

BISHOP LOUGHLIN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

THE JAMESONIAN

PANDEMIC OF 2020 EDITION



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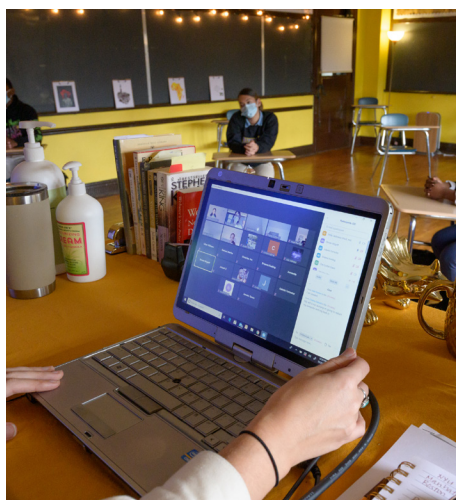
Congratulations to the Loughlin Class of 2021

By: Staff

On a beautiful and warm Saturday, June 5th, 2021, the Class of 2021 reached the culmination of their four years at Bishop Loughlin, at a processional unlike any before. Brother Peter Bonventre, FSC, led the invocation, followed by an address from salutatorian Skyler Grady. After Brother Dennis J. Cronin FSC led the Presentation of Awards, valedictorian Hanny Echeverrian-Navarro gave a moving speech, extolling the virtues of hard work in equal measure with self-care and mental health. Social distancing, mask wearing, and the outdoor setting provided the backdrop to the end of a challenging year (cont. pages 2-3).



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In Memoriam



Herbert Lablanc



Celines Garcia and Brother Dennis J. Cronin



Dean Luis Montes



Khara Burnett



The Salutatorian’s Address Receives a Standing Ovation



A Student’s Cap Captures the Prevailing Sentiment of the Morning



Sebastian Albarran



Donovan Cumberbatch



The Loughlin Band

Senior Spotlight



Helena Huete



Donovan Cumberbatch



Seyi Balogun

What is your favorite memory from high school?

My favorite moments of all my four years at Loughlin were the retreats for Lasallian Youth as well as the community services, the opportunity those events gave me to meet other awesome people as well as grow as a better person

What is one thing you would change about your time at Loughlin?

I would change in confidence. Be more brave in talking to people and joining clubs and activities earlier to bond with people.

Do you feel prepared to move on to the next step in your life?

I do feel like Loughlin has prepared me for college and the real world. It's helped me build responsibility and take responsibility for my actions.

What advice can you give an underclassman?

My advice would be to enjoy the present and do things that will make you proud today and tomorrow so there's nothing to regret.

What faculty or staff member inspired you most?

Mr. Foley has been an inspiration to me. They way he is so kind and gentle with everyone and always has an energy that makes others happy and excited is something I admire. I learned a lot from him on how to be a leader, have confidence, help those around you without expecting anything in return, and just be myself.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

In 10 years, I see myself working in a hospital as a nurse or internal medicine doctor. I will either be living with my parents once they get their residence or I'll have my own apartment and hopefully be genuinely happy and satisfied with what I've done.

What is your favorite memory from high school?

My favorite moment of all four years of Loughlin was when I heard my last bell at Loughlin and celebrated leaving. Even though it was sad it was a good thing because it's a start for new beginnings.

What is one thing you would change about your time at Loughlin?

I wouldn't change anything about my experience at Loughlin. I think that everything happens for a reason and I stick with that all the time.

Do you feel prepared to move on to the next step in your life?

I do feel Loughlin prepared me for college because I went through a lot at Loughlin but I never broke and kept fighting. So you can say Loughlin gave me pride for my future.

What advice can you give an underclassman?

For the underclassmen all I have to say is stay focused and make sure to never have below a 80 average. It can affect your future in more ways than one. But don't give up on your dreams no matter what.

What faculty or staff member inspired you most?

A teacher that inspired was Ms. Irby she is not at Loughlin anymore but she made me want to pass all my classes and be the best me I can be.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

In 10 years, I see my dreams having come true with me in the NBA and making sure my family and friends are great and living my best life.

What is your favorite memory from high school?

I would say that my favorite memory from high school was the 2019 Christmas Show. I performed with the step team that day and it was a really great day. All the effort of everyone who performed, the time spent practicing and the way that it all came together was really amazing.

What is one thing you would change about your time at Loughlin?

I would say that one thing I would change is how transfers are introduced to the school. If you transfer after the first year it's a bit harder and especially as a junior most of the school expects you to know the rules by then so class introductions were always a bit confusing when they would say "oh you all already know this" and you weren't there before.

Do you feel prepared to move on to the next step in your life?

I do feel prepared to move on to the next step of my life. The education I got at Loughlin has been the best in my educational career so far and the lessons I learned inside and outside of the classroom will stay with me forever.

What advice can you give an underclassman?

I would say that paying attention during class is very important especially if studying isn't a strong suit for you. I would also say be yourself and not be the person you think people want to see, otherwise you won't attract people who will want to be friends with you, they will want the image of you.

What faculty or staff member inspired you most?

I would say that Ms. Jackowicz inspired me the most because she also came to Loughlin the same year that I did and she made the transition easier than it would've been with the way that she taught in the classroom and how she was kind outside of the classroom also.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

In 10 years, I see myself in the sports medicine field and I see myself happy and thriving.

Senior Spotlight



Meijeem Cesaire



Marilynne Andre



Hanny Echeverria-Navarro

What is your favorite memory from high school?

The memories of just sitting in the cafeteria, playing Uno with my friends. Or the NYC marathons that the school band participated in. The assemblies. The rallies. The trips after school with my friends. I will always remember how being in Loughlin made me feel. It was like a second family I never knew I wanted, but always had.

What is one thing you would change about your time at Loughlin?

I would participate more in extracurriculars, I'd appreciate the time I spent more because everyone said 4 years would fly by and I didn't believe them until it was really gone.

Do you feel prepared to move on to the next step in your life?

You have to be willing to ask for help because the teachers won't stop their lecture just to make sure you understand. You also won't have many people looking out for you, you will be on your own even with the help of friends and family.

What advice can you give an underclassman?

Stay on top of your assignments. Don't be afraid to ask for help despite how bad or annoying you think that sounds. There are some things that your friends can't explain and neither can the internet. It's never too late to start preparing for college.

What faculty or staff member inspired you most?

Ms. Van Velson was an inspiration to me. She was kind and understanding. She was meticulous when it came to certain things but she was always willing to listen to you and help you with anything you needed.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

In ten years, I'll be 26, graduated from undergrad with some form of a degree. I am still undecided as to what major I'm going to do so if I choose to do something in the medical field, I'll still be in school. However, I do expect to have a stable job and I will have moved out of my parents house.

What is your favorite memory from high school?

My favorite moment at Loughlin most definitely was Halloween. Especially when teachers would participate in the event and dress up with the seniors. It was always funny to see the creative costumes.

What is one thing you would change about your time at Loughlin?

One thing I would do differently is my sophomore year grades. That was the lowest my average ever was and if I could go back I would've taken school so much more seriously. To have gotten my name on the honor roll more.

Do you feel prepared to move on to the next step in your life?

Loughlin definitely has prepared me for the real world in a way. This school broke me out of my shell and made me become more of an outspoken and confident person that I am now. Which I know will become very useful for me in my future.

What advice can you give an underclassman?

Some advice I'd give the underclassmen is to get the work done. Another piece of advice I'd give them is form relationships with the teachers, show them who you are outside of the classroom, talk to them in the halls, some of these teachers are actually really nice and funny people, forming a relationship with them will help you in the long run when it comes to teacher recommendations letters. You'll have teachers who have nothing but good things to say about you.

What faculty or staff member inspired you most?

Ms. Madar, I had her for two years back to back. She's been there for me with some of the best advice and has taught me just to be myself and I'm eternally grateful for what she did in shaping my character.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

In 10 years, I see myself as an extremely successful and healthy entrepreneur, with the dream life I always wanted.

What is your favorite memory from high school?

There is no specific moment to describe how Loughlin made me feel these past four years. But I would say that my favorite moments were the times I was able to sit at lunch with my friends and complain about the homework and tests we would stress about and then laugh about the next day because they weren't so bad after all. Being able to enjoy those laughs we now call distant memories brings nostalgia and I'm so happy I got to spend it at Loughlin.

What is one thing you would change about your time at Loughlin?

If I could do it all over again, I would have given myself more room to breathe and tend to my mental health. I jumped straight into the work ethic and involvement in school activities and clubs and neglected what mattered most.

Do you feel prepared to move on to the next step in your life?

I believe to an extent Loughlin does everything to prepare us but it is up to the students to take advantage of the opportunities and make the most of out of them. Personally, I feel like Loughlin helped me so much and I took those opportunities to reach where I am today.

What advice can you give an underclassman?

Never procrastinate. It is the most important thing to try to aim for, mostly because it disciplines your mind to make school a priority. That way you get good grades and make a good impression on your teachers.

What faculty or staff member inspired you most?

Mr. Foley has been my biggest inspiration since freshman year and I always try to aspire to be like him some day. His happiness and bright energy uplifts everyone. In a room and no matter who is watching he always shows his love for everyone.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

In 10 years I see myself finishing up my second year of residence after having graduated medical school at NYU.



Above, left to right: Celines Garcia, Donovan Cumberbatch, and Samara Gabau

Using Creativity to Cut Through Stress

By: Drew Rogers

Over the course of this year, I have found myself to be very stressed about my future, and this has resulted in some anxiety around school and my social life.

It feels strange staying in the house all the time as I often find myself wanting to leave the house to interact with people.

Although I want to get out more and be more active and social, I have realized that because I have been in the house for so long being social has become difficult and also resulted in social anxiety.

Throughout my senior year I have found

myself to be very stressed about picking where I will spend the next four years of my life and questioned whether or not certain schools will present me with the best programs and opportunities possible, while also considering the price.

This has been very stressful for me as I found myself slipping behind on some of my work and assignments.

Although this pandemic has affected me in many negative ways, I have noticed that because of it I have spent more time with myself and found new talents that I was not aware of before.

One of these talents is designing and fash-

ion. I have learned that I take an interest in fashion and have a natural talent for art.

This has led me to create new connections with artists and designers such as Kidsuper and Savant Studios.

I am excited to see how I can use my newfound connections and talent to create a positive impact in my community and possibly around the country, and hopefully the world.

On Self-Care

By: Morgan Beach

Before the pandemic, my life was pretty boring. I was an introvert and I still kind of am. But during the pandemic, there was a lot to learn about myself and some personal growth that resulted. I still have a long time to go and to learn new things about myself, but until then, this is what I learned about myself.

I needed to start loving myself more and stop feeling sorry for myself, I made the decision to start eating better and working out because I wasn't happy with myself and wanted to be able to look in the mirror and tell myself that I was beautiful. So during the pandemic, I lost some weight and I'm proud of myself for that.

The second thing I learned was that I was so comfortable with not talking to people and staying home all the time that I never had a chance to develop

real relationships with people. So when it felt just a little safer outside, I would go see my friends and develop a close relationship with my friends and develop a deeper relationship with my boyfriend.

The third thing I learned which I think is the most important is not caring about what others think of me and/or how they view me as a person. I know who I am and I know what I'm capable of, and no one can tell me or try to convince me that my thinking is wrong or that I should follow their steps. Because at the end of the day, this is my life and I create my experience.

Also, adjusting to being at home during the pandemic, it was so hard but some things don't last forever and things do eventually get better.

Opening My Eyes

By: Colby Smalls

This year was a life lesson to my family and me, as well as other families. This whole year involving Covid 19 was a blessing and a bad luck because of how we've all lost or gained something.

I feel like I've grown more as a person through the struggles of this year. The year's challenges did not break me but only made me think about my future.

All I want to do is move on and persevere. Struggles are still continuing right now but there is still hope. All I can do is pray and be grateful for my family that I have and I am still breathing.

This year was a wake-up call for me to not to take advantage of what I have. Treasure moments. take charge of what you want to be or what you want to do.

This year made me learn who

I really am as a person and what I can do to make myself better.

I turned over a new leaf and started not only trying to make sure my family was ok but taking care of myself so I can be strong for my mom and sister, so I can help them with things that they may need.

I started to open my eyes to focus on school and how to focus on my future and I had better grades in all of my classes.

I wish I could've done better in the past but the only thing I could do now is look forward and make a new path to succeed to make myself healthy emotionally, mentally and financially.

Before and After

2020 Lockdown Serves as a Line in the Sand
By: Ronan McGouran

Since the lockdown last year, my life has changed drastically. Everything just feels so different, like my life was split into two sections; life before and after the pandemic. At first it was very difficult: I was stuck inside my house for a long time and there isn't much space in my house so it felt really cramped up. Then as things started to open up a little in the summer, I was able to go out more and enjoy the outside. When school started back up, it felt so weird; I didn't see a lot of my friends since March and wearing a mask and everything else made it so different. As the school year went on, it became more and more difficult to stay motivated. Life felt so repetitive and boring, especially during the winter because we couldn't go out much and most indoor activities were closed. Now that the school year has ended, the vaccine is here, and the weather is getting warm. I'm hoping to have a great and memorable summer to make up for last year.



Above: Ronan McGouran

The New Normal

By: Loraya Johnson

When the pandemic started in New York, in March 2020, that was the second half of my first year in Bishop Loughlin HS. As a matter of fact, March was only my 4th month in the school. I had a few friends and made bonds with a couple of teachers but I didn't really have time to get to know anybody that well. Once school closed I didn't really know what to do. I definitely didn't think it would last until now!

Honestly things have been hard for me. I am more of a visual learner so the whole online thing was very different for me. Of course, since I didn't get to know anybody they didn't get to know me either, and I feel like that affected me also especially when it comes to letters of recommendation. The teachers that I had this school year and even last year didn't really get to know me or really speak to me, so I couldn't get a letter of recommendation from anyone.

In my view, I've been handling things very well. I feel like I've been doing well when it comes to mental health. I just wish I had more time in the school building to get to know everybody and make friends. As a graduating senior I think that it made things hard, but it shows that we as a society, all together can handle this as best as we can. For me I think the pandemic made me a better person, because it showed me how strong I really am and I also learned a lot about myself.

Finding Motivation

By: K'aliyah McKay

From a graduating senior's stand point, the most challenging thing was having the motivation to do online school. Waking up every morning to log onto classes that I could easily tune out was very hard. I know that I needed to keep my grades up for the National Honors Society and my own personal standards but it felt so unnecessary.

Life felt too short to just sit and do school work. I didn't see the bigger picture because I was living in the moment. Now that I am way better mentally, I know that it was a very poor choice for me to almost want to give up. I didn't give up because here I am writing this paper.

The thing that has been okay is picking back up one of my favorite hobbies: reading. I had a lot more time on my hands at home and I love reading and using it as a form of escapism. Media was really consuming especially since I was also on here for school so I needed to really step away from the screen and that is what reading helped me accomplish.

Everyday is a learning experience. Some days I wake up and feel back at square one and other days I feel incredibly motivated to do anything. It's a process. I'm taking the proper steps to heal myself but it will come with time.

I'm very proud of myself for being able to remove anything negative from my life and move in a positive direction. I'm okay with making mistakes and learning from them through this time!

Over It and Out: Indoors and Adjusting

By: Shaliea Sammot

Ever since the pandemic, I have honestly been stressed out. I hate being isolated and not being able to go out. Being stuck in the house is very overwhelming. I am not able to go anywhere because of the pandemic. I am not able to see any of my friends because of COVID. As a senior, I feel like this year wasn't enjoyable at all. At first I was excited to stay home and not go to school because I don't like waking up in the morning. But after a while it gets frustrating. There have been some positive effects since the pandemic. For example, not being able to take the SAT and Final Exams has been a stress relief. I hate taking tests, honestly and being able to not take any Midterms or Finals was great news. Another thing that has been challenging is learning online. Learning online is not easy at all. I would rather learn at school because it is more understandable. Honestly, everything in general regarding school and home has been absolutely stressful and I am so over it.

2020-21: A Year of Socially Distant Learning



Mr. Johnson instructs remote and in-person students simultaneously.



Students engage in discussion during Mr. Santiago’s science class.



Students make use of The Art and Pat Ryan Technology Center.



Many ELA teachers encouraged journal writing in response to 2020.



Students in Ms. Jackowicz’s English Language Arts class discuss Arthur Miller’s “The Crucible” with students at home via Zoom.

What does Black Lives Matter mean to you?

Junior Class Reflections on Social Justice Movements and Protests for Change



"Since my family is a victim of police brutality... I started hearing about it. After my uncle was killed, that's when I started paying attention to it. I understand that the goal of the BLM movement is to get justice for all the injustice that was brought upon us, and to get equality, not just for black people but for all races."

"Black Lives Matter movement is a movement created to initiate change for the rights and better living standards of black and brown people across the world... I understand that anyone can stand up for BLM movements and be allies but it's created to help those black and brown people who are alienated from their basic human rights."

"The movement was created in the hopes of shining a light on the fact that black lives have been hard and for hundreds of years black people have been treated differently and now with the movement they say that this is the tipping point where we need the fight to be truly equal."

"BLM is no longer just a movement but also a lifestyle that people must live. It is something that fights not just against the high levels of police brutality, but also the systematic racism that has been instilled into the country and the minds of the people."

"The goal of the Black Lives Matter movement is for black lives to honestly matter and stop acting like we don't exist."

"Black Lives Movement is a protest against police brutality and any racially motivated violence towards black people. I understand that the goals and beliefs of this movement are to get people, especially the government, to see how this world treats black people and to see how the police treat them."

"Black Lives Matter protests police brutality against black bodies as well as the discrimination black Americans face in our society... BLM also recognizes the systematic and institutional racism in our country. Black Lives Matter isn't a movement, it's a lifestyle because if your equality does not include black lives then you are part of the problem."

In Memoriam



Deacon Basil Bliss

By: Staff

Deacon Basil Bliss served at Loughlin for 16 years, becoming Chair of the Theology Department and the National Honors Society Moderator. At Loughlin, he was known for a quick smile, a hearty, booming voice during the morning announcements and prayer, and being one of the first in the building each day. He often served as chef at faculty retreats, lead prayer at meetings and gatherings, and enjoyed golfing with his friends and family.



Coach Ed Bowes

By: Staff

This was our first school year without Ed Bowes by our side. He died in July of 2020 at the age of 78. Bowes is known for his impact on the sport of Track and Field throughout New York City, but we remember him most for his impact on Bishop Loughlin. He was the longest tenured track coach at Bishop Loughlin, from 1964-2003. Not only did he coach and teach at Loughlin, but he was a graduate of Loughlin as well. When we think of Ed Bowes and Bishop Loughlin, it is hard to imagine one without the other. He will be missed dearly, thought of often, and live on in the heart of Loughlin forever.

“Que sien toustem legato amasse”
(Let us all be united)
- St. John Bapist de la Salle