



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL ANNOUNCES 2018 MAROON & GOLD GALA HONOREES

October 2, 2018 —TRUMBULL, CT—St Joseph High School will host their annual Maroon & Gold Gala on Saturday, November 17 at The Waterview in Monroe, CT. During the event, St Joseph High School will recognize the contributions of **Brian and Brenda Bellows** (Parents '07, '11) as well as the ministry of **Father John Baran** (Class of 1976). At the Gala, the school will announce an endowed scholarship in memory of Father Baran '76.

Father Baran attended Fairfield University and St John's Seminary in Brighton, MA before serving as Parochial Vicar at St Joseph Parish and at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish. Father John was named Pastor of St Anthony of Padua Parish in 2002. He passed away on March 24, 2018 in Bridgeport.



In a letter to the community, Head of School, Dr William Fitzgerald writes:

“Father Baran was the highly regarded pastor of St Anthony of Padua in Fairfield. Highly regarded because he cultivated there an engaged parish that serves as well as it worships. We like to think St Joe's nurtured Father Baran's faith, a faith that moved so many to lives well lived.

Father Baran preached with the bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other. He spoke to the people in the pews with a sense of purpose. He did not separate religion from society. He would not let us forget that the People of God are made in love for a reason. The committed community at St Anthony of Padua continues his legacy. So may his memory be for a blessing...and a celebration.

The Father John Baran '76 Scholarship Award will be given to a student whose vision and commitment reflect those of Father John.”

Brian & Brenda Bellows are members of St Catherine of Siena Parish in Trumbull and avid supporters of St Joseph High School. Their family's journey began in 2003 when their first daughter entered the school as a freshman and have impacted every corner of campus life since. From the painstaking scrutiny of web design to the creative aura of the annual Christmas decorations, we are behold to the Bellows.



“Brian Bellows leaves the Board having professionally and permanently elevated our communications and marketing strategies,” writes **Dr Fitzgerald**. “Brenda leaves having inspired our image and school spirit. They are archetypical St Joes' parents, leaving the school better and stronger than when they first entrusted their two daughters, Sarah '07 and Laura '11, to our care. When asked to explain why we call St Joes our family, we quickly point to the Bellows. St Joes is so much more than a classroom. We are a family of faith and values. It is our families, like the Bellows, who make the difference. Thank you, Brenda, Sarah, Laura, and Brian.”

The St Joseph High School Gala is a scholarship event that casts a spotlight on the school's strong commitment to community service and leadership. It is a fabulous evening of friends, cocktails, dinner, and live music, along with live & silent auctions. The event is open to public and all proceeds benefit St Joseph High School's Scholarship Fund. For tickets, sponsorship, donations, and additional information, visit: sjcadets.org/gala.

About St Joseph High School

St Joseph High School (SJHS) strives to be the premier Catholic college preparatory school in Southern Connecticut. SJHS encourages young women and men to realize their potential, helps them excel in higher education, and provides a moral foundation to guide them throughout their lives. St Joseph High School is a member of NCEA, NAIS, NEAS&C, and CAIS. www.sjcadets.org

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Media Coverage is welcome during the Maroon & Gold Gala. If you would like to attend and cover the event, please email Maria Martinez at mmartinez@sjcadets.org.