Orchard Lake Schools Events

August 10 - Meet the Coaches BBQ
August 14 - New Parent & Student Orientation
August 18 - New Seminarians Arrive from Poland
August 21 - Our Lady Of Orchard Lake Gala

September 2 - Seminary Classes Begin
September 6 - Wine Tasting Party for Auction
September 7 - September 1939 Commemoration

September 19 - Homecoming
October 3 - Portrait Studios Of Polonia

October 19 - Ring Day
October 25 - Prep Bowl

November 1 - Prep Annual Auction
November 1 - All Saints Day - Cemetery Visit to the Graves of Our Founding Fathers
November 10 - Master of Impressionism: Leon Wyczółkowski Exhibit Opening
November 11 - Celebration of Polish Independence Day

December 7 - Chancellor’s Christmas Concert
December 12 - Seminary Wigilia
December 14 - Chancellor’s Senate

February 22 - Mother/Son Dance
April 23 - Junior/Senior Prom

May 8 - Honors Convocation
May 15 - Alumni Induction Breakfast
May 17 - Graduation Day

May 22-25 - Polish Country Fair Weekend
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Dear Friends,

I am back at the Orchard Lake campus after the experience of a lifetime. Vice Chancellor Anthony Koterba and I were privileged to be present for and represent our beloved schools at the canonization of St. John XXIII and our beloved St. John Paul II. The Very Reverend Canon Walter J. Ptak, Dean of Human Formation in our Seminary, was also present in Rome for the canonization. (Canon Ptak was functioning as the Spiritual Director of a pilgrimage group but was able to join us almost daily for a cappuccino or a meal.)

I have been asked by many people to recount those blessed days spent in the Eternal City and, in particular, to share my memories of the canonization. The word that keeps coming to mind as I recall those blessed days is AWESOME! First and foremost, to be present for a canonization is a great gift and grace. The canonization of these two holy men of our own time, both of whom were the Supreme Pastor of the Church, was an historical moment. Never before in the history of the Church were two Popes canonized at the same time! It was especially meaningful because Canon Ptak, Mr. Koterba and I all had the great grace of having personally met St. John Paul II. It is almost unfathomable to believe that we had the opportunity to talk with, shake hands with and be blessed by a Saint while he was among us on earth.

Mr. Koterba and I also had the opportunity to be interviewed by Teresa Tomeo for both her local and national show broadcasts on Ave Maria radio. We spent three hours with her on the rooftop of the Augustinianum (the college of the Augustinian Fathers in Rome) which is directly across from St. Peter’s Square. It was certainly an exciting afternoon!

On the day of the canonization, Canon Ptak and I had the pleasure of being seated with Father Dominic Mary and Father Mark Mary of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and EWTN. It was great to chat with them and be included in one of their podcasts from St. Peter’s Square.

In the midst of the large crowd of people, I was able to connect with some of our alumni. On the streets of Rome, I had the chance to meet and chat with my old principal from St. Mary’s Prep, the Very Reverend Canon Thomas J. Skindeleski. I also had the opportunity to meet and talk with Reverend Monsignor Edward J. Arnister, my old prefect from St. Mary’s College. I saw Reverend Monsignor Michael Dylag in the distance, but did not have a chance to catch up with him. It was also a pleasant surprise to cross paths with some people from the Detroit area as well as some friends from Brooklyn (including two of my former parishioners).

The one reoccurring picture that I have in my mind is that of the vast crowds and their sheer joy at being in the Eternal City. The faith these people exhibited was incredible. Do not believe anyone when they say the Church and faith are dying out! These men and women of every race and country prove that that is a false statement. The presence of hundreds of thousands of young people proves that the faith is not passé and that there is great hope for the future.

Yes, AWESOME is the best word that I can use to describe those blessed days. It was an honor and privilege to represent the Orchard Lake Schools. It is impossible to share every detail in writing for that would take much more than one issue of the Good News. I hope and pray that the faith that I saw there continues to grow and deepen in the hearts of all men and women throughout the world.

St. John XXIII and St. John Paul II intercede and pray for us!
Under the Umbrella of Divine Mercy
In His Mercy - The Faustininum Connection

The Orchard Lake Campus has always been a haven for those seeking prayers, healing and requests for oneself and others. Many have come to the Shrine Chapel and Grotto to pour out their intentions to Mary. Many have come to the Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel to be with Jesus, having a heart-to-heart conversation in His presence. Prayers have been answered. With the intercessory prayers of the Divine Mercy Adoration Group and the Faustininum – Divine Mercy Shrine Cenacle, prayer continues to heal.

The Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel was established in 2002 through the approval of Very Rev. Timothy F. Whalen, Chancellor, two years after Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina Kowalska as the first saint in the third millennium. Sr. Faustina was a Polish nun from the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy and became the “Secretary of Divine Mercy,” receiving from Jesus the message of Mercy for the entire world.

“My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls, and especially for poor sinners. If only they could understand that I am the best of Fathers to them and that it is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from My Heart as from a fount overflowing with mercy.” [Diary 367]

On June 7th, 2002 Eucharistic Adoration was launched in the Divine Mercy Chapel on the Orchard Lake Schools campus. Hourly adorers and many visitors have found solace in their one-on-one with the Lord. Some adorers have been coming from the start. The mission of the group is to pray for the priests, deacons and seminarians of the Orchard Lake campus, and that's priceless. Hourly adoration in the Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel is open to the public Monday through Friday, 9 AM–7 PM, year-round and is located in the south section of the Shrine Chapel’s sacristy (through the large wooden door).

Enlightened by the Holy Spirit, three members from the Eucharistic Adoration group formed a small prayer group with the blessing of Msgr. Charles Kosanke, Rector-SSCMS, in 2010. In 2011, the cenacle decided to become volunteers of the Faustininum Association - St. Faustina's Congregation in Krakow - and then pursue membership which required a four-year formation program. Through Rev. Msgr. Thomas Machalski, Chancellor-Rector, a spiritual director for the newly reorganized cenacle was appointed and, in the Fall of 2012, Fr. Robert Marczewski, spiritual director, SSCMS, graciously agreed to guide the Faustininum-DMSC.

Our mission is to spread the message of Divine Mercy through words, deeds and prayers in the spirit of St. Faustina, growing in the Love of the Divine Mercy. Our mission is also to pray for our priests, seminarians and vocations, and through the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, offer intercessory prayer every Monday evening at 5 PM.

Together, the groups also monetarily support the Seminary and Shrine Chapel. Members of the Eucharistic Adoration group donate over $2,000 annually to offset the cost of candles and donated the beautiful Statue of the Resurrected Christ imported from Spain. Together with the cenacle, they have funded the renovation of the Black Madonna image in the Shrine Chapel, aided in the upkeep of the Shrine Chapel through the First Saturday Devotions and have donated St. Faustina's picture that is in the Shrine.

Most importantly, their mission is to pray for the priests, deacons and seminarians of the Orchard Lake campus. and Be spiritually uplifted . . . join us in the semi-annual Days of Recollection, First Saturday Devotions, Adoration or for Monday Cenacle prayer. Remember . . . You are in His Mercy!

P.S. Hopefully we saw you this past May for the St. Luke's Production of "Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy" to the Shrine Chapel.
I had never been part of a religious pilgrimage before my recent visit to Rome in April 2014. Msgr. Thomas C. Machalski and I represented the Orchard Lake Schools for the celebration and canonization of Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul II. I was not sure what to expect. What I found was vivid pageantry, happy human spirit and a colorful festival atmosphere throughout the days leading up to, and including, the Canonization Mass. We witnessed people clothed in their native costumes from China, Africa, India, Poland, the U.S. and other European nations, people of many nationalities and faiths coming together to celebrate the lives of two great and saintly men!

I am happy to report that the experience of being part of the activities leading up to the Canonization Mass and the event, itself, brought great personal joy and spirituality to me. The level of civility, concern for others, excitement and love abounded wherever one would be in the area surrounding St. Peter’s. To think about the mass of humanity within a crowd of over one million people that exuded such joy and love was a miracle in and of itself. People from all over the world reveling in the works and recognition of these two great men of faith provided enough happiness to fill an ocean.

Both Monsignor and I were interviewed on Ave Maria radio and those sessions were broadcast back to the U.S. This was a very exhilarating experience. Teresa Tomeo, the host, provided ample opportunity for both of us to share our own personal observations from our visits with Pope John Paul II. Monsignor Tom spoke about the celebration that would happen back on the campus of Orchard Lake Schools (April 26/27) and how this event would affect our seminary and our own personal lives. The interview was conducted on the roof of the Augustinianum overlooking St. Peter’s. The views were breathtaking, and we were honored to represent our schools and the Archdiocese of Detroit on this national Catholic radio program.

A true highlight of the pilgrimage was that Monsignor offered Mass and I assisted at the side altar of St. Petronilla in St. Peter’s Basilica. What made this Mass so special was that it was celebrated the day before the main event, and we were within viewing distance of the graves of the two celebrated popes. I believe that this Mass provided us the clarity of mind and spirit of faith for us to envelop ourselves in the canonization the following day.
With the picture banners of the two popes hung at the front of St. Peter’s and the stairs of the Altar decorated in many colored flowers, the anticipation of the crowd was palpable. These two popes of faith and strong personal beliefs had such great achievements that seemed to transcend all people. John XXIII, who was in office only five years, ushered in sweeping changes in the church through Vatican II. John Paul II, along with President Reagan and Margaret Thatcher, tore down the Berlin Wall/Communism and personally established the World Children’s Congress. In either case, both lived simple and prayerful lives and were admired for their holiness and humility.

Since my return from Rome, I have shared with others that I never experienced the Holy Spirit before this visit. His presence was evident, particularly after the Canonization Mass in St. Peter’s, as everyone just lingered and enjoyed each other’s company. Bands played, people danced, the sun came out and smiles were on everyone’s faces. Only the Holy Spirit could provide such inspiration for one million people to share instantaneously.

We often hear that young people do not have faith and are leaving the Church in record numbers. I no longer believe that. The majority of the people that I witnessed in that crowd of one million were young people. They were filled with faith and the Holy Spirit. They, too, were courteous, kind and filled with joy. I hope that when the national news media examines the film footage and many photos, they will see for themselves that our Catholic church is not dying. They will see the Catholics of the future, the reality that Catholics are here to stay, and the realization that attacking us for our values and beliefs on social issues will bring stronger and louder push back.

In closing, my experience was a once in a lifetime event. It reinvigorated my faith and provided me an opportunity to pray for all of you and reexamine myself and my own priorities as a father and Catholic man. It also helped me realize how lucky I am to have met a saint and to have spent a few minutes with one of the truly great people of all time, St. John Paul II!
Discovery is the Key to OLS Library

This is the time of year when I like to try something new. Two years ago, I ran my first 5k and 10k. Last year, that grew into a half-marathon. You’d think that would be a similar experience, just a longer distance – no such luck. The average runner ends up putting down 400 miles preparing for 13.1. This year, I’ve started a Pilates class and continue to add on the miles. I encourage you to join me in stepping out of your comfort zone and expanding your horizon. In the library world, you can expand your knowledge and exercise your brain in so many ways. The new phrase that pays is discovery.

The discovery is found in new books and formats, with fresh ways to create community such as Maker Spaces and teaching technology to folks that didn’t grow up in a digital world. With so many wonderful, scary choices out there, where do you start? Never fear, your loyal, local librarian is here. While some of these resources are available to users here with an OLS library card or a Michigan form of identification, most libraries carry similar selections. Here are just a few that we offer to you and our students at the Orchard Lake Schools.

**LearningExpress Library** is an innovative, web-based learning solution that provides patrons, from elementary students to adult learners, with instant access to the most comprehensive collection of test preparation tools, skill-building materials, and career resources available. Over 1,000 online practice tests and interactive skill-building tutorials are available, along with more than 200 eBook titles – all developed by expert academic and industry professionals. These resources help with:

- Improving workplace skills such as business writing and computer competency
- Achieving higher scores on college entrance exams; ACT and SAT
- Improving performance on college Advanced Placement (AP) exams
- Improving proficiency levels in reading, writing, and math for elementary through post-secondary school levels

**Other benefits of LearningExpress Library include:**

- Individual Learning Centers with easy, one-stop online access
- Practice tests that mimic the timing, scoring, and format of official exams
- Instant feedback and diagnostic score reports to pinpoint strengths and weaknesses
- Detailed answer explanations, which allow for a better understanding of the subject matter
- Instant essay scoring that enables writing skills improvement
- Secure, individual user accounts to save work and access completed tasks and score history

Best of all, students, teachers, and adult learners, alike, can use their learning centers anytime and anywhere with online access.

**Michigan College Access Portal** www.michigancap.org

This resource is a one-stop-shop web portal for students and their families to plan, apply and pay for college. It is available 24/7 via a secure individual user account. Resources such as tests that evaluate personal skills, values and likes teach the user how to prepare a first resume.

When planning for and reviewing costs, MichiganCap has many ways to compare and contrast colleges to find the right one for you. MichiganCap has a lot of useful information regarding the costs associated with college and a scholarship database that is searchable by many different attributes, such as clubs, activities, or affiliations of the parent.

It is very helpful to have underclassmen begin this process early in their school career so they can track their activities in the same place and make the practice a habit. This is a portable file that students can take with them as they progress through their academic career. When it comes time to have a resume and application letter ready, all they will have to do is press print!
**Mel eBook Collection**

This 20,000 ebook collection holds over 24 subject areas, such as fiction, non-fiction and reference that are accessible with iPhone and Android apps. Due to the size of the collection, assistance with this project was generously provided by the staff at the Detroit Area Library Network (DALNET). These works are made available to our community by Michigan e-Library. Anyone with a valid OLS library card can access these works, day or night.

**Letters, We Get Lots and Lots of Letters!**

This interesting question came to us via email from Father Harry Winter OMI in Minnesota:

Dear Librarian,

In the article below, "St. Casimir's Polka Mass Reflects Polish American Tradition," you will find reference to an intriguing Polish-American custom at the First Mass of Polish American priests: a bride, bridesmaids, flower girls, etc. Such a custom existed at least until 1968 at our Polish-American parish of St. Casimir's, St. Paul, MN, when Roger Schwietz OMI (now Archbishop Schwietz of Anchorage, Alaska) celebrated his First Mass here. Do you have anything in writing which would explain this custom?

Beata Owczarski, Access and Rare Book Librarian, gladly took this question. She found several sources, in English and Polish, to answer the email. Simply, the priest’s first Mass does resemble a wedding as the Church becomes the bride for the newly ordained Father. He is dressed as a bridegroom, and in the Polish tradition, leaves his parent’s home draped with flowers.

But why a symbolic bride and bridesmaids? Well, the Western bridesmaid tradition is thought to have originated from Roman Law, which required ten witnesses at a wedding in order to outsmart evil spirits (believed to attend marriage ceremonies) by dressing in identical clothing to the bride and groom, so that the evil spirits would not know who was getting married. Even as late as 19th-century England, there was a belief that ill-wishers could administer curses and taint the wedding. In Victorian wedding photographs, for example, the bride and groom are frequently dressed in the same fashion as other members of the bridal party. The same consideration would hold for the celebration of a First Mass. To keep the newly ordained priest safe from all ill-wishers, a bride and bridesmaids were part of the First Mass ceremony to solidify and keep safe the priest’s true commitment for his bride, the Church.

Thanks for the question, Father. We enjoyed researching it!

**The Blessed John Paul II**

Throughout the month of April, the Library celebrated the life and the work of Blessed John Paul II with visual displays and artifacts of his trips here at Orchard Lake and around the world. Students, faculty and the surrounding community walked among the Pontiff’s artifacts and shared their favorite memories of his unique papacy. During this time, the Library also found some surplus copies of John Paul’s written works to share with those that wished to make a donation toward the library. As of this writing, books may still be available – please contact the library for a list.

I hope you discovered something new in this brief article. If anything prompted a question, please feel free to contact us. We welcome and value all questions. Have a wonderful summer!

library@orchardlakelibrary.com  www.orchardlakelibrary.com

*Caryn Noel - Library Director*
On January 22, 2014, Fr. Robert Marczewski, Dean of Spiritual Formation, successfully defended his doctoral thesis in theological anthropology at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. The topic of his thesis was *The Reception of John Paul II's Theology of the Body in the Catholic Church in the United States of America (1984-2012).* This topic is particularly important because John Paul II's theology of the body has been received more enthusiastically on American soil than in other parts of the Church. The Pope's teaching was presented in Rome over the course of 129 Wednesday audiences from 1979-1984, and its essence is captured in what might be considered the thesis statement of John Paul II's Catechesis:

*The body, in fact, and only the body, is capable of making visible what is invisible: the spiritual and the divine. It has been created to transfer into the visible reality of the world the mystery hidden from eternity in God, and thus to be a sign of it (Theology of the Body, 203).*

Fr. Marczewski demonstrates how the Pope’s teaching on the meaning of the sexual body has been given much attention in academic circles and, more importantly, how it has made a noticeable impact on American Catholics.

Fr. Marczewski’s dissertation will be published under the title of *A Legacy of St. John Paul II* in the fall of 2014.

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Fr. Ptak Leads Pilgrimage To Papal Canonizations

To celebrate the canonizations of Pope John Paul II and Pope John XXIII on April 27, 2014, Fr. Walter Ptak, Dean of Human Formation at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary and president of the Polish American Priests Association, led a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi.

Ptak feels a real spiritual connection to St. John Paul II. Not only do they share a strong Polish heritage but also several past meetings. Ptak first encountered Pope John Paul II when he was a student at the Orchard Lake Schools and visited Rome. In St. Peter's Square, the Pope came over to the edge of the barricade and shook hands with a priest standing by Ptak. According to Ptak's comments in *The Michigan Catholic,* "when you were in his presence, you really felt the holiness coming from him."

In 2004, Fr. Ptak attended Pope John Paul II's 25th anniversary. He was also present for the Pope's funeral in 2005 and his beatification in 2011.

Ptak explains that, although he did not share the same connection to Pope John XXIII who passed into eternal rest when Ptak was very young, he made a strong connection with people during his papacy.

Fr. Marczewski Receives His Doctorate

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The last stage of preparation to the priesthood and, at the same time, the first step of being a clergyman, is serving the Church as a transitional deacon.

First and foremost, it is important to note that a deacon is a cleric. This is true whether he is a permanent deacon or a seminarian who is preparing to be ordained a priest (known as a transitional deacon). Becoming a deacon is not comparable to becoming an altar-server or a lector. People who agree to assume these latter two roles may sometimes be “commissioned” in some sort of ceremony in church, but a deacon must actually be ordained by a bishop! An altar-server or lector might later relinquish his responsibilities, but once a man becomes a deacon, there’s no going back to the lay state. Ordination brings with it an ontological change in the person, which cannot be undone.

As a cleric, a deacon is incardinated into a diocese or religious institute. Transitional deacons, who will ultimately be ordained a priest, normally return to their studies at the Seminary after their diaconal ordination. During their last year of studies in the Seminary, as a preparation for transfer from being a seminarian to being a priest in the parish, deacons are assigned to different parishes within the Archdiocese. This year those parishes were: St. Therese of Lisieux in Shelby Township (Rev. Mr. Maciej Stelmach), Our Lady of Refuge in Orchard Lake (Rev. Mr. Piotr Kmiecik), St. Perpetua Parish in Waterford (Rev. Mr. Adam Urbaniak), and St. Mary of the Hills in Rochester Hills (Rev. Mr. Marcin Chilczuk).

On a purely practical level, the average lay Catholic will notice that a deacon does many (but not all!) of the same things a priest does. This is the case because some sacramental/ministerial actions are given to all clerics, while others specifically require priestly ordination. The sacrament that deacons can perform is baptism. Deacons can also be the Church’s witnesses during marriage. Their duty is also to proclaim the Gospel of the Lord, which includes reading the Holy Gospel during the Mass and preaching homilies afterward.

Recently, our community has gained a new deacon - Rev. Mr. Radoslaw Zablocki - who was ordained to the Order of Deacon for the Archdiocese of Detroit, Saturday, April 12, 2014.

Congratulations!

Maciej Stelmach
I am honored and pleased to have had the opportunity to be a student at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary! It is a meaningful occasion and I feel profound joy to be part of this exciting chapter in the legacy of this historic seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan! Although I am an American by birth, hailing from Passaic, New Jersey, I am particularly proud of my cultural heritage inherited from my ancestors in both Slovakia and Poland, as well as my identity as a Russian Orthodox priest. It is surely most appropriate to emphasize my warm sentiments, noting the pain that I feel for the existing division between East and West since the 11th century, and underlining Jesus’ prayer "that we may all be one," always in truth and love, grounded on the firm foundation of the Church’s first 1,000 years.

Fr. Lawrence Bacik

I am Puerto Rican, a transplant to Michigan, and Eastern Orthodox. Some might find it surprising that, given my background, I should find myself entirely at home at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, but to me it is no surprise at all. From my first communications with the Seminary, and certainly after my first visit with Dr. Genig, I sensed that here was an institution with which I shared close cultural and religious affinities; certainly, I have found a genuine and joyful openness to the Eastern Christian voice in all of my classes and interactions here. Over the past year and a half, I have been thrilled, but again not surprised, to experience first-hand a deep sense of camaraderie with seminarians, faculty and staff, and other lay ministry students. I have even had the honor to be asked to serve in the Seminary’s Academic Affairs Committee. It has been an unmitigated joy to be a part of the student body at the Seminary and to advance in this small way the dialogue of love between our Churches, which happens primarily not at the level of institutional consultations, but through bonds of friendship built day by day.

Esteban Vazquez
Many times, when it comes to choosing something important in our lives, we face some concerns and challenges. This was a reality I faced before I went to Seminary. I was working as a paramedic in the Malta Medical Services in Poland and living with German friends from Malteser Hilfsdienst. I always enjoyed this because it involved helping people in their tough times. In fact, even when I applied to Seminary, one of the reasons I stated was that I wanted to help people. Yet, I never would have imagined that I would come to the United States to help the people of God on their path to God.

Most of the people thinking about priesthood think that, other than saying the Holy Mass or ministering sacraments from time-to-time, we have free time to play games or watch television or find other recreational activities. But when they look closely at the work of priests in society, they will see clearly that, while Mass is the summit of everyday, there is still a lot of work to do. Many of my brothers, in fact, serve as hospital chaplains or campus ministers or, like me, they may be serving in public safety ministry, working with the police and fire departments.

I realize that it may seem crazy or unnecessary for a priest to be part of public safety services, but after four years in the field, I can testify to the fact that it is not so. Firemen or policemen, as tough as they look or behave, love to have someone religious around them to have their back. When I was assigned as Chaplain, I could not believe that it was happening to me, that I was coming from a police and army family from southern Poland to serve as a priest in the United States to men and women in red and blue - that was something beyond my imagination! And I took it as a challenge and privilege that most of the service men and women are Christians, but not specifically Catholic, and some are even non-believers. I often remind myself of the words of Jesus in the Gospel of St. Mark: *Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to all creation (16:15)*. Even though it is not easy, proclaiming the Gospel is our responsibility - all of us who were baptized. While some are called and chosen to be priests, we are all called to preach and live the Gospel.

And wherever you are sent, do not be afraid or worried, but remember what our Holy Father Saint John Paul II told all of us before His death: *Don’t be afraid, open the doors for Christ. Do it whoever you are, either Christian or non-believer, white, black or any other color of skin or ethnicity. Follow Christ.*

After five years in the Orchard Lake Schools, I can tell you it is all worth it. So, be proud! And, maybe in the future, you will join the prestigious and privileged society of Alumni of Orchard Lake Schools, proclaiming the love of God wherever He will choose to send you.

DON’T WORRY, WE HAVE YOUR BACK!

In Christ,

*Fr. Tomasz Gorny (S’10)*
By your words I can see where I’m going; they throw a beam of light on my dark path. I’ve committed myself and I’ll never turn back from living by your righteous order.

Psalm 119:105-106

SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, graduate school of Theology, prepares men for priestly ministry and also offers theological degree programs for lay people. This year, the following individuals received their diplomas at the end of the 2013-2014 academic year’s commencement ceremony on May 3, 2014:

**Master of Divinity**
Rev. Mr. Marcin Ł. Chilczuk, Diocese of Brooklyn, New York
Adam Falk, Diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut
Rev. Mr. Piotr A. Kmiecik, Diocese of Biloxi, Mississippi
Rev. Mr. Maciej M. Stelmach, Diocese of Joliet, Illinois
Rev. Mr. Adam Urbaniak, (December 2013) Diocese of Biloxi, Mississippi

**Completion of the Program of Priestly Formation**
Rev. Mr. Cezariusz W. Jastrzebski, (December 2013) Diocese of Brooklyn, New York

**Master of Arts in Theology**
Adam Falk, Diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut
Esam Naoum, Novi, Michigan
Jennie M. Sinatra, Dearborn, Michigan
Rev. Mr. Maciej M. Stelmach, Diocese of Joliet, Illinois
Rev. Mr. Michael A. Somervell, Highland, Michigan
Rev. Robert Szczechura, Diocese of Memphis, Tennessee

**Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry**
Julie A. Sartori, Milford, Michigan
The graduation commencement ceremony, which began with 10 AM Mass, took place in the Shrine Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake. Our graduation speaker this year was Rev. W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D. Executive Director/Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations/United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Rev. McKnight was born in Wichita, Kansas on June 26, 1968, to Mary Elizabeth (O’Reilly) and the late William Thomas McKnight. He is the oldest of eight siblings (he has six half-brothers and one half-sister). He spent his early life in west Wichita attending elementary school at Christ the King parish, and graduated from Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in 1986 while a parishioner at St. Francis of Assisi parish.

After graduation from the University of Dallas, he attended the Pontifical College Josephinum Seminary. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Wichita in 1994.

After serving three years as associate pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish in east Wichita, Fr. McKnight began doctoral studies at the Pontifical Athenaeum of St. Anselm. He earned the Doctorate in Sacred Theology in 2001, with a specialization in sacramental theology.

In July 2000, he was appointed pastor of St. Mark parish near Colwich, Kansas, chaplain and visiting scholar at Newman University, and Director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese. During his tenure at St. Mark, he initiated a review of parish needs, established increased structures for lay participation in the mission and governance of the parish, and directed the planning, execution, and campaign for a parish building project.

In July 2003, Fr. McKnight began a five-year term on the faculty at the Pontifical College Josephinum, where he taught graduate courses on the sacraments, liturgy and homiletics. He served in the administrative positions of Director of Liturgy, Dean of Students, and Director of Formation in the school of theology, and held the position of Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations.

In May 2008, Fr. McKnight was appointed pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish in Wichita, Kansas.

Since July 2010, Fr. McKnight has been the Executive Director of the Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. He gives retreats and lectures to laity and clergy on themes concerning sacramental theology, liturgy, preaching, and the permanent diaconate.
Dear Friends of SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary!

Time flies. I do not even know where it has all gone, and now it is time to leave and say goodbye - to close one chapter in life and open another. After seven years spent in SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, I have the privilege of graduating from this wonderful institution.

SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary was my first and only school in my adult life. This is the school where I grew in my vocation to the priesthood. This is the place that gave me the wonderful opportunity to take my first steps on this beautiful American land; Orchard Lake became my first home in the United States.

When I graduated from high school in 2007, I joined SS. Cyril & Methodius in Krakow. It was the first year of the house of formation for SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Poland. I spent two years studying philosophy. After that time, I came to Orchard Lake to first, learn English, and then to study theology in order to become a priest in the United States. I remember that it was a very difficult time for me to decide whether to come here or not because I did not know English at all. But after a long and deep prayer and talks with my spiritual father, I decided to take the risk and to come here. Thank God, with the help of the Holy Spirit, I was able to learn a language completely unfamiliar to me. And now, after five years in Orchard Lake studying and preparing, it is time to graduate and start another chapter in my life.

These two houses, which became my first home on my journey to Christ’s priesthood, let me prepare myself to serve the people of God in the United States not only by learning a new language, but also philosophy and theology. They have helped me to understand the customs and traditions of American society. These two houses work together like two wings helping Polish seminarians to become great priests to serve the people throughout the whole United States in the name of Christ. Often when I think about this comparison, the words of St. John Paul II come to mind, which are taken from one of his encyclicals “Fides et Ratio”: “Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth.”

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who have shared in my life and preparation for the priesthood by their prayers, support and friendship, especially all the professors and faculty of SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, and all my brother seminarians whom I have met during my time in the Seminary.

I will never forget Orchard Lake.
May God bless You all.

Deacon Marcin L. Chilczuk
Diocese of Brooklyn, NY
2014 Graduate, Master of Divinity
Being ordained a priest on June 28, 2014.
Awakened by the Holy Spirit some 12 years ago, I agreed, hesitatingly, to a friend’s invitation to attend a parish coordinated introductory level theology class. With little background in faith and religion, I struggled as I began attending the classes with new theological and philosophical words, terms and concepts that appeared foreign to an electrical engineer who understood things through the lens of science and mathematics. I often considered putting an end to these agonizing and painful struggles by just calling it quits. Yet, week after week, I would find myself going back not by my own will or power but by “something” that was from outside of me, holding me by the hand and placing me back in the classroom.

The seeds began to grow and I found myself hungry for more. Therefore, I sought, with the help of another friend, formal education in theology. I was put face-to-face with a wise Sister who, after interviewing me, enrolled me in an undergraduate program to learn philosophy and fundamental theology before admitting me in the MA program at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary. The struggles continued, but so did the persistence to see it through, one credit hour at a time. Forty-five credit hours later, I found myself preparing to walk with other lay students, like myself, few seminarians, to receive the MA degree.

When I was asked by the Sister why I was pursuing a degree in theology, I answered, "I do not know." Today, I can say that the “something” that held me by the hand was/is a “Person” who sought me, so as to enter into a relationship with Him and to prepare me before sending me out to teach the Good News.

The journey has been great. I owe my deepest respect and appreciation to the wise Sister and all the fine priests and lay professors that God has put in my way. My experience at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary has been exceptional. I could not have imagined a better institution to deliver an authentic and orthodox Catholic theological program. The hours I spent reading, researching, and attending classes have prepared me well for whatever God has in store for me.

In short, my journey has not ended. It has just begun.

_Esam Naoum_
2014 Graduate, MA (Theology)
Yes! Please go to Facebook and like our MA Programs (Lay Ministry) Page. Here's how:

First, search for our page.

Then, you should be directed to the page devoted to our MA Programs.

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And then, to ensure that you do not miss out on important posts for MA Programs Facebook page, go to the "Liked" tab under the header image and highlight the "Get Notifications" tab. When that is done, you will not miss a thing!
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Jessica Grima – MA (theology) student

SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary prepares men and women for ministries in the Church by providing resources for their theological, spiritual and ministerial formation.
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For more information: Dr. Joshua Genig (jgenig@sscms.edu; 248-683-0312)
Hello everyone, and welcome to our section of the Orchard Lake Good News! I’m writing this on the heels of our Canonization Celebration, honoring Saint John XXIII and our Polish hero, beloved Saint John Paul II. Now more than ever, it’s easy to feel the powerful energy that emanates from our storied institution’s legacy which, throughout our 129 years, has been a model for faith, heritage and tradition. Fueled by the generosity of The Josephine and Edward Wukierna Foundation, we continue blazing new trails.

In the recent cold winter months, we had plenty to keep us busy on the Orchard Lake campus. I’m very happy that the play, Tajemnice Ordonki (The Mysteries of Ordonka), was a great success in November, and that the exhibition from the Institute of National Remembrance of the Republic of Poland (IPN), The Destruction of the Polish Elite: Operation AB – Katyń, was seen by many at the Maida Library in December. I’d commit a faux pas if I didn’t thank Mrs. Halina Malinski and her dedicated group of volunteers for their work in coordinating Tajemnice Ordonki, featuring renown actresses Maria Nowotarska and Agata Pilitowska. In a similar manner, the dedication and friendship of Paweł Pokitski, head of education and exhibits at IPN, have given us the opportunity to show the most cutting-edge educational programming of Poland to our community here in Michigan, and across the country. Operation AB–Katyń was a sobering and artful reminder of past tragedies, and I’d like to honor Polish hero Captain Emil Kornacki (vm) (ret) for his heroism, and thank him most deeply for his inspiring leadership today.

Autumn saw us on the road again with the Forbidden Art exhibition from the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum (A-BSM). This time, it was off to the Big Apple – New York City! I’ll leave it to JJ to fill you in more about that in the following pages, but I want to especially thank Mary Ann, Jim, and Timothy Harrington who came with us to be a part of the milestone experience. As the doomsday winter months barricaded us indoors, we went to work on our project with the National Archives of Poland. I’m extremely happy to announce that our cooperation with them has reached a new peak. While Fr. Flis’ resignation from the archives to devote more time to his work at the Seminary has everyone missing his dedication and expertise, I’m excited to say that upon completion of this biggest phase of cooperation with the National Archives, our own holdings will be modernized under international standards, and searchable in English. All of us owe our thanks to Professor Paweł Pietrzyk at the National Archives for supervising this grant process, and to National Archives Director Professor Władysław Stepniak for his most kind support. Now, our amazing collections are finally getting the attention and care they deserve. Don’t forget to say hello to our visiting archivists when they visit us this summer!

I’d like to thank the staff and volunteers of The Polish Mission for giving us a model of sincerity and devotion to our cultural roots. They are the “boots on the ground,” so to speak, and without their passion, and the patronage of countless global leaders and diplomatic officials, the many successful partnerships and programs that have given us the international recognition we now hold would have been missed.

Finally, I’d like to draw everyone’s attention to the last page in our section, and encourage you all to directly support us by becoming a “Friend of the Polish Mission.” The kind donations received this way are applied to our everyday operations, and are the most direct way you can help us continue to make a difference. Under the leadership of Polish Mission Chairman Dr. Majewski, this season will be our best yet, and whether you’re a long-time Orchard Lake Schools supporter, or you’ve just learned about our programming, we need your support to continue on our “Polish” Mission. We invite you to be a part of it all, just like our good friend in California.
Portrait Studios of Polonia
The Face of Polish Immigration
- October 2014 -

Witness the zenith of Polish immigration to the United States through the camera lens. Dreams of a new life documented; hopes of weary souls captured; courage in the face of a new life preserved for history. Their story began generations ago, but it continues this autumn at The Polish Mission. Experience their lives, one image at a time.

This project is funded in part by a matching grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.
POLISH MISSION CONTINUES LANDMARK PARTNERSHIP WITH AUSCHWITZ, HOLDS FIRST EVER JOINT LIBERATION DAY CEREMONY WITH POLAND

Few places in the world can command the same heartbreaking recognition as Auschwitz. The terrible history of that infamous place has obligated the people of Poland and their neighbors to take on the work of safeguarding the memory of humanity’s greatest tragedy. We understand that obligation here at The Polish Mission, and we’re happy to report that our exclusive partnership with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum (A-BSM) continues to grow and develop as new programs are launched. Following endorsement from the Offices of the President and Vice President last autumn, we had the extraordinary privilege of bringing the Forbidden Art exhibition to the Big Apple. New Yorkers like Msgr. Tom, immediately recognize Park East Synagogue as a landmark destination on the Upper East Side. Noted for the extraordinary leadership of Holocaust Survivor Rabbi Arthur Schneier, the synagogue and day school there on East 68th Street are a fixture across the globe—so much so, that Pope Benedict XVI selected it for a visit in 2008. That historic visit was the first time a pope had ever visited a synagogue in the U.S.

How appropriate then, that through our work we had the opportunity to take Forbidden Art there for a showing in early November. While Marcin and others were busy making arrangements for Tajemnice Ordonki on campus, Collections Curator and Forbidden Art North America project manager JJ Przewozniak was in Manhattan making sure everything was ship-shape in time to welcome a truly international delegation on Wednesday, November 12. Among the guests were ambassadors, consuls and diplomats from eighteen countries, including the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland Ryszard Schnepf, Poland’s Ambassador to the UN Ryszard Sarkowicz, Consul General of Israel in New York Ido Aharoni, and Consul General of Poland in New York Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka. Joined by Auschwitz Museum Director Dr. Piotr M.A. Cywiński as the keynote speaker, we were especially happy to welcome the Harringtons, who journeyed to New York to represent our Board of Regents at this very special event.
In keeping with this trajectory of memory, we’re proud to report that as A-BSM held their 69th anniversary commemoration of the Liberation of Auschwitz in Poland, The Polish Mission has hosted the very first joint commemoration right here on the Orchard Lake campus. With letters of recognition from no less than the embassies of an astounding fifteen nations (including Vice President Joe Biden, and Papal Nuncio Apb. Carlo Maria Viganò), our intimate ceremony was highlighted even further by the presence of Polish Vice Consul Konrad Zieliński of Chicago, Consul General of Canada Roy Norton, Orchard Lake Mayor Jackie Beach, American Jewish Committee Detroit Regional president Howard Brown, and Mr. Mike Smith of the Detroit Jewish News. A special connection with our colleagues in Israel was felt as Msgr. Tom led the interfaith memorial ceremony with Rabbi Aaron Bergman from Adat Shalom Synagogue. All were struck by our common bonds when prayers were chanted in Polish, English, and Hebrew.
Looking for an in-depth genealogy experience this summer? Here is an opportunity to consider right here at St. Mary’s. The Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP) will present a week-long course on August 3-8 on our historic campus. Some of these popular courses sell out within minutes of registration being opened. Clearly there is a demand for quality courses from nationally known instructors that will include: Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS; Joshua Taylor; Paula Stuart-Warren, CG; Ceil Wendt Jensen, MA, CG; and Dr. Hal Learman.

GRIP is proud to be invited to take “GRIP on the Road” and conduct an institute in conjunction with PARI (Polonica Americana Research Institute) located at the Wotta Building #11. This unique opportunity to provide four courses, including “Advancing Your Polish Genealogy: 300 Years of Records,” will make this type of education available to a wider audience. Please join us as this exciting cooperative program takes flight. Please find the list of courses and noted faculty for both locations at http://www.gripitt.org.

September 1939 Commemoration
Saluting Polish and American Veterans
Mark your calendars: Sunday, September 7, 2014
PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT ®

1939@orchardlakeschools.com
It’s sadly ironic that as Poles everywhere celebrate the 25th anniversary of their freedom from Soviet rule, our friends in Ukraine wage a similar battle for their own freedom in 2014. In celebration of our freedom, and in solidarity with our neighbors in free Ukraine, The Polish Mission was pleased to host the Michigan premier of *A Place to Stand*, at our Galeria on March 18 in cooperation with the Polish Consulate of Chicago.

*A Place to Stand* is the documentary by renowned Director Anna Ferens that offers viewers a look behind the scenes of the democratization of Europe that first began in Poland with the Solidarność (Solidarity) movement. It was our pleasure to welcome Director Anna Ferens as our honored guest alongside Consul Konrad Zieliński, as well as the President of Ukrainian American Archives & Museum of Detroit, Zwenyslava Hayda. Piast Institute Director Dr. Thaddeus Radzilowski joined us for the evening, and later remarked: “The program I attended this week at Orchard Lake was excellent. It brought me to tears as the history of that era was rehearsed.” All enjoyed spirited discussion after the screening, and after Ferens blew out the candles on our 25th anniversary cake, guests and local dignitaries mingled about for the duration of a delightful evening at the Orchard Lake Campus.
REMEMBERING JAN KARSKI

Special feature by Mike Smith of the Detroit Jewish News

The Polish Consulate in Chicago hosted a commemoration — “Jan Karski – the History, the Legacy and the Responsibility” — on Thursday, April 24, 2014 to honor the memory of Karski on the centennial of his birth. It was an informative and moving program, to say the least.

There were over two hundred attendees. It was a diverse audience including members of Polonia and Chicago’s Jewish communities, as well as Holocaust survivors, Righteous Among the Nations, participants in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising of 1943, the Warsaw Uprising of 1944, Home Army veterans, and Polish Siberian Exiles. The Consulate General of Poland in Chicago organized the event with the honorary partnership of the Jan Karski Educational Foundation Chicago, the American Jewish Committee Chicago and the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.

Simply stated, Jan Karski is a legendary Polish hero. He was the first diplomat to bring eyewitness accounts of the brutality of Nazi regime in occupied Poland and Europe to the attention of Allied leaders during World War II. For his efforts, Karski was captured and tortured by the Gestapo. But, he was tough, and was the first person to personally tell President Franklin Roosevelt and other leaders about the Warsaw Ghetto and the Nazi death camps in occupied Poland. His service to humanity and his bravery earned him the highest honors: President Barack Obama posthumously awarded Jan Karski the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the State of Israel awarded Jan Karski the Yad Vashem medal of Righteous Among the Nations, to name just two accolades. After the war, Karski immigrated to the United States and earned a Ph.D. at Georgetown University, becoming a professor there in the School of Foreign Service after his graduation.

The evening began with a welcome and introductions from Vice Consul Konrad Zieliński, and brief remarks about Karski from Robert Rusiecki, Deputy Consul General. Then, there was a special guest: Governor of Illinois, Patrick Quinn. His remarks were personal and from the heart. “Jan Karski was a true war hero who risked his life to make a difference during one of the darkest times in our world’s history,” Governor Quinn said, “The belief that one person can make a difference is personified by Jan Karski.” It was a pleasant surprise for the audience to hear that the Governor had a personal connection to Karski: “I was honored to sit in his class and hear firsthand his remarkable accounts of the Holocaust, just as I am
honored to celebrate his legacy today.” Moreover, Quinn also officially proclaimed Jan Karski Day in the State of Illinois.

Governor Quinn’s remarks were followed by the main program, and a panel discussion that featured four speakers with varied themes about Karski’s legacy, moderated by Keely Stauter-Halsted, Professor of History, Hejna Chair in Polish History, University of Illinois at Chicago. Michael H. Traison was among the panelists, who spoke about “Poland in the heart of Jews and Jews in the heart of Poland – a Civilization Jan Karski Hoped to Save.”

Through the efforts of Marcin Chumiecki, Director of the Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools, the Jan Karski: Humanity’s Hero exhibition was on display at the Consulate for the event.

While there is not enough space to recount every fact and perspective offered by the speakers, I can summarize a few main themes. Karski was an extraordinary person. His exploits were larger-than-life. However, despite his superhuman efforts, Karski was a humble, modest man, albeit a man with a keen mind and a photographic memory. He was a superb professor at Georgetown, and had a lasting, positive impact upon his students and anyone who met him. This was certainly in evidence by the remarks of the panelists as well as Governor Quinn. We also learned a small fact that was reinforced by each speaker: no one could smoke a cigarette with more dignity and class than Karski!! Most important to me was that, despite his accomplishments, his well-above-normal efforts and accomplishments, and his heroism, Karski still felt that he had not done enough to stop the evil of the Nazis. This is the mark of a great man.

I congratulate the Polish Consulate in Chicago for creating and hosting this most significant event. It was a wonderful evening.
The Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum, and Boyhood Home is pleased to present the temporary exhibit, *Be Ye Men of Valour: Allies of World War II*. The exhibit focuses on the many nations that contributed to the Allied war effort during World War II but remain relatively unknown to American audiences.

Thanks to the generosity of sixteen museums and individuals, the exhibit features a range of artifacts to introduce visitors to the cultures, people, and histories of the nineteen nations whose contributions to the Allies is seldom studied in the United States.

The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools has been an outstanding partner and supporter of this exhibit. Thanks to their expertise and generosity with their collection, the Eisenhower Museum was able to borrow a number of rare and remarkable artifacts to help educate visitors about Poland’s experience in World War II. The Eisenhower curatorial team enjoyed collaborating with their counterparts in Orchard Lake, Michigan, and is delighted to showcase the achievements and sacrifices of one of the most significant members of the Allies.

"Our goal was to create the exhibit in such a way that the stories would come to life and create a personal connection with the viewer. We are always looking for a way to make history relevant for the younger audience..."
to really connect and get involved. I believe our team was successful largely in part thanks to establishing these critical relationships with other institutions including The Polish Mission. I couldn't be more pleased with their efforts," states Karl Weissenbach, Director.

The relationship with The Polish Mission is what afforded the Eisenhower Presidential Library the opportunity to include the prestigious Forbidden Art exhibit as part of its D Day+70 Years Commemoration. The Library is organizing the greatest international commemoration of D-Day in the United States, which will be held in Abilene, Kansas, on June 6 and 7. The weekend activities include a Remembrance Ceremony, C-47 flyover, and the Symphony at Sunset Annual D-Day Commemoration Concert featuring the Salina Symphony.

Also included is an opening reception for the Be Ye Men of Valour and Forbidden Art exhibits. The Forbidden Art exhibit is on loan courtesy of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum of Poland and The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools. It features art created by prisoners of the Auschwitz Nazi concentration camp. It was illegal for the

prisoners to create art, yet many did so at great risk. These powerful images reflect the pain of the prisoners’ predicament. “We are especially pleased Dr. Cywiński will be joining us from the Auschwitz Museum in Poland as we officially open the Forbidden Art exhibit,” adds Weissenbach. 

The Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum, and Boyhood Home is one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. Please visit www.eisenhower.archives.gov for all news, events, and media. Be Ye Men of Valor will be on display until 2016.
The Polonica Americana Research Institute (PARI), a department of The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools, is a nonprofit research facility devoted to helping Polish-Americans trace their family history. Through the use of the rich resources of the Central Archives of Orchard Lake and sources both in the United States and Poland, PARI has assisted many patrons in discovering more about their ancestral ties to Poland. Our institute runs on the hard work of dedicated volunteers who have spent countless hours building the research facility’s resources from the ground up.

PARI has been given the distinct privilege of digitizing and extracting burial records on loan from Jeanette Kulwicki, widow of a third generation funeral director of Kulwicki Funeral Parlor—the oldest Polish funeral home in the city of Detroit, which started its funeral business on St. Aubin Street in 1878. Our heartfelt thanks go out to Mrs. Kulwicki and her generous offering!

That being said, we cannot help but boast about the great team of volunteers helping at PARI each week—Dana Barrett, Sharon Deceuninck, Bernadette Drobot, Genia Gorecki, Marge Johnston, Joan Lamport, and Richard Luszczynski. They have been creating searchable databases and organizing the various resources on campus. Some of them are even putting their translation skills to use. Read the thoughts of just a few as to why they make time each week to come to campus.

**Dana:** “Volunteering gives me great satisfaction helping others with their family research; and I enjoy working on the projects assigned to me which will ultimately help many others in the future.”

**Sharon:** “My week is incomplete if I am not here doing my part.”

**Richard:** “My interest in my family history has greatly increased by volunteering here and learning all the different methods available and how to use those methods. Also, meeting other people with the same interests is invaluable and great fun!”

Previously only open to the public 10 AM to 4 PM on Fridays, PARI has responded to requests to expand its hours of operation to include Monday and Tuesday hours allowing more opportunities for visitors and volunteers. “We have short- and long-term projects underway,” says Ceil Jensen, Director of PARI. “Whether someone donates an afternoon of work—or can commit to once a week—we have indexing, organizing, and research projects for them to complete.”
World-renowned pianist Claire Huangci will return to Orchard Lake for a concert to benefit the Friends of Polish Mission this fall.

Polish Mission Director Marcin Chumiecki to receive the Distinguished Service award from the American Council for Polish Culture in August. Congratulations Marcin!

The Polish Mission has been awarded several grants totaling $6,000 from the Polish Consulate of Chicago. These funds will support specific projects, including the main exhibit at our 1939 Commemoration, archival storage for our collections, and educational projects in honor of the 25th anniversary of the first democratic elections in Poland, and the 15th anniversary of Poland joining NATO.

The Polish Consulate in Los Angeles awards The Polish Mission a $600 grant in support of our presence at the Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference in San Antonio Texas, to be held August 27-30.

Ceil Wendt Jensen receives the Wigilia Medal from the Polish Genealogical Society of America. Congratulations Ceil!

The Wyczółkowski District Museum of Bydgoszcz publishes W kręgu Wyczóła in honor of their 90th anniversary, featuring a chapter detailing the Leon Wyczółkowski holdings in the Galeria. A corresponding exhibition is in the final stages of completion, and will soon travel to Orchard Lake.

The Polish Mission sponsors youth VEX IQ robotics program as part of the Dąbrowski Polish Language School and prepares for program launch in September! Contact Mirek Owinski for more information at (248) 821-6512.

We hope researchers will make an appointment for a free consultation with genealogists Dr. Hal Learman or Ceil Wendt Jensen. Societies are welcome to schedule a lecture or a tour; and we have food service available on campus. So, not only do we welcome genealogists, but also students and scouts who wish to explore their cultural history or earn their genealogical badges.

For those of you who were able to tune in to the PBS airing of Our Polish Story on December 3, 2013, you may have seen sixteen volunteers on the program, led by PARI Director Ceil Wendt Jensen, and Co-Director, Dr. Hal Learman. During the breaks, PBS host, Fred Nahhat, interviewed Ceil about the history and programs of The Polish Mission. PARI’s role in researching Genia’s Story for Genealogy Roadshow was highlighted. Genealogy Roadshow participant, Genia Gorecki, was in the audience with her husband, Ted.

The Polish Mission crew was unmatched in its ability to take viewer’s pledges. People from as far away as Alberta, Canada called in to show their support of metro-Detroit’s Polish culture; and to order their copies of The History of the Polish Panorama, Sto Lat: A Modern Guide to Polish Genealogy, and Detroit’s Polonia. Thanks so much to all the volunteers!

As we review the completion of our cultural promotion through a six-month advertising campaign with PBS utilizing their Signal magazine and public television, we are proud that our Polish-American organization has reached over 65,000 people via our print ads and countless others who have been introduced to our story via their television screen. As a result, we’ve taken phone calls and email requests for genealogical assistance from Texas, Florida, New York, California, and Saskatchewan—how wonderful it is to see our Polish message travel so far!

To arrange a genealogical consultation, please email Ceil at cjensen@orchardlakeschools.com; or call (248) 683-0323. And don’t forget to visit our website at www.polishmission.com.

Uwaga! There’s more news at The Polish Mission than we can fit on these pages! Here’s a list of some late-breaking headlines – watch for full coverage of these stories and more in the next issue of the Orchard Lake Good News, and also at www.polishmission.com

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September 1, 2014 will mark the 75th anniversary of Germany’s invasion of Poland which would thrust the world into a global conflict that was the Second World War. In cooperation with the Polish Mission, my first book, *No Greater Ally: The Untold Story of Poland’s Forces in World War II*, has endeavored to ensure Poland’s role in the epic fight for freedom is recognized and remembered.

*No Greater Ally* chronicles the role Poland’s armed forces played in the various battles and campaigns of World War II through historical sources, as well as the personal experiences of numerous firsthand accounts of veterans who fought in every branch of the Polish military, including the resistance forces in occupied Poland.

Originally released in 2009, the hard cover edition of *No Greater Ally* received international acclaim and sold out in less than a year. Since then, it has been published in paperback, ebook format for Kindle, and in 2013, a Polish language version was released in Europe.

The book really would not have been possible without the help of The Polish Mission. I had contacted Polish Mission Director Marcin Chumiecki, who then granted me access to Polish Mission archives and museums. In addition, he was instrumental in coordinating meetings and interviews with surviving Polish World War II veterans.

Since then, I’ve worked closely with the Polish Mission, including volunteering to help renovate the Polish Second Corps Museum. Ensuring that the heroics of Poland and the Polish veterans of World War II are recognized and remembered by the world, is a calling I share with The Polish Mission.

In 2001, I was awarded the Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland for my efforts in promoting Polish history. Today, I’m fortunate to have the opportunity to lecture and speak on the topic of Poland’s role in the Second World War throughout the country, most recently at Mott Community College as part of the Jan Karski: Humanity’s Hero exhibit.

The dedication and hard work of The Polish Mission is truly inspiring. They continue to bring treasures of Polish history, art, and culture to the campus of Orchard Lake Schools and across America. Their work to present important exhibits as Forbidden Art and Jan Karski: Humanity’s Hero, and to coordinate them nationally is truly remarkable. It’s humbling and exciting to be even a small a part of Polish Mission.

Copies of *No Greater Ally* are available at the St. Mary’s Campus Bookstore, or on Amazon.com.
The Father Dąbrowski Polish Language School was established in Orchard Lake by Mrs. Alina Paszek in 1997. Initially, the purpose of the school was to support the learning of Polish language, culture and history by children of Polish immigrants, to help them identify on a cultural continuum with their parents. Since 1997, our school has gone through different phases in establishing its significant role, and to adjusting to demands of the modern Polish community. It is not merely an institution dedicated to children of Polish immigrants, rather, we welcome everyone who would like to learn Polish. Many children of Polish-American parents who speak mostly English at home become our students.

Today we have classes not only for Polish speaking children, but also for those who want to learn Polish as a second language. We have a total of ten classes, and in addition, we offer faith formation sessions for school age children. Lessons are led by seminarians and faculty of SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in both languages, and all classes are held on Friday evenings in two shifts.

Besides the Polish language, students learn about Polish geography, history, and culture. We have the traditional Wigilia with opłatek, with authentic Polish food, Christmas carols, and even Saint Nicholas comes to visit the children! Students usually welcome their entire families to this event, including grandparents and cousins! We often hear very warm words of thanks from our American guests who have Polish ancestry too, for having the opportunity to participate in such a significant Polish event. To top it all off, our students participate in the annual Chancellor’s Christmas Concert, where they perform Polish Christmas carols for a big audience at the Shrine Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake. In the middle of the school year, we have a fun talent show, and the academic year wraps up with a school picnic in the late spring.

Our students are exposed to the Polish art, history, and culture thanks to their participation in art exhibitions, concerts, and other events hosted by The Polish Mission. This year’s Constitution Day celebration saw a display of children’s art for public viewing at the Galeria. In addition to our educational mission, we are also a social place where Polish immigrants and Polish Americans can meet and share their experiences, knowledge, and memories with others who seek to find their place in the new homeland.

If you are interested to learn more about the school activities, please visit our website at www.polishschoolorchardlake.wordpress.com or call us at (248) 366-8728. This is your invitation to support us financially or become our student. Dziękuję bardzo!

Remembering LTC Matt Urban

The Matt Urban Memorial Committee (MUMC) was formed at the initiative of Major General Marvin Back, U.S. Army (ret), and Colonel Chester Szczotka, U.S. Army (ret). Our purpose is to honor the memory of Polish-American hero Lieutenant Colonel Matt Urban, in cooperation with leading Polonian organizations in Metro Detroit.

“...the greatest soldier in American History.”
- President Jimmy Carter, 1980

On Saturday, August 23, 2014, all are welcome to join the MUMC in Washington DC, as we gather to honor Lieutenant Colonel Matt Urban at a reverant wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

Please support the Matt Urban Memorial Committee by spreading the word, and by visiting http://matturbanmemorialcommittee.us/

For information, contact Colonel (ret) Chester Szczotka (313) 278-3895, or Andrew Ładak (586) 979-9389.
Historical objects carry special value that can only partially be quantified by money. Earlier this year, the Colt .45 that Wyatt Earp used at the famous gunfight at the O.K. Corral sold at auction for $225,000. In 2008, the Fender Stratocaster that Jimi Hendrix allegedly burned on stage went for a whopping $497,500. In contrast, a typical Virtuti Militari medal identical to the ones in our cherished collection can be found at auction houses for less than $1,000. The award is the highest military decoration in Poland, awarded only in wartime for the most gallant acts of bravery. This shows us that the prestige of a museum collection, or, even your own collection, is measured chiefly by the personal meaning behind the items, and the memories they represent. At The Polish Mission, we’ve been able to promote our heritage and develop our collections through the most professional channels, thanks to our and your reverence for the history we safeguard.

In February, a very special (yet unassuming) item was shipped to our colleagues at the Museum of Polish History in Warsaw. It was the *Polish War Effort* exhibition, created by the Polish Government in-exile during the Second World War, and used to encourage aid and support of Poles, as it traveled around the United States. Each of the large wooden panels, and even the original turquoise shipping crate, are currently undergoing conservation, and we’re proud that it will soon be on display at the University of Warsaw.

Artifacts and documents are precious to the historian, but they’re always second-best when a personal connection to the past is nearby. Captain Emil Kornacki (VM) (ret) is a person who can move mountains with his heroic experience. As a recipient of the Virtuti Militari, and North America’s last living survivor of the Katyń Massacre of 1940, he inspired us to negotiate the showing of *The Destruction of the Polish Elite: Operation AB-Katyn* at the Maida Library in December of last year. We displayed items exhumed from the Katyn mass graves alongside the exhibit, on a bed of exactly 6,311 spent bullet casings, representing the exact recorded number of Poles who were imprisoned with Cpt. Kornacki at the Ostaszków prison camp, and later executed. OLSM teacher Shannon Harris shared this powerful story and experience with her class, giving our St. Mary’s men...
the opportunity to be formed by this powerful history.

Time takes its toll on treasured memories of the past, and too often we’re left with only the places on the map that witnessed them. Our partners at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum (A-BSM) use the most precise and advanced museum science to ensure that every trace of memory is recorded. Thanks to the leadership of the Orchard Lake Schools, the generosity of A-BSM Director Dr. Piotr M.A. Cywiński, the guidance of Polish Mission Chairman Dr. Stan Majewski, and the tireless work of Marcin Chumiecki, I was able to visit the former KL Auschwitz in February, to be formally trained as a liaison, in response to the unprecedented national attention received by the *Forbidden Art* exhibit. The authenticity of the Auschwitz site, though laden with tragedy, gives a unique and powerful sense of vocation to those who work to preserve it. Contributing to the work there was an unforgettable experience, and one that can be similarly experienced here at our own storied campus.

Please check www.polishmission.com, for stories, photos, and blog posts about the topics in my article, or, feel free to email me at jjprzewozniak@orchardlakeschools.com

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**Friends of the Polish Mission Appeal**

As *Friends of the Polish Mission*, you will be supporting a mission whose purpose is to bring Polonia closer to its heritage and develop a greater appreciation of Polish culture worldwide. Your membership will help our leading multi-faceted mission preserve Polish-American legacy and provide a forum for contemporary issues.

**Annual Membership Levels:**

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- Companion - $60
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**Friends of the Polish Mission**

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Make checks payable to:

*Polish-American Art and Cultural Research Foundation*, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All or a portion of your annual membership dues may be tax-deductable. Membership cards will be mailed promptly. Mail your completed form to:

Friends of the Polish Mission
3535 Commerce Rd.
Orchard Lake, MI 48324-9907

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Czesława Krajewska, camp no. 34426. Her twin sister, Maria Krajewska, no. 34425, was born on October 4, 1927 in Komarów, Poland. Both were brought to Auschwitz on May 2, 1943, and both died at the age of 15. Maria died on May 23, 1943, and Czesława died two months later. Photo: Marcin Chumiecki.
On April 9, 2014, Monsignor Machalski announced the appointment of Cormac Lynn (P’97) as the new Headmaster of St. Mary’s Preparatory.

Msgr. Machalski said, “We are extremely pleased that Cormac will be our new Headmaster. He has an outstanding reputation as a teacher, coach, and administrator at Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Preparatory, where he has served since 2002, most recently as Interim Headmaster. He brings the skills necessary to ensure that St. Mary’s Preparatory will continue its excellent tradition in educating young men.”

Lynn’s academic credentials include a BA in History from Ohio State University and an MA in History, Secondary School Teaching, from Michigan State University. He earned his teaching certificate from Madonna University and completed an Education Specialist degree at Oakland University. He joined the Preparatory staff as a teacher in 2002, and has also served as a coach, class master, vice headmaster and academic dean. Lynn, and wife, Mary, who previously taught at St. Mary’s, are blessed to share their lives with two young children.

In addition to his responsibilities at St. Mary’s, Lynn has taught at Oakland Community College. Currently, he is an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Madonna University where he teaches in the College of Education as well as the College of Social Sciences.

“The search committee was very pleased with the number of highly qualified candidates from which it had to choose,” said Phil Cushman, Chairman of St. Mary’s Preparatory Board. “Cormac’s deep commitment to Catholic education and great respect for the rich heritage and traditions of St. Mary’s Preparatory help create the solid foundation upon which to continue to build St. Mary’s reputation for providing an outstanding Catholic education.”

When asked about his reaction to the appointment, Cormac said, “I’m excited and humbled by the opportunity to lead St. Mary’s, my alma mater, and build on over 129 years of educational excellence and spiritual growth. I have spent my entire professional career working with young adults as a teacher, coach, mentor, counselor and administrator. I look forward to continuing to work with the exceptional faculty and staff at St. Mary’s, its devoted parents, and motivated students as we continue to prepare them with the intellectual and social skills to succeed in school – and later in the workplace – and most importantly, provide them with a spiritual foundation that will last a lifetime.”
Dear Friends of the Orchard Lake Schools,

On behalf of all the current students, staff, and faculty, I want to thank you for your continued support of St. Mary’s Preparatory and the Orchard Lake Schools. The success and growth of the Prep would not be possible without your help. The 2013-14 school year is over, at least for the students, and the administrative team is hard at work, making plans for 2014-15. I also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the staff and faculty who have consistently gone above and beyond to help our students reach their full potential. Please allow me to take this opportunity to share with you some of the noteworthy events that have occurred in the Prep over the last few months.

From a student standpoint, I must assume that this year will be remembered for the record number of snow and cold days. The winter was especially brutal and the extreme conditions led to an unprecedented number of school closings across the state. Given the campus setting of the Prep, school was closed on a number of days when the projected temperature was consistently at negative 15 or below. There were also many days where we modified the dress code to allow the students to dress appropriately. I can only hope that we have all thawed out and we will take full advantage of the spring and summer.

Academically, we continue to work to provide our students with the best education possible. Part of that commitment is the continued professional growth of our faculty. This year eight faculty members completed a Masters degree in an educational field. Seven of those faculty members completed a program in Educational Leadership through Madonna University. Their graduation was the culmination of many Saturday mornings spent on campus attending class and completing group projects. The eighth faculty member earned a Masters degree in Literacy. I am excited about the new skills that each of these faculty members will be bringing to St. Mary’s. I know that it will allow us to improve the experience of students and staff alike.

As the Class of 2014 graduates and begins to look forward to the next chapter of their lives, they have left behind a very impressive record. As a whole, the class earned over 8 million dollars in scholarships. The skills and talents of the class can be seen in their plans after high school. Our valedictorian, Harrison Boyle, will be attending the University of Miami on an academic scholarship. Brian Heligenthal, the salutatorian, will be attending the University of Michigan on an academic scholarship. We are proud that OLSM will have another alumnus entering The United States Military Academy at West Point. Michigan State is the most popular choice of the class, with nearly 20% of the graduates planning to spend the next 4 to 5 years of their lives in East Lansing. Ten members of the class will continue their faith based education, attending schools with a Catholic or Christian foundation. Small cadres of students hope to parlay their hockey talent into a college scholarship and plan to spend some time honing their skills in various junior leagues across North America.

Continued on next page
In the Performing Arts department, our music and art students continued to demonstrate the well-rounded education that students at St. Mary’s receive. Over the course of the year, members of the band and jazz band performed with multiple professional groups. They also worked with a vocal group from Mercy High School and band members from Harper Woods High School. The talents of these students were also on display at Albion College and Oakland University where they performed for and with members of the collegiate programs. In the Art world, junior Ryan Wardia designed a poster as part of a competition sponsored by the Detroit Section of the SAE. His design took second place. The poster photos were on display at World Congress at Cobo Hall and will be included in the September edition of the official SAE newsletter, Supercharger, which goes out to nearly 9,000 members.

Athletically, a number of sports teams met with significant success. The basketball, hockey, and baseball teams all represented OLSM in their respective finals of the Catholic League Championship. Basketball won their district for the 43rd time in school history. Track finished second in the region and third in the Catholic League. The Crew team brought home its second straight state championship and sent three boats to the National Championship regatta in New Jersey. Each boat made it to the semi-finals, placing them in the top 15 boats in the country in their class. Lacrosse and baseball are still in the state playoffs at the time this publication went to print, and we wish them luck in the tournaments. On the professional level, St. Mary’s alumnus, Allen Robinson was selected in the second round of the NFL draft, by the Jacksonville Jaguars. Allen attended Penn State University and played wide receiver.

As you can see, it has been a unique and productive winter semester at St. Mary’s. As the boys begin to make their summer plans, I am looking forward to meeting with the staff and faculty as we review the 2013-14 school year and continue to look for ways we can improve the St. Mary’s experience. Please remember that you are always welcome at the Prep. If time allows, I hope you will stop in for a visit.

Respectfully,

Cormac Lynn (P’97)
Headmaster
248-683-0531
clynn@stmarysprep.com

To whom it may concern...

I would like to let you know that I was impressed with the young men representing OLSM at the Midwest Regional Scholastic Championships. I was the priest who celebrated the mass for the Catholic Students who were able to attend. I was overwhelmed with the number of students from OLSM as well as from the other schools. They were reverent, respectful and participated in the liturgy. Again I was impressed. You have done well in teaching and training your students. On a personal note... I am a Detroiter... which made it all the more impressive.

Thank you for your service to the Church and these young men. Your commitment is evident in the way they represent themselves and your fine school.

Fr. Martin J. Ralko
Pastor, St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville, Ohio.
The Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep Robotics team (Team 9), in alliance with Oakland Schools Technical Campus (OSTC) Southwest (Team 123), captured the Oakland County Competitive Robotics Association (OCCRA) Oakland County Championship on Saturday, November 23, 2013 at Brandon Intermediate School. This season's game, called Grid Lock, required student-designed and built robots to place large balls into scoring compartments into grids, and the best performance garnered the county title.

St. Mary's (Team 9) also earned the Judges Award. According to their comments about the Prep's efforts, the judges were impressed by all the teams and how well they were able to articulate their game strategy; however, one team stood out as the best at their presentation.

Later in the school year, FIRST robotics competitions allowed teams to build their robots with more precise machining that can be accomplished by help beyond that of the students. This is not permitted during the OCCRA season.

Key Club International, the high school division of Kiwanis International, is a student-led organization providing members with service opportunities that help build character and develop leadership skills among young people. This year, the Michigan Kiwanis Club once again awarded student scholarships to deserving Key Club leaders. St. Mary's Preparatory senior Joe Des Cotes applied for and was awarded a $1,000 scholarship for an outstanding job of service and leadership while representing Key Club.

Des Cotes helped fulfill the Vision of Key Club - to be a caring and competent servant leader - while working to help transform communities throughout the world. He is a shining example of a man of St. Mary's.
The St. Mary's Prep Hockey team is no stranger to a brotherhood of support for its fellow players and even its fiercest competitors, both on and off the ice. In January, when it came time to face off with friendly foe Catholic Central, team members rallied together in support of CC's Matt Sorisho, a senior who, at an October 4, 2013 hockey game, had just got off a shot and was hit by the opposing team's defenseman sending Sorisho spinning and crashing into the boards, back first, breaking it in two places and severing his spinal cord.

St. Mary's raised $3,700 for the Matt Sorisho Trust Fund by holding a dress down day and conducting a game day raffle. The funds will help offset the exorbitant medical expenses associated with a spinal cord injury. Sorisho, now paralyzed from the waist down, was present and had the honor of performing the ceremonial puck drop to start the game.

"Matt and his family are extremely touched by your prayers and support for him," added Fr. John Huber, Catholic Central principal. "You have been faithful friends during some difficult times over the past couple of years, and we will never forget it. May God continue to bless the Men of St. Mary's Prep!"
During the 2011-12 hockey season, the Orchard Lake United hockey association decided it was time to try something new so they piloted an American Development Model (ADM) program with two squirt teams and a peewee team focusing on ADM principles. Within a short period of time, it was apparent that the players were having fun, improving their skills, and fielding a strong desire to be on the ice.

As part of United’s pilot process – one that included regular town hall style meetings with parents, coaches, and players, and small-area games and station-based skill development training – USA Hockey designated Orchard Lake United as one of the first “model associations” in the United States. “At the start, we had meetings about every 10 days and invited everyone, not just our association, to come out to learn about the principles of the ADM and what we thought the benefits would be,” Brian Klanow, director of St. Mary’s Athletic Complex and head coach of St. Mary’s Prep high school team, told USA Hockey. “Some nights we had 20 people and some nights we had 150.”

The St. Mary’s Athletic Complex, United’s home arena, hosts many of the model association’s practices and games in accordance with the ADM’s required 3-to-1 practice-to-game ratio.

Through the hard work of many individuals, including Klanow, Brian Lenaghan, a veteran youth coach and president of Orchard Lake United, and Bob Mancini, a United coach and a USA Hockey ADM regional manager, more players are on the ice having experienced the benefits of ADM skill-based training.

According to USA Hockey, quality coaches like Lou Melone were brought in to help establish the pace and run the ADM model, one that puts two instructors at each training station to push the tempo to work the players hard through the principles of age-appropriate skill development. Players learn on-ice awareness, decision-making skills, and how to put their skills to work in a real game.

Within this model, the system focuses on developing skating and puck skills. “The game of hockey is about 10-foot bursts of speed and explosive movements,” Klanow told USA Hockey. “It’s about giving the puck up and breaking to open ice. It’s not about skating end-to-end with the puck because that is not reality. Reality is that you need to get from the corner to the front of the net in so many seconds. That’s what hockey is. And the ADM teaches reality.”
On Friday, December 20, 2013, St. Mary’s Preparatory celebrated 100 years of basketball tradition. The program first made an appearance in December of 1913 under Coach Dick Remington. One of only fifteen schools in Michigan have the honor of accomplishing such a feat.

During these 100 years, the St. Mary’s program has earned some very impressive statistics, including:

- 717 players who have worn the Eaglet Varsity uniform
- 2nd most winning basketball program in the state of Michigan (2nd only to the Saginaw High Trojans, a program in place 10 years before OLSM)
- Winning 31 league titles and 12 Catholic League championships
- Detroit City Champions 3 times
- 42 District titles
- 18 Regional Championships
- 11 State Semifinals appearances
- Reaching the State Championships 7 times; Won 4 times (1933, 1978, 1982, 2000); Lost 3 times (1919, 1930, 1994)

At the 100-Year celebration, St. Mary’s Prep welcomed Edwin “Benny” Zmyslo (P ’36) who played basketball his sophomore through senior years, and won the District Championship his senior year. At 97-years-old, it is believed that Zmyslo is the last surviving team member from the 1933 State Championship season 80 years ago. He and his team defeated the Boyne City Ramblers, 32 to 8.

Dennis Butcher, head coach of the Hartland High School Boys Basketball team, was also present at the OLSM celebration in recognition of his Varsity Eaglets coaching from 1992–1998. His tenure was highlighted by an appearance in the Final Four and the State Championship game at the Breslin Center in 1994 after a tournament run that featured three of the most historic victories in the program’s 100-year history.
The men of St. Mary’s are not strangers to community service. They have proven time and time again what it means to put others before themselves. Prep senior Brent Lubin is no stranger to helping those in need. He took it upon himself to organize a toy drive during the holiday season to help support the patients of the University of Michigan’s C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital.

Last December, the hospital hosted numerous events and activities for patients and their families, including holiday arts and crafts projects, entertainment groups and holiday parties. The second annual Mott Holiday Store, a two-day event, enabled a parent or guardian of each one of the pediatric in-patients to visit the store and select gifts for the ill or injured child as well as other children in the family. These gifts were based on the generous donations from community supporters.

On January 30, 2013, Byron Myer, coordinator of Mott Community Relations, wrote the following response to Brent’s community service efforts:

“I am writing to personally thank you for your generous donation of toys, games and other activity items. It’s great to see a young man like you take the time to organize a toy drive and then bring them out to the hospital on a cold and snowy day, not to mention getting stuck on the highway for almost two hours in a traffic jam. It’s people like you that make my job special by giving your time to help us make the holiday season a special time for our patients. The children and youth who receive care at our hospital are truly remarkable. Each is unique in their presence and vibrancy, and each day they display courage, wisdom, resiliency and hope. Your compassion and outreach reminds patients and families that their journeys are carried deep within hearts of others. This example also serves as an inspiration to healthcare professionals involved in the care of these young people each day.”

Brent Lubin is showing others that service starts from within yourself, and that sense of compassion can spread to so many in need for so many different reasons.

Matteo Matheny Receives Presidential Treatment

It's not often a student receives a letter from the President, but Matteo Matheny did. In fact, he also received the President's Volunteer Service Award!

According to John Strangfeld and JoAnn Bartoletti, members of The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards committee, this award recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and their country. As a Prudential Spirit of Community honoree, Matheny qualified for and received the President's award.

As a role model for young people, Matheny has demonstrated that volunteer service, especially by young people, makes a huge difference in the community, and is highly valued and personally rewarding. At this time in history, it is important for all Americans to think about what they can do to make a more positive impact on their communities. "Young volunteers like yourself are inspiring examples to all of us, and are one of our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow," added Strangfeld and Bartoletti.
Dennis W. Archer is Chairman and CEO of Dennis W. Archer PLLC and Chairman Emeritus of Dickinson Wright PLLC, a Detroit-based law firm with more than 350 attorneys, with six offices in Michigan; Las Vegas; Nashville; Phoenix; Toronto; Columbus, OH; and Washington, DC. He sits on the corporate boards of Johnson Controls Inc. and Masco Corporation.

Archer served two four-year terms as mayor of the city of Detroit (1994-2001) and earned national and international respect for his success in changing Detroit’s image and direction.

In 2000, Mayor Archer was named Public Official of the Year by Governing magazine. Archer served on the Board of Trustees of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and was president of the National League of Cities from 2000-2001. He received an Award of Excellence and was named 1998 Newsmaker of the Year by Engineering News-Record magazine, a sister publication of Business Week. He has been named one of the 100 Most Influential Black Americans by Ebony magazine; and one of the 100 Most Powerful Attorneys in the United States by the National Law Journal. Archer was named one of the 25 Most Dynamic Mayors in America by Newsweek magazine.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Western Michigan University and taught learning disabled students in the Detroit Public Schools.

Archer earned his Juris Doctor from Detroit College of Law in 1970. He began practicing law thereafter, working as a trial lawyer and a partner in several Detroit firms, serving as associate professor of the Detroit College of Law and adjunct professor at Wayne State University Law School.

In 1985, Governor James Blanchard appointed Archer an Associate Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. He was elected to an eight-year term the following year. In his final year on the Bench in 1990, Archer was named the most respected judge in Michigan by Michigan Lawyers Weekly.

Archer has long been active in the organized bar. He was the first person of color elected president of the American Bar Association (2003-2004) as well as the State Bar of Michigan. He has also served as president of the Wolverine Bar Association and the National Bar Association. Archer is a Life Member of the Fellows of The American Bar Foundation and the National Bar Association, a Fellow of the International Society of Barristers, a Fellow of the College of Law Office Management and Life Member of the Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference.

Archer is married to Trudy DunCombe Archer, retired Judge of Michigan’s 36th District Court. They have two sons, Dennis W. Archer, Jr. and Vincent DunCombe Archer, and two grandsons.
DENNIS W. ARCHER’S SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS/HONORS

• The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, by the Japanese government, June 2013
• Listed in “2013 Top Rated Lawyers in Commercial Litigation,” American Lawyer Media/Martindale-Hubbell, March 2013
• Listed in “2009 – 2013 Editions of The Best Lawyers in America,” Best Lawyers
• Minority Corporate Counsel Association Lifetime Achievement Award, September 2012
• American Lawyer Lifetime Achievement Award, The American Lawyer, October 2009
• “100 Managing Partners You Need to Know,” Lawdragon, July 2008
• NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award, April 2008
• Richard B. Baxter Trial Lawyer of the Year Award, Michigan Chapter ABOTA, November 2007
• Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America, Lawdragon, November 2006
• National Bar Association, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Distinguished Civil Rights Advocate Award, August 2006
• Michigan’s Extraordinary African-American Achievers, Corp! magazine, February 2005
• Style magazine, 20 Stylemakers, September-October 2005
• Named one of ten Michigan Lawyers of the Year for 2004, Michigan Lawyers Weekly, 2004
• Named one of the “Top 10 Lawyers of 2003” by Lawyers Weekly USA, 2003
• Ebony magazine’s “57 Most Intriguing,” November 2002
• Silver Beaver Award, Boy Scouts of America, February 2001
• “Public Officials of the Year,” Governing magazine, November 2000
• Award of Excellence and named 1998 Newsmaker of the Year, Engineering News-Record, 1998
• “The 25 Most Dynamic Mayors in America,” Newsweek, November 1996
• “1996 Constructor of the Year,” The Associated General Contractors of America, Greater Detroit Chapter
• “50 Great Americans,” Marquis Who’s Who, Spring 1996
• Spirit of Excellence Award, American Bar Association, Center for Policy Alternatives, 1996
• Washington Bar Association, Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit, May 1995
• Alpha Award of Merit, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., August 1994
• Ebony magazine, Detroit…Dennis Archer Replaces Coleman Young, February 1994
• The National Law Journal, 100 Most Influential Lawyers In America, March 1991
• Wade Hampton McCree Award – Federal Bar Association, Detroit Chapter, December 1990
• Named “Most Respected Judge in Michigan,” Michigan Lawyers Weekly, April 1990
• Recipient of Histadrut Menorah Award, Afro-Asian Institute of Israel, 1989
• Distinguished Achievement Award, Tuskegee Airmen, October 1989
• Man of the Year Award, Optimist Club of Central Detroit, 1989
• “Dennis W. Archer Drive,” street named on campus, Western Michigan University, 1989
• Distinguished Alumni Award, Detroit College of Law, December 1988
• C. Francis Stradford Award, National Bar Association, August 1988
• D. Augustus Straker Award, Wolverine Bar Association, 1986
• Spirit of Detroit Award, April 1986
• Man of the Year Award, Police Officer’s Association of Michigan, 1986
• Probity Merit Award, Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church, Cassopolis, Michigan, 1986
• Distinguished Achievement Award, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Detroit Branch, November 1985
• Community Service Award, Detroit Urban Center, December 1985
• Outstanding Citizen Award, Sportsman Big 10 Club, 1985
• The National Law Journal, 100 Most Powerful Attorneys in the United States, April 1985
• Ebony magazine, 100 Most Influential Black Americans, May 1984, 1994-2000
• Western Michigan University Distinguished Alumnus Award, 1982
• Co-Winner, American Bar Association Personal Finance Annual Appellate Court Argument, 1976
FRESHMAN ACADEMIC AWARDS

Cum Laude 3.3 - 3.69
Brayden Aepelbacher
William Ameel
Hamza-Ali Annamyradov
Trevor Bishop
Dylan Boyle
Nicholas Campagna
Patrick Campbell
John Carroll
Dwayne Chapmann II
Yiming (Frank) Chen
Bennet Coe
Connor Foe
Omar Gates
Trenton Gilman
Jacob Goodroe
Wezhe (Jeff) Guo
Kahlee Hamler
Khizar Jaffry
Brendan Kassa
Robert Kobliska
Colt Lang
Nicholas Marini
Chase Miller
Alex Najor
Parker Rainie
Joseph Schmid

Summa Cum Laude 4.0 and above
Foster Buchanan
Patrick Clouse
Camron Farida
Anthony Haroutunian
Patrick Heikkila
Justin Henry
Ryan Herrmann
Rodney Jones Jr.
Nolan Kare
Augustine Lau
Damon Leja
Matthew Leonard
Jacob Poniatowski
Nicholaus Schneider
Andrew Shina
Camden Skiba
Christopher Skiba
Matthew Whalen

Junior Academic Awards

Cum Laude 3.7 - 3.99
Steven Ambrose
Jack Clark
Derek DeFrances
Andrew DeSana
Brendan DuRivage
Brendan Earls
Andrew Eftihmiou
Jake Galiatsos
Blake Haddad
Julian Hamama
Spencer Heaphy
Luke Ibrahim
Logan Karn
Nicklas Kuphal
Trey LeVasseur
Zachary Mansour
Grant McNutt
Brendan Murphy
Steven Racinski
Christopher Robert
Nicholas Shaba
Harkirat Singh

Magna Cum Laude 3.7 - 3.99
Benjamin Barsh
Nicholas Bonde
David Boos
Christopher Bourachi
Nathan Fagnani
Michael Giacalone
Blake Gordon
Michael Jajou
Thomas James
Benjamin Jozwiak
Andrew Kassa
Noah Laino
Christopher Leonard
Anthony Mansour
Vincent Marino
Jack Olmstead
Donovan Sarnacki
Austin Stauffer
David Stration
Brendan Tabone
Thomas Tenuta
Shuiben Yang (Jacky) Yuan

Sophomore Academic Awards Cum Laude 3.3 - 3.69
Pierce Bauer
Michael Beckett
Drew Boyd
Ian Bruneau
Connor Crutchfield
DeClan Cullen
Brandon Fenzel
Tyler Fenzel
Coleman Fresquez
Jacob Garmo
Scott Grant
Daelin Hayes
Kevin Heiligenthal
Yizhou (Larry) Helian
Jaymes Jackson
Justin Jewula
John Keller
Kyle LaVergne
Tiachen (Luke) Liu
Stewart Marmion
Christian Marougi
Thomas McDonald
Ryan McGorisk
Leonardo Nardicchio
Joseph Nell
Dominic Perelli
Alexander Pero

Magna Cum Laude 3.7 - 3.99
Benjamin Barrick
Brendan Burrell
Drew Dietrich
Jashu (Thomas) Dong
Joseph Gallagher
Matthew Goerss, Jr.
Galen Hatcher
Evan Henry
Colin Herrmann
Frank Hradil V
Conner Kleisman
Nicholas Marino
Samuel McClain
Chun (Bob) Ni
Jung Hyeok (Jason) Park
Nicholas Primeau-Pappas
Anthony Redmond
Nigel Sadek
Andrew Shina
Michael Sims
David Sullivan
Brian Varley
Yiqi (Luke) Wu

Summa Cum Laude 4.0 and above
Bryce Archer
Austin Aselage
Joseph Carlini
Luke Charg
Tyler Cochran
Nicholas Gischia
Robert Hickson Jr.
Shane Kelly
Stephen Kenkel
Jacob Killian
Steven Koski
Scott Kowalski
James Kozicki
Jacob LaPres
Andrew Malick
Erik McKeen
Connor O’Dea
Grant Resczczyk
Chase Ruckhaber
Harrison Salter
Brandon Sharrak
Drake Titus
Spencer Vagg
Joseph Verkerke

CLASS ACADEMIC AWARDS (9th, 10th, 11th & 12th grade)

Magna Cum Laude 3.7 - 3.99
Benjamin Barsh
Nicholas Bonde
David Boos
Christopher Bourachi
Nathan Fagnani
Michael Giacalone
Blake Gordon
Michael Jajou
Thomas James
Benjamin Jozwiak
Andrew Kassa
Noah Laino
Christopher Leonard
Anthony Mansour
Vincent Marino
Jack Olmstead
Donovan Sarnacki
Austin Stauffer
David Stration
Brendan Tabone
Thomas Tenuta
Shuiben Yang (Jacky) Yuan

Sophomore Academic Awards Cum Laude 3.3 - 3.69
Pierce Bauer
Michael Beckett
Drew Boyd
Ian Bruneau
Connor Crutchfield
DeClan Cullen
Brandon Fenzel
Tyler Fenzel
Coleman Fresquez
Jacob Garmo
Scott Grant
Daelin Hayes
Kevin Heiligenthal
Yizhou (Larry) Helian
Jaymes Jackson
Justin Jewula
John Keller
Kyle LaVergne
Tiachen (Luke) Liu
Stewart Marmion
Christian Marougi
Thomas McDonald
Ryan McGorisk
Leonardo Nardicchio
Joseph Nell
Dominic Perelli
Alexander Pero

Magna Cum Laude 3.7 - 3.99
Benjamin Barsh
Nicholas Bonde
David Boos
Christopher Bourachi
Nathan Fagnani
Michael Giacalone
Blake Gordon
Michael Jajou
Thomas James
Benjamin Jozwiak
Andrew Kassa
Noah Laino
Christopher Leonard
Anthony Mansour
Vincent Marino
Jack Olmstead
Donovan Sarnacki
Austin Stauffer
David Stration
Brendan Tabone
Thomas Tenuta
Shuiben Yang (Jacky) Yuan
2014 Honors Convocation

St. Mary's Preparatory 2014 Honor Convocation

Jordan Stasch
William (Brit) Saunders
Michael Santoro
Michael Pogoda
Dale Massy
Michael Mark
John (Jack) Madigan
Hunter MacDonald
Anthony Luisi
Yan (Andy) Li
Ruiyang (Rick) Li
Yeongbae Jeon
Eapen James
Jongtaik (Steven) Hong
Carson Eby
Harrison Coe
Zhipeng (King) Chen
Christian Chapdelaine
Jacob Bauss

3.7 - 3.99 Magna Cum Laude

Yiqi (Luke) Wu
David Sullivan
Michael Sims
Andrew Shina
Anthony Redmond
Nicholas Primeau-Pappas
Jung Hyeok (Jason) Park
Chun (Bob) Ni
Nicholas Marino
Conner Kleismit
Frank Hradil V
Evan Henry
Galen Hatcher
Joseph Gallagher
Jiashu (Thomas) Dong
Branden Burrill
Benjamin Barrick

3.3 - 3.69 Junior Academic Awards

Spencer Vagg
Drake Titus
Brandon Sharrak
Harrison Salter
Chase Ruckhaber

Dean Wirth
Colin Tracey
Matthew Shina
Anthony Scarsella
Matthew Ryder
Devin Rose
Jeffrey Robinson
Brendan Mulroy
Michael Meilak
Robert Love III
Juan Pablo Lontscharitsch
Hengyu (Henry) Liu
Yonghoon Lee
Patrick Clouse
Ryan Herrmann

Robert Alexander
Ryan DeBaker
William Giachia Jr.
Brendan Oatman
Antonio (Max) Posa
Preston Rabban
Jonathan Stoneback
Jacob Zupancic

Senior Academic Awards Cum Laude

Brian Agomouh
Ding An (Lance) Chen
John (Jack) Clouse
Ryan DeBaker
Zhruo Ran (Ryan) Ding
William Giachia Jr.
Brendan Oatman
Antonio (Max) Posa
Preston Rabban
Jonathan Stoneback
Jacob Zupancic

3.3 - 3.69 White Cord

Garrett Altenberger
Kenneth Arnold II
Spencer Barcewicz
Wesley Berry III
Brennan Blaszcak
Peter (P.J.) Bonde
Nathan Conrad
Bradford Golden
Matthew Golden
Shane Gorcyca
Roger Hood II
Yuting (Jim) Jiang
Patrick Kenkel
Yonghun Lee
Hengyu (Henry) Liu
Juan Pablo Lontscharitsch
Robert Love III
James Marx
Matteo Matheny
Michael Meilak
Brendan Mulroy
Sabadino Nardicchio II
Jeffrey Robinson
Devin Rose
Matthew Ryder
Anthony Scarsella
Matthew Shina
Colin Tracey
Dean Wirth
Christopher Wittman
Zifan (Alex) Zhang

2nd place - Christian DiClemente
3rd place - Malik Banks

Winners From The Global Language Oratorical
French - Dominic Perelli
Spanish - Galen Hatcher
Chinese - Tim Teklinski

Senior Theology Awards: Ecumenical Studies
Joseph Giacalone

Catholic Social Teaching
Bowen (Aaron) Liu

Scholastic All Catholic Team
Grade 10 - Joseph Verkerke
Grade 11 - Preston Rabban
Grade 12 - Harrison Boyle

Nominees For The Catholic League Scholar-Athlete Leader Award
Football - Jeremy Schram
Baseball - Joseph Giacalone
Basketball - Peter Bonde
Hockey - Anthony Scarsella
Track - Chase Homovec
Skiing - Austin Archer
Soccer - Christian DiClemente

Nominee For WXZY Channel 7 Brightest And Best
Harrison Boyle

Nominees For MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award
Christian DiClemente
Joseph Giacalone

Commended Students In The 2014 National Merit Program
Christian DiClemente
Chase Homovec
Damian Tenuta

President's Volunteer Service Award
Matteo Matheny

Kondur Scholarships
Harrison Boyle
University of Miami
Sean Foe
Syracuse University
Brian Heiligenthal

U of M
Chase Homovec
University of Miami

Jay Korhonen
Illinois Institute of Technology
Andrew Kormos Hockey
Andrew Machnacki
U of M
Junhong (Jun) Park
University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign
William Salter
MSU
Damian Tenuta

Hockey - deferred admission to U of M

Senior Awards
Valedictorian: Harrison Boyle 4.25 / 30 ACT
Salutatorian: Brian Heiligenthal 4.19 / 31 ACT

Student Of The Year Freshmen Nominees:
Foster Buchanan
Patrick Clouse
Shermon Dabney
Ryan Herrmann
Winner: Patrick Clouse

Sophomore Nominees:
Michael Beckett
Nick Gischia
Stephen Kenkel
Alex Pero
Winner: Nick Gischia

Junior Nominees:
Billy Gischia
Jack Madigan
Brenden Wallington
Joe Wonsil
Winner: Billy Gischia

Seniors:
Nominees:
Spencer Barcewicz
PJ Bonde
Jeff Robinson
Jalen Watts-Jackson
Winner: PJ Bonde

Orchard Lake Good News - Spring 2014
Key Club Award
Joseph Giacalone

SADD Award
Junhong (Jun) Park

Rev. Msgr. Stanley Milewski
Spirit Award
Matthew Ryder

Liturgical Leaders Awards
Austin Archer
Spencer Barcewicz
Luke Bauss
Peter (PJ) Bonde
Joseph Giacalone
Brian Heiligenthal
Austin Petrucci
Matthew Ryder

Campus Ministry Team
Spencer Barcewicz
Luke Bauss
Jack Clouse
Harrison Coe
Christian DiClemente
William Gischia
Brian Heiligenthal
Austin Petrucci
Matthew Ryder
Aaron Sygiel
Joseph Wonsil

Campus Minister’s Award
Spencer Barcewicz

Most Varsity Letters
Christian DiClemente - 9

Top ACT
Matthew Golden - 34
Chase Homovec - 34

Top ACT - Math
Junhong Park - 36

Top SAT
Damian Tenuta - 2090

Top SAT - Math
Damian Tenuta - 760

Top SAT - Subject Tests
Damian Tenuta - Math 2 - 770
Damian Tenuta - Physics - 750

Karen Stewart Awards
Ryan Arnoldy
Patrick Clouse

Cathy Koterba Awards
Yunqing (Neo) Li
Bowen (Aaron) Liu

Eagle Scout Awards
Garrett Altenberger - built and installed book bag cubbies for Millie’s Place.
Martin Mankins - collected and packaged goods to send to the troops overseas.
Christopher Wittmann - restored a pavilion for the Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center.

Admissions Awards
Jack Carroll
Frank Dedvukaj
Brendan Kassa

Polish National Medical Arts Award
Ryan DeBaker

Paul Ziemba Scholarship Award
Joe Wonsil

Ken & Jackie Smerecki Award
Nick Ottoboni
Matt Ryder

Headmaster’s Award
Joe Giacalone
Tom Piserchia

Dean Of Residence Award
Bowen (Aaron) Liu

Student Council Officers
Class Of 2015:
President - Jonathan Stoneback
Vice President - Preston Rabban
Representatives - Billy Gischia & Jordan Stasch

Class Of 2016:
President - Ben Jozwiak
Vice President - Michael Santoni
Representatives - Tommy Tenuta & Nick Gischia

Class Of 2017:
President - Brandon Bunzeluk
Vice President - Connor Foe
Representatives - Nolan Karr & Ralph Holley

Century Cup
Seniors

Matthew Shina
DJ Turner
Sam Weideman
Dean Wirth
Chris Wittmann
2014 College Acceptances

Adrian College
Albion College
Alma College
Andrews University
Aquinas College
Arcadia University
Arizona State University
Ball State University
Bowling Green State University
Butler University
Calvin College
Canisius College
Carnegie College
Case Western Reserve University
College of Creative Studies
Central Michigan University
Coe College
College of Wooster
DePaul University
Drexel University
Eastern Michigan University
Eastern Nazarene College
Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Ferris State University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida Southern University
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franklin Pierce University
Gannon University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Grand Valley State University
Hillsdale College
Hope College
Howard University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Indiana University - Bloomington
Iowa State University
James Madison University
John Carroll University
Kalamazoo College
Kansas University
Kettering University
Lake Erie College
Lawrence Tech
Lehigh University
Liberty University
University of California - Irvine
University of California - Riverside
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Mesa
University of Connecticut
University of Dayton
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Detroit Mercy
University of Idaho
University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Massachusetts - Boston
University of Massachusetts - Lowell
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Michigan - Dearborn
University of Michigan - Flint
University of Mississippi
University of Montreal
Lindenwood University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University - Chicago
Lynn University
Marquette University
Mercer University
Merrimack College
Miami University Ohio
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Montana State University
New Jersey Institute of Science & Technology
Northeastern University
Northern Illinois University
Northern Michigan University
Northern Ohio University
Northwood University
Oakland Community College
Oakland University
Oberlin College
Ohio University
Oregon State University
Otis College of Art & Design
Pennsylvania State University
Pennsylvania State University - University Park
Pratt Institute of New York
Purdue University
Robert Morris College
Roosevelt University
Rose Hulman Institute of Technology
Sacred Heart University
Saginaw Valley State University
Southern University
Southern California Institute of Architecture
Spring Arbor University
St. John University
Stonybrook University
Suffolk University
SUNY - Binghamton
Syracuse University
The Citadel
The Ohio State University
Tulane University
United States Military Academy
University of Akron
University of Alabama
University of Arkansas Pine Bluff
University of Nebraska - Lincoln
University of New Hampshire
University of North Dakota
University of Notre Dame
University of Pittsburgh
University of San Diego
University of Toledo
Ursinus College
Valparaiso University
Vanderbilt University
Wagner College
Walsh University
Washington & Jefferson College
Washington University - St. Louis
Wayne State University
Western Michigan University
Wheeling Jesuit University
Wittenberg University
Woodbury University
Xavier University
Youngstown State University

Class of 2014

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

As of May 9, 2014

$7,972,234
Ministry Team

This team consists of teachers, staff members and students working on five committees - worship, retreats, service, community building, and vocations - to enhance the spiritual life of St. Mary’s Preparatory. The following students were the core team: Spencer Barcewicz ’14, Luke Bauss ’14, Jack Clouse ’15, Harrison Coe ’15, Christian DiClemente ’14, William Gischia ’15, Brian Heiligenthal ’14, Austin Petrucci ’14, Matthew Ryder ’14, Aaron Sygiel ’15 and Joseph Wonsil ’15.

The following is a brief objective of the five committees:

The Service Team’s mission is to provide and define what makes good service (contact with people, versus packing food, social justice component, emphasis on service to and understanding of the poor, service without reward, reflection time after project…). Furthermore, the team shall plan service opportunities throughout the school year (school-wide, school-sponsored) and a yearly international service trip to places such as Mexico or Nicaragua.

The Worship Team’s aim is to plan the Eucharistic and non-Eucharistic liturgies for the school community. The team will be working closely with the music department to further enhance the music ministry. In addition, members look for ways to enhance school-wide prayer opportunities (i.e. Catholic Schools Week, 9/11, Advent, Lent, Our Lady of the Rosary, MLK Day, etc.).

The Retreat Team works with planning and implementing the retreats for the faculty/staff and the students. There will be leadership opportunities for the students and the faculty. The team will also look at various speakers to enhance the St. Mary’s Preparatory community (students, faculty/staff, parents, alumni).

The Vocation Team’s focus is to bring the religious-, married- and single-life ministries into a more faith challenging experience for the students and faculty/staff. Team members provide opportunities to experience the vocations in life and offer a religious studies course and exposure to the religious world for the students, faculty, families, and greater community. It is this group’s aim to help staff, students and faculty answer the question, “What is God calling me to?”

The Community Building Team’s main goal is to provide "healthy social activities" (i.e. movie night, horseback riding, bowling). Members help initiate support groups in the school for students and faculty/staff (alcohol, divorce, dating, etc.) and help implement a greater peer ministry team in and out of the school.

St. Mary’s Preparatory, in conjunction with the Msgr. Sharpe Knights of Columbus Council, is reestablishing the Squires Circle #95 – Msgr. Lisenmeyer. A Squires Circle is an international fraternity of approximately 25,000 Catholic young men, ages 10 to 18, in over 1,500 circles worldwide. The Squires involves young men in programs to benefit the Church and the community, as well as support recreational and social activities. The Columbian Squires program strives to provide "the spiritual, cultural, civic, social and physical improvement of its members, and the development of their leadership qualities."
The Squires emblem includes a Maltese cross upon which are the letters: P - physical fitness; I - intellectual development; S - spiritual growth and the practice of our faith; and C - citizenship and civic life. The large letters, C and S, intertwined with the cross, respectively, represent Christ and Squires. The K centered on the cross symbolizes the Knights of Columbus. Esto Dignus, the Squires’ motto encircling the emblem, is Latin for: “Be Worthy.”

- The Squires is designed to develop young men as leaders who understand their Catholic religion, who have a strong commitment to the Church and who are ready, willing and capable of patterning their lives after the Youth Christ.

- A Squires Circle must be sponsored by a council or assembly, but is run by and for young men, under the guidance of several Knights, who serve as counselors. Squires are to be leaders, thus, to the degree they are able, and they are given the opportunity to lead, by running their own meetings, investing their own members, setting their circle’s agenda and implementing their program of activities.

Squires are involved in promoting vocations, marching in defense of unborn life, feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, supporting Special Olympics and promoting Catholic education, among countless other activities.

The Chief Student Counselor, Spencer Barcewicz ‘14, stated: “This year, an old program returned to the campus of Orchard Lake St. Mary’s. The Knights of Columbus Squires program is the youth version of the Knights of Columbus. As a senior who is very involved in my faith, I was honored to be named the Chief Student Counselor for the beginning of our program. We began planning in January to switch from the Key Club to the Squires Circle – the Catholic Youth program. We have already completed a number of community service activities. Our program will continue as I prepare to graduate, and I will be succeeded by two great members of our circle, Brit Saunders -President and Aaron Sygiel – Vice President.”

Brit Saunders ’15 commented, “It’s been an exciting and fulfilling last semester and, as the 2014 school year comes to a close, many upcoming seniors will take on the leadership positions that have been appointed to them. One of the newest clubs at St. Mary’s Preparatory this year is the Columbian Squires, the official youth organization of the Knights of Columbus. This program is dedicated to developing Catholic values in all of its members and instilling an altruistic sense of duty and commitment to service. We thank outgoing president Spencer Barcewicz for his dedication to the Columbian Squires, and I am honored and humbled to be able to take over his position as president. I am excited to be able to take such an active role in service and helping my peers do the same! The Columbian Squires is a wonderful program, with a proud heritage, and I would encourage all St. Mary’s men to consider joining this group dedicated to service.
Aaron Sygiel ’15 shared, “I would first like to express my excitement for our club’s first year on our campus. This organization stands as a steppingstone for students who have a calling to be part of the church, not only on campus, but also out in the community. Our society is already growing and is open for all students who wish to be more involved in our St. Mary’s community. So, by all means, WELCOME! I am honored to be named a Council Leader and will gladly carry on the good deeds previously accomplished by young men in this position. We, as a Society, feel we can be most productive if we are visually active around our St. Mary’s campus life and its goals as a school. Therefore, we plan to reach out to our community and establish many service projects that our association can partake in. We are hoping the Squires can prove to not only improve the betterment of others, but ourselves as men of God.”

St. Mary’s Preparatory hosted the 10th KAIROS retreat this year. The seven senior student leaders were Spencer Barcewicz, Joe Giacalone, Bradford Golden, Nicholas Nelson, Nikko Ottoboni, Austin Petrucci and Christopher Reidsma. The adult leaders included: Tony Koterba, Elizabeth Moran, Kaitlyn MacNeill, Julio Serret-Mesa, Deacon Steve Talbot and Thomas Oppat.

Spence Barcewicz said, “This school year, I was honored to be named the rector of the KAIROS retreat. KAIROS, a word meaning God’s time, is a retreat that allows high school students to get away from society for four days and become closer to God. I attended the retreat in my junior year and loved it so much. So, naturally I was dying to be a leader in my senior year. I was fortunate enough to be named the rector which is the equivalent to being the student in charge. The experience of being rector was different than that of a student on the retreat. The position is much more stressful but, because of that, it makes the time I get to relax that much more enriching. Anyone who attended the retreat should seek a leadership position and any student that has not attended the retreat yet should. KAIROS is truly the best experience St. Mary’s has to offer any student.
Dear Friends, Alumni, and Parents of the Orchard Lake Schools and St. Mary’s Preparatory,

Good wishes from the Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Prep Boarding Program! Once again, it is my pleasure to write to you as the Dean of Resident Students about this year’s fantastic boarding program.

Fourteen boarding students graduated on Sunday, May 18, 2014 and began a new chapter in their academic career. Our seniors have been accepted by many universities in the United States, including University of California - Irvine, University of Syracuse, Otis College of Art and Design - Los Angeles, Southern California Institute of Architecture, Washington College, Sacred Heart University - Connecticut, Merrimack College, Pratt Institute, Canisius College - New York, Woodberry University, University of Connecticut, University of New Hampshire, University of Iowa, University of Massachusetts Boston, University of Delaware, Michigan State University, Drexel University, University of Illinois, Penn State University, Arizona State University, and Purdue University, to name a few.

In the 5th marking period of the 2013-14 academic school year, 22 of our students made the dorm’s Dean’s List. The Dean’s List is comprised of students within the boarding program who have achieved at least a 3.75 grade point average. Furthermore, the overall GPA in the boarding program for the 5th marking period was 3.43. This is the best overall GPA that we’ve ever had in our boarding program.

**Planned Innovations/Services in our Boarding Program for 2014-15**

1. Providing Free ACT/SAT tutoring classes for all dorm students
2. Creation of intramural/club sports team for dorm students
3. New International Student Orientation in August

We who are part of the Orchard Lake St. Mary’s boarding program are always trying to improve and provide a better living and learning environment for our students.

Having been the Dean of Resident Students for the last five years, this year was an exceptionally difficult one to decide who will receive the Dorm Award and Dorm Ambassador Award. We had several very strong candidates and all were true models of academic achievement, passion, loyalty, and hard work. Because of his energy, devotion, and many continuing achievements, Bowen Liu (Aaron) is very deserving of this Dorm Award. He is a completely devoted Catholic, fantastic student, and excellent assistant resident advisor. He served in this position for two full academic school years (2012–2014). He was a true asset to the boarding program. Brendan Wallington served as an assistant resident advisor for the full academic school year (2014) and was also a true asset to the program. He is a true representation of academic achievement, enthusiasm, commitment, and hard work. Therefore, it was my honor to grant the Dorm Ambassador Award to Brendan Wallington. We are proud to have them as part of our school and our program.

**Attractions/Locations**

This year we provided our dorm students with plenty of excitement. They had opportunities to visit the following: Fort Lauderdale, Florida with Robin Goddard (Easter break), Cedar Point, Henry Ford Museum, Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit Auto Show, Detroit Pistons’ games, Ski Trip – Alpine Valley, Zap Zone laser tag, SportNFun go kart, bungie jumping, Air Time Trampoline/Game Park, rock climbing with the International Students advisor, Erebus Haunted House, local restaurants, local movie theaters, St. Mary’s sports games, and a jazz band performance.
In addition, students visited local shopping centers on a weekly/monthly basis, including Somerset, Twelve Oaks, Great Lakes Crossing, Wal-Mart, Best Buy, ethnic food stores, hair salons, local banks, and coffee shops. We also had our annual dorm tournaments in ping pong, pool table billiards, badminton, and basketball. Moreover, we had dorm cookouts and parties celebrating Christmas, the Chinese New Year, Super Bowl, the NCAA Championship, the National Championship Bowl Game, and monthly pizza gatherings.

This year, we had an increase in number of day student/families who utilized the dorm facility. In addition, we will be very busy this summer with camps, including a few new ones, as well as groups visiting our school. One of the reasons for a significant increase is new room/building accommodations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polish Country Fair</td>
<td>May 22 - 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orchard Lake Schools – Priest Retreat</td>
<td>June 5 - 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Football Camp</td>
<td>June 16 - 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Founder's/Alumni Day – Golf Outing</td>
<td>June 19 - 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>True Lacrosse Camp</td>
<td>June 23 - 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hockey Camp</td>
<td>June 28 - July 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PNA Camp</td>
<td>July 6 - 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lacrosse Camp</td>
<td>July 7 - 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basketball Camp</td>
<td>July 13 - 16</td>
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<td>Soccer Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Student/Korean Camp</td>
<td>July 21 - August 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genealogy Camp</td>
<td>August 3 - 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Priest Retreat</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>New International Student Orientation</td>
<td>August 10 - 17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please allow me to express my appreciation to all my resident advisors and tutors for their perpetual diligence: Eric Hurt – Senior Resident Advisor, Matt Petry – Resident Advisor/Varsity Baseball Coach, Robert Clouse – Resident Advisor/Varsity Football Coach/Varsity Baseball Coach, Mark Carroll – Resident Advisor/History Teacher/Freshmen Football Coach, Lamon Mathison – Resident Advisor, Bowen Liu (Aaron) – Student Assistant Resident Advisor, Brendan Wallington – Student Assistant Resident Advisor, DeJuan Foster – Student Assistant Resident Advisor and Timothy Teklinski – Student Assistant Resident Advisor. In addition, allow me to extend my sincere thanks to Kaitlin MacNeill – International Students Advisor/Global Languages teacher, Alan Maestri – Resident Advisor/Mathematics teacher, Loretta Orzech – School Nurse, and Robin Goddard – Director of Athletic Facilities/Assistant Athletic Director, for all of their help and support. In addition, I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude to all OLSM parents, teachers, staff, and friends for hosting our international students during the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter breaks. We had over 50 families in our community that helped out with our international students. It would be extremely difficult to run the boarding program without your help and support.

God Bless you all for your help and support of St. Mary’s Preparatory Boarding Program and Orchard Lake Schools.

Sincerely,

Mirko Vukelic
Dean of Resident Students
Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Preparatory
A Special Feature of the OLSM Boarding Program:  
A Few Words from Dorm Student Athletes

In every edition of the Orchard Lake Good News, we allow dorm students to give us their perceptions of our boarding program. In this edition, we will present our dorm student athletes.

Teklinski, Timothy (P’15)
Hello, my name is Tim Teklinski and I am a junior at the OLSM boarding program. I moved into the dorms my sophomore year and, needless to say, it has changed my life. I started to wrestle my freshman year, and after moving into the dorm my performance increased tenfold. The dorm has gotten me to live a very structured life, the life fit for a student athlete. By living on campus, there is never any struggle about getting to and from practice at a reasonable time. I always have ample time to work on my studies, and on most days, I even have enough extra time to get in another workout. Another beautiful part of the dorms that I believe everyone can appreciate is that the weight room is always a two-minute walk away. This makes workouts very convenient because I can run on the track or lift whenever I have enough time. One of my favorite parts of being an athlete living in the dorm is always having my teammates by my side. We can help remind each other when we have eaten too much and need to make weight; we also give each other praise and motivation. I believe that this has made my time being a wrestler at OLSM much more fulfilling than anywhere else that I could possibly be.

Out of all the reasons I enjoy being an athlete at the dorm, my favorite part is the leadership that is around me. All of the resident advisors played a sport at levels including high school, college, and even professional. During the off-season, I get tips from the football players about putting on weight and weight training. I always enjoy talking to the staff and sharing stories about some of our most proud and also most embarrassing moments in sports. It is great to learn about improving myself from the role models I have here. For those that do not know, Mr. Vukelic, the Dean of Resident Men at OLSM, was the youngest soccer player to play on the professional team in Serbia. I have found that he can always find a way to relate to the struggles that I have in the sport, but more importantly, he talks me through these struggles, gives me motivation, and gives me the tools to allow myself to keep grinding in the in- and off-seasons. I do not know where I would be as an athlete had I not been involved in the great and unique boarding program that is offered by OLSM.

Carlini, Joe (P’16)
My name is Joseph Carlini. I am currently a dormer in my sophomore year. I have played varsity baseball both of my years here at Orchard Lake St. Mary’s. Being a student athlete here at St. Mary’s, and really anywhere, can be a difficult task. However, when one lives on the campus of this school, it makes things a little easier. An obvious benefit from living on campus is time. When I am finished with school for the day, I immediately go to practice. However, after practice, I do not have to drive home. All I must do is walk straight over to my dorm room and begin homework. This is helpful because I do not have to waste valuable time getting home. Another benefit of dorming is quick, healthy food. Here at Orchard Lake, we have the great advantage of a weight room. When I am finished with workouts, I can jump right over to the dining hall and immediately begin feeding my body with protein, which is obviously valuable to gaining muscle and strength. So, in short, residing in Orchard Lake’s dormitory is very helpful in attaining both good grades and better athletic ability.
Lei, Chen (Ray) (P'15)

My name is Ray Lei. I have been in St. Mary's Preparatory's boarding program for three years. It is just like another home for me. I play three varsity sports: football, wrestling, and track. Being in the dorm, it made my life so much more convenient and unique. I live on OLSM's campus and it's a two-minute walk to practice. Every Saturday and weekday practice is a big struggle for each player to wake up in the morning an hour earlier to get ready and drive to the school. For me, it only takes five minutes. The weight room is open four hours every weekday. Even on the weekend, one of the resident advisors could take us to the weight room. Off season, that is where I get better technique and stamina.

If an athlete has any question about the sports, he can ask the people who living on campus. Most of them are high school athletes, but some are college or even professional caliber. They are willing to answer or show you the solution. Mr. Vukelic, the Dean of Resident Students at OLSM, always gives me the motivation and the power to face all kinds of situations. He played soccer in Europe. He uses his patience and love to support us playing sports and takes great care of us athletes in sports and in our everyday lives on campus.

Blaszczak, Brennan (P'14)

My name is Brennan Blaszczak and I am a senior dormer here at Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep. I currently live in Las Vegas, Nevada and have attended St. Mary's all four years. Leaving home at the age of 14 was difficult, but the atmosphere of the dorms helps you feel at home almost right away. I came to St. Mary's Prep not only for the academics, but also to play hockey. Being on the hockey team, or any team in this case, is not only a good way of meeting your friends, but it also makes you manage your time wisely. For example, I would have practice after school every day from 3-5 pm and then have dinner at 5:45 until about 6:30. I then have the rest of the night to complete my homework and spend the free time however I want. This may seem like an overwhelming schedule, but it will help you learn to manage your time wisely between sports and academics. Living in the dorms also gives you an idea of how dorms function, so when it comes to college, it will be a breeze moving in. So if you wish to play a sport and get a feel for dorm life, then St. Mary's is the place to be.

Wallington, Brenden (P'15)

My name is Brenden Wallington and I am currently a dorm student in my junior year here at St. Mary’s Preparatory. Throughout my high school career, I have been a varsity track and cross-country runner. My freshman year I was not part of St. Mary’s Prep boarding program. This made balancing sports and academics quite difficult. By the time I got home from school and practice, I had a limited amount of time to dedicate to my homework. However, in the middle of my sophomore year I started boarding at St. Mary’s Prep. This transition couldn't have helped me more. Living on campus organized my schedule between running and studying. The dorm schedule is set up to help student-athletes. After practice, I go and eat dinner in the dining hall. Eating after a workout is very important because it helps to refuel and build muscle. The dorms also keep you on a great sleeping schedule, which is key to an athlete. Most importantly, however, living in the dorms allows an ample amount of time to complete all my homework. My grades improved when I started dorming at St. Mary’s because I was able to maintain focus in my athletics while still devoting a significant amount of time to my academics. Boarding at St. Mary’s gives the student-athlete an advantage because he has all the necessary resources to excel both in the classroom and on the playing field.
Wu, Yiqi (Luke) (P’15)

My name is Luke Wu. I’ve lived in St. Mary’s Prep dorms for three years. If you play sports, the dorm is a good boarding choice. In these three years, I joined soccer, rowing, track, football, wrestling and golf. In addition, I am a proud member of Key Club, Jazz Band, and dance club. Because of the dorm’s convenience, I can change clothes after school and go to practice on time. Sometimes we have a game on the weekends; it will not be a pain if you live in the dorm. I’m playing golf this season. I leave my clubs in my room so I do not need to carry them around. I change into golf clothes after school every day. My friend will wait in front of the dorm and drive me to the course and drive me back. The most important thing, if you play sports, is that you will save a lot of time if you live in the dorm. Furthermore, Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Prep boarding program helped me to become a more self-reliant and academically independent person.

Stozenfeld, George (P’17)

Hi, my name is George Stolzenfeld. This is my first year at St. Mary’s and also my first year staying in the dorms. In my opinion, I believe that the dorms help me focus on my academics, which I think are very important. Here at the dorms, they set up a specific time every day for us to focus on our studies. Occasionally, we even have a tutor come during study hall for our benefit. Each day in the dorms is all predetermined for us, which gets us into a routine. This routine is most beneficial to freshman and new arriving dorm students. The good thing about the regimen is that it also works around our practices and activities for our sports. For this reason, I think the dorms are very beneficial to a student. Without them, I would not be able to do the things I do athletically and academically. For this, I believe that the dorms have impacted me in many ways.

Foster, DelJuan (P’15)

I am currently a junior and will be graduating next year as a senior. I am from the east side of Detroit, Michigan. I play basketball and run track for St. Mary’s Prep. The dorm helps me academically and with sports. If your GPA is under a 3.0, you have study hall every night until you get and maintain a 3.0 or above. Throughout my entire three years at St. Mary’s, I have maintained a 3.3 GPA or above. Most of the teachers live in the dorms so you’re getting hands-on help from the person who assigned your homework. We have three meals a day: breakfast, lunch and dinner. When you miss dinner, a dinner box is provided so that you do not have to pay for food. If you do not like the dinner box, you can order food from local restaurants such as Hungry Howie’s, Jetts Pizza, and China Express. Sometimes you don’t need to go to study hall but it helps to go get extra help. Also, staying in the dorms makes it easier on your parents not having to pick you up after practice and have to press to get your homework done. Sometimes, I’m so tired I come to my room and go to sleep without having to wait on my parents wasting time. The dorms help you mature and develop good study habits because everyone around is doing well in school. The help is there if you need resident advisors to help you study and preview your papers for you. Beginning on this campus keeps me focused because, if you’re not handling your business you’re wasting time and money. We go out to places like Somerset Mall, the movies, Buffalo Wild Wings, Dairy Queen, and Wal-Mart. You’re not always doing work but you have to know how to manage your time. The dorm, all-in-all, prepares you for college because it is just like it.
The Jacksonville Jaguars and St. Mary’s Preparatory have one thing in common -- the football prowess, whether past or present, of receiver Allen Robinson. The Prep alum (P’11), who went on to play football at Penn State, was recently drafted in round two of the NFL draft to the Jacksonville Jaguars.

"I was a receiver this season but moved around a lot to become more versatile," said Robinson. "I ran for 1,432 yards and had 97 catches. I’m pretty comfortable after the catch moving around the field. I think it was my freshman year at Penn State that I realized I had potential to take football to the next level."

Robinson left for training camp May 11 right after the draft. He is looking forward to this tremendous NFL opportunity to learn from great coaches and considers Coach Sullivan an amazing mentor. When asked what he attributes his athletic success to, Robinson credited multiple sports. "Playing basketball, baseball and football, and skills from each, like locating the ball in baseball and jumping in basketball, have contributed to how I play football today," he added.

As for short- and long-term goals, Robinson says he is focusing on what is directly in front of him. His plan is to try to improve each day and earn a spot on the playing field.

Family, including St. Mary’s, has always played an integral role in his life. "Family has always been there for me, even in tough times on the field," he added. "They’ve always kept me humble along the way. St. Mary’s helped me become a more balanced person. It’s about being prepared for what comes your way and putting in the hard work."

Robinson certainly had a great deal of inspiration. "My dad is my biggest role model," he said. "He works hard, has provided for our family and always put family first. That’s all very important to me."
Chris Whalen, St. Mary’s Preparatory alumnus (P’10) and University of Michigan senior, makes no bones about a recent decision that had a profound impact on his life. According to a story published in The University Record, Whalen had already decided he was going to pursue a career in paleontology, a field referred to as the study of fossils, but was concerned about how he would deal with spending long periods of time in remote locations.

College years are the perfect time of life to explore career decisions. Whalen decided to test his limits to make sure he was prepared for field work by spending a month on the windswept tundra in Siberia searching for woolly mammoth bones with his professor and some other students.

“That trip had a profound impact on me,” Whalen told The University Record. So much so that he accepted an offer Yale University extended to him to take on a position in their doctoral paleontology program.

The University of California Museum of Paleontology (www.ucmp.berkeley.edu) prefers to think of paleontology as so much more than simply the study of fossils, and describes the field as follows:

“... paleontology is the study of what fossils tell us about the ecologies of the past, about evolution, and about our place, as humans, in the world. Paleontology incorporates knowledge from biology, geology, ecology, anthropology, archaeology, and even computer science to understand the processes that have led to the origination and eventual destruction of the different types of organisms since life arose.”
As a Prep student, you probably don’t think about what the guy sitting next to you in class is “going to be when he grows up.” Or you might career stereotype one of your classmates based on his personality or type of behavior.

If you were on the St. Mary’s Prep Crew team with Chris Veal back in 2010, when Chris was a senior, did you ever think, when you got into a boat with him in the hopes of winning the race, that he was destined to be a doctor? No, you probably didn’t think beyond rowing harder than your opponents. But today, Chris Veal (P’10) is taking on a healthy dose of medicine at Harvard Medical School.

At a recent board meeting and conference he chaired for pre-med students, Veal, president of the Pre-Med Association, presented his research on a gene he discovered that can cause a specific birth defect to a newborn baby and, based on his research, can now be prevented.

In addition, Veal was notified by Bo Rueda, Ph.D., 2014 Scientific Program Director, Harvard, that his abstract, titled “Expression of Functional TLRs in Human Uterine Myocytes,” has been selected for a poster presentation at the Society for Gynecologic Investigation 61st Annual Scientific Meeting.
Anthony (AJ) Blazevic (P’10) Serves Our Country

Anthony (AJ) Blazevic, St. Mary’s Prep Class of 2010, graduated from the United States Naval Academy on May 23, 2014 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Oceanography. He is now a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. He is pictured here with his brother, Jonny (P’12), a student at Mercyhurst University.

Pierce Niemiec (P’09) Soars to New Heights

Pierce Niemiec, St. Mary’s Prep Class of 2009, graduated from the United States Naval Academy on May 23, 2014 with a Bachelor degree in English. He will continue his studies in Pensacola, Florida as a Naval Flight Officer.

Michael Christen (P’11) Makes Microsoft Summer Home Warren Christen Builds Career in Engineering

Michael Emerson Christen, St. Mary’s Prep Class of 2011, is at the top of his class again, having graduated May 3, 2014 summa cum laude from the University of Michigan. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering.

This summer, Michael is interning at Microsoft in Washington. He will continue his education in the fall at the University of Michigan in the SGUS Computer Science Masters Program.

Michael is pictured with his brother Warren Christen, St. Mary’s Prep Class of 2008, who graduated with a Bachelor degree in Packaging from Michigan State University in 2012. Warren currently works for Roush Enterprises in Livonia as a packaging engineer.
Robert M. Arseth, 56, of West Bloomfield, passed into eternal rest on January 14, 2014. He is survived by Denise (nee Polito), his loving wife of 22 years, and sons Joe (P'13) and Marco (P'17); mother Carol (late Lawrence Arseth); sisters Suzann Arseth-Davis and Colleen Arseth; in-laws Patsy and Jeanette; brother-in-law Tony Polito (Koleen); nieces Rachel and Abbey; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Carl Adam Koci 41, of West Bloomfield, Michigan, passed away on November 9, 2013. Carl was the son of the Orchard Lake Schools Board of Regents President Lud Koci. He is survived by his parents, Lud and Trudi; sisters Christine Berkheiser (Robert), Cynthia Caminos (Jacon), and Carol Jesena (Rhode); and brother Christopher. Brother Charles and sisters, Connie Do and Karla Herkerlas preceded Carl in eternal rest.

Arthur, "Coach Art," Paddy, of Commerce Township passed away quietly on February 13, 2014 at the age of 96. He was proud of his daily active daily lifestyle up to the end, walking nearly one-quarter mile, watching U of M football, and sharing humorous conversation. In his words, "I was a very fortunate man." In his 55 years of coaching, he worked with Poe and Dutch, and built winning teams in Bay City, Brandon, Cass City, West Bloomfield, and at St. Mary's. June, his loving wife of 65 years, pre-deceased him as did son Michael and daughter Jan. Surviving are his daughter, Libby and husband Jim; dear friend and caregiver Michael Touchette; nephew Tim; son-in-law Dick; and numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

Rev. Dennis Teles (C'61) of La Porte, Indiana, passed away on February 2, 2014 at the age of 74. Fr. Teles received his Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Mary's College, and went on to study at Mt. St. Mary Seminary, Norwood, Ohio, earning his Theological degree. On May 29, 1965, he was ordained by Bishop Andrew Grutka at Holy Angels Cathedral in Gary, Indiana. In addition to serving in seven parishes in Indiana, he was 1st Pastorate at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in La Porte for 12 years before moving to St. Peter & Paul for 25 years, Blessed Sacrament Calumet Township and senior Priest at St. Joseph Catholic Church for 4-1/2 years. For 10 years, Fr. Teles was Dean of South Lake County and served on numerous committees the the Diocese of Gary, Indiana. He adored the great outdoors and his German Shepherds, Arko and Biska.

Walter "Walt" Wojtys (H'68) passed away on March 26, 2014, at the age of 91. The proud WWII Army veteran and past president of St. Andrew Church Parish Council was the husband of the late Geneive (2007), having celebrated 61 years of marriage, and father to 8 children and 14 grandchildren.

Raymond Sikora of Chicago, Illinois, the loving husband of Virginia, an Orchard Lake Schools Board of Regents member, died May 5 at a Chicago rehabilitation center. He was cremated and a memorial service followed. He is remembered in the thoughts and prayers of all those who shared in his life.

Thomas E. Gardziola (P'51) age 80, passed away May 23, 2014. He was a loving and devoted husband to Leona for nearly 52 years and a Cherished father to Greg (Concetta), Jim (Jean), Helene Kokesh and Kristin (Chris) Roberts, Gardziola was also doting Dzia Dzia to 10 grandchildren. He was a 1951 graduate of St. Mary's of Orchard Lake and proud member of the American Polish Century Club and the Polish Century Club.

Monsignor Chester A. Gajewski (S'S0) a resident of Villa Saint Joseph, Dunmore, passed into eternal rest on Friday, May 2, 2014 at the age of 88. The son of the late Louis Joseph and Mary Zlotowski Gajewski was born in Nanticoke on March 3, 1926. He completed his studies for the priesthood at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary and was ordained on June 3, 1950 in the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Scranton, Pennsylvania, by the Most Reverend William J. Hafey, D.D., late Bishop of Scranton. Monsignor Gajewski was named a Prelate of Honor by His Holiness, Pope Pius VI, on September 22, 1973. Along with his pastoral duties, he served as a Diocesan Consultor; as Moderator of the Diocesan Councils of Catholic Men and Catholic Women; Chaplain of the Catholic Daughters of America; and the Junior Catholic Daughters. He was a Chaplain for the Boy Scouts of America and coordinated a campaign for Federal Tax Credit Legislation. He is survived by his nephew Reverend Jerry Prusakowski, O.F.M. He was preceded in death by his brother, Reverend Leonard Gajewski; and his sisters Stella Prusakowski and Leona Cieplick.
Reverend Monsignor Thomas C. Machalski, Jr. hosted the 34th Annual Chancellor’s Senate Recognition Dinner on Sunday, December 15, 2013 at Pine Lake Country Club in West Bloomfield, Michigan. The Chancellor’s Senate is a membership program which raises funds for the immediate needs of the Orchard Lake Schools. All alumni and friends are eligible to participate.

This year, the group welcomed 13 new members. The event gave Monsignor Machalski the opportunity to thank supporters in person and to personally update them with current news from campus while spending time with one another during the reception and dinner.

The Chancellor’s Senate allows members to designate their gifts to an area of interest such as St. Mary’s Preparatory, SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, The Polish Mission and the Orchard Lake Schools. Joining the membership is a great way to stay connected with the Orchard Lake Schools community and make an immediate impact on its future. If you would like more information on membership, please call 248-683-1759.
Walter Bala Puts His Faith in
Our Lady of Orchard Lake

At 90 years young, Walter Bala is no stranger to the Orchard Lake Schools. The perpetual Ambassador, Founder's Day committee participant, Honorary Alumnus (H’70), and capital campaign donor believes in the Orchard Lake Schools and the resulting friendships he has cultivated over several decades. This generous donor has, once again, put his faith in the future of this community by contributing half the cost of the Altar of the John Paul II Relic, that which represents the four shots fired by the assassin that wounded Pope John Paul II in 1981 in St. Peter’s Square, to be constructed in the Shrine Chapel.

Bala's concern for the well-being of others is a testament to his character. He quit high school in 11th grade to enlist in the Air Force in an effort to help support his parents. In WWII, he served as an engineer on a B-24 bomber and flew in 34 missions. When he returned to civilian life, he completed high school at Cass Tech and received his diploma. At the time, it was difficult to find work. He registered with the Veterans and, in 1947, found a job with F. Lee Wright working in the warehouse, inventory, and inside sales before being called back to serve in the Korean War. For one year, Bala worked at a U.S. Air Force base before returning to F. Lee Wright where he shaped his career through retirement. "I never played golf because I worked six days a week," admitted Bala.

Walter Bala devoted himself to Wanda, his wife of 60 years, who passed away in May, 2012. "She was a strong supporter of my committee work within the Orchard Lake Schools," added Bala. "When I was made an Honorary Alumnus in 1970, I was not able to attend the festivities so Wanda went to represent me. Cardinal Karol Józef Nojtyla, who later became Pope John Paul II, attended the reception and shook hands with Wanda! I always tell my friends, 'My wife shook hands with the future Pope!'"

In 1974, Bala became one of the original Ambassadors and donated annually. "I was inspired by Msgr. Ziemb and never missed an Ambassadors Ball."

"When tickets to Founder's Day were $100 each, I would purchase 20 and distribute them to my industrial sales customers," said Bala. "I remember the traffic jam around Orchard Lake Road the year we sold 4,500 tickets and welcomed the Governor and Mayor of Detroit. This year, I will be attending with my niece, caregiver, and my wife's former caregiver. I wouldn't miss it for anything."

Artistic Renderings of the Proposed Design of the Relic.
The Orchard Lake Ambassadors is a membership of alumni and friends that support the Ambassadors Endowment Fund. Money raised from annual and lifetime memberships is contributed to the endowment fund and only the interest is used for special projects on campus. Past projects have included updated computers for the Seminary, roof repairs, campus security upgrades and Prep classroom renovations.

Members are invited to attend the annual Ambassadors Ball. This year, they gathered at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, Michigan. First Ambassadors and hosts, Dr. Richard & Maria Wandzel, welcomed members to an evening reception, auction and lovely dinner. The crowd danced and enjoyed a wonderful night which included the presentation of the Fidelitas Medal to The Most Reverend John W. Yanta, D.D., Bishop Emeritus of Amarillo, Texas.

This year, the Ambassadors welcomed eight new annual members and two lifetime members. If you would like more information on how you can make a difference in the Orchard Lake Schools as a member of the Ambassadors, please call 248-683-1759.
Bishop Yanta Honored with Fidelitas Medal

The Most Reverend John W. Yanta, D.D., Bishop Emeritus of Amarillo, Texas, was born October 2, 1931, in Running, Texas. The fifth of eight children of John Yanta and Mary Magdelen Pollok, both natives of Pampa Maria, the oldest Polish parish in the United States, was raised with his parents' belief in their cultural pride.

Yanta's pre-seminary education was built on a solid foundation first at the Runge Public Schools followed by Central Catholic High School in San Antonio, Texas, and Maryhurst Normal School in Kirkwood, Missouri. It was there that, in 1946, he graduated and began seminary studies at St. John's, San Antonio (1946-49, 1951-52). However, in 1950, Yanta took a year off to spend time with his ailing father.

From 1952 to 1956, Yanta studied at Assumption Seminary. He was ordained on March 17, 1956 at San Fernando Cathedral by Archbishop Robert E. Lucey, and received the honor of appointment as Assistant Pastor of St. Ann's Parish, San Antonio. Here, he served six years before moving on as part-time Assistant Pastor of Our Lady of Grace Parish (1962-63), Holy Name Parish (1963-64), and St. Pius X Parish (1964-65). At the time, Yanta also began his six-year commitment as CYO Director and Archdiocesan Youth Director.

Bishop John W. Yanta is a strong advocate of service to the community. He served as founder and executive director of the San Antonio Neighborhood Youth Organization (SANYO), an anti-poverty program for youth funded by the federal government, and reached out to others as chaplain of St. Benedict's Hospital and Nursing Home (1965-73) before assuming the Office for the Laity of Better World Spiritual Renewal (1971-74), pastor of Sacred Heart Parish of San Antonio (1973-81), editor of Today's Catholic Newspaper (1981-83), co-founder and first executive director of Catholic Television of San Antonio (1981-83), and pastor of St. James Parish (1983-95). He was also singled out for numerous distinctions, including the Bishop Odin Award, two Father Leopoldo Moczygemba Awards by Polish American Priests, and was named a Monsignor on November 29, 1989.

Yanta has cherished his Polish cultural studies, including attendance at the Kosciuszko Foundation summer session in Krakow, Poland, and at Adam Michiewicz University, Poznan, before tackling leader of First-Ever Tour of Polish Silesian Texans Back to Poland and Opole Area of Silesia. He also coordinated Pope John Paul II's visit with Panna Maria parishioners and Texas Polonia.

Bishop Yanta's demonstrated talents were also evident in his election to First National President of P.A.P.A. (Polish American Priests Association) on April 11, 1991. By fostering his devotion to his faith, Yanta received the distinction of being the first Texan of a Polish descent to become a Bishop on December 20, 1994. He was consecrated by Archbishop Patrick Flores with Cardinal Adam Maida as homilist.

Yanta is a dedicated leader to his community. In an effort to help develop the Panna Maria Heritage Center as a tribute to the Silesian Polish Panna Maria ancestors, he serves as Chairman of the Board and President and works to help bridge Poland with the United States while providing links to other Polish centers and organizations within Texas and the rest of the nation, including The Polish Mission and St. Cyril & Methodius Seminary. As president of a 48-unit H.U.D. housing project and as founder of a 34-unit project for the elderly, he is also a true believer in the care of the aging and less fortunate.

In 1995, Yanta joined the Chancellor's Senate of the Orchard Lake Schools. As an integral part of this group, he helped contribute to the Orchard Lake Schools community and the futures of fine young men attending its facilities and programs.

On Saturday, March 15, 2014, at the Orchard Lake Schools Ambassadors Ball, Yanta became the 67th recipient of the Fidelitas Medal for "fidelity in serving God and country through the realization of the religious and cultural ideals of our forefathers."
The Fund For Continuing Excellence Raffle

The year-long raffle will be starting again this fall. There is a raffle winner each weekday drawn from the group of those who participate. Winners are awarded $100. On special holidays, winners can receive between $200–$1,000. The winning tickets are returned to the barrel for more chances to win, so the ticket a participant purchases is eligible for year-long participation. Tickets are $30 each.

Those interested in purchasing a ticket or ordering additional tickets may call 248-682-1885.

The raffle runs from August 1, 2014 – July 31, 2015, and is licensed by the State of Michigan Lottery Bureau.

Save the Date
Our Lady of Orchard Lake Gala
August 21, 2014

The Our Lady of Orchard Lake Gala will take place on Thursday, August 21, 2014 at the San Marino Club in Troy. Come join us this year as we enjoy dinner and a fashion show. Event co-chairs Mary Kaye Neumann, Curtis Posuniak, Kelley Stramaglia and the Our Lady of Orchard Lake Gala Committee invite you to participate by purchasing tickets for the exciting evening or by sponsoring a table. Fashions will be modeled from Dawood Boutique in Grosse Pointe Woods and will feature casual and evening wear. For more information, or to reserve your tickets, please call 248-683-1759.
Larry and Joyce Behling have received many blessings. Most recently, they celebrated their 20th anniversary. In addition, Joyce accompanied her father, Chester, on a one-day trip to Washington, D.C. on the honor flight for WWII veterans. They were fortunate to see many of the veterans' memorials, including that of WWII, and the changing of the guard before returning to the Syracuse airport.

Orchard Lake Schools wishes to express its most profound thanks to the below individuals who so graciously remembered us with gifts in their wills, received between October 24, 2013 – April 25, 2014

E. Swiderski Revocable Discretionary Trust  
Ms. Helen Archacki  
Ms. Frances Cuthbert  
Mr. Chester S. Ludwinski  
Ms. Helen T. Ozarski  
Mrs. Olive C. Sade  
Dr. & Mrs. Arthur G. Seski  
Mr. Casimir M. Shander  
Rev. Msgr. Walter J. Ziemba

Eternal rest grant unto them,  
O Lord,  
and let perpetual  
light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace, Amen.
Orchard Lake Schools Contact Information

**OLS**
Chancellor-Rector, Reverend Monsignor Thomas C. Machalski, Jr.  248-683-0500  
Vice Chancellor, Tony Koterba 248-683-0401  
Adam Cardinal Maida Alumni Library  248-706-4211  
Advancement Services (Fundraising/PR/Communications)  248-683-1759  
Alumni Relations  248-683-1759  
Ambassadors  248-683-1759  
Archives  248-683-0404  
Bookstore  248-683-0321  
Business Office  248-683-0511  
Chancellor’s Senate  248-683-1759  
Dombrowski Fieldhouse 248-683-0445  
Food Service AVI  248-683-0440  
Founder’s Day  248-683-0411  
Special Events Coordinator  248-683-0520  
St. Mary’s Athletic Complex - Ice Arena  248-706-4200

**SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary (SSCMS)**
Chancellor-Rector, Reverend Monsignor Thomas C. Machalski, Jr.  248-683-0311  
Dean of Human Formation, Rev. Canon Walter J. Ptak 248-683-0316  
Dean of Students, Rev. Fr. Pawel Lis 248-706-5361  
Academic Dean, Rev. Fr. Leonard Obloy 248-683-0315  
Dean of Pastoral Formation, Rev. Msgr. Francis Koper 248-683-0533  
Dean of Spiritual Formation, Rev. Fr. Robert Marczewski 248-683-0429  
Director of Lay Ministry, Dr. Joshua Genig 248-683-0312  
Registrar/Student Services, Joanna Olejniczak-Caushaj 248-706-5363  
Director of Assessment, Sister M. Karen Shirilla 248-683-0542

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