

THE QUADRANGLE

FALL/WINTER 2025

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



ROOTED IN TRADITION,
BUILDING FOR OUR FUTURE

SEE INSIDE
PG. 6

CELEBRATING THE
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS
A LEGACY OF FAITH & EDUCATION
HONORARY CHAIR BR. BOB SCHAEFER, FSC

36TH ANNUAL



**VIKING
VICTORY
AUCTION**

SATURDAY APRIL 18, 2026
THE WESTIN PITTSBURGH

TABLE OF CONTENTS

04 Welcome Letters

06 Cover Story

18 Honors Convocation

20 Student Spotlight

28 Athletics

34 Faculty Spotlight

38 Admissions

48 Alumni

54 News from Viking Nation

58 In Memoriam



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:

Brian A. Cook Sr., '98

EDITING:

Matthew Carlson

Br. John Crawford, FSC, '72

Brandon Haburjak, '06

Claudia Steffey

Haley VanWagenen

Amy Wertz

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Will Bookwalter, '06

Matthew Carlson

Brian A. Cook Sr., '98

Jackson Derda, '27

Brandon Haburjak, '06

Giovanna Minton

Victor Odumosu, '26

Simply Sisters Photography

Brian Urso

CONTRIBUTORS:

Will Bookwalter, '06

Matthew Carlson

Brian A. Cook Sr., '98

Patrizia Costa, PhD

Brandon Haburjak, '06

Jamie Murphy

Brian Urso

Have news to share for the next edition of The Quadrangle?

Send it to us via email at Quadrangle@CentralCatholicHS.com

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Matthew J. Stoessel, '95 - *President*

John "Jack" R. Wallace - *Principal*

Ashley Salamacha - *Vice Principal of Academics*

Steven S. Bezila, '99 - *Vice Principal of Student Affairs*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2026

Br. John Crawford, FSC, '72

Mr. Daniel Donahue, '98 - *Vice Chair*

Mrs. Karen Greb

Mr. Nicholas Gutmann

Mrs. Dara Mancini Henne

Mr. Michael Kelly, '78

Mr. Casey Mullen, '92

Mr. Robert Pusateri, '68

Mr. Graham Rihn, '05

Dr. Edward Scott, Sr., '83

Mr. Christopher Smith, Jr., '94

Mr. John Staley V, '84 - *Chair*

Mr. Jarrod Turner

Mr. Jeffrey Wlahofsky

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Mr. Matthew J. Stoessel, '95, President

Mr. John "Jack" R. Wallace, Principal

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Brandon Haburjak, '06 - Vice President of Institutional Advancement
bhaburjak@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3488

Will Bookwalter, '06 - Director of Alumni Relations
jbookwalter@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3489

Claudia Steffey - Director of Annual Giving and Stewardship
csteffey@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.622.6171

Haley VanWagenen - Associate Director of Advancement
hvanwagenen@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3520

Beth Chu - Advancement Services Manager
bchu@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.622.6183

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Brian A. Cook Sr., '98 - Director of Communications and Marketing
bcook@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.622.6181

Matthew Carlson - Assistant Director of Communications and Marketing
mcarlson@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.802.4145

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT AND ADMISSIONS

Andrew A. Macurak - Vice President of Enrollment Management
amacurak@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3417

Brian Miller - Director of Admissions
bmiller@CentralCatholicHS.com | 412.208.3492



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



Dear Central Catholic High School Community,

AS ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR UNFOLDS, FULL OF PROMISE, ENERGY, AND FAITH, I FIND MYSELF REFLECTING ON THE EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY WE HAVE SHARED AND THE REMARKABLE PATH THAT LIES AHEAD.

In 2027, Central Catholic High School will celebrate its 100th anniversary—a century devoted to forming students in faith, scholarship, and service. Over a hundred years ago, Bishop Hugh C. Boyle's bold vision inspired the founding of this school, under the guidance of the De La Salle Brothers of the Christian Schools, to educate young men rooted in Gospel values, academic distinction, and a commitment to the common good. That vision endures today, stronger and more vital than ever. Central Catholic remains grounded in a tradition on the cusp of a century, a tradition built on Catholic, Lasallian values. This legacy is not merely inherited; it is a foundation we are called to build upon for the students of today and generations yet to come.

With that mission at heart, I am proud to share the most ambitious initiative in our school's history: the launch of *The Centennial Campaign for Central Catholic High School: Rooted in Tradition, Building for Our Future*. This campaign aims to raise a minimum of \$55 million to meet the strategic needs of our school and ensure that generations of young men across the region continue to receive the gift of a Central Catholic education.

This historic campaign will enable us to boldly invest in the future of Catholic education here at Central Catholic. Guided by our strategic vision and responding to the growing needs of our students and community, the campaign will focus on

enhancing campus facilities to enrich the student experience and maintain our competitiveness in secondary education. Through this effort, Central Catholic will transform our campus with spaces that nurture growth of body, mind, and spirit, helping every student entrusted to our care to discover and develop their God-given potential. This campaign is about more than bricks and mortar, it is a campaign for mission, for people, and for purpose.

Throughout our history, the strength of Central Catholic has always been our community—De La Salle Christian Brothers, alumni, faculty, parents, benefactors, and friends—who believe deeply in the power of faith-based education to change lives. As we approach our centennial, this campaign invites all of us to unite in shared purpose. Today, I invite you to dream with us, pray with us, and when the time is right, partner with us as stewards of this mission. Together, we will honor the generations who came before us and build boldly for those who will follow.

In the coming months, you will hear more about how you can participate in this historic moment. May God continue to bless Central Catholic High School, and may our efforts today reflect the faith, courage, and generosity that have always defined our beloved school.

With hope and gratitude,

Matthew J. Stoessel, '95
President, Central Catholic High School



OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Central Catholic Community,

AS WE APPROACH OUR CENTENNIAL YEAR, I AM FILLED WITH GRATITUDE FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THIS REMARKABLE COMMUNITY AND WITH EXCITEMENT FOR THE ROAD AHEAD.

The Centennial Campaign for Central Catholic High School, is a moment unlike any other in our history. It will allow us to expand and elevate our academic programs, create modern spaces that reflect the excellence of our mission, and provide our faculty with the resources they need to prepare young men for success at the next level. This campaign is an investment in our students, in their future, and in the enduring legacy of Central Catholic.

In my short time here, I have been inspired by the extraordinary passion this community has for the traditions and experiences that make Central Catholic distinctive. That spirit is evident in the classroom, in service to others, on our fields and stages, and in the daily rhythm of school life. It is clear to me that Central Catholic is not only a school for Pittsburgh, but for the entire region, forming young men of faith, scholarship, and service for all of Western Pennsylvania and beyond.

Looking forward, there are tremendous initiatives on the horizon. Academically, we are building innovative programs and partnerships that will challenge our students to think deeply, lead boldly, and act with compassion. Beyond the classroom, we continue to strengthen opportunities in faith formation, athletics, the arts, leadership, and service, thus ensuring that every student has the chance to discover and develop his

God-given gifts. Together, these experiences prepare our students not only for success in college and career, but also for lives of integrity, character, and faith. This is what it means to be a Central Man.

We are privileged to carry forward the tradition of the De La Salle Christian Brothers, whose vision has guided this school for nearly a century. As we look to the future, I want to thank you for your generosity and for your faith in the mission of Central Catholic. It is your belief in our work and your commitment to our students that will ensure this campaign transforms the Central Catholic experience for generations to come. Together, we will honor those who built this foundation and boldly shape the future for those who will follow.

Live Jesus in our hearts,

John "Jack" R. Wallace
Principal, Central Catholic High School





**CENTRAL
CATHOLIC**
PITTSBURGH
EST. 1927

**CENTENNIAL
CAMPAIGN**

**ROOTED IN TRADITION,
BUILDING FOR OUR FUTURE**

FOR NEARLY A CENTURY, CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL HAS BEEN MORE THAN JUST A SCHOOL—IT HAS BEEN A BEACON OF TRADITIONS, A BUILDER OF CHARACTER, AND A FAITH-CENTERED COMMUNITY.

From its foundation by Bishop Hugh C. Boyle in 1927, and under the stewardship of the De La Salle Brothers of the Christian Schools (the Brothers), Central Catholic has formed generations of young men, instilling in them the Catholic and Lasallian values that shape not only their secondary education but their future lives.

The “Central Catholic experience” is unique—this school forges a brotherhood through time-honored foundations such as academic rigor, Catholic and Lasallian principles rooted in faith in God’s providence and the obligation to service of others, and unique customs like wearing ties and walking the Quad. It is a place where every young man, regardless of background, discovers opportunities, challenges, and foundations for a meaningful life.

Today, Central Catholic stands at an exciting crossroads, embarking on the most ambitious campaign in its history to secure its future for the next 100 years. With tremendous excitement and sincere hope for the future, Central Catholic presents: *The Centennial Campaign for Central Catholic High School: Rooted in Tradition, Building for Our Future (the Campaign)*. This historic effort aims to raise a minimum of \$55 million to meet the strategic needs of the school.

2020-2027 STRATEGIC PLAN THE 5 KEY ELEMENTS

1. LIVE THE MISSION, CONTINUE THE LASALLIAN CHARISM
2. ATTRACT AND RETAIN OUTSTANDING STUDENTS
3. CREATE A DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR ADMINISTRATORS, FACULTY, STAFF, COACHES, AND MODERATORS
4. MAXIMIZE CAMPUS FACILITIES
5. ACTIVATE OUR COMMUNITY OF ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS

In 2018, the school began evaluating its most pressing needs as part of its strategic planning process.

TIMELINE

2018	COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF BROTHERS' HOUSE
2019	SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS
2020	CAMPUS MASTER PLANNING BEGINS
2021	CAMPUS MASTER PLANNING CONTINUES
2022	CAMPAIGN PLANNING & FEASIBILITY STUDY
2023	REFINE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN TO MEET PROPOSED BUDGET
2024	RENOVATION OF BROTHERS' HOUSE BEGINS (SUMMER)
2025	RENOVATION OF BROTHERS' HOUSE COMPLETED (SUMMER) DEMOLITION OF ALUMNI HALL (SUMMER) SITEWORK AND GROUND IMPROVEMENTS FOR STUDENT CENTER BEGAN (FALL) OFFICIAL CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCEMENT (DECEMBER)
2026	CONSTRUCTION OF STUDENT CENTER EXPECTED TO BEGIN
2027-2028 SCHOOL YEAR	EXPECTED COMPLETION OF STUDENT CENTER

PROGRESS BUILT ON TRADITION

Central Catholic has always been more than a school—it is a family. Its alumni, now 25,000 strong, remain connected through a lifelong bond. Whether a graduate from last year or four decades ago, Central Catholic men answer the call to support one another. They carry forward a legacy of leadership, service, and achievement rooted in the school's Lasallian mission.

"AS WE LOOK TO THE CENTURY AHEAD, WE ARE CALLED TO ENSURE THAT FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL WALK THESE SAME HALLS: STRONG IN FAITH, UNITED IN BROTHERHOOD, AND INSPIRED TO 'TOUCH HEARTS' AS DE LA SALLE ENVISIONED," said Central Catholic President Matthew J. Stoessel, '95.

This spirit of brotherhood fuels the community's commitment to the school's growth and excellence. Central Catholic must continue evolving to meet the needs of today's students and to thrive in a competitive educational landscape.

"THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN IS NOT SIMPLY ABOUT BRICKS AND MORTAR; IT IS ABOUT CONTINUING THE MISSION ENTRUSTED TO US BY DE LA SALLE TO PROVIDE AN ENVIRONMENT WORTHY OF THE YOUNG HEARTS AND MINDS WE ARE CALLED TO FORM. AS WE BUILD AND RESTORE, WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO TOUCH HEARTS, INSPIRE EXCELLENCE, AND PREPARE OUR STUDENTS TO BE LIGHTS IN THE WORLD," said Central Catholic President Matthew J. Stoessel, '95. **"THIS IS THE WORK OF FAITH MADE POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF MANY HANDS, UNITED IN THE LASALLIAN CHARISM, BUILDING TOGETHER FOR ALL WHO WILL CALL CENTRAL CATHOLIC HOME."**





A BROTHERHOOD LIKE NO OTHER

Over the last twenty-five years, Central Catholic has made remarkable strides to enhance the student experience.

SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF IMPROVEMENTS MADE HAVE INCLUDED:

- ZUPANCIC FAMILY STEM CENTER
- DE LA SALLE COUNSELING CENTER
- BROWN LIBRARY
- MCGONIGLE THEATER
- SPADARO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

These investments reflect a clear vision: to create an environment where students can learn, grow, and express themselves fully in spaces that are designed to meet our times.

With the campus footprint fixed by its urban surroundings, the school is now poised for its final major phase of development. Every decision is made with care, knowing these improvements will shape Central Catholic's future for decades.

"AS THE BOARD CHAIRMAN AND A DEVOTED ALUMNUS OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, AND SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WE ARE TRULY PLEASED TO WITNESS THE REMARKABLE IMPROVEMENTS AND ONGOING DEVELOPMENT ON OUR CAMPUS," says John Staley V, '84, Chairman of Central Catholic's Board of Directors.



THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

PHASE I: BROTHERS' HOUSE



SINCE THE SCHOOL'S FOUNDING, THE DE LA SALLE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN AT THE VERY HEART OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL.

The Brothers have devoted themselves to teaching, mentoring, and forming generations of young men. Humbly and faithfully, the Brothers have always put the needs of students first. This deference to the young men entrusted to their care at Central Catholic was exemplified by the Brothers' willingness to forgo any significant improvements to their living conditions in the Brothers' House. They wanted to ensure that resources to enhance the student experience received priority.

Once home to over 40 Brothers, this cherished building has served faithfully, but required a long-overdue renovation. The goal was to create a comfortable and welcoming residence for the Brothers who continue their vital work on campus, while repurposing underutilized spaces to meet the administrative needs of the school. Due to the significant needs in the Brothers' House, the decision was made to accelerate the renovation to take place over the course of the 2024-25 school year.

The renovation was guided by two clear goals: to provide dignified living quarters for the Brothers and to optimize the use of the building for the school's usage into the future. Originally designed to house a larger Brothers community, the residence no longer required such capacity. The renovation created more spacious bedrooms, accessible bathrooms, updated community spaces, and renewed kitchen facilities. The Brothers Chapel was also expanded to accommodate more seating and now features a wheelchair-accessible lift. A new elevator enhances accessibility throughout the residence, ensuring the building will serve the community's needs for many years to come. Additionally, parts of the building were transformed into much-needed administrative offices for the school, including the Office of the President, Office of Admissions, and the Office of Finance and Administration. The relocation of these offices freed up valuable space in the Main Building for students.



BROTHERS' CHAPEL



BROTHERS' BEDROOMS

"IT'S BEEN GREAT FOR BOTH THE BROTHERS AND FOR THE MISSION OF THE SCHOOL, WHICH I THINK IS A GREAT TRIBUTE TO THE LEADERSHIP HERE AT THE SCHOOL THAT'S READING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES AND DISCERNING THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE SO THAT CENTRAL CATHOLIC REMAINS RELEVANT, IT REMAINS A QUALITY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE, AND IT'S ALIVE AND WELL FOR THE FUTURE," said Br. Bob Schaefer, FSC, Provincial (Visitor) of the De La Salle Christian Brothers District of Eastern North America.

More than just a physical upgrade, this renovation stands as a powerful statement of commitment. The Brothers have expressed their desire to remain an active presence at Central Catholic, and this project ensures they can do so in a dignified manner. It also highlights the school's unique identity. While many Catholic schools no longer have religious communities involved with their schools, let alone on campus, Central Catholic is blessed by the daily presence of the Brothers. Their example of humility, faith, and service continues to inspire students and faculty alike.

This renovated residence is both a tribute and a promise: a tribute to the Brothers' decades of selfless dedication, and a promise that Central Catholic High School will always honor the rich heritage of the De La Salle Brothers of the Christian Schools.



COMMON ROOM

THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

PHASE II: STUDENT CENTER

The most significant undertaking on the Central Catholic campus, since the construction of the Main Building, will be realized with the creation of the new Student Center. This state-of-the-art facility will house a modern gymnasium with a regulation-size basketball court, a fitness center, seasonal team locker rooms, a lecture hall, a TV studio, relocation of the dining hall, and vibrant common spaces. The strategic plan made it evident during the assessment of campus facilities, that the replacement of the nearly fifty-year-old gymnasium was a priority.



“CENTRAL CATHOLIC HAS ALWAYS BEEN MORE THAN JUST THE BUILDINGS; IT’S ABOUT THE PEOPLE AND THE BROTHERHOOD THAT FILLS THEM. THE NEW STUDENT CENTER WILL TAKE THAT SPIRIT TO ANOTHER LEVEL. FROM CHEERING ON OUR TEAMS IN A PACKED GYM TO CELEBRATING STUDENT MILESTONES TOGETHER OR GATHERING FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION, THIS SPACE WILL BECOME A “CENTRAL” HUB OF STUDENT LIFE AND CONNECTION,” said John “Jack” R. Wallace, Principal of Central Catholic High School.

“IT WILL OPEN NEW DOORS FOR ACADEMIC OFFERINGS, CREATE PLACES FOR COLLABORATION AND CREATIVITY, BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, PROVIDE SPACES WHERE OUR STUDENTS CAN GROW IN MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT. I’M EXCITED FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES THIS ADDITION TO OUR CAMPUS WILL BRING TO HELP US CONTINUE BUILDING THE BROTHERHOOD, TRADITIONS, AND COMMUNITY THAT MAKE CENTRAL CATHOLIC SUCH A SPECIAL PLACE.”

This new Student Center building will enrich campus life, support student wellness, and position Central Catholic to compete with suburban schools boasting newer facilities—all while fostering community gatherings that define the school’s spirit.



VIEW FROM NEVILLE STREET



VIEW FROM THE QUAD



GYMNASIUM



FITNESS CENTER



LOCKER ROOM



STUDENT COMMONS



LECTURE HALL

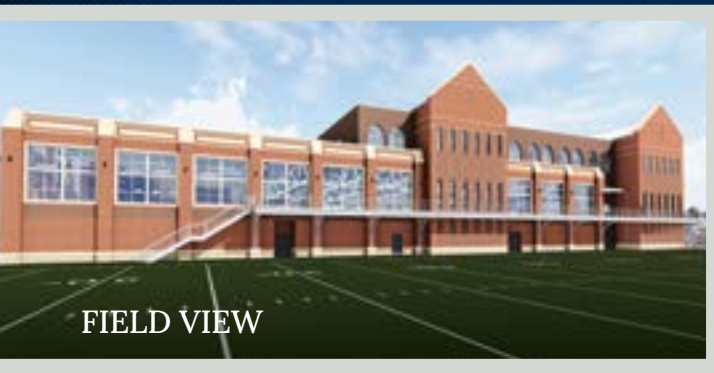
THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

PHASE III: MAIN BUILDING

While the Main Building has seen improvements over the years, the third phase will focus on ADA compliance (including the long-expected elevator!) security upgrades, and improved climate control for the building. The relocation of the dining hall, locker room, and the weight room to the new Student Center opens exciting opportunities to create space needed for the school's fine arts program.

"ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE REMINDED US THAT EDUCATION OF THE YOUTH IS A SACRED TRUST. IT IS OUR CALLING TO ENSURE THAT THE BOYS ENTRUSTED TO OUR CARE ARE FORMED INTO BECOMING MEN WHO KNOW GOD, WHO SERVE OTHERS, AND WHO LEAD WITH INTEGRITY AND COMPASSION. FOR NEARLY A CENTURY, THE WALLS OF OUR SCHOOL HAVE WITNESSED GENERATIONS OF BOYS, FROM ACROSS THE PITTSBURGH REGION, GROW INTO MEN OF FAITH, SCHOLARSHIP, AND SERVICE."

- MATTHEW J. STOESSEL, '95, PRESIDENT, CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



JOIN US IN SHAPING THE FUTURE

Central Catholic's vision will enhance the student experience and uphold the mission that has guided the school since its founding. This campaign is more than bricks and mortar; it is an investment in young men who will lead, serve, and inspire. This bold plan reflects the confidence that the wider Central Catholic community can achieve whatever we set out to do with God's help and your support.

We invite you to join the Central Catholic family in this historic endeavor. Together, we will write the next great chapter in a story of faith, brotherhood, and excellence as we serve the young men entrusted to our care in the greater Pittsburgh region.

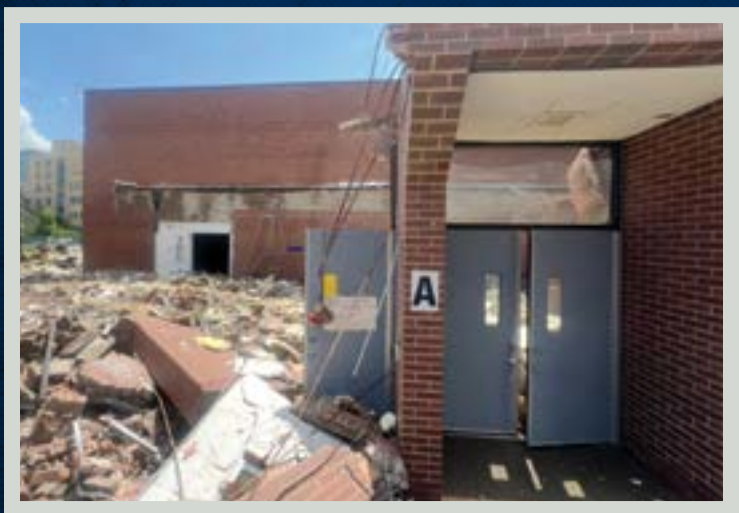
**BECAUSE AT CENTRAL CATHOLIC, EVERY GENERATION LEAVES A LEGACY — AND THE BEST IS YET TO COME.
WE INVITE YOU — ALUMNI, PARENTS, FRIENDS, FACULTY, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS — TO JOIN US IN SHAPING THE FUTURE.**

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL.

Whether you are a proud graduate, a devoted parent, a longtime friend, or a passionate supporter of our mission, your involvement will empower generations of young men to grow into leaders, innovators, and compassionate citizens.

You can make a difference through a financial gift, volunteering your time and talents, or simply sharing the story of Central Catholic with others. Every act of support strengthens the brotherhood and helps build a campus — and a community — worthy of the values we cherish.

CONTACT BRANDON HABURJAK, '06, VICE PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT,
412.208.3488 | BHABURJAK@CENTRALCATHOLICHS.COM TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE.





WELCOME TO CENTRAL CATHOLIC

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HOSTED OUR NEWEST VIKINGS AND FAMILIES AT THE NEW STUDENT WELCOME MASS AND PICNIC! IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL AFTERNOON OF FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, AND COMMUNITY AS WE KICKED OFF THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.







CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE: 2025 HONORS CONVOCATION

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL celebrated students' accomplishments at this year's Honors Convocation, which recognizes those who achieved outstanding academic success during the 2024–25 school year.

IN TOTAL, 198 STUDENTS WERE HONORED FOR THEIR DEDICATION, HARD WORK, AND COMMITMENT TO SCHOLASTIC EXCELLENCE.





STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In the fall of 2025, Regis Keller, '26, and Nicholas Athanassiou, '26, were recognized nationally as Commended Students in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

The program champions the nation's most valuable resources: highly motivated, intellectually gifted young people.



TYPICALLY, OVER 1.5 MILLION STUDENTS IN APPROXIMATELY 21,000 HIGH SCHOOLS ENTER THE NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM EACH YEAR BY TAKING THE PSAT. 50,000 STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR PROGRAM RECOGNITION. **APPROXIMATELY 34,000 OF THE 50,000 HIGH SCORERS ARE NAMED COMMENDED STUDENTS.**

THEY'VE GOT RHYTHM!

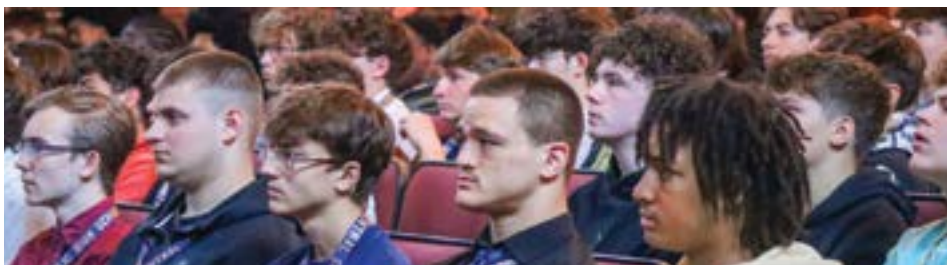
Two students, Raymond Porter, '26, and Jeremiah Bampoe-Addo, '27, had the incredible opportunity to perform at the 2025 Pittsburgh International Jazz Festival!

Both are integral members of Central Catholic's Blue Knights Jazz Band, and their talents took center stage before a rousing crowd.



FROM BAND CAMP TO PERFORMANCE!

The Central Catholic Viking Marching Band had a two-week summer band camp with rehearsals held both on our campus and at Graham Field in Wilkinsburg. Students from both Central Catholic and Oakland Catholic High Schools also demonstrated their hard work and dedication to music as they marched in the annual Fall Fantasy parade at Kennywood Park. Thousands were in attendance as the band's 2025-26 theme, "80's Mixtape," was revealed.



KEEPING OUR YOUTH SAFE

September is recognized as National Suicide Prevention Month, and Central Catholic's Counseling Department is committed to raising awareness within our school community.

Counselors met with students in the theater for a video presentation and a discussion on this important topic. Together, they explored how to support those in crisis, access available resources, and foster overall wellness of mind, body, and spirit.

There was also a school-wide \$5 dress-down day, benefitting the Good Shepherd Fund, which supports Central Catholic students in need. Students also received wristbands with inspirational themes as a reminder of our shared commitment to brotherhood and support for one another.

RETREATS

OUR ANNUAL STUDENT RETREATS WERE GRACE-FILLED DAYS ROOTED IN PRAYER AND COMMUNITY.

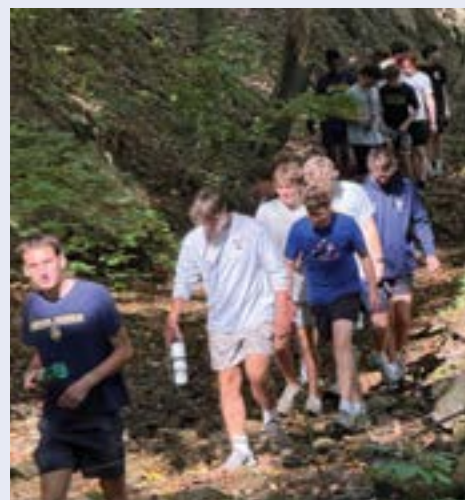
Beginning with reflective prayer, small-group discussions, and guided activities, each class retreat helped our freshmen, sophomores, and juniors grow in community.

The retreats were held at off campus, where cooperative challenges encouraged teamwork, communication, and a shared sense of joy in learning and growing together.



Away from the daily routine of the classrooms, students were encouraged to reflect on life and their spirituality while building teamwork and genuine connections. Each retreat offered space for personal growth.

These shared experiences deepened friendships and also reinforced the sense of brotherhood that defines the Central Catholic community.



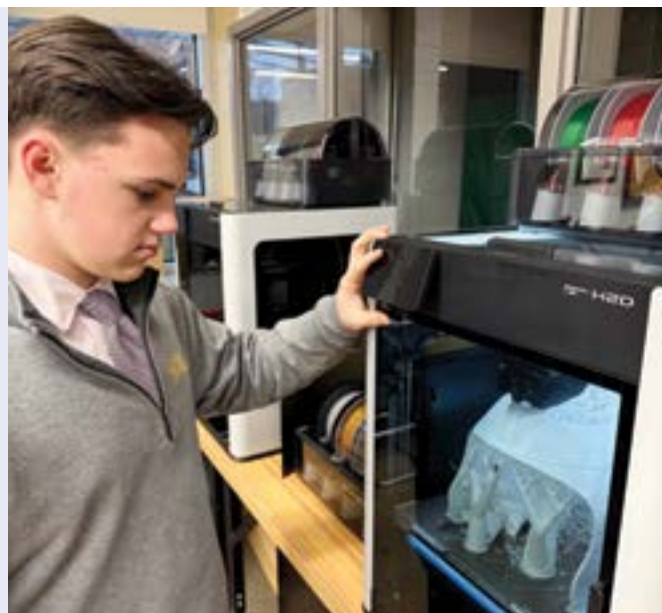
FALL KAIROS RETREAT

From September 30 to October 3, thirty-three of our young men participated in the fall Kairos retreat, a deeply meaningful four-day experience rooted in faith, reflection, and community.

The word *Kairos* comes from the Greek term meaning “the Lord’s time,” and it serves as an invitation for participants to pause from their busy lives and encounter God in a personal and transformative way. During the retreat, students took part in student-led talks, small group discussions, a rosary walk, daily Mass, and Eucharistic Adoration. Each element of the program encouraged the young men to reflect on their relationship with God, themselves, and others.

Beyond prayer and reflection, the retreat also offered opportunities for recreation and fellowship, helping participants strengthen the bonds of brotherhood that define our Central Catholic community. The Kairos experience continues to serve as a cornerstone of our faith formation program—reminding us all that God’s presence is constant and that authentic friendship with Him and one another is at the heart of a meaningful life.





NEW STEM UPGRADES

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IS DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE GENEROUS DONATIONS FROM ALUMNI THAT CONTINUE TO ENHANCE THE ZUPANCIC FAMILY STEM CENTER.

In Honors Anatomy & Physiology, students used newly donated microscopes to study various epithelial, connective, and muscle tissues of the human body—gaining hands-on experience that deepens their understanding of structure and function.

Students in the CAD, 3D Modeling, and CNC course used Bambu Lab H2D 3D printers to bring digital designs to life, applying industry-standard tools to create precise, real-world models.

These state-of-the-art additions help ensure that Central Catholic students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed for success in college and beyond.

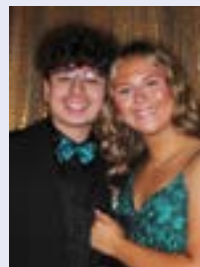


RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Spanish teacher Hermano Javier Castro, FSC, held classes with an emphasis on culture.

Activities included eating beef and chicken empanadas, listening to music, salsa dancing lessons, and praying in Spanish to a recently donated statue of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe (Our Lady of Guadalupe).

The celebration taught students about the beauty of embracing diversity within the Central Catholic community.



A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!

Central Catholic students celebrated a memorable evening at the 2025 homecoming dance. It was a night filled with school spirit, community, and tradition!



CONVERSATION WITH A FORMER HEAD OF STATE

The Brother David S. Baginski, FSC Scholars Program participated in an insightful and inspirational evening with former Polish President and Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Lech Wałęsa.

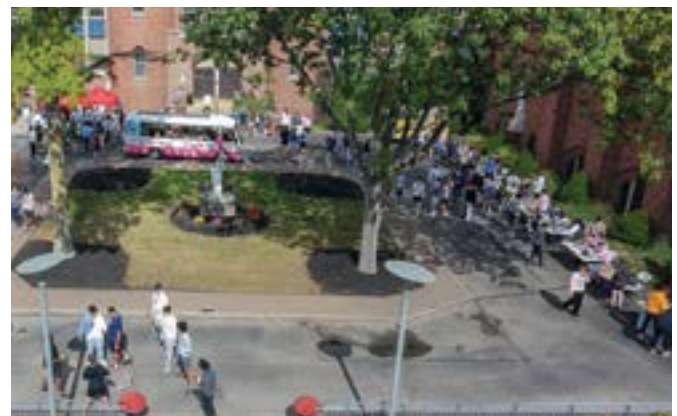
Wałęsa shared his story of fighting to push the world toward greater democracy, sparking thoughtful dialogue with our students, who posed insightful questions about addressing the challenges of today's society. It was a historic conversation about building a better future through the agency of Catholic social justice!



A DAY OF FUN, FOOD, AND FRIENDSHIP

STUDENTS ENJOYED AN AMAZING DAY AT THE ANNUAL FALL CARNIVAL!

Organized by the Central Catholic Student Council, the Fall Carnival gathered everyone in the Quadrangle for an afternoon complete with ice cream, games, and opportunities to support campus clubs and activities. The event also featured a dress-down day in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness, with proceeds benefiting women throughout the Pittsburgh area.





**MAKE A DIFFERENCE
WITH YOUR
TAX DOLLARS
THROUGH PA'S
EITC/OSTC PROGRAM!**

YOU CAN:

-  **REDIRECT YOUR PA TAXES**
-  **HELP TO PROVIDE TUITION ASSISTANCE**
-  **TRANSFORM LIVES**

**IT'S SIMPLE. IT'S POWERFUL. AND IT
DIRECTLY FUELS OPPORTUNITY.**



"THE PENNSYLVANIA EITC PROGRAM WILL BE THE MOST IMPACTFUL AND EFFORTLESS CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION THAT EVERYONE SHOULD CONSIDER WITH THEIR ANNUAL GIVING AND TAX PLANNING.

AS CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT AT CENTRAL CATHOLIC, I HAVE WITNESSED THE IMPACT THIS PROGRAM HAS TO BOTH THE STUDENTS AND THE SCHOOL."

—MR. JEFFREY WLAHOFSKY, P '09, '12, '15,

READY TO LEARN MORE?

**CONTACT CLAUDIA STEFFEY, DIRECTOR OF ANNUAL GIVING & STEWARDSHIP
AT CSTEFFEY@CENTRALCATHOLICHS.COM**

ATHLETICS



TWO LASALLIAN POWERHOUSES MET ON THE GRIDIRON!

Central Catholic High School hosted La Salle College High School (Philadelphia) in the varsity football season opener on Friday, August 22. Both schools, rooted in the mission of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, share rich traditions of faith, service, and academic excellence. It was a celebration of two storied institutions coming together to honor their shared values, coupled with a competitive spirit.

The atmosphere was electric as students, alumni, and community members gathered at the Wolvarena, eager to support their respective teams and witness a battle of resilience and skill. Central Catholic's team displayed determination and teamwork, while La Salle brought precision and strategic play to the field. The game showcased a deep sense of brotherhood and pride that has linked these two schools over the years.



► MATTHEW J. STOESSEL, '95, PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, AND BROTHER JAMES L. BUTLER, FSC, PRESIDENT OF LA SALLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

HEAD COACH RECOGNIZED!

On September 14, 2025, Central Catholic Head Football Coach, Ryan Lehmeier, was honored by the Pittsburgh Steelers at Acrisure Stadium as the 6A High School Coach of the Week following the decisive 34-20 win over Pine-Richland High School.



ACCESS GRANTED: ATHLETIC FACILITIES MADE AVAILABLE FOR FALL SPORTS

Practice facilities for fall sports have been remote due to the construction of the new Student Center. However, everything remains intact at Central Catholic, thanks to the longstanding relationships and partnerships with neighboring schools and organizations throughout the city.

Central Catholic extends its gratitude to Carnegie Mellon University, Chatham University, The University of Pittsburgh, Oakland Catholic High School, The Ellis School, the Pittsburgh Steelers, UPMC, and The City of Pittsburgh, for providing facilities for our athletic teams. Their support ensures our student-athletes have the space and resources to train, compete, and succeed.

BASKETBALL: OAKLAND CATHOLIC



FOOTBALL



SOCCER: THE ELLIS SCHOOL



NEW COACHES

Central Catholic High School is proud to introduce three new head coaches, added to the roster for the 2025-26 school year, who bring energy and experience to campus. We're thrilled to have these talented athletic leaders on board as we continue to build excellence on the field, on the court, and in the water!



MATTHEW BRADY
SWIMMING AND DIVING



RYAN BUZZARD
LACROSSE



JC GOVANNUCCI
VOLLEYBALL



SWEET PLACEMENT IN HERSHEY

The Cross Country team competed in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) Foundation XC Invitational in Hershey, PA. It is one of the state's largest invitationals, featuring over 100 schools. The varsity team finished 33rd overall, while Alex Patino, '26, placed 33rd out of 251 runners in the Junior Varsity race.

After the competition, the boys enjoyed some well-deserved fun at Hershey Park.

THE CHEER IS BACK!

After over 30 years, cheerleaders have returned to Central Catholic's sidelines, igniting new energy and school spirit! The girls are bringing unstoppable excitement to the sidelines, cheering loudly and passionately for the Central Catholic football team.



"OAKLAND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IS VERY EXCITED TO HAVE OUR CHEERLEADERS ONCE AGAIN CHEERING FOR CENTRAL FOOTBALL. FOOTBALL AND CHEERING FOR FOOTBALL ARE AN ICONIC PART OF HIGH SCHOOL FALL SPORTS, ESPECIALLY IN WESTERN PA," said Kelly Lazarra, President of Oakland Catholic High School. "THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO FULFILL OUR MISSIONS AS SINGLE-GENDER CATHOLIC ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS WHILE STILL FOSTERING OUR BROTHER-SISTER SCHOOL BOND."

"WELCOMING BACK THE CHEERLEADERS FROM OUR SISTER SCHOOL, OAKLAND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, AFTER NEARLY 30 YEARS IS MORE THAN JUST A RETURN TO TRADITION — IT'S A BEAUTIFUL REMINDER OF THE UNITY, SPIRIT, AND SHARED VALUES THAT CONNECT OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITIES," said Matthew J. Stoessel, '95, President of Central Catholic High School. "THEIR PRESENCE ON THE SIDELINES BRINGS RENEWED ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM TO OUR GAMES."



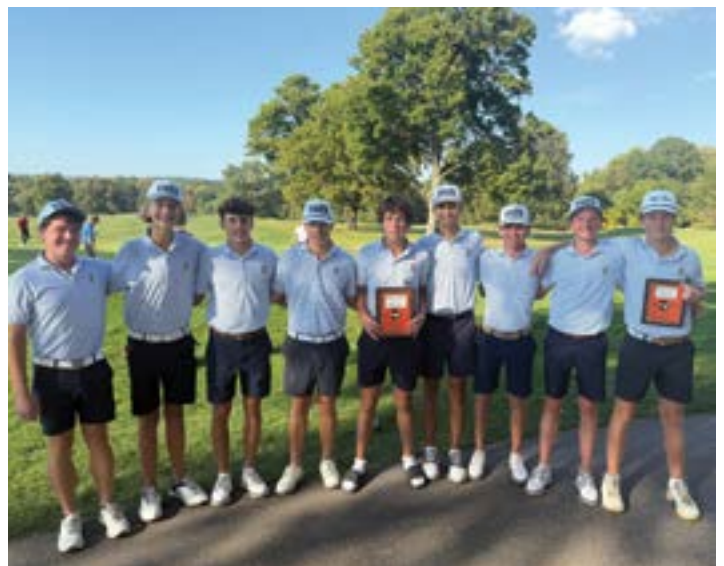
GOLF TEAM IS VICTORIOUS

The Central Catholic Varsity Golf team captured the overall title at the 2025 Patrick Kloecker Memorial Tournament, held at The Country Club of Meadville, PA.

Bailey Donahue, '28, claimed first place with a remarkable tournament-record score of 10 under par, breaking the previous record held by professional golfer and Central Catholic alumnus Neal Shipley, '19. Patrick Donahue, '26, finished fourth at even par, and Jameson Raynak, '27, tied for seventh place at two over par.

This year's tournament featured 91 golfers from 17 schools.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TEAM ON AN OUTSTANDING VICTORY!



A DAY OF SERVICE IN HAZELWOOD!

Students from Central Catholic's rowing and soccer teams volunteered at Camp Hazelwood's "Day on the Green" held at Mill 19. This event was organized by Center of Life, a nonprofit that supports Hazelwood and nearby communities with enrichment programs for local youth.

Throughout the day, student volunteers led a variety of outdoor activities, including games of soccer, flag football, and basketball. Members of Central Catholic's rowing team also introduced campers to the basics of their sport by providing hands-on demonstrations using ergometers, simulating the experience of rowing on the water. Also in attendance were two Central Catholic High School alumni and former members of the rowing team, Nick Okwiya, '15, a paramedic, and Anicet Mundundu, '17, an EMT, both with the City of Pittsburgh's Bureau of EMS. The pair brought an ambulance to the event and spent the afternoon educating campers about CPR and raising awareness about careers in emergency medical services.

The event was a great opportunity for current students and alumni to serve and build connections with the local community.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



WELCOMING NEW EDUCATORS TO CAMPUS

WE ARE PROUD TO WELCOME THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR FACULTY AND STAFF TO CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, WHERE THEIR TALENTS AND DEDICATION WILL HELP SHAPE THE NEXT GENERATION OF YOUNG MEN. TOGETHER, THEY JOIN A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE ROOTED IN FAITH, SCHOLARSHIP, AND SERVICE TO OUR VIKING COMMUNITY.



Br. Steven Barbaro, FSC
School Counselor



Kelli Bechtold
Mathematics Teacher



Br. Javier Castro, FSC
Spanish Teacher



Br. John Crawford, FSC, '72
Director of Central Catholic's
Brothers' Community and
Advisor to Administration



Marco Hague
Brothers' Discernment Program
Assists Lasallian Mission and Ministry
Assists Religion and Music Departments



John Hollihan, '20
English Teacher



Fr. Tom Kadlick
Chaplain



Samuel Patton, '19
Science Teacher



Nick Schake
History Teacher



Jill Shreve
English Teacher



Vernice Veranga-Mulcahy
Mathematics and
Science Teacher

SOME OF OUR DEDICATED FACULTY MEMBERS HAVE RECENTLY ENTERED NEW ROLES ON CAMPUS, BRINGING THEIR EXPERTISE AND PASSION TO FRESH OPPORTUNITIES. THEIR COMMITMENT CONTINUES TO INSPIRE STUDENTS, AND THESE TRANSITIONS DEMONSTRATE CENTRAL CATHOLIC'S APPRECIATION FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS.



Matthew Kizior, '11
Assistant Director of the Bishop McDowell Program



Brian Urso
Director of Lasallian Outreach



Todd Rooney
*Director of the Baginski Scholars Program
English Teacher*



Amy Wienand
Dean of Counseling and Family Support

TEACHERS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



DANIEL GALLAGHER, RELIGION TEACHER

Central Catholic thanks Mr. Gallagher, former religion teacher, for sharing his knowledge and love for teaching youth. His words offered inspiration and deepened our community's appreciation for faith and learning.

WILLIAM HOSS, MATH TEACHER

Central Catholic extends its heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Hoss, a devoted math teacher whose many years of service have shaped countless students. His dedication, guidance, and passion for teaching remain an invaluable part of the Central Catholic community.



DR. JUSTIN BELARDI, CHEMISTRY TEACHER

Central Catholic thanks Dr. Belardi, a long-time and beloved chemistry teacher whose years of passion and energy left a lasting mark on our community. His dedication and the love he inspired among students and colleagues will always be remembered.

MOTHERS' GUILD FASHION SHOW



MOTHERS' GUILD

Thanks to the incredible generosity and dedication of its members and the Central Catholic community, the Mothers' Guild has contributed over \$100,000 back to Central Catholic in the past four years, funding essential initiatives that strengthen our school. Since 2023, these efforts have focused on enhancing campus safety and security—an investment in the well-being of every student. But the Mothers' Guild—affectionately known as the MG—is so much more than a fundraising organization. It is a circle of women who come together to build meaningful connections: to our sons' school and to one another as we navigate this shared journey, one that never ends.



"THE MOTHERS' GUILD, ESPECIALLY THE FASHION SHOW, IS A LABOR OF LOVE. WE COME TOGETHER, HAVE FUN, WORK SO VERY HARD, AND CREATE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL. THIS EVENT HAS GIVEN ME LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS, INTRODUCED ME TO FABULOUS LOCAL RETAILERS, WHO ARE ALL WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES, AND UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES. I LOVE BRINGING GENERATIONS OF MY FAMILY BACK TO THE FASHION SHOW YEAR AFTER YEAR—A TRADITION THAT SPANS DECADES AND KEEPS US CONNECTED TO SOMETHING TRULY SPECIAL."

- JAMIE MURPHY,
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE MOTHERS' GUILD



"CENTRAL CATHOLIC IS TRULY AN EXTRAORDINARY PLACE, AND IT'S BEEN AN HONOR FOR US TO SUPPORT THIS SCHOOL THAT WE LOVE SO DEARLY. AS CO-CHAIRS, WE'VE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF EXPERIENCING—AND EMBODYING—THE TRUE SPIRIT OF THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC BROTHERHOOD AS WE BEHAVED AS "SISTERS". THAT SENSE OF UNITY, SHARED PURPOSE, AND LIFELONG CONNECTION MEANS MORE TO US THAN ANYTHING."

- COLLECTIVE QUOTE FROM KATHY PROCH,
CHRISTINE WILSON, AND MARGARITA ZEDA
HORNING, 2025 FASHION SHOW CO-CHAIRS





**CENTRAL CATHOLIC
NAMED**

**#1 BEST
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
IN THE PITTSBURGH AREA
BY NICHE.COM!**

ADMISSIONS

CENTRAL CATHOLIC OFFERS A DISTINCTIVE COLLEGE PREPARATORY EXPERIENCE THAT COMBINES BROAD ACADEMIC EXPOSURE WITH DEEP, FOCUSED EXPLORATION OF EACH STUDENT'S INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS AND INTERESTS.



Understanding the demands of college, we combine our college-preparatory, Liberal Arts education with a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) curriculum that is among the best in Western Pennsylvania. Students can choose from over 130 classes, including 48 electives, 32 honors courses, and 15 advanced placement (AP) level courses.

OPEN HOUSE

During our annual Open House, prospective students and their families visited campus to meet our dedicated faculty, coaches, and current students, while learning more about the rich Lasallian tradition that defines the Central Catholic experience.

Guests had the opportunity to explore classrooms, and labs, while hearing firsthand how Central Catholic prepares students for college and for life through a rigorous academic program, faith formation, and a strong sense of brotherhood.

Those who attended, witnessed how, for nearly a century, Central Catholic has been forming *men of faith, scholarship, and service*.



PARENT TESTIMONIALS



FAMILY OF COLSEN GATTEN, '26

(LEFT TO RIGHT) TATUM, NOELLE, COLSEN, '26, EMERSEN, AND AARON



“ Our son, Colsen, has attended Central Catholic High School for the past four years, and his experience has been nothing short of remarkable! From the moment he walked through the doors, he found a true brotherhood—one built on faith, service, and lifelong friendships.

Central Catholic has shaped Colsen not only academically but spiritually and personally. The teachers, coaches, and administrators have invested in him as a whole person, encouraging him to lead with integrity, compassion, and confidence. Through the school’s strong sense of community and commitment to service, he has learned what it truly means to be a “man of faith,” one who strives to make a difference both in and beyond the classroom.

As Colsen prepares to move on and attend Duke University, we know he will carry with him the lasting spirit of Central Catholic because **“Tradition Never Graduates.”**

We are deeply grateful for the friendships he has made and the foundation of faith and character that will continue to guide him in all that he does. Central Catholic has truly been a blessing to our family, and we couldn’t be more thankful for the positive impact it has had on our sons.”

PARENT TESTIMONIALS



DALEY FAMILY

(BACK): LUKE, '28, BRANDON, JACK, '25, JEN, AARON, '26
(FRONT) AVA, AND LAUREN

As parents of three Central Catholic men, we are thrilled with the experience they have had thus far. When our oldest son, Jack, '25, made the decision to attend Central Catholic, he did so happily because we talked to him about stepping out of his comfort zone and growing as a man. Our sons Aaron, '26, and Luke, '28, followed not long after, and we were fortunate to have all three there for one year!

The suburban Pittsburgh Catholic grade school our sons attended was fantastic for their initial academic and spiritual development, but we have witnessed Central taking them much further than we ever imagined. Their time in Oakland has enabled them to become better students, better stewards of their faith, and more driven to be the best versions of themselves.

Our boys have enthusiastically embraced the Central Catholic brotherhood and strive to be the best men of faith, scholarship, and service that they can be.”



VIKING FOR A DAY

Each year, during “Viking for a Day,” eighth-grade boys from across the Pittsburgh region are invited to discover what makes Central Catholic so special. This unique program gives prospective students the chance to experience campus life firsthand, guided by our student mentors and dedicated faculty. Through a full “day in the life” experience, participants get an authentic glimpse of what it truly means to be a Viking!





WHILE ON CAMPUS, PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO:

- RECEIVE A TOUR OF THE CAMPUS
- MEET CURRENT STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF
- EXPERIENCE, INTERACTIVE LESSONS TAUGHT BY OUR FACULTY
- LEARN WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A CENTRAL CATHOLIC STUDENT
- MEET NEW FRIENDS



TUITION ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE



FINANCIAL AID AND MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS CAN MAKE A CENTRAL CATHOLIC EDUCATION ATTAINABLE

Through the generosity of our alumni and supporters, Central Catholic provided over \$3.5 million in tuition assistance and merit scholarships for the 2025-26 school year.

The average aid awarded to qualifying families was \$7,300.

Central Catholic is accepting applications for the 2026-27 school year.

Visit CENTRALCATHOLICHS.COM/APPLY to complete the application for admission.

STATE OF THE SCHOOL REPORT

2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

STUDENTS

NEARLY 100 YEARS OF EDUCATING

young men from across Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Our student body consists of nearly **700 STUDENTS**.

TUITION

2025-26 TUITION - \$15,750

ACTUAL COST PER STUDENT - \$19,848

**NEARLY 65% OF STUDENTS
ARE RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID.**

AVERAGE FINANCIAL AID AWARD - \$7,300

ACADEMICS

134 DISTINCT CLASSES

- 32 HONORS COURSES
- 15 AP COURSES

**FACULTY-STUDENT
RATIO - 13:1**

STUDENT LIFE:

19 ATHLETIC TEAMS

33 CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

**OVER 5,000 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
COMPLETED ANNUALLY**

FAST FACTS

OVER 25,000 ALUMNI

SINCE 1927

VALUABLE NETWORKING
ENCOURAGES STUDENT
SUCCESS THROUGH

**ASSISTANCE WITH
EXPERIENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES,
MENTORING, AND
HELP WITH INTERNSHIPS
AND JOBS**

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT REPORT

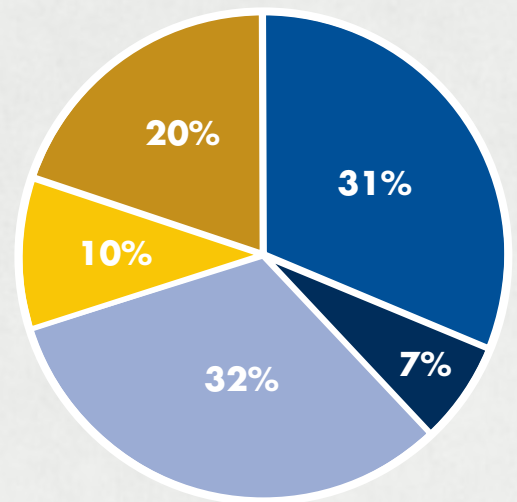
NUMBER
OF DONORS
1,742

LASALLIAN
SOCIETY MEMBERS
(annual
giving totals
\$1,000+) **400**

ADVANCEMENT REPORT OF INCOME: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Annual <i>(Unrestricted and Restricted)</i>	\$1,297,240
Auction	\$286,440
EITC/OSTC <i>(State Tax Credit Program)</i>	\$1,331,591
New Endowment Contributions	\$421,008
Planned Giving	\$825,987
Total	\$4,162,266

- Annual (Unrestricted and Restricted)
- Auction
- EITC State Program
- Endowment Contributions
- Planned Giving

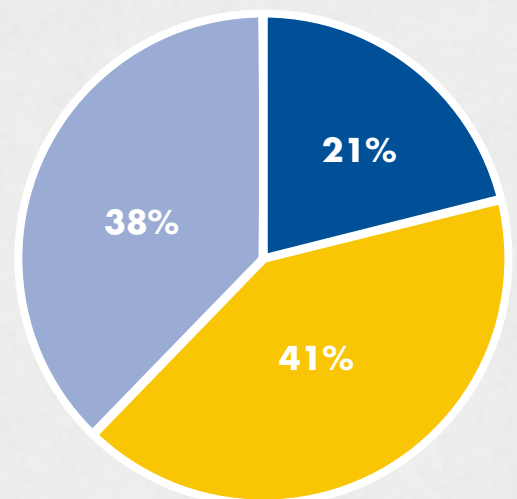


SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID & MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS:

Annual Giving	\$744,000
Endowment Distribution	\$1,450,000
EITC/OSTC <i>(State Tax Credit Program)</i>	\$1,330,541
Total	\$3,524,541

**Total Number of
Students Receiving Aid** **430**

- Annual Giving
- Endowment Distribution
- EITC/OSTC (State Tax Credit Program)





Why 15%

Central Catholic's alumni giving participation rate is 10%. It's solid, but we know we can do better. Other schools like ours are reaching 15% and even 18%.

That's why we're asking you to join us in the Drive to 15%! We're calling on every Viking to step up and prove that no one has more pride in their brotherhood.

Every gift matters. **Whether it's \$25, \$100 or more, your participation helps today's Vikings and moves us closer to 15%!** 100% of your gift stays at Central Catholic.

A great number of our alumni step up to support Central Catholic each year, but our peer schools' alumni are supporting in even greater numbers:

**St. Ignatius
High School, Cleveland, OH - 18%**

**St. Joseph
Collegiate Institute, Buffalo, NY - 18%**

**St. Joseph's Preparatory
School, Philadelphia, PA - 15%**

**Support Today's
Vikings**



Ways To Give



Give By Check: Central Catholic High School
4720 Fifth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213



Give Online: Scan the QR code above or visit
centralcatholichs.com/pages/give to make a
give using a credit card, PayPal or Venmo



MAKE AN IMPACT THROUGH YOUR IRA

If you have a traditional individual retirement account (IRA) and are 70 1/2 years or older, consider supporting Central Catholic through an IRA charitable rollover gift.

These gifts allow you to contribute directly from your IRA while fulfilling part or all of your annual required minimum distribution (where applicable). The amount of the gift is excluded from your federal taxable income.

To qualify:

- you must be 70 1/2 years old
- the transfer must go directly to CCHS
- the total rollover amount must not exceed \$108,000/yr.
- gift must be received by Dec. 31

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

Get ready to go
**“All in for Central” on
Tuesday, February 3, 2026.**



Our students go all in every day.

On Feb. 3, this year's CCHS Day of Giving, we're asking everyone who loves Central to do the same.

Whether you're a parent, grandparent, alum, or friend, your support fuels our mission!

LEGACY FAMILIES



THE LEGACY CONTINUES!

Every fall semester, we celebrate our legacy families with a group photo on the front steps of Central Catholic High School!

This memorable image includes current students alongside their fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and brothers—each of whom has walked the halls of Central Catholic and continues to be part of our community.

We are grateful to everyone who has made the Central Catholic experience a cherished family tradition.

LEGACY FAMILIES:

ROW 1

JOHN NEE, '99
CONNOR NEE, '29
MAX MURPHY, '96
GUS O'MALLEY, '29
LUKE MCCARTNEY, '24
PATRICK MCCARTNEY, '29

TONY MCCARTNEY, '90
COLIN MILLER, '29
* JOHN HILSON, '40
(COLIN'S GRANDFATHER, PICTURED)
WILLIAM DOBRYZYNSKI, '29
* WILLIAM YOCKEY, '39
(WILLIAM'S GREAT UNCLE, PICTURED)

DECLAN RUFFOLO, '29
RICH RUFFOLO, '77
SHANE RUFFOLO, '04
SEAN CAVANAUGH, '92
LEO CAVANAUGH, '29

ROW 2

WILLIAM PEGHER III, '29
WILLIAM PEGHER JR., '03
DANIEL PEGHER, '29

JERRY CONNER, '86
QUINN CONNER, '29
BERNARD CARTER, '84

CADEN CARTER, '29
JULIAN POPE, '29
ROBERT POPE, '05

ROW 3

DONALD KLINE SR., '77
JAMES KLINE, '75
CHRISTOPHER RIBARCHAK, '29

WILLIAM KLINE, '72
MICHAEL YODER, '89
JAMES YODER, '29

BEN WARD, '99
LUKE WARD, '29

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

DR. TIM DEVINNEY, '74

Dr. Tim Devinney, FBA, came from humble beginnings, as so many of our young men do. However, Tim set his sights far beyond his childhood in Lawrenceville, and his aim was true enough to take him on a journey all over the world, spreading his hard-earned knowledge and experience with generations of students behind him.



Since his graduation from Central Catholic in 1974, Tim is the living embodiment of where a Central education and an unrelenting work ethic can take you. Most recently, Tim was elected as a Fellow of the British Academy, alongside names like C.S. Lewis and Sir Winston Churchill.

"AN OUTSIDER LOOKING IN." Tim says, **"IF I EVER WRITE AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY, THAT WOULD BE THE TITLE."** Tim's academic career started from the bottom, quite literally. By his own admission, when taking the standardized tests before his freshman year, Tim didn't strike the principal as the academic type. **"I FIND STANDARDIZED TESTS UNBELIEVABLY BORING... I'M JUST NOT VERY GOOD AT THEM."** He was put in remedial classes until they quickly realized he was outpacing his classmates. By early October, the faculty had begun to raise eyebrows. The principal stepped in and tested Tim himself, quickly realizing that he had been misplaced. As classes had already begun, it was too late to adjust his course schedule until the following semester. They began to develop an entirely separate curriculum to keep him engaged until he could be moved into honors-level classes for the spring semester. After that, he never looked back. In addition to Tim's hard work in the classroom, his work ethic outside of the classroom brightly shone through as his need to acquire a superior education became clear to those around him. Tim worked his way through Central, paying his own tuition for his entire four years. He wanted to escape what he felt was the inevitable path for him: **"I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A TRUCKER. I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A FIREMAN, I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A POLICE OFFICER... I HAD TO DO SOMETHING ELSE."** And something else he did.



Tim currently holds the position of Professor and Chair of International Business at the University of Manchester, a role he has held since 2019. Since graduating with his B.Sc. from Carnegie Mellon University in 1977, and earning his M.A., M.B.A., and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago all before the age of 30, he's held roles at Universities in the U.S., England, Italy, Germany, Hong Kong, Australia, and more. He went from a young man who had never traveled abroad, to an accomplished professor boasting "millions of frequent flyer miles. In all this, it's apparent in even the shortest of conversations that he's never left Central Catholic behind, crediting the Brothers of the Christian Schools as intellectual role models he needed to succeed.

When asked if he has any advice for students, he offers,

"DON'T OVERTHINK YOUR LIFE. YOUR LIFE IS A SERIES OF OPPORTUNITIES, AND WHICH PATH YOU TAKE DRIVES WHICH PATHS BECOME AVAILABLE... LIFE IS AN ACCUMULATION OF THE DECISIONS YOU MAKE."

ALUMNI

DIVINE ENCOUNTER

During a pilgrimage to Rome, Mike Fitzgerald, '79, his wife Terri, and their son Patrick, who cofounded Brother Andre's café with Fr. Chris Donley, '97, met Pope Leo XIV!

Patrick presented the Pope with some of his "famous Snickerdoodles" and a bag of Brother Andre's Peru Blend Coffee.



LASALLIAN SOCIETY

WHAT A NIGHT!

Our VIP Tailgate was the perfect kickoff to a Viking football victory against the Norwin Knights. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our Lasallian Society members! These loyal, generous supporters make an incredible difference in the lives of our students every day, and we loved showing thank you for all you do—your appreciation keeps our mission strong — we couldn't do it without you!



ALUMNI LIGHT UP THE NIGHT AT JAM ON THE QUAD

The annual Jam on the Quad once again brought together alumni and friends of Central Catholic for an evening of camaraderie and celebration. Guests enjoyed fine cigars, bourbon tastings, and great food while reconnecting with old friends and making new connections.

The atmosphere was lively and welcoming, with graduates from across the decades sharing stories and memories. Events like this highlight the strength of the Central Catholic community—where brotherhood continues well beyond graduation.



ALUMNI

LETTERMEN'S CLUB

HITTING THE LINKS, RAISING MONEY FOR STUDENTS

The Lettermen's Club hosted its 33rd Annual Golf Outing at Edgewood Country Club, bringing together alumni and friends of Central Catholic for a day of brotherhood and competition. The sold-out event once again raised funds to support student programs.



► WE EXTEND OUR GRATITUDE TO STEVEN MASSARO, '84 FOR HIS SIX YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF THE LETTERMEN'S CLUB. IN RECOGNITION OF HIS LEADERSHIP, HE WAS PRESENTED WITH A PERSONALIZED BRICK FROM THE RECENTLY DEMOLISHED ALUMNI HALL.





CENTRAL CATHOLIC

IS HONORED TO BE AMONG SCHOOLS IN THE PITTSBURGH AREA AS PARTIAL RECIPIENTS OF THE BRIDGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION & U.S. STEEL'S DONATION OF SCHOLARSHIP MONEY TO MON VALLEY FAMILIES.

Scholarship funds are made possible through Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. The formal presentation took place at Trinity Christian School, with business executives from U. S. Steel, and brought together each school's leadership and local government officials.

REMEMBER. CELEBRATE. CONNECT.

Follow Us on Social Media



on Instagram @cchs_alumni



on Facebook at Central Catholic High School Alumni



on LinkedIn at Central Catholic High School Alumni – Pittsburgh



on X @AlumniCCHS27



Scan the QR Code for links to all of our Alumni social channels

2025 REUNION GATHERINGS

VIKING PRIDE!

DURING THE FALL SEMESTER, CENTRAL CATHOLIC ALUMNI RETURNED TO CAMPUS TO CELEBRATE CLASS REUNIONS FILLED WITH LAUGHTER, MEMORIES, AND THE JOY OF RECONNECTING WITH LIFELONG FRIENDS.

IMPORTANT SPRING DATES

DAY OF GIVING: FEBRUARY 3, 2026

VIKING VICTORY AUCTION: APRIL 18, 2026

VIKING MATCH: MAY 11-15, 2026

SPRING TRAINING IN BRADENTON: STAY TUNED



► CLASS OF 1955 - 70TH REUNION



► CLASS OF 1960 - 65TH REUNION



► CLASS OF 1970 - 55TH REUNION



▶ CLASS OF 1975 - 50TH REUNION



▶ CLASS OF 1980 - 45TH REUNION



▶ CLASS OF 1985 - 40TH REUNION



▶ CLASS OF 1990 - 35TH REUNION



▶ CLASS OF 1995 - 30TH REUNION



▶ CLASS OF 2000 - 25TH REUNION



▶ CLASS OF 2005 - 20TH REUNION



▶ CLASS OF 2015 - 10TH REUNION

NEWS FROM VIKING NATION



1

1960s: JOE GRAF, '63 – Moved to Aurora, Co.

BOB DIGROCE, '65 and **GARY DIGROCE, '67** – Finished 4th (Bob) and 7th (Gary) in Age 75-79 category of Great Race 5k. [1](#)

WALTER BANASZEWSKI, '69 – Just celebrated his 50th anniversary with his wife, Linda.



2



3

1970s: MIKE KIEFER, '70 – Was a nationally-ranked sprinter in masters track and field in the following events this summer: 50 meters (9th), 100 meters (9th), and 200 meters (7th). He competes in regional, national, and international meets in the M70-74 age group. In 2025, he represented the Mass Velocity Track Club at 12 meets, including the USATF Masters Indoor Championships in Gainesville, Florida, the Penn Relays in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the National Outdoor Senior Games in Ames, Iowa. Mike and his wife Carol live in Boston. [2](#)



4



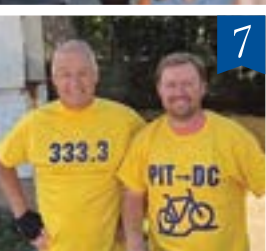
5



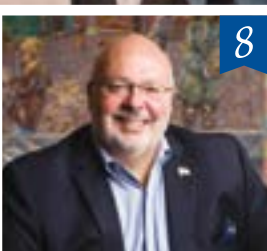
6

JOE MEROLA, '70 – Has been elected Fellow of Sigma Xi, the International Scientific Research Honor Society, joining his fellowships with the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Chemical Society. He credits his education at CCHS with setting him on the path that made this career possible [3](#)

JOHN TIERNEY, '71 – Contributing editor at City Journal and former New York Times columnist, was honored with the 2025 Kenneth Y. Tomlinson Award for Courageous Journalism by The Fund for American Studies, recognizing his fearless reporting on topics from government overreach to the politicization of science. [4](#)



7



8



9

DR. TONY DIGIOIA, '75 – Orthopaedic surgeon, engineer, and founder of Joint AI—recently announced a \$315,000 investment from the Richard King Mellon Foundation to advance the company's AI-powered triage platform for patients with knee and hip arthritis. The funding will help expand access to orthopaedic care nationwide by improving diagnostic tools and supporting surgeons in delivering more efficient, personalized treatment [5](#)

TIM RYAN, '75 – Dr. Tim Ryan executive-produced and guest-starred in the new Netflix series "Next Gen Chef," which pits some of the nation's best young chefs against each other on the campus of the legendary Culinary Institute of America. [6](#)

PAUL GOODWORTH, '76 – Congratulations to Paul Goodworth, '76 and his son Jack on their completion of the 333.3 mile bike ride from Pittsburgh to Washington, D.C. [7](#)

AUGIE CARLINO, '78 – Has been honored with the F. Otto Haas Award for his more than three decades of leadership at Rivers of Steel, where he transformed the Carrie Blast Furnaces into a National Historic Landmark and cultural hub while expanding heritage tourism in southwestern Pennsylvania. His work in industrial preservation, economic revitalization, and creative placemaking exemplifies sustained excellence in the field. [8](#)

FORENSICS – A Central Catholic Forensics Society (CCFS) mini-reunion was held for members of the Forensics Team from 1972-1978 ahead of the Class of 1975's 50th Reunion. PHOTO ID: FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT — DENNIS MCMANUS, '72; TED RECTENWALD, '73; BILL LEARY, '75 BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT — AL METZ, '75; NICK MARRONE, '75; ED YURCON, '72; FRAN CORBETT, '75. [9](#)

1980s: ED ROBINSON, '82 –

Received the North American Interfraternity Conference Advisor Award of Distinction. ¹⁰

DAVID DIGIOIA, '87 – Named President of American Society of Highway Engineers. ¹¹

JOE MARINI, '87 – Long time professional drummer, Joe Marini, '87 (Sun King Warriors) gave the next generation of Central drummers the opportunity to fine tune their skills with his donation of a custom drum set to Mr. Joe Wilson and the Music Department. ¹²

JOHN MITCHELL, '88 – Returned to Pittsburgh from the West Coast after 30 years. He has lived on the West Coast since 1995 (Santa Barbara, CA, Los Angeles, and lastly Las Vegas, NV). He looks forward to connecting with the Central Catholic brotherhood and making the most of the East Coast and the cold weather.

ROBERT COX, '89 – Retired from Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire as Deputy Fire Chief after nearly 30 years of service. ¹³

1990s: ROB HIRST, '90 – Opened his new cocktail bar and restaurant “Hey Babe” at The Maverick in East Liberty. ¹⁴

FRANK PORCO, '91 – Won PA Boroughs Association Mayor of the Year which is given by the Pennsylvania State Mayors' Association (PSMA) to recognize a mayor for significant impact, leadership, and accomplishments within their community. ¹⁵

RICHARD MANNING, '98 (BELOW) –

Was promoted from his previous role as Commander to the position of Chief Deputy Sheriff of Allegheny County.



2000s: BLAKE COVINGTON, '03 –

Was named Chairman of the Board for the Youth Capital Empowerment Program. ¹⁶

ANDREW HABURJAK, '04 – Recognized at the Amen Corner Senator John Heinz Law Enforcement Awards for his response to a high risk situation. ¹⁷

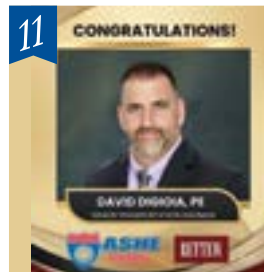
DR. LLOYD CHEATOM, '05 – Lloyd was awarded his PhD after successfully defending his dissertation as part of Duquesne University's EdD Educational Leadership program. His topic was *THE MARATHON: A QUALITATIVE EXPLORATION OF THE LIVED EXPERIENCE OF BLACK MALE EDUCATORS*. ¹⁸

MARTELL COVINGTON, '05 – Reappointed as a commissioner for Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro's Advisor Commission on African American Affairs. ¹⁹

MARTY MATVEY, '05 – 10th WPIAL season as a head coach, celebrated the 100th win of his coaching career last season. ²⁰

ROCCO PROCIDA, '06 – Congratulations to Coach Rocco Procida, '06 (white hat, front left) and the Men's A Team USA Ball Hockey team on their silver medal finish and the U19 Team USA Ball Hockey team for taking gold at the 2025 Ball Hockey World Cup in Buffalo! ²¹

2010s: MICHAEL DESABATO, '15 – Was honored as one of Pittsburgh's 50 Finest (an honor recognizing young business leaders in Pittsburgh), and has raised nearly \$15,000 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation through his family's Bella Capelli Academy, his business Clean Your Dirty Face, and outreach to students at Divine Mercy Academy. DeSabato continues to inspire others to give back. ²²



CAL ADOMITIS, '17 – Signed with Philadelphia Eagles. ²³

Pittsburgh Steelers' Special Teams Coach **DANNY SMITH, '72**, and Defensive Back **RODNEY THOMAS II, '17**, (#25, Indianapolis Colts) after the Steelers vs Colts game at Acrisure Stadium in Pittsburgh. Photograph was taken by Brian Cook, '98. ²⁴

NEAL SHIPLEY, '19 (BELOW) –

With two wins on the Korn Ferry tour (LECOM Suncoast Classic and The Ascendant), Neal punched his Tour Card for the 2026 PGA Tour.



2020s: NOLAN SAPOS, '20 – Is in a new professional role as Associate Advisor with SVN Three Rivers Commercial Advisors.

JOSH ALTSMAN, '22 – Former Viking and current Pitt tight end Josh Altsman, scored his first collegiate touchdown in the Panthers' 45-17 victory over Central Michigan on Saturday, September 16th, 2025. After redshirting in 2022 and playing in only one game over the next two seasons, he is active on Pitt's 2025 roster. ²⁵

DONOVAN HINISH, '22 – Was named a captain for the 2025 Notre Dame football team. He follows in the footsteps of his brother, former Notre Dame captain Kurt Hinish, '17. ²⁶

CENTRAL CATHOLIC ALUMNI

who play football for both the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University played in a game at Acrisure Stadium. (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) **JOSH ALTSMAN, '22**, **COLE FELDSTEIN, '22**, **TY YUHAS, '24**, **JACKSON FARRELL, '23**, AND **TONY SKUMBURDES, '22**. ²⁷

ELLIOT HOWSIE, '22 – has been selected as a 2025 NBA x HBCU Coalition Fellow. Elliot will join the NBA's Risk Management & Insurance department this summer, working directly with senior leadership and gaining hands-on experience in enterprise risk management. ²⁸

JOHN BEESON, '24 – Named team captain of Georgia Tech's Marine Robotics Group. John was the mechanical lead for the team's semi-finals appearance at the Robosub competition in Irvine, CA last year. ²⁹

SAM BRACKNEY, '25, (Brown University) and **GANNON CAROTHERS, '22**, (Cornell University) pose for a photograph after they met on the field for the first time on the collegiate level. ³⁰

JACK DALEY, '25 (CENTER) – Completed Basic Training in the Navy. He is pictured with his brothers Luke, '28 (LEFT) and Aaron, '26. ³¹

AMARI SHIELDS, '25, DA'RON GOODWINE, '25, BILLY LECH, '25 – Are now teammates for Slippery Rock University Football. ³²

BRADLEY GOMPERS, '25 – Was named an On3 Preseason True Freshman All-American. ³³

23



ROLL VIKES!

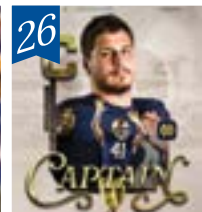
24



25



26



27



28



29



30



31



32



33



CENTRAL CATHOLIC BOOKSTORE



THE BOOKSTORE IS OPEN ON REGULAR SCHOOL DAYS:

2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR STORE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or by appointment.

412.208.3498
bookstore@CentralCatholicHS.com

SHOP ONLINE AT [CENTRALCATHOLICHS.COM/BOOKSTORE](https://centralcatholichs.com/bookstore)



IN MEMORIAM

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THESE RECENTLY DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY.

1945

Richard Thomas, '45

1948

Dr. Richard Conlin, '48

Gerald Letzelter, '48

1951

Thomas Kirby, '51

1952

Dr. Charles Palmer, '52

David Smith, '52

1953

Carl Vitti, '53

1954

Michael McElligott, '54

Paul O'Leary, '54

Samuel Peters, '54

1955

Ronald Coyne, '55

James McHugh, '55

Charles Russell, Jr., '55

Robert Vlah, '55

1956

Dr. Daniel Damratoski, '56

Kenneth Porco, '56

1957

Robert Bevilacqua, '57

Matthias Coyne, '57

Peter Sammartino, '57

1958

Gerald Flohr, '58

Richard Gibala, '58

William Jennings, '58

Paul Rouser, '58

Joseph Sundry, '58

Albert Zangrilli, Jr. Esq, '58

1959

Donald Motta, '59

1960

John Byrne, '60

Lawrence Kalchthaler, '60

1961

Edward Kanai, Jr., '61

Robert Maddamma, '61

1962

Frank Altimore, '62

William Hartman, '62

1964

Joseph Deet, '64

Robert Parkes, '64

1965

Louis DeSimone, '65

Angelo DiNardo, '65

1966

Stanley Gorski, '66

1967

Albert Rakoczy, '67

Lawrence Dombrowski, '67

1968

John Mulvihill, '68

Richard Skrinjar, '68

Cmdr. John Stack, '68

1969

Edward Bartosiewicz, '69

James Raible, '69

Frank Pistella, '69

1970

Stephen Rahuba, '70

1972

Frank Copeland, '72

1974

Mark DeAndrea, '74

1976

James Buccilli, '76

1977

Stephen Conroy, '77

1981

M. Andrew Angerman, '81

Seton Vojta, '81

1983

Robert Antoszewski, Jr., '83

Thomas O'Connor, '83

1984

Emil Bonavita, '84

1986

William Allen, '86

2006

Lukas Kambic, '06

2019

Luke Cordisco, '19

2020

Aaron Beatty, Jr., '20

**As of October 31, 2025*



PLANNED GIVING

— at —

Central Catholic High School



Have you considered joining the Legacy Circle?

The **Legacy Circle** was created to honor donors who have named Central Catholic High School as a beneficiary through their estate plan.

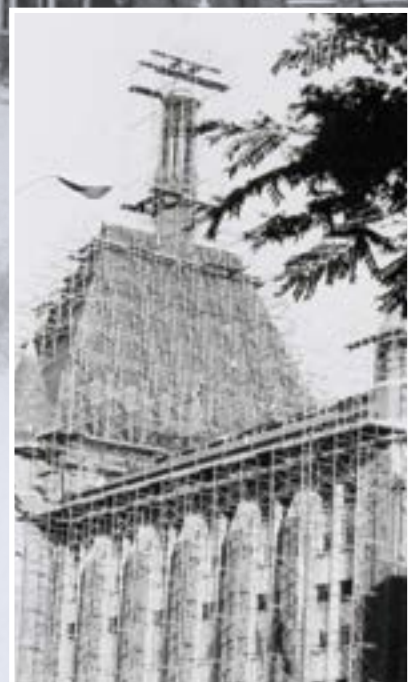
*Current members of the **Legacy Circle** have made a planned gift(s) for the benefit of Central Catholic High School via their:*

- Wills
- Retirement Accounts
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Charitable Trusts
- and/or Life Insurance Policies

This extraordinary group of benefactors can make their giving a perpetual legacy for themselves and an example for alumni, friends, and family to follow. It also creates a means of support that makes Central Catholic stronger and better prepared to thrive for generations to come.

If you have already made this provision through your estate plan, please let us know so that Central Catholic High School can include you among the **Legacy Circle** members. If you have any questions, please contact Brandon Haburjak, '06, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, at 412.208.3488. You can also visit our website at www.CentralCatholicHS.com/pages/planned-giving for more information and to download/complete the Bequest Intention Form.

Live Jesus in our hearts ... Forever!



Our MISSION

Central Catholic
High School,
a college preparatory school
for boys, is guided by the
educational principles
of St. John Baptist
de La Salle.

The school strives to
provide a challenging, relevant,
and diverse program of
studies and extracurricular
activities in an environment
that fosters a life of faith and
learning and develops leaders
rooted in the Gospel values
of integrity, respect, service,
justice, and peace.



CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

4720 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2952

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Pittsburgh, PA
Permit No. 11

Calling all future Vikings! Now is the time to apply for the 2026-27 school year!

EXCELLENCE.



MAKE IT CENTRAL TO HIS FUTURE.

CentralCatholicHS.com/Apply



PARENTS:

If your son has moved from your home, please notify
Will Bookwalter, '06, Director of Alumni Relations at
412.208.3489 or **jbookwalter@CentralCatholicHS.com**.

Connect with more than 3,900 other alumni
at [centralalumni.com!](https://centralalumni.com)



@CCHSVIKINGS



@CENTRALVIKINGS



@CENTRALVIKINGS

The Central Catholic Promise:

To inspire boys to become Men of Faith, Men of Scholarship, Men of Service.