



Once a Falcon

Summer 2019

THE KING

*Matthew Chantelois '96
prepares for Michigan*

ELVISFEST

RUNNING FOR A REASON

*Kay Anne (Pappas)
Starosciak '91 runs
for worthy charities*

DC BY THE DECADES

*Center hallway to highlight
alumni legacy & history*

J. MIKE COURAGE '98

named principal of DCES

YAMAHA

Photo Courtesy of Veronica Chantelois



Once a Falcon

SUMMER 2019

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Become Published! Share your stories and photos with us! Contact us on Facebook, Twitter or by email: amcnamara@divinechild.org. For inclusion in the next issue, please submit updates and articles no later than **11/22/19**. All content submitted becomes Divine Child property and may be edited prior to publication.



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Alumni Association

The Alumni Association is built on a strong foundation of dedication and a belief in the motto *Once a Falcon, Always a Falcon*. The Association actively promotes the family tradition of continuing a Divine Child High School education.

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Member at Large

Class Agents

Alumni volunteers serving as liaisons between their classmates and the DCAA.



Since 1950, the Church of the Divine Child has been a strong Catholic presence in Dearborn and today remains one of the largest and most vibrant Catholic parishes in the Archdiocese of Detroit. Together, Divine Child Elementary School, founded in 1953, and Divine Child High School, founded in 1958, have grown to host one of the largest co-educational Catholic school enrollments in Michigan.

With a history spanning more than 60 years, Divine Child High School has imparted "goodness with knowledge" to generations of students and continues to provide a Catholic education emphasizing spiritual, academic, social, and creative excellence. Over 11,000 alumni have gone forward to build success on these values. Today, over 875 Divine Child High School students enjoy the opportunity to study numerous academic disciplines, compete in various sports, and participate in many extracurricular activities, all built on a strong spiritual foundation.

A NOTE FROM THE ALUMNI OFFICE



Aubri McNamara '97
Alumni Relations Coordinator
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With the 2018/2019 school year "in the books" and summer finally upon us, I am able to take a moment of reflection, and I find myself full of gratitude. I am so thankful for you, the faithful and supportive alumni that continue to attend and donate to the alumni association. It's the events like the Golf Classic, Hall of Fame, Senior Legacy picture and Homecoming events that demonstrate Divine Child's strong tradition. If you have been away too long, we encourage you to journey "home" again and attend class reunions and future events at DC. There's always something new to see and treasured "old" that keeps DC the place you remember. I am excited to take you on a journey through the decades of deep history as we begin the construction of our "Alumni Hallway." Can't wait to see you on campus!

A Message from our PASTOR



On May 19, the Senior Class of 2019 gathered for their Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement ceremony. The graduates processed into church for the last time and celebrated the Mysteries of the Catholic faith at Mass. Following the liturgy, we gratefully acknowledged their accomplishments and conferred on them their diplomas. It was a beautiful time for us to be together. They are a wonderful class and good, young men and women. As our graduates move forward into their next life's journey, we pray that they will stay close to the Lord Jesus and always follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Congratulations DCHS Class of 2019!



As each graduation class moves on, another group of students enter the halls of Divine Child High School. It doesn't matter if we are moving on to college or entering the halls for the first day of high school, getting married or saying goodbye, change always brings excitement, anxiousness and, in some ways, a sense of loss. As you may or may not know, this past February, Archbishop Vigneron asked me to leave Divine Child Parish to become the pastor of St. Paul Parish in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan beginning July 1, 2019.



The twelve years here at Divine Child have been a blessing. Much has been accomplished, such as the construction of the Divine Child Alumni Athletic Complex, which includes a beautiful field house for practices, meetings and storage and an expanded, renovated concessions area. The west wing of the elementary school was renovated to create interior/exterior bathrooms, an updated locker room and meeting room. We established the Advancement Office in the west wing of the convent, renovated the science rooms in both schools, and gutted and updated the high school auditorium. We retiled floors, painted walls, and installed new lockers in the elementary and high schools. The student and faculty restrooms, and the libraries in both buildings, were redone as well. There is much more I could list; however, and most importantly, we renovated the high school chapel and made upgrades to the church. All of this does not even include the many very positive and creative changes to our academic curriculum and the Fine Arts and Theology departments. In one way or another, all these efforts ultimately enhance our ability to bring parishioners, parents, students, alumni and visitors into our buildings to encounter the Lord Jesus, for without the Lord, all our efforts are in vain. It is with prayer, sacrifice, generosity and faith that we are able to do all that we do. I believe the Lord has blessed us more than we can ever imagine, and I pray none of us ever take His generosity for granted.



I am very grateful to all of you who have supported, cared and prayed for me so that I could be a good shepherd in your midst. I am humbled that the Lord allowed me to be here at Divine Child for four years as an Associate Pastor, from 1992-1996, and then as Pastor from 2007-2019. You have blessed my life and have allowed me to grow closer to the Lord. There have been many joyous celebrations -- graduations, athletic victories, concert/choral achievements, academic/creative excellence and all-school liturgies. Most importantly, I have enjoyed celebrating the marriages and baptisms of children of alumni. There have also been very sad times due to tragedies, deaths, separations and loss of people's relationship with Jesus. Through all the joys and sorrows, I trusted in the Lord for his abiding presence and guidance. I am grateful the Lord has never let me down in his Providential care.

Also, for those who attended Divine Child Elementary School, I want to thank Sr. Cecilia Bondy, Principal of the elementary school, who is retiring in June after 50 years of service to Divine Child Parish and its schools. Mrs. Ann Marie Grabarkiewicz, who has been here for 28 years, is also retiring from her position as elementary school Assistant Principal. Your presence has helped us to see the face of God!

As I move on, please welcome our new pastor, Fr. Bob McCabe. He is a native of Allen Park, Michigan, but he is very familiar with our area. He lived in Dearborn for many years and was an Associate Pastor at Sacred Heart Parish several years ago. He is a wonderful, prayerful man. Please pray for him and give him a warm and wonderful Divine Child welcome!

I sincerely will miss being here. I trust in God's Providence knowing that He has plans for me as I begin a new chapter in my life as an Archdiocesan priest. Thank you all for everything!

In humble gratitude,

Fr. Jim Bilot

Demmer Field House



Investing in Excellence campaign comes to a close with Demmer Field House dedication & blessing

The weather was beautiful on May 4, 2019, as we gathered outside with members of our parish, schools and alumni family to dedicate and bless the Demmer Field House. Guests toured the new facility, enjoyed refreshments and socialized together at the athletic complex. The construction of this stately facility concludes the Athletic Complex construction and adds a large practice facility and meeting room, locker room, coaches office, and field storage to this astounding complex.

Thank you to our generous donors to the field house project and all those who contributed to the Investing in Excellence Capital Campaign. In a time of many worthy requests for your charitable dollar, we appreciate your dedication to Divine Child Catholic Schools.

THANK YOU DONORS
 DEMMER FIELD HOUSE
Jim & Linda Demmer
 GOSLIN LOCKER ROOM
The Goslin Family
 ED & PAT PEPPER COACHES OFFICE
Ed & Pam Peper
 NORMAN HANSEN FIELD STORAGE ROOM
The Hansen Family



WHAT'S ON DECK?

*Instructional Support Program
 Renovation and Expansion:*

For more than 5 years, our instructional support program has been empowering students with learning differences to surpass their goals and excel academically. We are expanding the program across the parking lot, with a full instructional support program coupled with our reading and math specialists to accommodate more students. Both Instructional Support Rooms will receive a complete makeover, with new furniture and supplies geared toward the needs of these learners.

Home Economics Rooms Complete Renovation:

New layout, new appliances and equipment and new cabinetry!



A Message from our **PRINCIPAL**

In *The Catholic School Choice: Understanding the Perspectives of Parents and Opportunities for More Engagement*, one key finding stands out: "quality education and moral formation are two key drivers in parents' school choices for their children." At Divine Child High School, we have been excelling at both for over sixty years. As we prepare to welcome the class of 2023, I wanted to share a few of the goals, inspired by the National Catholic Education Association study, that we have set to ensure another sixty years of mission-driven excellence. As Archbishop Vigneron has signaled in *Unleashing Catholic Schools*, the Archdiocese is committed to offering tuition assistance to guarantee that every Catholic family that seeks a Catholic education will find it affordable. Once enrolled, these families will find Divine Child a diocesan leader in three critical areas: 1) encouraging individual and critical thinking; 2) preparing children to successfully enter the world; 3) and preparing young people for college, trade school, the military and vocations. We will achieve these goals by continuing to deepen our Falcons' relationship with their faith, by developing individuals with a sound moral base, by nurturing strong in-person communication skills (as evidenced by our eight-peat state champion Forensics program), and by embracing technological advancements that make learning fun, challenging and transformative.

These goals encompass the best of the legacy that the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters have bequeathed us. We have been entrusted to continue a mission that Jesus began. We teach discipleship because this world desperately needs hopeful, engaged young people who hone their talents so that they may better know, love and serve God. Catholic schools offer a balance between academics and religious instruction. Catholic schools create an environment where everyone is welcome. Catholic schools place an emphasis on service above self. As alumni, you play a critical role in spreading the Good News of Catholic schools. You have experienced first hand what Catholic schools have done for you, and I ask that you continue to share that with others.

Eric Haley '98



EDUCATING FALCONS FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS

Congratulations to Ms. Rosalind Astorian and **Mrs. Jane (Schmenk) Faletti '76** on their retirement. Many of us had the pleasure of sitting in their classrooms and learning from these amazing educators.

A comment from Ms. Astorian: "We often speak about being a community, but that doesn't go far enough for me. Never before has a workplace felt like home and my colleagues like family. Through the hardest of times, my Falcon Family supported me. During the best of times, we celebrated together. I've been blessed to be part of the DC tradition. Once a Falcon..."

Thoughts from Mrs. Faletti: "Looking back at the time I've spent at DC - as both a student and a teacher - I have been blessed to be part of a welcoming, caring and encouraging community."



The 2019 May Crowning Court posed for a photo in front of the new Marian Shrine. Pictured left to right: Cara Dunn (crowned the Blessed Mother), Emma Patrick, Elizabeth Bishop, Ivy Eifert (crown bearer), Madeline Tripp, Bridget Folk, Isabella Lopez and Kaitlin Murray.

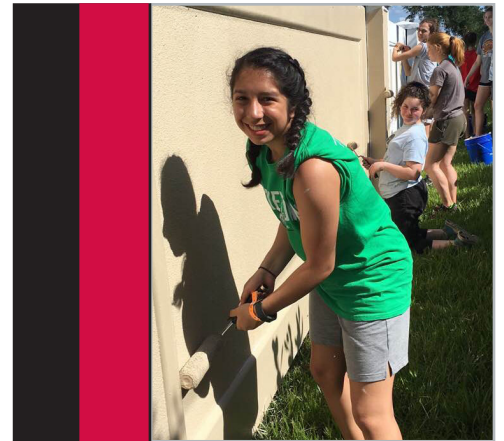


MAY CROWNING & SENIOR FAREWELL

We start the month of May, also known as Mary's month, by recognizing her as the Queen of the Apostles and the perfect model of discipleship. To celebrate this time of recognition, Divine Child staff and students gathered into the church for a very special event on the 1st of May. This was the day of our May Crowning service, which was not only a day to acknowledge Mary, but also a time to say farewell to our seniors. This heartfelt service was made possible by the court of senior girls chosen by their respective class to crown Mary.

These girls were chosen because of their resemblance to the traits

of Mary, so it is safe to say that the senior class was wonderfully represented. After the crowning was finished, the class presidents of the other classes (Gannon Blair '22, Sydney Porada '21, and Avery Budz '20) gave sincere speeches dedicated to the senior class. These speeches helped to acknowledge all the seniors had contributed to the school, as well as how much they will be missed. Throughout their years at Divine Child, the seniors of the 2018-2019 school year have proved that they are capable of doing great things and that they will succeed in the future.



THE VARSITY CLUB DEMONSTRATES SERVICE

The Varsity Club, lead by teacher and alumna, Regina (Arcuri) Dunn '88, spent spring break serving the Immoksee, Florida, community in their first ever mission trip. The purpose of the trip was to incorporate the students' faith and explore opportunities to help others in unique destinations. The students were able to experience one of the most powerful Holy Weeks of service and prayer. We look forward to future opportunities to MENTOR, MODEL, and SERVE.



GRADUATION: CONGRATS - CLASS OF 2019

199 students celebrated graduation on Sunday, May 19 with a baccalaureate Mass held in the Church of the Divine Child. This high performing class included 104 students who graduated with honors and took AP exams. This senior class also earned \$11,290,930 in scholarships, 76% of those being merit-based scholarships. Congratulations to Valedictorian **Allan VanZandt '19** (right) and Salutatorian **James Utley '19** (left). VanZandt and Utley will both be attending the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor in the fall.

DIVINE CHILD ROBOTICS CLUB

The Divine Child Technology and Robotics Club competed in the Square One Autonomous Innovative Vehicle Design Competition for the fifth year in May. This year we were awarded first place in Engineering and Craftsmanship. The challenge is to take a stock Power Wheels Jeep that would be driven by toddlers and turn it into an autonomous vehicle. Teams came from around Michigan and surrounding states to show off their work by completing a number of challenges. Students spend much of the school year learning about programming, electronics, and robotics. All of this culminates in a car that can drive by itself and respond appropriately to input received from its sensors.



DCHS FORENSICS TEAM 8-PEAT CHAMPIONS!

The 2019 Forensics Team members and coaches are very proud to be EIGHT-PEAT CLASS B M.I.F.A. STATE CHAMPIONS. Our team qualified for 26 State Finalist events with 36 Forensics Falcons competing in all 14 individual categories in Public Address and in the Oral Interpretation of Literature.



Six of our Forensics Falcons' events individually won 1st place State Championships, a rare and outstanding accomplishment achieved by only a very few high school teams, and only achieved once before by our 2008 DC Forensics Team. The Six 2019 Individual State Championship events include: Duo Interpretation – Sophia Mijat & Madelyne Charnley; 3 Peat Sales Champion – Jana Rida 2017, 2018, 2019; Oratory – Kelly Samulski; Back-to-Back Broadcasting Champion – Amal Elsaleh 2018, 2019; Storytelling – Nathan Garay; and Informative Speaking– Ella Hall. Mrs. Tar is completing 23 years at Divine Child as the head Forensics Team coach, and shared the position with **Cameron Bonk '10**, and **Tricia Calka '11** this year. Assistant coaches of this Eight Peat Team include Mrs. Laura Miller, Fr. Matt Hood, faculty members **Ms. Bernadette Bacero '08** and Ms. Rutkowski, and over a dozen additional Divine Child Forensics Team Alumni from the classes 2003 to 2018.



Mr. Falcon 2019, Nathan Gary '19, celebrates victory!

FALCONS GOT TALENT, MR. FALCON 2019!

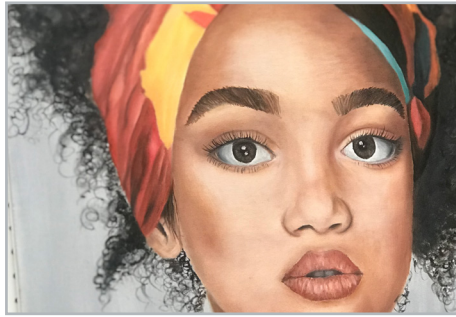
The gentlemen kicked off the night with a choreographed dance followed by their pickup lines and introductions by teacher and former Mr. Falcon contestant, **Brian Leslie '07** and special guest host Troy Dudas, a former science teacher. They impressed the judges and crowd with their beachwear that included Hawaiian shirts, flip flops and floaties, followed by a class skit. Finally, the contestants, escorted by the homecoming court and in tuxedos donated by Randazzo's in Livonia, used the opportunity to wow the alumni judges one more time before individual grade finalists were selected. After the votes were tallied, the top contestant in each

grade was asked one final question to help determine the winner. Finalists were: Jake Ratcliffe '22, Jacob Canete '21, Luke Duncan '20 and **Nathan Garay '19**. They all gave very creative answers which made the judges decision extra difficult. In the end, senior Nathan Garay '19 was crowned the 2019 Mr. Falcon winner! Senior **Mikey Divis '19** was voted Mr. Muscles and homecoming king **Alex Tucker '19** was voted Mr. Nice Guy by his fellow contestants! It was truly a night of talent from our hosts, to our entertainment (**Molly Boudreau '19**, **Natalie Duffy '19** and **Victoria Mithen '19**) and of course our contestants!

REMEMBER THE MAGIC PROM 2019

The 2019 prom theme, "Remember the Magic", truly represented the magical night it turned out to be. Located at the Dearborn Inn, over 400 Falcons attended to make lasting memories. Students and their parents filled the beautiful grounds of the Dearborn Inn taking pictures before heading in for dinner and dancing with music played by DJ alumnus, **Austin Guerrero '18**. Prom is a highlight of many high school careers, and this was certainly a night for these students to remember.





FINE ARTS CONTINUE TO GROW

Every year since the beginning of the Fine Arts Department, we have put up an exhibit showcasing the year's worth of work. Every year, the exhibit seems to get better and stronger. This year was no exception. We had over 900 works on display and though that number sounds impressive, it accounts for only about 1/6th of what is produced over the school year by the students in the department. The display showcases the best of the best work for the community to enjoy and see. From large sophisticated oil paintings to delicate yet whimsical ceramic pieces, this year's show impressed and attracted not only patrons from the Divine Child community but also those who have come to know how impressive our art shows are. Bishop Fisher told Fr. Jim how impressed he was by our students' work, and that he felt he was walking through a studio of very renowned and accomplished artistic professionals. Professors from the College for Creative Studies, Wayne State University, and Kendall College of Art and Design viewed the show. They could not praise our students enough and gave a ton of credit

to our Pastor and Administration for valuing the Fine Arts in such a strong way. Many felt that the exiting seniors' walls were as impressive and as skillfully sound as graduating college students.

This year we are proud to announce that five seniors from this graduating class will be attending art school this upcoming school year. **Sean Peacock '19**, **Jolee Abernathy '19**, and **Natalie Aston '19**, will be attending the College for Creative Studies all majoring in Illustration, **Wanjing Su '19**, will be attending Maryland Institute College of Art majoring in Painting with a concentration in Illustration, and **Nick Gencarelli '19** will be attending Michigan State University majoring in Art History. We are very proud of these and all of our alumni who have contributed to the long standing legacy of our one of a kind Fine Arts Department. It is because of students like these and the foundation **Mike Foye '63** started for us here, that allows us to continue to grow and get stronger as the years go on.

SPRING MUSICAL: 42nd Second Street!

In theatre, a triple threat is a performer who possesses the rare ability to act, sing, and dance. This year our students were presented with that challenge - to dust off their dancing shoes and take on the legendary tap-dancing classic, *42nd Street*. After months of grueling dance rehearsals, often on Saturday afternoons, the entire cast of over 60 students learned to tap dance in unison for the show stopping numbers *We're in the Money* and the title track *42nd Street*. The show featured a pit orchestra of 25, including two alumni, and a stage, props and makeup crew of 49 students.

The show came home with 5 Dearborn Area Theatre Association Awards: Outstanding Achievement in a Musical, Outstanding Achievement in Makeup/Hair Design, Outstanding Achievement in Scenic Design, Outstanding Achievement in Orchestral Direction, and Outstanding Achievement in Choreography.





THE 1ST ANNUAL ART SHOW GALA: A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

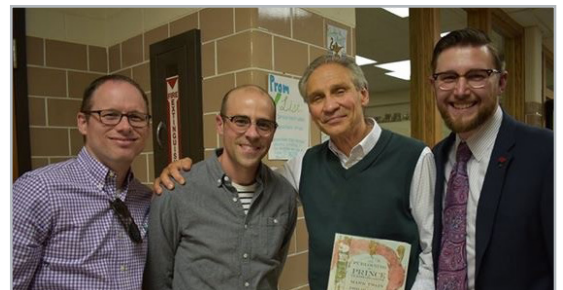
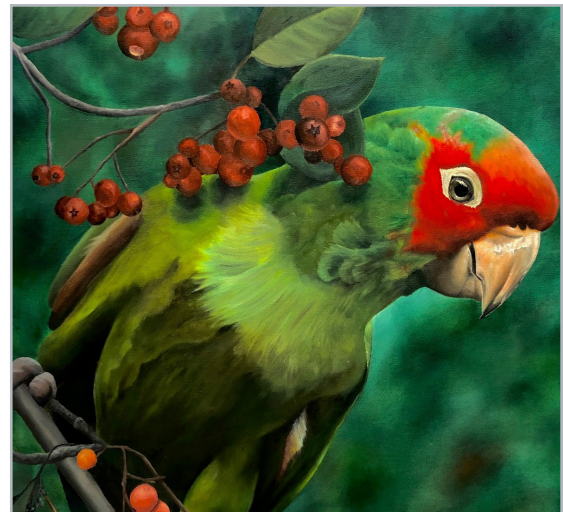
Art Department teachers, **Matt Zemba '94** and **Walt Grysko '07**, wanted to create an event to highlight the hard work of their incredibly talented students and inspire those students by inviting alumni working in the art industry to come back and share their talents with the DC community. Elementary School art teacher, Lauren Page, also got on board to recognize her talented students.

Over 2,000 pieces of art from students K-12, were on display throughout the high school and the Demmer Field House. Guests perused the artwork, enjoyed refreshments compliments of the home economics students, and were invited to a presentation of the year's top art awards.

The evening featured illustrator, author and alumnus, **Phil Stead '99**, who spoke to the students about the endless possibilities art can provide in life and the many career paths budding artists can pursue. Phil also displayed his own award winning art work. Guest judge, **Tim Jones '14**, helped the art department judge and award all of the pieces, and displayed his amazing collection of art as well.

Donations from the event supported art-based scholarships (learn more on page 23) and the fine arts department.

Alumni: Want to display your artwork, share your talents with the students, or donate to the art program? Contact Aubri (Marchetti) McNamara '97 for more information.





DIVINE CHILD ATHLETICS

TEAM UPDATES

BOYS BASEBALL enjoyed a successful year winning the district championship, upsetting the #1 ranked team in division 2 in the pre-regional, and making it to the regional round as one of the last 16 teams remaining. The team was led by 1st team All-State catcher **Kyle Gurney '19**, **Jacob Balash '19** and **Ryan Zurenko '19**. The team was very young (four sophomores and two freshman) and was led in pitching by starters **Nate Raniszewski '20**, **Grant Reising '21** and **Jack Zang '22**, with **Josh Fitzgerald '20** in the bullpen.

BOYS BASKETBALL (19-5) won District Champs and AA Co-Champs. They lost in the Regional Final to River Rouge, but beat Division 4 state champion Southfield Christian and Catholic Central in the regular season.

GIRLS BASKETBALL (14-10) finished third place in the CHSL Central Division, avenging two very close regular season losses to Mercy by beating them in the CHSL semi-finals to get back to Calihan Hall. The team also ranked as the CHSL Runner Up District Champions.

BOYS & GIRLS BOWLING had another incredible year growing to include a full JV and Varsity girls program as well as a JV-A/B and Varsity Boys program. The girls program, led by six seniors, won the regular season East Division Championship. The boys program led by three seniors won the overall East Division Championship.

COMPETITIVE CHEER finished their season by finishing fourth in the state for Division 2 at the MHSAA State Championship and clinching the Catholic League title.

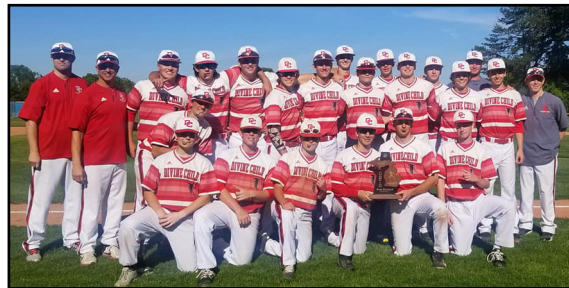
BOYS LACROSSE had a season of adversity, character building and commitment with a young, inexperienced team. After graduating 15 players in 2018, coaches rebuilt the Varsity roster and played against the top 20 teams. The players improved after every game learned to be a TEAM and strived to improve everyday.

GIRLS SOCCER (19-4-2) had an outstanding season, finishing second in the Catholic League's Division I. The team finished the season with a goal differential of +74 (94 goals for, 20 against), and was able to capture a District Championship prior to reaching its first Regional Championship appearance since 1997. The program is extremely grateful to graduates **Cate Charron '19**, **Bridget Rogers '19**, **Rachel Toloday '19** and **Marta Andreu '19**.

GIRLS SOFTBALL won the District title, advancing to the Regional tournament, eventually losing to Ida High School. Congratulations to **Sidney Croskey '20** who took home Honorable Mention All State honors.

GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD won their 5th consecutive CHSL title by amassing 192 points to Macomb Lutheran North's 77 points. The team then sent 13 girls to the State Championships by winning the regional meet, which was held at Divine Child. At the MHSAA State Championships, **Avery Budz '20** and **Elena Welker '19** tied for 2nd in the High Jump. Welker took 4th in the Long Jump, while the team of **Lily Iaquaniello '19**, **Macey Pappas '20**, **Ashley Avant '21** and **Avery Budz '20** took 7th in the 4x400m relay. **Elena Welker '19** set a new school record in the Long Jump with a distance of 17'7". Also, the 4x800m relay team of **Lily Iaquaniello '19**, **Brooke Aho '20**, **Eliza Thayer '22**, and **Haley Aho '20** set a new CHSL record by recording a time of 9:48.32, breaking the old record of 9:49.79.

BOYS TRACK AND FIELD had great success as they accomplished nearly every goal they set out to achieve. Dominated by mostly underclassmen, the Boys T&F team was one of the best in the entire region. They achieved big victories at the Mark Carpenter Invitational, the Wayne County Championships, the State Regional and the Catholic League Championship. At the Catholic League Championship, for the first time in history they became Back-to-Back Champions. They won the CHSL Championship by 36 points, something that is unheard of in the boy's championship. Our team also placed 4th in the Michigan High School Athletic Association State Championship, the highest place ever for a Divine Child boys track team.



Graduates of the CLASS OF 2019 signed athletic letters of intent:



BOYS HOCKEY celebrated 25 years of lacing up skates this year! The team welcomed 17 new players to its roster, witnessing plenty of growth during the season. Thanks to the more than 40 grads who played in our alumni game earlier this year!

GIRLS POM PON was led by two seniors, **Mary Johnson '19** and **Marina Traub '19**. The team won the Catholic League and took second in high kick and runner up for the Class B State title.

GIRLS TENNIS won the Regional title for the first time in program history. The team advanced to the State Tournament in Novi, placing 20th.



BOYS GOLF took some large steps in the right direction in the 2019 season. The Varsity team had wins over St. Mary's (175 to 178) and Lutheran North (183 to 185). Going into the State Regional, the Varsity teams best 18-hole score was 354. At the Regional event the team carded a 340 and finished 4 strokes from making the State tournament as a team. We had one individual Mahmoud Saad '20 card a 73, which qualified him for the State tournament. He finished a respectable 23rd overall with rounds of 78 and 82. Coaches **Fran DePlanche '91** and **Ben Loiselle '92** are looking forward to the 2020 season with three returning varsity seniors.



GIRLS FIGURE SKATING team lead by coach and alumna, **Leticia Romero '02** took 1st place in their district and finished 3rd place at the Michigan State High School championships. Way to finish the season strong!



GIRLS LACROSSE CELEBRATES FIRST SEASON!

Our new girls' lacrosse team took the field for the first time this March with 20 Varsity players and 18 Junior Varsity players. Despite being designated as a "club team," Assistant Athletic Director Ben Cronin was able to fill the team's schedule with games against MHSAA teams. Led by Varsity Coach Dave Medley and JV Coaches Gracie Savage and Chad Baugh, the girls competed with a ton of heart!

Our Varsity team made up of primarily juniors and seniors played against girls who had between 3-4 years of high school lacrosse experience. As a new sport, many of our team members were inexperienced, so coaches set out to teach players "the game" and ensure everyone had a blast.

But, the girls picked up the game quick. The JV team experienced its first victory on a lacrosse field early on, defeating Royal Oak High School's JV Lacrosse team. The Varsity team lost its first game to Bedford High School, but caught up a month later, totally dismantling the BHS team on their home turf. The season ended on a high note with the JV team posting seven victories and the Varsity team holding a 9-4-1 record.

Congratulations to the girls on a great first season! With such a great start, it's clear the program will continue to grow and benefit many more student athletes. As their team motto goes, "Team First! Team First! Always Team First!" We can't wait to watch these strong Lady Falcons continue to grow -- and win!

Marta Andreu
UM Dearborn - Soccer

Matthew Borucki
Adrian College - Ice Hockey

Matthew Cinzori
Schoolcraft College - Soccer

Joshua DePaulis
Madonna University - Football

Brooke Foster
Siena Heights University - Volleyball

Kyle Gurney
BGSU - Baseball

Caleb Kelly
Indiana Wesleyan University - Football

Parker LePage
Madonna University - Basketball

Zackary Major
Adrian College - Hockey

Kendall Meadows
Madonna University - Volleyball

Victoria Mithen
Alma College - Competitive Dance

Kaitlin Murray
UD Mercy - Cross Country & Track

Olivia Murray
Carthage College - Swimming

Audrey Renaud
Elmhurst College - Cross Country

Maddie Rzpka
Saint Mary's College - Basketball

Samuel Scheuher
Siena Heights University - Bowling

Dominic Sommerville
Adrian College - Ice Hockey

Cameron Urbanick
Lawrence Tech - Football

Nicole Waldenmeyer
Lawrence Tech - Golf

Elena Welker
Albion College - Basketball & Track

Tyler Whiteside
Madonna University - Football

Maddie Zang
Kalamazoo College - Softball

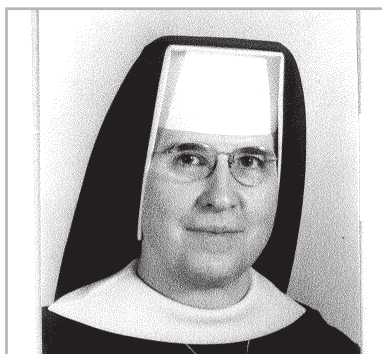


JOIN US FOR THE 4TH ANNUAL HALL OF FAME
SATURDAY, NOV. 9 • 6 PM • DIVINE CHILD HIGH SCHOOL
benefiting the DCAA & DCHS/CYO Athletics

2019 HONOREES



Mark Carpenter '68 †(1950-1998) returned to his alma mater in 1973 to coach boys' track & field, cross country, and basketball for more than 24 years. He led efforts to establish a high school girls' track and field team, as well as a DCES CYO track program. He lived and taught Catholic values until his untimely death at the age of 47.



Sister Mary Gerald, OSF †(1913-2000) was a Bernardine Franciscan Sister and Divine Child High School's second principal. During her 17 years as principal (1965-1982), she established the excellent educational programs that we still have in place. She was a dedicated religious, an intelligent educator, a disciplinarian and a kind friend to the students.



Kathy Tar joined our parish in 1977 with her husband. She joined the faculty at DCHS in 1996 as an English/Debate/Forensics teacher. She started the DCHS Forensics Team, leading our students to 8 MSCI State Tournaments, and three time MSCI Individual Events. She was also recognized as coach of the year. Kathy is entering her 24th year as Forensics team Head Coach and continues to teach in the English Department.



Frank K. Yesh has been a member of the Divine Child Parish for over 54 Years. He coached boys' basketball and girls' softball totaling 34 teams, and over 400 student athletes. The Catholic values of commitment, teamwork, and giving the best of oneself were embodied in his coaching. Coach Yesh emphasized hard work, preparation, fundamentals, good sportsmanship, having fun and taking pride in being part of the Falcon family.



GET INVOLVED IN DCAA

Share your talents with the alumni association! We're looking for class agents to help us reach alumni.

Class Agents serve as liaisons, help classmates stay connected, encourage support for the Divine Child Annual Fund, and inspire enthusiasm for giving back to Divine Child each year. This challenging effort is crucial to the future of Divine Child High School and cannot be accomplished by the DC staff members alone.

Volunteers from each graduating class comprise the DCAA's Class Agent program. As a class agent, you are an important liaison between your classmates and DC. You are among the dedicated team of alumni, committed to the goals, priorities, and mission of Divine Child High School. We rely on you to reach out to your classmates and reconnect them with their alma mater.

As a class agent, you would:

- Create a positive message to be posted on the alumni Facebook page
- Create and help maintain a class Facebook page
- Encourage your classmates to be part of the overall campus transformation by getting involved in the variety of campus events including Homecoming Weekend, special events and committees

LEARN MORE

Contact Aubri McNamara at amcnamara@divinechild.org or call 313-216-0893

REASONS TO BE A CLASS AGENT

1. Connect with Classmates!
2. Participate in DCAA meetings!
3. Help organize and run class reunions/meet-ups!
4. Be the first to learn about new projects at DC!





BLUE
Suede
SHOES

It started with *Blue Suede Shoes*.

Matthew Chantelois '96 first impersonated Elvis Presley at a Divine Child High School dance in 1995. It wasn't long before his uncanny likeness in voice and appearance led him to go pro.

While in high school Chantelois, otherwise known as "King," (his stage name) worked at Lynch's costume shop in Dearborn where an Elvis jumpsuit was hanging in the costume shop. He knew he needed a costume for the school's Halloween dance so he purchased the jumpsuit and went to the dance as Elvis. At the dance, he sang "Blue Suede Shoes" and everyone told him how much he sounded like Elvis. Ms. Goode, a religion teacher at the time, told him he was very good and should look into Elvis impersonations. It wasn't long after that he started doing anniversary and birthday parties. Little did he know, 25 years, Elvis would be his career.

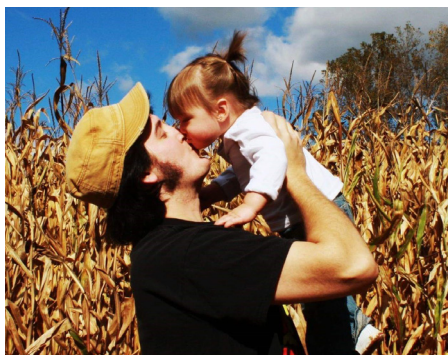
Chantelois always thought he would be a police officer. After high school, he attended Henry Ford Community College and then Eastern Michigan University with a plan to study criminal justice. While in college he continued impersonating Elvis. "I always wanted to become a cop, but I enjoyed playing Elvis so much and the calls kept coming in, that I soon realized there was real money doing it," said Chantelois. He decided to give up plans to be a cop and focus on Elvis impersonations.

In 1998, two years into college, CBS was hosting a contest in coordination with the Woodward Dream Cruise. The winner won a trip to Hawaii to compete in a solo show for two weeks against 25 other guys. He won! When he returned from the trip, he entered an international Elvis competition in Collingwood, Ontario, against 185 other Elvises. "About 80,000 people attended the event," Chantelois says.

He won again! He has since gone on to win over 30 Elvis contests.

In 1999, he started and founded the Michigan Elvis Fest located in Ypsilanti. To this day, it is the largest show of its kind in North America. Over 27,000 people attend. "The show itself has evolved into so much more than how it started. This event is my biggest accomplishment to date," stated Chantelois.

However, he thinks his biggest break came when his aunt, who supervised promotions for a pharmaceutical company, came up with a marketing idea for a heartburn drug based on the Elvis song "Heartbreak Hotel." Only this one was titled "Heartburn Hotel."



Chantelois and his wife Victoria welcomed their daughter, Ocean, in 2009.

Chantelois was hired to make a promotional tour of the country and appear as Elvis at physician events. "I would do a little skit for all the physicians who attended the conference."


Chantelois fondest memory of DC is spending time in the art room with Mr. Mike Foye '63 and Ms. Last. But nothing



Chantelois performed "Love Me Tender" at the St. Sebastian Festival, circa 1996.

compares to the many times Mr. Smetek, the dean of students, would hound him to cut his hair. "I knew my hair was too long, but I couldn't cut it. So one day, I finally bought Brylcreem to hold my hair down so he would lay off. I have so many great memories of my time at DC." He laughed saying, "many can't be shared!"

Since his love of music, impersonating Elvis and entertainment brought him much success, Chantelois started his own company called *Matt King Entertainment* (mattkingentertainment.com). It is a talent agency specializing in singing tribute artists and look alikes as well as DJ and emcee services. Aside, from Elvis, Chantelois himself portrays several other characters, including Joe Cocker, Waylon Jennings, Roy Orbison and Paul McCartney.

Chantelois currently resides in Mason, Michigan on 80 acres with his wife, Veronica and daughter, Ocean (10). 

Don't miss *Michigan ELVIS FEST* July 19-20, 2019 in Ypsilanti's Historic Depot Town. Learn more by visiting www.mielvisfest.com



RUNNING for a REASON

Submitted by Kay Anne (Pappas) Starosciak '91

My love of running started at Divine Child.

Coach Goepp was instrumental in creating a positive and nurturing environment that I would carry with me years and years later. The foundation of my passion for running, running friendships, and becoming a goal motivated individual were planted during my years as a Falcon!



Kay Anne poses with Angie Corassi '92 and Kristi Homberger '91 as one of the top 5 Varsity runners on the '91 Girls Cross Country team.

After high school, my running journey continued as I was seeking moments of quiet and clarity. I used running during my college years, young professional time (ran my 1st marathon in Houston, TX when I had my first job as a Registered Dietitian and **Matt Starosciak '91**, my husband was in Law School) and as a new parent. I remember using a single, double, and even a triple jogger as a way to be able to run while my girls were little.

Then in 2006, **Kristi (Homberger) Elwart '91** and I decided to train and run the Chicago marathon. We thought a destination marathon would be motivation to get into shape after 3 babies each. After this event, I was definitely bit by the marathon bug and had a goal to get faster.

I was able to use my love for running and my nutrition expertise to my advantage to get stronger and faster.

I ran the Boston Marathon in 2013, the year of the bombing. It was (and is) my marathon PR. It should have been such a great day for me. I had my sister's whole family, **DeAnna (Pappas) McFetridge '88**, my parents, and my oldest daughter in the grandstands at the finish line. I remember feeling so happy seeing them cheering in the bleachers (I had visualized the moment all through my training). I crossed the finish line with a 6-minute marathon PR and a negative split. I could not have felt better... for about an hour. And then the bomb happened and everything changed.

I came back and ran the 2014 Boston Marathon. I qualified to run in the Elite Women's corral (as a masters runner) but

that didn't seem to matter as much as I had two other missions that day. #1 to show that the running community is stronger than terrorism and #2 to thank the Boston Police (who lined every step of the course) and the Boston Marathon spectators who are always cheering for you rain, wind, snow, heat.

It was at this point I decided to start "running for a reason". In 2014 I registered to be a St. Jude Hero and run the 1/2 marathon for childhood cancer. After loving the feeling of running for others, I became a Rally runner. It was the best running decision I ever made.



Kay Anne poses with Deena Kaster, the American female marathon record-holder.


Rally is an Atlanta-based foundation that raises money for childhood cancer research. In 2015, I raised 3K in honor of Peyton Green, a 3-year-old fighting Leukemia. I ran the 2015 Publix marathon in honor of her.

During this time as a Rally Athlete, I met another runner, Mark Myers, who was running for his 12-year-old daughter Kylie. As sad as sad can be, Kylie lost her cancer battle before the race. I told her Dad that I wanted to run Boston in her honor. So the following month, Kylie and I ran Boston. It wasn't my best time, but wearing her name and hearing the thousands of spectators

cheering, "go Kylie" was better than any time on a clock. After the race, I sent her family the medal as it really belonged to them.

In 2017, I decided to take a different approach for childhood cancer. I didn't raise a ton of money, but I had a goal to raise awareness. I created "Grant's Web" in honor of a little guy who LOVED Spider man. Several of us Rally runners and advocates passed out bracelets to family and friends to wear on April 17, 2017 (Boston Marathon). On that marathon Monday, 100s of people were supporting Grant's Web!

I'm so thankful for my running journey. I'm grateful to Divine Child for providing me with a great coach and environment that nourished a love of sport and community. I used to say that "everyone should run" but now I like to say that "everyone should run for a reason".

Having a supportive family, spouse, and community makes any journey that much greater and sweeter. I certainly would not be the runner or person I am today with the support of those around me. Kay Anne resides in Canton, Georgia with her husband and three daughters, RaeAnna (19), Charlotte (18), and Stella (15). 

Don't miss Kay Anne '91 running the Detroit Free Press Marathon this October! Follow her journey: www.thumbsuprunner.com

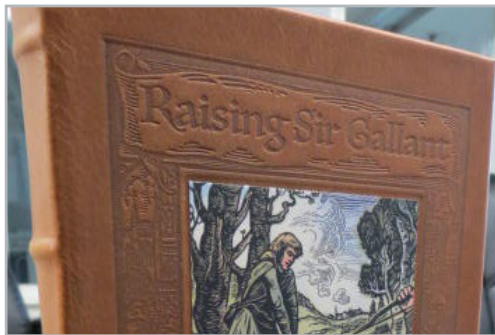


CATCHING UP WITH CLASSMATES

Falcons are everywhere! Read up on the latest from fellow Falcons.



Dennis Guerriero '79 once again called upon God for assistance in the 2018 South Carolina Golf Association/Carolinas Golf Association Net Amateur Golf Championships. This two day event was held at the prestigious Prestwick Country Club in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in November 2018. God chose him to finish as the #1 Senior Net Amateur Golfer in South Carolina and North Carolina. "I can never determine the outcome of any of the events I participate in since I cannot control the performance of the other golfers. It is God's will and plan when I am selected to win any golf tournament."



Mary Bustamante '82 announced the release of her first book, a children's chapter story in June 2019. In *Raising Sir Gallant*, an act of kindness from the past induces a renowned knight to visit Bristol, England, where he offers to tutor Gallant, the son of a farmer. Designed to captivate boys aged 8 to 12, this book encourages readers to walk alongside Gallant as he applies his newfound knight training toward overcoming a dark secret that has haunted his young life. Running 224 pages and weighing in at 1 lb 12 oz, the leather-wrapped, copper-die branded book boasts flocked paper imported from England, gold-gilded pages and a satin ribbon - a keepsake that can be shared for generations. The

book is designed as a stand-alone story, but can be teamed up with the *Sir Gallant Castle Kit*, which brings the knight's instruction about practical living and virtue to our present day with story-related crafts and gifts. The companion story, *Raising Lady Grace*, is scheduled for release in October of 2020. Limited Edition leather book and castle kit available only at SirGallant.com



Nancy Walker Jahshan '88 received the highest honor as Elementary Teacher of the Year for the Farmington Public Schools. She was presented the award by Superintendent, Dr. George C. Heitch and principal, Mr. Gregory Smith of Lanigan Elementary School. Nancy is married to John Jahshan and has three children; John Henry, Jacob and Hannah. Her parents are former DC parishioners, Marie and Ron Walker. She is a teacher and mentor to others in her school. Nancy and her family reside in Northville.

Courtney Brewis '09 has qualified (along with Zach Ornelas) to represent the USA in the World Championship Ultra Marathon 50K race which will be held on September 1, 2019 in Braşov, Romania. This is an event sponsored by the International Association of Ultrarunners (IAU) which will host the top qualifying runners from over 40 countries in this world championship event. The USA team is comprised of the top 6 male and 6 female qualifiers from the USA.

IN MEMORIAM

Mary K. (O'Hara) Yoches '66

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16



Lindsey Brewis '14 has signed with Hansons Brooks Original Distance Project to run professionally. This opportunity provided by the Hansons is the best out there for runners coming out of college who have demonstrated the ability and wish to continue running, but haven't quite advanced to the next level. The Olympics are the ultimate focus for these runners, but more importantly, all the runners are taking part in this program to see how fast they can become. #OnwardLU #MVCTF #MVCXC

Paul Mueller '14 graduated from GVSU in August 2018 with a degree in finance. He interned at Kinexus - a nonprofit that focuses on economic improvement in southwest Michigan through a variety of programs - focusing on new business development, as well as MarshBerry - an intellectual capital, strategic consulting and merger and acquisition advisory to clients within the insurance industry - where he focused on acquiring new sales talent for insurance clients. He currently resides in Grand Rapids where he works full time as an Accounts Receivable Assistant at Gourmet International.

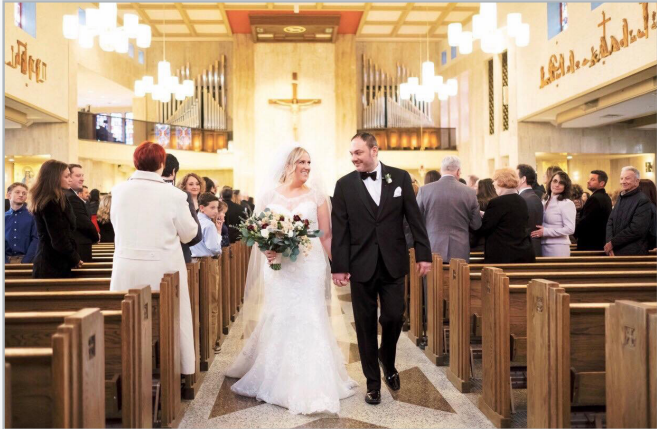
Josh Hejak '15 recently signed on with the New York Mets as an undrafted free agent from Johns Hopkins University. He had a 2.91 ERA and 60 strikeouts to 8 walks in his senior season.



Analiese Zaleski '15 fashion collections were shown at the American Association of University Women on March 30 and April 6 at Threads Fashion Show Central Michigan University.

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to these Falcon newlyweds!



John D'Aguzzo '93 and his wife Katelyn were married on February 23, 2019 at Divine Child Catholic Church. They reside in Dearborn and are expecting their first daughter in November.



Craig Dombrowski '07 married Michelle (LeFevre) from Haslett High School on June 15, 2019 at the Church of Divine Child. They reside in Dearborn, right across from DCES. Craig is a product specialist for Jenoptik Automotive, and Michelle was just named the new Varsity head coach for Divine Child's swim team.

FUTURE FALCONS

Congratulations to these Falcons on the birth of their children:



1. **Mary Beth (Trainer) Smith '01** and husband Chad welcomed their first son, Bo Alexander on April 29, 2018, weighing 6 lbs, 14oz.

2. **John Zwally '05** and wife **Johanna (Sovinski) '05** are delighted to welcome their third child, John, to their family on June 6, 2018. Big brothers Sam and Mike are very excited for the new baby!

3. **Jennifer (Januzzi) Broda '00** and husband Greg welcomed their second child, Noah Gregory, born October 18, 2018. Noah joins big sister, Avery (3).



4. **Kellie (Broggi) Hanlon '05** and husband Justin welcomed their third child, Killian Alex to the family on January 8, 2019, weighing 8 lbs 10oz and measuring 21.5. Killian joins big brother Ronan (3) and big sister Everleigh (1.5).

5. **Marie (Paolini) '11** and husband **Eric Hasse '11** welcomed their third child, Giorgia Lily to the family on January 9, 2019, weighing, 8lbs 12oz. Giorgia joins big brother Sonny (5) and big sister Frankie (2). inches.



6. **Mark Ellul '09** and wife Sarah welcomed their first child, Harper Rae to their family on March 1, 2019 at 5:56pm, weighing 7lbs and measuring 19 inches.

7. **Jasen Sandlin '98** and wife Mayling, welcomed their first daughter, Kyla Jayne on March 7, 2019, weighing 8lbs 4oz, measuring 20.45 inches.



8. **Lindsey (Domber) Ford '00** and husband Jim welcomed Emersyn Regina on March 28, 2019 weighing 6lbs 9oz and measuring 18 inches long.

9. **Tim Sobczak '03** and wife Leah welcomed daughter, Elyse "Ellie" Marie on April 19, 2019 at 11:58, weighing 7lbs 2oz, measuring 20 inches. Elyse joins big brother Felix (2).



11. **Jennifer (Lenhart) '01** and husband **Michael Moore '01** welcomed their 5th son, Blake Anthony to their family on May 10, 2019 at 10:38am, weighing 8lbs 2oz and measuring 20 ¾ inches. Blake joins big brothers, Colin (10), Luke (8), Jacob (6) and Issac (3).

12. **Sarah (Kuch) '00** and husband **Sam LeBlanc '99** welcomed Delphine Anne on May 14, 2019 at 1:46am weighing 7lbs 10oz and measuring 20 inches. Delphine joins big brother, Lucas (8) and big sister, Colette (6).

13. **Emily Tar '04** and husband Shane welcomed their second child, Lucas to the family on May 30, 2019, weighing 6 lbs, measuring 19 inches. Lucas joins big brother Logan (3).

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIPS

The Divine Child Alumni Association is proud to provide scholarships to incoming Future Falcons and Falcons flying on to new heights.



The **Divine Child Alumni Association Essay Scholarship** winners were awarded to recent graduates **Amelia Senatore '19** (daughter of **Anthony Senatore '85**), **Madeline Tripp '19** and **Marina Traub '19** (daughter of **Dina Marchetti '87**). Students write an essay discussing how their years at DCHS prepared them to serve their community.



In the inaugural year, the winner of the 2019 **Matthew David Wadowski '91 Scholarship** is **Samantha Dye '19** (daughter of **Anne Fadler '85**.) Wadowski, was a unique, talented, motivated and loyal student, friend and son. He excelled academically but also stretched beyond the academic classroom pursuing many activities. He was committed to his faith, family and friends. In his memory, his friends and family kindly created a scholarship in his honor. The scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior who exemplifies commitment to their Catholic faith, academic investment and reaches beyond the classroom to grow as they pursue higher education.

DONATIONS may be made to the DCHS Scholarship Fund for need-based scholarships for incoming Falcons and Falcons flying on to new heights! For more information on donating to scholarships, please contact Aubri (Marchetti) McNamara '97 at amcnamara@divinechild.org.



Congratulations to **Maddie Rzepka '19** for being awarded the **Sara L. Nieman '95 Scholarship**. The **Sara L. Nieman '95** scholarship is awarded to a graduating female athlete that demonstrates leadership, integrity, sportsmanship and true Falcons pride. This scholarship is made possible by Sandra Nieman and her husband Fred Ransford in Sara's memory and is intended to be used for college.



Congratulations to **Ava Morrow '23** and **Mary Bustamante '23**, both students of Divine Child Elementary School who were named the Class of 2023 Falcon Legacy Scholarship winners! The scholarship is annually awarded to children of DCHS alumni based on test scores, grades and a panel interview. Pictured L-R: **Eric Haley '98**, **Chris Bustamante '86**, Tina Bustamante, Mary Bustamante, Ava Morrow, **Michelle (Bosak) Morrow '94**, husband Brian Morrow, and **Aubri (Marchetti) McNamara '97**.

COMING SOON

Once a Falcon
ALUMNI HALLWAY

ALUMNI SHOW THEIR DEEP ROOTS

The Alumni Association has plans to leave its mark on the "center" hallway, which before the addition in 1998 was to many of us, *the courtyard*. The plan is to show our strong legacy through the decades with pictures, news articles and memorabilia. If you have anything you would like to donate, please contact Aubri (Marchetti) McNamara '97 at the alumni office amcnamara@divinechild.org.



DONATE
photos, news clippings,
memorabilia, monetary
contributions and more!
THANK YOU
CLASS OF 2019
for making the first
donation to this project!



CLASS OF 2019 LEGACY FALCONS

Congratulations to the following 2019 Graduates and their Divine Child Alumni Parents!

Jacob Balash - son of Cheryl (Ciarelli) Balash `87 • **Molly Boudreau** - daughter of Christopher `88 and Tracey (Esper) Boudreau `88 • **Lachlan Broekman** - daughter of Mary Margaret (Early) Broekman `86 • **Maria Bustamante** - daughter of James Bustamante `80 • **Alexander Bustamante** - daughter of Christopher Bustamante `86 • **Matthew Cinzori** - son of David Cinzori `84 and Kimberly (Ward) Cinzori `84 • **Rebecca Damuth** - daughter of Ron Damuth `90 • **Joshua DePaulis** - son of Todd DePaulis `94 and Becky (Owens) DePaulis `94 • **Cara Dunn** - daughter of Regina (Arcuri) Dunn `88 • **Richard DuRoss** - son of Patrick DuRoss `88 • **Samantha Dye** - daughter of Anne (Fadler) Dye `85 • **Cullen Fox** - son of Patricia (Thomas) Fox `86 • **Colin Garner** - son of Paula (Bonell) Garner `85 • **Madeleine Hermann** - daughter of Damian Hermann `89 and Kristen (Szpunar) Hermann `89 • **Emily Kuczajda** - daughter of Chris Kuczajda `85 and Donna (Marchetti) Kuczajda `88 • **Kristen Kukla** - daughter of Brian Kukla `84 • **Aeron Latham** - son of Marivi (del Rosario) Marivi `82 • **Sarah McCausland** - son of Sean McCausland `86 • **Liam McKeever** - son of Rose (Wojciechowski) McKeever `87 • **Jon Metzger** - son of Sara (Grudzinski) Metzger `94 • **Adeline Meyers** - son of Mark Meyers `89 • **Erik Norwood** - son of Richard Norwood `86 and Susan (Bacigal) Norwood `87 • **Erin Pigott** - son of Jim Pigott `86 • **Robert Reynolds** - son of Kathleen (Brewis) Reynolds `80 • **Elizabeth Rudzinski** - daughter of Michael Rudzinski `89 • **Ryan Saladin** - son of Karen (McGovern) Saladin `85 • **Julia Selewski** - daughter of David Selewski `89 • **Amelia Senatore** - daughter of Anthony Senatore `85 • **Madison Thomas** - daughter of Michael Thomas `84 • **Marina Traub** - daughter of Dina (Marchetti) Traub `87 • **Alexander Tucker** - son of Joseph Tucker `88 • **Cameron Urbanick** - son of Barbara (Sroka) Urbanick `87 • **Magdalen VanBuhler** - daughter of Mary (Gallagher) VanBuhler `87 • **Garrett Vincent** - son of Jennifer (O'Leary) Vincent `93 • **Nicole Waldenmeyer** - daughter of Lisa (Abdallah) Waldenmeyer `87 • **Abigail Witten** - daughter of Kimberly (Tierney) Witten `94 • **Chad Wnuk** - son of Gerlad Wnuk `84 and Kathleen (Corrigan) Wnuk `84 • **Noah Zuccaro** - son of Mary (Watson) Zuccaro `85 • **Ryan Zurenko** - son of Suzanne (Sieczka) Zurenko `95 • **Elena Welker** - daughter of Donald Welker `76 • **Tyler Whiteside** - son of Scott Whiteside `95



DOUBLE LEGACY

Molly Boudreau - daughter of Christopher `88 and Tracey (Esper) Boudreau `88
Matthew Cinzori - son of David Cinzori `84 and Kimberly (Ward) Cinzori `84
Joshua DePaulis - son of Todd DePaulis `94 and Becky (Owens) DePaulis `94
Madeleine Hermann - daughter of Damian Hermann `89 and Kristen (Szpunar) Hermann `89
Emily Kuczajda - daughter of Chris Kuczajda `85 and Donna (Marchetti) Kuczajda `88
Erik Norwood - son of Richard Norwood `86 and Susan (Bacigal) Norwood `87
Chad Wnuk - son of Gerlad Wnuk `84 and Kathleen (Corrigan) Wnuk `84



THE FALCON LEGACY LIVES ON

33 Divine Child Alumni have enrolled their children in the class of 2023

Divine Child High School's incoming freshman class - the class of 2023 - will include 205 students with 30 students whose moms, dads or guardians were Divine Child students themselves! We are thrilled to highlight these graduates and their children:

- Stephen Balash - son of Cheryl (Ciarelli) Balash `87
- Sydney Bourdon - daughter of Stephanie (Gach) Bourdon `89
- Mary Bustamante - daughter of Christopher Bustamante `86
- Joshua Bustamante - son of David Bustamante `87
- Luke Celani - son of Joseph Celani `88
- Amanda Chizuk - daughter Jacquelyn (Oros) Chizuk `84
- Samuel Ciarelli - son of James Ciarelli `86
- Nicholas Cibor - son of Gregory Cibor `89
- Benjamin Corak - son of Frank Corak `80
- Jack del Rosario - son of Armand del Rosario `81 and Anne (Coyne) del Rosario `83
- Isabella DePaulis - daughter of Scott DePaulis `90
- Katie Duffany - daughter of Brian Duffany `89
- Abigail Duncan - daughter of Karen (Hall) Cole `94
- Genevieve Fischer - daughter of Jennifer (Dziedzic) Fischer `93
- Aidan Joganic - son of Natalie (Teuma) Joganic `93
- Shane Marion - son of Melissa (Capler) Marion `90
- Robert Meehan - son of Lucia (Scarpace) Meehan `90
- Ava Morrow - daughter of Michelle (Bosak) Morrow `94
- Ryan Read - son of John Read `91 and Michelle (Przybylowicz) Read `92
- Jackson Reynolds - son of Kathleen (Brewis) Reynolds `80
- Grace Riha - daughter of Elizabeth (Kristensen) Riha `92
- Gabrielle Rodriguez - daughter of Derrick Rodriguez `90
- Adam Saleh - son of Cristina Marzolo `98
- Spencer Shinske - son of Felicia (Gach) Shinske `91
- Grace Steffes - daughter of Jonathan Steffes `91
- Ava Sulak - daughter of Stephen Sulak `96
- Allison Surella - daughter of Carol (Wisniewski) Surella `83
- Noah Trapp - son of Kevin Trapp `90 and Carol (Gerstner) Trapp `90
- Danyel Updike-Blach - niece of Shaun Harvey `96
- Cecilia Vitti - daughter of Nikolai Vitti `95

CLASS OF 2023

REUNIONS



CLASS OF 1969 CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP

The Divine Child class of 1969 held their 50th Class Reunion on Saturday, June 8, exactly 50 years after our graduation day of June 8, 1969. On Friday, the day before the reunion, the DCAA hosted a wine and cheese event in the high school, allowing classmates to get reacquainted, catch up on old times and

take part in a guided tour discovering all the improvements and additions since 1969. We were fortunate to have 2 of our teachers attend on Friday evening, **Mike Foye '63** and **Carol Szuba**. Mrs. Szuba also joined us on Saturday evening.

On Saturday, the celebration was held at the Dearborn Hills Golf Course and began with a golf scramble that included 20 golfers.

Following the golf outing, the evening events started with a cocktail and social hour followed by an evening of socializing, reminiscing, pictures and dancing. The weather certainly cooperated and they were able to enjoy the outside seating and patio at the Dearborn Hills Golf Course. Sixty alumni attended the reunion with a total attendance of over 100 people.



CLASS OF 1994 CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF MEMORIES

On Saturday, June 22, the class of 1994 celebrated 25 years of good times at Divine Child by hanging out at Andiamo's Dearborn. With a slightly smaller crowd



than years past, they still had a great time catching up with old classmates. Looking forward to the next reunion, Lesley (Rhodes) Bartnick '94 said, "everyone looked so great and we picked up right where we left off from the last time we were all together."



MEETING UP WITH FRIENDS

The Class of 1972 got together for an informal reunion on June 21, 2019!

UPCOMING REUNIONS:

1979

AUG. 23
Meet Up @ Benny's Pizza

AUG. 24
Reunion @ IABC -Livonia

AUG. 25 • 12:30 PM
Mass at DC followed by HS tours
Cathy Jo Ponzi '79
cathyjoponzi@gmail.com

1989

AUG. 17 • 7-11 PM
Bailey's Sports Grille
Dearborn

\$65 before Aug. 1 (\$75 after)
Kelley (O'Keefe) Shultz '89
kelley.schultz@sedgwick.com

1999

NOV. 30
Location TBD

DEC. 1 • 12:30 PM
Mass at DC followed by HS tours
Kathleen (Denton) Koss '99
949-241-9993
kathleenakoss@gmail.com



DIVINE CHILD

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

Save the date and join us for these upcoming DCAA events.

We can't wait to see you there!

Learn more by visiting www.DivineChildHighSchool.org/alumni-portal.

27TH ANNUAL FALCON 5K

Saturday, Aug. 10, 2019

Tot Trot, 1-Mile Fun Run, 5K, refreshments, raffles, prizes and more

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

Alumni Tailgate, Parade and Football Game

Friday, Oct. 11, 2019

Free food, kids activities, raffles, prizes and more

Alumni Mass & School Tour

Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019

All families welcome to celebrate 10 a.m. Mass followed by coffee, donuts and a tour of DCHS by former teachers

DIVINE CHILD HALL OF FAME

Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019

Honoring Sr. Mary Gerald, Mark Carpenter '68, Frank Yesh Sr. and Kathy Tar Strolling dinner courtesy of more than 20 restaurants, silent auction and raffles

AUCTION

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Our biggest fundraiser for our schools. Enjoy dinner, cocktails, live and silent auctions, raffles, dancing and more at The Henry, Autograph Collection

2009

THIS FALL

Location TBD

Check out the

DCHS Class of 2009 10 Year Reunion Facebook page for details

Katie (Bowerson) Zubok '09

kbowerson@gmail.com

REUNION RESOURCES

CONTACT THE ALUMNI OFFICE FOR REUNION IDEAS INCLUDING:

Locations, Themes, DC Giveaways, Schools Tours, Masses & MORE

Aubri McNamara

313- 216-0892

amcnamara@divinechild.org

Once a Falcon, always a Falcon.





9TH ANNUAL DIVINE CHILD GOLF CLASSIC - SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2019

For a second year, the scramble was held at Links of Novi Singh Golf Course. Over 25 foursomes attended the outing. Despite all the rain in June, the course was in perfect shape and the day's weather couldn't have been better. Many new faces/sponsors, repeat golfers/sponsors showed their support for DCAA and helped raise funds for the scholarship fund. A special thank you to our presenting sponsors, Great Lakes Foot & Ankle Specialist (**Matt Hansen `93**) and Autocatalyst (**Ryan Swierlik `00** and **Garrett Swierlik `04**) for their constant support and investment in Divine Child.

• • • EVENT RECAP



Thank you to the 2019 sponsors!

- EDSI, **Kevin Schneiders `90**
- Packaging and Design, **Tom Barszczowski `97**
- State Farm, **Bob Zakar**
- Prime Lending, **Chuck Hage Team**
- Jack Demmer Ford, **Jim Demmer `75**
- A2 Lawn & Gutter, **Brain McCoy `00**
- Ascension Providence Family & Athletic Medicine, **Dr. Greg Cibor `89**
- Assurant Care LLC, **Jeannie Fraser**
- Bifano Eyecare, **Chris Bifano `84**
- City of Dearborn, **Mayor John B. O'Reilly, Jr.**
- Commercial Lawnmower, **John Murphy `72**
- DFCU Financial, **Roxanne Daniel**
- D & G Building Company, **Nino DiDomenico `90**
- Italy American, **Mike Mastroianni `02**
- Jame's Kids, **The Wencel Family**
- Kirco Manix, **Mike Moore `74**
- LaBo Chiropractic, **Heidi LaBo**
- Murray Commercial Contracting & Home Improvement, **Patrick Murray `84**
- Novastar, **Josiah Klaus `99**
- Orange Theory Fitness, **Mary Beth (Trainer) `01** and **Chad Smith**
- PG Electric, **Pat Guerriero**
- Photo Head Covers, **Ken Gauci `99**
- PromoZing, **Larry Bird**
- Real Estate One, **Michael Moore `01**
- Rodan & Fields, **Sarah `00** and **Sam LeBlanc `99**
- Rusted Crowe, **Andrew Starnes `02**
- Stanley Turovski Funeral Home, **Scott `02** and **Todd Boleski `04**
- State Farm, **Katie Zakar `99**
- Samuel Adams, **Jeff Bancroft `00**
- Uncle Ray's, **Jason Thomas**
- Voran Funeral Home
- Western Wayne Family Physicians, **Dr. Donald Welker `76**



DIVINE CHILD AUCTION - SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2019

The 28th annual Auction brought together over 500 members of our parish, schools, alumni and friends of Divine Child to raise funds for technology upgrades in both schools, including 82 new stations in the elementary school computer labs, and renovations to the high school home economics room. The Murray Family served as the event's Honorary Chairs. The Auction has raised more than \$3.5 million to benefit generations of Falcons. This year we raised over \$140,000 for our schools!

DIVINE CHILD

AUCTION

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

... EVENT RECAP



Thank you to the 2019 sponsors!

PRESENTING SPONSOR: The Doran Foundation - Wayne Doran & Randy and Lisa Doran

PLATINUM SPONSORS: Sarah (Kuch) LeBlanc '00 and Sam LeBlanc '99

GOLD SPONSORS: Autocatalyst Recycling - Ryan Swierlik '00 and Garrett Swierlik '04 • Great Lakes Foot and Ankle Specialist - Dr. Matthew Hansen '93 and Dawn (Barszczowski) Hansen '93 • The Henry, Autograph Collection • Michael Mastroianni '02 and Ashley (Loftus) Mastroianni '03 • Kramar Jewelry • Landscape Consultants - Brent Opiela and Mike Opiela '72

SILVER SPONSORS: Rev. James Bilot • Century 21 Curran & Oberski - Andrea (Felps) Fitzgerald '07 • Marty Griffin • Phil Hancock • Kirco Manix - Mike Moore '74 • The Murray Family • Murray Commercial Contracting, Murray Home Improvement - Patrick Murray '84 and Terrie Murray • Pizzeria on Wheels - Dino and Ornella Ciavaglia

BRONZE SPONSORS: Antonio's Cucina Italiana • The Carpenter Family • Greco's Construction Inc. - Carlo Greco '85 and Anna Maria Greco • Connie Hansen • Heathers Club • Roylene Hermann • Independent Carpet One Floor & Home - Cathy Buchanan • Key Bank - Paul Whalen • Don and Mary Kosch • The Lunch Room - Angela DiMarco '11 • Manno Clothing & Tailoring - Pat Manno and Anthony Manno '09 • Norwick Orthodontics • Orangetheory Fitness - Mary Beth (Trainor) Smith '01 and Chad Smith • Park Place Catering • Alex and June Salehi • Simply Beautiful! Skincare Studio - Dr. Helene C. Dombrowski • Tried Stone Designs - Korey Butler '03 and Jessie Butler '05 • Dr. Mark and Mrs. Ellen Zalupski • Dennis and Carole Zikowski •

DEAL ON WHEELS: Bill Brown Ford • Jack Demmer Ford and Lincoln - Jim Demmer '75 • Les Stanford Chevrolet and Cadillac - Gary Stanford '71 • Pat Milliken Ford - Peter Battle '81

FALCON'S CLUB: Alliance Catholic Credit Union • Peter Cogswell • Dearborn Orthopedics & Sports Medicine • Educational Data Systems, Inc. - Kevin Schnieders '90 • Leon's Family Dining • Real Estate One - Mike Moore '01 • Sabre Steel, Inc. - Ray Shinney '67 • Spectrum Signs • Varsity Ford

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DCES Longtime Administrators Retire

Longtime administrators Sister Cecilia Bondy, principal, and Mrs. Ann Marie Grabarkiewicz, assistant principal, have announced their retirement from Divine Child Elementary School at the end of the 2018-19 school year. The pair served as the school's administrators for more than 30 years. Divine Child High School Alumnus and Assistant Principal J. Mike Courage '98 has been named the elementary school principal effective July 1, 2019. Ms. Kristina Hable will join him as the school's assistant principal.

"Serving the Divine Child community all these years has been a blessing to me," Sister Cecilia shared. "I have found so much joy in witnessing the growth of our school community and the generations of students who have come through our doors. Our mission is to form disciples of Christ. It humbles me to know we've been able to do that. It's evident by the many alumni who have come back and now serve as teachers in our school."

Sister Cecilia is a member of the Bernardine Franciscan Order and started her journey with Divine Child in 1968 as a science teacher in the high school. After 20 years of driving excellence in the high school, she was assigned to the elementary school as principal in 1988. Over the years, Sister instilled a strong sense of academic rigor and structured

discipline, while maintaining a nurturing faith-filled environment. While she is retiring from administration, Sister plans to remain involved in the elementary school community as an instructional support tutor with Mrs. Michele Thomas.

*"Our mission is to form
disciples of Christ.
It humbles me to know
we've been able to do that."*

Mrs. Grabarkiewicz joined the Divine Child team as a junior high English and religion teacher in 1987 and was named assistant principal in 1995. During her tenure, she dedicated much of her time to building a strong foundation for academics, reviewing test scores and always seeking out ways to help our teachers and students reach their highest potential. Mrs. Grabarkiewicz is looking forward to retirement and spending more time with family, including being "Busia" to her five grandchildren.

"I am grateful for the many, many years of

selfless service Sister Cecilia and Ann Marie have given to the school and the Parish. They have worked together as a team for so long, and I am so very excited that they are able to retire together and enjoy a new chapter in their lives," Rev. James Bilot said. "I am also pleased and happy that J. Mike Courage has accepted the position of principal. I am confident he will honor the traditions of the school and the parish. He is a very innovative, passionate and caring leader and was a contributor to the strategic plan of the elementary school."



J. Mike returned to Divine Child as a faculty member in 2007, when he launched a Latin and Greek program in the elementary and high schools – one of the only Greek programs in the state of Michigan.

"Enrollment in the elementary school is strong ... [we will] continue to grow and maintain a solid K-12 education program in our school while remaining committed to Gospel values."

In 2014, he took on an administrative role in the high school and has served as the assistant principal for five years, overseeing curriculum development, student affairs, professional development for staff, the advanced placement program and the high school's AdvancED accreditation. J. Mike also established the Virtual Falcon hybrid online course program and the high school's AP Capstone program with the high school administrative team.

"J. Mike will be an excellent fit for the elementary school," Sister added. "Beyond his professional credentials, he smiles easily and has a great sense of humor. That's important in any school – especially in a grade school. He knows how to relate with people, children and adults alike."

J. Mike attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where he attained a bachelor's degree in classical art and archaeology in 2002, as well as a master's degree in Latin, a master's degree in Ancient Greek and a secondary teaching certificate in 2005. In the spring of 2019, he will complete his Administrative Certification from Michigan State University. He also served as a member of the Michigan State Council for AdvancED, a nationwide independent school accreditation organization.



"Enrollment in the elementary school is strong and I'm looking forward to working with the school's faculty to continue that growth," J. Mike said. "I am excited to learn from the systems and practices that Sister and Mrs. Grabarkiewicz have put in place and to continue to grow and maintain a solid K-12 education program in our school while remaining committed to Gospel values."

Kristina Hable will be joining our Divine Child Elementary School administrative team from the Archdiocese of Chicago, where she has served for the past 8 years. In her time there, she has served as a preschool teacher, first grade teacher, and Director of Institutional Advancement and Admissions at St. Mary of the Angels, and, most recently, as the Assistant Principal of St. Genevieve School for the past two years. Kristina earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education with a minor in Early Childhood Education from St. Mary's College. She has participated in the Archdiocese of Chicago Leadership Academy and has earned her Master of Arts in Educational Leadership through the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program at the University of Notre Dame. We look forward to officially welcoming Ms. Hable to our community when she begins in July!

ADMISSIONS

Continue the
FALCON LEGACY
with your family!

FAMILY TOURS

All prospective families are encouraged to visit DCES and/or DCHS to see firsthand what makes our schools so special.

OPEN HOUSE

Tour our facilities, meet our staff, experience our classrooms and see what makes DCES home to the Falcons.

SHADOW VISITS

Students in grades 4-12 are welcome to experience a day in the life of a Falcon by shadowing current students.

APPLY

Our enrollment applications are available online at:

divinechildelementaryschool.org/admissions
or divinechildhighschool.org/admissions



**DIVINE
CHILD**

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Contact our Director of Admissions
Matt Saxer, at 313-216-0891 ext. 268
or email him at msaxer@divinechild.org

Divine Child High School
Advancement Office
1055 N. Silvery Lane
Dearborn, MI 48128



HELP US UPDATE OUR ALUMNI DATABASE

Have you moved, started a new job or prefer another form of communication? Update your contact information with the Divine Child Alumni Association. Visit www.divinechildhighschool.org/alumni-portal/alumni-directory to update your contact info, or contact amcnamara@divinechild.org.

BECOME A PART OF DIVINE CHILD HISTORY

Leave your mark on the Divine Child campus while supporting the development and continued growth of our institution. DC is now offering three ways for Falcons to leave their legacy on the grounds and facilities.

Visit www.divinechildhighschool.org/giving to order yours today!

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

In Loving Memory of
Frederick Williamson
1932-2018

*Always on our minds.
Forever in our hearts.*

Preserve the memory of loved ones on the Wayne Doran Memorial Wall located within the Divine Child Alumni Athletic Complex.

BRICK PAVER



Set your name in stone by ordering a brick paver inside the Divine Child Alumni Athletic Complex.

AUDITORIUM SEAT



Leave your legacy or honor a loved one with a custom engraved silver auditorium seat nameplate in the newly refurbished Divine Child theatre.