



From the Office of Alumni Relations

The Trinity

*A Newsletter for Alumni, Parents and Friends of
Berks Catholic, Central Catholic and Holy Name High Schools*

Spring 2024 Edition

Greetings!

I hope this message finds you all well and enjoying your year. I write to you excited to have begun my role as the next Director of Alumni Relations. As a 1999 graduate of Holy Name, I feel blessed to return to the place that created the lifelong relationships that have meant so much and continue to this day.

As the Berks Catholic Family, we truly make up a remarkable group of individuals supporting Catholic education in Berks County and it gives me great pleasure to serve our alumni and community. Please reach out to share any updates, request a tour of Berks Catholic or to say hello! I look forward to hearing from you.

Together, we Rise!

Warmly,
Sarah (Williams) Hess, HN '99
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Alumni Spotlight

Jonathan Uhrig, HN 1981

Flight Dispatcher, United Airlines; Chicago, IL

"Many people say they live vicariously through my photos. They say they get a lot of fascinating information, and I hope I can get people out to discover this fascinating world of ours."

Jonathan is a world traveler taking his alma mater's T-shirt to each location he visits. All 50 states and 82 countries!



Tell us about your career path.

Inquisitive as a child, in 4th grade, Geography was my favorite subject. The textbook featured a man traveling solo around the world and his adventures mesmerized me. After graduating high school in 1981, I attended Duquesne University, majoring in accounting and receiving my Bachelors in 1985 (Go Dukes)! I then decided to enter the U.S. Navy in 1986 and served onboard the aircraft carrier USS Ranger CV-61 in Desert Storm. After the military, I enrolled in Reading Area Community College and received a degree in Travel and Tourism. From that point I started working at the Reading Airport and it was the perfect marriage of my two loves, travel and aviation. The best part working at the airport was my travel was free! How could you beat that?

In 1997, I went to Sheffield School of Aeronautics in Ft. Lauderdale, FL and received my Airmen Certificate in Aviation Science and went to work for US Airways Express as a Flight Dispatcher. Flight Dispatch is like NASA. Daily, the dispatcher is responsible for the safe operation of a flight, extensive meteorological interpretation, FAA Rules and Regulations, and Air Traffic Control. Although not to be confused with Air Traffic Controllers, Flight Dispatchers are about pre and post flight planning in case any emergency arises. It can be stressful but also rewarding. It's given me the opportunity to travel to all 50 States and 82 countries. Just like the man in the textbook.

Do you credit any teachers/peers/classes who helped you get where you are today?

Mr. Chel. I still use his advice he taught us in Consumer Ed to this day.

What advice would you give to current Berks Catholic students?

Study hard. Get into a field of work you really love and put your whole heart and soul into it.

Tell us a little bit about yourself and what you like to do in your spare time.

I have a love of reading, deep sea fishing, and golf. When I'm back in PA, I like to go to the dirt car races and fondly remember the Reading Fairgrounds which sadly was torn down. And of course, TRAVEL! In the photo above, I'm on the right in the photo and it's a Mt Everest Base Camp hike I did in April 2011. Gorak Shep, Nepal, 17,500 feet above sea level.

Alumni Highlights

To submit an alumni highlight, click [here](#) for our form.



Belle Bressler BC 2019

Congratulations to Belle on being named the Assistant Coach of the Yale Field Hockey team.

Dr. Tara (Heintz) Lawlor CC 1992

Congratulations to Dr. Tara on her nomination for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Visionary of the Year!

[Read More](#)





Liz (Moult) Gillette

HN 2005

Congratulations to Liz on co-founding CurioWealth, a wealth management firm serving clients nationwide, seeking to guide clients on their financial journey.

[Read More](#)

Snip Esterly

BC Men's Basketball Coach

Congratulations to Snip on his 800th win as the head basketball coach of Central Catholic and Berks Catholic Men's Basketball.



Jeff Phillips

CC 1981

Congratulations to Jeff Phillips who was named the new Chief Operations Officer of the Greenville Water, which is the largest water utility in South Carolina.

[Read More](#)



Dr. Lloyd M. (Tres) Wolf , III
HN 1990

Congratulation to Tres on being inducted into the Berks County Basketball Hall of Fame.



Additional Alumni Highlights:

Ann Marie (Cucinotta) Botch, Esq. (HN 1987) was name the 2024 Child Advocate of the year by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Children's Rights Committee.

Adele Schade (HN 1989) was name the Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and Chief Strategy Officer at Albright College.

Marie (Baque) Frees (CC 1943) celebrated her 99th birthday in February.

Wilfredo (Freddie) Diaz, Jr (HN 2001) was recognized for his dedicated professionalism in the field of funeral service at Kuhn Funeral Home.

Richard Gipprich (HN 1978), Amy Gipprich (HN 1979), and Gipprich Jewelers were featured in the Reading Eagle article about the history of their store.

Peter Dolan (CC 1981) was named the Global Board Chair-elect for the Institute of Management Accountants.

Mike Miller (HN 1976) and David Emkey (HN 2003) were inducted into the Alvernia University Athletics Hall of Fame.

Olivia Blankenbiller (BC 2016) was promoted to Training Specialist at the corporate office of the Sherwin Williams Company.

Carmen J. Bloom, Esq. (CC 2005) was named the Chief Legal Officer for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

Robert Reber (HN 1986) celebrated 30 years as a Project Manager with AT&T and resides in NJ with his wife and 3 children.

Beth (Yoder) Junikiewicz (HN 1988) has become a Health and Wellness consultant.

Mike Kuhn (HN 1987), Patrick Doyle (HN 1988), and Jasen Esposito (HN 1999) were the coaches for the Berks Catholic Junior High Boys Basketball for the 2023-24 season.



Engagements:

Grace Hannum (BC 2014) to Walter Russell

Cianna Corbacio (BC 2013) to Marcus Celiano

Olivia Goodwin (BC 2012) to Daniel Ricker (*see photo*)

Olivia Blankenbiller (BC 2016) to Michael Kaczenski

Avery Lang (BC 2018) to Ryan Sloan (BC 2018)

Gabrielle Geltz (BC 2015) to Bo Candelaria

Meredith Finneran (BC 2017) to John Paulik (BC 2017)

Cayla Spatz (BC 2014) to Dan Neubert (HN 2011)

Jamin Smith (BC 2019) to Margo Berkowich

Donovan Jack (BC 2012) to Tyler Singh

Birth Announcements:

A son, Luca Thomas, to Taylor and Nate Mannino (HN 2006)

A daughter, Giuliana Marie, to Giana (Lachina) (BC 2014) and Ethan Marshall

A son, Theodore Joseph, to Jackie and Donny Cavallo (HN 2002)

A daughter, Charlotte Rose, to Megan (Buckley) (HN 2009) and Mike Sprys

A son, Luca Thomas, to Nikki (Viskovich) (HN 2008) and Ivan Lazovic

A son, George, to Katie (Burg) (HN 2001) and Dustin Knight

A child to Melanie (Marcano) (BC 2016) and Alex Leal

A son, Peter Gregory, to Maura (Robinson) (BC 2014) and Greg Gianacopoulos

A son, Jon Robert, to Nikki (DiCerchio) (CC 2008) and Alex Swavely (CC 2009)

A son, Archer Bradley, to Marissa (Natole) (HN 2009) and Brad Williams

A son, Tatum Vance, to Tara and Brandon Mengel (HN 2007)

A son, Joshua Murphy, to Sean Sobottka (HN 2000)

A daughter, Charleigh Marie, to Lauren (Voorhies) (HN 2007) and William Trimble

A son, George Vincent, to Lauren (Eckel) (HN 2010) and Alex LaManna (HN 2010) (*see photo*)

A son, Theodore James, to Emily (Katella) (HN 2011) and Dan Brittan

A daughter, Emerita Rose, to Marlissa and Matt Banta (HN 2009)

A son, Sullivan Felix, to Sarah and Alex Kadel (HN 2002)

A son, Patrick John, to Bernadette (Wood) (BC 2014) and John Levitt



A daughter, Madelyn Catherine, to Nina (Cammarano) (HN 2004) and John Fura (HN 2006)
A daughter, Brooklyn Rose, to Amanda (Fowler) (BC 2014) and Anthony Della Vecchia (*see photo*)
A daughter, Lily Marie, to Madeline (Cox) (HN 2009) and Kevin McHale
A son, Deacon Aaron, to Allison and Joseph Lanciano (HN 2009)
A daughter, Stacy Milan, to Glenna Oram and Quincy Twyman (BC 2014)
A son, Jonah Alexander, to Alyssa Casantini (BC 2013) and John King
A son, Ryker Khan, to Jourdan (Rentschler) (HN 2008) and Alexander Howe
A daughter, Alivia Jade, to Meredith (Brown) (HN 2003) and Thadd Keich
A daughter, Leiana, to Shalimar Albino (BC 2020) and Josh Valle
A son, Francisco Matteo, to Erica and Francisco Acosta (BC 2016)
A son, Jameson Gerard, to Alexandra (Balaci) (HN 2009) and Ryan McDonough
A son, Frederick, to Claudia (Wert) (BC 2013) and William Stover
A daughter, Madeline Louise, to Anna (Laser) (HN 2010) and Cory Manning
A son, Jonah Lee, to Anne and Brian Piergrossi (HN 1992)
A son, George William, to Brittany (Boyer) (HN 2004) and Will Youngblood
A daughter, Caroline, to Kelley (Wentling) (HN 2011) and Brad Groves

Events

Upcoming Class Reunions

Central Catholic Class of 1964 - 60th Reunion - Saturday, September 14, 2024 at Beverly Hills Tavern. Call Pat White at 610-582-1437 for information. Still looking for a few classmates.

Central Catholic Class of 1969 - 55th Reunion - Saturday, September 7, 2024 at Berks Catholic in the McGlenn Commons from 3-7 pm. For more information please contact the committee at cchs1969@gmail.com.

Holy Name Class of 1969 - 55th Reunion - Plans are underway.

Central Catholic Class of 1972 - 70th Birthday Picnic - Saturday, June 22, 2024 at the Evergreen Country Club in Fleetwood, PA starting at 12noon. For more information, please contact Suzanne Matus Downs at 716-749-3590 or matusdowns@gmail.com.

Central Catholic Class of 1974 - 50th Reunion - Saturday, October 19, 2024 at Berks Catholic in the McGlenn Commons.

Holy Name Class of 1974 - 50th Reunion - Saturday, September 21, 2024 at Berks Catholic in the McGlenn Commons from 5-10pm. For more information, contact Steve Wagner at stevanwagner292@gmail.com or 610-207-2406

Central Catholic Class of 1994 - 30th Reunion - Planning is underway.

Holy Name Class of 1994 - 30th Reunion - Planning is underway.

Holy Name Class of 1999 - 25th Reunion - Planning is underway.

Central Catholic Class of 2004 - 20th Reunion - Planning is underway. Join the facebook group, *Reading Central Catholic Class of 2004 Reunion* page for more information.

Holy Name Class of 2004 - 20th Reunion - Planning is underway.

If you are planning a Berks Catholic, Central Catholic or Holy Name reunion and would like to list more information about the reunion here for your classmates to find, please contact Sarah Hess at 610-374-8361 ext 231 or shess@berkscatholic.org.

Save the Date!

Friday, August 23 -	Berks Catholic Hall of Fame Induction
Monday, September 23 -	Swing Fore the Saints Golf Outing
Friday, October 11 -	Extravaganza
Friday, October 18 -	Berks Catholic Homecoming & Tailgate

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