes Fencing team, Nina is also a very active member of the Robotics Club and Literary Magazine. She received a plethora of offers from numerous schools including the University of Chicago, University of Rochester, University of Minnesota, University of Pittsburgh, University of South Carolina, Mississippi State and Arizona State. Nina is planning to study Computer Science at the University of Chicago.

A Newburgh native, Kiana attended Bishop Dunn Memorial School prior to coming to Lourdes. She is a four year member of Varsity Swimming, Yearbook Editor, stage manager for the spring musical, *Godspell*, and is a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Club. Kiana will major in Humanitarian Studies or Psychology at Boston University

Congratulations ladies!



Esther Roman '17
First Female OLL Graduate Admitted To West Point



A photo of Esther's color guard at the Wreaths Across America ceremony at St Denis church. They placed wreaths on hundreds of veteran's graves and held a flag raising ceremony in honor of our fallen brothers and sisters who gave everything for this country and its citizens.

Congratulations to senior Esther Roman who was presented a Certificate of Admission from James P. Trainor, LTC (R), USAR, Liaison Officer of the United States Military Academy at West Point. This presentation took place during our Commencement ceremonies on June 3, 2017.

An impressive achievement for Esther as she worked diligently to successfully navigate the Academy's admission process that will ultimately place her in a career that she loves and has great respect for. Esther comments, "I knew after attending encampment as an in-flight cadet that I wanted to serve as an officer in the United States military. I decided the army was the best branch for me after attending West Point's, the Naval Academy's, and the Coast Guard Academy's week-long summer programs during my summer as a rising senior.

While I did receive an Army ROTC four-year scholarship to NYU, I chose West Point because the training the cadets receive is unlike any other. I am attracted to the school's atmosphere of discipline and integrity and the school's core values of duty, honor, country."

A member of Lourdes Varsity Crew since freshman year, Esther also served in the Civil Air Patrol for three years, and last year was a soccer coach. Civil air patrol is the official auxiliary of the Air Force. She belongs to the Dutchess County Cadet Squadron in which she is the first sergeant of the squadron. She served as the color guard commander for the past year and serves as the cadet advisory council primary representative for her squadron. Esther has attended NY Wing Encampment, a week of leadership training for all squadrons in New York, as an in-flight cadet and as a staff cadet. In addition, she attended CAP's Hawk Mountain search and rescue school, a 9 day camp in the wilderness with limited resources where she learned emergency services training.

Esther plans to major in Mathematics, hoping to branch as an Army intelligence or cyber warfare officer.



Esther poses with her crew team after their last race of the season, and her last race with Lourdes.

Class of 2017
Valedictorian, Salutatorian



**Valedictorian
Andrew Lam**
"Stepping into Lourdes for the first time my freshman year was an almost overwhelming experience, coming from a relatively small middle school. There were so many more opportunities and people to interact with. Sure enough, I quickly

found lifelong friends and ways to challenge myself intellectually and athletically at Lourdes. The greatest thing about Lourdes is its community of students and faculty who are always there to support you and make all the opportunities and challenges Lourdes has to offer possible and enjoyable."

- Cross Country
- Track & Field
- Math Team - President
- National Honor Society
- Science National Honor Society.
- Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital - Volunteer Operating Room Surgical Auditor/Emergency
- Private Tutor
- Piano
- Research

Accepted to Cornell, Brown, Duke, U Penn, and the University of Rochester Medical School. Andrew is currently attending the University of Pennsylvania as one of approximately 20 Vagelos Scholars in the Molecular Life Sciences, which will allow him to earn a B.A. in Biochemistry and a Master's Degree in Chemistry in 4 years while receiving a stipend to perform scientific research in neuroscience. At U Penn, he also hopes to study business at Wharton and neuroscience while following a pre-med track. Andrew hopes to become a neurosurgeon or a medical researcher after Medical School.

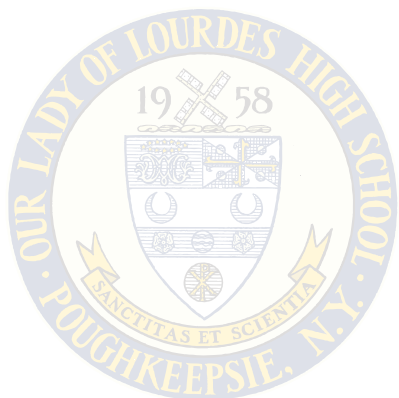


**Salutatorian
Emily Mantaro**
"My Lourdes experience has taught me how to meet academic challenges and has expanded my understanding of the Catholic faith. I am glad I attended Lourdes because the smaller class sizes allowed me to get to know many of my teachers and fellow

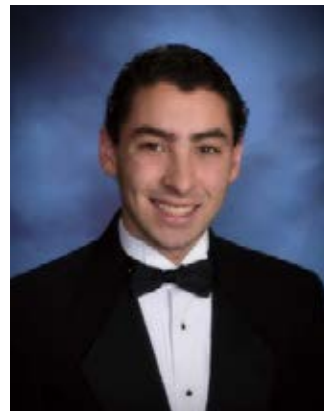
students. In addition, it offered many leadership opportunities and allowed me to become more involved in the community."

- School Newspaper - Editor-In-Chief
- News and Views Team
- Mock Trial Team
- Literary Magazine
- Jane Austen Society of North America.
- Varsity Lacrosse - 3 years
- Varsity Field Hockey - Team Captain; a 4-year player
- Poughkeepsie Library District - Boardman Road Volunteer

Emily is currently attending the University of California at Berkeley where she plans to study history and possibly become involved in politics, especially in the healthcare or environmental policy fields.



Faculty Award Nominees 2017



Stephen Baker

“Lourdes has given me the skills, education and discipline necessary to succeed in the future. This is all due to the great faculty and staff that I feel I connected well with, and an excellent education in an inspiring environment. I really believe I received an amazing education that

is setting me up for success. Also, I have made great friends here that will last a lifetime!”



Anne Bubel

“My experience has prepared me for the future in so many ways. I am mentally prepared for a heavy work load, and Lourdes has taught me great time management skills. Lourdes has also shown me how to use my faith of Catholicism to be loving and helpful to others. I am grateful

to have been a part of this community where everyone genuinely cares about one another. The teachers are more than willing to help and the student body honestly respect one another. Lourdes is a great representation of what it means to be a Catholic High School.”



Katherine Clarke

“Four years at Lourdes really prepared me for college and the real world. I am excited for the future after all the academic and personal growth I had here. I am so glad I attended Lourdes as I met so many friendly people that I know I will be close with for the rest of my life.”



Owen Corrigan

“Lourdes has strengthened me in almost every aspect of my life. I have matured and excelled socially, physically and academically, but most of all, spiritually. Being in a Catholic environment has made me the person I am today, and I feel I am leaps and bounds ahead of my

peers. Lourdes provides the opportunity to succeed and someone is always there for you. From the unparalleled faculty to the unmatched athletics to the amazing comradery, Lourdes has prepared me for anything the future has in store for me.”



Jessica D'Auria

“Lourdes has prepared me for the future by showing me how to succeed rather than telling me how to. I was able to learn and grow by seeing how other people did, and the faculty helped me make my own path by providing wisdom and guidance. I am so glad I attended Lourdes because

it gave me a fresh start. After not having the best experience in middle school, I came to Lourdes scared and pessimistic. After being pushed to excel academically, socially, athletically and spiritually, I blossomed into who I am today. I am so thankful for the change that has overcome me.”



April Griggs

“When OLL claims to be a college prep school it really stands true to that promise. Lourdes has taught me that hard work pays off, trust yourself, and no matter the success or struggle, God is by your side. Each one of these lessons has prepared me for what lies ahead. I have made an extended

family here, and it has given me the tools to follow my dreams and succeed in the real world.”



Matthew Pascazi

“My Lourdes experience has given me a strong foundation in my faith as well as helped me learn to be respectful, have dignity and be a good example for others to follow. Lourdes has allowed me to flourish academically and be ready for college and beyond. This school provided me

with a great education and faculty who have helped me grow and excel. I have made great friends and had awesome experiences. I have also matured in my faith and have learned the importance of keeping faith as a part of my life.”



Ian Tomann

“Lourdes has prepared me for the future by giving me the opportunity to take honors and AP courses that I know have given me a strong academic foundation for the next stage in my life. Lourdes has also given me a steady foundation in my faith and spirituality through the staff who are

strong in their beliefs and the students who are 100% supportive of each other. I would not be the person I am today if I had not attended Lourdes. Here I met faculty who challenged me and I have made friendships and connections that I know will continue throughout my life.”

*A Lourdean is a person who puts others above self,
who wills the good of another and desires to serve their fellow man in need.*

*The Faculty Award recognizes those students who embody the love one should
expect from a young Catholic man or woman.*

*Lourdes is so humbled to serve students who truly embody what it means
to glorify God by their lives.*

*These students are disciplined, focused, kind, humble, understanding, compassionate
and willing to work to build the kingdom of God here on earth.*

Class of 2017 Embrace Their Futures

A beautiful day for our Fifty-Sixth Commencement Ceremonies on Saturday, June 3, 2017.

The enthusiasm and excitement could be felt throughout the building as these 167 graduates and their families began arriving for the ceremonies. That school year had brought tremendous success for this class academically, spiritually, artistically and athletically, and we are so proud of their accomplishments.

The ceremony opened with The National Anthem sung by seniors Lizzie Adams and Will Adkins. Salutorian, Emily Mantaro provided a beautiful invocation as an official start to the morning. Along with the many academic, leadership and service awards, other highlights from the ceremony included:

Valedictorian, Andrew Lam's message to his fellow graduates spoke of the irreplaceable experiences and memories that they encountered over their four years at Lourdes. He reminded them that "Happiness is in the unexpected, and they should embrace the unexpected in their future relationships and experiences."

Mrs. Merryman, in her message to "her seniors", that year took her inspiration from Billy Joel's "We Didn't Start the Fire". She asked them to "Let the fire ignite inside you, be the joy, be the love, be the peace, be the goodness. You are the receivers of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Let the fire burn within you. God is counting on you and so are we."

Board of Trustees Executive Chair, Genaro Argenio addressed the crowd thanking all in attendance for their support and ongoing commitment to our school.

April Griggs and Owen Corrigan were named as recipients of the Lourdes Faculty Award.

A very impressive moment of these ceremonies took place when James P. Trainor, LTC (R), USAR, Liaison Officer from the United States Military Academy at West Point was in attendance to present the Academy's Certificate of Admission to Esther Roman. Esther successfully navigated a rigorous admissions process within the Academy, who typically accepts only 10% of applicants each year. Lieutenant Colonel Trainer gave a thorough description of all the Academy has to offer, and the qualifications Esther was required to meet commenting, "We are confident that Esther Roman has

what it takes." A second presentation was also made to Esther by Ann Mueller, Deputy District Director from Congressman Faso's office as it was Faso's district that provided the nomination that is required for this admission process. We are grateful to Lieutenant Colonel Trainer and Ms. Mueller for being a part of our ceremony. Congratulations Esther!

The ceremony wrapped up with the Ave Maria sung by juniors, Lin Rao and Sarah vonEgypt and Monsignor James Sullivan providing the benediction. The procession of graduates then continued out to the front of the school for the annual tradition of the "throwing of the caps" in front of our Blessed Mother statue.

A beautiful ceremony, an outstanding group of graduates, family, and friends, administration, faculty, and staff all came together for a wonderful day.

Congratulations Class of 2017!



Esther Roman is congratulated by Lieutenant Colonel James Trainor as he presents to her the U.S. Military Academy's Certificate of Admission.

Mrs. Vilardo Honored at Forty Under 40



Mrs. Vilardo poses with her husband Dan and her parents, Judith and Ed O'Loughlin while enjoying the cocktail reception at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel.

Congratulations to Mrs. Meghan Vilardo who was honored at the 12th Annual Mover & Shaker 40 Under 40 Awards ceremony in April 2017. This annual event is organized each year by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce and features 40 uniquely talented, giving and dedicated young professionals from a variety of industries. Selected from a pool of over 200 nominees, we are exceptionally proud that Mrs. Vilardo was chosen as a 2017 honoree.

Mrs. Vilardo began her teaching career when she took a position as a Social Studies teacher here at Lourdes. In 2009, she was named Department Chair and, in 2014 was appointed Director of Instruction and Curriculum. In this capacity, she is responsible for mentoring the teaching faculty, guiding the implementation of successful pedagogical practices, and ensuring successful student learning outcomes.

In conjunction with the administrative team at Lourdes, Mrs. Vilardo is committed to devising a rigorous college preparatory environment to educate the whole child while instilling Catholic values. Her team has been successful in promoting Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) initiatives as well as ensuring permanency in learning.

Mrs. Vilardo is grateful to her mentors, Mrs. Catherine Merryman and Mr. Michael Krieger, who have provided professional guidance and support. She is also a wife and mother of two beautiful children, Sophia and Daniel. Mrs. Vilardo and her husband Dan, are eternally grateful for the County's Early Intervention program, as their son, Daniel, was born with hydrocephalus.



Top Achievements and News Stories

2016 - 2017, A Historic Season for Boys Varsity Basketball

It was the season they say shouldn't have happened, but Jim Santoro's 2016-2017 Varsity Basketball team proved that with hard work, discipline, pure heart, teamwork and talent they could pull off a historic season.

It was after a loss in December that Jim talked with his team and asked them what they would be willing to do. He states that he said, "If I told you guys that I believe you can win a state championship, what would you be willing to do?" Led by senior at the time, James Anozie, their response took them, and the rest of us, on an amazing ride for the remainder of their season.

Lourdes entered sectional play with a 16-6 record. It was the sectional quarterfinal game vs. Saunders, a classic thriller with our Warriors winning by one point that sent them to the semifinals at the County Center where they were clear underdogs. That did not seem to faze our boys and they handily won against top seeds Byram Hills and then Tappan Zee in the final to earn their Class A Section One Gold Ball!

The road to states would give them a regional final win over long-time rival Poughkeepsie where our warriors proved they had what it takes. Next stop, Binghamton for the Final Four!

We would play Southampton High School in the state semifinal round on Saturday, March 18, 2017. A riveting game from start to finish, our boys pulled off a 70-67 win that came down to the final seconds. The next day however, their run ended with a loss to Irondequoit High School in a devastating 54-43 loss. Our Lady of Lourdes stayed strong, played hard and left it all out there when it was over. This team defined the true definition of teamwork and defied the odds in accomplishing outstanding success.

Congratulations to Coach Jim Santoro and our 2016-2017 Boys Varsity Basketball Team on an outstanding season. League Title, Sectional Title, Regional Title, State Final Four and State Finalists! Stand proud!

Thanks to all the students, parents and faculty who cheered on our team. The Lourdes Community is truly blessed!



Top Achievements and News Stories

Godspell Production Exceeds Expectations

Congratulations to the cast and crew of *Godspell* on four outstanding performances the weekend of April 27-30, 2017.

"Truly a Broadway quality show," announced Mrs. Merryman after the ensemble's first performance on April 27, 2017.

The accolades continued coming from faculty, parents, students and alumni.....

~"Each night, they raised the bar a little higher."

~"This show was amazing! I have seen it on Broadway multiple times. To see it at OLL, you could tell that these kids put the work in and left every ounce of themselves on that stage every night! It was beautiful to see all of their hearts go into it. Definitely made me feel all the 'feels'!"

Tom Lawrence, who directed the production remarked, "Pulling a show together takes the input and support of many people. Here at Lourdes, that starts at the top with Mrs. Merryman. Her willingness to promote the arts with a total institutional commitment is an indication of her leadership here. The support she provided to me



and to the cast is immeasurable, as has been the support of every faculty and staff member throughout the entire school community. Parents also play a critical role in most everything here at Lourdes and their support of this show is no different. The cast and crew of *Godspell* did a great job and I look forward to working with the entire Lourdes organization on future shows."

A job well done!



Caroline D’Agostino Wins EDDY Award



In the spring of 2017, Caroline D’Agostino was the recipient of our school’s first ever EDDY Award for her News & Views Editorial. Caroline received her award at the 2017 award ceremony. Over 370 students participated and only approximately 100 were nominated for awards. Earlier that year, Instructional Television (ITV) service for the schools of

the Archdiocese of New York, announced that the News and Views Club at Our Lady of Lourdes High School had been nominated in all applicable categories for their annual EDDY Awards.

The News and Views program provides elementary and secondary school students within the Archdiocese an opportunity to experience television journalism by researching a topic and creating a news program. The students choose a topic that they can research and present on in the various mediums. The Lourdes team decided to focus on sleep deprivation entitled *If You Don’t Snooze You Lose: The Effects of Sleep Deprivation on Adolescents*.

According to the club’s team captains April Griggs and Anna Kolosky, “Our team selected sleep deprivation as it was a very relevant issue to each of us, and we believed it needed to be given a platform for discussion.” The students began this process in September, which included doing their research and preparing for the news taping that took place in March at the ITV studio. The taping was comprised of a news team providing a feature presentation, survey, photo essay, editorial, and interview. The team was also very fortunate to interview Lourdes Faculty Member & Social Studies Department Coordinator at the time, Mr. Bill Ficker as part of their broadcast. The broadcast team consisted of Onora Crusier (Survey), Caroline D’Agostino (Editorial), April

- Griggs (Anchor), Anna Kolosky (Photo Essay) and Emily Mantaro (Interview).
- Griggs and Kolosky commented that their team learned a great deal about their chosen topic, but the following three points stood out the most:
- Sleep deprivation has longer lasting detrimental effects regarding cognitive and physical functioning.
 - It is a larger problem in our school than we originally anticipated.
 - Getting enough sleep is often undervalued and should be prioritized.

Lourdes faculty member and moderator of the News & Views Club Mrs. Lauren Katz, remarks that, “This topic really inspired the students to do their research and plan out a well-organized program. They learned to think logically. The entire team from the researchers to the writers to the presenters all play a crucial role in the broadcast. This team was very dedicated, enthusiastic and energetic about participating in this program.”

The “Eddy Awards” took place on May 19, 2017. New York TV news personalities attended and presented the awards in each of the following categories and techniques; research, graphics, anchor, news team, survey, feature, interview, editorial, debate and photo essay.



Athletic Signings 2016-2017

Each year many of our students go on to continue their athletic careers at the next level in college. Here are those athletes from the Class of 2017 who publicly made those commitments official:



Christian Thomas
Swimming
Xavier University



Nick Gastin
Baseball
Stony Brook University



Blaise Byrne
Baseball
Florida Southern College



Kelsey Tuan
Golf
Post University



Corey Mullaly
Football
Marist College



Katie Clarke
Basketball
Dominican College



Will Whelan
Cross Country/Track
Fordham University



Jack O’Brien
Soccer
Muhlenberg College
Garrett Ossolinski
Soccer
Springfield College



Jessica D’Auria
Volleyball
Maine Maritime Academy



Father Tom Lutz Joins Lourdes Community

After a formal request and much prayer, Mrs. Merryman was thrilled to announce that Cardinal Dolan had assigned Rev. Thomas Lutz, an Archdiocesan Priest, as a full-time chaplain and faculty member to Our Lady of Lourdes High School for the 2017-2018 school year.

Mrs. Merryman commented, “Father Lutz’s commitment to education, his ability to reach young people and his love of the Catholic Church is a priceless addition to our school community. We attribute the many vocations Lourdes has seen over the past twenty years to the spiritual fatherhood and presence of holy priests and brothers working with devote Catholic lay people.”

Father Thomas Lutz was born in Poughkeepsie on June 12, 1965, to the late Donald & Dorothy Lutz. He graduated from St. John’s University and was ordained to the priesthood by John Cardinal O’Connor on May 15, 1993. He served as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy Reserve from 1991-2001. After ordination to the priesthood, he was also assigned to St. Mary’s, Marlboro, St. Francis of Assisi, Newburgh, and pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Patterson, NY.

Father Lutz was appointed pastor of St. Augustine Church on July 1, 2011. He previously served as a parochial vicar at St. Augustine Church from 1997-2003.

For the past six years, Father Lutz has also worked with former New York State Senator Greg Ball & Senator George Amedore as a Faith-Based Liaison working along with many civic, veteran and religious organizations in the Hudson Valley. Father Lutz is member of American Legion Post 193, Chaplain of the Town of Lloyd Police, Chaplain of the City of Poughkeepsie PBA, Associate member of the U.S. Submarine Veterans of America, founder of the Hudson Valley Chesterton Society, Chaplain of the St. Augustine Council Knights of Columbus, and an Oblate of St. Benedict with St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, PA.

During his twelve years of priestly ministry at St. Augustine Church, in addition to daily masses, funerals, weddings, baptisms, and sacramental preparations, Father Lutz has also celebrated weekly Masses at Wingate Nursing Home, participated in retreats for prisoners at Green Haven & Naponoch Correctional Facilities, founded the St. Augustine Food Pantry, the Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon, Annual Veteran’s Day Breakfast, Annual March for Life - Washington, DC, led several Pilgrimages including St. Benedict’s Shrine, Norcia, Italy, Year of Mercy Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini, and the Marian Shrines in Lourdes & Fatima. To welcome the growing Spanish American populations in his parish, Father Lutz invited the Redemptorist Fathers to offer weekly Spanish Masses and Sacramental preparation for Spanish speaking families.

Father Lutz is certainly no stranger to our school having served several years as a Board of Trustees member and has celebrated numerous school Masses for our faculty and staff. We are thrilled he has joined us full time.

Lourdes Donates to Hurricane Maria Relief

Over \$2,000 from a recent senior class Dress Down Day was donated to the Hurricane Maria Relief Fund of The Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York.

According to Ms. Elsie Pallotta from Catholic Charities, “Donations for hurricane relief will assist our friends in the Caribbean as they recover and rebuild from the havoc caused by Hurricane Maria. I am inspired by the compassion of your school community who are concerned for the welfare of others far away from home.”

Mrs. Merryman also commented, “We are pleased and humbled to be a part of the effort and help those whose lives have been so devastated.”



Students Showcased “Transformations” in 2017 Art Show

Attendance was high at Transformations, the Fine Arts Department’s Student Art Show, held on Thursday, May 18, 2017.

Student pieces from Studio Art, Advanced Drawing & Painting, Digital Photography, Photojournalism and Catholic Art & Architecture were all on display in the West Wing for all to view and enjoy. Truly a wonderful display of the talent and creativity that these students possess. Great job!



Lourdes Theatre Company Performs *The Dining Room*



They were ready! Hopefully you were lucky enough to catch at least one of three performances from November 17 - 19, 2017 as the Lourdes Theatre Company presented A.R. Gurney’s *The Dining Room* in the Msgr. Brinn Family Theater.

According to the director, Tom Lawrence, the play was set in the dining room of a typical well-to-do household, the place where the family assembled daily for breakfast

and dinner and for any and all special occasions. The action is a mosaic of interrelated scenes—some funny, some touching, some rueful—which, taken together, create an in-depth portrait of a vanishing species: the upper-middle-class WASP. The actors change roles, personalities and ages with virtuoso skill as they portray a wide variety of characters, from little boys to stern grandfathers, and from giggling teenage girls to Irish housemaids. Each vignette introduces a new set of people and events; a father lectures his son on grammar and politics; a boy returns from boarding school to discover his mother’s infidelity; a senile grandmother doesn’t recognize her own sons at Thanksgiving dinner; a daughter, her marriage a shambles, pleads futilely to return home, etc. Dove-tailing swiftly and smoothly, the varied scenes coalesce, ultimately, into a theatrical experience of exceptional range, compassionate humor, and abundant humanity.

Senior Class “Rocks It”
with Mr. Warrior Contest



“Exceeded all our expectations!” That is the sentiment of the senior prom committee in March 2018 when they orchestrated the Mr. Warrior contest, which is a fun beauty pageant for males. Looking for a way to raise money for their prom, seniors, Mackenzie Farrell and Alexis Ninonuevo came up with the idea after seeing it happen at other local high schools. They, along with their hardworking committee, made it all happen.

Starting with nominations that created the slate of contestants, to selecting judges and creating criteria, to selling tickets and concessions, the entire committee worked together. Beginning in January, Mackenzie and Alexis scheduled rehearsals around each contestants’ schedules and met every Saturday or Sunday. “It took a lot of prep work and rehearsal,” says Mackenzie, “but it

all came together perfectly. I am really happy with their performances.” Their goal was to raise about \$700 and are thrilled to have more than doubled that goal, raising almost \$1,500.

Probably the most fun part was naming each contestant with their “contestant name” that reflected each of their personalities. Each contestant was judged based on their performance in the opening act, a runway walk wearing their favorite outfit, and each performed a talent piece.

2018 Mr. Warrior Contestants

- Robert Berish – Mr. Nice Guy
- Braeden Darragh – Mr. 4.0
- Anthony D’Urso – Mr. Athletic
- Ryan O’Donnell – Mr. Sarcastic
- Cole Pilon – Mr. Vogue
- Billy Riccardi – Mr. LOL
- Dan Ruiz – Mr. Music Man
- Malik Wright – Mr. Flirt

All done in fun, and each of them was thrilled to have participated in this inaugural event. In the end, Dan Ruiz was named **Mr. Warrior 2018**.

Special thanks to Mrs. Paggi, Senior Prom Moderator, Mr. Petruzzelli and Mr. Weiler who served as emcees, judges, Mr. Fitzsimmons, Ms. Haspel, Mr. Maggi, Ms. Webber and Mrs. Vilardo, Mrs. Merryman, Administration, and all the students who came out to support. Over 300 were in attendance.

A super fun event that has started a new tradition for future senior classes. Great job!



Lourdes Students Perform
in *The Nutcracker*

Lourdes students graced the stage at John Jay High School as they were principal dancers in Dutchess Dance Theater’s 14th performance of *The Nutcracker*.

Lauren Ianelli Grade 12 (Snow Princess) and Kaitlyn Kennedy Grade 12 (Candy Cane Princess) have danced with the Pine-wood School of Dance since they were three years old. Their grace and technique were awe inspiring. They were joined on stage by outstanding performances from Breanna Baker (Grade 9) and Krista Antonio (Grade 9).

The production was professional and flawless!



Krispy Kreme Fundraiser
Raises Money for Miles of Hope



February 8, 2018 began very early for Lourdes seniors Ariana Peterman and Roberto Leito. With Roberto’s Dad, Pete at the wheel, the threesome left Dutchess County at 3 am to travel to the Krispy Kreme Factory Store in Jersey City. A three

hour round trip and 3,000 donuts later, they returned to deliver the over 250 boxes of doughnuts to the school and businesses that had participated.

This fundraiser was an idea that was sparked in Mr. Junjulas’ Western Philosophy class, and Ariana and Roberto quickly put together all the logistics to make it happen. Choosing the Miles of Hope Foundation as the benefactor of this effort was an easy choice for both of them as they each have family members who have been affected by cancer, and they wanted to help a local organization. Raising over \$1,500, Ariana and Roberto are truly thrilled with the success of this fundraiser. Roberto attributes the tremendous support of the faculty, staff, and students for its success.

“Krispy Kreme doughnuts are not readily accessible in this area, so it was an easy sell; however, it was much more wildly successful than I thought. To say there was a lot of enthusiasm is an understatement. Everyone was so eager and willing to help out.”

Ariana further comments that “Krispy Kreme donuts make everyone happy and this is a great way to give back to the community in a way that will make everyone happy.”

Ariana and Roberto would like to extend their thanks to Mrs.Merryman, Mr. and Mrs. Peterman, Mr. and Mrs. Leito, Mr. Krieger, Lourdes Maintenance and Main Office staff, Robert Berish, James Kasper, Katie Kennedy, Gian Capolino, Tiana Porco, Guiliana Calogero, Kayla Sparling, Adams Fairacre Farms, and Dr. Vernon Peryea Office of Hopewell Eyecare for all their support.



Chorus Performs at Q92 Holiday
Music & Coat Drive Kickoff

The Festival Choir of Our Lady of Lourdes High School were featured performers on Friday, November 10, 2017 at the annual Q92 Holiday Music and Coat Drive Kickoff.

Radio hosts, Michelle Taylor, Joe Daly and Chris Marino broadcasted live from Mid-Hudson Subaru in Wappingers Falls. Directed by Mrs. Cathy Crocco and accompanied by Tom McCoy, our students braved the cold weather and put on a beautiful performance of holiday songs. Mrs. Merryman and parents were in attendance to experience this wonderful, festive afternoon.

Each year, Q92 also partners with Mid-Hudson Subaru on their annual coat drive. Thanks to the generosity of our Lourdes community, we were able to contribute almost 75 coats to this worthwhile cause.



School Culture and Catholic Identity

Class of 2018 “Elves” Deliver Christmas Goodies

In December 2017, members of the Class of 2018 delivered Christmas gifts to the residents of the Anderson Center for Autism in Staatsburg.

Playing Santa has become a tradition for the senior class. For the fourth year in a row, the seniors have shopped, wrapped and delivered gifts to Anderson School.

While there, 17 of our students learned the ages of the many residents as well as what services are offered to them. Anderson Center Recreation Coordinator, Anna LaFerriere, introduced our seniors to an interactive computer game program called EyePlay. The games are played on a tiled floor. Everyone had fun playing some of the games that include soccer, popping balloons and whack a mouse.

Lourdes Chaplain, Father Thomas Lutz, who also helped deliver gifts remarked “Congratulations to our senior class for another wonderful outreach project for children with special needs. There will be many smiling faces this Christmas season at the Anderson Center for Autism.”



A Christmas “Thank You” to Our Veterans



In December 2017, junior, Anabelle Adams, delivered 100 “Blessing Bags” to our Veterans as a Thank You for their service.

When Anabelle thought of what kind of community service project she would like to do, she immediately thought of her grandfather and other veterans that served our country. “Even though our Veterans are recognized, we can always do more. My grandfather served in Vietnam and it is important to do what we can for those men and women who, like him, served our country,” says Anabelle.

Anabelle decided to put together “Blessing Bags” and deliver them to Castle Point V.A. Hospital. As an employee of Adam Fairacre Farms, she placed a box for donations in the store as well as allowing customers to give monetary donations at checkout.

Raising \$1,700 in donations, Anabelle was able to put together 100 bags of toiletries and other necessities, 50 for men and 50 for women. On December 12, 2017, she delivered them to Castle Point.

Anabelle remarked that “I had fun with this project and would like to continue it year after year.”

School Culture and Catholic Identity

Lourdes Field Hockey Welcomes Honorary Teammate



She started first grade in September 2017, and Maui Lengyel is well on her way to earning her first high school varsity letter. An afternoon in August was a very special day for the Lourdes Field Hockey program as Maui signed on as an honorary team member.

Maui is no stranger to Lourdes as her mom, Sue is an alumnus, and has worked in the health office there. The team’s “adoption” of Maui

was made possible by the Friends of Jaclyn Foundation. Maui battles non-cancerous brain tumors and is currently undergoing chemotherapy to combat them. Sue Lengyel, discussed with the team Maui’s diagnosis and the concerns, especially for Maui’s vision. Currently, Maui has lost permanent vision in her left eye due to the tumors.

The Friends of Jaclyn’s mission “aims to improve the quality of life for children battling pediatric brain tumors and other childhood cancers by pairing them with local teams, clubs and community groups.” Representatives from the foundation, Denis Murphy, Founder & President, along with his daughter, Jaclyn, the inspiration for the foundation, Erin Perkins, Executive Director and Alicia Provenzano, Adoption Coordinator were all on hand for this “signing” and celebration. Denis and Jaclyn Murphy spoke at length to the team and all in attendance as to

Jaclyn’s journey and their commitment to creating these experiences for these children. “Love, support, and friendship are the most powerful gifts you can give these children and their families,” remarked Denis. “These kids’ journeys are different from most people and connecting them with sports teams does wonders for them in so many ways.”

Maui will be invited to attend as many practices and games as she feels she can. Lourdes Varsity Field Hockey Coach, Taryn Paggi was “humbled and thrilled” to partner with the Friends of Jaclyn stating, “Maui has so much energy and lights up the room. She matches so well with our program.”

The team embraced and presented Maui with her own field hockey stick and jersey, along with other items.

For more information on the Friends of Jaclyn Foundation, please visit friendsofjaclyn.org.

Seniors Attend Evening of Vocations at St. Joseph’s Seminary

Lourdes seniors, Christopher Bob, Luke Della Pietra and Patrick Jodry, accompanied by Father Tom Lutz attended the annual “Evening of Vocations” at St. Joseph’s Seminary in Yonkers. Over 120 high school students from all over the Archdiocese of New York attended this annual event that was held in March 2018.

The students enjoyed a tour of the seminary, and then joined Solemn Vespers with Bishop John O’Hare.

Dinner with presentations by Msgr. Dermot Brennan of St. Patrick’s Parish in Yorktown Heights and seminarians then followed. Seminarian and OLL alumnus, Matt Breslin ’13 gave the tour and joined them for dinner and the end of the evening. “A wonderful opportunity for all the young men who attended last night,” remarked Father Lutz. “It was very inspiring to have us all together.”



From left to right: Luke Della Pietra, Christopher Bob, Patrick Jodry, Seminarian Matt Breslin ’13, Father Lutz, and Deacon Alessandro Linardi.

Lourdes Students Honored as Champions Against Child Abuse

Two amazing fundraising ideas, six outstanding students, and a great cause are a winning formula!

In February 2018, The Center for the Prevention for Child Abuse honored Kevin Alcoforado, Brian Antonio, Kaleigh Hilal, Bella Llano, Dan Ruiz, Joe Scaglione and Jaxon Super for their commitment and support as “Champions” against Child Abuse.

Last summer, Kaleigh Hilal worked with CPCA on The Great Teddy Bear Round-Up. Teddy bears are used constantly by the center as a source of comfort to the children they work with.

According to CPCA Executive Director, Kim Kochem, “When our supplies were low last summer, Kaleigh stepped forward to lead this initiative with unparalleled energy and determination to help our community’s most vulnerable population. She set an ambitious goal of 500 fuzzy friends, worked with our team to create the vision for The Great Teddy Bear Round-Up and built a strategy to engage our community. What happened next was a true outpouring of support and love from our community... more than we ever expected!”

Last fall, Joe Scaglione, Dan Ruiz, Bella Llano, Brian Antonio, Jaxon Super and Kevin Alcoforado put together a Christmas concert that played to a packed house in early



December. In an amazing display of talent, these musicians and performers entertained for over two hours to a sold-out auditorium, raising almost \$1,200 for CPCA. A tremendous success, juniors Jaxon, Brian, and Kevin plan to continue this tradition.

Our visit to CPCA gave the students a first-hand view of the many services offered to children, parents, educators, and schools all aimed at identifying and eliminating child abuse in our area. During the tour, special needs programs, parenting programs, and educating children were amongst the many services discussed. Truly an impressive organization that we are proud to lend our efforts to.

Well done Bella, Brian, Dan, Jaxon, Joe, Kaleigh, and Kevin!

Giana Flohl Conducts Ice Bucket Challenge for ALS



Giana Flohl, Mr. Weiler, Mr. Petruzzelli, Giana's Grandmother, Marianne Gennario, Mrs. Cuccia and Mrs. Merryman are all smiles after the Ice Bucket Challenge.

Lourdes senior, Giana Flohl had a special reason to raise money for ALS research. Her grandmother has been diagnosed with ALS, which spurred Giana on to raise money and awareness of this awful disease.

Giana decided to conduct an Ice Bucket Challenge and enlisted the support of many faculty members, and students were able to purchase tickets and vote for those they wanted to see take part in the ice bucket challenge. The top 3 faculty members with the most votes, along with Mrs. Merryman were Mrs. Cuccia, Mr. Petruzzelli, and Mr. Weiler. All four were remarkable sports all for a great cause.

Giana has been able to raise over \$500.00! She sums up the event perfectly when she stated, “Great fun for a great cause!”



Lourdes Students and Faculty Member Share Experience from Capuchin Appalachian Mission Trip



Lourdes students Chase Lois and John Rodriguez, along with Mrs. Carey, from our Math Department enthusiastically participated in a Capuchin Appalachian Mission (CAM) in the summer of 2017.

They traveled with a total of 85 teenagers, young adults, and adults, including 2 Capuchin Franciscan Friars, via seven 12-passenger vans, 2 cargo vans, and a U-Haul (filled with clothing to be distributed) to Harlan, Kentucky from July 8 – 16. The trip is sponsored by CYFM (Capuchin Youth and Family Ministry) a ministry of the Capuchin Franciscans. They were divided into 9 ministry groups for the week either hosting a Vacation Bible School, reaching out to the community by distributing clothing, books, and cleaning supplies throughout the county, visiting a local senior/rehab center, and 5 groups performed manual labor helping to repair homes. Last but not least is the kitchen group that provided all the meals for these 85 participants. The manual labor groups replaced roofs, repaired and painted walls, added entry steps, and many other repairs.

According to Mrs. Carey, “This trip was so much more than serving the people of Harlan. It was also about building

a community of love with Jesus as the center of all that we do. Each morning we met for prayer and blessed each other for a day of service. Each evening we took time to reflect on our day in relationship to our Catholic faith. Our reflection focused on “love” from 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 and Pope Francis’ reflections on “love” from The Joy of Love (Amoris Laetitia).”

Mrs. Carey feels privileged to have attended CAM for 5 years, and worship with a group of spiritual teenagers, young adults, Friars, and adults. “Jesus’ presence was truly with us and felt by everyone,” says Mrs. Carey. “On each trip, my faith is strengthened and deepened.”

Chase and John both were part of the Outreach group that distributed clothing, books, and cleaning supplies. Mrs. Carey was in charge of the Vacation Bible School for the third year in a row.

A tremendous thank you goes out to the Lourdes students for supporting the mission by participating in the final dress down day this past school year. The money from that day helped provide needed supplies for CAM. Additional thanks to Mrs. Rita Ross for her vacation bible school decorating advice, and to Mr. Sebastian Rutigliano for lending VBS fluorescent rocks for one of the lessons.



OLL Parent Organization Hosts Successful Clothing Drive

In March 2018, the Our Lady of Lourdes Parent Organization hosted its annual clothing drive. Always a successful fundraiser and this year was no different. The two day drive brought in a total of 10,001 pounds of clothing raising over \$2,000 for the school. Close to 30 volunteers that included students and parents unloaded cars, bagged items and loaded the truck on the final day.

The Parent Organization of Our Lady of Lourdes High School includes parents/guardians of current students who wish to contribute their time and effort in supporting Lourdes through various activities. They meet during the academic year and host several events and fundraisers throughout the year, with the intent to unite our OLL community while raising money for the school.



School Community Celebrates Ash Wednesday

Our school community came together on Ash Wednesday as Father Tom Lutz celebrated Ash Wednesday Mass for our faculty and students.

Message from Father Tom:

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving have long been part of the Catholic practices of our Lenten journey, and it is through these practices that we learn that we get from life what we give and that it is only through seeking God that we come to know our true self. Lent calls us all to take the journey with Christ into the desert and purify ourselves so that we might be transformed.

Throughout these 40 days of Lent, we will offer the high school community daily meditation and prayer, Daily Mass at 7:30 am in the Chapel (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday), weekly Stations of the Cross (Tuesdays & Thursdays) at 11:30 am, Confession, Eucharistic Adoration and a continued school environment that works in cooperation with parents to help young men and women cultivate a relationship with God.

We will also participate in the Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice Bowl. Each student received a cardboard rice bowl to place your Lenten donations. Your Lenten alms will help thousands of suffering families aided by Catholic Relief Services around the globe. Visit www.crsricebowl.org for more information.

Lent invites each one of us to change and be made new. Spiritual practices of self-sacrifice and self-reflection will undoubtedly help us to remove all worldly distractions from our lives and enable us to make spiritual progress. Forty days is ample time to open our hearts and minds to hear and answer God's call!

I ask you to pray for the entire Lourdes community as we embark on our Lenten journey to the cross and resurrection.

God bless you and your family,

Rev. Thomas M. Lutz
Chaplain



Science Department Awarded STEM Grant for Hydroponic Center



Mr. John Herles, Science Dept. Faculty Member poses with Mrs. Meghan Vilardo, Director of Instruction and Curriculum.

In June 2017, the Science Department of Our Lady of Lourdes High School announced that they had been awarded a Verizon STEM Fund for Excellence in Education Grant from the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.

While some may consider hydroponic farming to be futuristic, it dates to the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, and today is used by most commercial greenhouse growers. Unfortunately, hydroponics and concepts like sustainability, healthy living and food production remain poorly understood by many Americans. This fact makes it more important than ever for students to have the opportunity to engage in hydroponic farming. By growing plants in a nutrient-rich, water infused environment, students will gain firsthand knowledge how experimenting with water quality, lighting and other

conditions will help students adapt to the changing world of food production and sustainable living.

A collaboration of 2017 science department faculty, Mr. John Herles, Mrs. Shelley Cuccia, Dr. Ava Kreider-Mullen, and administrator, Mrs. Meghan Vilardo, this grant allowed our biology program to purchase a Hydroponics Center that will be shared amongst the classes. According to Mr. Herles, the main objective of this addition to the classrooms is to grow plants and different genetic crosses. He comments, "It will also give students, especially visual learning students, a better understanding of these processes and genetics as a whole."

Engaging in hands-on hydroponic experiment allows students to experience ownership of their education by escaping from their textbooks and learning valuable skills like collaboration. This inquiry-based learning strategy cultivates student interest in examining facts, evidence and data to reach a conclusion, thereby fortifying critical thinking skills.

The center is on wheels, that allows for movement throughout the various classrooms and other areas in the building allowing its progress to be viewed by all.

Biology Students Participate in Eel Study

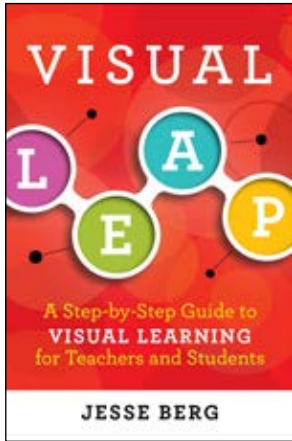
In the spring of 2017, Mrs. Cuccia's biology students were given the opportunity to participate in the Hudson Valley Eel Project, a citizen science program in coordination with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC). The NYS DEC agreed to do a test run at Hunters Brook located in the village of Wappingers Falls. Our school shared a sample site with a few other schools in the area, including Ketcham, John Jay, and Poughkeepsie Day School.

According to the NYS DEC, American eels that enter rivers as "glass eels" are in decline and these baseline studies are needed for conservation. By helping to monitor an important fish that is in decline, the students gained valuable field experience and were given the opportunity to study the living environment, work with local communities and receive recommendations from DEC staff.



Throughout April and May the students would check the nets for juvenile eels that swim up the Hudson from the Atlantic Ocean. Their sampling would include catching, counting, weighing and releasing the eels back. In total for the project our school released over 200 glass eels.

Lourdes Faculty Engage in “Visual Leap” Workshop



Jesse Berg, the author of *Visual Leap* brought his expertise to our Professional Development Day program. A working title for the program was “Visual Strategies to Differentiate Instruction in Reading, Writing, Note Taking and Critical Thinking.” This hands-on workshop focused on modeling effective instructional strategies that teachers can immediately integrate into their teaching practice. The visual thinking strategies covered in this workshop include methods of semantic webbing, mind mapping, and developing ideas through non-linear thinking. All strategies are rooted in cognitive science. The approaches will be applied to different ways to teach vocabulary, summarization, reading comprehension, essay writing and may touch on other academic tasks such as note-taking and oral persuasion. These flexible methods can be done using traditional tools like pencil and paper and free or inexpensive web-based tools such as Mind Mup 2.0 and Mindomo. These methods are ideal for use with Chromebooks in a school using the Google Suite for Education (G-Suite School.)

Lourdes Welcomes Mayor Rolison

On a Friday morning in January 2018, the College Government class witnessed a real “treat” when City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Rob Rolison arrived to speak with Mr. LaRocca’s students.

“It was a true privilege to have him join our class discussion today,” remarked Mr. LaRocca. “The kids really appreciated his insight and ‘window’ on the real world.” Mayor Rolison spoke to them in detail about his path and career as a police officer and 12-year career in the Dutchess County legislature. Touching on politics and government, his message that morning largely focused on community and how we all can get involved and give back, regardless of your career path.

Senior, Roberto Leito was very impressed with the experience stating, “It was nice to hear from a local government official where we live and go to school. Gave me great insight into his daily interactions and responsibilities.”

Thank you, Mayor Rolison, for taking the time to visit our school to share your experiences and ideas with our students!



Open House 2017

It was record attendance at our annual Open House on October 16, 2017. Our administration, faculty, students, coaches and club moderators were all on hand to showcase all that makes our school one of the top private schools in our area. Highlights of the day included tours by faculty and students, Mrs. Merryman’s presentation to families and the technology and robotics showcase in the Arts and Athletic Center. A wonderful energy was felt throughout the day as these prospective students and their families explored all that we have to offer for an extraordinary high school experience.



Math Team Places First in DUSO Competition



On Wednesday, February 14, 2018, Our Lady of Lourdes Math Team went to Spackenkill High for the February DUSO (Dutchess, Ulster, Sullivan and Orange counties) Math Team competition for our Section.

With almost 90 students from Lourdes, Pawling High School, Poughkeepsie High School, and Spackenkill High School, Our Lady of Lourdes performed admirably. Some highlights from the night included:

The Lourdes A team came in 1st place out of the 17 teams present!!! The A team was composed of Raymond

Aye, Seamus Gould, Kaleigh Hilal, Molly Xie, and Albert Zhu.

The Lourdes B team came in 5th out of the 17 teams present. The B team consisted of Theo DeGuzman, Alex Giangrasso, Yunjie Gong, Darren Horton and Pearl Oldiges.

Special mention of the following needs to be made: The Lourdes A team, which was the only team to answer the relay question correctly.

Yunjie Gong, who was only one of two students who answered question #6 correctly.

Raymond Aye and Albert Zhu who were two of only 6 students who answered question # 3 correctly.

We thank our Math Team members for a wonderful regular season. What a way to end our regular season with a wonderful win.

At this writing the team was looking forward to their upcoming Sectionals competition and States competitions.

Go Lourdes!!

Accepted Students Event Hosts Record Numbers

It was a packed house for our 2018 Accepted Students event with over 450 in attendance!

A tremendous thank you to all the students, faculty and staff who came together on January 16 and put on an amazing Accepted Students Event. These prospective families were indeed “WOWED” by the outstanding speeches given by our seniors, dinner in the cafeteria and another outstanding win by our undefeated Girls Varsity Basketball team. The entire evening was an excellent example of our community coming together to show what we are all about here. We are truly grateful to everyone who had a part in the evening.

Special thanks to our Chorus, and all our students and faculty who served dinner and greeted our guests.

An outstanding program was presented by seniors Mia Ardovini, Andrew DeMelo, Bella Llano, Maggie Roach,



Nate Quinones, and Joe Scaglione as they discussed the benefits of our academics and vibrant student life here. Mrs. Merryman along with alumnus and parent, Ed McLoughlin echoed these sentiments as they reinforced the value of a high school education at Our Lady of Lourdes High School.

We look forward to welcoming these students again for our Future Lourdean Days throughout February.

College Government Students Experience Courthouse in Action



Real world issues from assault charges, DWI to the opioid epidemic were all front and center for our seniors from Mr. LaRocca's College Government class when they visited Dutchess County Court Judge Edward McLoughlin's courtroom on a Wednesday morning in January 2018.

As it is most days, Judge McLoughlin's docket was full, and students witnessed first and second rounds of cases that ranged from gathering of more information or sentencing for various crimes.

Working with Judge McLoughlin's law clerk, Wayne Witherwax, Mr. LaRocca used this experience as a culmination of the course of what our government is about. "We are governed by the greatest system on Earth and it's a powerful system based on our Constitution," remarks Mr. LaRocca. "Everything that happened in that courtroom was based on our Constitution. That being said, 'liberty' comes at a cost. Laws we hold dear, create

that liberty and can take it away as we saw today. Our system of justice may appear to work slowly, but it is designed that way because we want to get it right.

In between sessions, Mr. Witherwax spoke to the classes about his experience and provided the opportunity for the students to hear from others working in the courtroom, which included, the court reporter, court officer, prosecutor, public defender and the probation department. It was quite interesting to hear and witness all the different roles that take place in the courtroom as they all work together. Judge McLoughlin ended the morning speaking in great detail to our seniors on the court process and answering their questions.

Seniors, Mia Ardovini and Jackie Imperati both hope to be prosecutors, and raved about the experience, commenting that it gave them "such a different view and outlook. Also, shows they are so focused on doing the right thing." Not many people our age are exposed to observing active court proceedings so it was a very cool experience to see it in action," remarked Lourdes senior, Roberto Leito. Agreeing with her classmates, Maddy Siegrist reiterates that "It was a great experience and very eye-opening to see the real-life repercussions."

Thank you, Judge McLoughlin and Mr. Witherwax for opening your courtroom to us and providing such a valuable experience for our students!



Kevin Alcoforado Performs at All-State Conference

Junior Kevin Alcoforado was selected by NYSSMA to perform in the Mixed Chorus division on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at the All-State conference in Rochester, New York.

According to NYSSMA, thousands of students auditioned for this honor in the spring of 2017 at solo and ensemble festivals throughout the State. Kevin chose to audition for level six, all-state, which is the highest level. He sang a very difficult Italian song, and upon receiving his results he had received a perfect 100%. He says the hardest part was waiting all summer for the acceptance letter which arrived in early September. An outstanding experience and Kevin shares his thoughts below in his own words:

"As soon as I got there I felt like I belonged. I saw smiling faces and I could hear practices going on and it was great. The first practice was magical! I sat down in my section and we just started to sing. The conductor taught us to do things with our voices I didn't even know I could do! We sounded amazing. I have never heard any choir sound the way ours did. Our voices combined as if they were one person. The harmonies and the tone we produced was beyond expression of human words. We sang for the women's choir and they were in tears. This is a very prestigious honor to be a part of and I'm so happy I was able to do it. I hope to be able to do it again next year."

A tremendous honor indeed!



Band Director, Paul Bellino, with Tyler and Daniel

Lourdes Students Showcase Their Musical Talents at All-State Festival

Senior, Tyler Ruffino, and junior, Daniel Berry, were selected to represent OLL at this year's Area All-State Festival.

Both Lourdeans were accepted into the NYSSMA Conference All-State Festival that took place November 17-18, 2017 Taconic Hills High School.

Over 6000 students from across New York State prepared for the All-State evaluations and only roughly 900 were chosen. Lourdes band director, Mr. Paul Bellino, stated that "It is very difficult to get into this festival and both musicians had a wonderful performance."

"It was great to be able to play my instruments with others that have the same talent and drive for success. It was an awesome experience," says Tyler.

Daniel adds "I had long hours of practice with my voice coach and the mixed chorus but it was all worth it. It was a fun day and I met a lot of talented and friendly people."

Daniel sang tenor with the mixed chorus and Tyler performed both a violin and piano solo.

Swimmer Jason Cruz Competes at State Championship Meet



Jason Cruz (third from left) poses with teammates, Matt Luzzi, Michael Faughnan and Coach Jerome Fearon during preliminaries of the Section One meet in February.

Lourdes junior, Jason Cruz headed to the Nassau Aquatic Center to compete in the NYSPHSAA Boys Swimming and Diving Championships. The meet began, March 2, 2018 with preliminaries, and finals took place Saturday, March 3, 2018.

Jason qualified for the 50 Freestyle with a time of 22.14 seconds, during the sectional competition in February. Jason competed last year at the state meet as a member of the 400 free and 200 medley relays that included Christian Thomas, Jason Boyko, and Stephen Baker. Qualifying in an individual event was a goal of Jason's and is an outstanding accomplishment for him.



USA Track & Field Names Caroline Timm September Athlete of the Month

Caroline Timm, 17, of Poughkeepsie, N.Y. was selected as the USATF New York High School Athlete of the Month for September 2017.

According the press release from USA TF, "Timm, 17, a senior at Our Lady of Lourdes, won the Suffern Invitational on September 16 running 18:34 for 3 miles. In that race she defeated fellow up-stater Alexandra Thomas of Tappan Zee High School by 9 seconds.

The next week she traveled north to compete in the Ocean State XC Invitational in East Greenwich, Rhode Island. In Rhode Island she finished fifth in the championship race running 18:47. The race was won by Kelsey Chmiel (Saratoga Springs, N.Y.) who was then ranked #6 in the US by Milesplit.



Fencers Place 2nd in Sectional Meet

Congratulations to the OLL Fencing team for taking 2nd place in the Section 1 final meet in February 2018.

"We took on 9 other schools in the meet and were excited to have our Foil Team place 2nd. It was a great end to an awesome season!" comments senior and Co-Captain, Nick Paradie.

The Foil team, which consisted of Captains Nick Paradie and Theo Friedrich, as well as, Aidan Gould, and substitutes, Darren Horton and Spencer Surico, won with a score of 5-4 against Tappan Zee High School.

We congratulate all the members of the team on a great season. Way to go Warriors!

Maddy Siegrist Headed to Villanova



The Siegrist Family celebrates with Maddy. Dad, George, Mom, Ginna, sister, Caroline and brothers, George and Patrick.

With thirty-three offers on the table, it was a long road for Maddy Siegrist, but in the end she chose the best road for her.

In November 2017, surrounded by her family, friends, coaches, teammates, Lourdes faculty and administration, Maddy signed her National Letter of Intent to play basketball for the Villanova Wildcats.

Choosing to continue her education at Villanova was easy, according to Maddy. The quality of academics was her first consideration, and when she met the team and Coach Perretta, the rest was easy, commenting that "their style of play is a good match for me."

Playing since the age of five in St. Martin's CYO and several AAU programs, most recently Hudson Valley Elite, Maddy arrived at Lourdes prepared to take her skills to the next level. A four-year Varsity player she has earned All-Section, All-Conference and All-League honors in 10th and 11th grades. In addition, she added All-State honors and Poughkeepsie Journal Player of the year in 11th & 12th grades. Most recently, Maddy was named as one of the Top Ten Seniors in NY State. Favorite memories include playing at the County Center twice and scoring her 1,000th point as a junior.

Lourdes Varsity Coach Al Viani praised Maddy's demeanor and work ethic stating, "Maddy is a competitor on the court and wants to excel. Always fun to be around, she leads by example and I am fortunate to be able to coach her." A scholar-athlete, Maddy also excels in the classroom and finds time to participate in the National Honor Society and SADD Club at Lourdes.

Maddy also expressed thanks to her parents and Coach Viani who are continuously so supportive of her.

We wish Maddy all the best next year at Villanova as she begins this new chapter!



Swimmer Clare Bosse Competes at NYS Meet

Junior, Clare Bosse, competed at the NYSPHSAA Swimming & Diving Championships at Ithaca College in November 2017.

Clare, a junior, competed in both the 100 and 200 freestyle events.

Assistant Coach, Katie Nikolski remarked that "Clare is a very strong and dedicated swimmer and extremely valuable to the team. She has the ability to swim well in any event. All of her teammates look up to her."

"Clare motivates every one of us. She is constantly setting goals and achieving them through her hard work and perseverance. We are all so proud of her." said teammate and Captain, Mary T. Nikolski.

Clare currently holds 6 individual school records in the 200 IM, 500, 200,100 and 50 Free and 100 Back as well as a school team record for the 200 Medley Relay.

Coach Walsh Celebrates 250 Wins

Congratulations to Coach Brian Walsh on achieving his 250th win with the football team's victory over Pearl River (34 - 7) in September 2017.

Your tireless efforts each and every day working with these young men of Our Lady of Lourdes football are exceptional, and we appreciate all you have done and continue to do to make this program the best it can be!



Kenny Barrett and Jaheim Jones off to State Competition

Track athletes Kenny Barrett and Jaheim Jones competed in the NYSPHSAA Track and Field Championships on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at the Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex in Staten Island.

Jaheim qualified for the 55-meter (6.43) and 300-meter (34.54) races while Kenny competed for the 600 intersectional relay.

Congratulations Kenny and Jaheim!

Jaheim Jones and Nick Timm Medal at Section Championships

A select group of runners competed at the Section 1 Class B Championships at the Armory in February 2018. Jaheim Jones won the 55-meter dash (6.50) and 300-meters (34.39) breaking the meet record. Jaheim is now ranked 13th in the nation. Nick Timm took third in the 1,600 with his personal best time of 4:34.06.

Jaheim and Nick both moved on to compete at the State qualifiers along with Kenny Barrett and the boys 4 x 200 and 4 x 400 relay teams.

Our girls 4 x 20 relay team of Bailey Fredericks, Cassidy Ferrigno, Ariana Martinez and Caroline D’Agostino, as well as, Julianna Annunziata also competed at this meet and ran well.

Congratulations to our Track athletes!



Jaheim and Nick pose with their medals after Monday’s B Championships.



Anthony D’Urso Signs with Red Foxes

Since second grade, football has been a large part of Anthony D’Urso’s life, and in February 2018 he took an exciting next step by signing a National Letter of Intent to play Division I football for Marist College.

Anthony has been a four-year varsity player and selected Team Captain for in his senior season. He is also a 3-year player for the lacrosse team. The left tackle participated in the Southern Dutchess Packers and Patriots program throughout his youth before coming to Lourdes. His experiences through these four years include a most memorable trip to the New York State Final Championship game at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse where Anthony had the chance to play in his sophomore year. In his senior season, Anthony earned All-Section honors and was named Most Valuable Lineman in the league.

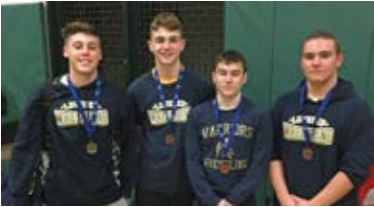
Expressing gratitude for all the opportunities Warrior Football has afforded him, Anthony said, “I really want to thank the entire OLL coaching staff, faculty and my teammates as I would not be moving onto this next level without their help and support over these four years, and during the college recruiting process. I am excited to move onto Marist. Overall, it is a great school for me academically and athletically.” Anthony plans to study Cybersecurity at Marist.

Lourdes Athletic Director, Mike Krieger praised Anthony as a student and scholar, commenting, “Anthony shows great character and it has been a true pleasure all four years watching him grow and develop. We wish him much success in achieving his college dreams on and off the football field.”

Lourdes Varsity Head Coach Brian Walsh praised Anthony’s athletic abilities stating, “Anthony is an extremely motivated young man. He is extremely dedicated to his sport and teammates and that shows in his actions and hard work.”

Anthony’s family and friends, His OLL teammates along with Lourdes Principal, Catherine Merryman and Lourdes Assistant Principal & Athletic Director Mike Krieger and faculty members were all on hand for the signing. to support and congratulate him.

Lucca Ardovini-Brooker Takes Wrestling Sectional Title and Headed to State Meet



From left to right: Lucca Ardovini-Brooker, Joe Krauz, Chris DiMeglio and Kevin Johansson pose with their medals after the sectional meet.

Lucca is the new section champ at the 182 weight class and traveled to Albany to compete in the New York State Championship Tournament.

Additional congratulations to Chris DiMeglio for finishing third in

the section at 113 weight class, Joe Krauz and Kevin Johansson on their fourth-place finishes in the section at the 152 and 195 weight classes respectively.

“This has been a very successful season and we are only in our second year, remarked Coach Steve Price. Great things are yet to come for our wrestling program. The coaches and parents are extremely proud of all the wrestlers for their hard work and dedication. Chris Dimeglio, Joe Krauz, Lucca Ardovini, and Joe Krauz have been selected for All-League honors.



Lucca Ardovini-Brooker Commits to Mitchell College

Congratulations to senior, Lucca Ardovini-Brooker who made it official in November 2017 that he will play baseball for Mitchell College.

A standout player here at Lourdes, Lucca will move on to the DIII collegiate level next fall. Coach Andrew Conn was in attendance for the celebration remarking that, “I have coached Lucca a long time and have watched him develop in his years playing for Lourdes. He has a strong work ethic and a true ‘Warrior spirit’ that sets a great example for his team. I know he will have much success at Mitchell.”

Lourdes faculty, administration and Lourdes students, most notably Lucca’s baseball and wrestling teammates and coaches were all in attendance for this celebration.

Kaleigh Hilal Headed to Bucknell



Congratulations to Kaleigh Hilal who signed a National Letter of Intent in December 2017 to row for Bucknell University.

Kaleigh’s rowing career began as a freshman and she quickly became an integral part of the Lourdes Crew program. The girls’ Varsity coach, Kim Kochem, remarked that “In addition to being an extremely hard worker, Kaleigh has an indomitable spirit and will who deserves every success she encounters.” Kaleigh is also an active member of Hudson River Rowing Association, and it was her recent opportunity to row at the prestigious Head of the Charles regatta in Boston that she attributes as one of many significant experiences she has had thus far in this sport.

Before making her decision to concentrate full time on rowing, Kaleigh was a two-year member of Lourdes field hockey, and still participates in the National Honor Society, Youth Service Club, and competes on the Math Team. A scholar-athlete, she excels in the classroom and recently was named a commended student in the 2018 National Merit® Scholarship Program. Kaleigh’s family and friends, Lourdes Principal, Catherine Merryman, her OLL teammates along with OLL Varsity Crew Coach, Kim Kochem, Lourdes then Athletic Director, Matt Pascale and numerous faculty members were all on hand for the signing to support and congratulate her. Kaleigh is also following in the footsteps of Lourdes grad, Kendall Balasiano ’12, who rowed for four years with Bucknell, graduating in 2016. Excited for this next step, Kaleigh comments, “I knew Bucknell would be the school when I met the team on my official visit there. Academically and athletically, it is a perfect fit.”

Kaleigh plans to major in biomedical engineering.

We wish her much success in this next chapter!

Lourdean Dinner Celebrates Supporters

More than 175 members of the Lourdes community alumni, parents, faculty, administration and trustees came together on April 1, 2017 to celebrate four distinguished individuals, whose devotion to the school and our community-at-large is truly beyond comparison.

Ellen Garvey Anderson, Greta Kreuz '75, John E. Mack IV '89 and Denise Doring Van Buren received the Legion of Honor award, the school's highest honor that recognizes individuals whose efforts have contributed to the school's tradition of excellence and enhanced its reputation in the Mid-Hudson Valley. Mary Coughlin Paggi '78 presented the award to her good friend Ellen Garvey Anderson; Mary Latino '75 proudly presented to her good friend and classmate Greta Kreuz; Maureen Whitworth Mack '66 traveled north to present to her son John Mack; and The Honorable Peter Forman '73, introduced Denise Doring Van Buren. There was also a special presentation made by Mrs. Meghan Vilardo to the Class of 2017 Faculty Award Nominees (Stephen Baker, Anne Bubel, Katherine Clarke, Owen Corrigan, Jessica D'Auria, April Griggs, Matthew Pascazi, and Ian Tomann.)

In addition, Vinny Miller '76 who is also a 2014 Legion of Honor recipient graciously served as the evening's Master of Ceremonies. The event was held at Christos Catering in Poughkeepsie, where the hospitality of owner Kyriacos Kyriacou '83 and his staff provided a wonderful evening.



Athletic Hall of Fame Celebrates Lourdeans Past, Present and Future

Over 100 golfers, and 250 dinner guests were on hand as we honored our 2017 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees at our sixth annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Golf Classic.

Our golfers, comprised of our alumni, faculty, parents and friends, enjoyed a wonderful day of golf, friendship and sunshine at McCann Memorial Golf Course and Christos Catering. With the prestigious Warrior Cup (which goes to the First Place foursome of the day) on the line, the golfers were enthusiastic to begin the day. Golf prizes were also awarded to our 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams, along with Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive.

That evening we inducted one team, and eight former student athletes into our Athletic Hall of Fame. Always a hit, this event is an outstanding reminder of the legacy of our school and the wonderful things that our graduates go on to accomplish. Although we were celebrating their accomplishments as athletes while they were students here, each one has gone on to achieve so much academically and professionally. In their acceptance remarks,

each honoree reminisced about wonderful and happy memories from their years at Lourdes, and attributed how much this school has shaped who they are today. So much to celebrate! In addition to family members and friends being there to support these athletes, former coaches Brian Giorgis, Brian Tervenski and Bill Dillon were also on hand, as well as, former teammates of these honorees. Certainly all were “proud to be Lourdeans” that evening.

In a special moment, the Athletic Hall of Fame committee honored Mike Malet '66 with the Warrior Spirit Award for his vision and dedication to this event. A proud Lourdes alumnus, Mike was instrumental in establishing this tradition for our Alumni Association. That first event in 2011 brought tremendous success and was met with unprecedented enthusiasm and excitement for our alumni. Mike continues to work tirelessly to maintain the integrity of this program ensuring its continued success and growth.

Congratulations to our 2017 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees: The 1986-87 Hockey Team, Coach William Dahncke, Carl Childs '83, Peter Egan '90, James Fedigan '83, Matthew Ferreri '00, Robert Parajon '80, Kelly Roche '03 and Julianne Viani '04.

Thank you to all you supported us this year!



Advancement Events

Homecoming 2017

Thursday, October 5 - Alumni & Friends Reception
Friday, October 6 – Football Game

There was an enthusiastic showing of alumni and friends at our Homecoming events last fall. A new twist on our traditional tailgate reception moved our event to Mill House Brewing Company where they launched a “Warrior Beer” brewed specifically for our Alumni Association. Brewed with warrior hops by MHBC brewmasters Larry Stock and Jamie Bishop, this pale ale was a hit! Much thanks to Larry and Jamie for working with us on this exciting venture.

The football game the next evening brought beautiful weather and Lourdeans past, present and future cheering on our Warriors as they took on Yorktown High School. Sadly our team would fall to a very good Yorktown team, but the spirit of our school remains strong.
Go Warriors!



Blue & Gold Rush Raffle Winners Announced

Congratulations to the winners of our Blue & Gold Rush Raffle Prizes! Father Lutz and Mrs. Merryman pulled the winning tickets during halftime of the homecoming football game on October 6, 2017.

Winners of the Blue and Gold Rush Raffle:

- 3rd - \$1,500 - Lisah Babb
- 2nd - \$3,000 - Kathy Seckler
- 1st - \$10,000 - Edward Mallon

Winners of the Visa Gift Incentive Prizes:

- \$250.00 - The Lynch Family
- \$250.00 - The Carbone Family
- \$500.00 - The Cruz Family

Congratulations to all!



Alumni Association Info

The mission of the Our Lady of Lourdes High School Alumni Association is to foster a lifelong and mutually beneficial relationship between the school and its alumni. Through increased opportunities for meaningful engagement, the Alumni Association perpetuates a sense of pride in and a commitment to the outstanding qualities of the school and the academics it provides.

Our Lady of Lourdes High School Alumni Association Board

- Robert J. Ranieri '87 – President
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Blue & Gold – Spring 2018 Edition

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Our Lady of Lourdes High School Important Dates 2018 - 2019

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

School Opens

Sunday, October 14, 2018

Open House

Friday, November 3, 2018

TACHS Exam

Friday, November 16 - 17, 2018

Fall Drama Production

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

Band and Chorus Christmas Concert

Friday, January 18, 2019

March for Life - Washington D.C.

Monday, February 11, 2019

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

Friday, March 1 - 3, 2019

OLL Parent Organization

Clothing Drive

Saturday, March 2, 2019

Honor Band Concert

Thursday, April 4 - 6, 2019

Spring Musical Production

Saturday, June 1, 2019

Commencement

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Athletic Hall of Fame Induction

Ceremony & Golf Classic