

AUGUST 2022

SAINTS CONNECTION



Your Alumni Resource for the Latest News & Information.

AMOR VINCIT OMNIA • LOVE CONQUERS ALL



Hello Saints Alumni!

What happened to summer??? It seems to fly by faster and faster! The start of a new school year is just around the corner as evident in the "back to school" supplies in all the stores. I still remember the excitement of picking out new notebooks, folders, pencils and pens! The big choice was what type of folder I wanted to use for each class. Did I want a solid folder or one with a celebrity face? What type of paper was I going to wrap my books? Now it's what type of device do you want, a Mac, Samsung, Microsoft Surface? Wow, times have changed!

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Alumni Highlights
- Reunions
- Events
- Alumni Corner
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UPDATE YOUR CONTACT
INFORMATION BELOW

[Click Here](#)



Alumni Highlights

CAREERS



Carlyle Nusbaum, '15

Outside hitter and volleyball phenom, Carlyle Nusbaum, has signed with Nawaro Straubing of Germany for the 2022-23 season.



Melissa Windon, '03

In 2018, Melissa Windon founded Driving Pursuits KC, a company that teaches women in the business community how to golf. She believes that anyone who wants to be a golfer should be given the opportunity in a non-threatening environment to learn. Melissa says the most rewarding part of Driving Pursuits KC is witnessing the members build confidence, integrity, improve self-discipline and grow their businesses through the game of golf. In addition to managing Driving Pursuits KC, Melissa is a full time Employee Benefits Producer at HUB International.

HIGHLIGHTS



Ebony Haliburton, '02

Ebony was recently the keynote speaker at the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Legacy Dinner. She delivered a truly inspiring message about her experience with faith and athletics. Ebony is one of the Assistant Basketball Coaches for Kansas State!



Brooke Budke Wiltse, '02

Brooke is making a splash with being honored in the July issue of "HERLIFE" magazine. Brooke dives into how she chooses one word each year that moves her actions and aligns with her goals. You can catch the full article [HERE!](#)



Andrea Buettner Wardell, '03

Meet the owner of Wardell & Holmes Real Estate, Andrea! Wardell & Holmes opened in 2018 and Andrea and her two agents have closed over 40 Million Dollars in sales, including over 200 properties. Andrea was just recently honored in the, IN Kansas City Magazine, and you can catch the full article [HERE!](#)

Have some news? Click here to share!

SHARE



Reunions

Class of 2002



20th Reunion
Oct. 22, 2022
7:00 PM
Parlor, KC
1707 Locust St, KCMO



Adam Dolski: adamdolski@gmail.com

Class of 1962



60th Reunion
Aug. 27, 2022
5:00 PM Mass St. Joe
6:15 PM Paulo and Bill's



Contact Joan VanHee:
JoVanhee7@gmail.com

Class of 1967



55th Reunion
Sept. 16, 2022
Austin's (11180 S. Lone Rd)
Sept. 17, 2022
Monticello Historic Fire Station
Ralph Rice: rricejr@sbcglobal.net

Class of 1970



50th Reunion
October 1st, 2022
Johnny's Tavern Shawnee

Contact BarbFowler:
barbfowler0629@gmail.com

Class of 1972



50th Reunion
October 1st, 2022
The Silo Modern Farmhouse
17501 W. 87th St. Pkway -
Lenexa, KS

RSVP by 9/15/22:
evansa1@bellsouth.net

Click here to plan your next reunion.

Samantha Paradise

Director of Alumni Relations
sparadise@stasaints.net



Reunions

Reunion Contacts

1971 - John Patrick
daddyjohnpatrick@gmail.com

1973 - Patricia Rieke Regan
Pattyregan@aol.com

1993 - Kate Kratofil Koehnecke
Kkoehnecke@gmail.com

1997 - Shane Borth
shaneborth@gmail.com

1998 - Brooke Johnson Derby
brookederby@icloud.com

2012 - Brogan Moroney
bmoroney@minneties.com

2013 - Baile Winslow Stephenson
Bailewinslow@gmail.com

Program Reunions

Click the links below to be a part of
program events and reunions!

Football

Girls & Boys Soccer

Girls Basketball

Boys Basketball

Baseball & Softball

Theater/Choir

Dance Team

Track & Cross Country

Cheerleading

Volleyball

Reunion Celebrations



Samantha Paradise

Director of Alumni Relations
sparadise@stasaints.net



Events



JOIN US FOR

Saints Soccer Alumni Weekend!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7TH

ALUMNI GAME

FOOD AND DRINKS FOLLOWING

(WE WILL BE PROJECTING THE HS FOOTBALL GAME AT THIS TIME)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS VS. 810 SHOWCASE GAME

GAME TIME: 7:00PM

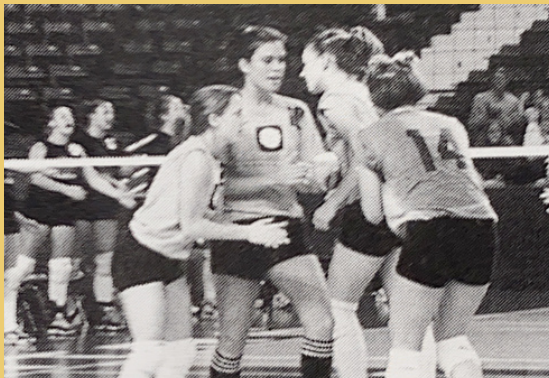
COST: FAMILY \$60.00 / INDIVIDUAL \$30.00

RSVP BY AUGUST 15TH: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/3MAMY10](https://bit.ly/3MAMY10)

SOCCER RSVP HERE



VBALL RSVP HERE



JOIN US FOR

Saints Volleyball Alumni Night!

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS VS. SKUTT CATHOLIC

SEPT. 9TH

GAME TIME 6:00PM

DIRECTLY AFTER WILL BE A GET TOGETHER AT A
LOCAL BAR AND GRILL!

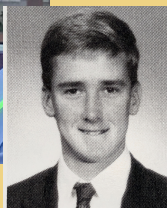
RSVP BY AUGUST 9TH: SPARADISE@STASAINTS.NET



Alumni Corner

Let's Talk 

1992



Hello, my name is Brian Maher, my wife Kirsten (Creal) Maher, and I have four children. We are parishioners at Cure of Ars where our children have also attended school. We are thrilled that Maura will be attending St. Thomas Aquinas!

My experience with Aquinas was very positive. My class was the first freshman class at the new high school. The outstanding faculty have been the foundation of what I believe makes Aquinas so special. The commitment and impact the administration, teachers, coaches, and staff make have a lasting footprint on the Aquinas community. This footprint revolves around the Catholic values that my family and I appreciate.

I enjoyed being involved in sporting activities while in high school. All the different teams and coaches bring back fun and wonderful memories. There are so many options to get involved, I hope my kids take advantage of them! Anything from STUCO, show choir, cheer, all sports, and Right to Life. There is something for everyone.

Maura will be one of the 20+ family relatives to attend and graduate from Aquinas. My dad always told me that Catholic education is not just a blessing for your kids but also and maybe even more so for the parents. It provides a community of shared faith and support that is more necessary than ever in helping all of us raise faithful and productive kids. The more my daughter is involved the more my family will be involved!

My family home of the last 30 years, sits on the other side of the football field. My mom, Rosemary taught at Aquinas for 17 years- and my Dad, Jim coached and went to countless games and events. It has been such a blessing for our extended family. I am so grateful to all the faculty, staff, and students who have always been so welcoming to our family.

I look forward for Maura to experience being a part of the Aquinas community! Throughout the years I have attended many of my family's and friends' sporting events, plays, choir performances, and various activities. I have run into former classmates, and other graduates who have children involved at Aquinas and could see the joy and excitement to have their own child on the court or on the stage. I will be so happy to finally have one of my own taking advantage of all Aquinas has to offer!

2000



Hello, I am Darcie (Nachbar) Bertholf from the class of 2000. I grew up in Shawnee, graduated from St. Joseph grade school. My husband, Todd and I have a son, Will, who is going to be a freshman this year at Aquinas and our daughter, Ellie, will be a 6th grader at Holy Trinity.

While at Saint Thomas Aquinas I played volleyball through my junior year, sang in the choir all 4 years and was lucky to be one of the early Kairos attendees, I believe Kairos 4 but don't quote me!

One of my favorite high school memories was playing in a JV volleyball tournament in Manhattan, we had made it to the Championship game against.... Miego. Our very own President, Mr. Schenck was our coach and we had yet to beat our rivals that season, and he wanted this win for us so badly. Coach Schenck made us a deal, if we won, we were all invited to his upcoming wedding. Luckily, his beautiful bride, Leigh was very understanding because a deal is a deal and we won!! We had a blast celebrating their wedding and our win on their dance floor.

Why did we choose Aquinas for our son? To be completely honest, he chose. We have attended games over the years, gone to youth camps etc., and I have always shared with the kids my love of my high school experience. I believe more than anything Will felt comfortable and at home when he came for his 8th grade shadow visit. He got in the car that afternoon and said he wasn't shadowing anywhere else and went further by asking if he could start tomorrow!

We know he will get an excellent education in an environment that promotes a love for God, and for each other. We pray that in choosing Aquinas we will give our kids a strong foundation to stand on throughout their entire lives. We are looking forward to all the new friendships he will make and the traditions he will remember for a lifetime. We are excited to cheer him on doing the things he loves most and pray he becomes the best version of himself.

LETS GO SAINTS!!!!

Get Involved

Click the links to get involved!

Alumni Speaker Series & Alumni Mentor Program



TOPICS

- Job Recruiter
- Corporate Marketer
- Broadway Star, Film Producer
- Cinematographer
- Logistics Professional
- Medical Professionals
- Entrepreneurs/Business
- Real Estate
- Insurance

WHAT ALUMNI ARE SAYING

"Aquinas prepared me for both college and for my professional life by providing opportunities and challenges that shaped me as a young person and developed critical thinking, relationship building, and public speaking skills that I use and exercise to this day. As an alumni, I feel it's critical to give back to the next generation of Saints."

-Nick DiCarlo, '95

The Alumni Speaker Series offers our Alumni the opportunity to share their knowledge with our current students to better prepare them for their future! We welcome any Alumni to come back and continue to leave their legacy!



WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING

"When I first heard of this I got so excited, and after I got done I was literally jumping from joy. Thanks for this opportunity, it was a really great experience and it helped me learn so much."

~ Freshman Student

EVENT DETAILS

The majority of our Alumni Speakers will present during our STA period in the Theater.

All students, staff, parents and other Alumni are invited to attend.



Alumni Business Directory



Chris George, '02

erica@chrisgeorgecustomhomes.com

chrisgeorgecustomhomes.com

A family owned and operated company for three generations, Chris George Custom Homes has always been centered around family.

We support **Chris George Homes** & we want to support you! Please share your business with us by [clicking here!](#)

School News

New Faces 2022-23



Dr. Lori Greeson
Assistant Principal



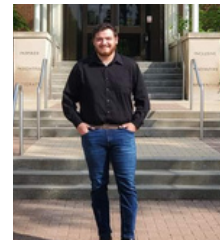
Tim Zande
Advancement Director



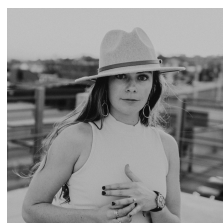
Fr. Andrew Gaffney
Chaplain



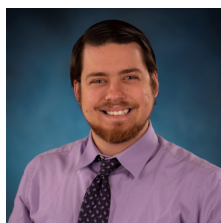
Tucker Burton
Chemistry



Christian Lucas
Theater



Maggie Cain Knopke
English



Jared Nigrin
English

Welcome



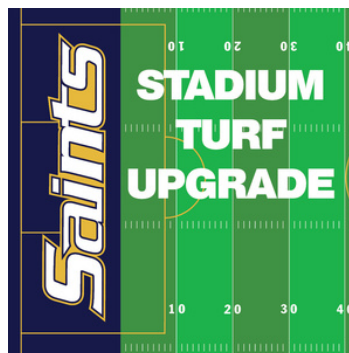
Paola Fuentes
Spanish



Zander Haddad
Spanish

Stadium Turf Upgrade Initiative

Our turf has been home to touchdowns, goals, graduations, and more. When it was laid we were guaranteed 10 years and got that and then some. While it's provided a safe and beautiful surface to showcase our students and their activities, it's time for an upgrade. Over the next few months, we hope to secure pledges and raise funds needed so that we can break ground later this Fall.



A message from Alumni Director Samantha Paradise, '03



The first day of school is quickly approaching. I remember many of my friends would dread the end of summer while others were excited to get back to a routine! I fell into the group that liked getting back into the routine. We are excited for what's in store for this upcoming school year and the new faces of our staff and faculty. Tim Zande, '02, has joined our Advancement Office as Director of Advancement!

Tim has already brought in some fantastic ideas for our future. We are so excited to have him and are looking forward to his fresh innovative idea's. Welcome back, Tim!

Save the Dates:

Back to School Night



August 24th
6:30PM - 9:00PM

Saints Annual Appeal Tailgate



September 2nd
5:00PM
Football Home Opener
7:00PM



STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to all the Alumni who contributed in some way this past school year. We appreciate all that you do to support your Alma Mater! Once a Saint, always a Saint!

Barbara Isom 1956
Robert Garrett 1960
George Lang 1969
Phil Cansler 1970
Tony Chiaverini 1970
Mike Cindrich 1970
Gene Fritz 1970
Annette Evans 1972
Rebecca Merwald 1972
David Shriver 1973
Mark Pilcher 1975
Richard Riley 1975
Joseph Cisper 1976
Patrick Mirocke 1976
Donald Watson 1978
Jim Lichtenauer 1980
Greg Nachbar 1980
Daniel Pflumm 1980
Richard Nachbar 1981
Nancy Robinson 1981
Elizabeth Stoecklein 1981
Theresa Tritt 1981
Charles Holtgraves 1983
John Speckin 1984
Mark Charlton 1985
Mike Mirocke 1985
George Gomez 1986
Marvin Fitzpatrick 1987
Steven Hannam 1988
Gregory Payne 1990
Heather Brennan 1991
Tim Gaigals 1991
Marie Pollock 1991
John Seibolt 1992
Stephanie Goodenow 1993
Jenny Rhodus 1993
Jason Ross 1993
Katie Tholkes 1993
Joe Novacek 1994
Philip O'Hara 1994
Stacy Przybylski 1994

Nicholas DiCarlo 1995
Jeffrey Kopp 1995
Grant Mullin 1995
Emily Seibolt 1995
Patrick Carter 1996
Zachary Doerfler 1996
David Dubill 1996
Christie Gallo 1996
Michelle Hardgree 1996
Colleen Hochberg 1996
Colleen Mazzei 1996
Jonathan Novacek 1996
Stephanie Turner 1996
Daniel Ellsworth 1997
Mila Ellsworth 1997
Joe Herting 1997
Kirk McCullough 1997
David Seibolt 1997
Christina Steiner 1997
Sean Hoffman 1998
Lauren Pickert 1998
Ryan Campbell 1999
Lindsay Gore 1999
Jessica Teddy 1999
Mark LeVota 2000
Matt Gary 2001
John Harrington 2001
Patrick O'Donnell 2001
Kathleen Seal 2001
Stephanie Cloues 2002
Christopher Murphy 2002
Danielle Rider 2002
Molly Spencer 2002
Timothy Zande 2002
Jimmy Carter 2003
Anne Fields 2003
Paul Flournoy 2003
Samantha O'Malley 2003
Carolyn Olis 2003

Monica Andreoli 2004
Hillary Carter 2004
Courtney DeNegri 2004
Tyler Lord 2004
Jacob Kupersmith 2006
John Tompkins 2006
Ben Fitzpatrick 2007
Jillian Vallee 2007
Kevin Ahrens 2008
Drew Clement 2008
Bryan Thelen 2008
Mark Blaise 2009
Jacob Darnell 2009
Madeline Luther 2010
Ryan Mueller 2010
Alison Kruse 2011
Elisabeth Bregant 2013
Tyler Clement 2013
Benjamin Moss 2014

Alumni Speakers & Mentors

Janine DiVita Del Bello 2003
Amber Krumbholz Schreiber 1998
Lindsay Krumbholz 1999
Brian Savoy 2001
Dan Hilboldt 1998
Vanessa Finch Dittman 2003
John Kuhlman 2003
Oscar Garcia 2017
Beth Evers Guerra 1999
Lisa Finholm 2002
Andrew Thomas 2004
Rob Cowdrey 2013
Ryan Cowdrey 2015
Jack Seiler 2018
Kevin Coomes 2003
Nicholas DiCarlo 1995
Claire Ferguson 2015
Skylar Bird 2017
Devin Diggs 2018
Monica Ahrens Andreoli 2004
Kerry Goebel 2006