

# THE YAWP

The Magazine of St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School 2017

EVERY  
DAY IS  
A GREAT  
DAY TO  
BE A  
VIKING!

RESPECT  
ST. ANNE-PACELLI CATHOLIC SCHOOL



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Every day is a great day to Be A Viking!  
Cover photo by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography  
Image of painting courtesy of The Columbus Museum

### Alumna Artist Amy Sherald



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## In Their Words



"I know that I will be well prepared for my college career due to the rigorous classes offered at St. Anne-Pacelli, such as on-campus dual enrollment and Advanced Placement courses. Excellent teachers oversee our efforts in the classroom. They want to see us succeed at every grade level, and they go the extra mile to see that we accomplish our goals."

*-Laura McKenna, St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School 12th grader*

**Mission Statement:** St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School, through Catholic formation and academic excellence, is committed to the spiritual, intellectual, and physical development of the students entrusted to our care.

# PRESIDENT'S NOTE

It's a great day to Be A Viking! St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School is an exceptional place, and I consider it a great blessing to be able to serve in this role at my alma mater.

Celebrations are a daily happening here! The school is enjoying a 10 percent increase in enrollment since the 2016-2017 year. Academically, we saw the introduction of Coding and Drama classes in our Lower School this year. Recognizing that we live in a digital world, we expanded our one-to-one device campus to include middle school students. This year, students in grades 6-12 have their own Chromebooks and use them daily to build digital writing portfolios, post and submit class assignments through Google Classroom, and build knowledge and practice essential research skills. In addition to core classes and meaningful electives, our high school offers 10 on-campus dual enrollment courses and 17 Advanced Placement courses.

Our students are enjoying new before- and after-school opportunities to grow in wisdom and grace. Whether it's working out at 7 a.m. with Head Football Coach Mark LeGree, sampling new cuisine in Culinary Art Club after school with High School Art Teacher Mrs. Allison Wilbanks, or working with Lower School Science Teacher Mrs. Elizabeth Parker to build a robot to compete in the Georgia FIRST Robotics competition, new extracurricular activities abound.

Athletically, over 88 percent of St. Anne-Pacelli middle and high school students play on one or more of our 12 sports teams. Over the past four years, 20 athletes from St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School signed to play sports at the collegiate level. Our current coaching staff includes former college and professional athletes, a former college coach and the highest licensed high school soccer coach in the area.

I always remind our students, "Every day is a great day to Be A Viking!" We have great students, families, faculty, staff and alumni! As we look toward 2018, we can be thankful for the blessing of being a part of St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School, where we are expanding minds, building faith and enriching lives.

We appreciate your continued support and your prayers.

Peace and all good things,



Ms. Ronie Collins  
St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School President & High School Principal  
Pacelli High School Class of 1979



## Deimel Hall Doings

**There's always something exciting happening on Deimel Hall, where our Pre-K3-2nd grade students are developing a lifelong love for learning!**

### Hands-On Learning

By Anna Underwood, Pre-K3 Assistant Teacher

St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School's Pre-K3 program is focused on developing children's social, physical and learning skills. Whether these students are learning their ABCs and 123s, developing fine motor skills or creating masterpieces, they are having fun while growing in wisdom and grace.



Pre-K3 student Lola Vincent and Chelsea Roth are developing fine motor skills by cutting construction paper for a classroom craft. Photo by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography



The Letter of the Week is D! St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Pre-K4 student Scarlett Alexander sits with her teacher, Mrs. Maggi Horton, and shows classmates items she's brought from home that begin with the letter D. Photo by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography

### Teacher Testimonial

"This is my second year teaching at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School, but my 13th year teaching overall. I have never been at a school where family, faith and loyalty are so strong. Every day is a new adventure with the Pre-K4 students I teach. We enjoy singing, dancing and making crafts. These activities are all connected to our daily lessons. We focus on a new letter of the alphabet each week, packing in each school day with many fun experiences for students to remember the name of the letter and its sound. Incorporating religion into our daily routine, through lessons and prayer, is my favorite part of each school day. It warms my heart to be able to teach these amazing students about our Holy Father and His Son."

-Maggi Horton, Pre-K4 Teacher

## Rhyme Time Fun

By Heather Dalelio, Kindergarten Teacher

September is Rhyme Time for Kindergarten! We recite poems, sing songs and read books that rhyme. After a two-week theme based on nursery rhymes, we discuss all of the unique characters that exist in Nursery Rhymes. On the last day of our rhyme study, each Kindergarten student dresses as his/her favorite Nursery Rhyme character! Students talk about their character and recite the rhyme that he/she belongs to. It's so exciting to see Old King Cole, Humpty Dumpty and Little Boy Blue walking down Deimel Hall on this fun day!



Kindergarten Teacher Mrs. Heather Dalelio plays the role of cow while her assistant Mrs. Charlena Roth plays the role of moon, and Kindergarten Teacher Ms. Katie Mann and her assistant Karol Gutierrez play the role of the dish and the spoon in "Hey, Diddle, Diddle" by Mother Goose.



Parker Kaup (Humpty Dumpty), Lucy Schreck (lamb), Azariah Joseph (Little Bo Peep) and Jordan Magwood (Old King Cole)



Jacob Miller (butcher), Colin Kirchgraber (baker) and Hayden Turner (candlestick maker)

Photos of Nursery Rhyme Character Dress-Up Day by Keith Hammonds, Keith's Klicks

## Read to Succeed!

By Cindy Roth, 1st Grade Teacher

Deimel Hall is the place to be when the month of March rolls around. Students in Pre-K3 through 2nd grades enjoy surprise visits from mystery readers, have fun dressing up as their favorite storybook characters, and perform a Readers' Theatre during the month-long celebration.

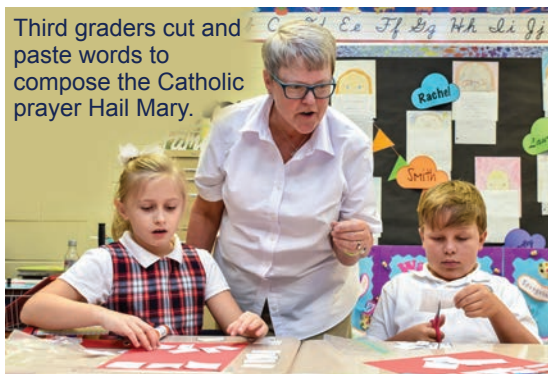
Georgia First Lady Sandra Deal was a March 2017 Mystery reader at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School.



## Mercy Hall Teachers Set the Stage to Engage

Submitted by The Mercy Hall Team Evelyn Chester, Patricia Young, Pat Archer, Paula Frisch, Barbara Lambert and Emily Miller

The teaching team in Mercy Hall (3rd, 4th and 5th grades) has made a commitment to bring student learning to life! The members of this teaching team tap into their own personal strengths to provide experiences and engaging lessons to enhance student learning.



Third graders cut and paste words to compose the Catholic prayer Hail Mary.

Third grade students inject the creativity of art to grow as writers. Mrs. Patricia Young has always loved to bring an art component to writing experiences. She says, “Expressing ourselves in writing is a top priority in 3rd grade.” Creating a piece of art can definitely extend an experience or be a launching pad for writing. Some students find expressing themselves through art makes the writing process less stressful. Recently, students painted cherry blossom trees as part of a compare and contrast writing exercise to go with the story “Suki’s Kimono.”

Third graders also spend a great deal of time strengthening their knowledge and recall of Math facts. Mrs. Evelyn Chester provides students with engaging activities to motivate this learning. As the year progresses, students learn new flashcard games that help the students remember their Math facts. While they continue to see the facts the way they have to write them, calling out the answers is different and as the kids say “fun.” Musical Flash Cards is one of students’ favorite games. Similar to musical chairs, this game incorporates Math flash cards. Students turn their chairs around and walk around until the music stops. In order to stay in the game, students have to answer a certain number of flashcards right in a row. Students who are out will quiz each other with their own set of flashcards.

Mrs. Pat Archer, 4th and 5th grade Science teacher, understands the importance of the hands-on experience to ensure she is meeting the needs of all learners. One of her many tactile lessons recently had the students demonstrating their knowledge of the phases of the moon with Oreo cookies. Each student showed the eight phases of the moon cycle in this delicious activity by eating just enough of the cream filling and laying the cookies out in the correct order. It provided a quick and easy assessment of their comprehension in a unique way!

In Ms. Paula Frisch’s 4th grade Social Studies class, the students are deep in their research project of Native Americans. Through this project students are learning more than just a required Social Studies standard. As they work to find specific information to complete a pamphlet on each of seven tribes, they are also learning how to complete research, take notes and organize information.

Fifth grade students recently completed a study of the liturgy and the various vestments and vessels used during the Catholic Mass. The students were given the real-life experience of touring the sacristy, church and Mercy Chapel on a walking field trip with Religion Teacher Mrs. Barbara Lambert so that they were able to see, and in some cases, touch the many different items. The first stop was the main church where students identified items such as the baptismal font, ambo and altar. Next, they went to the sacristy where students viewed all of the vestments worn by the priests and those worn by altar servers. The final stop was in Mercy Chapel where they saw the tabernacle and many of the vessels used in liturgies.



Fifth graders test the absorbency of various brands of paper towels during this Lower School Science Lab exercise.

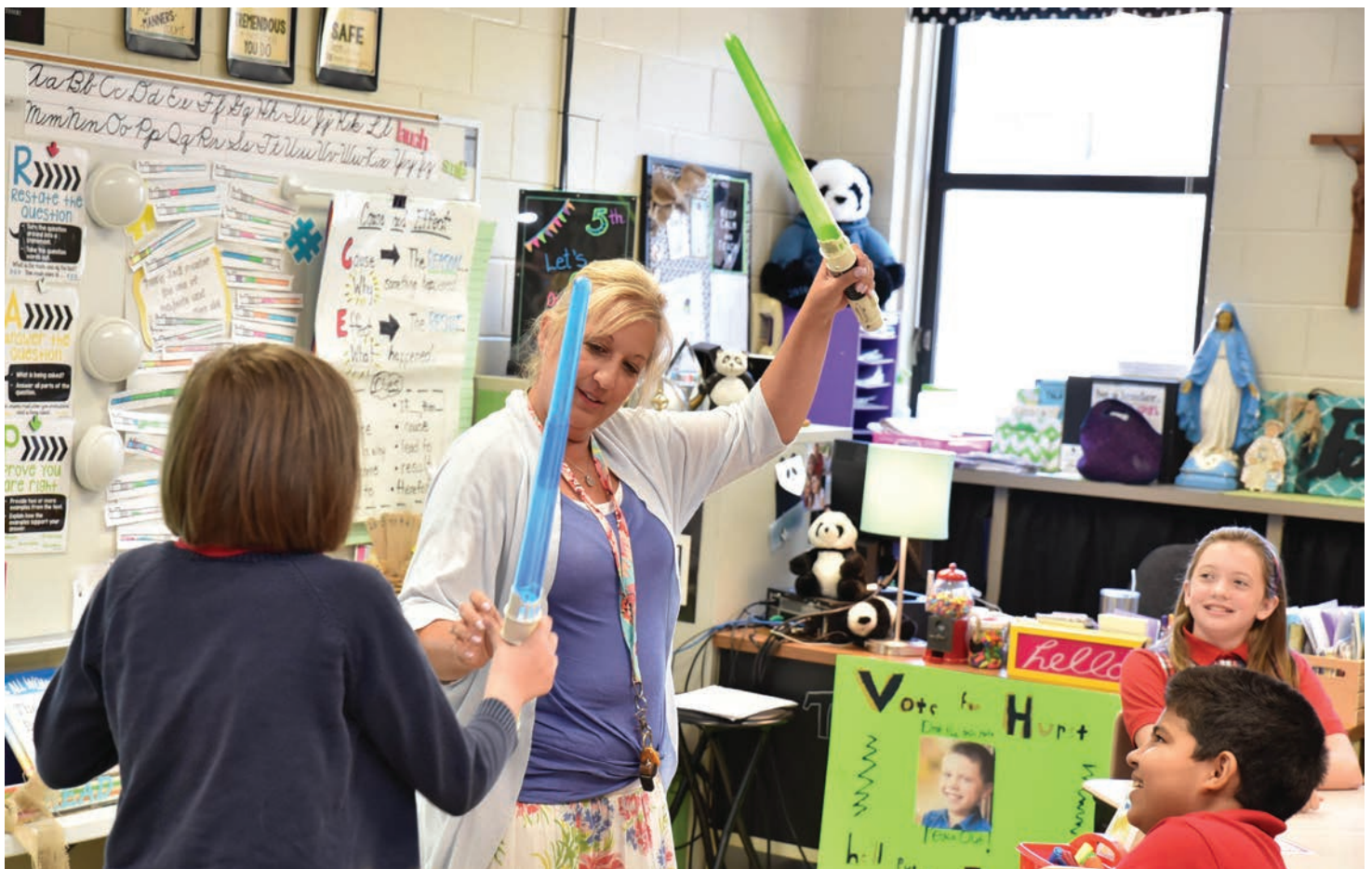
In Mrs. Emily Miller's Language Arts class, 5th grade students became Sentence Ninjas as they participated in an Escape Room activity to unlock the secret recipe to create "Sewer Ooze" (slime). The 5th grade ninjas had to work together to identify types of sentences and read informational text in progression to be able to gain access to the materials to make the slime. In another activity, students became Jedi in training, Padawan, as they worked to help Yoda decode simple and complete subjects and predicates. If students completed the training mission successfully, they had the opportunity to engage in a lightsaber battle with Mrs. Miller.

In addition to striving to provide "out of the box" learning experiences for students, the Mercy Hall Team has implemented a new monthly student assembly where students are recognized by peers for their kind actions through handwritten "Shout Outs" and the praying of a decade of the Rosary. The goal of the monthly assembly is to build a sense of community and family through prayer and faith in action.



Fifth graders are having fun learning about subjects and predicates using lightsabers and interactive smart boards.

Photos by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography



## Coding and Robotics Come to Our School

By Rebecca Watkins, 6th & 7th Grade Science and 6th Grade Coding Teacher

Middle school students at St. Anne-Pacelli are combining the excitement of computer programming with the rigors of science in new weekly coding classes. The high-tech program launched at St. Anne-Pacelli in 2017 and now teaches middle and high school students how to write computer programs that the computer can read. The lessons teach Math, Physics and Computer Science concepts using hands-on, engaging activities. Members of the St. Anne-Pacelli faculty and staff were trained how to use the computer coding platform Code.org over the summer months so that courses in Coding could be implemented in the 2017-2018 school year. This platform is supported by major influencers, including Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg. The lessons on Code.org break down coding into a drag-and-drop language that is simple for students to understand. Progressively, they learn to use java script, which is the language a computer understands.



Sixth graders are learning how to write computer programs using their Chromebooks. This year marks the first year that each middle school student has his/her own Chromebook, making St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School the only one-to-one device middle school in our area.

Lower School Science Teacher Mrs. Elizabeth Parker began teaching robotics in March 2017 with elementary and middle school students. During these classes, students develop programs to control how Sphero, a robot ball, rolls and appears. The robots and lessons were donated to St. Anne-Pacelli by St. Anne Church parishioner Philip Wright and are currently being taught by St. Anne-Pacelli Lower School Science Teachers Mrs. Elizabeth Parker and High School Coding Teacher and Director of Information Technology Mr. Russ Lenig. To celebrate the launch of the academic areas, St. Anne-Pacelli students witnessed an up-close, exciting demonstration in robotics by teachers and students from THINC College & Career Academy. Representatives from the charter school for high school students in Troup County, Ga., brought a robot they designed, built and programmed to St. Anne-Pacelli in March 2017. Mrs. Parker launched a successful after-school Robotics Club at the start of the 2017-2018 school year. Students are engaged and showing up multiple times each week to work towards succeeding in a future robotics competition. Students from coding and robotics can collaborate to say that the courses are “challenging but fun!”



To celebrate the launch of new coding and robotics courses, St. Anne-Pacelli students witnessed an up-close, exciting demonstration in robotics by teachers and students from THINC College & Career Academy in March 2017.



Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf with her grandchildren, St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School students 10-year-old Ebreem and 12-year-old Samira, St. Anne Catholic Church Pastor Fr. Jeremiah McCarthy, St. Anne-Pacelli Lower School Assistant Principal Angel Cash, St. Anne-Pacelli Lower School Principal Jocelyn Smith and St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School President and High School Principal Ronie Collins.

## Meeting Madame President

St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School students in grades 5-12 and their teachers had the opportunity to hear from Liberian President and St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Grand Viking Ellen Johnson Sirleaf on September 27, 2017. During her speech, the Nobel Peace Prize recipient talked about the importance of education. "The pursuit of education is the best thing a young person can do," she told the 400 students gathered in St. Anne Church's Visitation Hall. She noted she was especially excited to visit the school where her grandchildren, 12-year-old Samira and 10-year-old Ebreem, are studying. In taking questions from students, she spoke about the importance of her faith and prayer life; how terrifying the 2014 Ebola outbreak in Liberia was; her plans after her presidency; and the importance of reaching out to others and cultivating relationships. When asked if she liked pizza, she laughed and said, "I like pizza...but I'm afraid of pizza, because it's got too many calories!" Before she departed, Madame President was presented an honorary diploma from St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School, making her both a Grand Viking and alumna.

Students in St. Anne-Pacelli Middle School History Teacher Mr. Nick Fusco's class were asked to share their thoughts on Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's visit to our campus. Seventh grader Anailese Ruzicka shared her thoughts in this short essay:

President Sirleaf is a fantastic leader and an even better person. Her words really inspired me and taught me more about her country. President Sirleaf helped children in Liberia by providing education and lots and lots of comfort. She fought for what she knew was right even when her life was at stake. We can all learn how to be a better person by looking to those who have fought with their lives over and over again to protect and provide comfort, courage, love, strength and so much more. One of the topics President Sirleaf talked about is what she wanted most for her country. She wanted to see little children smile again. Just by giving someone a smile can make their day.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, as indeed you do." God wants us to build each other up and not tear them down. President Sirleaf definitely tries her very hardest to build others up. She is very humble and puts others before herself. She cares about everyone in her country and tries to make the best choices for everyone. President Sirleaf encourages us to find our voice and speak and let others hear our voices. One action you do might not change the entire world but it might just change somebody's life. President Sirleaf can teach us so much. So just do your best to let others hear your voice and be the one to change the world.



Before leaving our campus, Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf spent time talking with St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School 4th grade students.

Photos by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography



St. Anne-Pacelli 7th grader Anailese Ruzicka reads a short essay she composed on her Chromebook about the presidential visit to her peers during Middle School History class. Photo by Keith Hammonds, Keith's Klicks

## Connecting Cultures and Building Friendships

By Julie Davis, Director of Admissions

Students, alumni, parents and teachers often fondly refer to the Viking family and speak highly of the friendships forged on our campus. One such relationship has spanned 4,500 miles over 33 years and is now being handed down to the next generation.

In 1984, Christian Mohr came to Pacelli High School from Bochum, Germany on a student exchange program sponsored by Rotary International. He lived with Charles & Geri Davis and their four children who attended St. Anne-Pacelli. Their son, Chuck, became good friends with Christian. Later that year, Chuck spent a month with Christian's family in Germany. Over the 33 years since, Chuck and Christian have visited each other regularly and celebrated graduations, milestone birthdays, weddings and births together.

When Christian's oldest daughter, Hannah, age 15, was looking for a study abroad opportunity, Pacelli and the Davis family naturally came to mind. "I am very grateful that I ended up at Pacelli and with the Davis family on my study exchange and knew Hannah would also enjoy it," says Christian.

Hannah is spending the fall 2017 semester in 10th grade at St. Anne-Pacelli. She lives with Chuck, Julie and Jonathan Davis, an 8th grader at St. Anne-Pacelli. Her challenging course schedule includes Algebra II, Spanish II and Chemistry. She is also taking some unique courses she can't get at home such as Current Events, Religion, Japanese and American Literature.

Her favorite thing about attending St. Anne-Pacelli is the school atmosphere. "There are not so many people and everyone is really friendly," says Hannah. "I am learning about American culture and every day life in a way you can't by just visiting on vacation." She also appreciates how much the teachers care about the students.

Outside of school, Hannah enjoys cello, dance, baking and soccer. She has had the opportunity during her visit to take trips to the Sunnyside Beach in Florida, Davidson College in North Carolina (to visit the Davis' older son, Ben), and to the mountains of North Carolina. As a member of the St. Anne Church's High School Youth Group she is also attending the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Having Hannah as part of the family and at St. Anne-Pacelli is particularly special for Chuck. "Christian and I are very close. Being able to do this for his daughter is an extension of that amazing relationship," says Chuck. "We look forward to many more years of friendship between our families. Who knows...maybe we will even have an exchange between our grandchildren one day."



Hannah Mohr says she is enjoying her study abroad experience at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School. The sophomore from Germany is studying in the same classrooms and walking the same hallways her father, Christian, did when he was a foreign exchange student at Pacelli High in 1984.

Photo by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography



Chuck Davis, Hannah Mohr and Christian Mohr pose for a picture at our school's Back-to-School Ice Cream Social for new students in July 2017.



Twenty-four St. Anne-Pacelli high school students and three St. Anne-Pacelli teachers departed for Italy on March 17, 2017 to participate in a 12-day foreign exchange study program with students from Liceo Scientifico Linguistico Redi Arezzo, a high school near Tuscany. During their trip, St. Anne-Pacelli students were hosted by the families of the students from Arezzo who visited our school in November 2016. They had an audience with Pope Francis in Rome, visited Florence, the Colosseum and the Roman Forum during their stay.

## Learning Foreign Languages

By Donna Carter, High School Foreign Language Teacher

St. Anne-Pacelli High School's Foreign Language Department welcomes Mrs. Frances Forlines this year. The high school Foreign Language team, which also includes Mrs. Donna Carter and Mrs. Daniela Brolo, expanded its educational reach in 2017-2018 and is now offering high school Foreign Language credits to 65 8th graders. Six foreign languages are taught at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School: Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, French, Japanese and ASL (American Sign Language).

In late-September 2017, our AP Foreign Language students enjoyed attending World Languages Day at Georgia State University. Showcasing businesses and professions that value language expertise, this event connects high school and college students with leaders in international commerce, social services, and governmental agencies in order to raise student awareness of the benefits of language study and global competency and to help students create a "map" from language success to a future professional career.

For the second year in a row, St. Anne-Pacelli will welcome students from our international partner school, Liceo Scientifico Linguistico Redi Arezzo, in Arezzo, Italy. Our 20 students had a great exchange and study opportunity last year, and even more students will have that opportunity this year. We are also working on a class exchange with a school in Santa Cruz, Chile. These kinds of opportunities give our students points toward the Global Competency Seal, look amazing on their college applications and give them a personal knowledge of other cultures. We are proud to say we are the only school in Georgia currently operating class exchanges with Italy, and the Chile program will be another "first."

In addition to the class exchanges, St. Anne-Pacelli can now offer summer immersion Spanish and tropical ecology courses. Our new high school Biology teacher, Mrs. Lynda Wright, and Mrs. Carter have successfully led these programs for the past 17 years.

## In Their Words



"I love the fact that I have the freedom to express my religion at St. Anne-Pacelli. I have the ability to pray daily at the beginning and end of the school day, before tests and even when someone in my family is not doing so well....St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School has helped me grow in faith, knowledge and service. The

school has formed me into the person I am today."

*-Jordyn Dawson, St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School  
11th grader*



"Catholic education gives its students so much more than a regular education. It's an education that bases itself on values and honor. I attended St. Anne-Pacelli for 12 years, and the family I found here has been the greatest part of this school. This school is my second home, and I know that everyone here will support and help

me achieve any goal that I desire."

*-Cameron Clark, member of the St. Anne-Pacelli  
Catholic School Class of 2017, currently attending  
The Citadel*

## Senior Project Spotlight

By Candace Callahan and Meredith Potter, Members of the Class of 2018

St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School seniors are required to do a special service project over the course of the school year. Projects range from being as simple as campus beautification coordination, to as complex as building a solar water filter for people living in Third World Countries. For their senior project, Candace Callahan and Meredith Potter are focused on raising awareness about breast cancer. In October 2017, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Vikings cheerleaders honored two very special members of our Viking faculty family who are currently battling the disease: High School Religion Teacher and Spirit Cheer Coach Mrs. Carolyn Brewster and High School Guidance Secretary Mrs. Janet Mendez.

“These women deserve to be recognized, and students need to be educated about the disease they’re fighting,” said Candace. Throughout the month of October, middle and high school cheerleaders wore special “Brewster-Mendez Red, Navy and Pink” shirts designed by Candace and Meredith, as well as pink hair bows. Middle and High School Vikings Cheerleaders used pink pom-poms to pump up the crowds at Vikings Football games in October, too.

“We also constructed a prayer wall in our school so that students with relatives fighting breast cancer will be able to receive prayers for their loved ones and support from their Viking family,” said Meredith. The educational component of the girls’ senior project was accomplished by sharing facts about breast cancer on posters that were hung up around the high school to promote early detection.



Candace Callahan and Meredith Potter, members of the St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Class of 2018, surprised High School Religion Teacher and Spirit Cheer Coach Mrs. Carolyn Brewster and High School Guidance Secretary Mrs. Janet Mendez by dedicating their Senior Project, focused on breast cancer awareness, to them. Both Mrs. Brewster and Mrs. Mendez were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2017.

Photos by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography

## Teacher Crisscrosses America to X Out Cancer

By Stephen Wilson, High School Religion Teacher

Raising money can sometimes mean doing something crazy. In October 2016, St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Freshmen Religion Teacher Stephen Wilson circumnavigated the U.S. on his motorcycle to raise money for the West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition (WCGCC). This year, Mr. Wilson hit the highway in October and crossed the U.S. twice on his



motorcycle, forming an X over the states in an effort to “cross out cancer.” Both rides took 21 days and culminated in the Paint the Town Pink Event in downtown Columbus. Jesus teaches us to reach out to those who are most vulnerable, and people going through cancer are hit with a lot of hidden costs beyond their medical expenses. These are the items that the WCGCC helps to meet through their Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund. Mr. Wilson’s bike is decorated with sponsorship logos, including St. Anne-Pacelli’s. There are also four ribbons on the bike to honor people who are or have experienced the battle with cancer over the past year. This year the front of Mr. Wilson’s bike had two pink breast cancer ribbons honoring two members of our St. Anne-Pacelli Viking faculty: High School Guidance Counselor Secretary Mrs. Janet Mendez and High School Religion Teacher Mrs. Carolyn Brewster.

# Viking Athletics



**By Buster Connally, Athletic Director, and Corry Black, Assistant Athletic Director**

Did you know that over 88 percent of our middle and high school students play on one or more of our 12 sports teams? There's so much to celebrate in Viking Athletics!

## Football

The JV/Varsity Vikings Football theme this year is "No Shortcuts," which means our players are focused on getting back to the basics and doing the little things right. "They are a very young team with several freshmen starting on both sides of the ball," says Vikings Football Head Coach Mark LeGree. "The goal is to always improve each week." Coached by John Pierce, the Middle School Vikings Football Team won one game against the Cougars at Brookstone and three games against The Heritage School.

## Basketball

The Vikings Basketball Team hopes to keep moving in the right direction under Coach Corry Black in the 2017-2018 season. Both boys' and girls' teams will return most of their players, so Coach Black is hopeful their experience will lead to some success this year. The middle school basketball program is expanding to include students in grades 5-8.

## Dance

The Lady Vikings Dance Team is open to girls in grades 8-12. The Dance Team helps boost school spirit during basketball season, performing during half time at all our home Varsity Basketball games.

Ellie Espiritu, a member of the St. Anne-Pacelli Class of 2017 and founding member of the Lady Vikings Dance Team, continues her dance career as a Dance minor and a member of the Georgia College and State University "Sassy Cats" Dance Team. The team will perform at home basketball games as well as compete in the Peach Belt Conference Championships and Nationals in Orlando.

## Baseball

St. Anne-Pacelli welcomes Columbus, Georgia native Brent Benefield to the Vikings Baseball family. Coach Benefield comes to St. Anne-Pacelli after coaching for 5 Star National, an elite travel baseball team based in Warner Robins, Ga.



Photos by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography



### Soccer

Under the direction of Coach Nick Fusco, the Vikings Varsity Boys Soccer Team made it to the 2nd round of the GHSA Class A state championship playoffs in May 2017. Coached by Russ Lenig, our Vikings Middle School Boys Soccer Team had a perfect season in 2017 and heads into the 2018 season undefeated for three years in a row.

### Cheerleading

Coached by Jenna Poole, Katie Mann, Carolyn Brewster and Caitlyn Freeman, the Vikings Cheerleading program offers three seasons of the sport for both middle and high school students. Spirit Cheer is held during football and basketball season, as the girls support the athletic teams in the fall and winter. Competition Cheer is offered for cheerleaders with dance, tumbling and stunting experience to compete against other schools throughout the state. On September 30, 2017, our JV Vikings Competition Cheerleading Team competed in the Pam Carter Cheerleading Invitational at Columbus State University and won 2nd place! They also took home a 3rd place trophy during the Northgate Classic on October 28, 2017.



### Swimming

The Vikings exploded onto the swim scene in the 2016-2017 school year, the team's inaugural season. Vikings swam in various individual races, including freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and breast stroke, as well as competing two relay teams. Brandon Newton (Class of 2017) earned a spot at the State GHSA Swim Meet last year in the 100 yard breaststroke.

"Watching our swimmers over the past year has been a truly rewarding experience," Head Vikings Swimming Coach Kristin Turner says. "We had swimmers of various years of experience on the team, from veteran swimmers to Vikings who were new to formal swimming. One of the things I loved seeing is how each swimmer was able to work, grow, and experience success within their individual events, while also encouraging one another as a team. Each swimmer was competing against themselves and their previous times, and swimmers competed in the races that were comfortable for them. From a fast freestyle to a coordinated butterfly, breaststroke, or backstroke to a long series of laps, each swimmer can find the events that are right for them. What a wonderful, fun community of athletes and coaches to join!"



### Cross Country

It has been a great year to be a Cross Country Viking! High School Cross Country Coach Noreen Rodriguez says, "We are proud of our team's progress thus far, improving in strength, knowledge, and appreciation of the sport of Cross Country." On October 3, 2017, the

high school boys placed 1st out of seven teams during a race at Kinnett Stadium! "Of the 18 Vikings who raced, 16 set a personal best this season." Middle School Cross Country Coach Maggi Horton says, "The 5th-8th grade Middle School Vikings Cross Country runners spent the season working hard and achieved their goals left and right!"

### Wrestling

The 2016-2017 Vikings Wrestling season proved to be an exciting one, with two Area Champions, four wrestlers advancing to Sectionals and out of those four, three qualifying for the GHSA State Wrestling Tournament. Vikings Wrestling is continuing to grow, under the leadership of Coach Jason Nugent, with this being the first season female wrestlers will be on both middle and high school teams. The middle school program has grown from three wrestlers just a few years ago and ending last season with 10 solid wrestlers. With growing interest from the Lower School parents and young athletes, a new Youth Wrestling Club is being added to offerings in December 2017.



### Tennis

St. Anne-Pacelli offers Elementary and Middle School Tennis in the fall through CORTA. Elementary tennis is for students under 10 years old in grades 3-5 and offers opportunities for beginner, intermediate and advanced players to participate. Middle school students in 6th-8th grade can play on a 12 and under team or a 14 and under team as a beginner, intermediate or advanced player. The season usually runs from September-November of each year. Players learn the rules of the game, teamwork and about being competitive. Through practice and play each player develops and refines his or her individual tennis skills. Most of the players realize that tennis is fun and can be a lifelong sport. Teams vary from year to year based on the students' ability levels, court experience and age. This year we have two elementary beginner teams, a 12 under beginner middle school team, a 12 under intermediate middle school team and a 14 under intermediate team. The elementary teams are coached by Christy Bates and the middle school teams are coached by Michelle Isaacs.

The Vikings High School Tennis Team continues to develop skills needed to be successful on the court. For the 2016-2017 school year, the boys' team was 2-4 in their region and the girls' team was 1-5. Coach Carson Goedert is hoping to have a full lineup in the 2017-2018 season.

### Golf

Coached by Brent Jones and Greg Jordan the Vikings High School Golf Team had a great season on the greens! The boys finished in 6th place and the girls finished in 4th place in the Area Tournament in Macon in April. St. Anne-Pacelli student Maddy Zimmermann went on to play in the State Tournament in May.

Under the direction of Coach Brian Robinson, the Middle School Golf Team is celebrating two victories so far in the 2017-2018 school year - one against St. Luke, the other against Independents/Harris County. The team had its best showing of the season at the City Championship at Godwin Creek Golf Course on October 7, 2017, said Coach Robinson. The Vikings finished that tournament in 3rd place!

### Volleyball

With seven seniors leaving last year, JV and Varsity Volleyball started rebuilding from the ground up. Each player came out with a positive attitude every time they hit the court. Led by Coach Evelyn Chester, the Varsity Lady Vikings Volleyball Team played Holy Innocents' Episcopal School in round one of the GHSA Class A State Volleyball Playoffs on October 12, 2017. Although they didn't advance, the experience of making it to the playoffs is one they'll never forget! "As the season ends, the rising class looks forward to growing and becoming better volleyball players than when they first started," says Coach Chester.

The Middle School Lady Vikings Volleyball Team is celebrating a super 2017 season! Under the direction of Coach Lenora Clark, the team had its first-ever wins this year! The 30 student-athletes in grades 6, 7 and 8 won matches against St. Luke, Brookstone, Baker Middle School, The Heritage School, Lee County Middle School, Wynnbrook Christian School and Glenwood School.



## Hats Off to the Class of 2017!

The St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Class of 2017 had 100 percent college acceptance rate and earned over \$1.7 million in academic scholarships for college. AP Scholar designations are awarded to students with high scores on multiple AP exams. Four students in the Class of 2017 were named AP Scholars. Four students earned a Global Competency Seal on their diploma for their efforts with World Languages in high school. These students met stringent requirements for coursework, study abroad and a capstone project.



Class of 2017 group photo by Keith Hammonds, Keith's Kicks



Baccalaureate Mass photos by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography



The St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Class of 2017 Valedictorian is Joseph Christopher Land. He is the son of Chris and Nancy Land. Joseph is graduating with a 4.44 GPA. He is a member of the National Honor Society, the National Science Honor Society, the National Spanish Honor Society, the Math Team, and the Varsity Tennis Team. As a Varsity athlete, Joseph lettered in tennis. Joseph was one of twelve students accepted into the prestigious Special Consideration Program in Medicine for the Doctor of Medicine degree at Mercer University, where he is attending school this fall.



The St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Class of 2017 Salutatorian is Eric Emmanuel Mendez. Eric is the son of Eric and Janet Mendez. He is graduating with a 4.44 GPA and earned the distinguished Global Competency Seal on his diploma. Eric is a member of the National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, the National Japanese Honor Society, the National Science Honor Society, the International Thespian Society, the Math Team, as well as serving as a Student Ambassador. He lettered in Cross Country during his high school career, and was an active leader within Teen Advisers. Eric was admitted into the Honors Program at the University of Georgia, where he is attending school this fall.

Valedictorian and salutatorian photos by Southern Exposure Photography

#### Congratulations to the St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Class of 2017:

Warner Burdette Adcock

Justus Samuel Armstrong

Presley Elizabeth Auer

Cameron Rayne Clark

Brooke Elizabeth Coleman

Amanda Campos Cunningham

Eleanor Rose Espiritu

George John Gottfried

Michaela Donnielle Denise Green

Bryce Eddie Hagler

Tanner Michael Mckinley Hall

Areanna Monique Haynes

Michael Gregorio Herrera

Bruce Hudson Huff

John Matthew Jacobs

Lauryn Noel Johnson

Kennedy Michelle Jones

Nida Uzma Khan

Joseph Christopher Land

Erikson Michael Lawrence

Ana Isabella Lopez

Sarah Katherine Lowry

Daniel Ryan Mansfield

Tameya Chenai Maxwell

Morgan Charles McCann

Eric Emmanuel Mendez

Michael Scott Mertens

Colin James Mulvany

Brandon Douglas Newton

Alisa Nguyen

Matthew Thomas Oliver

Jacob Charles Rehak

Trevor Daniel Rice

Abel Arturo Rochin

Avery Allen-Payton Ross

Taylor Alexandria Salinas

Emeril Camilo Robert Victorioso Saulnier

Maria Elizabeth Schuler

Kirsten Reed Snodgrass

Raphael Benjamin Cuevas Soon

Andrew Holt Spenny

Kelsey Mackenzie Staples

Margaret Elizabeth Torbert

Giovanni John Unchangco

Madison Elizabeth Vinyard

Harold Richard Woods

Austyn Michael Zeruto



Amy Sherald's 5th grade St. Anne School yearbook photo in 1984.

Through her work, Amy Sherald (Pacelli High School Class of 1991) takes a closer look at the way people construct and perform their identities in response to political, social, and cultural expectations.



## Once a Viking, Always a Viking

### Alumna Artist

Amy Sherald says her fondest memories of attending St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School happened in Art class. Amy, a Columbus native, attended St. Anne-Pacelli from Kindergarten through 12th grade. She graduated from Pacelli High School in 1991. After high school, Amy majored in pre-med, waited tables to make ends meet and cared for ailing relatives before pursuing her real passion: painting. She went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Painting from Clark-Atlanta University in 1997 and a master's in Painting from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2004. She was a Spelman College International Artist-in-Residence in Portobelo, Panama in 1997.

"I've faced many challenges – from health to financial," Amy says. "I believe you can't get through anything in life with a little grit and a lot of faith in yourself."

Today, Amy is a nationally-acclaimed artist as the first woman to win the prestigious Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition. Her winning painting, "Miss Everything (Unsuppressed Deliverance)," hung at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery until January. In September, she returned to her hometown as guest lecturer for an inaugural event organized by the Alma Thomas Society at The Columbus Museum. One of her paintings, "What's different about Alice is that she has the most incisive way of telling the truth," was purchased by the society and now hangs in The Columbus Museum. In October, Amy was selected by former first lady Michelle Obama to paint her official portrait for the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery.

Columbus Artist Geri Davis, who taught Art at St. Anne School and Pacelli High School from 1977-1991 says, "Amy always used her art to communicate her beliefs, her convictions and her desire for identity." Geri was among the guests who listened to Amy talk about her work at The Columbus Museum in September. "My heart burst with happiness as I saw how a quiet, soft-spoken elementary student had developed into a strong, eloquent, successful young artist."

"Having a great teacher like Geri Davis," Amy responds when asked the question: How did your education at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School impact your career today? "She encouraged me in all the right ways a young, black, Southern girl should be encouraged. She taught me to see myself as ideal and relevant to my process."

When asked if she could give current St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School students one piece of advice, Amy says, "Do what your DNA tells you to do, and follow your heart!"



Amy Sherald

*What's different about Alice is that she has the most incisive way of telling the truth*

2017

oil on canvas

The Fund for African American Art G.2017.10

Image of painting courtesy of The Columbus Museum

## Homecoming 2017 Highlights

Homecoming is an annual time for us to celebrate those who came before us...the Vikings who had a role in making our school the wonderful place it is today. Alumni had fun reconnecting with friends during this year's social. The classes of 2007, 1997, 1982, 1977 and 1967 organized reunions and enjoyed catching up on old times.

## Stay Connected!

Alumni are a very important part of our school's history, and serve as an inspiration for current students. Our graduates helped shape the Viking spirit and will be a part of our family forever. We hope you will stay connected to your alma mater in the following ways:

- Visit [BeAViking.com](http://BeAViking.com) and our alumni Once a Viking Facebook Page frequently for updated information about the school
- Attend the annual Alumni Social held at Homecoming each Fall
- Keep your information in our Alumni Directory updated: [BeAViking.com/alumni-directory](http://BeAViking.com/alumni-directory)
- Plan or attend your Class Reunion
- Donate to our Building on Tradition – A Vision for the Future Capital Campaign: [stannecsg.com/capital-campaign](http://stannecsg.com/capital-campaign)
- Pray for St. Anne-Pacelli faculty and students

## Alumni Business Directory

St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School has a Vikings Alumni Business Directory! In our continuing efforts to support our graduates, we invite all alumni-owned small businesses and services to submit their information to be included in this new user-friendly resource: [BeAViking.com/alumni-business-directory](http://BeAViking.com/alumni-business-directory).

## Alumni News & Notes

Alumni, please send us your news about milestones, jobs, promotions, and awards to fellow alumna and St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Alumni Director Katie Mann (Class of 2004): [kmann@sasphs.net](mailto:kmann@sasphs.net).



Congratulations to our 2017 Homecoming Queen Scout Hadley and Homecoming King Ash Vestal!  
Photos by Marc Spano, Spano's Big Picture Photography



## Building on Tradition – A Vision for the Future

The campus on which we live, worship and go to school, and the facilities which are ours, are gifts that have been entrusted to us. They are a legacy passed down from one generation to the next. They are a testament to the vision, courage and great sacrifices made by our founding members, and those who have preceded us.

In 1952, the main building of Holy Family School, later to be named St. Anne School, was opened. Within 10 years, the convent for the Sisters of Mercy, which is now the Parish Center and Rectory, and an additional school building, were added. In 1958 the original building for a Catholic high school was built, and Pacelli High School opened. In 1981 the people of St. Anne Parish proudly built and consecrated a new Church. In the mid-1980s and early 2000s, we added a gymnasium, the Elena Amos Arts and Science building, Our Lady of Mercy Chapel and Visitation Hall. Also, in the year 2000, the St. Anne Middle School addition was finished and included a covered walkway, a bell tower for the Church, a new parking area and a new kitchen for the St. Anne School Cafeteria.



Photo by Ken Rodriguez

These facilities have served us well, and continue to serve us well. However, we recognize that some of our buildings are now close to 70 years old. Both parish and school activities are vibrant and active. Accordingly, the buildings and facilities and their components begin to show the effects of constant use. To preserve the heritage that is ours, we need to take some prudent steps to ensure the future. To that end, with the support of the Diocese of Savannah, our Parish Council, Finance Council and School Board, we have launched a capital campaign: “Building on Tradition – A Vision for the Future.”

The goal of the campaign is to raise \$7,000,000. The money will be used to build a new early learning center and additional classrooms, relocate and improve our athletic facilities, install new technology in classrooms, and make much needed overall enhancements and improvements to the entire campus. To date, we have commitments of \$3,000,000.

We need your help. We have all benefited greatly from the vision, the boldness and the generosity of those gone before. Now it is our turn to ensure a lasting foundation for the mission of our parish and school. You will find a capital campaign pledge card inside this issue of *The Yawp*; donations can also be made online at [stannecsg.com/capitalcampaign](http://stannecsg.com/capitalcampaign). Please be a part of this important endeavor. Please be generous. Please pray for the continued growth of St. Anne Church and St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School.

## Donor Acknowledgements: Thank You for Making a Difference!

We have a long history of academic excellence at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School. The Class of 2017 had 100 percent college acceptance rate and earned over \$1.7 million in academic scholarships for college. Over the past five years, the graduating classes have averaged \$1.9 million per year in academic scholarships. Our students regularly win academic competitions and our standardized test scores are consistently in the top 25 percent in the nation. For these reasons and many more, we think an investment in St. Anne-Pacelli is truly a smart move. If you are interested in helping to further the mission of St. Anne-Pacelli, there are several ways you can make an impact:

1. By making a gift to our Annual Fund, you will be supporting all areas of St. Anne-Pacelli from curriculum to facilities to technology. This unrestricted gift allows us to use the money where it is needed most.
2. Maybe you are interested in helping students attend St. Anne-Pacelli. A scholarship donation or endowment can help make a child's dream a reality. What a great way to memorialize someone special in your life or celebrate a specific interest!
3. If you live in the state of Georgia and pay state income tax, you are eligible to participate in the GRACE Scholars program. Through this program you may redirect a portion of your state income tax dollars to provide scholarships at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School.

We are grateful for the loyal support of those who have elected to share their resources with St. Anne-Pacelli. Your generosity is critical to allowing St. Anne-Pacelli to continue its tradition of excellence. Thank you to the following donors who showed financial support in the following areas during the period from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017:

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## Mark Your Calendar

By Wendy Jacobs, High School Math Teacher

### Mark Your Calendar for the 5th Annual Mikey Jacobs Flag Football Tournament

The 5th Annual Mikey Jacobs Flag Football Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, January 6, 2018 on St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School's Deimel Field. Registration will begin at 9 a.m., with the tournament beginning at 10 a.m. The cost to participate is \$20 per player with a roster maximum of 15 players. A Brunswick stew lunch will be provided for all in attendance.

To participate, please contact Randy Grace at [randygrace92@hotmail.com](mailto:randygrace92@hotmail.com). For registration and/or t-shirt costs, please make checks payable to Mrs. Wendy Jacobs (checks can be dropped off or mailed to Mrs. Jacobs' attention at St. Anne-Pacelli's main office, 2020 Kay Circle, Columbus, GA 31907). This school year, the net proceeds of this event will benefit the St. Anne-Pacelli National Science Honor Society.

Mikey Jacobs (Class of 2011) was an all-state kicker for the Vikings Football Team and earned the nod as the *Ledger-Enquirer* All-Bi-City boys soccer player of the year. He was also a member of the golf team and a loyal outdoorsman. Mikey passed away in 2014 after battling an aggressive form of cancer. He left behind Tom, his father; Wendy, his mother; and three brothers - Chris (Class of 2009), Kevin (Class of 2015), and Johnny (Class of 2017).

### Mikey Jacobs Fund, Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley, Inc.

If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation in memory of Mikey Jacobs, you may do so through the Mikey Jacobs Fund at the Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley, Inc. The Mikey Jacobs Fund supports the John B. Amos Cancer Center and the Mikey Jacobs Memorial Scholarship.



To donate, please do so directly at [www.cfcv.com/donate.aspx](http://www.cfcv.com/donate.aspx) OR make a check payable to the Mikey Jacobs Fund and mail to:

Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley, Inc.  
1340 13th Street – The Village on 13th  
Columbus, Georgia 31901-2345

The Mikey Jacobs Fund is a component fund of the Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley, Inc. All donations to the Fund are subject to the Policies and Procedures of the Community Foundation.

Randy Grace, former St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Head Football Coach, presented a framed #14 jersey to Mikey Jacobs' parents, Tom and Wendy Jacobs, and two of Mikey's brothers, Chris and Johnny, during the 2015 Mikey Jacobs Flag Football Tournament. Mikey and his brothers Kevin (not pictured) and Johnny all wore #14 during their time as student-athletes at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School. Following Johnny's 2017 graduation, the jersey was retired and now hangs on the wall in the school's Weight Room. Photos by Ben Dodds





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