June 7, 2018



CHRISTOPHER POPE PHOTOGR Congratulations Graduation season is in full swing at Catholic elementary schools, CATHOLIC SCHOOL high schools and colleges in the Archdiocese of New York. It's a time for students and families to proudly consider the hard work and good Graduates of 2018 times that have led to this moment and look ahead to a promising future. This pullout section highlights the accomplishments of the graduates and includes other compelling school stories and photos.

> **NEW PATH**—Newly minted alumni Ashton Astwood, Drew Tommarello and Luke Tobia begin the celebration as they process out of Hynes Center at Iona College during Iona Preparatory School's 99th commencement exercises May 24.

XAVIER HIGHSCHOOL

Joseph Michael Abbruzzese Hudson Luke Abel Angel Otoniel Alcantara Jr. Nicholas Richard Aliberti Shane S. Allen Edward Andrew Alongé Alexis Amigon Michael C. Arlia Daniel Francis Armato Diego Emmanuel Azerrad Muhammad Aziz John T. Bambury Peter Anthony Barone Benjamin Leverone Barrett GianLuca Bartoli Sherman H. Bartolomeo Ethan Amaru Bazan Joseph S. Bellone Francesco Giuseppe Bentivedo Michael George Boccadifuoco Alexander H. Botwin Joseph Anthony Boumoussa Dylan Robert Brosnan Timothy B. Burkhart Race D. Calderin Juan Carlos Calderon Justin Omar Caminero David Joseph Casazza Charles Henry Caso Christopher Ryan Castro Johnny Angel Castro Paul J. Ceffalio Orlando Alexander Cepeda Adrian S. Chelminski Mark Blake Cheng George Anthony Chiarovano Anthony Joseph Cimino Robert Ciupinski Timothy James Connolly Liam H. Cooney Francis Corrado Anthony Andrew Costa Brando Dorian Cristofoli Michael Dennis Crorkin Anthony Michael Cruz Lorenzo Carmelo Cruz Paul Melchiore Cucchiara Timothy Cusack-McPartlin Jason Mark D'Abundo Vincenzo D'Angelo Alexander Williams Day Timothy Blaise DeFonzo Frank Gino DiAngelis

Jesed Guzman Diaz Sebastian Ulysses Diaz Luke J. DiFucci Aidan Donahue Colin William Donohue Xavier Jerome Doody Matthew Collin Doscher Robert James Duggan Patrick John Dunne Adrian Durkin Emile Matthew El-Kallassy Christopher Eric Engel Ethan G. Espinoza Emmett J. Esposito Sean Patrick Sharkey Eustace Robert Paul Fadel Robert Constantin Farage Jack Joseph Fauci Miles Valerian Ferraro James Rene Fiechter Harry Edward Foad Matthew Michael Fortunato Kwesi Frank David A. Freire Michael Anthony Friala Brendan Patrick Gallagher Andrew Garcia Kevin Patrick Gelling Carmine Guerino Gentile Johnathon D. Geruso Conor Thomas Gillespie John Giouvalakis Joseph Patrick Girgenti James Glass Anthony Gomez Marcelo Khanna Gonzalez Joshua Dior Gourgue Nicolas Grispino John A. Guidarelli Peter Alexander Gurl Sean Robert Gurl Christopher Bordley Gushée Sawyer Gwyn-Rowsom James Aloysius Halbert John Michael Hartofilis Patrick Sean Heaney Richard Hennessy Joshua Edgar Heras Joseph George Hermann Andrew A. Hernandez Nicholas Alexander Hoo Michael Louis Iacobucci Vincent Joseph Ioviero Gaetano Mario Ippolito

Alexander Jude Jebaily Matthew Everett Johnson Cassius Emmett Kaehny George D. Kastanas John Gallagher Kehoe Joseph Robert Kelly Michael Ieuan King Thomas Edgar Knight III Taylor Adam Kramer Chase Joseph Krüg Frank Michael La Ferlita Kienan Patrick Lafferty Vincent Patrick LaRosa Jonathan Laudani Zion E. Lewis Tucker Leyton-Baéz Eric Lin Jonathan Christopher Quinton Logan Andrew Paul Lopez Jonathan Lopez Dean Lorentz-Perrone John Nicholas Lukolić Nicky Lumai William Isaac Lyons Carlito Delapaz Maca John Francis Macchiarola Fergus Gabriel MacDonnell Joseph L. Magnowski Sitiveni Augustine Malielegaoi Vincent Pericles Manolis Marc-Anthony Peter Maquiling Lamont Javier Marino Luca Dante Marinzulich Steven O. Marquez Alex Michael Maruca Nicholas C. Masi John Peter McGee Michael Robert McGuinness Brian McIntyre John Thomas McLaughlin IV Connor James Meade Marco K. Medina Kyle Mesa Tyler Minihan Michael James Minogue Jack Richard Montalto Luke James Mooney Daniel Moore John Donald Moran Justin Marc Moran Michael J. Moran Matthew J. Morin Omar Mtarfi Jake Phillip Murphy

Congratulations to *the* Class of 2018

Anthony Musiello Nicholas Nicolaou Gabriele Nicoló Chinonso Maximilian Nwaokorie Benjamin David O'Brien Aidan O'Connor Joseph O'Connor Josef Raphael Oett1 Elijah J. Offor Liam O'Hara Lucas Olson Devin L. On John Anthony O'Neill David Angel Oquendo Derek Orbe Peter M. Orlowski Matthew Ostrander Maël Moha Oujaddou Ari H. Paloumbis John George Pappas Themis Nicholas Pappas Haresh Komal Paray Joseph Richard Alves Pastilha Daniel James Pastore Vincent Gerald Pavan Jerardo Manuel Perez Michael J. Petze Matthew Pichardo Franklyn Pimentel Joseph Gerard Pisano Nicholas William Pisano Michael Platia Andrew Louis Poccia Victor T. Podvalny Carlos Miguel Ponce Timothy Richard Publik Nicolas M. Puglisi-Scandone Michael J. Queijo Louis André Frederick Queneau Peter Anthony Raftopoulos Alex J. Raiola Ethan Ramirez Franklin Rendon-Ramirez Gregory Rigas Fenely Rivas Maximilian Stephen Rohrbacher Patrick J. Romero Kyle A. Rose Liam Lewis Ruddy Phillip Arthur Ruddy Joseph Christopher Ruocco Dorian Ryan Tomas Peter Sabat

Ethan Tran Murray

Jules Saint-Martin Adam Abd-Karim Salah Kevin M. Salazar Kevin R. Salon Jonathan Tyler Sandella Paul John Sayad Dylan Ellis Scanley Christopher Richard Schiavello Eli Schuchert Clark Randall Sevcik Corey James Sheridan Riley Daniel Siederman Nicholas Williams Simel Max Skulski Martin J. Solano Nicholas Andrew Sorace Brandon Ricardo Soriano Francesco Costantino Sparacio Myles Spencer Atticus Knox Spurlock Nicholas G. Stokes Sean Lau Stubbs Jonathan Khuong Su Xavier Naeem Sweet Michael J. Sypa Santino Testani Christian S. Tierney Cesar Torres Thomas Jean Michel Treussard Servio Francisco Tuero Sebastian Thomas Vacco Jack Valderrabano Nicholas Christian Valentino Gabriel Elias Casillas Vargas William Joseph Vazquez Ricardo Velez Charlie Joseph Vidal Jett Raymond Villa Alexander Romeo Vitarelli Justin Warych Andrew Mark Wasserman Patrick Watters Mackenzie Weisz Elijah J. West Lucas A. White Colm Patrick Williams Paul Vito Willoughby Nicholas P. Wojno Justin Wong Perry Yam Christopher E. Yuresko Muhammed Zahriyeh Leonhard A. Zimmerer



The Tradition of Jesuit Excellence Continues

A PARTIAL LISTING OF THE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES TO WHICH THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2018 HAVE BEEN ADMITTED

American University · The University of Auckland · Bard College · Bates College · Bentley University · Bethune-Cookman University · Binghamton University · Boston College · Boston University · Bryant University Bucknell University · Butter University · U. of California, Irvine · Canisius College · Case Western Reserve U. · Catholic University · University of Chicago · Clark Adatata University · Clemson University U. of Colorado, Boulder · Columbia University · U. of Connecticut · Connecticut College · Cornell University · CUNY Colleges (various) · Davidson College · Lo of Dayton · U. of Delaware · U. C. Dublin · Drexel University Elon University · Emory University · Enfrifeld University · Bashion Inst. of Technology · Fordham University · George Mason University · Gorget Wason University · George Washington University · University · George Washington University · University · Cluyala Marymount University · Loyola University · Iona College · Itaca College · James Madison University · University of Kentucky Lafayette University · Le Moyne College · Lehigh University · Loyola Marymount University · Loyola University Chicago · Loyola University Maryland · Loyola University New Orleans · Macaulay Honors Program · Manhattan College · Mahlenberg College · U. of New Flagnad · U. of New Hampshire · U. of New Haren · New Jersey Inst. of Tech. · New York Inst. of Tech. · University · U. of Rhode Island · U. of Rhode Island · U. of Routerster Inst. of Tech. · University · Gorge Machington College · Sonthe Zue University · SUNY Geneseo · SUNY Maritime · Sacred Heart University · U. of Tampa · Temple University · St. Peter's University · Stevens Inst. of Technology · Stonehill College · Stone Brook University · SUNY Geneseo · SUNY Maritime · Swarthmore College · Space University · U. of Virginia Polytechnic · Itst. · U. of Virginia · Virginia Pol



Class of 2018 Valedictorians and Salutatorians

Each year, Catholic New York salutes the hard work and dedication of seniors graduating from Catholic high schools in the archdiocese. The valedictorians and salutatorians of each school are recognized in the listings below. If a school does not use those designations, and instead has student speakers, they are noted. Also listed is the number of graduates of each high school.

Academy of Mount St. Ursula, the Bronx

St. Philip Neri Church, 3025 Grand Concourse, Bronx Saturday, June 9, 10:30 a.m. 90 graduates Valedictorian - Mary Lou DeJesus Salutatorian - Franchesca Pepaj

Albertus Magnus High School,

Bardonia Friday, June 1 119 graduates Valedictorian - Tyler Guarino Salutatorian - Gia Cricchio

All Hallows High School, the Bronx

St. Patrick's Cathedral Saturday, June 2 149 graduates Valedictorian - Kenrick Khuu Salutatorian - Adrian Abreau

Aquinas High School, the Bronx

Graduation at Fordham Preparatory School, the Bronx Friday, June 1 92 graduates Valedictorian - Cynthia Akwatu Salutatorian - Isabelle Hanh Bui

Archbishop Stepinac High School, White Plains

Thursday, May 24 200 graduates Valedictorians - Eric Jimenez and Anthony Licciardone Salutatorian - Dennis Cregin

Cardinal Hayes High School, the Bronx

St. Patrick's Cathedral Saturday, June 2 216 graduates Valedictorian - Steven Truong Salutatorian - Christian Rodriguez

Cardinal Spellman High School, the Bronx

Lehman College Performing Arts Center, the Bronx Saturday, June 2 333 graduates Valedictorian - Esther Fadumiye Salutatorian - Brian Doan



Alex Yumiseba, Valedictorian, St. Raymond High School for Boys, the Bronx

Cathedral High School, Manhattan

St. Patrick's Cathedral Wednesday, June 6 161 graduates Valedictorian - Katalina Bustamante Salutatorian - Cynthia Pierre

Convent of the Sacred Heart, Manhattan

Brick Church, Manhattan Tuesday, June 12, at 4 p.m. 56 graduates Valedictorian - Calleigh Smith Salutatorian - Julia Larson

Cristo Rey High School, Manhattan

St. Cecilia's Church, East Harlem, Friday, June 8, at 4:30 p.m. 91 graduates Valedictorian - Cynthia Reyes Salutatorian - Fernando Sanchez

Dominican Academy, Manhattan

St. Vincent Ferrer Church, Manhattan Friday, May 25 53 graduates Valedictorian - Katherine DeMatteo Salutatorian - Natalie DiMattia

Fordham Preparatory School, the Bronx

Fordham University Rose Hill Gymnasium Wednesday, May 30 275 graduates



Abdulsalam Ighile, Salutatorian, St. Raymond High School for Boys, the Bronx

Student Speaker - Arinze O. Uddoh

Iona Preparatory School, New Rochelle Iona College, New Rochelle Thursday, May 24

196 graduates Valedictorian - Peter Calicchia, Salutatorian - Charlie Flanagan

John A. Coleman Catholic High

School, Hurley School auditorium Saturday, June 2 31 graduates Valedictorian - Isabella Sheth Salutatorian - Christopher Smith

John S. Burke Catholic High School, Goshen

United States Military Academy, Eisenhower Hall, West Point Saturday, June 2 110 graduates Valedictorian - Kellyanne Murphy Salutatorian - Kayla Johnson

La Salle Academy, Manhattan

St. Patrick's Cathedral Thursday, May 31 70 graduates Valedictorian - Ricky Jagroo Salutatorian - Daniel Baker

Kennedy Catholic High School, Somers

St. Joseph Church, Somers Saturday, June 2 158 graduates Valedictorian – Kelly Gebman Salutatorian – Jenna Pisciotti Invocation – Michael L'Abbate

Loyola School, Manhattan

St. Ignatius of Loyola Church, Manhattan Friday, June 1 52 graduates Student speakers - Amaya Cheek, Molly Martin Alumni Medal winner - Ernest Frimpong

Maria Regina High School,

Hartsdale Friday, June 1 132 graduates Valedictorian - Gabriella Castillo Salutatorian - Nikoleta Marku

Marymount School of New York, Manhattan

St. Ignatius Loyola Church, Manhattan Tuesday, June 5 56 graduates Valedictorian - Julia Ragde Salutatorian - Sarah White.

Msgr. Farrell High School, Staten Island

School gymnasium Saturday, May 26 180 graduates Valedictorian - Joseph Orlando Salutatorian - Jonathan Gomez

Msgr. Scanlan High School, the Bronx

St. Helena's Church, the Bronx Friday, June 1 110 Graduates Valedictorian - Jason Florentino Salutatorian - Ariana Santiago

Moore Catholic High School, Staten Island

International Christian Center, Staten Island Saturday, June 2 101 graduates Valedictorian - James Venditto Salutatorian - Kristen Thompson CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Mount St. Michael Academy, the Bronx

Richard J. Tricario Sports Center on campus Saturday, June 2 115 graduates Valedictorian - Khamari Martin Salutatorian - Danny Johnson

Notre Dame Academy High School, Staten Island

The Library Lawn on campus. Friday, June 1 122 graduates Valedictorian - Shefali Janorkar Salutatorian - Meenu Selvan

Notre Dame School, Manhattan

The Great Hall at Cooper Union, Manhattan Tuesday, June 5 83 graduates Student speakers: Amelia Balik and Siobhan Pender

IESUIT UNIVERSITY OF NEW YOR

Cornell University

Our Lady of Lourdes High School, Poughkeepsie

James J. McCann Athletic Complex Saturday, June 2 168 graduates Valedictorian - Anna Virginia Gregory Salutatorian - Joseph Quinn

Preston High School, the Bronx

Saturday, June 2 102 graduates Valedictorian - Annalisa Ginocchi Salutatorian - Julianna Paladino

Regis High School, Manhattan

St. Ignatius Loyola Church, Manhattan Saturday, June 2 129 graduates Student speaker - Trevor Wertheimer

Sacred Heart High School, Yonkers

Friday, June 1, Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Yonkers; Commencement exercises, College of Mount St.

Vincent, the Bronx 91 graduates Valedictorian - Stephanie Barajas Salutatorian - Kristin Rodriguez

Salesian High School, New Rochelle

Wiegand Center on campus Saturday, June 2 115 graduates Valedictorian - Connor Merenda Salutatorian - Michael Krmic

School of the Holy Child, Rye

Saturday, June 9, at 3 p.m. 57 graduates Student speakers - Jamie Rose Brusco and Natalia Angela Nuñez Invocation - Francesca Leigh Molen and Celeste Benerofe Hylton

St. Barnabas High School, the Bronx School auditorium

UNIVERSITY

The City University of New Yorl

Congratulations to Cardinal Hayes Class of 2018! Here are just a few of the colleges and universities our Hayesmen will attend this fall MANHATTAN College Occidental College Carnegie Mellon BOSTON SE COLLEGE University Ouinnipiac

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Friday, June 1 43 graduates Valedictorian - Joanna Elaine Walch Salutatorian - Erica Marie Diaz

St. Catharine Academy, the Bronx

Graduation at Salesian High School, New Rochelle Thursday, May 31 115 graduates Valedictorian - Daisy Prela Salutatorian - Emina Redzematovic

St. George Academy, Manhattan

Liturgy celebrated by Bishop Paul Chomnycky, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford Commencement Ceremony at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church Saturday, June 9, at noon. 9 graduates Valedictorian - Oleksandra Roik Salutatorian - Liubomyr Kovtsun

St. Jean Baptiste High School, Manhattan

St. Jean Baptiste Church, Manhattan Friday, June 1 87 graduates Valedictorian - Karenna Rodriguez Salutatorians - Daniela Lebron and Jocelyn Lindsay

St. John Villa Academy, Staten Island

Mother Alberta Stango Gymnasium on campus Saturday, June 2 76 graduates Valedictorian - Emma Newgarden Salutatorian - Victoria August

St. Joseph Hill Academy High School, Staten Island

On campus grounds Friday, June 1 96 graduates Valedictorian - Katherine Rose Santarpia Salutatorian - Luisiana Guerrero

St. Joseph by-the-Sea, Staten Island

School gymnasium Saturday, June 2 303 graduates Valedictorian - Jenna Pollack Salutatorian - Joseph Scanlon

St. Peter's Boys High School, Staten Island

Friday, June 1, Mass and ceremony 128 graduates Valedictorian - Frank Pizzella Salutatorian - Thomas Conte

St. Raymond Academy for Girls, the Bronx

St. Raymond Church, the Bronx Friday, June 1 80 graduates Valedictorian Mandy Zhang Salutatorian Helen Enriquez

St. Raymond High School for Boys, the Bronx Msgr. Tierney Auditorium, the Bronx Saturday, May 19 146 graduates Valedictorian - Alex Yumiseba Salutatorian - Abdulsalam Ighile

St. Vincent Ferrer High School, Manhattan

St. Vincent Ferrer Church, Manhattan Saturday, June 2 124 graduates Valedictorian - Amanda Garza Co-Salutatorians - Christina Papadopoulos and Cleopatra Papadopoulos.

The Ursuline School, New Rochelle

The Tully Family Auditorium-Gymasiumn at The Ursuline School Friday, May 25 145 graduates Valedictorian - Erica Mary Leonard Salutatorian - Juliana Nicole Cimini

The Montfort Academy, Mount Vernon

125 E. Birch St., Mount VernonFriday, June 8, at 6 p.m.25 graduatesValedictorian - Gabriella Palomino, BronxSalutatorian - Nayh Yulissa Seonarain, Bronx

Xavier High School, Manhattan

St. Patrick's Cathedral Thursday, June 14, at 7 p.m. 268 graduates Valedictorian - Francis Corrado Salutatorian - Mark Cheng



Stepinac's Honors Academy Assesses Flint Water Crisis, Looks for Potential Lead Dangers in Westchester

By PATRICE E. LIQUORI

tudents in Archbishop Stepinac High School's Honors Academy program studied the water crisis in Flint, Mich., for the past year across four disciplines, engineering, health sciences, finance and law, and presented their findings to more than 150 guests at the Clean Water Solution Symposium at the school in White Plains May 30.

The students concluded their findings by looking at potential lead dangers in Westchester County and a municipal bond solution for paying to replace lead pipes.

Moderated by Mary Calvi, co-anchor of "CBS2 This Morning" and "CBS2 At Noon" on WCBS-TV and mother of two at Stepinac, the panel included discussion of the student findings by expert panelists: Anthony V. Capicotto '83, P.E., a 31-year veteran engineer and consultant for municipal water systems; Morri E. Markowitz, M.D., director of lead poisoning prevention and treatment program, Department of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital at Montefiore (University Hospital for Albert Einstein College of Medicine); Christopher L. Daly '89, founder, CEO and president of Synergy Alternative Capital Management, a New York metro area investment firm and 22-year Wall Street veteran of leading investment firms; and Walter Schwartz, a practicing attorney in Ardsley, with more than 55 years of experience.

The finance student panel presenters, Steven Vukaj and Jonathan Alviar, showed that more than 21,000 homes in Westchester County built before 1939 potentially still have lead piping. They concluded, "The sum total of repairing lead piping would be in



CORDIAL WELCOME—Stepinac Honors Academy student Michael Schwarz greets broadcast journalist Mary Calvi, who served as moderator of the Clean Water Solution Symposium at Archbishop Stepinac High School in White Plains May 30.

the vicinity of \$212 million." They also pointed to potential economic expansion, increasing jobs for plumbers, excavators, landscapers and inspectors. One way to pay for non-lead piping,

the students suggested, is municipal bonds. Expert panelist Daly commended the students on their thorough research and planning. Pointing to the challenge of getting investors

Salesian Alumnus Appointed School Principal

evin Chisolm, dean of students at Salesian High School in New Rochelle, has been appointed the school's new principal, effective July 1. Chisolm, a 1998 alumnus of the school, replaces Father Richard Rosin, S.D.B., who will receive a new assignment.

The appointment was announced by Father John J. Serio, S.D.B., school president, during recent communications with the school's constituents. Chisolm, who became dean of students last September, is the first alumnus to be named principal of Salesian. He joined the faculty in 2007,



Devin Chisolm

teaching biology and AP biology; he also coached baseball and served on the strategic planning committee and the Middle States reaccreditation committee.

Chisolm attended St. Francis of Assisi School in the Bronx. He holds a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Miami and a master's in educational technology from American Intercontinental University.

Adriana Cioce, school guidance counselor, said, "We're very excited to have Mr. Chisolm in this role because of his abilities and his passion for the school."

interested in returns of 3 percent, he asked the students who they thought would be most likely to invest. The student panelists concluded that local investors would have more of a stake, since their concern for clean water would counterbalance the lower rate of return.

The engineering panelists, Patrick O'Mara, Ted Akuffo, Anthony Makaj and Nolan DeFreitas, presented the pros and cons of different filtering systems they created. Engineering expert Capicotto discussed how the student plans created concepts that were more economical than those that are used today and encouraged their further development.

Health care student panelists Peter Astriab, Michael Schwarz and Jiayan Liang looked at several ways to treat those with lead poisoning, especially children. Besides the obvious removal of the lead source, they described the pros and cons of chelation therapy, antioxidant therapy and calcium and iron supplements.

Dr. Markowitz, who has been treating children with lead poisoning for decades, said that through the years, the blood level numbers considered toxic have dropped. He also said that symptoms sometimes take long periods of time to manifest. "It's a hierarchy of toxicity," Dr. Markowitz said. "You don't become aware of lead affecting your cells until many cells are affected."

Students Thomas Silver and Ryan Howard presented background for both civil and criminal cases being brought against those in Flint. Attorney Schwartz created a dialogue with the student panelists and discussed which would be more difficult to prosecute, civil or criminal. "The criminal is much harder," Schwartz concluded. "It is a matter of proving beyond the reasonable doubt."

Frank Portanova, vice principal for curriculum and academic studies at Stepinac, said one of the primary goals of the Honors Academy when it was launched two years ago was for students to "see the relationship between their studies and their application to the real world."

Portanova concluded that "by tackling the contaminated water crisis in Flint, which has gone missing in the national conversation, the students have undertaken a very relevant project."





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Cardinal **Thanks God For Blessing** Graduating **Eighth-Graders**

By DAN PIETRAFESA

shton Weiss realizes what a difference-maker a Catholic school education is.

The eighth-grader at Holy Trinity Elementary School in Poughkeepsie was among the 200-plus students, teachers and principals at the Mass for graduating eighth-graders celebrated by Cardinal Dolan at St. Columba's Church in Hopewell Junction May 23.

"It really made me the person I am, from all the people I've met and all the experiences I've had," Ashton said. "It really changed the way I look at life."

Holv Trinity was one of the nine schools representing the Northern Westchester/Putnam and Dutchess regions of the archdiocese. Auxiliary Bishop Peter Byrne, the episcopal vicar for Dutchess, Putnam and Northern Westchester, joined Cardinal Dolan as a concelebrant. So did priests from the region, including Msgr. Joseph Giandurco, dean of Northern Westchester/Putnam counties and pastor of St. Patrick parish in Yorktown Heights, and Msgr. James Sullivan, dean of Dutchess County and pastor of St. Martin de Porres in Poughkeepsie.

Cardinal Dolan celebrates a Mass each spring for eighth-graders graduat-



ing from Catholic schools. St. Columba

was the second Dutchess County par-

ish to host the eighth-grade Mass; the

first was St. Mary's in Wappingers Falls

all you eighth-graders as we thank al-

mighty God for your graduation, all the

blessings and accomplishments these

years in grade school," said Cardinal

given in your schools, we thank God

for that. And there is no better way to

In his homily, Cardinal Dolan re-

minded students at a milestone like

graduation "to say dear God vou've had

this all worked out." He told students

God has a plan for each of them, and

He has accompanied them on their

journey and will continue to be there

"All the graces and lessons God has

Dolan at the beginning of the Mass.

thank God than here at Mass."

"It sure is a joy for me to be with

for 300 eighth-graders in 2015.

PHOTOS BY NATE WHITCHURCH

with them, even in difficult times.

Cardinal Dolan said he begins each day with a prayer that he learned in elementary school.

"Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in thee," he said. "What that means is precisely what I'm talking about. We trust him because he's in charge. He knows what he's doing. He's got us in the palm of his hand. Life has a purpose and meaning and it's leaned us back to Him. When times come where we begin to doubt that, that's when we need to make that act of faith all the more-Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in thee."

Ashton, the president of the student council at Holy Trinity, was happy to join Cardinal Dolan and all the eighthgraders for the Mass and then for pizza afterward at St. Denis-St. Columba School. He will attend Our Lady of

WITH CLASSMATES—St. Denis-St. Columba School eighth-grader Emma Drumm prays after receiving Communion at the Mass for graduating students celebrated by Cardinal Dolan at St. Columba's Church in Hopewell Junction May 23. More than 200 students, teachers and principals from nine schools in the Northern Westchester/Putnam and Dutchess regions attended the Mass.

Lourdes High School in Poughkeepsie.

"It's going to help me grow in my Catholic faith as well as my education," he said of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Abigail DeFrancesco transferred to St. Denis-St. Columba from public school in the third grade. She said everyone was friendly and accepting from her first day at the school that helped her grow as a person of faith.

"It helped me become the best version of myself, always trust God and do the very best I can in life and never doubt God's ways," she said. "I really didn't have much spiritual education until I came here. I learned a lot. I've grown closer to God and my faith."

Michael DiGraci said he enjoyed the Mass as well as his years at St. Elizabeth Seton School in Shrub Oak. He is planning to attend John F. Kennedy Catholic High School in Somers, where he hopes to be a member of the stage crew and play on the lacrosse team. His sister, Mary, is a junior at Kennedy Catholic.

"She has a lot of friends and says the teachers are really good. I just think it's a good school," he said.

"I'm just looking for a new experience and Kennedy has that for me. I'm ready for it."







SOON TO GRADUATE—Left, Cardinal Dolan receives offertory gifts from students Charlotte Greene of St. Mary's School, Fishkill; Jessica Neofytides of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Shrub Oak; and Daniel Caracappa of St. Patrick's School, Bedford, who is partially hidden, during the Mass for graduating eighth-graders May 23 at St. Columba's Church in Hopewell Junction. The eighth-graders attended Mass before enjoying a pizza party in St. Denis-St. Columba School. Above, Bryanna Paulus, James Howes and Yamahra Lynum, classmates at St. Columbanus School, Cortlandt Manor, join in prayer.



St. Catharine Academy Celebrates the Class of 2018

Enkeleda Lekocaj

Kaylin Angeliza Abreu Autumn Skye Acevedo Shaika Ahmed Alvssa Leann Alfaro Roquia Ali Jairyn Arias Arisindy Graciella Aulita Laura Bacai Nayeli Baez Anita Balidemaj Hana Belegu Selva Beskovic Alesia Bilbili Amal Binmahfood Keyana Brown Angelena D. Cancel Ashley Caridad Cardona Jeannine Carpenter-Reeves Nicole F. Carter

Briana V. Clarke Myka Coburn Thais Noemi Collado Jaida-Lee Olivia Colley Alyssa Kelli Cooper Ivy Faith Cooper Kaila Angelica Cordova Melanie Gail Crisol Genesis Nayrobi Cruz Corniel Suzana Curanaj Elizsha Cvorovic Alexis Morgan Daniels Chastidy Marie Deterville Natalie DiNuzzo Amanda K. Dixon Shyla Olivia Drummond Taylor Ann Dziuma Brianna Lynn Enriquez Vanessa Aylin Ferreras

Taryn N. Fiqueroa Sabrina Fontana Alyssa Marie Gaetano Jennifer Mariela Garay Severino Cassidy Geni Madeline Giler Donjeta Gjevukay Linda Gjonbalaj Atiana Gonzalez Haylee Gonzalez Ailish Siobhan Gooney Paola Guerrero Jasmine Shevone Herbert Alanis Hernandez Tahirah Lilla Huston Vanesa Hykosmani Samantha-Michelle Kanyi Donna Sukul Kemraj Jasmine Nicole Kibler

Rebecca Emille Lewis Jennifer Lin Sasha Lopez Nelial Madera Maribel Marino Silvana Martinai Leandra Nicole Martinez Maia Iman McFadzean Cindy Mejia Tathy Nicole Mercedes Ariana Zoe Milian Astriany Mosquea Abreu Larissa Michelle Muniz Christina Nguyen Shirley Ni Raimonda Nikollbibaj Charlene Jillian Nurse Lilly O'Farrill

Maame Ocran Leiamarie Ortiz Kiara Marie Pedrosa Kadie Pena Charleze Perez Danielle Marie Peters Daisy Prela Lisa Preldakaj Kate Ann Ragoonanan Emma Ramos Emina Redzematovic Katherine Elizabeth Reynoso Adriana Sara Rodriguez Alisha Rodriguez Amber Rodriguez Katelyn Marie Rodriguez Analiz Ruiz Keylie Salvador Christina Sam

Destiny Sanchez Gabriela Sanchez Shadai Jazleen Sanchez Arealla Liz Santa Britney Nicole Santiago Dirlanis Mercedes Santos Jimenez **Emily Scott** Destiny Mia Serrano Mahda Lena Shabanaj Maxiel Sosa **Kiaralise Soto** Cheyenne Tobar Jasmine Raquel Torres Jessica Catherine Tracy Leonarda Uljic Daniella Marie Vail Victoria Gomes Valeriano Gabriel Vega Lvnivah Alexandrea Williams Taia Marie Williams-Rivera

A Sisters of Mercy Tradition since 1889

CATHOLIC NEW YORK • HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

June 7, 2018



CONGRATULATIONS TO » THE STEPINAC CLASS OF 2018!

With a committed and talented faculty, an innovative, personalized blended learning environment and a highly diverse and outstanding extracurricular program, Stepinac is proud to be ranked as one of America's top 50 Catholic high schools. With deep pride, the entire Stepinac family of parents, friends, faculty and administration applauds the graduates as they take the next step in building their future success.





Educating and inspiring young women for a lifetime of faith, learning and compassionate action for a more just world.

AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL

685 East 182 Street | Bronx, NY 10457 718-367-2113 | www.aquinashs.org

Aquinas High School Congratulates the Class of 2018 Graduates earned over \$14 million in academic scholarships and grants to attend the following colleges and universities:

Adelphi University Albany College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences Albright College Alfred State University Bard College **Bowie State College** Colgate University **Cornell University CUNY: Baruch College CUNY: Borough of Manhattan CUNY: Bronx Community College CUNY: Brooklyn College CUNY: City College** CUNY: City College **Engineering School** CUNY: College of Staten Island CUNY: Hostos CC **CUNY: Hunter College CUNY: John Jay College** CUNY: Kingsborough Community College CUNY: LaGuardia Community College **CUNY: Lehman College CUNY: Medgar Evers College** CUNY: NYC College of Technology **CUNY: Queens College**

CUNY: Queensborough **Community College CUNY: York College** CUNY: Medgar Evers College Dominican College **Drexel University Emerson College Farleigh Dickenson** Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University Fordham University Hamilton College Hofstra University Iona College **Keystone College** Lehigh University LeMoyne College Lesley College LIU: Brooklyn LIU: CW Post Manhattan College Manhattanville College Mercy College **Middlebury College Molloy College Monroe College** Mount Ida College Mount St. Mary College New York University **Newbury College**

NY Institute of Technology **Pace University** Penn State **Quinnipiac University** Rochester Institute of Technology Savannah College of Art & Design Seton Hall University Sienna College St. Bonaventure St. Francis College St. John's University St. Joseph College St. Peter's College St. Thomas Aquinas College SUNY: Albany **SUNY: Binghamton University** SUNY: Broome Community College **SUNY: Buffalo State** SUNY: Cobleskill SUNY: Cortland SUNY: Fredonia SUNY: Geneseo SUNY: Morrisville State College SUNY: New Paltz SUNY: Old Westbury SUNY: Oneonta

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SUNY: Oswego SUNY: Plattsburgh SUNY: Potsdam SUNY: Purchase SUNY: Rockland **Community College** SUNY: University at Albany SUNY: University at Buffalo Susquehanna University **Temple University** The College of Mount St. Vincent The College of New Rochelle The College of St. Rose University of Bridgeport University of California: Irvine University of California: Merced University of California: Riverside University of Pennsylvania University of Rochester University of SanDiego University of Scranton Utica College





IAD NAMMOUR/ST_IOHN'S UNIVER

LAWN WAS FULL—Above, more than 14,000 people, including 1,853 graduates, attended the undergraduate ceremony on St. John's University's Great Lawn May 20 at the Queens campus. Left, Dr. Conrado "Bobby" Gempesaw, the president of St. John's University, greets Cardinal Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle, Archbishop of Manila, who delivered the May 20 commencement address on the Queens campus.

Still Right at Home at a St. John's Commencement

ntil a couple of weeks ago, I never had the occasion to return for commencement exercises at my alma mater, St. John's University, where I am a proud member of the class of 1985. That may seem a little odd considering my work and the fact that we have lived about half an hour from the Queens campus for many years.

This year's commencement speaker was Cardinal



Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle, the Archbishop of Manila, who is also president of Caritas International, the Church's worldwide federation of relief and develop-

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ment agencies. When I applied for a media credential to cover the 2018

Editor's Report

commencement, I also requested short interviews with Cardinal Tagle and the university presi-

dent, Conrado "Bobby" Gempesaw, Ph.D., whom I had not met before. I wasn't sure if I would get both interviews, but I aimed high and decided to see what happened.

I got some good initial feedback from Jen Tucholski, director of media relations at St. John's. We went back and forth by email a couple of times, and I agreed to show up early on Sunday morning, May 20, for an opportunity to speak with Cardinal Tagle, and a good possibility for an on-the-spot moment with Gempesaw.

At the appointed hour, I made my way to the beautiful St. Thomas More Church, where I was to meet Cardinal Tagle. First, I was given the opportunity to speak with two of the university's bright graduates, Aria Laucella, an English major, and Elizabeth Adam, a theology major, who are both members of the Catholics Scholars program.

Ms. Adam said that she would be pursuing her master's degree in education at Providence College while teaching at a Cristo Rey High School in that Rhode Island city. She said she was "incredibly excited, and a little nervous" about her immediate future, which sounded just about right when I considered how I felt on my own commencement day at St. John's.

When Cardinal Tagle walked into the church. he was friendly, approachable and very willing to answer my questions. Bringing to mind my interactions with the students. I asked the cardinal what he would tell them and others who were graduating from St. John's University on Pentecost Sunday.

Cardinal Tagle said Pentecost was "a beautiful day" to have graduation, and that the students should become part of the "missionary movement of the Church."

"The Holy Spirit reminded the disciples of what Jesus taught them," the cardinal said, "but to be sent as messengers of the gospel of reconciliation and forgiveness."

He said he hoped the Holy Spirit would send "a mighty wind to push all these young people out into the world." The day's readings stressed communion, and the cardinal said he thinks the graduates can play a significant role in bringing "a spirit of communion" into a fractured and divided world that so desperately needs it.

Speaking briefly with President Gempesaw as the St. John's faculty and administrators were gathering before their academic procession, he called commencement "one of the happiest days" in the life of a university. It's a chance to celebrate the success of students, and to mark them moving into their professional careers, where they would join 181,000 fellow alumni of the Vincentian school.

In a low voice, Dr. Gempesaw shared a comment meant only for my ears. "Welcome back," he said.

Dr. Gempesaw also had a personal message for this year's graduates, who numbered 1,853. He told them the day made him feel a bit nostalgic for his first year as university president, which coincided with the freshman year of the Class of 2018.

"Your success is our success," he told the graduates, "and our success is yours as well."

Cardinal Tagle made an impression on the students right from the outset of his commencement address. After the expected thanks and greetings to the chairman of the university's board and president, members of the Vincentian community and other ranking officials and staff, the cardinal drew cheers for offering enthusiastic greetings to the university's janitors, canteen and cafeteria workers, landscapers and tree trimmers, laundry workers and security people.

Cardinal Tagle, who received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from St. John's University, proudly displayed the watch on his wrist that he received as a gift from his parents when he graduated from high school in 1973. He encouraged the students to check the video monitors if they were having a problem seeing it from where he stood on stage. The cardinal said that some people have told him that he should buy himself an updated watch with more features. "This belongs to the museum," they tell him.

"They see an object," the cardinal said. "I don't see an object. I see persons, my parents, who strove to be able to give their son a gift for graduation."

"How do you see your parents?" he asked the students. "What do you see in them?"

It was a pretty good lesson for today's St. John's graduates to hear, and not a bad one for a 1985 graduate to encounter, either.



The 53 members of the D.A. Class of 2018 have been awarded over \$13.5 million in scholarships and grants. This graduating class, which includes a National Merit Finalist and National Merit Scholar, ranked #3 out of 46 high schools in the ADNY for highest average SAT score.

American University Binghamton University Bucknell Universitv* College of the Holy Cross College of William and Mary Connecticut College Cornell University* Fashion Institute of Technology Fordham University* George Washington University* Georgetown University Georgia Institute of Technology Goldsmiths, University of London Hampshire College Howard University Lafayette College Loyola Universitv

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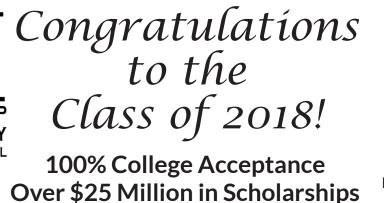
FUN RUN—Top right, 23 students from St. Barnabas High School, the Bronx, participated in the inaugural run through Van Cortlandt Park May 30 by the school's new running club, which will one day become a varsity track and field program. St. Barnabas math teacher Paul Leonard and athletic director Amanda Babcock worked together to start the club. Top left, Dr. Timothy McNiff, superintendent of schools in the archdiocese, speaks in the school gym with teacher Caterina Lamanna; board chair Julietta Guarino; Father Brendan Fitzgerald, pastor of St. Barnabas parish; and principal Theresa Napoli. Middle left, Dr. McNiff watches sophomore Sariyah Mojica be interviewed by Chelsea Katz of Spectrum News NY1. Above, from left, Erica Chavez, Mikayla Hernandez and Briana Allen, take part in the inaugural run.







Valedictorian Victoria Eng





Salutatorian Kaitlyn Perniciaro

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John Burke, III Jaa Eichelberger Gabrielle Butler Devyn Elliott Gabriel Cabreja Jordan Epps Corey Estevez Mariam Caceres Havlee Camacho Leana Eugene Michaelle Kalos Evans Campagnone Esther Fadumiye Amber Caputo Lauren Faix Katherine Carew Britney Carrillo Teresa Fanzo Javier Carrillo Camryn Feliu **Bianca** Carrion Aaron Casillas Ramon Centeno Raven Fisher Kimora Chambers Peter Charlton, Jr. Likai Flemming Lina Cheung Brian Flores Dalia Clarke Maajeek Flores Johann Cole Natalie Fontanez Ronnetta Compton-Arianna Fortson de Roche Erik Francis Enrique Concepcion Naomi Francisco Yolanda Concepcion Cynyah Francis-Yvonne Concepcion Lawrence Annieva Conlon Adrian Coulibaly Joseph Gabriele **Durianne** Cripps Eric Cuevas Ashley Galvez Cristian D'Aloia Renata Gama Justin Dantes Chaz Gant Mia DeGracia Jacqueline Garcia Adriana De Jesus Kenneth Garcia Madison Delgado Lizbeth Garcia Briana De Santo Tyler Garcia Pamela Diaz Kristian Gauvin Samantha DiDonato Remie Gavle Brian Doan Payton Gladden **Taylor Dos Santos** Briana Godinez Maria Douvris Dalkavjia Gomez Anthony Dushaj Vanessa Edokpayi Iyesha Gonzalez Justin Edwards Kamani Edwards

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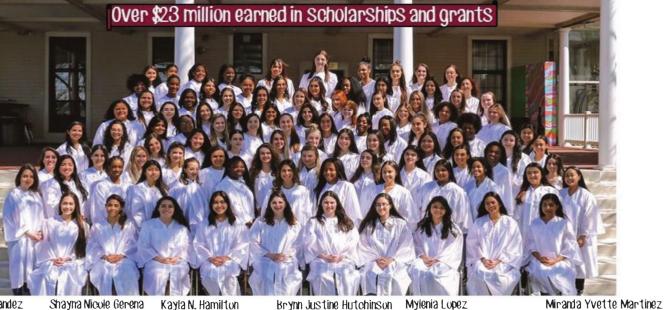


THOUGHTFUL INVITE—Cardinal Dolan accepts a "Class Dismissed" T-shirt from eighth-grader Rory Moore on behalf of the graduating class of St. Paul the Apostle School in Yonkers, above. There, the cardinal shared a New York/St. Louis-inspired lunch with 25 eighth-graders on May 23. Charles Connor, another eighth-grader, had written to the cardinal requesting the visit so that he could meet the cardinal and show off his school before graduating. Behind them, by the bulletin board, is Father Michael Morrow, a parochial vicar at St. Paul the Apostle parish. Left, Cardinal Dolan reviews a choir in the parking lot of the school. The principal is Grace Mallardi.

Autumn Andrea Adorno Gabriella Adorno Amanda N. Aguirre Arianna Almonte Kaitlyn Alvarez Samantha Ruse Balles Kayana Kaylin Batchelor Gabriella R. Battaolia Beaubelle Baybay-Bugante Meagan Bigger Lyudalis Virginia Burreru Zuleika Briceno Sarah Marie Brown Celest E. Bucknor Athena Bustos Olivia I. Calabro Angelina Calandruccio Lakisha Erica Camachu Gianna Nicole Cambria Kevise D. Canales-Jenkins Gabriella Esther Capellán Margaret R. Capellan Jailene Janis Carrasquillu Sarah Ruse Chambers Janat N. Choudhry Nayela M M Clarke Brianna S. Coumbassa Aileen Crowe Charlene Gacusan Culbengan Desiree Terese Datur Melissa Padmini Deunarain Olivia Mikayla Diaz Emily Fernandez Francesca DiMaggiu Catherine Jule Ficke Avayé D. Gilford Mia-Adaeze Elikwu Danielle Galante Mary Angela Felix Alyssa Genaru Courtney J. Ferguson Lydia Ann George



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Alexis Morea

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University

in St. Louis (2)

Yale University

Trinity College Dublin (2)

University of St Andrews (2)

at Austin



Cathedral proudly congratulates the Class of 2018

The graduates were awarded over \$30 million in college scholarships and grants and have been accepted into schools such as New York University, University of Notre Dame, University of Connecticut and Northeastern University. Among our graduates we have a NY Times Scholarship and Questbridge Scholarship Recipient.



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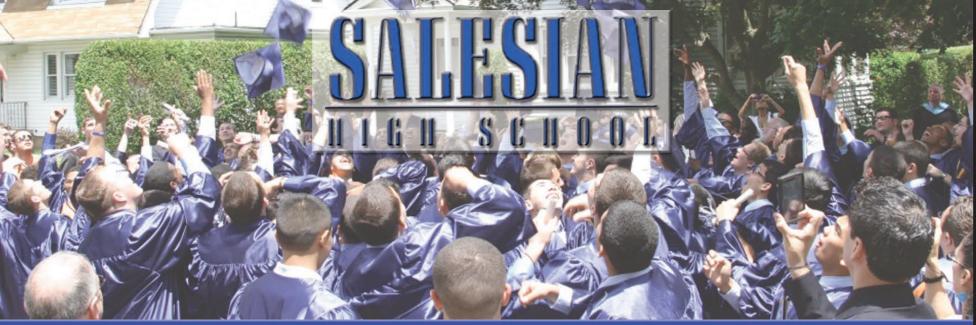
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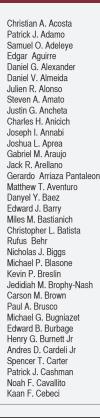




Salesian High School congratulates the graduating members of the Class of 2018! 148 E. Main Street, New Rochelle, NY 10801



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University New York University Pennsylvania State University Princeton University University

Rochester Institute of Technology

Saint John's University Saint Joseph's University Seton Hall University St. Francis College Stevens Institute of Technology Stonehill College Stony Brook University SUNY College at Cortland SUNY College at Geneseo Syracuse University **Temple University** The Catholic University of America

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Northeastern University Northwestern University Parsons School of Design Peabody Institute **Providence College** Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Roanoke College School of the Art Institute of Chicago Southern Methodist University Svracuse University **Trinity College Tufts University** University of Chicago University of Michigan University of Scranton University of Southern California University of Vermont Washington University in St. Louis Wellesley College Worcester Polytechnic Institute Yale University Marymount

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Salutatorian: Daniel Baker, attending Colgate University



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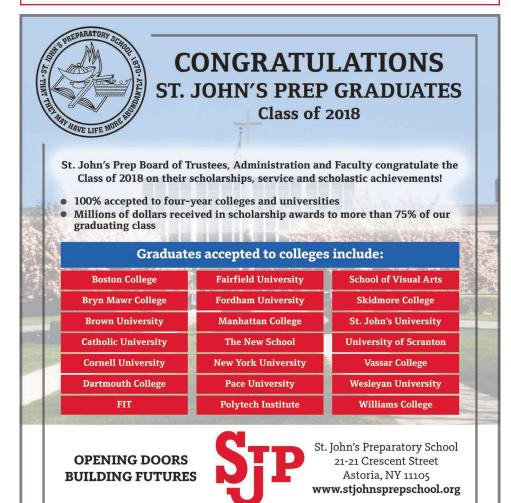
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Catholic Education Night Set June 26 at Dutchess Stadium

The eighth annual Catholic Education Night at Dutchess Stadium in Fishkill will be Tuesday, June 26, when the Hudson Valley Renegades play the Connecticut Tigers at 7:05 p.m.

The Renegades, a New York-Penn League Class A short-season affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays, are the defending league champions.

Students will participate in events before, during and after the game. Students are asked to arrive by 6 p.m. to participate in the pregame parade around the stadium. The third-grade class from St. Denis-St. Columba School, Hopewell Junction, won an audition to sing the National Anthem and essay contest winner Amy Zocchi of St. Peter's School, Poughkeepsie, will throw out the first pitch.

During the seventh inning, Sani Brady, a religious education student from St. Stephen the First Martyr parish in Warwick, will perform "God Bless America," and students from St. Peter's School will sing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."

Students are invited to run around the bases after the game.

Tickets are still available for students and their families through their school and religious education office at their parish.

The school or religious education program selling the most tickets will be invited for a pregame catch on the field and may request a visit from Rascal, the team mascot. Students from the winning school or religious education program are asked to report to the stadium when the gates open at 5:30 p.m. with a glove for the pregame catch.







Khamari Martin Valedictorian Danny Johnson Salutatorian

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Artists, Essay Writers Recognized at CYO Awards

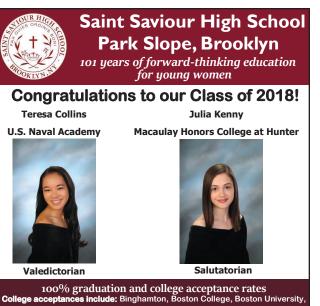


ohn F. Kennedy Catholic High School students swept the top three spots in the Experts Art division for high school freshmen and sophomores to lead the youth honored at the archdiocesan CYO Art and Essay Awards ceremony at the New York Catholic Center in Manhattan May 18.

Gracie Ossorio took first place, followed by Isabella Eckardt in second and Emma Moran in third for Kennedy Catholic, located in Somers.

In the Elite Art division for high school juniors and seniors, Elizabeth Rauchet of Albertus Magnus, Bardonia, took first place. Victoria Alonso of St. Joseph Hill, Staten Island, and Serenity Donahue of John A. Coleman Catholic, Hurley, were second and third, respectively.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 41



College acceptances include: Binghamton, Boston College, Boston Oniversity, Columbia University, Cornell University, Colorado School of Mines, Georgetown University, George Washington University, Howard University, Macaulay Honors College, NYU, NYU Engineering, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Northeastern University, Occidental College, Penn State University, Princeton University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rochester Institute of Technology, Smith College, SUNY Stonybrook, Swarthmore College, U.C. San ego, University of Maryland-College Park, University of Mass. U.S. Naval Academy, Villanova University, and Yale University

ARCHDIOCESE'S BEST—Left, Veronica Kwiecinski of Kingston Catholic holds her ribbon and trophy for placing second with her essay at the archdiocesan CYO Art and Essay Awards ceremony at the New York Catholic Center in Manhattan May 18. Middle, from left, are Nora Blickstein of St. Anthony's, Nanuet: Vivianna Chin of St. Augustine's, Ossining; and Levi Lamando of St. Augustine's, Ossining, the top three finishers in the Small Fry Art division for first- and second-graders. Above, Mary Dingman of Holy Trinity, Poughkeepsie, greets Edwin Broderick, director of CYO in the archdiocese, after taking first place in the Beginner Art division for third- and fourth-graders.

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The Power of Words In Catholic School

By CAITLIN M. ROSSI

n a side street in West Harlem, a poet is buzzed into the lobby of a Catholic school. Kevin Pilkington visits St. Charles Borromeo to teach a writing workshop for seventh- and eighth-graders. He's in jeans and a blazer, a silver stripe highlighting his otherwise dark beard.

Pilkington is a volunteer with Page Turners, a program of the Archdiocese of New York that brings local authors and illustrators into inner-city schools. Many choose to teach a class in the neighborhoods where they used to live and work, a homecoming to their early inspiration. They teach what they know, namely that kids can change their lives with just a pen and paper.

Security wire crisscrosses the first floor windows of St. Charles. Inside, the school lobby is brightly lit. A mural of goals and good vibes on construction paper makes the narrow foyer feel vast.

"Mr. P!" The call comes from a man walking out of a classroom. His gait has more swagger than the average elementary school teacher, but he is dressed carefully in a pressed shirt, tie and sweater vest. An orange faculty lanyard hangs around his neck. "Do you recognize me?"

"You look really familiar, man," Pilkington says. Then, he grabs hold of the teacher's arms. The poet is at a loss for words when he reads the lanyard: Mr. Tillery.

"You're the reason I became a teacher," says Tillery, close to tears.

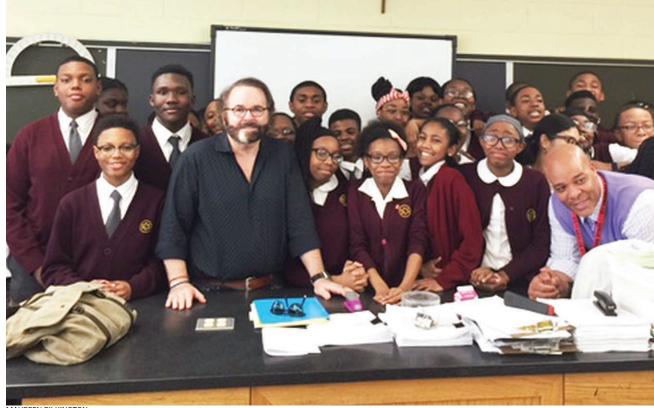
In 1985, Bryan Tillery was 16 years old and looking for a new school. After graduating from the parish school next to the housing projects where he grew up, Bryan was zoned into a public high school with fewer prayers and more freedom. After two years, he was searching for something more elusive: motivation. When he found St. Agnes Boys High School on East 44th Street, he took the bus to Midtown to enroll that day.

St. Agnes was run by the Marist Brothers and embraced a time-honored mission to turn boys into men of principle. Students commuted from Harlem or the Lower East Side, their families scraping to pay the scaled Catholic school tuition.

As a transfer, Bryan believed he had been given an opportunity and resolved to make it count. He worked a job at the neighborhood community center. He paid his own tuition. He was a talented basketball player and a good sportsman: When St. Agnes lost, he was the kid who went into the other team's locker room to say good game. Despite his earnest efforts to stay out of trouble, by his senior year Bryan found out he was about to become a father.

With the news still a secret at school, his future felt time-stamped. He kept his head down, often in a book, drawn to the work of the modern poets he read in his English class. He liked the way the teacher talked to students in their own terms and made literature feel real and important. It was Pilkington. In a gesture of adolescent respect, the students dubbed him Mr. P.

Bryan started to sit in the front row, his desk bor-



AUREEN PILKINGTON

TEACHER TO TEACHER—During a visit to St. Charles Borromeo School in Harlem in April 2017 to teach a writing workshop for seventh- and eighthgrade students, Kevin Pilkington, with beard, had a reunion with Bryan Tillery, right, whom he taught as a high school student at St. Agnes Boys High School in Manhattan in the 1980s. Tillery, now a teacher, credits the writing lessons he learned from Pilkington with helping to set him on a path to success.

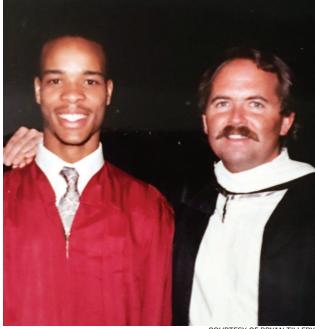
dering Pilkington's. The two got to talking after class. "He was mature, he did the assigned work, and he had a sense of humor —pretty good trinity to get you through life," Pilkington remembers. "I recognized that right away."

Soon they graduated from writing prompts. They debated how to measure success, not just in dollars and cents. How to stay calm when a guy talks back. How to treat a woman with respect. Usually reserved, Bryan opened up with Pilkington. "Whatever it was, he made sense of it," Tillery says now. "In his own smooth way, he made me understand that it was OK." When he saw Mr. P in the stands of the St. Agnes gymnasium during a basketball game, he felt like he had scored 100 points.

Not wanting to let his teacher down, Bryan was afraid to tell Pilkington about the baby. When he summoned his guts and confessed, Pilkington didn't miss a beat. "Be the best dad you can be," he said.

Pilkington challenged all of his students to write more, deeper and without hesitation until it became a daily habit. Bryan found that if he faced the page at the end of each day, he could face everything else, too. He followed Mr. P's formula to push his own narrative forward, learning how, even when he felt stuck on his first draft, to believe that all things are doable. "I can't say it any other way," Tillery explains today.

"If I didn't have Mr. P in my life at that time, I don't know what I would have done. That switch that you turn on in a person—that gets them to want to make



COURTESY OF BRYAN TILLER

something better of their life—that's what he did for me. I have to pay that forward."

Back at St. Charles, Pilkington puts on his Page Turners workshop with no evidence of the emotional reunion in the hallway—a practiced teacher and, as it turns out, enduringly smooth. He instructs the students to write about what moves them, and the class concludes with a reading. The kids speak about God, school, the streets, their crushes. When they seem ready to keep writing on their own time, Pilkington hands the class back to his former student.

Tillery tells the classroom that he still writes reflections at the end of each day. Sometimes, he even goes back to his old neighborhood with a pen and paper and just writes, guard down, like Mr. P taught him.

Pilkington listens carefully. "He's showing them the possibilities," Pilkington notes, packing up his bag. "If I reached him, I did something right."



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Congratulations to the Class of 2018 Pictured above: The 2018 Kennedy Catholic Students of Excellence The Class of 2018 earned \$49.2 million in college scholarships and were accepted into some of the top schools around the world

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'Selfie' Culture Leads to Alienation, **Departure From Reality, Pope Says**

By JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

Thile taking selfies can be an occasion to capture treasured memories, it can also be a sign that young men and women are deprived of meaningful human interaction with others, Pope Francis said.

Responding to questions May 14 at a meeting with 1,700 priests and lay leaders of the Diocese of Rome gathered at the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the pope said he realized the negative social implications of technology a few days earlier when he was greeting teens participating in a program of the international network of "Scholas Occurrentes."

"They were all there waiting for me," he said. "When I arrived, they made noise, as young people do. I went to greet them and only a few gave their hand. The majority were with their cellphones (saying), 'photo, photo, photo. Selfie!'

"I saw that this is their reality, that is the real world, not human contact. And this is serious. They are 'virtualized' youths," the pope said. "The world of virtual

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CELLULAR GREETING—Pope Francis passes youths holding cellphones as he arrives for a meeting of the international network "Scholas Occurentes" at the Vatican May 11. In remarks May 14 the pope said a few young people extended a hand when he arrived for the meeting, but most were trying for a photo.

communication is a good thing, but when it becomes alienating, it makes you forget to shake hands."

Archbishop Angelo De Donatis, vicar of the Diocese of Rome, had asked Pope Francis about his impressions of the meeting in March in preparation for the upcoming Synod of Bishops on "young people, faith and vocational discernment" and how the Church should respond to the needs of young men and women.

The pope said he had "a good impression" of the presynod meeting and the meeting's final document was "beautiful." He also praised the commitment of the young delegates and their seriousness in addressing the challenges facing young people today.

Drug use, he said, is one of the main problems facing young men and women today. However, youths also can be "easy prey" to a different kind of drug: cultural alienation.

Young people today receive proposals that are alienating them "from values, from insertion into society, alienating them from reality: they propose a life of fantasy," the pope said.

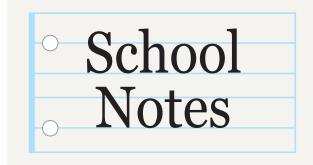
"It worries me that they communicate and live in a virtual world. They live like this, communicate like this and do not have their feet on the ground," he said. "We must make young people 'grounded' in the real world; to touch reality without destroying the good things the virtual world may have because they are useful. This is important: reality, concreteness."

An important way to help young people engage with the reality around them is to encourage them to get involved in charity work and in the corporal works of mercy, he said. "Do something for others, because this helps them be concrete, it grounds them, and they enter into a social relationship."

Since many parents today "are from a generation whose roots are not very strong," the pope said young people lost in the virtual world should engage in dialogue with their grandparents and the elderly.

Citing an unnamed poet, Pope Francis said, "All that the tree has flowered comes from what it has in the ground below.' Go to the roots!"

"In my opinion, this is one the most difficult problems facing youths today: they are uprooted. They must find their roots without turning back. They must find them to go forward," the pope said.-CNS



Mount St. Mary College Confers More Than 120 Nursing Pins to Grads

Mount St. Mary College in Newburgh honored more than 120 graduates of its nursing program at a pinning ceremony May 18. The following day, degrees were awarded to nearly 600 graduates, including the newly minted nurses.

Dr. David Kennett, interim president of the college, said, "Don't forget the members of this faculty that nurtured you. Yesterday, they were your teachers. Today, they will become your colleagues in this noble profession."

Among the graduates recognized for excellence in their studies, skills and dedication to the field were Gina Zinzi of Poughkeepsie, who received the General Excellence in Nursing Award; Kayla Winne of Shokan, School of Nursing Clinical Excellence Award; Danielle Zaleski of Walden, School of Nursing Leadership Award; and Deanna Cacioppo of Dover Plains, who earned the Spirit of Nursing Award.

The nursing pin displays the college seal and motto, "Doce me veritatem," which translates into "Teach me the truth."

To close the ceremony, the graduates recited "A Nurse's Prayer," which speaks of dedicating one's life to helping others.

Five Manhattan College Graduates Get Postgrad Volunteer Opportunities

Continuing in Manhattan College's Lasallian tradition of service to others, five graduates have been offered opportunities at service-based organizations across the country.

Cameron Gribbons and Melanie O'Connor have been offered positions with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, an organization of lay volunteers who commit one year or more to community service with poor communities. Alannah Boyle will join NETWORK, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., that advocates for social justice, inspired by Catholic women religious. Julia Jenkins will join the Peace Corps, a service program run by the U.S. government that provides volunteers the opportunity to immerse themselves in a community abroad, working alongside local leaders. Bridget McEvoy has accepted a position with Lasallian Volunteers, a program of the De La Salle Christian Brothers of the Lasallian Region of North America. Lasallian Volunteers offers one or more years of service to schools and agencies of the Brothers whose mission is to serve the poor.

College of New Rochelle to Offer Pharmacy Technician Program

The College of New Rochelle School of Nursing and Healthcare Professions recently announced a new



pharmacy technician certification program, which will be offered at its Rosa Parks Campus in Harlem.

It includes 160 hours of training, which consists of 80 hours of theory and 80 hours of externships at an institution and a local retail community pharmacy.

Students are required to have a high school diploma, or its equivalent, to be considered for admission to the program, which runs from June 7 through Aug. 30.

Information: cnr.edu/pharmtech, (914) 654-5452 or email admission@cnr.edu.

Gift to Further Thomas Merton Legacy at Columbia University

Columbia Catholic Ministry (CCM) has announced a gift of \$100,000 for its Thomas Merton Lecture Series. Made on behalf of the late Edmund J. Kelly, it is the largest gift the series has received since its founding in 1978 and will ensure for decades to come that Columbia students, faculty and alumni have an annual opportunity to engage in the life and lessons of one of the 20th century's most celebrated and prolific spiritual writers.

CCM has received several gifts from the Kelly family, including \$50,000 in 1997 to establish the Hugh J. and Catherine R. Kelly Endowment for the Merton Lecture at Columbia University.

The Merton Lecture was established in 1978 when CCM set out to create an annual event honoring an individual prominent in religious life whose message resonated with undergraduates.

A natural figure was found in Columbia alumnus Thomas Merton, O.C.S.O., due to his significant contributions to spirituality writings and strong ties to the university and nearby Corpus Christi Church, where he was baptized while a student.

St. Raymond Student Accepted Into Marines Leadership Summer Camp

St. Raymond High School for Boys junior Brandon Santiago was accepted into the U.S. Marine Corps Summer Leadership and Character Development Academy in Quantico, Va., July 16-22.

The academy is for rising high school juniors

DOUBLY HAPPY—

Mount St. Mary College student Carli Pusateri wipes away a tear of joy during the college's nurse pinning ceremony May 18 as she listens to a recorded message from her twin brother, Lcpl. John Pusateri, a member of the U.S. Marine Corps who is stationed overseas.

LEE FERRIS

and seniors across the country where students will learn from Marines and be asked to step outside their comfort zone to strengthen their confidence and leadership skills.

To qualify, a student must have a minimum 3.0 grade-point average; perform well on the initial strength test; participate in athletic, leadership and service-oriented activities; and possess leadership traits and strong moral and ethical standards.

Spring Gala Raises \$1.8 Million For La Salle Academy Scholarships

Nearly \$1.8 million was raised for student scholarships at La Salle Academy's 27th annual Spring Gala at the Pierre Hotel in Manhattan May 10.

La Salle was on pace to complete the 2017-2018 academic year as its best fund-raising period in the school's 170-year history with about \$2.7 million in total fund-raising revenue.

About 700 attended this year's gala. Four alumni were honored for their support and commitment to La Salle: Brother Ralph Darmento, F.S.C.; Deacon James Detura, R.Ph.; Robert Schoenberger; and T. Howard McGee, Ph.D.

Salvatore LaRocca, chairman of La Salle's board of trustees, served as master of ceremonies as well as the event's co-chair with fellow alumnus Vincent Tese.

'Laces for Lexi' Collects Over \$2K For Family at Fishkill School

A student council fund-raiser involving the sale of purple shoelaces raised more than \$2,000 at St. Mary School in Fishkill for the Killeen family.

Alexis Killeen, a third-grader at St. Mary School who has cerebral palsy, is scheduled to undergo surgery this summer.

Because purple is Alexis' favorite color, the student council decided on a fund-raiser, "Laces for Lexi," to sell purple shoelaces that students had the option of wearing to school on their uniform sneakers or as hair ribbons.

Three hundred shoelaces were sold in the first few days of the fund-raiser.



TEAM PLAYERS—New York Yankees Hall of Fame manager Joe Torre, now an executive with Major League Baseball, joins his sister, Ursuline Sister Marguerite Torre, who served for 27 years as principal of Nativity BVM School in Ozone Park, Queens, at Arthur Avenue Market in the Bronx's Little Italy where more than 150 guests raised close to \$125,000 May 23 for the 27 elementary schools in the Bronx Catholic Schools Region. Torre and Father Jonathan Morris, pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish in the Bronx, honored David Greco, owner of Mike's Deli, and Jerome Raguso, owner of Gino's Pastry Shop, for their community development and support of the Bronx Catholic schools. Sister Marguerite was cited for her personal commitment to students during her 50-year career as a Catholic school educator.

Yonkers Pastor to Speak on Evangelizing Youth

Father Andrew Carrozza, pastor of St. Ann parish in Yonkers, will give a talk on "Evangelizing Youth in Today's World," Wednesday, June 27, during a noon luncheon sponsored by the Serra Club of the Bronx and Westchester at the Eastwood Manor, 3371 Eastchester Road, the Bronx. Luncheon cost is \$30. Information and reservations: (718) 798-7176.



Darlene Dyan Barreras Syona Findley Bennett Navarjé D. Brown Christal Calder Jessica Elizabeth Celzo Erola Curraj Crystal Dennis

Crystal Dennis Shemoore Dowe Lindsey Beth Gill Egzona Gjonbalaj Katherine Frances Gmuer Geetangalie Goberdan Tanika Cazzia Gustave Heaven Brazil Dawkins Harrison Jasmine Kezia Marulaz Henry Rachel E. Hinton Akporobaro Alicia Idolor Daina Nicole Jameison Litzy Leon-Sixtos Breanne Samantha Liscoe

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Congratulations Class of 2018!

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St. Patrick's Day Parade Awards Scholarships To Six College and High School Students

he New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade this week announced the six winners of the 2018 College and High School research scholarship contest.

Winners of college scholarships are:

First Place – Emily Grasso, New York University School of Law. Her mother is a member of the County Leitrim Society of New York.

Second Place – John Doyle, Iona College. **Third Place –** Margaret Smith, Fordham University.

Winners of high school scholarships are:

First Place – John Aidan Armstrong, Mount Sinai High School in Mount Sinai. His mother is a member of the Parade-Affiliated Organization, Molloy College in Rockville Centre.

Second Place – Mary Elizabeth Amonica, Albertus Magnus High School in Bardonia. Her uncle is a member of Division 3 Rockland County AOH in Pearl River.

Third Place – Katherine Brophy, Delaware Valley High School in Milford, Pa. Her grandfather is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

"We commend all the applicants for their submissions and compliment them for the extremely high level of academic excellence," said program cochair Catherine Tully Muscente. "The scholarship program is important as it engages young individuals who are interested in their Irish heritage, and hopefully they will step up to be the future leaders of this great parade."

The parade scholarship program is funded by the St. Patrick's Day Foundation. This year, the foundation is funding nine scholarships, the traditional six parade scholarships for affiliated groups, which total \$10,000, and three scholarships in Cardinal

CYO Awards...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

In the Small Fry Art division for first- and secondgraders, Nora Blickstein of St. Anthony's, Nanuet, was the winner. Vivianna Chin and Lev Lamando, both from St. Augustine's, Ossining, were second and third, respectively.

Mary Dingman of Holy Trinity, Poughkeepsie, claimed first place in the Beginner Art division for third- and fourth-graders. Raveena Persaud of Our Lady of Victory, Mount Vernon, placed second, and Michael Polito of St. Charles, Staten Island, was third.

In the Learner Art division for fifth- and sixthgraders, Zaara Jain of St. Augustine's, Ossining, was the winner, followed by Emma Jelonek of Sacred Heart, Suffern, second place, and Emilia Cascapera of St. Columbanus, Cortlandt Manor, third place.

Jillian Badarocco of St. Elizabeth Seton, Shrub Oak, was the winner in the Masters Art division for seventh- and eighth-graders. Stefanie Weber of St. Augustine's, Ossining, finished second, and Nicole Lalji of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Elmsford, was third.

Brianna Rose Robert and Cara Scollan, both from Blessed Sacrament, Staten Island, were first and third, respectively, in the essay-writing contest. Veronica Kwiecinski of Kingston Catholic, Kingston, was second. Dolan's name for Irish-American students attending Catholic schools that march annually in the parade.

"We are delighted to support the education of children whose families are associated with the Parade's Affiliated Organizations," said Hilary Beirne, the program co-chair and chairman of the St. Patrick's Day Foundation. "In the future, we want to raise additional funds that will allow us to expand the scholars program, helping us to better support the Affiliated Organizations."

The NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade scholarship program is held annually in memory of two outstanding parade leaders, Francis P. Beirne and Margaret O'Rourke. The applicant's school, college or university must be affiliated with the parade, or the applicant must be a family member of any person belonging to a Parade-Affiliated Organization.

Each year, the scholarship panel selects topics related to the parade, Irish-American history or Ireland. This year's topics were:

College level: "In light of the United Kingdom's pending withdrawal from the European Union (Brexit), explore the potential implications for Ireland and the Good Friday Agreement."

High school level: "The history of Catholic education has been closely entwined with the history of Irish immigration. Explore the relationship from the 1840s to present."

122 Young Women Receive \$33,333,993 in Scholarship



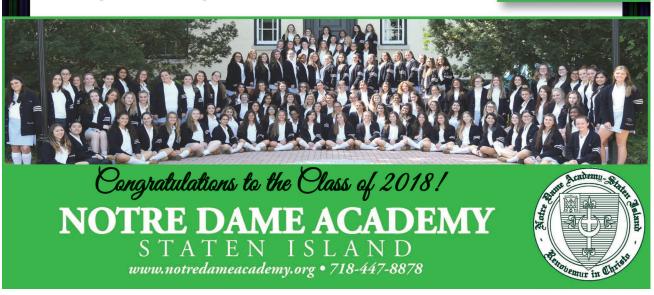
Elementary School with their 8th grade teacher

Class Highlights

- 18 graduating seniors will compete in NCAA sports in college
- Earned more than \$33 million in scholarships to colleges and universities around the world
- Cornell, Dartmouth, Georgetown, University of Notre Dame and Villanova all reported that this was one of their most competitive years, and NDA HS students received offers of admission from all of them
- 20% of the graduates have come up through NDA Elementary School, including Valedictorian and Salutatorian
- Kome.

Meenu Selvan

• 100% of graduates are college bound





Shefali Janorkar will pursue a major in computer science in the College of Engineering at Cornell University this fall. She is a National Merit Scholar Finalist whose PSAT scores are among the top 1% in the nation.

Meenu Selvan has enrolled in the prestigious University of Notre Dame, School of Architecture for the 5 year program where she will spend her junior year studying classical architecture in Rome.



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