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 2025 Edition

Spring Renewal!

As the days grow longer and the air becomes warmer, we are reminded of the season of renewal that spring brings. It mirrors the journeys we have experienced and the strength we find through challenges and triumphs alike.

We reflect on the lessons of perseverance, resilience, and the importance of community that have inspired us to approach each new season with hope, optimism, and a commitment to continual growth. As we move forward, we are grateful for the bonds we share and for the opportunities that lie ahead to make a positive impact on our world.

We are excited to share with you the many opportunities to stay connected with the Berks Catholic community. Whether through alumni events, volunteer opportunities, or simply staying in touch, we encourage you to continue to be an integral part of our four pillars of GOD, Family, Academics, and Fun.

We wish you and your family a joyful and peaceful spring season, filled with moments of reflection and renewal. Thank you for being a valued member of the Berks Catholic family. The Power of WE!

With gratitude and warm wishes
Sarah (Williams) Hess, HN '99
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Alumni Spotlight

Senator John Barrasso CC 1970

United States Senator for Wyoming and Senate Majority Whip





Photos from swearing in ceremony on Jan 3, 2025

Tell us about your career path.

When I was a senior in high school, I attended a program on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. called A Presidential Classroom for Young Americans. During that trip, I became interested in serving my country. I went to undergraduate and medical school at Georgetown University and did my medical residency at Yale. Shortly after becoming a doctor, I moved to Wyoming to start my medical practice as an orthopedic surgeon. I practiced medicine in Casper, Wyoming for 25 years. During that time, I also served as a state Senator in the Wyoming State Legislature and now as a United States Senator.

It is a great privilege and responsibility to represent the people of Wyoming in the Senate. Since I was sworn in on June 25, 2007, fighting for Wyoming has been my focus – fighting for our people and our priorities. In November 2024, I was elected to serve as the Senate Majority Whip – the number two position in Senate Republican leadership.

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

Growing up, I was very fortunate to have the support of my family, friends, and teachers. They constantly reminded me that if I studied and worked hard, I would be able to achieve my goals. I wouldn't be where I am today without the support of my family and strong mentors.

What advice would you give to current Berks Catholic students?

My dad was a World War II veteran and a committed Christian who fought in the Battle of the Bulge. From the time I was a little boy, he would always say "John, you should thank God every day because you live in America – you don't know how fortunate you are." His lesson still applies today.

My mom's lesson also continues to apply today – she would always say "This is the most important year of your life." The decisions you make and the actions in which you engage this year will have a huge impact on the rest of your life.

Habits make a big difference. An apple a day keeps the doctor away is a familiar saying. You can't try to eat 365 apples on New Year's Eve and call it a successful year. Successful habits are done every day.

The habit of who you associate with is very important. You are the average of the five people you spend most of your time with. This will become even more important as you head to college. Choose to associate with people who are confident, optimistic, resilient and exceptional. The habit of how you spend your time is very important. Whatever you spend an hour a day on can make you a world expert in five years – for most people that will be video games and Netflix. You are better than that.

The habit of capturing and collecting will pay big dividends. It's been said that he who has the best notes wins. Capture information, insights, ideas – write them down immediately and hold on to them and review them regularly.

Your ATTITUDE and where you apply your ATTENTION will determine the level of success you ATTAIN.

My mom's lesson applies to what you decide to post online – it will stick to you for the rest of your life.

Aim so high you'll never be bored.

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

Spending time with my family and friends, especially my children, Peter, Emma and Hadley, is always a top priority. My kids are grown, but it's always special when I can catch up or spend quality time with them. I spend a lot of my time reading and enjoy a good biography or history book. I also like to watch a variety of sports - including Wyoming football, basketball and golf.

What's New

Get Involved

The Get Involved section of our website is live! There are opportunities for you to support Berks Catholic on a volunteer level. Send in a testimonial or sign up as a Class Agent. We are excited about your decision to "Get Involved!"

Visit the website



Visit the Alumni - Legacy Apparel Store section of the Berks Catholic website or click on the button below.

ORDER HERE

READY TO RE-DIRECT YOUR PENNSYLVANIA INCOME TAX DOLLARS TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION?

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs provide tax credits to eligible individuals contributing to the Eastern Pennsylvania Scholarship Foundation (EPSF), a charitable trust started by the Diocese of Allentown over twenty years ago. Individual's contributions are then used by EPSF to provide tuition assistance in the form of scholarships to eligible students attending schools within the Diocese of Allentown, including Berks Catholic High School

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Tax credits may be applied against the state tax liability of an individual for the tax year in which the contribution was made. For a two-year commitment an individual taxpayer can receive a 90% tax credit.

IS IT REALLY THAT EASY? YES!

- Contact Berks Catholic's Director of Institutional Advancement, Bob Birmingham, rbirmingham@berkscatholic.org for a commitment form.
- You will receive an online agreement via DocuSign and mailing instructions for your contribution.
- EPSF will send you a K-1 to receive your tax credit.

Any additional questions should be directed to Bob Birmingham 610-374-8361 ext. 224 or rbirmingham@berkscatholic.org. THANK YOU for your generous consideration.

Click here for more information

Alumni Highlights

To submit an alumni highlight, click here for our form.



Shania Thorpe-Freytiz

BC 2014

Congratulations to Shania on being named head coach of Randolph College's first Stunt team.

Read More

Shawn Swavely

CC 1996

Congratulations to Shawn on his induction into the Berks County Basketball Hall of Fame!





Meredith McLean

HN 2004

Congratulations to Meredith who has been named the new Director of Collier County Domestic Animal Services. In her role, she will lead efforts to ensure the well-being of our community's animals, enhance shelter operations, and promote animal welfare.

Alec Rivera
BC 2019

Congratulations to Alec who has joined Muhlenberg Greene Architects as an Architectural Designer.





Joe Linderman
CC 1996

Congratulations to Joe on his induction into the Drexel University's Athletic Hall of Fame!

Rachel Mastromarino-Patterson
HN 2006

Congratulations to Rachel on her new exhibit at the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh called "I am Wild - A Charlie Harper Exhibit" which was featured on the local CBS News.



Additional Alumni Highlights:

Kushur Davidson (BC 2022) is a global ambassador for Lafayette College, most recently studying abroad in Athens.

Ethan Kraycik (BC 2020) passed the Fundamentals of Engineering exam BEFORE his graduation from Drexel University.

Luke Miller (BC 2016) is a third year medical student at Temple University Lewis Katz School of Medicine and presented: "First Reported Case of Hemoglobin Graz in the United States: Implications for Misleading Hemoglobin A Results" at the American Heart Association Meeting in Chicago in November 2024. Luke will also be presenting: "Coronary Artery Anomalies Induce Myocardial Ischemia in Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy" at the American College of Cardiology Meeting in Chicago in March 2025.

Central Catholic 1984-85 Men's Basketball Team celebrated their 40th anniversary of their State Championship in January. The team will also be inducted into the PA Berks County Sports Hall of Fame in April. Read more: https://www.berkscosportshof.org/inductees

John Giese, Sr. (HN 1970) is the owner and operator of Goose's Montecristo Lounge & CBD Hemp shop in Limerick, PA.

Dave Stahler (HN 1998) presented at the 2025 Glazier Football Coaches Clinic. Glazier Clinics are a National Football Coaches Convention held in over 2 dozen major cities across the country. Coach Stahler was invited to present at the clinic in Baltimore, MD and has previously presented in New York and Pittsburgh.



Engagements:

Matthew Whitmoyer (BC 2015) to Annika Jorgensen
Katie Hawkins (BC 2018) to James Craft
Taylor Coleman (BC 2015) to Ryan Smith
Margaret Lilley (BC 2014) to James Turchick
Anne Baney (BC 2017) to Scott Werner
Jennifer Thuss (BC 2013) to Bryce Galczynski
Drea Morales-Kerchner (BC 2022) to Cooper Dunn *(see photo)*
Alex Hughes (BC 2015) to Veronica Alabovitz (BC 2016)

Marriages:

Olivia Goodwin (BC 2012) to Daniel Ricker *(top photo)*
Angelise Stuhl (HN 2011) to Ian Blessing (HN 2011) *(bottom photo)*
Joseph Scoboria (BC 2012) to Sabina Russo
Amanda Fellin (BC 2014) to Michelangelo Forgione
Nicholas Coccia (BC 2012) to Ashley Titler
Marisa Kirwan (Bc 2014) to Matthew Langdon
Gabriella Meriodonale (BC 2016) to Steven Connolly







Birth Announcements:

A son, Everett Michael, to Taylor (Bendetti) (CC 2011) and Matthew Fura (HN 2010)
A daughter, Stella Nari to Marie (Chervanick) (HN 2004) and Keith Flatley
A daughter, Tillie Jill, to Colleen (Eliff) (HN 2008) and Drew Rubright
A son, Hudson Matthew, to Allison (Huddleson) (BC 2017) and Gavin Purvis
A daughter, Isabella Elizabeth, to Bryhn (Raser) (HN 2001) and Brian Van Auken.
A son, Roman, to Caitlin (Crespo) (BC 2017) and Casey Jack (BC 2019)
A son, Nicolo Terence, to Cochleen (Baker) (HN 2002) and Jon Sands.
A daughter, Austin Taylor, to Taylor and Matthew Magrann (HN 2008)
A son, Anthony John (AJ) to Julianna and John Foster (BC 2012)
A son, George Steven, to Katie (Scoboria) (BC 2014) and George Russell
A son, Bodie Michael, to An (Vuong) (HN 2009) and Tyler Long.
A son, Bennett Reed, to Reed and Brian Eliff (HN 2011)
A daughter, Sutton Kelly, to Shannon (Kelly) (BC 2013) and Jonathan David
A son, Landon Joseph, to Kayla (Tillman) (HN 2009) and Kyle Ziegler
A son, Alonzo James, to Gabriella Mercedes (BC 2015) and Christopher Warren (BC 2014)
A son, Rhys Michael, to Lauren (Skorupski) (BC 2013) and Eric Linderman
A son, Simon Bruno, to Clare Pressimone (HN 2009) and Vivian Dsilva
A son, Oliver, to Kaitlyn (Kozlowski) (HN 2008) and Brandon Schmidt
A son, Jack Patrick, to Alyssa (Riccione) (BC 2014) and Robert Devane
A daughter, Margot Jean, to Nicole and Kevin Moore, Jr. (HN 2010)
A son, Emmett William, to Maria (Mastromarino) (BC 2012) and Zach Bell
A daughter, Elaine, to Sara and Mario Scaffidi (BC 2012)

Did we miss you or someone you know?

Stories about alumni as well as reunion announcements and pictures for the Trinity come from alumni and friends like you. If you would like to include any information in the next newsletter or share a contact for a friend or family member, please click HERE and tell us about it.

EVENTS

ALUMNI
Networking Reception

PLEASE JOIN US

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025 4PM-6PM

Mimmo's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
290 Morgantown Rd, Reading, PA 19611

Beer, wine and appetizers will be served. All attendees must be 21 years or older.

Please RSVP by April 1st using the link provided or by contacting Sarah Hess at shess@berkscatholic.org or 610.374.8361 x231

RSVP Here

Please join us for A Night at the Races!

Friday, May 2, 2025

Lloyd M. Wolf Gymnasium

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Post time is 7:00 p.m.



Order Here

REUNION NEWS

Class Reunions and Gatherings

From casual meet-ups to elaborate events, class reunions provide a unique opportunity to see how everyone has been doing and to rekindle old friendships, all while sharing laughter and stories from the past. Below are a few reunions that have occurred recently.



Holy Name Class of 1970

at their monthly luncheon at Mimmo's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria.



Central Catholic Class of 2004

20th Reunion at Uncorked.



Holy Name Class of 1999

25th Reunion at the Lincoln Park Fire Co.

Upcoming Reunions

Holy Name Class of 1970 - 55th Reunion - Saturday, September 13, 2025 at Berks Catholic in the McGlinn Commons from 1-5pm. For more information, contact Lisa Gault at lisagault@ymail.com.

Central Catholic Class of 1975 - 50th Reunion - Saturday, September 13, 2025 at Beverly Hills Tavern. Cocktail hour 5-6pm (cash bar), buffet dinner from 6-8:30pm. More information to follow soon.

Holy Name Class of 1975 - 50th Reunion - Saturday, September 20, 2025 at Berks Catholic in the McGlinn Commons. Mass at 5pm in the Mary Queen of All Saints Chapel and dinner from 6-10pm. For more information, contact Marybeth (Tyl) McQuiston at mmcquist@columbus.rr.com.

Holy Name Class of 2004 - 20th Reunion RESCHEDULED - Saturday, May 31, 2025 at Schaylor Brewing Company starting at 6pm. For more information, contact Hanh Nguyen at hanh.nguyen.pitt@gmail.com or Victoria Kramer at vschiff@gmail.com.

Central Catholic Class of 2005 - 20th Reunion - Planning is underway. Please join to Facebook group, Reading Central Catholic High School Class of 2005.

Holy Name Class of 2005 - 20th Reunion - Planning is underway.

Berks Catholic Class of 2015 - 10th Reunion - Planning is underway.

Berks Catholic Class of 2020 - 5th Reunion - Planning is underway. Contact Sarah Hess at shess@berkscatholic.org for more information.

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, September 5 - Berks Catholic Hall of Fame Induction
Monday, September 22 - Swing Fore the Saints Golf Outing
Friday, October 3 - Extravaganza
Friday, October 24 - Berks Catholic Homecoming & Tailgate