

Spring 2022

# THE Empire



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI, FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF  
ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



*The Renaissance  
Continues...*



# THE RCHS MISSION



Founded by Thomas E. Cahill in 1890 as the first free Diocesan Catholic high school for boys in the nation, Roman Catholic continues its tradition of excellence as it strives to offer a comprehensive academic curriculum within a disciplined Catholic environment. Enriched by its cultural, racial, and religious diversity, Roman Catholic provides a community where each young man can learn to appreciate and respect the uniqueness of others, while becoming a man of personal integrity. Roman Catholic High School strives to bring the Gospel values of Jesus Christ to its students, while forming a Catholic community which embodies the Christian spirit of service to all.

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*On the Cover: Students and Faculty members in the newly renovated Learning Commons located in Renaissance Hall.*

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## Dear Alumni & Friends of RCHS,



As I write this letter, Roman is heading into the final quarter of the school year. Spring sports are in full swing, the Junior and Senior Proms are around the corner and Graduation exercises are just several weeks away. While there have been many adjustments and trials in reestablishing full-time, in-person instruction, this school year has been quite a blessing!

Most people are familiar with the difficulties Roman faced back in the 80s. In the midst of those challenging days, the passion of our alumni, the commitment of the business and civic communities, and the vision of leadership, came together to chart a path of growth and improvement. The building and opening of Renaissance Hall 25 years ago, ushered in new and exciting chapters in Roman History.

Since that time, a lot has changed at Broad & Vine: new faculty members joined the ranks, innovative electives were offered, technologies introduced, new student activities and sports were pioneered, college and career counseling were initiated, and national test scores rose. Every benefactor can take pride in the school Roman has become!

We are reminded in this Silver Anniversary Year of Renaissance Hall, that while Roman has an unparalleled history, its success will always be predicated on preparing students for the future. To help young men meet the demands of college life, to engender life-long learning, to develop skills adaptable to future challenges, to make moral decisions rooted in our Judeo-Christian heritage – this is the mission of Roman Catholic High School and it is perhaps more important today than it was when the school first opened in 1890.

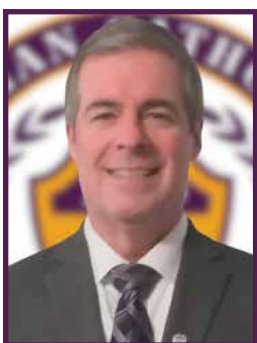
As we continue to chart our future course, we are indebted to so many for their investment in our programs, facilities, and most importantly, in our students. Working together, the renewal that started 25 years ago, will endure well into the future!

Sincerely,

Reverend Joseph W. Bongard '77  
President/Rector, Roman Catholic High School  
JBongard@RomanCatholicHS.com



## Dear Fellow Cahillites,



When I was first notified of the incredibly generous \$1 million EITC donation to Roman by Matt Gardner '83, I was overwhelmed with a number of different emotions: elation, gratitude, and pride among them. But when I learned that Matt made the donation in honor of his deceased brother, Chris '77, it struck a familiar sentimental chord with me and the memories of one particular night at Roman came flooding back.

It was several years ago, and Roman was hosting a reception for benefactors and scholarship providers. Many of the students who were recipients of these scholarships were present as well, and most of them were students who had financial need. My family funds a scholarship at Roman for students in honor of our brother, Jack '72, who tragically died shortly after graduation. During the reception, a woman approached me with one of the students. I could tell that the kid was a little shy and he felt awkward, but he still reached out and shook my hand. "This is my grandson," she said. "And I am raising him on my own. I cannot thank you enough for your generosity. Without your help, I don't know what we would do. This is a wonderful place, and I am just so happy that he can be here."

It is moments like that when you realize the lasting impact that you can have on a young man's life. Not only that, but donating to Roman's scholarship funds in the name of a deceased loved one is a wonderful way to ensure that their spirit, and the ideals that they stood for, can live on in the students of Roman Catholic High School. For me, it's a symbolic way to turn tragedy into triumph.

I wrote to Matt Gardner upon hearing the news of his remarkable donation and shared my feelings about giving to Roman in honor of my brother, Jack, and how wonderful it was that he was doing the same for his brother, Chris. Matt responded, "It's one of the great joys of my life to be able to honor Chris while helping get access to a high-quality education. He was a passionate, devoted teacher so there's real symmetry in it for me."

If you're thinking of donating to Roman to help our students in need, consider doing it in honor of a loved one. As Matt and I can attest, it'll bring a "smile on the lip, and a tear in the eye."

God Bless all of you and Catholic High.

Christopher Gibbons '79  
President  
RCHS Alumni Association

# NEWS AROUND ROMAN

## The Purple & Gold Challenge



To promote school spirit and increase student involvement, The Purple vs. Gold Challenge was established as the newest school-wide activity for the 2021–22 academic year. Team Purple is represented by the Seniors and Freshmen while Team Gold is composed of the Junior and Sophomore Classes. Each week, there are a variety of opportunities for the students to earn points for their respective teams. These challenges include anything from attending an athletic or school event, volunteering to help around school, attaining a perfect conduct grade, assisting at school Masses or participating in the classroom. This initiative is an all-out effort to create an involved and engaged student body and to have a lot of fun doing it!

## Roman Gets Repointed!

Earlier in the school year, Palmer Masonry Restoration specialists completed masterful work on the historic 1890 Building of RCHS. Under the supervision of the Philadelphia Historical Commission, Palmer replaced worn bricks, repointed sections of the exterior walls, and cleaned the chimneys. It is no easy task to restore a 132 year old building to its original look, but Palmer did an excellent job taking extra good care of our beloved Catholic High. Kudos to the Office of Catholic Education for funding this needed historic restoration.



## Drama in the Howard Center

# RCHS Hosts: *Tolton: From Slave to Priest*

Saint Luke Productions, located in California, has brought professional theatrical and feature film dramas on the life of Christ and His saints for over 40 years to audiences of more than one million people throughout the English-speaking world. In February, Roman contracted with Saint Luke Productions to perform the one-man play, *Tolton: From Slave to Priest*. This play details the incredible life of Augustus Tolton, a man born into slavery, who through his humility, perseverance and heroism, overcame the brutal reality of racism and discrimination to become America's first ordained black priest. All the members of the Class of 2022 and 2023 were able to experience this remarkable play.



The Black Box Theater in the Howard Center for the Arts was the venue hosting *Tolton: From Slave to Priest*.



Actor Jim Coleman with Father Bongard.



Actor Jim Coleman with members of the Class of 2023 following the performance.

## Mural beautifies Howard Center

Asian Arts Initiative, with the cooperation of RCHS, has commissioned a mural to be painted on the Pearl Street wall of the Howard Center for the Arts. Josh Cochran, a New York-based artist, has been chosen to design and execute the mural design.

Josh grew up in Taiwan and California, and teaches illustration at the School of Visual Arts while occasionally working as an art director for the New York Times.

Work has begun with priming the wall and stenciling the design. When completed, the mural will provide a beautiful backdrop for community gatherings.



# NEWS AROUND ROMAN

## Purple, Gold, and Green!

## RCHS strongly represented at Saint Patrick's Day Parade

It was a great day at Philadelphia's Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 13, 2022, as Roman alumni and students attended Mass at St. Patrick's Church and marched along the parade route under the AOH Patrick Kerr Division #25 RCHS banner. Parade organizers and VIPs were reminded of Roman's historic ties to the Irish-American community as Thomas Cahill's father was an Irish immigrant. RCHS famed alumnus; Judge Vincent Carroll, Class of 1909, is recognized as the co-founder of the modern St. Patrick's Day Parade in Philadelphia.



Alumni Trustee Chuck Taylor '12 and Kevin Deviney '24 assist at St. Patrick's parish collecting the offering at Mass.



At the conclusion of Mass, members of the Roman family gather with City Representative Sheila Hass and Councilman Mark Squilla.

## RCHS Celebrates International Data Center Day

International Data Center Day, held on March 23, provides the Data Center industry an opportunity to open their doors and show what data centers are, why they are so important to our connected world, and the wide array of career opportunities that are part of the industry.

Taking advantage of Roman's unique location, students enrolled in Information Technology and Engineering classes participated in Data Center Day by literally taking a walk down the street to the Netrality Data Center located at 401 North Broad Street. The students received a special tour of Nerd Street Gamers ESports (electronic sports) facility. This opportunity showcased possible careers and employment options while the students had fun gaming in a state-of-the-art facility.



Cahillites engage in gaming at Nerd Street Gamers ESports facility.



Members of the Engineering class learn about possible careers in the data and gaming industries.

# Cahillites Give Back!

The value of service remains strong at Broad & Vine. RCHS offers many service opportunities throughout the academic year.



Todd Harrison '23, Max McIntosh '22 and Zuri Kearney '23 sorting and bagging toiletries for the homeless.

The **Black Student Union** organized a collection of personal and toiletry items to donate to St. John's Hospice for distribution to the homeless. The members of the BSU volunteered on a scheduled day off to bag all the items Roman students had donated, making a positive impact on the lives of the less fortunate.



Representatives of Roman present Fox Chase Cancer Center with a donation check.

**Student Council** organized a "Think Pink" dress-down day to raise money for breast cancer research. Student Council President Chris Kleinkurt '22, and Vice President Nick Garner '22, visited the Fox Chase Cancer Center to hand deliver the donation from Roman students to one of the center's top doctors, Dr. Allison Aggon.



Members of the Community Service Corps making the world a better place by volunteering their time at Small Things.

**Community Service Corps (CSC)** has had several successful service projects this year, including a volunteer effort at Small Things, a non-profit located in Roxborough. The mission of Small Things is to support local organizations by providing them with the resources they need to support their communities. Our students assisted with the packing and transport of foods and other household essentials. The warehouse manager was delighted to state that the Roman students completed 30 hours worth of work in just four hours!

## Student Spotlight



Daniel Dailey '23, recipient of 2022 High School Leadership Award.

Congratulations to Daniel Dailey '23 on being recognized by Widener University, NBC10 Philadelphia and Telemundo 62 as a part of the 2022 High School Leadership Awards. Recipients are recognized as leaders who develop and inspire positive change. The recognition comes with a \$20,000 scholarship upon attending Widener University. Dan has proven to be a true student leader and a force for positive change in Roman's school community.

## PA State Senator visits Broad & Vine



This winter, Roman welcomed the Honorable Nikil Saval, Pennsylvania State Senator representing District 1. The Senator toured the RCHS Campus and had lunch with several students. Senator Saval shared his personal story of political engagement and encouraged students to reach out to help others through public service. While this was Senator Saval's first visit to Roman, he said he really enjoyed the student interaction and looked forward to a future visit.



The year 2022 marks the 25th anniversary of the opening and dedication of Renaissance Hall, the expansion that changed Roman Catholic High School forever and ushered in a new era of optimism, growth, and expansion. In a special way, we asked members of the Roman family to reflect on what this expanded space has meant for the school and reminisce on the exciting times of its opening.

# Remembering the Renaissance

## Recounting Renaissance Hall

by Father Paul Brandt

RCHS President/Rector 1997–2006, Campus Minister 1990–1993, Faculty 1987–1990



Renaissance Hall came into existence in the early days of educational technology. The focal point of the new construction was the Information Center; containing a traditional library, with shelves of books; a research technology center and the digital television studio. This advancement of technology expanded into the classrooms and set Roman Catholic as a model of 20th Century education throughout the Archdiocese.

The original library existed on the 1st floor of the main building. To relocate the collection of books to their new home, a human chain of students was formed to pass one book at a time, which extended from the 1890 building into the new Renaissance Hall. The construction of Renaissance Hall blocked off the 1890 building and the 1954 building, creating an interior space to be known as the Alumni Quadrangle.

This new construction also created an addition to the cafeteria and new bathrooms for the school. In the current cafeteria, condiment tables were created by the support beam column of the 1954 building and the support beam column of Renaissance Hall. Placing cinder block between them and adding the top created these useful spaces.

After many years of planning and numerous months of construction, the entire student body, faculty and many alumni gathered in the parking lot on September 28, 1998 to welcome Cardinal Bevilacqua for the dedication of Renaissance Hall. In normal Cahillite style, the students, faculty, and guests were treated to a cookout following the ceremony. It was a beautiful day which not only brought recognition and gratitude for the accomplishment of this new life breathed into Catholic High, but it acknowledged the foundation which was set to bring Roman Catholic High School to the success and excellence which it enjoys in 2022.

**As I reflect on the events and people who were so instrumental in the first expansion of Catholic High 25 years ago,** and the blessing and dedication of Renaissance Hall, I am filled with deep gratitude to the Connelly Foundation, to Dan DiLella and Tom Leonard, Chairman and President of the Roman Board of Advisors respectively at that time, Ed Graham, the Development Director and countless donors who supported our dream.

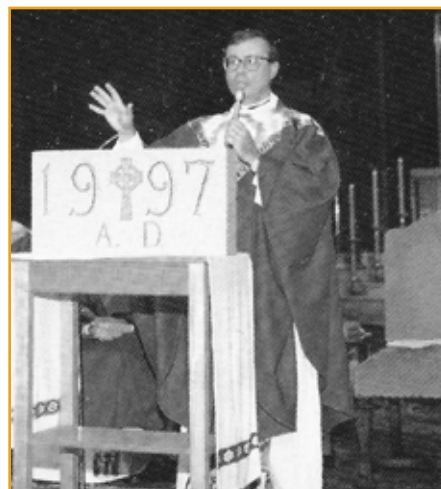
After completing the Middle States Accreditation and the formation of the Board of Advisors for the school, we assessed our academic, spiritual, and athletic facilities needs and started to develop a strategic plan to address the future of Catholic High. We met with the Connelly Foundation and the members of their Board of Trustees many times over a period of two years and were invited to submit an application for a grant. The construction of Renaissance Hall was a \$4.9 million project.

In response to our grant proposal, the Connelly Foundation gave Catholic High a million dollar grant to restore and renovate the original school and offered us a conditional grant for \$2 million, if we could raise nine \$100,000 gifts from major donors and \$2 million from a capital campaign from our alumni.

With that challenge, Dan DiLella, Tom Leonard, Ed Graham and I began a very successful capital campaign. In less than a year, we raised \$900,000 from nine special donors and we raised \$2 million from our dedicated alumni. I remember so vividly the energy, the excitement and the pride that we all experienced as we met that challenge. It was the beginning of the revival of Catholic High.

I am and will always be so appreciative to the Connelly Foundation and to Dan DiLella, Tom Leonard, Ed Graham and our dedicated alumni for giving new life to Catholic High.

**Monsignor Francis Beach '67**  
RCHS President / Rector 1990-1997



**Msgr. Beach '67 blesses the cornerstone of Renaissance Hall.**



**The student body during the formal dedication of Renaissance Hall.**



**The commemorative coin from the Renaissance Hall dedication.**

## RENAISSANCE HALL - OVER THE YEARS



**Roman student utilizes the computer lab in 2004.**



**Cahillites diligently study in the Information Center in the early 2000s.**



**In 2006, the Student Services Office was relocated to the room near the main entrance of Renaissance Hall.**

# Remembering the Renaissance

## I remember the warm sunny September morning of the dedication of Renaissance Hall.

I was standing with members of the Capital Campaign committee and remembered one individual saying, "I've been involved with a lot of these fundraisers, and I haven't seen anyone do it as well as RCHS." I believe he was referring to Monsignor Francis Beach and Ed Graham. Those two men came along at the perfect time in Roman's history and truly were on "a mission from God." They had help from thousands



of alumni, benefactors, faculty members, parents, and students. Since that time, the James McSherry '40 Annex and Howard Center

for the Arts have enhanced the campus. We, the Roman Community, have so much to be thankful for and can optimistically look to the future as Roman continues to meet the needs of the next generation of Cahillites.

**Mr. Thomas McKeever**  
Faculty Member 1968-2020

## I was lucky enough to arrive at Roman as its Renaissance was in full swing.

The culminating event of this time period was certainly Renaissance Hall. The support of this endeavor from the alumni, faculty, and students was very impressive



to witness. I will never forget the dedication of the addition in the fall of 1998. Gathered in the school yard that day were the entire school community,

political and religious dignitaries, and so many great alums. It truly was a day to remember.

Since that day, Renaissance Hall has grown and changed with the times. The main room has transformed from a library to an information center to a learning commons. Renaissance Hall continues to live up to its name and is continuously reborn to suit the needs of the students at Roman.

Renaissance Hall has certainly planted the seeds from which an amazing school campus has emerged. From the groundbreaking twenty-five years ago there has sprung River Field, McSherry Hall, The Howard Center for the Arts, and hopefully a soon-to-be field house and science center.

**John Pensabene**  
Faculty Member 1993-Present

## I think that Renaissance Hall had a lot to do with my decision to attend Roman.

Growing up in Bensalem, I was familiar with more local options for Catholic high school and I remember attending a visitation day at a different school. While I could say nice things about each of those schools, it was hard to call their 2001 look "modern."

Then I had a shadow day at Roman and remember walking into Renaissance



Hall and feeling that everything looked so modern. The classrooms, lighting, and everything else seemed so new, and I remember thinking it was

impressive that in one stride you could go from being in a building built in the 1990s to a building built in the 1890s.

I don't think I realized at the time how important the setting of a school can be. Whereas the other schools I mentioned seemed like little more than schools at the time, Roman felt like you were attending something different with its urban surroundings and architecture. Needless to say, here I am 20 plus years later still feeling like Renaissance Hall stands out amongst the looks of other local schools.

**Matt Jaskel '06**  
Alumni Trustee

## RENAISSANCE HALL - OVER THE YEARS



The John Facenda '31 Digital Television Studio was a major highlight of the expansion. It was housed and utilized on a daily basis in Renaissance Hall until 2018 when the Howard Center for the Arts opened.



In 2017, with a generous grant from the Ambassador Fund, the computer lab was renovated and upgraded to become a World Language Lab.

## Transforming the Information Center into the 21st Century Learning Commons

In 2021, with the continued generous support of the Ambassador Fund, the Information Center was transformed into a modern student-centric Learning Commons. This new space reflects educational trends on the collegiate level, which allows for individualized student engagement and group activities in a flexible, attractive academic environment.



In 2013, the Information Center was renovated, creating versatile space for student activities and collaborative learning. Many of the book stacks, no longer in use, were removed.



The new Learning Commons in Renaissance Hall at RCHS.

Meet the new Principal of RCHS:

# Mr. John Curry

**John Curry, originally from the Olney section of Philadelphia and a member of St. Helena Parish, graduated from Cardinal Dougherty High School in 1985. He currently resides in Plymouth Meeting with his wife and three children. His educational background includes: Bachelor's Degree in English – Secondary Education from Gwynedd Mercy University, Master's in Humanities from Arcadia University, and Master's in Educational Leadership from St. Joseph's University.**



**College/University:** Gwynedd Mercy University, Arcadia University, St. Joseph's University

## **What inspired you to work in education and become a teacher/educator?**

As a manager, I enjoyed the training aspect of my job. This inspired me to go back to college and major in education. I always enjoyed my literature classes in school because the stories covered all aspects of the human condition. So when deciding upon a content area, I knew that literature would be the subject that I would enjoy teaching the most.

## **What is your history as teacher/educator?**

I was an academic tutor at Gwynedd Mercy University for two years, and then I taught literature at Mount Saint Joseph Academy (The Mount) from 2007 until fall of 2021.

## **What was your pathway to Roman and what inspired you to apply for the principal position at Roman?**

My pathway to Roman came directly through Assistant Principal Chris Buck. We were both Maguire Fellows at St. Joseph's University, along with Assistant Principal Brian Conroy. Chris informed me about the opening for principal at Roman. He believed I was a good candidate and encouraged me to apply. I already knew about Roman's reputation through my son, who attended in 2010, and my in-laws who are Roman alums. After a lot of consideration, I decided to apply and, fortunately, was given this great honor and opportunity.

## **In your short time at RCHS, what have you enjoyed most about Roman?**

So far, what I enjoy most about Roman are the students. They are an intelligent and lively group of young men who make every day exciting and meaningful.

## **What do you feel are Roman's biggest challenges going forward?**

Going forward, I believe that Roman's biggest challenge is to regain a sense of normalcy coming out of two years of COVID restrictions. Most of our students have not had a traditional high school experience, so providing them with that opportunity is my top priority.

## **What do you feel makes Roman unique in today's world?**

In today's world, what makes Roman unique is the bond of brotherhood shared by students and alums. In a world in which many relationships are transient and transactional, the connection that is felt between Roman men is something sorely missing.

## **Why do you believe it is important for others to give back to Roman?**

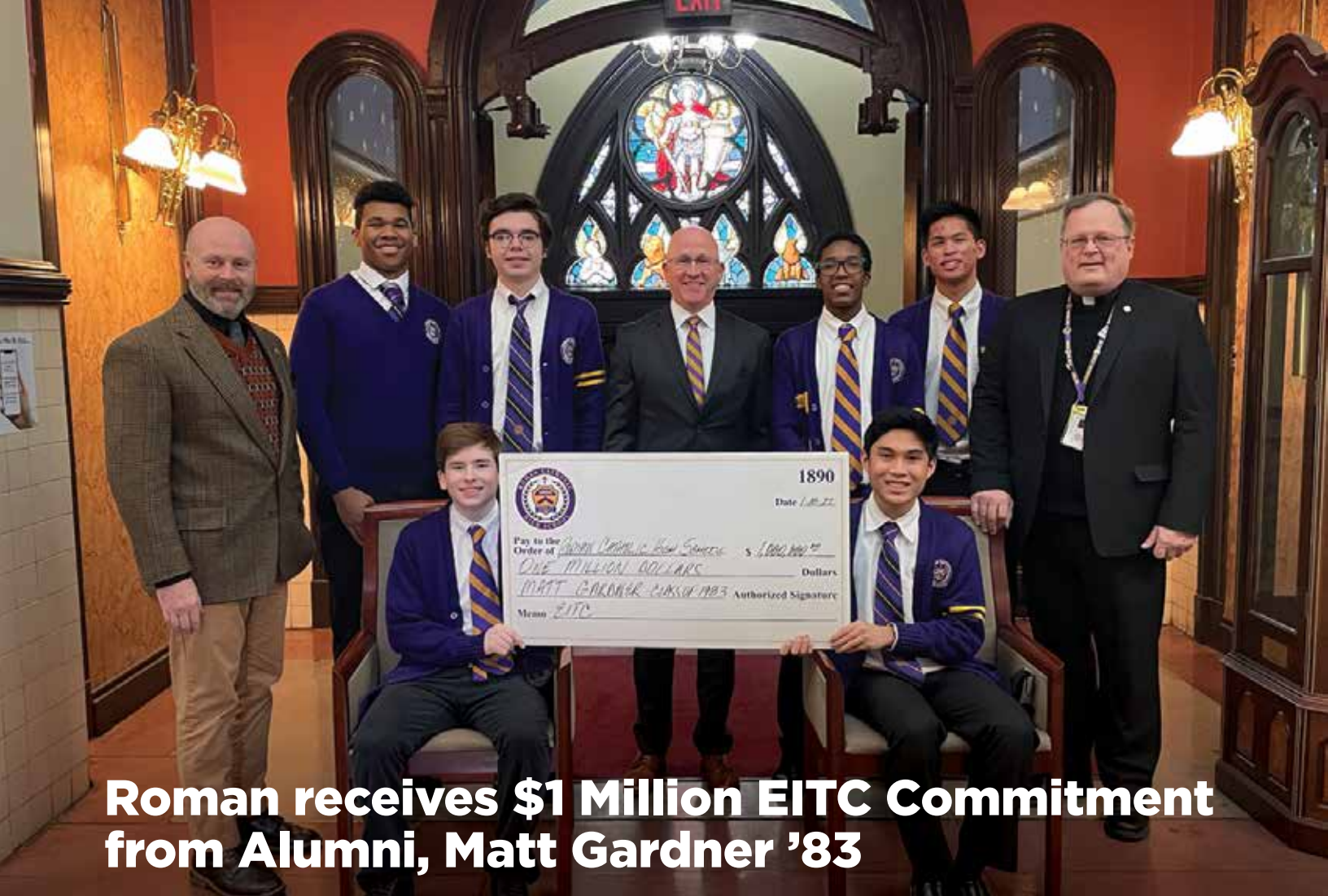
I believe that giving back to Roman is important because it shows a commitment to the school's mission, supports our current and future students, and keeps alums connected to RCHS.

## **What is your vision for the future of Roman?**

My vision for Roman is comprised of a few points. First and foremost, I want Roman to be a place where faculty and students live the Gospel values both in and outside the classroom. I truly believe that developing our students into critical thinkers and problem solvers will allow them to be agents of positive change in the world. Also, we should cultivate a "not enough" mindset in advancing the mission of the school. Finally, I want to focus on taking advantage of our Center City location to provide immersion opportunities for our students through internships and by using the city as an extension of the classroom.

## **What do you feel makes the Roman community unified?**

I believe that tradition is an important, unifying factor at Roman. Having been at the corner of Broad & Vine for over 130 years, Roman is an integral part of Philadelphia history. As such, the school traditions that have developed over that time are unique and long-standing. This is the thread that connects and unifies the school community, and it is what makes new students want to be part of the Roman experience.



## Roman receives \$1 Million EITC Commitment from Alumni, Matt Gardner '83

In December 2021, Roman Catholic High School received a \$1 million EITC (Education Improvement Tax Credit) commitment from alum Matt Gardner, Class of 1983 and Founder/CEO of Patriot Growth Insurance Services, LLC. This was the largest EITC donation in school history. We are pleased to highlight Mr. Gardner's strong love for Roman, what inspired him to make such a generous contribution, and as the newest member of the Board of Directors what he envisions for the future.

**Matt Gardner** grew up in the East Falls section of Philadelphia and was the fourth boy out of five in his family to attend RCHS. In fact, at least one of the Gardner brothers was at Broad & Vine in every calendar year from 1972 to 1988! Matt was a good student in grade school, and because his family didn't have financial means his parents encouraged him to take the scholarship exams for several other prep schools in the area. Matt refused, knowing that his heart was 100% set on going to Roman. "As a kid, I loved hanging around Cahill Field watching my older brothers' football practices and games, and John Boyce Field in Roxborough for their baseball games; Purple and Gold was in my veins at a young age!"

Upon entering RCHS, Matt got very involved. He played football and was on student council all four years, including being elected Student Council President his senior year. Ever attentive to his studies, Matt was also a member and officer in the National Honor Society. After graduation, Matt earned his BS from Drexel University and a MBA from University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business.

### What do you remember most about your time at Roman?

Back in the 80s Roman didn't offer Honors Programs and Advanced Placement classes as it does today, but the academic environment was still plenty challenging and prepared us well

for college. What Roman really offered to me was a "real-world" education – learning how to commute into the city, building lifelong relationships with a racially and socio-economically diverse student population, developing the confidence to take chances and challenge myself in areas I hadn't experienced previously. I say it often – my friends and teammates from high school are still my best friends, almost 40 years after graduation.

If I had to name one thing that I remember most from Roman it would be the closeness that we developed on the RCHS football team. We really only had one memorable season from a win/loss standpoint (our junior year when we went to the playoffs), but we worked really hard and developed a bond that has turned out to be lifelong. I'd give anything to relive some of those bus rides back to Cahill Field after a victory – no better feeling in the world!



**Matt Gardner during his football playing days at RCHS.**

### What do you feel makes Roman unique in today's world?

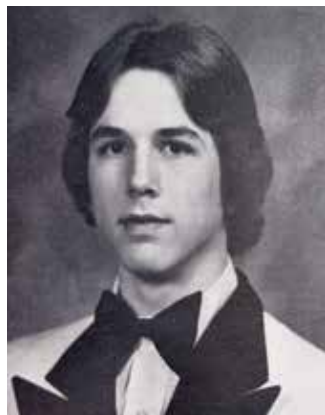
The transformation at Roman over the last 30 years has been remarkable. The school today still offers all the things I mentioned from my time, but now also has much deeper academic offerings (including AP, Honors, College partnerships, etc.) for a wider range of students, and many more athletic, club and philanthropic opportunities. Its Center City campus blends the old and new masterfully, and it doesn't take a backseat to any of the other area high schools in terms of academics, technology, athletics, or the quality of its faculty and administration. RCHS also delivers all of that in a faith-based, caring community that prepares young men to be successful citizens of the world while lifting others around them. Parents can confidently send their children to Roman knowing they will get an exceptional education and will depart four years later as exceptional men.

### Why do you give back to Roman and what motivated you make this major gift?

I believe deeply in the role that Roman plays in educating young men in the Philadelphia region, and specifically in its mission of providing a faith-based college preparatory education to young men from inner-city settings that don't have financial means (as was my own situation). My four years at Roman had a huge impact on the person I am, and my experiences at Broad & Vine set me up for success in life. The PA EITC program enabled me to make a gift that will allow quite a few deserving students to experience a Roman education; absent that, these students would likely be consigned to a failing public school system, an experience that would hinder their ability to achieve their full potential. That's what ultimately motivated me – being able to put young men into an environment where they can achieve their full potential.

### Please comment on the significance of making the gift in honor of your brother Chris '77.

My brother Chris graduated from Roman in 1977 and was very involved there – baseball, football, Student Council, etc. Fulfilling his dream, Chris eventually became a high school English



Chris Gardner '77

teacher and coach in New Jersey. Yet, he tragically died in an automobile accident at the age of 33. The thing he cared about above all else in life was education; to say he was passionate about teaching would be a massive understatement. He touched so many lives in the classroom and on the baseball/softball field, and I've always been saddened by the thought of the thousands and thousands of students in the last 30 years that didn't get to benefit from his passion and joy for teaching. To be able to create

that opportunity for young men at Roman, and do it in Chris' memory, is one of the great joys of my life.

### Why would you encourage others to give back to Roman?

It's important because the school really needs the financial help of its alumni to continue delivering on its mission. Costs continue to rise, and there is more competitive pressure and more educational options today for students than ever before. Continuing to provide a top-notch faith-based educational environment for young men in Philadelphia requires all who are able to contribute what they can. Everyone's situation is different, and there is no amount of support for Roman that is too small. I encourage all of my fellow alumni to give what you can to support our wonderful alma mater.

### What is your vision for the future of Roman and how does it feel to be a new member of the Board of Directors?

I am really excited to engage as a member of the Board of Directors at Roman, and even more excited to see a younger generation of Board members that are passionate about making Roman even better. As I mentioned, the world is getting more competitive by the minute, and Roman must continue to improve its value proposition to its students to best prepare them for what's ahead. I am personally passionate about entrepreneurial studies and am planning to focus my Board work at Roman on developing a track of entrepreneurial learning that will hopefully channel our students into academic and professional pursuits they might not have otherwise been aware of or experienced. Programs like the one I envision will help Roman continue to be on the leading edge of high school education and will make us the school of choice for the best and brightest in the Philadelphia region!



### Your State Tax Dollars can supply Scholarships for Roman students in need!



Both individual taxpayers and businesses in Pennsylvania can participate in the EITC/OSTC program to benefit students in need at Roman Catholic High School.

Roman actively partners with multiple accredited scholarship organizations to facilitate the process. Essentially, you or your business can redirect state tax dollars to Roman to help fund financial aid rather than sending it to the government. The process is simple, easy, and helps fuel the life-blood of Roman's financial aid.



For information about providing tuition assistance through these programs, please contact:  
**Adam Gault '08,**  
Director of Development  
at (215)627-5487 Ext. 203  
or by e-mail [AGault@RomanCatholicHS.com](mailto:AGault@RomanCatholicHS.com)



# ROMAN HAPPY HOURS

*This year Roman inaugurated a series of “networking nights/happy hours” at local establishments owned by alumni and friends. These informal gatherings have proven to be a great way to meet with fellow Cahillites, reconnect with old classmates, and learn how to get involved with the Alumni Association, and much more!*

## Wissahickon Brewing Company



Wissahickon Brewing Company, owned and operated by the Gill Family (Tim Sr., Tim '04, Luke '09, and Pete '12) hosted the January happy hour and over 25 alumni and friends attended. New RCHS Principal, Mr. John Curry served as the special guest.

## Tin Can Bar



November's happy hour was hosted by the “Tin Can Bar” in Port Richmond. The head chef is Joe Hunt, father of Malcom Hunt '18.

**Thank you to all of the places that hosted a happy hour! Stay tuned to Roman's social media for the announcement of more of these nights in the future.**

## Mifflin Tavern



In December, new Athletic Director, Brian Haas served as our special guest for the happy hour held at the “Mifflin Tavern.” Haas is photographed here alongside co-workers: Director of Admissions, Joe Trinacria '08 and Advancement Coordinator Maxwell Ickes.

## Mifflin Tavern



Steve Purcell '10, Steve Patton '08, Fred Wolpert '09, Jim McCaney '09, and Andrew Jaskel '08 enjoy each other's company at South Philadelphia's “Mifflin Tavern” owned and operating by Kelly and Joe Lamplugh '96.

After a two-year pandemic delay, the SHOF Class of 2020 was finally inducted on Friday, April 8, 2022 at the SHOF Dinner held at the FOP Lodge #5 in Northeast Philadelphia.



The SHOF Class of 2020 during the daytime ceremony held at school.



Mike Gallagher '91, Chairman of the SHOF committee and 2020 inductee Maalik Wayns '09.

## Congratulations to the Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2020!

**George Adams, Class of 1899** – Football, Track  
**Charlie DiCicco '68** – Football, Basketball, Baseball  
**George "Pinky" Dugan '80** – Football  
**Dan Nolasco '82** – Football  
**1989 Football Team** (Coached by Ed Brodbine '67)  
**Kevin Penko '04** – Soccer, Ice Hockey  
**Sean Matthews '05** – Football  
**Dave Deodato '07** – Baseball  
**Kass Everett '09** – Football  
**Maalik Wayns '09** – Basketball

## Congratulations to the Special Award Recipients for this year's SHOF ceremony

**Jim Murray** – John Gillen '33 Memorial Inter-League Award  
**Josephine Ciarrocchi** – Joseph "Goldie" Graham '33 Memorial Award for Loyalty  
**Joseph J. Malizia Sr.** – John Hoban '35 Memorial Service Award  
**Mike Gioquindo '07** – William "Speedy" Morris '60 Community Award  
**William T. "Speedy" Morris '60** – William "Billy" Markward Memorial Humanitarian Award  
**Sean Hamilton '20** – 2020 Patrick E. Ward '66 Memorial Scholar-Athlete Award  
**Jason Wagner '21** – 2021 Patrick E. Ward '66 Memorial Scholar-Athlete Award  
**Julian Ciurlino '22** – 2022 Patrick E. Ward '66 Memorial Scholar-Athlete Award

## The Class of 1981 Reunites!



The Class of 1981 celebrated their 40th reunion on November 20, 2021 at Throwbaxx Bar & Grille in Roxborough, owned by Chas Esposito '82.

If you are interested in helping organize your reunion or need more information contact Adam Gault '08, Director of Development, AGault@RomanCatholicHS.com, Thomas Kearney '58, Chairman, Reunion Committee, turkeytk@aol.com, and Michael Pelone '77, Chairman of Membership Affairs, mjpelone@yahoo.com

*The Empire, Spring 2022*

## Upcoming Events & Reunions

### Day of Giving 2022

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at  
 RomanCatholicHS.com/  
 DayofGiving

### Cahill Club Awards Dinner

Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at  
 Flourtown Country Club  
 6 pm – Cocktail Hour,  
 7 pm – Dinner

### Day of Gratitude 2022

Friday, June 17, 2022 on  
 Roman's social media  
 platforms

### John Hoban '59 Memorial Golf Outing

Monday, June 27, 2022 at  
 Mainland Golf Course

### Day at the Bay 2022

Saturday, August 13, 2022  
 at Seaport Pier in North  
 Wildwood, NJ from 2 pm–7 pm

\$30 per person, \$40 at the  
 door, includes beer specials,  
 food and music.

Must be 21 or older to attend

### Class of 2002 – 20th Reunion

Saturday, September 10, 2022  
 Great American Pub in  
 Conshohocken, PA

### Classes of 1975, 1976, 1977 Multi-Year Reunion

Friday, October 14, 2022  
 Great American Pub in  
 Conshohocken, PA

### George Boyle Memorial '49 Golf Outing

Saturday, October 15, 2022 at  
 Avalon Country Club

### Class of 1982 – 40th Reunion

Saturday, October 15, 2022

Throwbaxx Bar & Grill

For more details and updates on all of these events please visit RomanCatholicHS.com and follow Roman's social media platforms.



# **ROMAN ATHLETICS** HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WINTER 2021-22 SEASON



## Roman Basketball Wins PIAA 6A State Championship!



Credit: AOP Athletics

### Roman's Road to Hershey

**First Round**  
 Roman 59, Haverford 49

**Second Round**  
 Roman 59, Central Dauphin 26

**Quarterfinals**  
 Roman 75, Cheltenham 62

**Semifinals**  
 Roman 53, Lower Merion 41

**Finals**  
 Roman 77, Archbishop Wood 65

Senior Daniel Skillings scored 31 points to lead four players in double figures and Roman scored the final 11 points of the third quarter en route to earning a 77-65 win over Archbishop Wood on Saturday, March 26, in the finals of the 2022 PIAA Boys' Basketball 6A Championship at the Giant Center.

Roman (24-4) improved to 4-0 in PIAA title game appearances after previously earning state crowns in 2015, 2016, and 2018.

Skillings scored seven points in the first quarter but Archbishop Wood (21-8) held a 19-16 advantage after the opening eight minutes. Roman went to the locker room holding a 33-30 lead at the half as freshman Shareef Jackson scored in the lane with just 3.8 seconds remaining. Holding a one-point advantage with

2:44 remaining in the third quarter, Roman went on an 11-0 run to push its lead to 54-42 entering the fourth. The run was highlighted by three-point field goals from both Skillings and senior guard Khalil Farmer.

A three-pointer with 2:48 left in the game pulled Archbishop Wood to within 63-57, but the Cahillites closed out the game with some strong scoring plays in transition and clutch foul shooting to avenge a 64-61 regular season loss to Wood. In addition to Skillings (12 rebounds), junior guard Xzavier Brown scored 16 points and pulled down 10 boards, while Farmer added 12 points and Jackson provided a spark off the bench with 11 points and nine rebounds.

### Roman heavily recognized at annual William H. Markward Basketball Awards Dinner



Chris Kleinkurt, Coach McNesby, and Dan Skillings at the annual Markward Dinner.

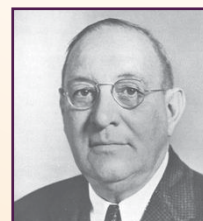
Roman basketball's stellar season led to many individual awards for the program at the annual William H. Markward Awards Dinner. Roman being awarded is very fitting given that Markward was a legendary coach for RCHS!

**Daniel Skillings '22**  
 Tom Gola Catholic League Player of the Year Award

**Chris McNesby '95**  
 Speedy Morris Coach of the Year Award

**Chris Kleinkurt '22**  
 Andy Dougherty Manager of the Year Award

**Dan Hoban '92**  
 George Paull Contribution to High School Sports Award



Billy Markward led the Purple & Gold from 1902 to 1942.

## Wrestling



**PCL Champion at 189lbs, Nate Porter '22 works to pin his opponent as the home crowd looks on. This season, Roman wrestling home matches returned to the 1890 gym.**

Under first-year head coach Jim Schneider, North Catholic Class of 2007, Roman's wrestling program fielded a young and promising team led by senior captains Nate Porter and Fran Trivelli. Porter thrived in postseason competition and became Roman's first ever two-time PCL Champion winning back-to-back Titles at the 189 lb. weight class.

## Swimming



**Ryan McHugh '22 became the first Roman swimmer to qualify for State Championships in multiple events.**

Ryan McHugh '22 had a historic senior campaign for the swim program. He earned 1st Team All-Catholic honors and in postseason competition became just the second Roman swimmer in school history to qualify for the PIAA State Swimming Championships and the first ever to qualify for multiple events (100 Fly and the 500 Free). McHugh finished 9th in the State in the 500 Free.

*The Empire, Spring 2022*

# Roman Bowling – 2022 PCL Champions!



Roman captured the 2022 Philadelphia Catholic League Boys' Bowling Championship on Saturday, February 26 with a 2526-2440 win over Father Judge at Bristol Lanes.

It marked the second league title in four seasons for Roman bowling. Led by seniors Evan Garland and David Trimber, the Cahillites posted a 14-2-2 record during the PCL regular season. Roman also earned the PCL title in 2017.

Evan Garland also shined in individual postseason, qualifying for the State Championships in impressive fashion by bowling a perfect 300-game at the Eastern Regional Championships! In the State Championships he placed 21st overall with a total of 1,045 pins, including a score of 212 in game three.



**Evan Garland '22, alongside his coaches, earned 1st Team All-Catholic honors, led his team to PCL Title, and bowled a perfect game in the Eastern Regional Championships!**

**Congratulations to all of our winter sports on successful seasons including Ice Hockey and Indoor Track & Field.**



For more information regarding RCHS Athletics, please contact:  
**Brian Haas**  
Director of Athletics  
AD@RomanCatholicHS.com  
215-627-1270 ext. 123

Stay up to date on Roman Athletics via social media:  
Follow on Twitter: @RomanAthletics  
Follow on Instagram: @roman\_athletics



**For many Roman alumni of the 1970s and 1980s, carton ball games in the courtyard were as intense as any games at the Palestra.**

BBBBBBBBZZZZZ!!! Mr. Hupka's English class is finally over for today. Beowulf can roust more dragons tomorrow; I need to rustle-up some lunch. It's Wednesday, so my favorite item is on the cafeteria menu. I order the "veal parm" with sauce, french fries, and a Coke. Dessert will be chocolate chip cookies, dunked into a thick, vanilla milkshake.

I take a seat at the table with Cahillite classmates John DePaul, Joe Dillon, Dave Cherry, and Jim "Fonzi" Conville. A group of upperclassmen sits at the far end of the table. They allow us to sit at the same table with them, since John DePaul's older brother Frank sits among the group of juniors and seniors.

Father Hanlon says a prompt prayer from the podium pulpit, and we proceed with our gustatory gluttony – confession with Father Poniziak for this sin. Our conversations revolve around Mr. McKeever's trigonometry test, the Andorra Spring's Friday night dance, Father Murphy's percussion punisher, and Hallahan High hopefuls.

After lunch is finished, we place our debris in the receptacles provided and head out into the courtyard. Being a "wise fool" now, I avoid the weeklong cafeteria clean-up chores. The dreaded dab duty of the damp sponge smells fouler than the formaldehyde frogs in Father Paul's biology class.

As we step outside into the city air, diesel fumes from the Septa buses and tractor-trailer traffic tinge our nostrils. The Vine Street Expressway is still a blueprint on a drafting table. To our right, a game is in progress.

Tied up, ties off. Sweat on, sweaters off. The score is 18-18. It's Robert Dobson and William Chestnut, versus Dominic Piperno



and John O'Donnell. This is a six foot and under game...way under! Dallas, Alex, and Abron don't play in this league. Basket to basket is only about twenty feet. The "rim" is only about six feet high; the height of the fire escapes in the courtyard. Lunchtime fans watch on the perimeter; distracted students sneak glances from Mr. McMenemin's accounting class. To the courtyard carton ball contestants, this may as well be the iconic, cramped court upstairs. Naismith's ball, now a crunched up iced tea carton, within another iced tea carton, within another iced tea carton, is passed from teammate to teammate. An ersatz (Roman) Russian doll (a Matryoshka mock-up), made from necessity, substituting for a basketball. No dribbling in this game.

Dobson passes to Chestnut for an easy lay-up to go up 19-18, Piperno dishes to O'Donnell to tie the score at 19-19. Dobson picks up the carton and throws it down court to Chestnut for a dunk over Piperno to go ahead 20-19. First team to reach 21 wins this contest. O'Donnell feeds it to Piperno who then dishes it back to O'Donnell. O'Donnell takes a jump shot over Dobson for an easy basket; score tied at twenty apiece. Dobson gives the ball to Chestnut for a long jump shot and...BBBBBBBBZZZZZZZ!!! Lunch over; game over, off to Mr. Gibson's Business Law class. Another set of carton ball kings will compete during the next lunch period.

# From Broad & Vine to Main Street U.S.A.: Supporting Roman Businesses

The COVID-19 pandemic caused major economic disruptions, especially for small businesses. With many alumni, friends, and family members of Roman running their own businesses, the Office of Mission Advancement has created a business listing on Roman's website. Businesses owned and operated by members of the Roman family are listed at the following link: [www.RomanCatholicHS.com/Biz](http://www.RomanCatholicHS.com/Biz). The Roman community is strongly encouraged to patronize these fine establishments run by fellow Cahillites.

If you are an alumnus or friend that has any affiliation with Roman (parent, grandparent, donor, relative, etc.) and own a local business (restaurant, bar, caterer, service firm) please feel free to add your organization's information to the listing by visiting the following link: [www.RomanCatholicHS.com/AddBiz](http://www.RomanCatholicHS.com/AddBiz)



In the summer of 2004, shortly before beginning his time at Roman Catholic High School, Matt Melady, Class of 2008 and second-generation Cahillite, started working for a local landscaping company and it is safe to say that he found his "calling." After graduating from Millersville University in 2012 with a degree in Construction Management (Applied Engineering), Matt began working full time for the same company before eventually branching off and founding his own landscaping company: Melady Landscaping.

The early days of the company focused on primary or residential mowing and maintenance in the Roxborough and Lafayette Hill area. Under Matt's leadership, the company grew into a full service operation, providing service in Philadelphia, Montgomery and Delaware Counties. The company currently employs crews that deal with lawn mowing and all aspects of exterior landscape maintenance, one hardscape crew dedicated to outdoor living spaces (patios, retaining walls, and outdoor fire pit/kitchen areas) and another crew focused solely on new landscape installations and enhancement projects. Melady Landscaping has flourished and is a service partner for many builders, property management companies, country clubs, and medical facilities. While all of that growth is appreciated, Matt made special mention of how much pride he has in taking of the loyal residential customers.

Matt stated that Roman helped him in the business world because it taught him to value relationships, have strong faith, and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. The other crucial thing that Roman gave Matt that has led to his success was friendship; most of Matt's friends are fellow



Cahillites that help him tremendously in starting, growing and operating the company. Now that spring has sprung and we prepare for summer, please consider Melady Landscaping for your next big outdoor project or landscaping needs!

## **Melady Landscaping**

Full-Service, All-Season Landscaping

Matt Melady '08 – Owner

(267) 836-2102

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

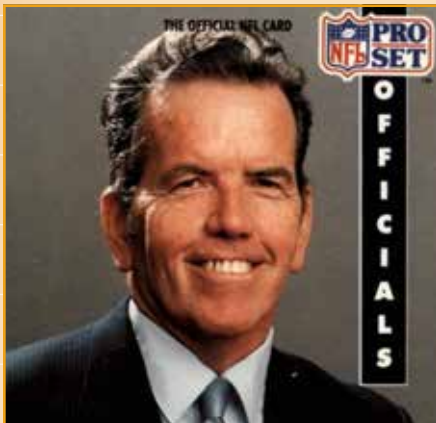
## 1930s

**Leo Dolan '39** reached a milestone this past year by celebrating his 100th birthday! Congratulations, and Happy Birthday, Leo!

## 1940s

**Art McNally '43** will be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame this summer. McNally served as the NFL's Director of Officiating from 1968-1987.

The league's Art McNally Award is given out every year at the Pro Bowl to the referee who exhibits exemplary professionalism, leadership, and commitment to sportsmanship, on and off the field.



The Official NFL Card for Art McNally '43.

## 1960s

**Thomas Leonard '64**, President of the RCHS Board of Directors, recently stepped down as Chair of Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hoppel, a position he has held for over a decade. As Chairman Emeritus, Tom will continue his association with the firm. Tom is a lifetime Charter Member of Rue Ratings "Best Attorneys of America." The American Registry lists Tom in the top 1% of America's Most Honored professionals. He is one of Pennsylvania's "Super Lawyers" as listed in the Philadelphia Magazine (June editions) and Thomson Reuters, Legal Magazine, "Pennsylvania Super Lawyers" (2004-2021).

**James Fitzsimmons '67**, past President/CEO Emeritus Malvern Retreat House and longtime active RCHS Alumni Executive Trustee received the Father Edward J. Sourin Award by The Catholic Philopatrian Literary Institute at their 58th annual dinner held at Stotesbury Mansion Ballroom in April, 2022.

**Lou Ferrero '68**, Secretary of the Executive Board of Trustees and dedicated alum, was awarded the Sophia Cahill Award at this year's Romaucion event.



Lou Ferrero '68 receives the Sophia Cahill Award from Father Bongard.

**Daniel DiLella '69** received the Founders Award for Business Leadership bestowed by The Union League of Philadelphia. Dan is currently Chairman of RCHS Board of Directors. The Philadelphia Business Journal also listed Dan in the top 25 Power 100 Executives, having guided Equus Capital Partners to become a national real estate investment company.



Dan DiLella '69 and Father Bongard '77 at the Awards Dinner.

## 1990s

**Jim Dahl '93** married his longtime girlfriend Kristina Dunas on April 2, 2022, on the beach in Cape May NJ, surrounded by their family and friends. Kristina is the daughter of former teacher Mr. William Dunas and the mother of Christopher Zampirri, a member of the RCHS Class of 2025.



Jim Dahl '93 with his bride Kristina Dunas.

## 2000s

**Richard Slavin '05** started a new position as Counsel with the A.Y. Strauss, LLC, law firm, specializing in commercial real estate in Philadelphia, New Jersey and New York.

**Sean Woods '06** married Christine Woods back in July of 2020 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and in August of 2021, they welcomed the birth of their first child, Sean Michael Woods Jr.



Sean Woods '06 with Sean Jr., RCHS Class of 2039!



## 2000s (continued)

**Kenny Hobbs '07** married Brianna Yakscoe on June 5, 2021. The celebrant was Ken's classmate **Father Eric Banecker '07**. On March 20, 2022, Kenny and Brianna welcomed a baby boy, Beau Michael Hobbs to the world. Kenny is currently working as a dentist at A Family Dental Care Center in Conshohocken.



**Kenny Hobbs '07, Fr. Eric Banecker '07, and Brianna Hobbs**

**Rob Karvell '07** married Kami Leigh Berry on September 27, 2019 at St. Cecilia's Church in Fox Chase. They welcomed their first child, Juliana Leigh Karvell on December 3, 2021.



**Rob Karvell '07 with his wife Kami.**

**John Hildebrand '09** married Caitlin Hildebrand on October 10, 2021. The ceremony and reception were held at Awbury Arboretum.

**Anthony Pody '09** married Kimberly Tricome on November 20, 2021 at the National Shrine of St. Rita of Cascia. RCHS Rector, Father Bongard '77 presided over the ceremony



**John Hildebrand '09 with his bride Caitlin.**



**From left to right: Matthew Pody '13, Anthony Pody '09 (Groom), Kim Pody (Bride), Joseph Pody '16, and Father Bongard '77.**

**Paul Schragen '09** married Beth Potens on May 1, 2021 at Presentation BVM Church. Father Bongard presided over the ceremony. Also, Paul was hired as a Senior Accountant in the Office of Educational Services of the Office of Catholic Education.



**Tim Potens '05 (brother of the bride), Greg Potens '08 (brother of the bride), Fr. Bongard '77, Beth Schragen (bride), Paul Schragen '09 (groom), Luke Schragen '10, Greg McNichol '09.**

## 2010s

**Jack Gibbons '10** and his wife, Kaeli Gibbons, welcomed their first child, Kenzie Gibbons, to the world on December 20, 2021.



**Alumni President, Chris Gibbons '79, with his sons, Ryan '14 (l) and Jack '10 (r) Chris is holding his first grandchild, Kenzie (Jack's daughter).**



## 2010s (continued)

**Anthony Sechuk '11** married Catherine (Katie) McCormick on November 6, 2021 at the Church of Saint Thomas of Villanova on the campus of Villanova University. RCHS Rector, Father Bongard '77 presided over the ceremony.



**Father Bongard '77, Anthony Sechuk '11 (groom), Catherine McCormick Sechuk (bride), Jonathan Sechuk '16, and Michael Sechuk '08.**

**Norman "Boomer" Steigelman '12** joined the Philadelphia Spartans' (Major Arena Soccer Team that plays out of Northeast Philadelphia) coaching staff for this past season. Steigelman operated as both a player and a coach.

**Kurt Konrad '13** married Maureen Hoey on December 4, 2021 at St. Katherine of Siena Church.



**Kurt Konrad '13 and his bride Maureen.**

**Kevin Tryon '17** graduated from La Salle University in May 2021 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business. He is currently working as an Account Executive for PLS Logistics in Philadelphia.

**Glen Bittenbender '18** will graduate from George Washington University in May with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and minor in Law and Society. In his time at GW, he made the Dean's List multiple times, was inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha, Eta Beta chapter (Political Science Honors Society), and was an active member of the fencing team.



**Glen Bittenbender '18 (far left) with his fencing teammates after they won a tournament hosted by Clemson University.**

**Matthew Hirst '18** will graduate from Temple University's Fox School of Business with a degree in marketing this May. Post-graduation, he will begin working as a Client Relationship Associate for Vanguard.

**Malcolm Hunt '18** will graduate from Ursinus College this May with a degree in Health Exercise and Physiology. Hunt had a successful wrestling career for the Ursinus Bears, finishing 4th in NCAA Midwest Regional Tournament at 285 lbs., just one win away from qualifying for the National Tournament. During his senior season, he earned the honor of being named Centennial Conference wrestler of the week.

**Jared Dillon '19** is currently residing in Harrisburg and playing for the Harrisburg Heat, a professional indoor soccer team with membership in the MASL (Major Arena Soccer League).



**Jared Dillon '19 – Forward for the Harrisburg Heat Soccer Team.**

## 2020s

**Eric Helmer '20** is currently attending Seton Hall University majoring in Biology and minoring in Spanish. Eric is also playing Division II Ice Hockey and the team made it to round one of the playoffs this past season.

**James Kimrey '20** is studying aviation at Jacksonville University in Florida and recently earned his private pilot license. He is currently on the Dean's List and received an NROTC scholarship this past summer that will cover his tuition, room and board for his remaining years. He has also continued rowing for the JU Men's Team and was placed in their top Varsity 8 boat as a freshman. Ultimately James' plan is to serve his country by becoming a Naval aviator.



**James Kimrey '20 proudly presents his private pilot license.**

**Colin Long '21** is currently a freshman at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland. He is studying political science and was elected Vice President of his class. In February, he traveled to Guyana in South America for a service trip sponsored by the university.



**Colin Long '21 during his service trip in Guyana**

# IN MEMORIAM

Please remember and keep in your prayers our brothers and family members who have been called from this world to eternal life (November 2, 2021–April 11, 2022)

To submit a name for this list, e-mail: [Alumni@RomanCatholicHS.com](mailto:Alumni@RomanCatholicHS.com) or call 215-627-5487 ext. 200

## Alumni

John Kane '42  
George Ederwine '43  
Edward White '44  
Frank Keel '48  
Jack Yanosov '50  
Francis Healy '52  
Robert Jones '52  
Joseph Hanlon '54  
Stanley Szpindor '55  
Joseph Gratzinger '56  
Donald Kreal '56  
Jude Walsh '56  
Francis Dinan '57  
John Kerrigan '59  
Jack Renshaw '59  
Charles McDonough '60  
James Tinneny '60  
Joseph Herkness '61  
Raymond McGettigan '62  
Richard West '64  
Richard Boyle '65  
Paul Stankiewicz '65  
James Lafferty '67  
Frank Trout '67  
John Cooke '69  
James DiGregorio '70

Michael Tietjen '71  
Carl Brown '77  
David MacGillvray '77  
Vince Rambo '78  
John Adamski '93  
Renard Odrick '96  
William Stermel '15  
Justice Cohen '20  
Makai Lewis '21



## Family & Friends

**James Boyle** Father of Mary Connell, CORA freshman Guidance Counselor  
**Jean Cardwell** Grandmother of Alek Hughes '09, Mother of Board Member, Judge Renee Cardwell Hughes  
**Marcia Cassidy** Wife of James Cassidy '73  
**Raymond Clarkson, Sr.** Father of Ray Clarkson Jr. '90  
**Joseph Dougherty** Father of Joseph '82, Brian '85, and Grandfather of Joseph '04  
**Raffalina Gaughan** Mother of Raymond Gaughan '71  
**Kathleen Harkins** Wife of James Harkins '55  
**Dora Kugler** Mother-in-Law of Pat Mundy '75  
**Rose Mary Lally** Mother of Ed Lally '74  
**Susan Marcinek** Mother of Matthew Marcinek '07  
**Patricia Molina** Wife of Antonio Molina '58  
**Patricia Mulligan** Mother of Rev. Robert Mulligan '82 and James Mulligan '85  
**Suzanne Murphy** Sister of David Murphy '75 and Charles "Don" Murphy '74 (dec'd)  
**Mary Rapone** Wife of Joseph Rapone '50, Mother of Anthony '75, Michael '72 (dec'd) and Grandmother of Anthony Jr. '99, Christopher '02, and Patrick '10  
**Shirley Rios** Wife of Joseph Brady '88  
**Michael Sullivan** Grandfather of Michael '13, and Father-in-Law of Donna Sullivan (staff member)  
**Rev. Raymond Tribuiani** Former Faculty Member  
**Chuen Pik Ma Wong** Grandmother of Kevin Wong '17

# MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES



**Alumni and friends of RCHS** have the opportunity to memorialize a classmate or family loved one. Here are a few of the ways you can memorialize a friend and help Roman's Ministry program at the same time. For more information, please email Father Bongard at [JBongard@RomanCatholicHS.com](mailto:JBongard@RomanCatholicHS.com)

Seasonal Religious Banners	\$450
Classroom Crucifix (Howard Center)	\$325
Altar Linens	\$100
Seasonal Reflection Books	\$125
Kairos Retreat Sponsorship	\$175
Sanctuary Candles	\$125
Altar Candles	\$75
March for Life Sponsorship	\$75





# 2022 DAY OF GIVING

Roman's annual Day of Giving will be taking place on **Tuesday, May 17, 2022!** Thank you so much for your past support of this day. We are counting on your support again this year as our goal is to raise **\$150,000 from over 800 donors.** All gifts support the Roman Fund which fuels tuition assistance for our current and future Cahillites. *Thank you and Go Roman!*

#### How to give:

- Visit [RomanCatholicHS.com/DayofGiving](http://RomanCatholicHS.com/DayofGiving)
- Venmo your gift (include class year) to @RomanCatholicHS
- Write and send a check to:  
Roman Catholic High School,  
301 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107  
(subject line: Day of Giving 2022)

#### Have questions?

Contact the Office of Mission Advancement: (215)-627-5487.

#CAHILLITESGIVE

*Calling all Roman and Hallahan Alumni, join us for:*

## Day at the Bay Boardwalk Edition!

*Join us on August 13, 2022 from 2-7pm at the*

# SEAPORT PIER

*in North Wildwood, NJ*



**SAVE THE DATE!**

Cost is \$30 per person in advance, \$40 at the door.

Includes beer specials, food and music.

Must be 21 to attend



Roman Catholic High School  
301 N. Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
215.627.1270



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