

For Alumni of St. Patrick, St. Patrick Central, Bishop McNamara High School,  
and Bishop McNamara Catholic School

# Irish Update



VOLUME 39, NO. 1 • FALL 2020

## Bishop McNamara Catholic School



### CLASS OF 2020



This virtual group photograph of the class of 2020 graduates was created by piecing their individual photographs together. This keepsake captures their class together even though they were not able to gather in person to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Bishop McNamara honored the class of 2020 graduates in a unique way. In order to adhere to guidelines and protocols, each member of the class signed up for a time slot during the designated graduation week and arrived at school for their private ceremony. While there, Mr. Terry Granger, BMCS President/Principal, presented them with their diploma while their four accompanying family members looked on and applauded the accomplishment.

A video was then put together which included all of the

elements of a graduation ceremony: a message from Mr. Granger, the valedictorian and salutatorian addresses, the presentation of diplomas to each graduate, and the traditional bagpipe recessional. To view this special ceremony in its entirety, use this QR code which connects to the YouTube video.



*Congratulations to the class of 2020!*



## IRISH UPDATE

is published semi-annually  
(spring and fall)

### ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS

#### President

Annie Provost '07 Rorabaugh

#### Vice President

Todd Arseneau '86

#### Secretary

Beth Olsen '75 Provost

#### President Ex-Officio

Nick Elliott '06

#### Directors

Mose Arseneau '54

Sharon Soucie '56 Jackson

Jim Gerth '80

Adrian Provost '92

Tyler Provost '99 Pallissard

Taylor Bennett '06

Tyler Boerschig '09

Mitchell Gerth '11

Emily Olszewski '12

Dave Roney '12

Kelsey Curwick '13 McGrath

#### School Liaison

Sandy LaMotte '82 Malpasuto

Coordinator of Alumni

Special Events

Editor of the Irish Update

Interested in learning more

about the Irish Alumni

Association Board?

Please contact any of our

board members or

email Sandy at

smalpasuto@bmcss.org.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT/PRINCIPAL

### Terry Granger '76



Bishop McNamara Alumni and Alumnae,

Since last March when we pivoted to a remote learning structure, our sights have been set on the day in which our students could re-enter our buildings and resume - in the fullest way possible - the living out of our mission. We know that the state mandates placed a tremendous strain on students, families, and the entire greater Kankakee community. At that time, there were many unknowns about COVID-19. Thankfully, what was unknown is becoming more known and confidence, if even somewhat, is returning so that we can carry on our lives in a way that protects the vulnerable in a reasonable and measured way. By the good graces of God, that day we were hoping for since March was August 19th when we welcomed the majority of our students back into school.

The faculty, staff, and administration of Bishop McNamara Catholic School appreciate our students and their families, and we certainly thank them for their continued commitment and dedication to Bishop McNamara. We also sympathize with the earnest desire that all of our daily lives return to a level of normalcy that allows our students and families to flourish. One thing this pandemic has brought to light is that we cannot do this alone. We must be a unified front as a school and as a community. Pope Francis said it best in a recent statement: *"The current pandemic has highlighted our interdependence; we are all linked to each other, for better or for worse. Therefore, to come out of this crisis, better than before, we have to do this together; together not alone."*

No one can predict or foresee the future, but we can use experience, foresight, and common sense to chart a way forward. Over nearly one hundred years of existence, Bishop McNamara has withstood difficult challenges thanks to its loyal alumni. I am confident we will withstand these current challenges, but it is going to take all of us in a unified front. For now, we feel we have taken a great first step by welcoming our students back to school. On behalf of these students, I express my sincere appreciation for your continued support and commitment to Catholic education and to Bishop McNamara Catholic School.

Peace and good health to you all and Go Irish!

**Terry Granger**

President/Principal

## FROM OUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

### BOARD PRESIDENT Annie Provost '07 Rorabaugh



Dear Fellow Alum,

I hope this edition of the Irish Update finds you all safe and well. The last six months have been difficult for not only the Bishop McNamara community, but for our nation as a whole. Because the health and safety of our alums is our greatest concern, we, the Irish Alumni Association Board, made the difficult decision to change our Annual Golf Outing from an in-person event to a virtual event. We want to thank all of our loyal sponsors and supporters. The 2020 Socially Distant Irish Golf Classic would not have been a success without all of your generosity. Next year will be our 35th year hosting the annual Irish Golf Classic! We cannot wait to celebrate BIG with all our fellow alums in person once again.

Typically, this Irish Update reaches you at the start of fall which brings our fall sports, and homecoming celebrations at the football game. For those classes that had reunions in the works, they had to be postponed as well. We hope you will be able to gather and celebrate with your classmates soon! Looking toward 2021, those who graduated in years ending in 1 and 6 will be celebrating reunions.

The start of a new school year is always an exciting feeling and gives us all the opportunity for a fresh start. I hope this school year allows for everyone to start new and grow with all we have learned from our time home together. God bless you all and know that your Irish family is here for you, always.

Thank you and Go Irish!

**Annie Provost '07 Rorabaugh**

Irish Alumni Association President

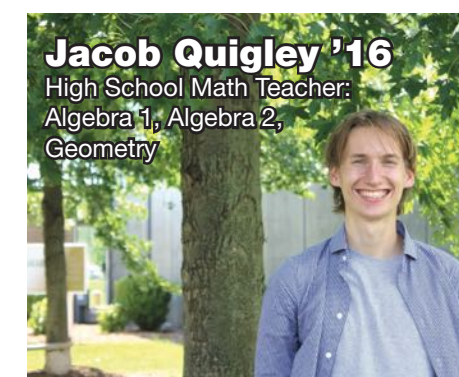
## Bishop McNamara Alums Return As 2020-21 Faculty And Staff Members

When the opportunity arose to come back to Bishop McNamara Catholic School as members of the faculty and staff, these alums did not hesitate! We welcome each of them as they showcase their knowledge and special talents in their areas of expertise.



### Jim Giacchino '80

High School History Teacher:  
History, World History,  
Honors World History,  
Geography



### Jacob Quigley '16

High School Math Teacher:  
Algebra 1, Algebra 2,  
Geometry



### Kailey Glass - McCarty '15

Advancement  
Specialist  
and Assistant  
Softball Coach



### Peggy Purcell '90 Mayer

Coordinator of  
Major Events



### Olivia Sproul '14

Kindergarten - 5th  
Grade Teacher:  
Response to  
Intervention (RTI)  
and Resource,  
Bourbonnais Site

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST IRISH ALUMS**

*The Senior Class of 2020*

Antonio Acosta	Molly Kurtz
Joseph Allegro	Mackenzie LaCost
Hector Alvarez	Michael Lanie
Hailey Baker	Sarah Littrell
Alissa Bergstresser	Caleb Magruder
Katherine Brouillet	Samantha Miller
Madison Bylak	Michael Mills
Benjamin Clark	Elle Nugent
Jocelyn Clodi	Emilie Nugent
Brandon Courtney	Max O'Connor
Carlos Cualla	Yoana Perez
Connor Curtis	Joseph Plizur
Lily Edwards	Jude Pommier Jr
Riley Ford	Connor Powers
Taylor Gilbert	Toryn Provost
Preston Goodman	Wesley Provost
Ryan Graf	Sophia Ramirez
Joshua Granger	Isaac Ruder
Jennifer Guerrero	Peyton Ryan
Jonas Hall	Nicole Sansone
Nierra Harris	Abbey Short
Noah Hayden	Brayden Smith
Jacquelyn Henrichsen	Mya Smithberg
Tyler Hiller	Kylie Sullivan
Owen Jackson	Ciara Sykes
Jesus Jimenez-Cintora	Lauryn Thomas
Daisha Johnson	Damien Thornton
Alejandro Juarez	Joseph Trevino III
Steven Karraker	Avery Turro
Kara Jean Kleinert	Erik Valadez-Rico
Harley Knickrehm	Nicholas Viglia
Kolton Krutsinger	Isabelle Williams
Tyler Kujawa	

# THE ROARING 20s

## BISHOP MCNAMARA CATHOLIC SCHOOL 37TH ANNUAL DINNER AUCTION

Bishop McNamara's 37th Annual Dinner Auction, "The Roaring 20s" will be held on Friday, November 6, 2020!

Our fall 2020 auction chairpersons, Jeremy and Laura Breault '97 Andersen, will be working very hard with the steering committee to make the event extra special this year! Jeremy and Laura have three children in the Bishop McNamara Catholic School system. Harper, Marek, and Davis are all 4th graders at the BMCS Bourbonnais site.

This year, we're excited to be able to offer the auction experience to our friends near and far... virtually! Whether you choose to host the virtual auction at your house with friends or fire up your laptop with a candlelight dinner as a couple, we'll make it an easy-to-implement experience so that you can focus on fun and winning.

In addition to our array of silent items and feature items, we'll draw the winners of the first Progressive Raffle drawing of the year! The grand prize will be \$25,000 with an additional \$15,000 in cash prizes.

We are pleased to introduce Dr. & Mrs. John and Carol Vallone as our 37th Annual Dinner Auction Honorary Chairpersons.

John and Carol are the parents of three daughters who are all Bishop McNamara alums. Lauren '11 is studying to be a radiology tech, Gina '13 graduated from the University of Illinois with a community health degree and is studying to obtain her bachelor's degree in nursing, and Michela '15 is studying to obtain her degree in computer science.

John and Carol have been dedicated to the mission of Bishop McNamara even after their daughters graduated. They chaired not one but two Bishop McNamara auctions, "Una Bella Festa Italiana" in 2010 and "Grand Ole Opry" in 2015. In

**2020 Auction Chairpersons**  
Jeremy and Laura Breault '97 Andersen



addition, they've been longtime sponsors of the Fightin' Irish 5K Ken Klipp Classic.

"It's important to us that we support Bishop McNamara because we want this school to continue to promote an excellent Catholic education for the children in our area. Bishop McNamara provided our girls with a Catholic education as well as a comprehensive college prep education. They had all they needed to pursue their careers. It is very important to us that McNamara continues to educate the

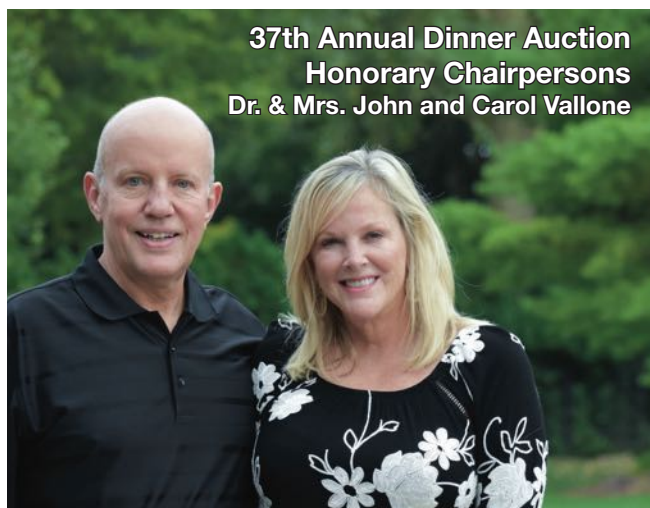
children in our area. The children really are important to our future and our community."

For more information about the 37th Annual Dinner Auction including a direct link to RSVP visit <https://www.bishopmac.com/support/37annualdinnerauction>.

If you would like additional information regarding the 37th Annual Dinner Auction, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Areca Van Mill,

Director of Advancement, at (815) 933-7620 or email her at [avanmill@bmcss.org](mailto:avanmill@bmcss.org).

**37th Annual Dinner Auction Honorary Chairpersons**  
Dr. & Mrs. John and Carol Vallone



*We can't wait to celebrate the 37th Annual Dinner Auction with you – near and far – in a new way!*

Bishop McNamara  
**PROGRESSIVE RAFFLE**

**35 Winners!**

Total Cash Payout  
**\$40,000**  
November 6 2020  
Bishop McNamara Annual Dinner Auction

Total Cash Payout  
**\$80,000**  
March 6 2021  
Las Vegas in Bradley

**\$25,000** Grand Cash Prize  
Two \$5000 Winners  
Three \$1000 Winners  
Four \$500 Winners

**\$50,000** Grand Cash Prize  
Three \$5000 Winners  
Nine \$1000 Winners  
Twelve \$500 Winners

The sooner you buy your \$100 ticket, the more chances you have to win!  
Buy them yourself or split them up any way you want with a group of people!

**How MUCH WILL YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS WIN?**

To buy your chance to win a piece of the \$120,000 prize, visit [bishopmac.com/raffle](https://www.bishopmac.com/raffle)

Call the Raffle Hotline at 815-348-7610 with questions.

Winners will be drawn on each of the two dates listed here. Winning tickets will be re-entered in the next drawing. Winner need not be present. Must be 21 years or over to win. For more details about the drawing and events, visit [bishopmac.com/raffle](https://www.bishopmac.com/raffle).

Thank you for all you do for Bishop McNamara! ~The Bishop McNamara Progressive Raffle Committee

Please complete, detach and return this to the Main Office

### TICKETS REQUEST

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Progressive Raffle Tickets for our family.

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name/Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**GROUP TICKET SALES**

**GROUP TICKET SALES**  
(INCLUDE FIRST AND LAST NAMES)

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# VIRTUAL 5K FIGHTIN' IRISH KEN KLIPP CLASSIC

The annual Fightin' Irish 5K Ken Klipp Classic that is traditionally held on Memorial Day went virtual this year! Alumni, friends, families, and supporters walked or ran the virtual 5K race all across the country on their own time. With fun and informative training videos from Coach Klipp and a virtual opening ceremony on May 25th, participants were able to connect via this event in a unique way.

It was wonderful to hear from and see so many alumni who submitted their race photo upon completion. Thank you to all who participated – near and far!



Oscar, Laurie, and Jeremy '90 Kirchman of Albany, New York.



Laura Thunstedt '90 Eichhorn of Mission Viejo, California.



Ben Bruhn '04 of Hinesville, Georgia ran with a 22 lb. armor vest.



A throwback photo (left) and a current photo (right) of Sally Worth '07 of Covington, Kentucky.



Andrew Giardina '07 of Carrboro, North Carolina.



Chris '91 and Lori Zufall '91 Curtis of Kankakee, Illinois.



Kyle Lampley '21 of Bourbonnais, Illinois.

## Jackie Keller Memorial Golf Outing Caddyshack Style

Bishop McNamara Catholic School hosted its 5th annual golf outing on August 7, 2020 at Shamrock Golf Course in St. Anne. The golf outing is named after Bishop McNamara's beloved Alumna, the late Jackie Martin '75 Keller. Simply put, Jackie's dedication to her family, students, fellow colleagues, Bishop McNamara and her faith was unwavering. Honoring Jackie's memory at this event makes it a special day for all.



From Left to Right: Jeff Schroeder '97, Karley Keller, Doug Keller '06, Tim Keller '02 with son Beckham, Dr. Karl Keller '72, Katie Keller '97 Schroeder with daughters Makenna and Madelyn.

### It's Time To Get Your Ceile Calendar With Daily Cash Raffles

Ceile Calendars go on sale October 20th!

You may order one online at [bishopmac.com/ceilecalendar](http://bishopmac.com/ceilecalendar), contact a student who attends Bishop McNamara, or call the Advancement Office at (815) 933-7620.

*This school fundraiser is 37 years in the making and still going strong!*

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Irish Alumni Association unites more than 9500 alumni of St. Patrick, St. Patrick Central, Bishop McNamara High School, and Bishop McNamara Catholic School.

Our mission is to preserve the heritage that shaped our school, to foster the spirit of camaraderie among alumni and to support the mission and development of Bishop McNamara Catholic School.

## We Are Right At Your Fingertips!

[bishopmac.com](http://bishopmac.com)

**Facebook:** @ Bishop McNamara  
@ Bishop McNamara Alumni

**Twitter:** @ bishopmcmnamara  
@ bishopmacalumni

**Instagram:** @ bishopmcmnamara

# The 2020 Socially Distant

34th IRISH ALUMNI

# Golf Classic

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 35<sup>TH</sup> IRISH GOLF CLASSIC JULY 2, 2021

After much thought and consideration, the Irish Alumni Association Board made the decision to cancel the in-person 2020 Irish Golf Classic. This event was originally scheduled to take place in July and was tentatively rescheduled for September. However, due to continued uncertainty as we moved into the start of the school year, we collectively felt it was best to cancel the event altogether for the health and well-being of all.

Because the golf outing is the primary means of raising funds for all that the Irish Alumni Association provides for each year, we conducted a 2020 Socially Distant Irish Golf Classic. We were truly overwhelmed by the generous support we received from alumni and friends from near and far!

Each year, the Irish Alumni Association Board raises funds to support the initiatives that are listed. Because of the generosity

we have witnessed, we will be able to continue these things that are important to our entire alumni association.

- Sr. LaMarre freshmen student scholarships
- Parting gifts for each senior student upon graduation
- An appreciation lunch for our faculty and staff during the school year
- The Irish Update magazine - production and postage each spring and fall
- The alumni tent & post-game gathering at homecoming
- Sponsorship of the biennial Hall of Honor induction ceremony and reception

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPECIAL 2020 SOCIALLY DISTANT SPONSORS

**"Thanks for the Break" Sponsor:**  
Provides an Appreciation Lunch for our BMCS Faculty and Staff  
Brian Lown '97, Country Financial

**"Hole-In-One" Sponsor:**  
Sr. LaMarre Student Scholarships  
Tom Dubois '73  
Al Longtin '78, Longtin Family Companies  
Bob and Sandy LaMotte '82 Malpasuto

**"Tee Prize" Sponsor:**  
Fightin' Irish Nike Polo Shirts  
Jim Adame '65  
Jeremy and Laura Breault '97 Andersen  
Todd Arseneau '86,  
Todd Arseneau Insurance Agency  
McColly Bennett Real Estate  
Kevin Boudreau '82,  
Boudreau Consulting LLC  
Bruce '71 and Chris Memenga '72 Breault  
Claire Chaplinski '02 Attorney at Law  
Jorge Contreras, JC Insulation Inc.  
Nick '06 and Meghan Billadeau '06 Elliott  
Jim Gerth '80, Guardian Strapping  
Patrick '07 and Bridget O'Brien  
Tom Boisvert '77 and Mike Arseneau '85,  
Protection Associates, Inc.  
Austin Provost '90,  
TranSmart/EJM Corporation  
Karl '75 and Beth Olsen '75 Provost,  
Provost Cattle Company  
Michael Woyahn '62

**"Gimme Some Distance" Sponsor:**  
In Lieu of the Typical Golf Registration Fee or Hole Sponsorship, this Donation Goes Toward All Alumni Association Initiatives

Mark and Alice Argyelan  
Jeff '83 and Debby Arseneau  
Blair Bennett '03 Ade  
Taylor Bennett '06,  
McColly Bennett Real Estate  
The Alex Berghouse '08 Family  
Patty Clancy '82  
The Andy and Terra Czako Families  
Edwin Darr '89 and the Darr Family at  
Kankakee Glass Company  
The Demack Family,  
Alexandra '15, Benjamin '18, Coen '26  
The "Devine" Sisters,  
Lynn '72, Jane '74, Deb '73, Jackie '79,  
Amy '81  
Justin Faber '12  
Dr. Emily Fisher '01 Gentry, Matt Gentry,  
Kris Fisher, Dr. Marc Fisher,  
Fisher-Gentry Eye Center  
John Friestad '76  
Good Shepherd Manor  
Peter Grant '83, Speckman Realty Inc.  
Scott and Amanda Irps  
Ken '65 and Barb Johnson  
Luke Johnson '98  
Kankakee Area Career Center  
Jerry and Corine Krieg  
Mike Krisko '82 DDS  
Jim LaMotte '58  
The LaMotte - Gonia Family

Bobby and Julie Kingsnorth '92 Lampley  
Langlois Roofing Inc.  
The Library Bar  
Brian '80 and Beth Harris '82 Ludwig  
Brian Marsali '81  
Peggy Purcell '90 Mayer,  
Spotlight Meeting & Events Inc.  
Don Mower '66  
Joe '89 and Stacie Mroz  
No Dogs  
Dr. Kelly O'Connor '79,  
O'Connor Dental Care  
Steve '74 and Carey Ortman  
Andy '92 and Tyler Provost '99 Pallissard  
Dar '63 and Carol Provost  
Adrian '92 and Yvonne Provost  
Andy '92 and Meredith Purcell  
Rick Ribbe '81, Ribbe & Ribbe CPA's  
The Brian and Peggy Rogers Family  
Doug '05 and Annie Provost '07  
Rorabaugh  
Bill Smith '84  
Dick Stack '58  
Paul '74 and Lisa Tutt  
Matthew '05 and Blakely Van Mill  
Mike '83 and Areca Van Mill  
Kyle and Dawn Huot '85 Vaubel  
Matt Waite Insurance and  
Financial Services  
Jim '85 and Julie Worby

## THANK YOU TO OUR BMCS 2019-20 MAJOR EVENT SPONSORS FOR BEING A PART OF OUR 2020 SOCIALLY DISTANT IRISH GOLF CLASSIC



# AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

## JIM RIORDAN '67 WHO'S WHO LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

James Riordan '67, a nationally-known author, was awarded the 2019 Who's Who Lifetime Achievement Award in the Writing Category. The Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award is an honor reserved for biographers who have demonstrated leadership, excellence and longevity within their respective industries and professions.



Marquis Who's Who has remained the standard for reliable and comprehensive biographical data since 1899. The Who's Who Lifetime Achievement recognizes individuals who have achieved excellence in the industry and have excelled in their field for at least 20 years.

James is the author of 45 published books, including the New York Times Bestseller, *Break on Through: The Life & Death of Jim Morrison*, upon which filmmaker Oliver Stone based his movie *The Doors*. He also wrote Stone's biography.

James' first book was *The Platinum Rainbow* (written with Bob Monaco). It was called "One of the best how-to books ever written" by the Los Angeles Daily News and "The ultimate career book on the music industry" by Recording, Engineer & Producer. Other notable works in his literary repertoire include *The Bishop of Rwanda* (written with John Rucyahana) and his solo work *The Coming of the Walrus*.

His career began in the music industry where, as a songwriter, manager, producer and concert promoter, he worked with several well-known artists. In 1976, he began writing a newspaper column on popular music, "Rock-Pop," which he later syndicated. Riordan became one of America's premier rock journalists with articles reaching millions of readers to include those in *Rolling Stone*, *Crawdaddy*, *Circus*, *Musician*, and newspapers such as *The Chicago Daily News* and *The Kansas City Star*.

On April 9, 2000, his 16-year-old son, Jeremiah, was killed as a passenger in an accident that involved three drunk drivers. Shortly after this, James founded Make it Stick, which works to warn teens of the dangers of substance abuse. Since 2012, Riordan, through Make it Stick, had produced the Kankakee Area Music Awards, which recognizes talent within a 25-mile radius of Kankakee. In April 2019, the eighth annual awards were presented in front of a capacity crowd at the Majestic Theater in Kankakee.

To see a complete history of James' literary works, films, television, video productions, and industry awards, visit his website at [jamesriordan.com](http://jamesriordan.com).

## ADAM TURNER '07 MAS WORLD CUP

In November 2019, Adam Turner '07 and his coach, John O'Connor, made the 4,600 mile trip to Pabianice, Poland, for the 2019 Mas World Cup. Mas wrestling, or stick wrestling, is a traditional wrestling sport that originated in Russia. To compete, two wrestlers sit opposite of each other and try to pull a stick out of the other opponent's hands or drag their opponent over the wooden divider. While brute strength is a big part of the sport, so is technique, speed, and agility. Competitors are allowed to move up the board, twist, turn and move their feet.



Adam Turner '07 with coach, John O'Connor

The tug-of-war matches last from mere seconds up to the 2-minute time limit, and end whenever one athlete lets go of the stick. Victory goes to the athlete who pulls his opponent over the board and keeps the stick in his hands.

The Mas World Cup is held every other year. The event Adam competed in included athletes from Russia, eastern Europe, Austria, Germany, and Poland where the event was hosted.

The competition is done by weight classes and at this competition, the top three winners walked away with medals and prizes. Adam made it to the 4th round and was ultimately beat-out for the bronze medal. He only learned about the sport roughly two years ago and is now ranked in the top 10 in the world for his weight class. Adam will be competing in Las Vegas in December at the 2020 Olympia World MAS Wrestling Tournament.

Adam is a Correctional Sergeant for Chain O'Lakes Correctional Facility in Indiana. He has also been involved in Strongman competitions for the past five years. While at Bishop McNamara, Adam played football and wrestled. He went on to play football for Marion University in Indianapolis. He currently lives in Kendallville, IN with his wife, Skyla, and their two daughters, Maleigha and Rosalie.

## KHADAIZHA SANDERS '15 RUTGERS SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD



Khadaizha Sanders '15 at Rutgers University

In May 2020, The Big Ten announced Khadaizha Sanders '15 of the Rutgers University Women's Basketball Team as one of the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award winners for the 2019-20 academic year.

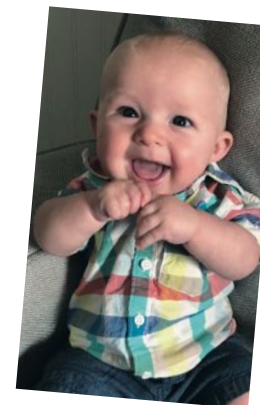
One member of each varsity sports team on every campus in The Big Ten was chosen by his or her institution as a Sportsmanship Award honoree and two Outstanding Sportsmanship Award winners were then selected from each institution. All of the Sportsmanship Award winners distinguished themselves through sportsmanship and ethical behavior. The honorees must also be in good academic standing and must have demonstrated good citizenship outside of the sports competition setting. Twenty-eight standouts were chosen from a group of 270 students who displayed positive sportsmanship throughout the academic year.

In addition, Khadaizha is a three-time Academic All-Big Ten selection and one of just ten guards in Rutgers women's basketball history to record 400 or more assists for a career. Her Rutgers career totals were 764 career points and 421 assists in a 124-game career.

During her senior year at Bishop McNamara, Khadaizha "KK," led the girls' basketball team to the 2015 IHSA Class 2A State Championship title at Redbird Arena in Bloomington, Illinois which was the first championship title ever in school history.



Jett Jackson Granger was born on March 21, 2020 at Riverside Hospital in Kankakee. Parents are Adam '06 and Jordan Rink '06 Granger.



Beau David Schafer was born April 2, 2020 at Amita Health St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee. Parents are Scott and Jenna Frazier '07 Schafer.



(Left) James Gerald Jarvis was born on August 31, 2020 at Riverside Hospital in Kankakee. Parents are Cole and Ashley Bennett '02 Jarvis. (Right) Gianna Elizabeth Kaner was born on July 20, 2020 at Amita Health St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee. Parents are Mark and Brandi Bennett '00 Kaner.

## JOHATHAN RAICHE '03 40 UNDER 40 WINNER IN ST. LOUIS

Kirkwood, Missouri City Planner, Jonathan Raiche '03, was selected by the St. Louis Business Journal as a "40 Under 40" recipient for 2019. An award dinner was held on February 13, 2020 at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel in St. Louis.



During his tenure as City Planner, Jonathan spearheaded the city's planning project "EnVision 2035: Comprehensive Plan" that resulted in the development of a downtown master plan for the city's robust and historic downtown business district. He has also worked closely with the Kirkwood Des Peres Area Chamber on its economic development team and on the "Kirkwood Open for Business" City-Business Community partnership. Jonathan also researched and developed a new online data tool to help local businesses find information such as demographics, real estate listings, labor force and education data, consumer spending, and geographic mapping.

Jonathan has been instrumental in several economic development projects where the city partnered with the Kirkwood Des Peres Area Chamber, Trailnet, Great Rivers Greenway, and other organizations. Currently, he serves on a team with elected officials, community members, and a consultant evaluating and updating the city's codes for zoning, subdivisions, signs, and architectural review.

After graduating from Bishop McNamara, Jonathan attended the University of Illinois in Champaign. In 2007, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in urban planning and in 2008 a master's degree in urban planning. He and his wife, Chelsea, have three daughters and live in Ellisville, Missouri.

## I'm an Irish fan!

# Accomplishments & Achievements

## Michael Groth '11 - Ordained A Priest



Fr. Michael Groth '11

Michael Groth '11 was ordained a priest of Jesus Christ on June 20, 2020 at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet. On Sunday, July 21st, he celebrated his first Mass of Thanksgiving at St. John Paul II in Kankakee. At that Mass, Michael received his dad, Todd Groth, into the Catholic Church where he administered to him the sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion.

Fr. Michael Groth is currently assigned to Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Naperville and Benet Academy in Lisle. At Saints Peter and Paul, he serves as the parochial vicar. Michael says, "In this role, I get to be the "fun" priest who does not have the entire responsibility of running the parish." He, along with another parochial vicar, assist the pastor in ministering to the parish and grade school. At Benet Academy, Michael is an associate chaplain. Together with the monks of St. Procopius Abbey, he ministers to the faculty, staff and students of Benet with sacraments, retreats, mission trips and pilgrimages.

Michael credits the late Fr. Dennis Settles '57 as being a true inspiration in his decision to enter into the priesthood. After graduating from Bishop McNamara, Michael attended Kankakee Community College for two years. He then spent three years of formation at St. John Vianney College Seminary, St. Paul, MN where he also experienced five months in Rome. He completed three years at Mundelein Seminary and was ordained a deacon on March 30, 2019. While at Mundelein, he was assigned to Immaculate Conception Parish in Elmhurst where he was involved with the parish families as well as the grade school and high school.



Fr. Michael Groth '11 with his dad, Todd Groth and mom, Deborah Groth

## Joey Pizur '20 - Eagle Scout



Joey Pizur '20 coaxing the cats into their new "catio."

Joey Pizur '20 has been a Scout since second grade. This summer, he completed his final project with Troop 319 to become an Eagle Scout. Eagle Scout is the highest achievement rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America program. Since its inception in 1911, only four percent of Scouts have earned this rank after a lengthy review process.

In June, Joey chose to complete his Eagle Scout project at the Kankakee County Humane Foundation by building a



Joey Pizur '20 with the crew that assisted with the project - Ricky Jenson, Jason McGlennon, Dale Guttendorf Sr.

## Joey Pizur '20... continued

brand new "catio." All of the feline friends love their new option to relax and have a snooze in the sun!

Currently, Joey is at the Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, WI with the United States Navy. Upon completion of Boot Camp, he will be pursuing a Law Enforcement & Security role and report to San Antonio, TX where he will receive training in the Master-At-Arms "A" School.

While a student at Bishop McNamara, Joey was in football, bowling, baseball, track and field, and wrestling. He was a member of the band and the dirty dozen (a youth ministry program). He received two senior awards upon graduation, the John Phillip Sousa Band Award and the Honors Botany Department Award.

## Jonathan Ward '16 - Arizona Cardinals

Photo Credit - Website of Central Michigan Chippewas



Jonathan Ward '16

In April 2020, Jonathan Ward '16 signed as an undrafted free agent with the Arizona Cardinals.

Jonathan's journey as a professional athlete is continuing as almost immediately after learning he did not make the week one roster in September, the Cardinals made the decision to retain him by signing him to the team's practice squad. All 32 NFL teams have a practice squad, a group of 16 players who can practice with the team during the week but do not play in games. Jonathan was part of a unique NFL offseason that saw no pre-season games. As a rookie, he didn't have an opportunity to impress against professional competition but was impressive enough to be retained and is able to continue his NFL journey.

Jonathan starred as a running back at Central Michigan University, where he posted two seasons with at least 1,000 rushing yards to include a career-high 1,108 yards and 15 touchdowns last season, resulting in a third-team Mid-American All-Conference selection. He finished his college career with 2,539 rushing yards and 28 touchdowns with another 909 receiving yards and four touchdowns on 98 career receptions. He was a two-time all-conference selection.

Photo Credit - Isaac Ritchey



Jonathan Ward '16 at Central Michigan University

On January 18, 2020 Jonathan played at the NFL Players Association Collegiate Bowl on the American Team at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA.

While at Bishop McNamara, Jonathan - a three-year starter, set school career records for touchdowns (83) and rushing yards (5,689). He set single-season records for rushing yards (2,400) and touchdowns (36) and scored seven touchdowns in one game which is also a school record. He earned All-State honors as a senior and led the Fightin' Irish to a 13-1 finish and the 2015 Class 3A State Championship title. In addition, Jonathan received the Chicago Catholic League White Division Tony Lawless Award after both his junior and senior seasons. The Lawless is the highest individual honor the league bestows to a player. He is a three-time All-Catholic League selection and a two-time team MVP.

This summer, Jonathan came back to Kankakee to give back to his community. He hosted his first-ever "Jonathan Ward Youth Football Camp" which he hopes is just the beginning of his philanthropy.

# Congratulations to the Brides and Grooms!

## BRAD AND JENNA Powell



Brad Powell '07 and Jenna Haste are celebrating their first anniversary as they were married on September 14, 2019 in Peoria, IL. Parents of the groom are Ed Powell '81 and Amy Devine '81 Hansen. Parents of the bride are David and Debbie Haste. Brad graduated from Bradley University in Peoria, IL with a doctorate in physical therapy. He is a regional manager with Athletico Physical Therapy in the Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX area. Jenna graduated from St. Francis College of Nursing and is a registered nurse at Carrollton Regional Medical Center in Carrollton, TX. Brad and Jenna reside in Dallas, Texas.

## COLE AND KATHRYN Pence



Happy first anniversary to Kathryn "Katie" Jacobsen '08 and Cole Pence who were married on June 15, 2019 at the Regent Ballroom and Banquet Center in Savoy, IL. Parents of the bride are Michael and Dale Jacobsen. Parents of the groom are Brad and Lisa Pence. Katie graduated from Lakeview College of Nursing with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. She is a registered nurse in the cardiac catheter lab (interventional suites) at Edward Hospital in Naperville, IL. Cole graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Science degree in geology and is an associate geoscientist working for Weston Solutions in Mundelein, IL. Katie and Cole currently reside in Naperville, IL.

## TIM AND RACHEL McElroy

Celebrating their first year of marriage are Rachel Breault '12 and Tim McElroy who were married on October 19, 2019 at Fletcher Park in Mt. Zion, IL. A reception was held at Hickory Point Golf Course in Forsyth, IL. The bride is the daughter of Bruce '71 and Christine Memenga '72 Breault. The groom is the son of Tina McElroy and Chad Schlosser, and Mike and Cheryl McElroy. Rachel and Tim are both graduates of Millikin University. Rachel earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in marketing and communication and is currently studying at Grand Canyon University earning her Master of Education degree to become an elementary teacher. Tim received a Bachelor of Arts degree in education and is a physical education teacher at Moulton Middle School in Shelbyville, IL. Rachel and Tim reside in Mt. Zion, IL.



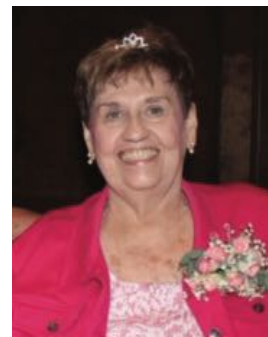
## RYAN AND KATIE Olsen



Katie Jakubowski '04 and Ryan Olsen were married on February 22, 2020 at Zia's Lago Vista in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. Parents of the bride are Jake and Lorene Jakubowski. Parents of the groom are John and Anne Olsen. Katie earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Northwestern University and a Juris Doctor from Notre Dame Law School. She is currently Senior Counsel at Walgreens. Ryan earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Northern Illinois University and a Master of Science degree in public service management, health care administration from DePaul University. He is a registry optimization manager at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Katie and Ryan reside in Riverside, IL.

## IRISH Birthday Wishes

**Happy Birthday to Sharon Draude '53 and Brigadier General Tom Draude '58**



Sharon Draude '53 celebrated her 85th birthday in June!



Brigadier General Tom Draude '58 celebrated his 80th birthday in April!



**Happy Birthday to Mose Arseneau!**



Mose '54 and Dolores Kilbride '54 Arseneau celebrated Mose's 85th Birthday in July.

## IRISH UPDATE CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Dionne ..... 1948	Michael Ohrt..... 1965
Robert Marcotte ..... 1948	Mariann Hildebrand Lane ..... 1966
Dennis Savoie..... 1950	James Ciaccio ..... 1969
Sharon Draude ..... 1953	Carol Cleary Curtiss ..... 1969
Mose '54 and	Carla Golowski Scheppler..... 1969
Dolores Kilbride '54 Arseneau..... 1954	Shelley Lambert Link..... 1971
Robert Sterr..... 1954	Bill Veronda ..... 1972
Monica Benoit Ruder..... 1955	Michael '75 and
James Mathews ..... 1957	Marianne Johnson '78 Vollmer ..... 1975
Janice Belisle McClain ..... 1957	Kimberly Bovie Bennett..... 1976
Donald Mackey ..... 1960	Patrick Martin ..... 1978
Kathryn Schmid Burge ..... 1960	Teresa Poskus ..... 1979
Dianna Anderson Wilson ..... 1960	Renee Arseneau Streicher..... 1980
Charles Christophersen..... 1961	Amy Devine Hansen ..... 1981
Michael Bailey ..... 1963	Jeff Arseneau..... 1983
David Anderson ..... 1965	Patricia Lagacy Ostrowski..... 1983
Ralph Lambert..... 1965	Charles Gricius ..... Friend

We love putting the *Irish Update* together!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who made a donation toward production and mailing costs for the Irish Update. We want to keep our alumni connected to their alma mater and the Irish Update is our best tool to do so!

## MEMORIALS

Memorials were established for Bishop McNamara Catholic School for these deceased alums and friends. We are truly grateful for all gifts received in honor of these wonderful people. Monies received directly benefit the students of Bishop McNamara.

Joan Lambert '52 Benoit	Rod Whittington '65	Ronald Coash, Friend
Len O'Connor '60	Earl Giroux '66	Barbara Hendron, Friend
James Beck '61	Mike Kilbride '66	Phil Hodak, Friend
Mike Lagesse '62	Amy Martel '71 Demarah	Rosemary Miller, Friend
Chuck Woyahan '64	Jeff Lahners '73	Pat Neville, Friend

## Rest In Peace

Catherine Ortman Lawless ..... 1938	Michael Kilbride ..... 1966
Earl Uribe..... 1946	Shirley Marie Gordon..... 1967
Joan Rogers Baron..... 1948	Carmen Lambert Moroney ..... 1970
Maxine Lagesse Osmonson ..... 1949	Amy Martel Demarah..... 1971
Mary Ellen Raiche Burton ..... 1951	Jeffrey Lahners ..... 1973
Joan Lambert Benoit..... 1952	Melvin Hess ..... 1978
James Jaeger ..... 1954	Martha Wertz ..... 1978
Ron McCann ..... 1954	Bill DeSelm ..... 1982
Jeannine Marcotte Morgan ..... 1954	Dave Beckner ..... Friend
Robert Roy ..... 1955	Ronald Coash..... Friend
William Scroggins..... 1955	Phil Hodak ..... Friend
Marilyn Harris Ponce ..... 1958	Barbara Hendron ..... Friend
Len O'Connor ..... 1960	Ione MacDonald ..... Friend
Earl Giroux..... 1966	Pat Neville ..... Friend





**BISHOP McNAMARA**

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

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At a time when prayers are needed for many,  
know that we are praying for all of you -  
our alumni, friends, and supporters -  
who hold a special place in our hearts.

Whether near or far -  
we are all connected as the  
Bishop McNamara family.

Our prayers are with you  
now and always.