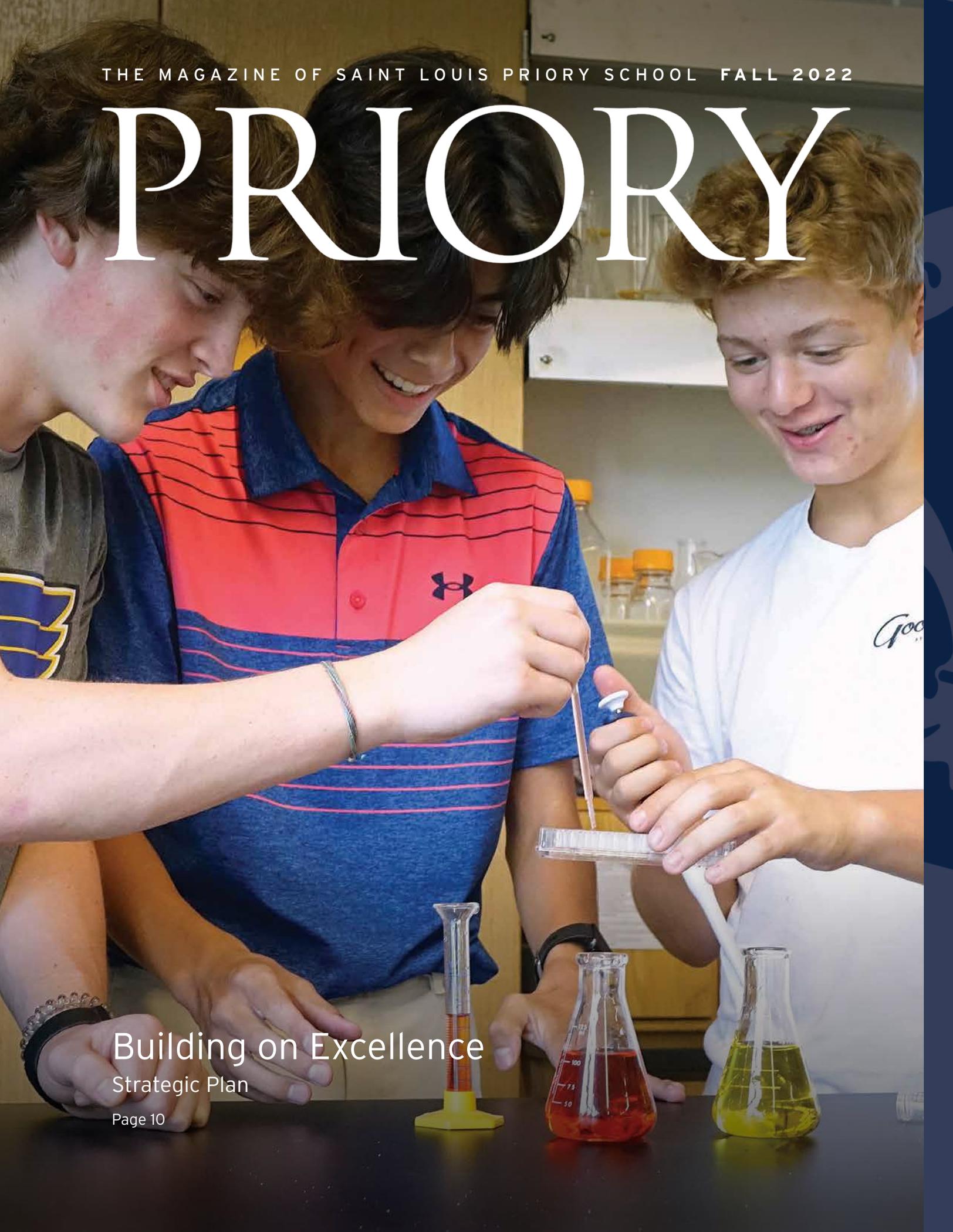


# PRIORY



Building on Excellence

Strategic Plan

Page 10



# DISCOVER THE POWER OF PRIORY

## SIGN UP FOR A RAVEN EXPERIENCE

Come see why Saint Louis Priory School is Missouri's #1 ranked Catholic high school. We offer young men an outstanding preparatory experience that integrates Catholic Benedictine values with a classic liberal arts curriculum. Register for one of our Raven Experiences to see our newly opened Art and Science Centre and learn more about the Power of Priory.

### RAVEN EXPERIENCES

**Sunday, October 23**  
1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., 8th graders only

**Sunday, November 13**  
1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., 4th-7th graders

Register using the QR code or visit [priory.org/admission2022](http://priory.org/admission2022)



Programs last 90 minutes. Please register and plan on attending the entire event.

**PRESTIGIOUS**  
Ranked #1 Catholic high school in Missouri

**PERSONALIZED**  
5:1 student-to-faculty ratio

**PREPARED**  
30 average ACT score

**PROVEN**  
15 state team championships since 2004

## FEATURES

4 | Schwartz '11 Helps Guide Renovations

10 | Building on Excellence – Priory's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan

14 | Capital Campaign – Update and Campus Renovations

19 | New Faculty & Staff

21 | SAINT LOUIS ABBEY JOURNAL

25 | ON CAMPUS

34 | ADVANCEMENT

37 | ALUMNI

40 | CLASS NOTES

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## FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dear Friends,

Twenty-six years ago, I sat in Room 300 and listened to Fr. Laurence bless the “new” High School facilities. I was new myself – a 7th grader still trying to figure out ties, deodorant, and monks with English accents. I took in the blessing of the new room with detached bewilderment: Was this room really new? Where had classes been before? Would we still be having a quiz?

Looking back on that moment now, I realize that its deeper significance had gone over my head. We weren't just blessing a new building. We were giving thanks to God for the grace, hope, creativity, and hard work that had brought it into existence. Even more importantly, we were celebrating the future that the Lord had opened up to us: another generation of young men graced with special purpose and ready to learn.

This year, God has once again blessed us with a change in era. Our new art and science facilities are complete, and we expect the rest of our capital improvements to be finished by early 2023. We have expanded the size of our faculty and staff with seven new positions to accommodate our larger Form I, introduced new services to enhance writing and research, and embarked on our five-year strategic plan to grow enrollment, improve programming, and showcase our talented students and impressive faculty. When we bless our new facilities this academic year, it will once again commemorate the Spirit-led renewal of Saint Louis Priory School as it receives the next generation.

I hope that you enjoy reading all about our life here on campus. Please stop by for a visit; we'd love to welcome you home.

Laus Tibi Domine,



Father Cuthbert Elliott, O.S.B., '02  
Headmaster



# Priory Alumnus

## HELPS GUIDE RENOVATIONS

Broad educational foundation helps project manager give back to his alma mater.

Andy Schwartz '11 took years of photography classes with Brother Mark Kammerer, O.S.B., culminating in a senior thesis project of photos he took on a family trip to Kenya. "Now we're renovating the old dark room area," he says. "So everything comes full circle."

Schwartz is a project manager with BSI Constructors, the general contractor handling Priory's ongoing major renovation. He's worked closely with the team on site for the entire construction process.

Schwartz grew up in St. Louis and attended Webster Groves public schools before coming to Priory. His brother Jack was a year behind him in school, graduating in 2012. In addition to photography, Schwartz was involved in Father Paul Kidner, O.S.B.'s Outdoors Club, and played

football, basketball, and baseball. "I'm glad to have gone to Priory and to have had the opportunity to play sports through high school," he says.

Academically, Schwartz says Priory prepared him well for further studies. "Mr. (Joe) Gleich's chemistry class was definitely preparation for what a college course would be like," he says. "I also enjoyed Pre-Calc with Mrs. (Jeanette) Hall, and Ms. (Kate) Tumminia's advisory was a great way to start the day."

One aspect of his Priory education really stood out, however.

"Where a Priory education really sets you apart – especially in an engineering program where everyone is strong in math and science – is in writing," he says. "It's something my employers, at BSI and during my internships, have all valued, even just in writing professional, well-polished emails. The writing skills are something I think I took for granted when I was in school here, but they're one of the biggest things that have stuck with me since I graduated."

Schwartz graduated from Priory and headed to the University of Illinois to study engineering. He had internships during college with a home builder out of Chicago and a hotel developer in St. Louis.

He started at BSI right out of college in 2016, originally as a project engineer. More recently, he's worked as a project manager on several projects including a Montessori school building in Kirkwood, and the new St. Joseph's Parish Hall in Cottleville.

**"Where a Priory education really sets you apart – especially in an engineering program where everyone is strong in math and science – is in writing."**

– Andy Schwartz '11

He also managed the construction of the Missionaries of Charity's new food kitchen facility in north St. Louis City that opened in 2018. "I was on site one day and saw some of the Priory monks up there dropping off leftover food from the Dining Hall. That was a such a cool connection to see our Priory community involved with the sisters and in feeding the homeless," he says.

His role as a project manager involves a lot of coordination and logistics, scheduling, tracking project costs – "and simply making sure the latest plans and drawings are in the hands of the teams that need them."

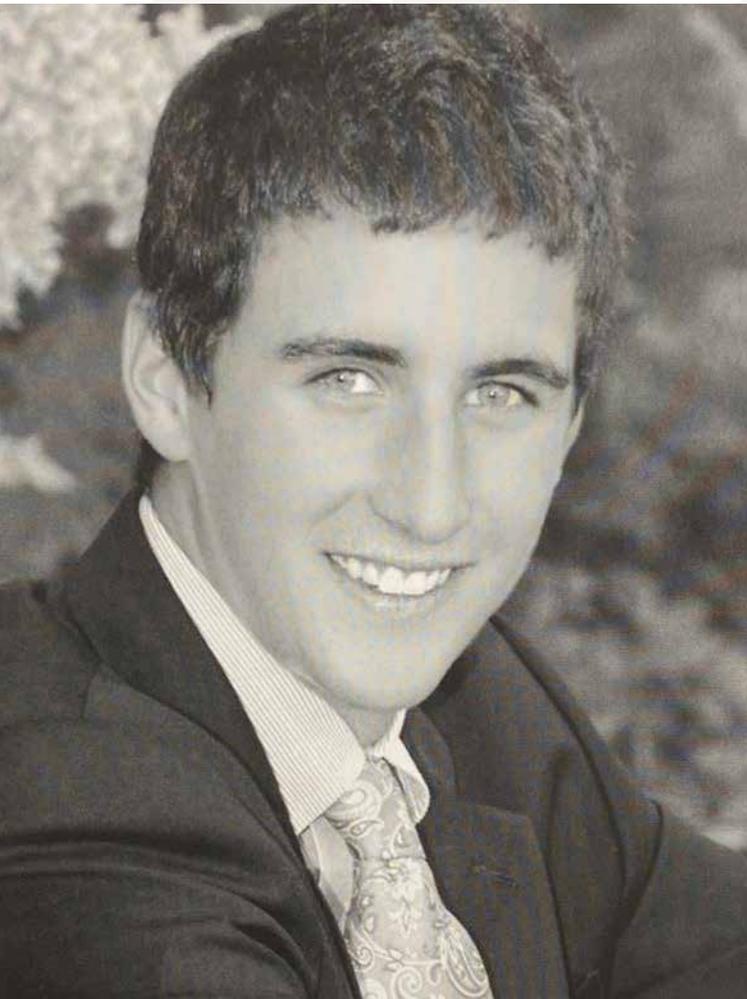
"When I was a student here, my greatest weakness was a lack of organization. I was the kid with the locker that was overflowing, or who couldn't find the handout from the day before. But now if I could sum up my job in one word, it'd be organization," he says. "So as an alum coming back there's a sense of pride that I've gotten to this point in my career after a certain amount of personal growth. I always want to be a professional, thorough, and organized member of the team."

**"It's rewarding to be part of the process,** and to know what kind of new, state-of-the-art facilities the students are going to have at their disposal in the years to come."

– Andy Schwartz '11

▽ Andy Schwartz '11, pictured in the former science wing and future 7th and 8th grade facility, is excited for the opportunity to work on a project at his alma mater.





His dual role as a project leader and school alumnus also brings a unique perspective to the work. "When you first step into the buildings, it brings back all kinds of memories," he says. "And then it all changes. It's especially striking right now in the old science wing, where all the walls and partitions have been taken down and everything is wide open between the floor and the ceiling."

And he's not the only alumnus involved in the project. "I've really enjoyed working with the team, including Kevin Kerwin who's a Priory alum and the architect on the project," he says. His classmate Colin Bruns works for Kienstra Concrete, another firm involved. He also gave a shout-out to Priory's Director of Facilities (and alumni dad) Martin Fitzgerald – "I've had him as a coach, but now he's our team captain."

Schwartz lives in South City, and in his free time he enjoys playing recreational league sports, including basketball at the Missouri Athletic Club. He also plays in a Tower Grove Park softball league with several of his Priory classmates.

His continued connection to the school also shows in his reflection on the importance of the renovation project. "It's rewarding to be part of the process, and to know what kind of new, state-of-the-art facilities the students are going to have at their disposal in the years to come."

△ Andy Schwartz '11 senior picture at Priory

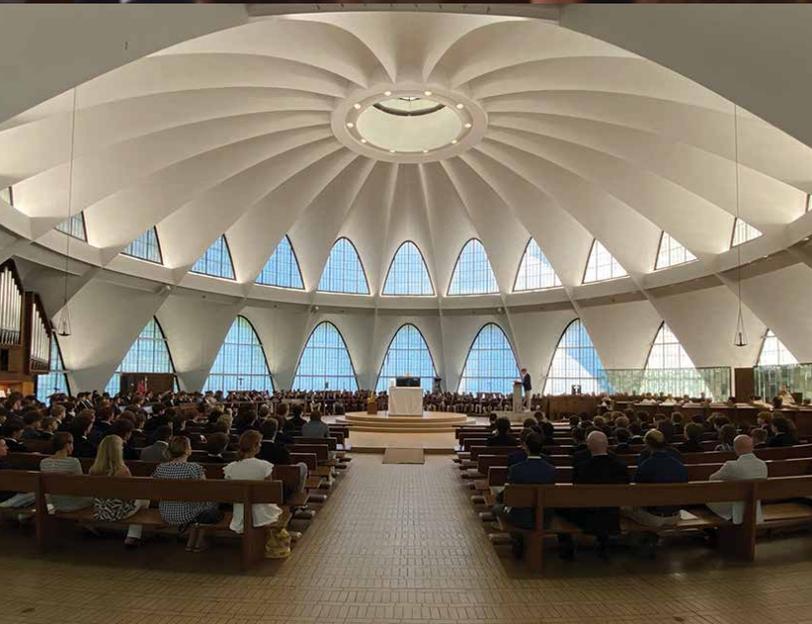
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# F I R S T   D A Y   O F   S C H O O L

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Priory faculty and staff welcomed new Form I students to campus on August 24, and were thrilled to see familiar faces of returning students on August 25. The first days of school for all included an all-school Mass, Form meetings, summer reading discussions, a STUCO assembly, and Raven Round-Up.



# GRADUATION 2022

Priory's Class of 2022 celebrated graduation on May 22 in the Saint Louis Abbey Church. Students, their families, faculty, and staff enjoyed the beautiful sunny day as 60 students became graduates and part of a robust alumni group.

Speakers included Class Mentor honoree **Nikki Hostnik**, director of college counseling, and valedictorian **Cedric Bruges**, who is attending Washington University in St. Louis. **Ryan Lally**, who is attending the University of Notre Dame, addressed the crowd as the recipient of the Claude I. Bakewell Jr. '61 Memorial Award.

Headmaster Father Cuthbert Elliott, O.S.B., '02, along with Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76, handed out diplomas to the graduates.



> Valedictorian Speaker Cedric Bruges '22



Bakewell Award Recipient  
Ryan Lally '22

Class Mentor Nikki Hostnik



## Matriculation List

The 60 members of the Class of 2022 are attending the following schools as freshmen for their 2022-23 school year:

Baylor University  
Benedictine College  
Drake University  
Drury University  
Elon University  
Gonzaga University  
Grinnell College  
Harvard University  
Illinois Wesleyan University  
Indiana University-Bloomington  
McPherson College  
Missouri University of Science and Technology  
Northeastern University  
Norwich University  
Ohio State University  
Purdue University  
Regis University  
Saint Louis University  
Santa Clara University  
Sewanee - The University of the South  
South Dakota School of Mines and Technology  
Spring Hill College  
Syracuse University  
Texas A & M University  
Texas Christian University

The University of Alabama  
Tufts University  
Tulane University of Louisiana  
United States Merchant Marine Academy  
University of Arkansas  
University of California-Los Angeles  
University of Dayton  
University of Denver  
University of Kansas  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
University of Missouri-Kansas City (6-year Medical Program)  
University of Notre Dame  
University of San Francisco  
University of Southern California  
University of Tulsa  
Villanova University  
Wake Forest University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Webster University  
Yale University

## SENIOR FACULTY AWARDS



Jan Poth



Jake Parent



Nikki Hostnik



Matt Gilliam



Kevin O'Connell

### Classroom Instructor

Presented to the faculty member who inspires students with a mastery of the subject matter and has the ability to convey it to them.

Honoree: **Jan Poth**, *mathematics teacher*

### Coach

Recognizes the outstanding instruction in athletics - instruction to various levels of talent, helping students reach their potential and above all, making it fun.

Honoree: **Jake Parent**, *head football coach and history teacher*

### Class Mentor

Presented to the faculty member to whom students have been able to turn to when the going was rough, and whose opinion they admire and respect.

Honoree: **Nikki Hostnik**, *director of college counseling*

### Shield Yearbook Dedication

Presented to the faculty member(s) who most contributed to the success and well-being of the Senior Class.

Honorees:

**Matt Gilliam**, *food service*

**Kevin O'Connell**, *Spanish teacher (retired)*





# BUILDING ON EXCELLENCE

## 2022 - 2027 STRATEGIC PLAN

As we approach and celebrate Priory's 66th anniversary, our vision for the future stays true to our core beliefs, which provide a distinctive value to students, parents, alumni, and the entire school community.

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Our goal: prepare every student for an exceptional life.

SAINT LOUIS  
PRIORY  
SCHOOL



## OUR VISION FOR 2027

Our educational philosophy is one of holistic formation of the human person – mind, body, and spirit – through a balanced and structured program of liberal arts education, internships and service, participation in competitive athletics, and the worship of God.

### As a Catholic School

*Priory recognizes that every member of its community is created in the image and likeness of God, invested with intrinsic dignity, and graced with a particular vocation.*

### As a Benedictine School

*Priory structures its program to provide a balanced approach to living, fostering community, and centering each day on prayer.*

### As a College Preparatory School

*Priory provides students with the knowledge, skills, and experience needed to succeed at college and beyond.*

## THE PATH TO CONTINUED EXCELLENCE

*To achieve our 2027 vision, Priory will undertake the following initiatives:*

**Cultivate a healthy campus climate** that welcomes and includes all current and prospective members of our school community.

**Review our academic experience,** educational philosophy, and programming to address the needs of our current students.

**Evaluate pricing and aid policies** to serve prospective families and promote financial sustainability.

**Enhance stewardship of alumni** and grow their engagement with current students.

**Grow enrollment competitively** through small classes, creative pedagogy, personalized classroom attention, and scholarships.

**Enhance marketing campaign** to raise awareness of the distinctive value of a Priory education and foster pride among the school community.

**Ensure compensation packages for faculty and staff are attractive and competitive** while creating a robust recruiting strategy.



Saint Louis Priory School – preparing students in mind, body, and spirit – now and in the future.

# CONTINUING THE PROMISE

Priory's strategic planning process aims to reinvigorate many of the school's support structures, including the Abbey Society

In the mid 1950s, a group of St. Louis families came together to form a nonprofit organization – the Catholic Preparatory School for Boys, Inc. (just Inc. for short). They invited monks from Ampleforth Abbey to come to the Midwest and lead their educational venture, and thus Saint Louis Abbey and Saint Louis Priory School came to be.

These founding families and the founding monks made a promise to each other, one that stands today and one that will continue for generations to come. The promise states that the monks would provide spiritual and educational guidance to the young men that passed through the school, and the families would provide for all the earthly needs of the monastic community.

Having given the school its foundation and start, Inc. transitioned in 1960 to the Priory Society. "The function of the Board is not just raising money, but to join with the monks in perpetuating the founding purpose of the school – preparing leaders for the future," Fred Switzer told the Inc. board of directors in 1970, according to Father Timothy Horner, O.S.B.'s *In Good Soil*. In that interest, the Priory Society continued to encourage support of the school – often financial, but also largely through time, talent, and service as well.

The Priory Society, which became the Abbey Society in 1989 when Saint Louis Priory was elevated to Abbey status, grew quickly, and continued to take its work of recognizing the contributions of the Abbey and School's supporters seriously. In 1988, the Society began to bestow the Abbot Luke Rigby Award to certain members of the community whose contributions were particularly influential, the most recent being former school administrator Mr. Joe Gleich in 2016.

As the School began its Strategic Planning process in 2021, the Abbey Society was one recognized area of opportunity. Its mission and work is critical to the Abbey and School as they approach the 70th anniversary of their founding. So how should the Society's work be clarified and rejuvenated? How can its support be best directed in the 21st century, and with Priory's new facilities and curriculum updates? How can the Society offer a clearer structure, more dynamic communications, and modernized events? All these questions are being considered by the Strategic Planning team.

**"The rejuvenation of the Abbey Society comes at a perfect time, as we work together to achieve our Strategic Plan and take a fresh look at our traditions."**

– Lise Riet-Lague, Priory's assistant head of school for mission advancement

“Since joining Priory last year, each day has been a learning experience for me. The rich history of this school and its founders is an exciting success story that has been made possible through hard work, determination, many prayers, and incredible generosity,” said Lise Riet-Lague, Priory’s assistant head of school for mission advancement. “We are blessed with amazing faculty, students, and alumni. The rejuvenation of the Abbey Society comes at a perfect time, as we work together to achieve our Strategic Plan and take a fresh look at our traditions.”



**Past Winners of the Abbot Luke Rigby, O.S.B. Award Presented by the Abbey Society**

In 1988, the Society began to bestow the Abbot Luke Rigby, O.S.B. Award to certain members of the community whose contributions were particularly influential. Part of the new Strategic Plan is to reinvigorate the group and the award. Listed below are the former awardees.

- 1988 Frederick M. Switzer Jr.
- 1989 J.F. Gerard Mudd, M.D.
- 1990 F. Lee Hawes
- 1991 Mary Plant Faust
- 1992 Donald W. Bussmann, M.D.
- 1993 William T. Dooley Jr.
- 1994 Christian B. Peper
- 1995 Margaret Mudd Fletcher and Dayton H. Mudd
- 1996 Louis Francis Desloge Jr.
- 1997 Alfred Roberts Naunheim
- 1998 J. Joseph Horan and Frank J. Guyol Jr.
- 1999 Glen J. Travis
- 2000 Edward D. Kinsella, M.D.
- 2001 Elizabeth Jones Mudd
- 2002 Julia Schlafly Bramman
- 2003 Patrick T. Stokes
- 2005 Andrew R. Zinsmeyer
- 2006 Father Timothy Horner, O.S.B.
- 2007 James D. Switzer '64
- 2008 James J. Murphy Jr. '61
- 2009 Peter F. Benoist '66
- 2010 Theodore A. Kienstra Jr. '60
- 2013 Mary Ann Croghan
- 2015 Father Paul Kidner, O.S.B.
- 2016 Joseph V. Gleich

< Father Paul Kidner, O.S.B., was the 2015 recipient of the Abbot Luke Rigby, O.S.B. Award.

# Capital Campaign in the Home Stretch

Robotics, Medieval Arts, Visual Arts, and State-of-the-Art Science Spaces and Laboratories Will Benefit Priory Students For Many Years

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors, we are proud to share we are in the home stretch of a 40,000-square-foot renovation of the high school and former Junior School.

Our new art and science facilities, located in the former Junior School building, opened its doors for the 2022-23 school year. Students are enjoying state-of-the-art science spaces with laboratories and lecture halls for physics, biology, and chemistry, as well as computer sciences and our award-winning robotics program. There is a designated space for independent research, which students are enjoying. The enhanced, light-filled classrooms for studio and medieval arts are perfect for artistic creativity.

Renovations and construction are currently underway for a new wing for Forms I and II, with all new classrooms, a testing center, and indoor and outdoor commons. The entrance for the main school building is redesigned for improved hospitality and functionality.

New commons for high school students, lay faculty, and monks will be located near the front lobby. A new outdoor gathering space with an amphitheater for more than 200 attendees will join the junior and senior common spaces together. The Kevin Kline Theatre will be upgraded, with improvements for light, sound, and storage. Additional outdoor renovations include a rejuvenation of the pond, a new outdoor classroom with a sundial design element, and an outdoor "sport court" for recreational enjoyment.

Our Sharing the Promise, Shaping the Future capital campaign is still underway, and we would be deeply grateful for your continued support to make this essential project a reality. Please join us in our promise to educate young men spiritually and intellectually, and to provide spaces that show our commitment to our students and community. If you would like more information on how to support the campaign, please contact Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76 at [abbotgregory@priory.org](mailto:abbotgregory@priory.org).





# A Blueprint

## FOR GIVING BACK

### Kevin Kerwin '78 Says His In-Kind Service to Priory Has "Always Felt Right"

**T**he more than half-century relationship between Kevin Kerwin '78 and the monks of Saint Louis Abbey began when Kerwin was just a fifth grader. His mom, Jenny, had been invited by a friend to attend an event at Priory.

During his mother's visit, she was impressed with student artwork displayed on the school's walls. Knowing her son had begun to show some artistic talent, Kerwin says, "She called Father Timothy and asked him, 'Do you have anybody who could help Kevin?'"

Father Timothy Horner, O.S.B., the school's Headmaster at the time, introduced Kerwin to a novice monk who offered the boy a series of art tutorials.

About a year later, Kerwin applied to Priory and was accepted.

▼ Kevin Kerwin '78 senior picture at Priory



#### **"I'm Wondering if Architecture Might Be the Right Thing"**

As a Priory student, Kerwin enjoyed the school's unique Medieval Arts Program. But the subject in which he excelled most was math.

"Geometry was just - it was a blast!" Kerwin says, still exuding excitement.

However, after graduating from Priory and attending Marquette University for a year, Kerwin was adrift, uncertain about his future. Bob Kerwin, Kevin's father, sought advice from one of his son's favorite Priory teachers, Father Paul Kidner, O.S.B.

"And Father Paul, of course, in his great British accent, says, 'Well, yes, now Kevin has got quite an aptitude for mathematics, and he's also very artistic. I'm wondering if architecture might be the right thing for him,'" Kerwin remembers his father telling him.

With that guidance, Kerwin wound up transferring to Kansas State University's architecture program, where he discovered his passion.

At K-State, Kerwin says, "I was just completely blown away. I didn't know there was a profession that could be this rewarding, this much fun."

During his fourth year, Kerwin studied for a semester at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. He graduated in 1984 and has been a licensed architect since 1989.

## Translating the “Monastic Ethos”

In the 1990s, Kerwin was invited to design the portico and loop drive outside of Priory's then-Junior School. Then, a much more significant project presented itself, as he started working with the monks on the design of their new monastery.

“That experience in particular, I learned so much about working with people,” Kerwin recalls. “The monks have this thorough understanding of how important that place is, and the nature of that place to who they are.”

He continues: “A lot of times, architects want to make something important - ‘I’m making a building, and I want to have this be important and that be important.’ Priory’s totally different from that. What’s important is already there. The beauty of the place. I’m not going to compete with the landscape, the trees, the church, any of that. How am I going to compete with that? What I’ve got to do is let those things be the best they can be.”

After the monastery was completed, Kerwin and his firm assisted with several other Priory projects: the entry foyer connecting the school's two gyms, including the weight room; the monastic cemetery; the football stadium grandstand; and the two-story addition to Priory's former Junior School building. His firm also helped with the design of the school's soccer and baseball fields.

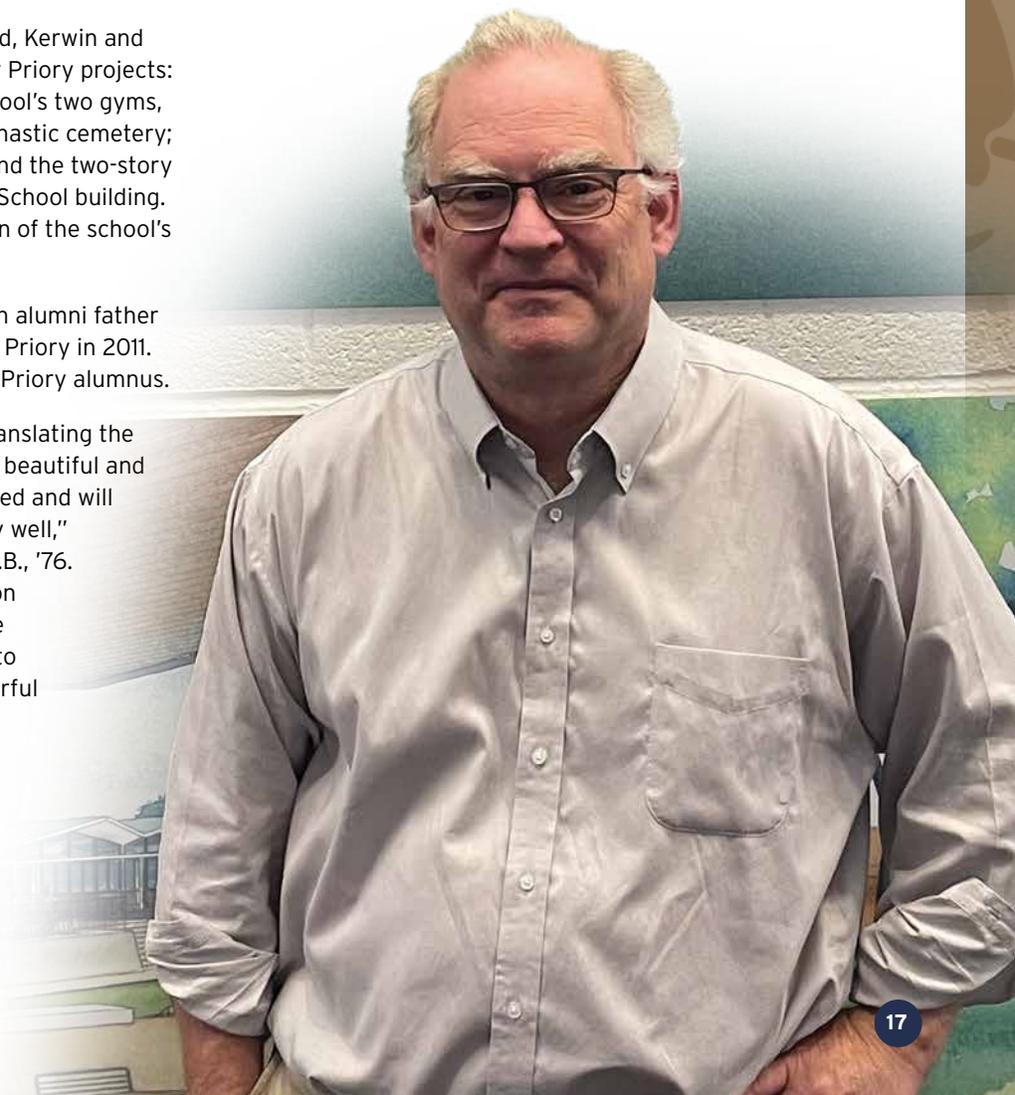
During this time, Kerwin became an alumni father as his son Graham graduated from Priory in 2011. His nephew John-Michael is also a Priory alumnus.

“Kevin has been instrumental in translating the ‘monastic ethos’ of the monks into beautiful and functional buildings that have served and will continue to serve our Abbey family well,” says Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76. “Kevin has certainly put his mark on our campus, and on the lives of the monks. We are extremely grateful to Kevin for his insight and his wonderful contributions to our way of life.”

> Kerwin in the High School in front of watercolors of the new spaces

**“Kevin has been instrumental** in translating the ‘monastic ethos’ of the monks into beautiful and functional buildings that have served and will continue to serve our Abbey family well.”

– Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76



Now, Kerwin and the firm he co-leads, HKW Architects, have conceptualized and designed the significant renovations to Priory's High School and Junior School buildings, evolving the latter into a new Art and Science Centre. [See "Under Construction" in the Spring 2022 Priory Magazine.]

### **Giving Of His Time**

Like many Priory alumni, Kerwin gives back to the school and the monks through his ongoing financial support. But he has contributed even more by sharing his time and expertise.

Kerwin says he is grateful that his firm allows him to pursue a variety of philanthropic efforts. He generally does not bill for the time he personally commits to projects for Priory and the monastery, for example.

HKW Architects is mission focused, Kerwin notes. "We have a unique way of understanding what an organization does and then creating form that supports what it wants to achieve," he says. That understanding, he emphasizes, "really started with learning from the monks."

For many years, Kerwin has served on the school's facility and grounds committee, readily responding to questions from the monastery and school. He also uses his Priory-inspired artistic skills to paint watercolor prints of a variety of the buildings on Priory's campus. He then gifts these unique prints to the school, often for fundraising purposes.

"My ability to give financially is not as significant as the ability to give of my time and effort and knowledge," Kerwin observes. "I'm grateful to give the time because - I mean, it's a selfish thing. Yeah, I guess I give it, but what I receive from working with them is the best. When I go home at night, I say, 'I can't believe I get to work with those monks!'"

And having the opportunity to work with them on so many projects over the years? Kerwin doesn't hesitate in his response: "It's a gift," he says. A gift he's receiving.

### **"If I Had to Do It Over, I'd Do More"**

Kerwin emphasizes he is hesitant to tell other Priory supporters how they might give back to the school and monastery in particular ways. He's not reluctant, however, to explain why such support - however it may be offered - is critical.

"It's about the future of our world," he says. "There's good that comes from this place and that goes out into the world. It's a very impactful thing. Supporting that is important."

Kerwin feels blessed to have been able to participate through the years in the life of Saint Louis Abbey and Saint Louis Priory School.

"If I had to do it over, I'd do more," he says. "I would love it if everybody could have the experience that I've had there."



## NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

As part of Priory's Strategic Plan, we have expanded the size of our faculty and staff with seven new teaching positions and a number of other support positions.



**David Armstrong**, a St. Louis native, is a new classics teacher at Priory. He graduated from Missouri State University in 2018 with a master's degree in religious studies. He then completed a second master's degree in classics at Washington University in St. Louis in 2020. Armstrong enjoys reading, hiking, exercise, and learning new languages.



**Seth Arnold** joined the Priory community as a math teacher. He said he refined his passion of mathematics while working on his graduate studies at Saint Louis University. "Through exploration of mathematics, one finds a beautiful and deep subject that unlocks powerful insights into many of our world's challenges." Arnold earned his bachelor's degree from SIU Edwardsville and his master's and doctorate degrees from Saint Louis University. His experience includes working as an adjunct instructor and graduate assistant at Saint Louis University and as portfolio support associate at a business management firm. He lives in South City. In addition to learning new mathematics, he enjoys playing with his dog and two cats, and learning to golf.



**Joshua Dixon** is from Prescot, United Kingdom, and joined Priory to teach theology and classical languages as well as help with the Tutoria Program. He most recently served in a multi-dimensional role in a Catholic public school in Liverpool, England, teaching history, religious education, and Latin. He also acted as the scholarship coordinator. Dixon has read and studied the Latin language for over a decade, beginning when he was an undergraduate at Oxford. He's also studied Koine Greek and is interested in continuing his study of Attic Greek in the future. As a practicing Catholic and former seminarian, Dixon looks forward to contributing to the formation of young minds and hearts.



**Joanna Fisher** joined Priory as a computer science teacher for Form I and Form II students, as well as an introductory Python course to Form IV. Fisher's background is in elementary education, and she taught in several schools until transitioning to focus on computer science and educational technology. She earned her master's degree as well as her robotics certificate. Most recently, Fisher taught at St. Gerard Majella School and assisted in technology department concerns.



**Angie Fuchs** joined the Business Office as the new senior accountant. She took over the accounts payable duties and will be processing payroll as well as assisting in month-end reconciliations and reporting. Fuchs previously worked at Nerinx Hall for close to 10 years as the assistant director of finance. She holds bachelor's degrees in psychology and accounting from Maryville University.



**Sue Hennessey** joined the Mission Advancement team as the new part-time database assistant. She grew up in Michigan and received her bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Michigan. She began her career in public accounting and went on to get her MBA in finance at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University. Hennessey pursued a career in corporate finance with General Mills in Minneapolis. In 1998, Hennessey moved to St. Louis and focused on raising her three sons, volunteering at their Catholic grade school and high schools, and worked part time in accounting in the St. Louis community.



**David Holmes**, a Priory alumnus from the Class of 2016, returned home to teach English after working as a system integration specialist and remote production room supervisor for SportsMEDIA Technology in Durham, North Carolina. While working towards

a bachelor's degree in literary arts and philosophy at Brown University, Holmes taught summer courses at Priory and Hill House in Boston. Since graduating, he has served as a long-term substitute teacher at John Burroughs School and Fulton Middle School. Holmes is excited to return to the place where he cherished his time as a student and later entered the sacrament of marriage.



**Jen Jung** is Priory's new learning consultant. Jung graduated from Saint Louis University with a degree in business. She earned her master's degree in education from Fontbonne University. With experience in both general and special education, ranging from preschool

through eighth grade, as well as 20 years working with high school students as a tutor, her approach is to support and empower students, which coincides with Priory's mission to help young men develop their full potential as children of God. Jung is also a Priory mom, with sons Jack (Form V) and Sam (Form III).



**Bailey Kelly**, new math teacher, has lived in St. Louis since 2016. He came to St. Louis to attend school and wrestle at Maryville University. While at Maryville, he started going to Mass at Saint Louis Abbey. Priory has always been on his radar, but there were no openings when

he started applying for jobs after earning his master's degree in the summer of 2021. When Father Aidan McDermott, O.S.B., told Kelly about the math position, he was excited. Kelly believes Priory will be a great fit for him to continue teaching and coaching, and he is very excited to be part of the greater monastic community.



**Nick Kheriaty**, new science teacher, and his son (Jacob, Form I) joined the Priory community this fall. Originally from Bellingham, Washington, Kheriaty studied science education at the University of Notre Dame, earned a master's degree from Grand Canyon

University, and is currently working on a master's degree in Catholic school leadership at Saint Louis University. Kheriaty has 18 years of experience teaching science in Catholic schools. Most recently, he taught chemistry at St. John Vianney School where he served as the dean of the academy of applied science, ran the pro-life club, and was heavily involved in campus ministry. Kheriaty and his wife have two additional sons and a daughter.



**Susan Lutz** joined College Counseling with more than 15 years of college admission experience, most recently at Saint Louis University where she served as the assistant director of local recruitment. Lutz has worked with multiple Priory students on the admission

process, always with a high level of care and service to them and their families. As a past president of the Missouri Association for College Admission Counseling, she has many established contacts in the college admission communities both in Missouri and nationwide. Lutz and her husband Michael are the proud parents of three daughters.



**Father Athanasius Soto** joined the mathematics team after serving as Priory's accounts payable associate. Father Athanasius was raised in Wilmington, CA with a lovely seaside view of container ships and refineries. He majored in business economics at

UCLA and first worked as a jack of all trades at a tug and barge company at the Port of Los Angeles. Fulfilling a high school dream, he began to work on inflation statistics as a field economist for the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2006. After realizing that all is vanity, he entered Saint Louis Abbey in 2010. He taught Junior School theology in the school from 2012 until 2015 when he began to study theology at the University of Navarre in Pamplona, Spain. (Yes, that's where they run with the bulls.) Ordained to the priesthood in 2019, he has been working in the business office the last couple of years.

# SAINT LOUIS ABBEY JOURNAL



## MY DEAR FRIENDS,

This summer, as we were preparing to celebrate the funeral liturgies for Brother Mark Kammerer, O.S.B., who died on June 29, I had the time to reflect on the death of one of my brothers.

The death of a monk is always a powerful moment in the life of any monastic community, as it is for any family. But, in a special way, a monk's death puts into perspective the whole meaning and purpose of the monastic life.

As strange as it may seem, the monastic tradition characterizes our way of life as an anticipation of the life of heaven. Despite (or perhaps because of) the rigors of our life in community, our sights are set on the ultimate goal of a Christian life: eternity in communion with God. In a real sense, the purpose of monastic life is death - not in any morbid way, but because Christians see death as the passage into eternal life.

Every part of a monk's day, everything he does, is geared towards focusing his attention on that ultimate goal. So, monks live in this world as if they had passed through it. And when a monk actually comes to his death, it is the culmination of a life-long journey, purposefully directed towards its end: eternal life.

All human beings are flawed, and Brother Mark was no exception. And so, the Rites of the Church direct us to pray for the purification of his soul, for an easy and swift transition into eternal life, and for his complete and glorious transformation into the image of God that he was always intended to be.

Our participation in the funeral rites for Brother Mark, and our ongoing prayer for him, are ways that we unite ourselves in the Body of Christ to Brother Mark, and he unites himself to us. This great communion of persons is Christ's gift to us through Baptism, and that communion is meant to strengthen the bonds of love and fellowship we share in Christ.

We pray for Brother Mark, for a swift and complete purification that will lead to his transformation after the pattern of the Son of God, who loved him and died for his salvation. We pray that, as we participate in the mystery of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection, we, too, may come to our final end: life with Christ and with all the souls of the redeemed in heaven.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

*Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B.*

Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76

# SAINT ANSELM PARISH NEWS

Dear Abbey and Priory Families,

I hope you all had a wonderful and restful summer! As we return to the swing of a new academic year, we reflect and give thanks for the blessings of the summer months.

The parish's summer was focused on our Youth and Parish School of Religion ministries. The Youth Group participated in several events, including Christ Power, Lifeteen Leadership Conference, and Steubenville STL Mid America. In the later part of the summer, we hosted our Parish School of Religion summer program, Totus Tuus.

Saint Anselm Parish hosted Christ Power this year, which meant four parish youth groups (including our own) lived on campus for a week while participating in service projects around the Saint Louis area during the day. The young people worked with various services from assisting with adults in senior living facilities to preparing housing for those transitioning from incarceration to society. While on campus, the teens attended daily Mass, prayed together, shared meals, participated in presentations, and, of course, had time for recreation.

The Lifeteen Leadership Conference is a week geared toward rising high school juniors and seniors, held at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, each year. Our young people were immersed in Mass, conferences, small groups, prayer, Reconciliation, and Eucharistic Adoration as they learned about being leaders of faith in their parish, school, and families.

Our teens also attended the Steubenville Conference at Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri, as our youth group has for several years now. This event originated at Franciscan University in Ohio, but has since grown so that the conference is now hosted in multiple locations across the country, which allows for greater participation. This year's conference included presentations by nationally well-known Catholic speakers, along with prayer and community.

Finally, our summer wrapped up with *Totus Tuus*, Saint Anselm's second year holding this week-long camp organized by the Archdiocesan Office of Youth Ministry. The Latin phrase meaning "totally yours" was the papal motto of Saint John Paul II and sets the theme for the week. Children in grades one through six got to learn and grow in their faith, with similar activities for ages three to five, and evening programming for teens. Each day included prayer and Mass, with a particular emphasis on our Blessed Mother, and the last day of camp ended with water games and other fun activities!

Thank you once again for your generous prayers and support of the monastery, school, and parish. Please know of our continued prayers for you all.

May God continue to bless you and your families,



Father Aidan McDermott, O.S.B.

▼ Father Aidan attended the Lifeteen Leadership Conference with high school juniors and seniors. The conference was held at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas.

▼ Director of Youth Ministry, Courtney Rockamann (pictured in front row), attended the Steubenville Conference at Missouri State University with Youth Ministry students.

▼ Saint Anselm Parish hosted *Totus Tuus* for its second year. The week-long camp is organized by the Archdiocesan Office of Youth Ministry. Kids and leaders had a lot of fun.



# IN MEMORIAM

JANUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 2022

Bernice Fishel Agatstein, grandmother of Arthur Fishel III '05

Maureen Arden, parishioner

Robert Bannister, former faculty member

Jim Barnes '61, Abbey Society Board Member and husband of Abbey Society Board Member Tracy Barnes

Mary Beauchamp, grandmother of faculty member Steve Oslica '05

Taylor Boyce, brother of Craig Boyce '10

Dolores Bucol, parishioner

Joan Cain, parishioner

Anthony Chivetta, grandfather of Christopher Chivetta '14

Michael Ciapciak, brother of Bob Ciapciak '74, Joe Ciapciak '78, Mark Ciapciak '82, uncle of Bobby Ciapciak '07, Jack Ciapciak '11, and Joey Ciapciak '13

Dolores Clark, mother of Denver Clark '82

Ronald Coleman, father of Thomas Coleman '77 and Robert Coleman '82

Henry Constantino, father of Dr. John Constantino '80, Paul Constantino '82, and grandfather of Benedict Constantino '10

Kathleen Danna, mother of William Danna '88

Bernard DiFelice Sr., parishioner

Nadine Selkirk Donahue, mother of Bruce Selkirk Jr. '63 (deceased), grandmother of Bruce Selkirk III '88, Kenneth Hannigan Jr. '91, Andrew Selkirk '94, and great-grandmother of Patrick Selkirk '27

Bobbie Dubuque, mother of Ray Dubuque '65 and John Dubuque '68

Thomas Etling, parishioner

Patrick Flachs, father of Sean Flachs '01

Dee Gilliam, wife of Food Service staff member Felix (Gill) Gilliam and mother of Food Service staff member Matt Gilliam

Jim Gloriod Sr., grandfather of Thomas Simpson '24

Thomas Goedeker, grandfather of Daniel Jacob '13

Jack Goettelmann Sr., parishioner

Vernon Griesbauer, father of faculty member Vaughn Griesbauer

Dr. Raymond Hellweg, parishioner

Patricia Hickey, mother of James Hickey '74, Dennis Hickey '76, John Hickey '77, William Hickey '78, Thomas Hickey '80, Patrick Hickey '82, and Robert Hickey '87

Jim Holton '64

Francis Human III, brother of Daniel Human '69, David Human '78, and uncle of Patrick Human '05

Kay Jones, mother of Ken Jones '82, Michael Jones '85, Thomas Jones '87, grandmother of Maximilian Jones '10, Vincent Jones '11, Andrew Jones '13, Gregory Jones '17, and Anthony Jones '19

Brother Mark Kammerer, O.S.B.

Edward Kirgan, husband of former staff member Barb Kirgan

Michael Kramer, Oblate

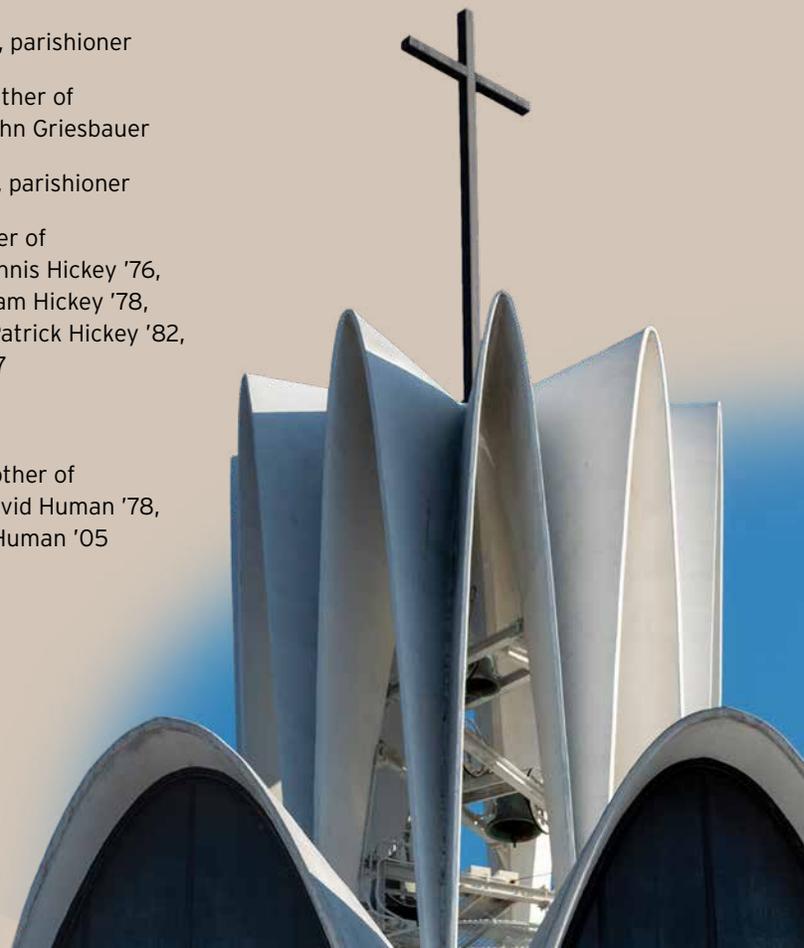
Jack Magee, father of former faculty member John Magee

Richard Malecek, grandfather of faculty member Tim Malecek

Mark Maley, father of Tom Maley '85, Dan Maley '93, and grandfather of Patrick Carr '19

Joan Mulvey, great-grandmother of Grant Dino '27 and Grayson Dino '27

< Saint Anselm Parish hosted Christ Power this year.



# IN MEMORIAM

JoAnne Neukum, Oblate, mother of Timothy Neukum '99, David Neukum '02 (deceased), and William Neukum '09

Dr. Martin Nigrelle, brother-in-law of Father Laurence

Gyo Obata, Architect of the Saint Louis Abbey Church

Raymond O'Connell, father of former faculty member Kevin O'Connell

George Remillard, grandfather of Jacob Schmerold '25

Ralph Rockamann, father of staff member Courtney Rockamann and Matt Rockamann '95

Sarah Schoon, PhD, former faculty member

Nico Stillman '12

Emily Switzer, mother of Joseph Switzer '73, Michael Switzer '73, and William Switzer '77

Jack Vasquez Jr., parishioner

Marietta Veluz, mother of Gregory Veluz '89

Darrell Wilson, grandfather of faculty member Tim Bussen

## HONORING BROTHER MARK KAMMERER, O.S.B.

Brother Mark Kammerer, O.S.B., a long-time Benedictine monk of the Saint Louis Abbey, was celebrated at a funeral Mass on July 6. Brother Mark passed away on June 29 at the age of 73.

Eugene Michael Kammerer was born on November 5, 1948, in Peoria, Illinois, to Eugene and Doretha Kammerer. He was partially raised by stepfather Lyle Williams and by foster parents Agnes and John Speck, remaining close to their daughter Catherine Bailey. While attending high school at Spalding Institute, he was baptized and became an active parishioner of the Cathedral of Saint Mary in Peoria.

After attending Illinois Central College, he served in the military during the Vietnam War, then worked a variety of jobs, including running a pet store and grooming business and supervising a department at Hiram Walker Distillery. In 1988, he joined the Abbey of Saint Mary and Saint Louis. He made profession as a monk on September 4, 1989 and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Maryville University in 1998.

He taught photography at Priory for almost 30 years, earning respect from students for his expertise and attention to detail. One student recalled that in the 1990s, he was already predicting, "In a few years, most pictures will be digital."

"Brother Mark was an excellent teacher and mentor to me. He didn't sugar coat his words, he gave candid instruction, and he pushed me to become a better student ... something that I both needed and appreciated at that formative time in

my life," John Rhodes '14 says. "It was that mentorship that ultimately led me to complete my senior thesis in photography. Those photos, for me, will be a lasting reminder of the cherished time I had as his student."

"Brother Mark was one of my favorite teachers," says Matthew Link '07. "Class was never dull over in the photo hut. It was unique and needed Brother Mark to make it flow. Never shy to speak his mind, we were all exposed to quite a bit of sarcasm and laughter. I learned more in his class than most and much more than I appreciated at the time. He will be missed."

In the monastic community, Brother Mark was a source of information on a host of subjects of current interest. He was fascinated by outer space and would regularly tune in to live broadcasts from NASA online. He suffered from diabetes, and after a yearlong struggle with the disease, he died peacefully in the monastery.

Brother Mark is survived by his sisters, Linda Smiddy and Renee McIntyre. Burial was in the monastic cemetery adjacent to the Abbey.



## NEWS BRIEFS

### “Newsies” Winter Musical

Priory’s winter musical, “Newsies,” was a big hit. The play is loosely based on the New York City Newsboys’ Strike of 1899. Priory students as well as neighboring girls’ school students enjoyed working with Priory faculty as special guests.

### Latin Translation Contest Award Winners

Congratulations to **Evan Hugge ‘23**, **Riley Carlin ‘23**, and **William Azrak ‘22** for their performance on the 2021 CAMWS Latin Translation Contest. The Classical Association of Middle West and South sponsors this contest, in which students translate an original Latin passage by a Roman author into English without a dictionary.

- **Evan Hugge** - *Cash award winner* (First place, Intermediate, level two)
- **Riley Carlin** - *Book award winner* (Intermediate, level two)
- **William Azrak** - *Certificate of Commendation* (Advanced, level four)

### Polley Competes in National History Bee

**Cole Polley ‘22** (pictured below with Father Cuthbert) competed in the Missouri History Bee in February and won first place. He traveled to Washington, D.C., in April to compete in the National History Bee.

### National Merit Scholarship Finalists

Congratulations to the six members of the Class of 2022 who were notified in February of their selection as finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Pictured left to right: **Cedric Bruges**, **Wyatt Lewis**, **Ryan Lally**, **Matthew Broder**, **Thomas Daniel**, and **David Sadasivam**. Only 15,000 high school seniors were finalists in the NMSP in 2022.



“Newsies”



Latin Translation Contest award winners



National Merit Scholarship finalists



Matthew Roxas '22

## Matthew Roxas Named Missouri 100 Scholar

**Matthew Roxas '22** was recognized as a member of the Missouri Scholars 100 Class of 2022. Missouri Scholars 100 is a statewide program that honors 100 of Missouri's top academic students each year. The program is sponsored by the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals. Each nominated student first had to meet criteria of an "Academic Decathlon," which included 10 "events" designed to assure the academic strength of the student. Excellent grades, test scores, high-level courses, and school citizenship were considered during the selection process.



Class of 2023 receive junior rings

## Members of Class of 2023 Receive Junior Rings

Congratulations to the Class of 2023, who received their class rings at an all-school Mass in April.

## Youth Leadership St. Louis Program

Priory Class of 2023 students **Riley Carlin**, **Evan Hugge**, **Cole Joyce**, and **Luke Sommer** enjoyed a wide variety of activities with the Youth Leadership St. Louis (YLSL) program. According to their website, YLSL "is an internationally recognized program that informs, connects, prepares, and empowers St. Louis area youth to become civic and community leaders. Each year, YLSL brings together high school juniors from approximately 30 public, private, and parochial schools from across the region, as well as community organizations."



Scholar Bowl team

## Scholar Bowl Wins 2nd Place in State Championship

Congratulations to the Scholar Bowl team, which placed 2nd in the state tournament in Columbia.

Pictured left to right: **Andy Behrman '24**, **Matthew Broder '22**, **Thomas Rempe '25**, **Charlie Schanbusch '25**, **Cole Polley '22**, **Evan Hugge '23**, **Riley Carlin '23**, and **Dr. Andrew Davis**, faculty moderator.

## Priory Students Successful in AMC Math Competition

Priory students were invited to participate in the Mathematics Association of America's American Mathematics Competition. Congratulations to our school winners:

*AMC 8 (Forms I + II)*

Gold: **Ledger Brooks '27**

Silver: **Simon Lin '26** and **Michael Assioun '27**

Bronze: **Sam Palka '26**

*AMC 10 (Forms III + IV)*

Gold: **Yrwin Batan '24**

Silver: **Owen Farley '24**

Bronze: **Matthew Singer '25**

*AMC 12 (Forms V + VI)*

Gold: **Cedric Bruges '22**

Silver: **Riley Carlin '23**

Bronze: **Sam Adams '23**



AMC Mathematics Competition

### Junior School Students Perform “Treasure Island”

Junior School students performed “Treasure Island” in the Kevin Kline Theatre.

### Priory Students “Sleep Out” to Raise Funds and Awareness

In April, approximately 40 juniors and seniors, led by **Chase Gerber '22** and joined by three faculty members, participated in a “sleep out” to raise funds and awareness for Covenant House. The organization provides services and support to young people facing homelessness. The students watched a documentary about the organization, its mission, and the issue of youth homelessness, discussed what they’d seen, then slept on the turf at the stadium with only sleeping bags and boxes for shelter. Together they raised more than \$11,000, surpassing their goal of \$8,000.

### Form I Students Enjoy Field Trip

Senior AP Environmental Science students planned and facilitated part of a field trip for Form I students. They spent the day in the Central West End and Forest Park. The day began with a visit to the Cathedral Basilica, and then a bus tour of sites around the park. Lunch was on Art Hill, and they participated in environmental and zoological activities around the park and in the Zoo.

### National Latin Exam

It is a long-standing tradition at Priory for Latin students to take the National Latin Exam every spring. The NLE gives students the opportunity to be recognized for their accomplishments in the Latin classroom. Students pictured left to right earned a perfect score on the National Latin Exam: **Sam Palka '26, Nate Sutto '26, Simon Lin '26, Sam Faust '25** and **Christian Bolin '26** (not pictured). In addition, both **Matthew Broder '22** and **Evan Hugge '23** (pictured with his award) won a book prize – a Loeb edition of Caesar’s *Civil War* – for earning gold medals four years in a row.



“Treasure Island”



“Sleep Out”



Form I students enjoy field trip



National Latin Exam



## ATHLETICS

### Jahaad Fort and David Sadasivam Sign Letters of Intent for College Athletics

**Jahaad Fort '22** signed his letter of intent to play football at Southwest Baptist University. Fort was a multi-sport athlete for Priory, excelling at track, basketball, and football. He was the leader in receptions for a single season at 80, and in yards receiving at 216 in a single game last season. He is Priory's second all-time in yards receiving in a single season with 1,211, and in career yards receiving with 1,606.

**David Sadasivam '22** is Priory's first Division I lacrosse commit, taking his career to Hampton University. After a torn labrum during his senior football season, Sadasivam committed himself to becoming ambidextrous, teaching himself to write left-handed while he couldn't raise his right arm above his head.

Since 2013, Fort and Sadasivam (pictured below) are the 38th and 39th student-athletes who have matriculated on to play college sports. For a school our size, this is quite an accomplishment, and our graduates have gone on to represent nearly every sport we offer at every level, from the NAIA all the way up to Division I.

## WINTER SPORTS 2022

### Basketball

The Ravens finished the regular season with an 18-8 record, including impressive showings in both the Affton Holiday Tournament and Ft. Zumwalt North Tournament. They won their district quarterfinal game over University City, but their season ended in the district semifinal against MICDS.

### Wrestling

After a very impressive regular season, the varsity wrestling team sent 10 athletes to compete in the district tournament in February.



## Priory Hockey Team Wins Third State Championship

The Ravens won Priory's third state championship in hockey with their win in the Wickenheiser Cup tournament. The Ravens defeated Lafayette 2-1 in the championship game on March 4. The team went undefeated in the preliminary playoff round before beating Fort Zumwalt South in the quarterfinals and Parkway West in the semifinals. Priory previously won the Wickenheiser Cup in 2004 and 2007. Senior Max Wagener, a Mehlville High School student who plays for Priory, was named the championship game's most valuable player. Congratulations Ravens!

*All-Metro*

**Charlie Walker '22** (1st team)

**Maxwell Wagener '22** (2nd team)





## SPRING SPORTS 2022

### Baseball

The 2022 Priory Ravens baseball team finished with a 10-14 record, including thrilling victories against MICDS (6-3) and the STL Patriots (6-5). Among the offensive team leaders in statistics were the following: **John Spivey '24** (32 hits, 18 runs, 11 doubles, and 22 runs batted in); **Nolan Glaus '24** and **A.J. Nance '24** tied for the lead in walks with 13; **Hutton Trout '23** (seven stolen bases); and the coveted lead in hit-by-pitch belongs to **Max Lipe '23** with seven. Also of note were home runs by Glaus, and Spivey. Team pitching stat leaders include a tie for wins with three for **Jimmy Temprano '22** and **Neil Quirk '24**. Temprano led the team in complete games (2), and Quirk led the team in strikeouts (36 strikeouts in 32 innings). **Quinten Wilmes '22** will continue his baseball pursuits at Missouri Baptist University.

#### All-Conference

- John Spivey '24** (First Team, OF/P)
- Jimmy Temprano '22** (First Team, P/2B)
- A.J. Nance '24** (Second Team, SS/2B)
- Hutton Trout '23** (Second Team, 1B/P)

### Golf

Over the past five years, the Priory golf team has racked up an impressive showing – state finishes in sixth place, second place twice, and a team state championship, along with a conference record of 34-6 and five conference tournament championships. This spring season was no exception. The team, competing in class 5 (the largest division in the state), took second place in the prestigious Bantle Tournament, was undefeated in the Metro League in the regular season, and brought home a conference tournament championship at Glen Echo with sophomore **Luke McLaughlin '23** as an individual medalist. The team won its district over defending state champions DeSmet and took second place in the class 5 state tournament at Dalhousie Country Club in Cape Girardeau over Chaminade, Vianney, DeSmet, CBC, Jeff City Helias, and other much larger schools.

### Lacrosse

Led by senior captains **Miles Pim**, **David Sadasivam**, **Jack Ramey**, and **TJ Soriano**, the Ravens put together a strong 2022 season. The Ravens battled through significant injuries to fight to a regular season record of 8-7, including a first-ever win over Vianney in a 7-6 nail biter. Midfielder Pim and junior attack **Cole Joyce** led the Ravens offense. Goalie Sadasivam chored the defense with support from sophomore **Myles Garcia-Eidsness** and juniors **Sam Reese** and **Ryan Lavery**. In the first round of the state playoffs versus rival CBC, the Ravens fell behind early and fought back to within three goals, only to lose by a score of 14-9.

*Academic All-American*

**David Sadasivam '22** (Goalie)

*All-Conference*

**Miles Pim '22** (1st Team, Midfield)  
**David Sadasivam '22** (1st Team, Goalie)  
**Myles Garcia-Eidsness '22** (2nd Team, Defense)  
**Cole Joyce '23** (2nd Team, Attack)

**Tennis**

The Ravens defeated Parkway West to win the team district championship, which earned them a trip to the state tournament in Springfield. They took second place in state after a hard-fought final match against Ladue. Individually, junior **Preston Achter** won the class 2 state championship in singles, his second individual state championship in a row, and Priory's third state title of the year.

*All-Metro*

**Preston Achter '23** (First Team)

**Track & Field**

*All-District*

**Yuri Batan '23** (4x800m)  
**Gregory Britt '24** (3200m, 4x800m)  
**Jahaad Fort '22** (Long Jump/Triple Jump)  
**Will Glarner '22** (400m, 4x400m)  
**Patrick Hamill '24** (4x800m)  
**Ryan Lally '22** (4x800m)  
**Dominic McMillan '22** (4x400m)  
**Matthew Muller '24** (4x400m)  
**Matthew Roxas '22** (4x400m)  
**Mekhi Tanksley '22** (300m Hurdles)

*All-Conference*

**Jahaad Fort '22** (Long Jump/Triple Jump)  
**Will Glarner '22** (400m, 4x400m)  
**Dominic McMillan '22** (400m, 4x400m)  
**Matthew Muller '24** (4x400m)  
**Ben Potter '22** (High Jump)  
**Matthew Roxas '22** (4x400m)  
**Mekhi Tanksley '22** (110m Hurdles)



## Ultimate Wins State Championship

The Priory Ultimate team defeated De Smet 11-2 to capture the 2022 Missouri State Championship. Priory finished the year undefeated (14-0) and outscored their opponents 182-77. Senior **Mason Karpel** scored four of the 11 points in the championship game, and senior captain **Drew Steinhubl** led the defense with 15 blocks. Juniors **Timo** and **Otto Hoijarvi** and seniors **Max Herr** and **Matthew Broder** helped move the disc on offense in very challenging wins.

A special congratulations and thank you to the captains, Max Herr and Drew Steinhubl, and their fellow seniors. Over the past four years, Priory Ultimate secured the team's first two state championships, a runner-up finish, and an overall record of 39-3.

*St. Louis Ultimate Juniors All Stars*

**Mason Karpel '22**  
**Drew Steinhubl '22**



# WELCOME

F O R M I S T U D E N T S

63

Total new Form I through  
Form VI students

38

Different feeder schools

5

Sets of twins

20

Different parishes

21

Different ZIP codes represented  
with new students

19%

Students who have  
an alumni connection





^ We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our incredible Xanadu 2022 chairs, **Julie Margiotta** (Michael '21, Ryan '23, and Tommy '28) and **Melanie Ramey** (Jack '22) for hosting such a wonderful Xanadu 2022.

## Xanadu 2022 - Tropical Nights

This year's Xanadu returned live and in person, and it was joyous to see Priory families, alumni, and supporters together. The vibrant community dressed in their finest tropical gear to fundraise for the Priory Fund and take home some valuable prizes, including a cherished Australian Labradoodle puppy.

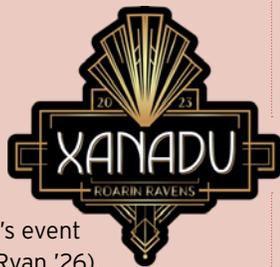
## SAVE THE DATE

### Xanadu 2023 - Roarin' Ravens

Saturday, February 4

Celebrating 2023 like it's 1923, Xanadu 2023 promises to be a roarin' good time. We will be cutting a rug on Saturday, February 4, 2023, at this year's event chaired by **Lori Willard** (Jacob '23 and Ryan '26).

More information can be found at [priory.org/Xanadu](http://priory.org/Xanadu).



## Mothers' Morning of Reflection

To commemorate the beginning of Lent, Mothers' Club members met on Ash Wednesday to hear reflections from **Father Dominic Lenk, O.S.B.**, Mothers met in the Parish Center to commune and reflect on how to grow in their faith during the Lenten season. President-elect **Susie Haskell** (Dawson '23) chaired this event and provided mothers with palm-sized olive wood crosses imported from Bethlehem.



## Mom Prom

**Nancy Kraemer** (Tommie '22 and Dannie '28) and **Karen Novak** (Grant '22) chaired a beautiful celebration of Mom Prom in March. Many thoughtful reminders of the seniors' growth decorated Old Warson, and the boys and their mothers enjoyed dinner, dancing, and a Priory photo booth to take home memories.

## Spring Luncheon

Our Mothers' Club welcomed more than 120 current, alumni, and incoming mothers to their annual Spring Luncheon in late April. **Stephanie Allee's** vocal music class performed musical renditions to an enraptured audience. The 2021-22 Xanadu chairs, **Melanie Ramey** and **Julie Margiotta**, presented **Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76** with a check for over \$520,000, which was raised at Xanadu 2022.

A resounding thank you to the Mothers' Club 2021-22 board, led by President **Carine Azrak** (Carl '19 and Will '22), Vice President **Tricia Sumner** (Peter '22 and Will '27), President-elect **Susie Haskell** (Dawson '23), Volunteer Coordinator **Amy Glarner** (Ben '20, Will '22, and Luke '25), Recording Secretary **Laura Polcyn** (Drake '25), and Treasurer **Bridget Lally** (Ryan '22) for their service this year.

## Senior Mother and Son Mass and Brunch

To close out their graduating year, Form VI sons and their mothers came together to worship at Mass, followed by fellowship and brunch in our Parish Center.

## SAVE THE DATES

### Christmas Boutique and Mothers' Club Luncheon

Thursday, December 1

### Mothers' Club and Fathers' Club

### Christmas Cocktail Party

Friday, December 2

< Xanadu 2023 chairwoman **Lori Willard** with her husband, Mark, and sons Ryan and Jacob





Priory moms enjoyed Xanadu 2022 Tropical Night with festive attire.



Father Dominic Lenk, O.S.B., celebrates with senior moms and sons at Mom Prom.



Ash Wednesday Morning of Recollection attendees: Maria Rivero, Christina Sadasivam, Melissa Milford, Janet Steger, Maureen Politte, and Tricia Sumner



Xanadu 2022 co-chairs Julie Margiotta and Melanie Ramey present Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76 with a check from the proceeds of the auction.



Senior vocal music students sang at the Mothers' Club Spring Luncheon.

## Father and Son Banquet

The Fathers' Club first in-person banquet since 2019 was a resounding success. Former Fathers' Club President **Jason Frei** (Tommy '22, Andrew '24, and Joseph '27) was the keynote speaker, and shared motivating messages of resilience and wisdom from his time serving our country to his leadership at Boeing. **Jake McAtee '27** spoke about his family's long Priory legacy. Student Council President **Grayson Antes '22** represented the senior class in speaking on his experiences as a student. **TJ Soriano '22** presented a custom-made stained-glass piece of artwork to **Liam Sehnert '16** to express appreciation for the generosity his father, **Tom Sehnert**, has shown Priory. The piece is proudly displayed in Annie Gunn's restaurant. Over 250 fathers and sons enjoyed fellowship and a delicious dinner at this event, which was preceded by Mass.

## Morning of Recollection

Fathers came together for a morning of reflection during the Lenten season. **Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76** led prayer and conversation at this event, chaired by **Jason Frei**.

## Battle of the Brackets

The Fathers' Club continued the new tradition of hosting a virtual NCAA March Madness bracket. The top three winners took home a portion of the proceeds. Congratulations to first place winner **Adam Guthrie**, and second place winner **David Bealke** (who won thanks to son **Adam Bealke '24's** amazing picks!). Third place was a tight race, with a three-way tie being won out by **Brian Clinton** for getting closest to the actual final score. Thank you to all who participated.



## Father and Son Finish Line BBQ

Form VI fathers and sons came together for one last hurrah before graduation. Seniors received a commemorative picture frame showcasing the Class of 2022 wearing the shirts of their prospective colleges. Everyone enjoyed fellowship, casually playing washers, and eating delicious BBQ dinner.

## Save The Dates

### Junior School Recreation Night

Friday, October 21

### Fathers' Club Happy Hour

Thursday, November 10

### Mothers' Club and Fathers' Club

### Christmas Cocktail Party

Friday, December 2



Jason Frei speaking at the Father Son Banquet



Maxx Herr '22, Miles Herr '25, and holding the stained glass, TJ Soriano '22, present Liam Sehnert '16, with a custom stained-glass piece. It will be displayed in his father's (Tom Sehnert) restaurant, Annie Gunn's.

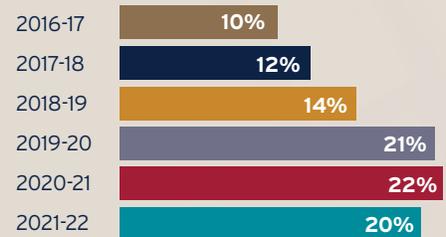
# PRIORY ALUMNI

BY THE NUMBERS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

## 2021-2022 Alumni Class Giving Percentages

1960	39%	1976	23%	1992	19%	2008	17%
1961	79%	1977	15%	1993	16%	2009	26%
1962	20%	1978	15%	1994	28%	2010	8%
1963	11%	1979	22%	1995	9%	2011	3%
1964	70%	1980	14%	1996	12%	2012	3%
1965	24%	1981	10%	1997	22%	2013	8%
1966	50%	1982	15%	1998	14%	2014	5%
1967	57%	1983	22%	1999	33%	2015	4%
1968	48%	1984	12%	2000	22%	2016	6%
1969	28%	1985	33%	2001	13%	2017	3%
1970	45%	1986	44%	2002	25%	2018	0%
1971	26%	1987	28%	2003	21%	2019	3%
1972	52%	1988	18%	2004	55%	2020	6%
1973	23%	1989	49%	2005	3%	2021	4%
1974	41%	1990	41%	2006	23%	2022	0%
1975	42%	1991	9%	2007	5%	Total:	19%

## Alumni Giving Statistics for the last six fiscal years.



## Top Classes by Participation

1961	79%	2004	55%	1989	49%	1986	44%
1964	70%	1972	52%	1968	48%		
1967	57%	1966	50%	1970	45%		

## Summary of Alumni Giving

**20%** Participation

**571** Donors

Our alumni live out Priory's Benedictine values throughout the United States and abroad



# ALUMNI

## From the Alumni Board President



Greetings and welcome to a new school year! I hope you had a great summer with your family and friends, and we are excited to welcome everyone back on campus. Our campus has been rapidly changing over the past year as construction on the new Art and Science Centre nears completion for the school year, and renovations to the main school building and outdoor space are well underway. While our students and faculty will have to live through the construction for a portion of this school year, the new state-of-the-art facilities will be well worth the wait. I encourage all our alumni to return to campus this year to see the transformation that is taking place during our homecoming and reunion celebrations on October 14 and 15.

Mark your calendars for the Alumni Holiday Social on November 25 at The Shack, which is a great opportunity to reconnect with fellow alumni and the monks. Please try to get involved and give back to our Priory community in some meaningful way this year, such as encouraging prospective families to make a campus visit, mentoring students, or offering internships. Any type of engagement will help us continue to build and strengthen our school community.

Best of luck to our students for a prosperous school year!

Go Ravens!

Ryan McDonald '99  
Alumni Board President

## Alumni Board 2022-23

**Left to right, top photo page 39:** Father Cuthbert Elliott, O.S.B., '02, Patrick Thornton '02, Ryan McDonald '99, Ted Horan '04, Andrew Iqbal '03, Teddy Altepeter '09, Chris Kerckhoff Sr. '68, Kevin McAtee '97, Ryan Wehking '08, Jim Havel '09, Mike Reedy '00, Gerard Mudd '75, Nick Ahlering '04, Jake Bealke '98, Charlie Garvin '76, Phil Willman '71, Anthony Gennaoui '99, Jimmy Williams '79, T J Redmond '99, Kevin Hoffman '93

**Not pictured:** Dave Binz '01, Alex Borchert '02, Tom Byrne '85, Tom Cummings '89, Jim Ferrick '87, Dan Flynn '06, Rich Francisco '86, Ted Lane '08, Abbot Gregory Mohrmann, O.S.B., '76, Jack O'Brien '12, Eric Stange '14, Cartan Sumner '83, Matt Wagner '90, Ondray Wells '85

## Priory Establishes Black Alumni Group



Kenneth Barry '94



Tony Hilliard '81



Ondray Wells Jr.

Black alumni from Priory came together to establish the Priory Black Alumni Group. They've developed a mission statement, a strategic framework, and action items. The leaders invite all Black alumni to share their input in developing and growing the group.

### Mission Statement

To foster a culture of fellowship and kinship of Black men across current students and alumni that improves the Black experience for future students during their six years at Saint Louis Priory School, and supports the advancement of Black alumni in their study and career of choice when they graduate from the school.

### Vision

To increase the acceptance and graduation rate of Black men at Saint Louis Priory School, and to create a community of Black alumni that contributes to creating a more inclusive environment at the school.

### Operating Model

To be an extension of the Saint Louis Priory School administration and an integrated, but distinct, community of Saint Louis Priory School alumni.

### Pillars Of Involvement

- Recruiting
- Student development
- College admissions, including support through college
- Academy/career progression
- Philanthropy

If you would like to be a part of the Priory Black Alumni Group, or you would like more information, please contact:

**Ken Barry '94**  
kenneth\_barry@outlook.com  
404.948.7074

**Ondray Wells Jr. '85**  
ondray\_wells@mac.com  
314.537.2125

**Tony Hilliard '81**  
anthonyhilliard@me.com  
561.789.1263



# PRIOY GOLF SCRAMBLE

## The Alumni Golf Scramble 2022

Alumni and their guests enjoyed a beautiful day at Priory's Alumni Golf Scramble held at the Missouri Bluffs Golf Club on June 17. Another sell-out event raised more than \$15,000 for the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all who attended, sponsored, and donated for this fan-favorite event.

### First Place Headmaster's Cup

Tie between Class of 2004 and Class of 2014: Nick Ahlering '04, Matt Merjavy '04, Jimmy Nowicke '04, Ryan McPhail '04, James Newell '14, Christopher Ahlering '14, Brayton Briggs '14, Eric Stange '14

### 1st Place Father and Son

Brian Rothery '93, Eddie Rothery '25, Bob Glarner '88, Luke Glarner '25

### Longest Driver Winner

Eddie Rothery '25

Please mark your calendar to join us next year on June 15, 2023, for this fantastic day of fun and games with fellow Priory friends.

## Robert A. Busch Foundation Memorial Golf Tournament Raises Funds For Priory Students

On April 28, more than 100 golfers and friends of Robert A. Busch '95 gathered at the Country Club of St. Albans to honor Bob's memory and raise money for an endowed fund in his name. The memorial scholarship will benefit students with tuition assistance so they might become a part of the Priory community. Bob left a mark on Priory as a student and as an alumnus. His support included organizing class reunions and serving on the Priory Alumni Board. The first golf tournament raised \$60,000 for the endowed fund. Organizers, including Bob's dad and fellow Priory classmates, plan to grow the event, which will be held annually.

## Save The Dates

### Alumni Holiday Social

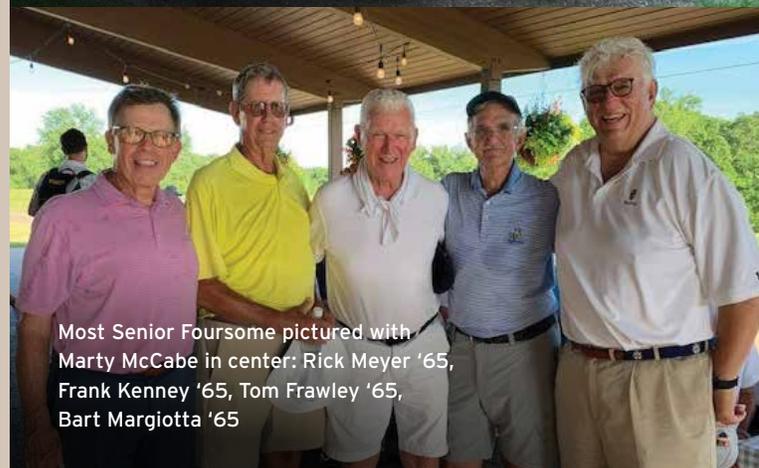
Friday, November 25

### New York City Area Alumni Reception

Friday, December 2



Alumni Board 2022-23



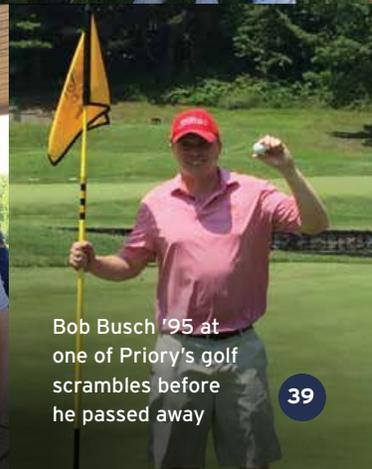
Most Senior Foursome pictured with Marty McCabe in center: Rick Meyer '65, Frank Kenney '65, Tom Frawley '65, Bart Margiotta '65



All in the family: Andy Margiotta '93, Tommy Margiotta '28, Ryan Margiotta '23, Bart Margiotta '65, Mike Margiotta '92, Michael Margiotta Jr. '22



Father Cuthbert Elliott, O.S.B., '02 with Ted Lane '08 at the golf scramble



Bob Busch '95 at one of Priory's golf scrambles before he passed away



**Christopher R. Chivetta '14** married Dr. Varsha Sathappan in May 2022 in San Francisco. The wedding took place over several days. In attendance from Priory were Paul Davies '14, Brayton Briggs '14, T.J. Niemann '14, Carlo Herbosa '14, Connor Bick '14, and Taylor Dubray '14. The couple resides in San Diego.

**Jack Ciapciak '11** works as a story editor at CBS Studios and is currently working on the popular series *Blue Bloods*, now in Season 13.

**C. Von Brecht Mulvihill '08** has just been named the executive director of communications for the Archdiocese of Saint Louis. Mulvihill will oversee external and internal communications, including parish, school, and ministry support, community and media engagement, and multimedia productions, including the *St. Louis Review* and *Catholic St. Louis* print and digital publications, as well as social media and the Archdiocesan website.

**Damian Paletta '95**, son of Dr. Christian Paletta '70, currently serves as the senior economics editor for *The Washington Post*. He was also featured in a documentary entitled *The Big Conn*, currently showing on Apple TV+. Damian's work as a journalist led to the exposure of the misconduct of Mr. Conn and others and of the Social Security Administration's problematic handling of the situation.

**James Restilli '04** and his wife Katy are expecting their first child, a baby boy, in late September.

**Matthew Politte '22** tied for seventh place with an eight-over-par 223 in a 144-player field that represented 22 different countries at the Optimist International Junior Golf Championship in Miami, Florida. He headed to Holy Cross at Notre Dame, an NAIA school in South Bend, Indiana, in August. He plans to spend one year playing golf there before transferring to the University of Notre Dame.

**Andy Schwartz '11** is a project manager for BSI Constructors, Inc. and he is currently working with Priory on construction happening on campus now for our Sharing the Promise, Shaping the Future campaign.



**Dan Sexton '04** married Laura Tapias in Cartagena, Colombia, in November 2021. From the Class of '04 in attendance pictured from left to right: Devoy Dubuque, David Olson, John Morrissey, Dan Sexton, Tom Short, Nick Ahlering, Jim Restelli, Matt Merjavy, Ryan McPhail, and Chris Leonard

## Honoring Priory Military Service Members and Veterans

Priory parent Phil Behnen is proud of his sons who serve in the United States Army Reserve:

- **Zach Behnen '12**, United States Army Reserve, First Lieutenant Officer, Los Angeles, CA
- **Connor Behnen '13**, United States Army Reserve, First Lieutenant Officer, Austin, TX



**Rick James Jr. '18**, son of **Rick James Sr. '80**, graduated from Miami University in Ohio with a degree in economics and has been commissioned as an officer in the United States Navy. His brother **Thomas James '27** is a current Form II student.



**Commander Vincent M. Lowell '84**, is currently living in Hawaii with his wife, Jennifer, and seven children. Commander Lowell completed a 20-year career as a U.S. Navy Officer and Naval Aviator. His service included assignments in Florida, California, Guam, Maryland, Texas, and Hawaii, and he deployed in support of Somali humanitarian operations ('94), Operation Enduring Freedom (Global War on Terrorism, '02), and Operation Iraqi Freedom ('03). He now has a second career as a pilot for Hawaiian Airlines.



Commander Lowell notes, "I am very grateful to my parents for sending me to Priory and for them supporting me in earning my private pilot license during my years there. The intellectual development, discipline, and study habits of the Priory education coupled with the practical skills of flying launched me on an unusual, but fruitful and fulfilling career."

**William J. Moran '00** graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2004 and is still active in the Marine Corps.

**Joseph B. Rieser '03** was in the Marine Corps from 2007 to 2015 and served in the Foreign Military Service in Afghanistan.

**Daniel J. Sullivan Jr. '08** is a Captain in the Marine Corps, active duty.

**Priory USO Club**

Priory is proud to host the USO Club, which is a student-run organization. Its mission is to give back to the people who have given so much to us. USO supports soldiers who have been deployed by asking for donations and creating care packages to be sent abroad. Care packages include letters written by students thanking the soldiers for their sacrifice. The club has invited guest speakers to share their stories of heroism, tragedy, and entertainment.



Are you currently serving our country as a member of the U.S. Military or are you a veteran?

**Thank you for your service!**

Please let us know your name, branch of military, and rank. We want to acknowledge your service to our country. You can email the information to [alumni@priory.org](mailto:alumni@priory.org) or provide the information at [priory.org/greatestservice](http://priory.org/greatestservice).

# LEADERSHIP

## Monastic Council 2022-23

Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76  
Prior Cassian Koenemann, O.S.B., '97  
Father Dominic Lenk, O.S.B.  
Father Aidan McDermott, O.S.B.  
Father Cuthbert Elliott, O.S.B., '02  
Father Augustine Wetta, O.S.B.

## Board of Advisors 2022-2023

Michael DiMarco, *Chair*  
Roger Cammon  
Jerry Dow  
Lisa Flavin  
Dan Leary '87  
Father Paul McCormick, O. Cist.  
Ryan McDonald '99  
F.J. Merenda '96  
Dr. Alicia Noddings  
Dan O'Keefe '87  
Bill Stude '91  
James Switzer '64  
Philip Willman '71

## Alumni Board 2022-2023

Ryan McDonald '99, *President*  
Alex Borchert '02, *Vice President*  
Mike Reedy '00, *Secretary*  
Matt Wagner '90, *Past President*  
Nick Ahlering '04  
Teddy Altepeter '09  
Jake Bealke '98  
Dave Binz '01  
Tom Byrne '85  
Tom Cummings '89  
Father Cuthbert Elliott, O.S.B., '02  
Jim Ferrick '87  
Dan Flynn '06  
Rich Francisco '86  
Charlie Garvin '76  
Anthony Gennaoui '99  
Jim Havel '09  
Kevin Hoffman '93  
Ted Horan '04  
Andrew Iqbal '03  
Chris Kerckhoff Sr. '68  
Ted Lane '08  
Kevin McAtee '97  
Abbot Gregory Mohrman, O.S.B., '76  
Gerard Mudd '75  
Jack O'Brien '12  
T.J. Redmond '99  
Eric Stange '14  
Cartan Sumner '83  
Patrick Thornton '02  
Ryan Wehking '08  
Ondray Wells '85  
Jimmy Williams '79  
Phil Willman '71

## Saint Louis Priory School Leadership Council

Father Cuthbert Elliott, O.S.B., '02  
*Headmaster*  
frcuthbert@priory.org

Laurie Krieger, CPA  
*Assistant Head of School  
for Facilities and Finance,  
CFO of Saint Louis Abbey*  
lkrieger@priory.org

Judy Mohan  
*Assistant Head of School  
for Intellectual Formation*  
jmohan@priory.org

Mike Nickolai '03  
*Assistant Head of School for  
Human and Spiritual Formation*  
mnickolai@priory.org

Lise Riet-Lague  
*Assistant Head of School  
for Mission Advancement*  
lrietlague@priory.org



**Thank You** to all who contributed to The Priory Fund! Your gift matters! Donations to The Priory Fund support all aspects of the school's daily life and offer tuition assistance to exceptional students.

TOTAL RAISED

**\$853,702**



**97%**

Faculty and Staff Participation



**1,623**

Total Gifts



**39%**

Current Parent Participation



**100%**

Board of Advisors and Alumni Board Participation



**872**

Total Donors



**Academic programming** is what draws many families to Priory. Your gift enhances classroom instruction, faculty excellence, the arts, and co-curricular activities. We are proud to have a ratio of five faculty members to one student.



**Athletics is integral** to our students' overall education and development. Thank you for supporting our students as they grow in mind, body, and spirit. Your donations have helped our sports programs win 15 state championships since 2004.



**Educational technology** is part of the Priory experience. You make entrepreneurship, robotics, and other activities possible.

**Tuition assistance** ensures academically talented young men can receive a Priory education.

**Thank you!**



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PRIORY SCHOOL

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SAVE THE DATE

Priory Homecoming and Class Reunions  
**October 14 & 15, 2022**

**Friday, October 14**  
**Reunion Class Mass and Reception**

*For members of classes ending in -'x2 or -'x7*

Please join us for Mass at 5:30 p.m.  
A reception will follow in the  
High School.

**Saturday, October 15**  
**BBQ and Football Game**

11:30 a.m. – Pregame BBQ Begins

1 p.m. – Kickoff: Varsity Football vs. Principia

Check the website for additional  
information or contact Lise Riet-Lague  
at [lrietlague@priory.org](mailto:lrietlague@priory.org) or 314.434.0783.



**Parents:** If this issue of *Priory Magazine* is addressed to your son who has established a permanent address, please notify the Alumni Office of his new address. Call 314.434.3690, ext. 326 or email [alumni@priory.org](mailto:alumni@priory.org).

**Thank you!**