

ACADEMY OF
HOLY ★ ANGELS



communiqué



Father Mike Tix

In Gratitude for 25 Years of Service

SPRING 2026

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Mission Statement

The mission of Academy of Holy Angels is to educate and nurture a diverse student population so that each student, as a whole person, may achieve full potential to excel intellectually, to live spiritually, to lead responsibly, to act justly, and to serve selflessly.

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Special thanks to Ciara McCrory '21, David Frear, TeMo Photo, Joe Berg '05, Seamus Burke '14 and others for photos in this publication.

On the cover: Father Mike Tix pictured with members of AHA's Campus Ministry Team

To the right: The 2026 Sacred Band and Choral Concert, the first event held in the beautifully refurbished St. John the Evangelist Chapel.



Welcome

Dear Academy of Holy Angels Community,

For generations, the Academy of Holy Angels has been a beacon in the Twin Cities, preparing young men and women for lives of purpose. The proof of our mission is found in just some of our former students: from the compassionate leadership of Mary Jo Copeland '60 at Sharing and Caring Hands to the judicial excellence of former MN State Supreme Court Chief Justice Kathleen Blatz '72 and current MN State Supreme Court Associate Justice Paul Thissen '85. Our graduates lead in faith, like the late Bishop Paul Sirba '78; in the culinary arts, like James Beard Award-winner Gavin Kaysen '98; and in professional athletics and service, like NFL Hall of Famer Larry Fitzgerald '01. These distinguished individuals represent only a fraction of the countless Stars who have called AHA home. Each shares a common foundation of faith, excellence, and a commitment to loving the dear neighbor.

Our Vision 2026 Strategic Plan has successfully guided us for the past five years, propelling Holy Angels to new heights. Today, we are recognized as an Advanced Placement Platinum School of Distinction, with graduates accepted to Ivy League and other prestigious universities such as Brown, Columbia, Harvard, Notre Dame, USC, Washington University in St. Louis, and Wellesley College, and specialized technical institutions like Dunwoody and Hennepin Tech. Whether through state-championship athletics or award-winning arts, our students flourish in updated facilities backed by a larger endowment that keeps an AHA education accessible. Most importantly, it is through the AHA Way and surrounded by caring professionals that students are nurtured as they find their life of purpose.

Looking ahead, we will finalize a new strategic plan that will carry us toward our 100th anniversary in 2031-32. Launching this fall, the plan focuses on maximizing the student experience, amplifying the AHA story, further updating our facilities, securing our financial future, and empowering our employees and leadership for the century to come.

Finally, I want to extend a special thank you to our chaplain, Fr. Mike Tix, featured in this issue. As this year's St. Joseph Award recipient, Fr. Mike is being recognized for a lifetime of service to our community. We will honor his remarkable achievements at Starfest on April 25, 2026.

I wish you and your family a blessed Easter season filled with the joy of the Risen Christ in your hearts and in your home.

Easter Blessings,



David Sorkin, Ed.D.
President





FATHER MIKE

A Foundation of Faith for 25 Years

Father Mike Tix is celebrating 25 years as the Academy of Holy Angels chaplain. He is the longest-serving high school chaplain in the Archdiocese, and this milestone anniversary is a testament to his dedication to our community.

“Fr. Mike has faithfully served Holy Angels for 25 years, guiding students, faculty, staff, and parents to an encounter with Christ by being Christ to them,” said AHA President Dr. David Sorkin. “His wisdom, listening ear, and genuine care for everyone make him an inseparable part of the AHA fabric. We are so blessed to have Fr. Mike as our chaplain.”

The Road to Holy Angels

Growing up in Hampton, Minnesota, the Catholic church and faith were central to Fr. Mike’s young life. He first started thinking about becoming a priest when he became an altar server. Fr. Mike remembers that his path was not always clear, and he understands why so many students answer, “I don’t know,” when asked about their plans beyond high school.

As Fr. Mike discerned his future, he received profound words of wisdom from his mother. She told him, “You’ve been talking about [becoming a priest] for long enough; you should check it out. Otherwise, you’re going to be 40 years old and always wonder ‘what if!’” That tipped the scales for Fr. Mike. Shortly thereafter, he applied to St. John Vianney Seminary.

A love of Catholic education dates back to Fr. Mike’s time as an assistant pastor at St. John’s Catholic Church in Savage. During his time at St. John’s, Fr. Mike noticed many students left Savage to attend Holy Angels, bringing AHA to his attention for the first time. The connection would further deepen when Fr. Mike became pastor of the Church of the Assumption in Richfield.

Our Devoted Chaplain

At both St. John’s and Assumption, Fr. Mike would often hear parents talking about how much they loved Holy Angels. While visiting classrooms at Blessed Trinity, Fr. Mike began to

“Being there [with the players] through the ups and downs of athletics all developed a unique connection with the athletes. I am a little bit more of a known commodity to them because I am with them at the games. There is a different kind of connection that forms, and it’s fun to be a part of that, both in season and out of season.”

— Fr. Mike

develop stronger ties to AHA. "I would come over and visit, occasionally doing a prayer at graduation or other events. I eventually connected with (then-AHA President) Dr. Jill Reilly, and told her, 'if you're ever looking for a chaplain, I'm right down the street!'" Soon after, Fr. Mike joined AHA as its chaplain.

The Holy Angels community is unique in Fr. Mike's eyes. "Holy Angels has a broad reach and brings people together with a common goal of learning in a faith-filled environment where all are welcome. It is that environment that really allows people to thrive here."

Fr. Mike believes Holy Angels' long history enhances both its educational prowess and its sense of community. "Holy Angels isn't a new kid on the block, but it doesn't mean it is stuck in the past. AHA has its history, which it preserves, but it is living in a current, real way, which offers a great environment for kids and families today to learn and grow to their fullest potential."

One of Fr. Mike's most cherished AHA duties is serving as the chaplain of the football team. In collaboration with coaches Ray Betton and Jim Gunderson, Fr. Mike expanded the role, beginning the traditions of Masses before every game, post-game prayers, and becoming a fixture on the sidelines. Questions and prayer requests often emerge from players, coaches, and fans. Fr.



“One of the fun parts of being at AHA is being able to celebrate weddings for alumni. It's great to see how life has unfolded for them. Seeing them flourish, and knowing that I have played some part in their journey, is very rewarding.” — Fr. Mike

Mike is honored to be a part of those spontaneous, special moments.

AHA's students have made their mark on Fr. Mike, and they continue to invigorate him year after year. The connections he forms with students are inspiring to him, and he loves learning from them, and hearing about life through their eyes, seeing their gifts and talents develop, both at Holy Angels and beyond.

Ministry, Impact, and Legacy

Community is the cornerstone of Fr. Mike's ministry, and being able to connect with people continues to bring him joy every day. "As a priest, you get a chance to be with people at their best moments and their worst moments," he reflected. "You have the opportunity to leave an impression with them because of that time." Working in Catholic schools has allowed Fr. Mike the unique opportunity to oversee the spiritual growth of young people from their earliest days to high school graduation, a blessing he does not take for granted.

At this year's Starfest, Fr. Mike will receive the St. Joseph Award, a prestigious honor recognizing his profound work at AHA.

"It's very much an honor for me, especially when I think about past recipients," Fr. Mike said of the award. "They've been the hallmark people who have been involved with Holy Angels; to be a part of that is a little overwhelming. There aren't a lot of times when I am speechless, but when Dr. Sorkin called me to ask about receiving the St. Joseph Award, it was a speechless moment."

"I am grateful for all of the opportunities I have been blessed to be a part of in the life and the history of Holy Angels. It has been great to make a positive impact on students. I look forward to being a part of Holy Angels and its bright future."

On behalf of the entire AHA community, thank you, Fr. Mike, for your continued dedication and service to our school and students!



Hall of Famer Larry Fitzgerald

Larry Fitzgerald, member of the Academy of Holy Angels Class of 2001, has been named to the NFL Pro Football Hall of Fame! He will be officially inducted on August 8, 2026, at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. This extraordinary honor cements Larry's legacy as one of the greatest players in NFL history. Larry's Hall of Fame induction is the highest sports honor awarded to a former AHA student in the school's history.



Larry as a STAR

At Holy Angels, Larry was a standout athlete, competing in football, basketball, and track and field. In football, Larry earned All-State and All-Metro honors, showcasing the talent, discipline, and team-first approach that would define his career. Larry's retired football jersey (#1) now hangs in AHA's main lobby. In 2009, Larry established the Carol Fitzgerald Memorial Scholarship as a way to honor his mother as well as to provide scholarship support to Holy Angels students.

Larry's NFL Career

In 2004, Larry was selected 3rd overall in the NFL Draft by the Arizona Cardinals, beginning his remarkable 17-year career. His major accomplishments include:

- ★ 11 Pro Bowl selections
- ★ 1,432 receptions (2nd all-time)
- ★ 17,492 receiving yards (2nd all-time)
- ★ 121 touchdowns.
- ★ 2017 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year

Honoring Larry's Legacy at AHA on Sept. 18

We are thrilled to announce that this fall, AHA's football field at the StarDome will be named in Larry's honor. "Fitzgerald Field" will officially be dedicated on September 18, 2026, when the Stars football team plays Cooper High School.

Be sure to follow Academy of Holy Angels on Facebook and Instagram, @academyofholyanags, to stay up to date on this exciting event!





Bienvenue à Nos Nouveaux Amis - Welcome New Friends!

Mme Marine LaDouceur, AHA French Teacher

In February, Holy Angels was thrilled to welcome 21 French students from the Catholic middle school Sainte Marie Jeanne d'Arc in Langon, France. The students were hosted by 19 AHA families and spent the weekend immersed in American culture.

The AHA families organized many activities for the visiting students, including attending an AHA hockey game, a Timberwolves game, visiting the Mall of America, dining at Buca di Beppo at the Pope's Table, and celebrating one French student's birthday at the home of Blake and Varinie Nixon (parents of Blake '26 and Will '29).

The STARS also brought their French guests to AHA for two days, where the French 8th graders experienced a firsthand look at a typical school day in the US, including classes, sports, activities, and more. The visiting students were greeted by the admissions department, which welcomed them with t-shirts and other AHA goodies.

This enriching experience gave everyone involved the opportunity to discover new people and cultures, learn to adapt across a language barrier, and form bonds that we hope last a lifetime! The intent is to make this experience an ongoing tradition for our students, the French program, and the World Language department.





Our historic St. John the Evangelist Chapel is more beautiful than ever after undergoing significant repair work in 2025-2026. Important renovations included: replacement of select exterior roof tiles, plaster repair, painting, select



ceiling cork replacement, replacement of cracked window glass, new wall sconces, new carpeting, and a ramp to the altar. We also placed the original crucifix in the chapel apse.

Career Panel

College Planning Day

The Career Panel was held on January 27 for the junior class during College Planning Day. Holy Angels was proud to welcome back several professional alumni to participate throughout the day. The alumni shared insights into their career paths, educational journeys, and the experiences that helped shape them into the hard workers they are today.

Students had the opportunity to hear firsthand about a variety of industries and ask meaningful questions about college preparation, internships, and career growth. The panelists offered valuable advice to the junior class.

We are incredibly grateful to our alumni who returned to campus to share their time, wisdom, and experiences. Their willingness to give back continues to inspire the next generation of Stars as they begin planning for their futures.



Thanks to our alumni for helping out!

Kathy Gorman '74	Amanda Sobaski '05
Alanna Monn '95	Katy Spray '11
Julie Sanem '00	Bonnie Theis '11
Tara Constantine '01	Adam Hoffman '14
Sean O'Hagan '04	Kristi Rollwagen AHA Parent

Extracurricular Excellence

The winter season brought incredible achievements in athletics and extracurricular activities!
Our STARS shone brightly on the stage, on the slopes, on the ice, and more!

Speech Team



The following students from the AHA Speech Team placed in their categories at the annual Conference meet:

- Isabel Scrafford '26, All-Conference, 1st in Discussion
- Gigi Alexander '26, All-Conference Honorable Mention, 2nd in Drama
- Franco Comelli '27, All-Conference Honorable Mention, 2nd in Discussion
- Nelli Amigon '28, All-Conference Honorable Mention, 2nd in Extemporaneous Reading
- Charlotte Wood '28, 3rd in Discussion
- Lucy Farrell '28, 5th in Extemporaneous Reading
- Mary Aitchison '28, 5th in Informative

Math Stars

The Math Stars Isaac Ahern '28, Andrew Carlson '27, Muchen Cai '26, Oliver Heitzman '28, Evan Johnson '27, Quan Le '26, John McCartan '26, and James Parish '26 competed in the 42nd Annual MN State High School Mathematics League State Tournament on March 16th.



One-Act



The company of AHA's one-act play, *The Proposal*, earned 2nd place in the Minnesota State High School League 6AA One-Act Competition Section Finals.

**Ellen Neuharth
Ms. Soccer 2025**



Ellen Neuharth '26 was named Ms. Soccer 2025. Ellen is a two-time Tri-Metro Conference Player of the Year and a University of Minnesota commit.

**Adeline (Addy) Judson '26
2026 Athena Award**



Adeline (Addy) Judson '26 has been named the recipient of the 2026 Athena Award! This prestigious recognition honors outstanding senior female athletes from high schools across Minnesota.

**Conference Champions –
High Kick Dance**



**Blake Nixon '26
1000 career points**



Dominic Wood '26
State Participant Alpine Ski



Saskia Piltingsrud '29
State Participant Alpine Ski



Cole Cheeseman '26
Mr. Hockey Finalist



Gabe Perron '26
All-Time Assist Leader



63 points, 26 goals, 37 assists, 3.00 PPG.
200 career points · 100 career goals · 100 career assists

Minnesota State High School League's all-time leader in Assists for Defensemen. (150 total career assists)

**Conference Champions -
Boys Hockey**



Supporting Our **STARS** Today and Tomorrow



Generosity ensures every STAR has the resources to shine! Many in the AHA community are using "tax-smart" strategies to increase their impact while reducing tax liability.

Maximize your support and reduce taxes through these efficient methods:

- **Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs):** If you are 70½ or older, rolling IRA funds directly to AHA satisfies your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).
- **Appreciated Stock:** Donate securities held for over a year to receive a full-value deduction and avoid capital gains taxes.
- **Donor-Advised Funds (DAF):** "Bunch" contributions to surpass the standard deduction, then recommend grants to AHA over time.
- **Matching Gifts:** Many employers match donations dollar-for-dollar.

Your IRA: A Strategic Legacy Gift

Naming AHA as a beneficiary of your IRA, 401(k), or 403(b) is a tax-efficient way to give.



- **The "Double Tax" Advantage:** While heirs may face heavy taxes on retirement assets, AHA receives the full value tax-free.
- **Simple & Flexible:** Update your beneficiary form with a specific percentage that you intend to leave to AHA.

Plan Your Legacy For Free!

AHA has partnered with **FreeWill** to make estate planning simple and free for our community. Scan the QR code above to create a will in minutes.

Already included AHA in your estate plan? Please let us know! Contact Jesse Foley '89 (jfoley@ahastars.org, 612-798-2621) or Brian McCartan (bmccartan@ahastars.org, 612-798-2618) with any questions.

Join us! STARFEST

AN EVENING OF BRILLIANCE

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026



Starfest: An Evening of Brilliance is on Saturday,

April 25! Proceeds from Starfest benefit every AHA student, strengthening our core programs in academics, faith, service, financial aid, and the arts. Starfest 2026 will be an unforgettable evening filled with inspiring stories, vibrant community spirit, and exciting experiences that truly showcase the heart of AHA.

This year, Starfest includes two brand-new highlights:

- **St. Joseph Award Presentation: Honoring Fr. Michael Tix** for a lifetime of leadership, service, and devotion to our school and the Archdiocese.
- **Starfest After Party:** Music, celebration, and community as we close out the night in style.

Can't attend?

You can still support AHA by making a gift to the scholarship fund-a-need or by purchasing raffle tickets, including the new Value Pack (4 for \$300) for a chance at the \$10,000/full-tuition prize. Every contribution makes a difference!

Full-Circle Harmony

A Mother, a Daughter, and the Beautiful Music of Holy Angels



The story of former Holy Angels music teacher Mary Poepping and her daughter, Jess Poepping Allured '97, is a unique and beautiful example of how musical traditions can echo across generations.

Mary Poepping served as the music teacher at Holy Angels from 1980 to 1990. During those years, she shared her love of music with Co-Stars through choir, liturgies, and the school's musical and theatrical productions. One of her favorite memories from that time was her involvement in the musical *Once Upon a Mattress*, a production that, in many ways, captured the vibrant spirit of the performing arts at AHA.

For Mary, teaching music wasn't simply a job, it was a calling. Now, years later, she is grateful for the opportunity Holy Angels gave her to nurture students' talents while helping build a vibrant musical culture.

While Mary was leading rehearsals and involved in theater productions, her young daughter Jess was often nearby. Jess remembers visiting her mom's fourth-floor office, attending concerts, and watching the musicals that filled the stage with excitement. Those early experiences immersed her in the life of Holy Angels long before she became a student herself.

Years later, Jess officially joined that community when she enrolled at Holy Angels. During her time as a student, she became involved in singing, band, and acting in *Starlight Productions*.

After high school, music remained a central part of her life. Although Jess

originally thought she might become a band teacher, her path shifted after college when she accepted her first choir position. She went on to teach middle school music and eventually started her own music studio.

Over time, her connection to Holy Angels drew her back. In 2016, with the recommendation of Gregg Sawyer, AHA music teacher Cathy Anhut hired Jess as an accompanist, bringing her back to the campus that had played such an important role in her life.

Today, Jess serves in several roles at Holy Angels. She teaches *Living on Your Own*, Theology classes, and Concert Choir, directs Academy Singers and Praise Group, and serves as the school liturgist while leading the Liturgy Squad for the Campus Ministry Team. She also serves as the musical director and orchestra conductor for the spring musical. In her short time as a faculty member, Jess has doubled the participation in music groups and has made great strides in getting student athletes to give music a try!

Mary often returns to campus as well, playing piano at school Masses, concerts, and the musical performances. These moments give mother and daughter the unique opportunity to share the same musical ministry at Holy Angels, something neither could have imagined decades earlier.

Seeing Jess carry on the tradition of excellent music at Holy Angels has been deeply meaningful for Mary, and she cherishes the joy of making music together with her daughter.



The Poepping family performing at Coffeehouse in 1985.



Winter Sports Alumni Nights

Over the winter, Holy Angels alumni were invited back to cheer on the school's varsity teams during Alumni Nights for girls' and boys' basketball and hockey. It was wonderful to welcome back alumni of all ages to reconnect and show their support for Holy Angels athletics. Thank you to all who joined us for these special evenings!



Boys Basketball

AHA STARS **SCOREBOARD 70-52** Park Cottage Grove

Girls Basketball

AHA STARS **SCOREBOARD 73-63** St. Anthony

Girls Hockey

AHA STARS **SCOREBOARD 2-2** Chaska Chanhassen

Boys Hockey

AHA STARS **SCOREBOARD 5-3** Wayzata



A New Rhythm for Rock the Lawn

Jesse Foley '89



If you've walked across the front lawn of Holy Angels on a warm and sun-drenched June evening, you know the feeling. As you approach the school you see the friendly and familiar faces, the decorated tents, laughter coming from the photobooth, the school facade lit up, and the amazing music echoing across the grass. It's Rock the Lawn (RTL), a summer music concert at a venue that no other school can offer.

I'll never forget the first year of RTL. Our planning committee who had worked so hard to put the event together had no idea how the community would respond. But then they came! The community showed up until the front lawn felt packed. Perfect summer weather, awesome music, the aerial photos told the story; a beautiful tradition had begun.

Now, 10 years later it's interesting to reflect back both on all the fun we've had as well as the issue that sparked RTL.

A Way to Move Forward

In 2015, AHA faced a difficult decision regarding the possible sale of the front lawn. No one wanted to part with the land, but the question remained, was selling it something that needed to be done to sustain the school's mission?

While the land was ultimately not sold, the debate was a difficult one for the community. Seeking a way to move forward and bring the community back together, a new tradition was considered.

The idea was simple, use the beautiful front lawn to host an outdoor music concert. Music legend and AHA alum Paul Peterson '83 was asked to help. Once introduced to the vision, he was onboard and has been instrumental ever since. That first year, Paul's band was our headliner and his set featured a memorable Purple Rain tribute to Prince. The bar for musical excellence had been set.

Built by Volunteers

RTL has remained a grassroots event. An incredibly dedicated planning committee have spent countless hours guiding and handling everything from promotions, hospitality, safety, logistics to sponsorships.

The results speak for themselves:

- An average of 700 guests per year.
- 45 classes have used RTL as a venue for their reunions.
- We even celebrated an alumni engagement on the lawn in 2017.



Looking ahead to 2027 and to our 100 year celebration!

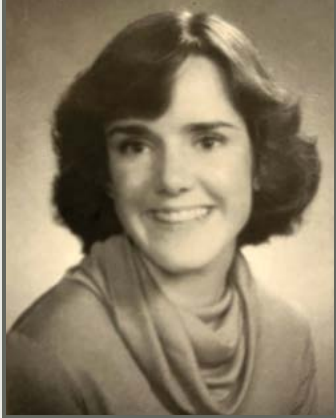
To balance staff and volunteer resources, the decision was made to make RTL a biennial event. Beginning in 2027, it will be held every other year, alternating with our May "Calling All Angels" Alumnae Luncheon. Our next RTL is scheduled for June of 2027, followed by 2029. This schedule will lead us right into the summer of 2031, where RTL will be a part of AHA's 100-year celebration.



Get Involved

For RTL to thrive into its second decade, we need a new generation of alumni and community members to help carry the torch. If you have a background in event planning, marketing, music, or simply a desire to keep this incredible tradition going strong, we'd love to have you join the committee. For more information email alumni@ahastars.org.

RTL started as a way to bring a community back together. Ten years later, it's clear that the music, and the people, have done exactly that.



AHA Alumna Profile:

Margaret Sarazin Murphy '78, Alumna and Parent of an Alum

Margaret currently serves on the Academy of Holy Angels Advancement Committee

What was Holy Angels like for you in the 1970s?

I have so many fond memories of my time at Holy Angels. The school was still adapting to having boys on campus; our team name was Co*Stars and all of the boys sports teams were still being built. The girls basketball team won the State Championship my freshman year and that was a huge accomplishment. The classes provided good preparation for college, particularly in English. The modular scheduling was an unusual concept. I recall joking about the modular scheduling calling Religion class the God Mod, Phy Ed was the Bod Mod!

How has your AHA education impacted your life?

During my time at AHA, I had the opportunity to participate in Student Council, cheerleading, and lots of events and activities. I went on a study abroad trip to France with Mrs. Shimek and other students in the French program. There were lots of chances to participate and try things because the school was small and the staff encouraged active engagement. All of these experiences opened up a world of possibilities which has proven to be very valuable. In my career, I welcome new opportunities and the chance to make a difference. I think those skills learned from Student Council and planning and organizing sports related activities translated into important skills that I used throughout my career in commercial banking.

As you experienced AHA as a parent, what did you see that had changed and what had stayed the same?

Holy Angels continues to offer a close community, a college prep experience, an emphasis on community service, and a foundation built on faith. While there have been many important updates to the campus and buildings, it still has the same wonderful feel of the old architecture and rich history. AHA continues to be a place where students meet life-long friends.

While the core mission has remained, AHA has grown and evolved over the years. Our son Michael experienced even stronger academic preparation. The college admission process has changed dramatically. The Holy Angels

advisors and the college prep process is excellent. This is an invaluable resource and a key differentiator.

What has compelled you to be a participative alumni, a member of the Board's Advancement Committee, and donor to AHA?

I reconnected and became more involved with Holy Angels when our son Michael '24 was a student. I could see that Holy Angels was doing a fantastic job preparing kids for college and for the changing world. I love that Holy Angels has a diverse student population from over 100 different grade schools, different backgrounds and different areas of the metro. I wanted to support that outreach and the continued success of Holy Angels students.

What is one important thing that alumni from your era might not know about their alma mater today?

Today, Holy Angels serves a much more diverse student population that beautifully reflects the community and the world we live in. Nearly 50% of students qualify for need-based scholarship support. Alumni and donor participation have grown and are supporting a much-needed and strong scholarship program. This allows the school to offer financial support to families who would not otherwise be able to send their children to AHA. This benefits the entire student population and the AHA community.

Margaret's family spans three generations at AHA.

They include:

Aunts, Carol Sarazin McGough '53 and Mary Sarazin '55, Sisters Sheila Sarazin Folkestad '83 and Jean Sarazin Baron '88, Niece Maggie Folkestad '12, Son Michael Murphy '24, and Father Terry Sarazin, AHA Board of Trustees.



CALLING ALL ANGELS



Alumnae Luncheon

MAY 14, 2026



Academy of Holy Angels is excited to announce the "Calling All Angels" Alumnae Luncheon on **Thursday, May 14.**

This year, we are pleased to extend the invitation to alumnae from the Class of 1978 and earlier. This complimentary event is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect, celebrate shared memories, and honor the everlasting bond of the Holy Angels community. Our planning committee and members of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet are excited to see you!

While the luncheon is free to attend, please consider donating to the Guardian Angels Fund. We hope you will join us for this special day!



Thank you to our AMAZING Luncheon Planning Committee:

Martie Trader Glockner '57
Maureen Kelly Neerland '58
Kathy Finley Hanson '59
Donna Kelly Ramsay '61
Lois Johnson '62
Pat McGruder Willette '62

Joan Willenburg Rourke '65
Patty Meehan Cunniff '65
Sheila Clifford Lind '65
Margi Mexner Cesarek '73
Pam Matthews Kerber '73
Rose Murray 30+ years teacher

Agenda

- 10:00 am Guests arrive
- 10:25 am All-School Convocation
- 10:45 am Social & Refreshments
- 11:00 am Luncheon
- 12:15 pm Program in the Theater
- 12:45 pm Tour of AHA

RSVP

To reserve your place, please register using the QR code:



You may also email Ciara McCrory '21 at cmccrory@ahastars.org or call 612-798-2613

Parking

Available in the St. Peter's parking lot next to Holy Angels



Alumni Class Notes



A beautiful tradition continues for the Class of '62! This friend group gathers every year for a reunion at Kitty Schumacher's home. Pictured: Pat Willette, Kitty Schumacher, Eileen McCormack, Dee Bentley & Pat Czyson.



Class of '62 at the Minnesota Twins Open House in Fort Myers.

Pictured: Jean LaPlace (spouse of Pat Grady), Barbara Conlin Blaeser, Dee Weinbender Bentley, husband Michael Bentley, Kitty Ernst Schumacher, husband Don Schumacher.



Class of '89 AHA alumni in Seattle!

Jesse Foley '89 traveled to Seattle to visit with his former basketball players Stephen King '02, Brian King '04, Patrick Burke '16 and Max Arms '16. If you live outside of MN and have some ideas about a Holy Angels alumni gathering in your area, please let the alumni office know!



Birthday Trip

A friend group from the class of 1989 took a belated 50th birthday trip to Gulfport/Biloxi, Mississippi. They have remained a tight-knit group since high school. The group was missing Beth Reed, who was teaching overseas in Romania, but she was with them in spirit. Pictured: Simmi Madan Ahluwalia, Sara Rennie McDonnell, Denise Melin Cuestas, Dushani Mallawaarachy Dye, and Michelle Marso.



Kevin Ross '13 Married

Congratulations to Kevin Ross '13 and Samantha Tobritzhofer who were married on June 6th.

Tatjana Maria Mortell '13

Tatjana graduated from Tulane School of Medicine in May 2025 with an MD. and will be doing her residency in Florida as a surgeon. Pictured with twin brother, Michael Mortell '13.



Macy '14 and Connor '15 wedding

Macy Mancini Moriarty '14 and Connor Moriarty '15 had a beautiful wedding on October 17th. Alumni pictured: Macy Mancini '14, Connor Moriarty '15, Erin Kennedy '25, Shannon Wynne Benz '14, Daniel Moriarty '13, Michael Moriarty '09, Nick Benz '15, Luke Matlon '15, Benjamin Kern '15, Halen Hunter '15, Anthony Ekholm '15, Delaney Dornik '15.



Grace Hoepfner '21 Contributes to Spaceflight Health Research

During her graduate studies, Grace Hoepfner '21 has been researching how spaceflight and changes in gravity influence blood flow within the heart and what that means for cardiovascular risk during long-duration space missions. The research was recently published in the peer-reviewed journal Acta Astronautica and contributes to ongoing efforts to protect astronaut health as human space exploration continues to advance.

Meghan Kelly '22 and Jimmy Dunn '85 Mission Trip to Peru

Meghan Kelly '22 is currently a nursing student at the University of St. Thomas. She recently traveled to Peru on a medical mission trip with Andean Community Partners with fellow alum Jimmy Dunn '85. During the trip, they visited the village of Huilloc, where the team provided a three-day medical and dental clinic that served more than 250 community members. In addition to working at the clinic, Meghan spent two days helping repaint the grade school's lunchroom and resurfacing the exterior of the village's greenhouses. When not working, they had the opportunity to experience Peruvian culture and explore ancient ruins, including Machu Picchu. Meghan's favorite memories include playing with the children in the village and forming meaningful friendships with the people of Huilloc. Meghan especially enjoyed sharing this experience with fellow AHA alum Jimmy Dunn and the rest of the team.





Matthew Foley '23

Matthew Foley '23, a Public Policy and Economics major at the University of Virginia, was recently accepted to live in one of the 54 historic Lawn rooms for the 2026-27 academic year. This honor is reserved for student leaders who have demonstrated academic excellence and community service. At UVA, Matthew co-founded the History Club and is active in the Jefferson Literary and Debating Society along with being a member of the Chi Psi Fraternity. He credits his AHA mentors Mr. Werle and Ms. Kjorstad for supporting and encouraging his passion for history and public service.



Class of 2023 in Florence, Italy

A group of alumni from the class of 2023 met up in Florence while they were studying abroad in Europe. Pictured from left to right: Lucas Schutz, Jimmy Longo, Taylor Block, Caroline Carson, Sophia Sobhani, Madden Smith, and Fletcher Grubbs.

Molly O'Malley '24 Notre Dame Studios

Molly '24 is currently the primary linear broadcast analyst for Notre Dame Studios, covering softball and basketball, and a sideline production assistant for NBC Sports' football coverage. She recently joined an industry trek to NYC to network with executives from the NBA, NFL, and WWE.



In addition to her media roles, Molly hosts the faith-based podcast The Flame Within. She credits her time at AHA for the professional confidence she brings to the sports industry.



Brooke Wisdom '24 set the pole vault record at 4.05m for the University of St. Thomas!



Help us keep you updated on all things AHA news, events and more.

Update your alumni info (address, email, phone) by scanning the QR code!



Seeking Memories from Our Boarding School Days

As we approach AHA's 100th anniversary, we are seeking to find out as much about our history as possible! One particular era we are looking for more information on is our years as a boarding school.

If you, or someone in your family was a boarding student at Holy Angels, please contact our alumni office at alumni@ahastars.org!



Kathleen Hanley '71



Former Holy Angels English teacher and alumna Kathleen Hanley '71 passed away on March 24, 2026. She was a pillar in the Holy Angels community and a master teacher for thousands of students.

For 31 years (1981-2012), Kathy served AHA and its students in a wide variety of ways, including as an English teacher, Department Chair, student advisor, Dean of Students, student government advisor, member of the Board of Trustees, and teaching and learning specialist. She was the co-founder of the Literary Merit Club, helped develop the school's Writing Across the Curriculum program, and much more.

Kathy was the recipient of the Lunde Award in 2003 and the Angelus Award in 2010 for her outstanding contributions to the education, faith, and well-being of AHA's students.

Visit AHA's website to make a memorial gift to Holy Angels, designated for the David Anderson Scholarship.

Mary Johanna 'Doc' Giesen '57

Former Holy Angels social studies teacher and alumna Mary Johanna "Doc" Giesen '57 passed away on February 2, 2026.

She was a loving mother and grandmother, a passionate educator, and a dedicated historian.

"Doc" was the 2004 Angelus Award recipient. Her plaque reads, "For over 50 years of involvement at Holy Angels as a student, alumna, parent, and teacher who captivated students' minds and spirits". Her spirit will live on in the lessons she taught, the stories she told, and the students she inspired. Please visit the AHA website to make a memorial gift to AHA in Doc's name.



In Loving Memory

Please help us remember and pray for those in our AHA community who have died.

ALUMNI

Eleanor Bouley '52 (3/27/2024) sister to Joan Frederickson '45+

Dr. Mary Johanna "Doc" Giesen '57 (2/2/2026) AHA teacher, Angelus Award honoree, mother to Johann a "Jo" Giesen '91

Susan Rinck Hartner '62 (3/8/2026) sister to Kathleen Rinck Glover '61 and Marguerite Rinck Ramlow '67

Kathy Hanley '71 (3/24/2026) AHA teacher, sister to Holly Hanley Zick '61+ and Mary Hanley Boles '64+

Sarah Ann Jelgerhuis '07 (10/23/2024) sister to Rachel Jelgerhuis Dekker '06 and Laura Jelgerhuis '10

Susan King '54 (2/8/2025)

Deborah Monchamp '56 (7/25/2025)

Daniel O'Connor '80 (11/10/2025) brother William O'Connor '76, Michelle Hagen '77+, to Katie O'Connor Beckius '79

Dr. Nancy Rice '80 (12/3/2025)

Marlys Hagen Weber '50 (2/20/2026)

Marylyn Kranz Wefelmeyer '52 (8/11/2025)

Tricia Graham Zimmerman '71 (7/18/2025) sister to Linda Graham Ripley '70

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Greg Belstler (12/30/2025) husband to Dorothy "Dot" Gray Belstler '77

Jeannette Burns (4/12/2024) mother to Terri Burns Monbriand '77, Colleen Burns Durda '78, Pat Burns Bot '81, Maureen Burns McKean '83, Michelle Burns '85, Michael Burns '87 and Brian Burns '89

Susan "Sue" Duval (3/18/2022) mother to Thomas '89, Patrick '92, Jonathan '93, Andrew Duval '95, mother in law to Candice Knight Duval '97, grandmother to James Duval '29

Patrick Flynn (1/24/2026) husband to Ann Dalsin Flynn '59, father to Mary Bigler '81, John Flynn '83, Joann Kemper '84, Kate Nicklay '85, Patty Huss '86, father in law to Dave Huss '86, grandfather to Megan '13, Charlie '15, and Will Nicklay '18, Ben '12, Tom '14, and Evan Huss '18, great uncle to Emily '15, Tom '17, and Grace Martin '19

James Hileman (11/10/2025) father to Julie Hileman '01, Maria Hileman '03, Margaret Hileman '06

Brian Halloran (2/25/2026) husband to Patty, father to Annie Halloran Joyce '06 and Joseph Halloran '09

John Hohenshelt (11/5/2025) husband to JoAnn Reuland Hohenshelt '58

Jack Jaruszewski (11/28/2025) husband to Juli Finley Jaruszewski '60+

Richard Juettner (3/14/2026) husband to Rita Tholen Juettner '54+, husband to Kathleen Fadell Benson '54, father to Annie Juettner Foley '92, father-in-law to Jesse Foley '89, grandfather to Mike Potts '06, Brendan '16 and Nathan Loney '18, Jack '18, Peter '19, Mary '22, Luke '24, Ellie '26, and Kate Foley '29.

Claire Kelly (6/12/2025) mother to Wendy Ruble '83 and Christopher Kelly '85

Phyllis Klatt (12/12/ 2025) mother to Elizabeth McCann '82 and John Klatt '85, grandmother to Leah Klatt '17

Jim Mader (2/15/2026) father to Christine Mader '08

Marcy McMullen '62 (9/1/2025)

Susan Ogden-Malouf (1/2/2026) wife to Jeff Ogden, mother to Carter Malouf '06

Roger Parks (12/24/2025) husband to Anne Ciardelli Parks '72, brother in law to Chris Ciardelli '89 and Tony Ciardelli '91

Joan Marie Raasch (11/18/2025) grandmother to Annaliese Raasch '27

John Reardon (10/25/2025) grandfather to Grace Vannelli '14

Michele Schultz (12/20/2025) mother of Nick Schultz '94+ and Victoria Schultz Avery '97

Liliane Marlene Schutz (9/3/2025) grandmother to Lucas Schutz '23

Russell Susag (1/14/2026) father to Amy Maynard '77, Anne Susag '79, Katheryn Bauer '80, John Susag '82, Karen Susag '85, James Susag '88, father in law to Kimberly Hanke Susag '88, grandfather to Karl Bauer '12, Megan Bauer Flores '14

Patty Theiss (8/29/2025)

To have someone remembered, contact the Alumni Office at alumni@ahastars.org. These names were those that Holy Angels was notified about prior to March 20, 2025. We apologize for omissions due to lack of information or error.



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Alumni Night Theater
Spring Musical – Little Shop of
Horrors 4pm

APRIL 24

Alumni Night Baseball 4:30pm

APRIL 25

Starfest Gala

MAY 14

Alumnae Luncheon

JUNE 22

AHA Golf Tournament

JULY 25

Class of '86, 40th Reunion at AHA
Contact Tim Smith '86
timsmith5748@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 12

Class of '76 50th Reunion
Contact Mike Kallas '76
mkallas@kallas-law.com
952-832-9352

SEPTEMBER 18

Fitzgerald Field Dedication

SEPTEMBER 25

· Stars Are Out Tonight
· Homecoming Football Game
· 9th Grade Parent Mixer

OCTOBER 9

Grandparents Day

OCTOBER 22

Fall Open House

NOVEMBER 14

Booster Club Steak Fry

DECEMBER 16

Christmas at the Academy

DECEMBER 17

Alumni Christmas

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