UPDATE CONTACT INFO HERE

SAINTS CONNECTION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

A FOUNDATION BUILT ON FAMILY

The large George family was a household that understood both hard work and deep love. Today, that family of 14 has grown to include 29 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren, creating a family tree as sturdy as the homes they've built.

By the time Chris Sr.'s son, Chris George Jr., was 18, he was already running framing crews for his father. In 1976, at just 21 years old, Chris Jr. decided to strike out on his own, founding Chris George Custom Homes with the same work ethic and family values his father had instilled. The decision proved transformative for the entire family. Chris Jr.'s construction company grew by leaps and bounds, and eventually Chris Sr. shut down his own company and went to work for his son, creating a seamless generational transition. Under Chris Jr.'s leadership, the company has built an impressive 3,000 homes across the metro.

Read Full Article Here!

CHRIS GEORGE SR., CHRIS GEORGE III AND CHRIS GEORGE JR. ('72)

CHRIS GEORGE III ('02), CALEB GEORGE ('00) AND LISA COMPTON ('73) GEORGE

Alumni Spotlight: John Tumberger ’19 Publishes in Frontiers in Public Health

Congratulations to Saint Thomas Aquinas alumnus John Tumberger, Class of 2019, on being published in Frontiers in Public Health!

John and his team’s article, “A Hybrid Model for Youth Engagement in Adolescent Health Studies: Insights from the Teen Research Advisors Program at a Midwestern Pediatric Academic Medical Center in the United States,” highlights their innovative approach to involving teens in the world of clinical research.

Their Teen Research Advisors Program introduces a hybrid, youth-centered model designed to meaningfully engage adolescents in the design, implementation, and dissemination of health research. The program empowers young people to shape research that directly impacts their health, while also emphasizing leadership development and professional growth.

We are proud to see John continuing to live out the Saints mission through impactful work that gives youth a voice in the future of public health.

Read Full Article Here

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SISTER MARY MAGDALENE, (PREWITT, ‘05)

Interested in ways to grow closer to Christ this Advent? Let cloistered nun, Sister Mary Magdalene, be your guide. This new book uses the ancient tools of monastic practices and the Dominican charism to give you insights to help you advance on the path to holiness. The Cloister Shoppe also has the nuns' famous Seignadou Soap products and other handcrafted goods like greeting cards, candles, and handmade wood rosaries.
Thank you and God bless!

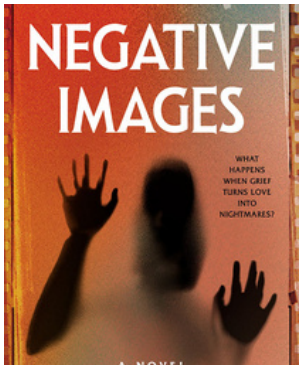
DOMINICAN NUNS BOOK

Alumni Spotlight: Rebecca Schier-Akamelu ’05 — Finding the Beauty in the Macabre

Saint Thomas Aquinas alumna Rebecca Schier-Akamelu, Class of 2005, has turned her lifelong love of reading and storytelling into a blossoming writing career. An American author whose works explore horror and speculative fiction, Schier-Akamelu will release her debut novel, Negative Images, through Rising Action Publishing on July 22, 2025.

Her short story, “From One to the Next,” earned a nomination for the prestigious Pushcart Prize, highlighting her growing recognition in the literary world.

Order Here



For Rebecca, her fascination with horror runs deep. “Reading has always been one of my passions. I was the kid who brought an extra book to every class, hoping for time to read,” she shared. “Horror always intrigued me — especially when it included psychological or supernatural elements. There’s something exciting about seeing someone’s world upended by something they never saw coming.”

That fascination with the unknown has shaped her writing voice. Schier-Akamelu believes that horror does more than simply scare—it reveals character.

“Horror not only makes people confront their fears; it gives incredible insight into who someone really is when there’s not a clear blueprint to follow,” she said.

While Negative Images marks her first published novel, Rebecca admits the journey to publication wasn’t without hesitation.

“Writing was a natural extension for me, although it took years before I was confident enough to submit my work,” she said. “I don’t recommend that—if you’re a writer, please don’t self-reject!”

Her persistence paid off when Rising Action Publishing accepted her manuscript. Now, she’s eager to share her debut story with readers everywhere.

Beyond fiction, Rebecca’s writing credits include articles, UX copy, and even an essay in Chicken Soup for the Soul. She continues to take on freelance work and welcomes opportunities to collaborate with others.

When she’s not writing, Rebecca enjoys exercising, theatre, and spending time with her husband, three children, and their dog. Together, she says, they “embrace being a little weird, a little macabre, and finding joy in dark humor.”

Event Details

- We will have the KU vs K-State game live
  - We will have $5.00 squares for purchase!
  - 1st half winner and 2nd half winner
- The only cash you'll need is $10 for extra credit but this comes with a fun twist!.
- Before January Mulligans are $25 for 5
- After January $35 for 5

Raffles are $25 for 3 tickets — or $10 for 1 Ticket: Each ticket gives you a shot at one of our amazing gift baskets and a chance to win cash prizes!

💰 1st Pull – Gift Basket - $1000 of Donated Goods/Services

💰 2nd Pull – Gift Basket - $1500 of Donated Goods/Services

💰 3rd Pull – $500 CASH (and counting - the more tickets sold the bigger this number grows!

And remember… if the cash pot keeps growing, so does the cash prize!

So it's a double whammy — celebrate with us, have some fun, and help make a lasting impact on Catholic education!

Winner's announced at the Trivia Event!

SAVE THE DATE EVENTS

Christmas Market

Join us for some Christmas cheer and good times at our Saint Thomas Aquinas Christmas Market! This year we will have a variety of items to fit any need or want! Bring your friends, some hot cocoa and some money! Buy ALL your gifts for Christmas in ONE stop!

If you are interested in hosting a table with your crafts please contact: Chelsie Kane

TIME TO PLAN YOUR REUNION!