

ALUMNI ARROW

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2019

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING ST. SEBASTIAN PARISH SCHOOL'S 90th ANNIVERSARY



Come Home for the 90th: November 29, 7 p.m.

ALL ARE INVITED to the “Come Home for the 90th!” event on November 29. St. Sebastian Parish School is excited to welcome home all alumni, alumni parents, teachers (present and past), current parents, students, parishioners and friends of the school to celebrate the school’s 90th anniversary. The event will include food stations, soft drinks, beer and wine, as well as tours of the school, including the recently renovated Innovation Lab and Technology Learning Lab – we will even let you into the once-forbidden faculty lounge!

TAKE HOME SOME TERRIER PRIDE: Wooden replicas of the school (pictured below) will be on sale, with proceeds benefitting the 8th-grade class trip to Washington, D.C. Also available for purchase will be Pastor Fr. John Valencheck’s new book about the history of St. Sebastian Parish. And, while supplies last, sun catchers with the Zwislser Hall rose window design and 90th anniversary ornaments will be on sale.

Alumni Mass: November 30, 4:30 p.m.

The St. Sebastian Parish Foundation is sponsoring an Alumni Mass on November 30, during which the Alumni Association will honor all of our alumni, with special intentions to be prayed for our deceased alumni.

Come Home for the 90th!

Friday, November 29, 2019

7:00 p.m. Zwislser Hall

School Tours from 7:30-8:00 p.m.

\$5 per person @ the door

Music, Light refreshments

RSVP by November 15th

to Kathy Holaday at

330.836.2233 x113

or HoladayK@stsebastian.org

Alumni Mass

Saturday, November 30, 2019

4:30 p.m. Mass



SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED IN MEMORY OF DENISE FINLEY

A new scholarship has been created in memory of beloved teacher Denise Maroon Finley '65, who passed away on August 13, 2019. Denise taught at St. Sebastian Parish School for 23 years and was a graduate of St. Sebastian herself. As her obituary stated, Denise had St. Sebastian in her veins, and so her family chose for donations made in her memory to be used to create a scholarship for a St. Sebastian student. **The Denise Maroon Finley Memorial Scholarship** will cover a portion of tuition expenses for a current 8th-grade student who will attend



Foundation Scholarships for St. Sebastian 8th-Graders

Archbishop Hoban High School –
in memory of Denise Finley

St. Vincent-St. Mary High School –
in memory of John A. Trecaso

Walsh Jesuit High School –
in honor of the Gerstenmaier Family

Donations to build support for each of these scholarships are always welcome and gratefully accepted by the Foundation.

Archbishop Hoban High School next year. Initial plans are for this to be a one-time award, however, donations are still being accepted with the hope of generating enough support to create an endowed fund to provide annual awards.

Would you like to support the Denise Maroon Finley Memorial Scholarship? Have you ever wanted to support our graduates as they continue their education at one of our local Catholic high schools? Anyone can donate to one of the Foundation's scholarship funds listed to the left. To learn more, please contact Kathy Holaday (Holadayk@stsebastian.org or 330-836-2233 x 113). Additional scholarship information and links for making online donations may be found at: stsebastian.org/foundation/funds-and-endowments.

SUPPORT ST. SEBASTIAN PARISH SCHOOL ON GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday is November 27: On this global day of giving, please consider making a donation in honor of the school's 90th Anniversary! You can join in the exciting #weGiveCatholic effort on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving by making a gift to St. Sebastian Parish School at www.wegivecatholic.org. Thank you!



✦✦ We Will Remember ... ✦✦

The Alumni Association extends our sincerest sympathy to the families and friends of our deceased alumni. If you learn of the passing of a St. Sebastian alumnus, please contact us by phone at 330.836.2233 x119 or by email at alumni@stsebastian.org.

James E. Sturmi '49, August 27, 2019

Kathleen Henaughan Fassnacht '50, October 10, 2019

Eileen Collins Verosik '55, March 22, 2019

Denise Maroon Finley '65, August 13, 2019

Mary DeMiglio Williams '70, October 18, 2019

Kevin M. Quinn '71, August 7, 2019

Lori Boles Harper '72, October 5, 2019

ALUMNI UPDATES

CLASS OF 1944

Tom Burke and his wife Laurie, who live in Hilton Head, visited our campus in October, and Tom shared many of his memories of his school days with Director of Development Kathy Holaday, including:

- Serving many Masses for Fr. Zwisler (before he became Monsignor), from just a bike-ride away on Roslyn
- Hot dog Thursdays ... meatless Fridays • NO TALKING during Mass
- Winning a red letter "S" for his sweater – after getting knocked around in CYO football games
- Being a disappointed altar boy who was deemed by a caring Fr. Zwisler as too small to carry the crucifix in processions
- Learning from Miss Leahy in 4th grade – "my breakthrough to arithmetic (and the entry to eventual corporate finance)"

Tom said he has many more fond memories, but he summed it up by saying, "You just can't appreciate St. Sebastian's until you've been there. It's a truly remarkable institution – with rewards that can't be measured. I've been blessed to receive many. It takes time. They come later. Be patient. Just watch."



CLASS OF 1947

Sr. Mary Elizabeth Henaughan shared this story on the Sisters of Humility website (humilityofmary.org/join-us/my-story) about her days at St. Sebastian Parish School: Every spring my sisters and I would roller skate outside. We sometimes went to St. Sebastian's school, church and convent sidewalks because they were made from smooth slate. Whenever we got to the convent side, the dining room windows would be opened to let in the warm air. We would hear laughter and talking coming from that room. It always impressed me that the sisters were so happy; I wanted to share in that happiness, too, in some way.

We also on occasion peeked into the laundry room windows and watched them roller skating. When it was winter time, the lodge across from the school, known as Forest Lodge, would be flooded. Young and old could ice skate there day or night. During our noon recess time, some of the Sisters would don skates and take some of the children with them to spend the recess period skating. What fun we had.

In the mornings while waiting for the children to arrive for school, each grade had to go to the lunch room and sit on long benches according to grade, and each teacher had to be there with them. When I was in the fifth grade, my teacher, Sr. Lucy, was sitting next to me one morning. She looked down on me and said, "Mary, have you ever thought of being a nun?" My response was, "No, but I'll think about it."

At that time we lived only a block away from school. It was school policy for those who lived close to

school to go home at lunch and return in time for the school bell to ring. I remember running all the way home. When I arrived home and went looking for my mother, I found her in the back yard hanging up the wash. I did not take the gate through the rose trellis, but rather jumped the briar bushes and yelled, "Mother, Mother, I am going to be a nun when I grow up!" She responded, "Oh, that's nice. I'll pray for you." And eight years later, her prayers were answered.

Website/Newsletter Redesign

Like our new look? As part of our 90th anniversary celebrations, we have updated our newsletter and given it a name: *Alumni Arrow*. The Alumni Association website has also been redesigned. Check it out at: stsebastian.org/school/alumni.

CLASS OF 1948

Sally Delagrange Longville wrote to say that she and her late husband Leo have 14 grandkids in seven states and two in Washington D.C., and they have five great-grandchildren, with a 6th to be welcomed in December. All six of Leo and Sally's children graduated from St. Sebastian Parish School: **Renee '70, Mariwin '71, Paul '72, Leo '75, Colleen '77, and Edward '79.** Sally, who is retired, was previously employed by Our Lady of the Elms, St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, ARC, and Blick Clinic.

Send us your Alumni Updates!

We love to hear from our alumni! Please drop us a line and let us know what you are doing. Newly married? New baby? Get together with fellow alums? Email Anne Morgan Dennée '85 at alumni@stsebastian.org or fill out the online form at stsebastian.org/school/alumni/contact.

CLASS OF 1960

In the last issue, we asked for help identifying the students in this picture sent in by **Denis Foerst '60.** **Paul**



Perunko '60 emailed the Alumni Association and identified the tall boy on the far right as **Dennis Kucler '60** and the boy on the left as **Harry "Richard" Zwicker '60.** He could not identify the other two boys, but instead raised another question: why were these boys out of uniform, when the boys in the background seem to have on the regulation blue shirt? If any alumni can help us solve these mysteries, please email the Alumni Association at alumni@stsebastian.org.

CLASS OF 1963

Bill Costigan, Jr. received the Fr. Thomas F. Mahar Outstanding Alumni Award from St. Vincent-St. Mary High School on October 17, 2019. He was recognized for his success in running the family business, Costigan Office Supply, and for his service on numerous boards and organizations, both in Akron and nationally. Bill was also honored for his contributions to the community, including the parishes of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Hilary, and especially to St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, where he is currently on the school's Foundation Board.



CLASS OF 1977

Laura Lesneski Martucci received the Fr. Thomas F. Mahar Outstanding Alumni Award from St. Vincent-St. Mary High School on October 17, 2019. Laura was recognized for her professional achievements during her career with Summa Health System, where she currently serves as the System Director of Billing and Compliance. She was also honored for her extensive volunteer work, both with the STVM Marching Band during the past four years while her daughter Marissa attended STVM, and with St. Hilary School, where she served hot lunches for 10 years, becoming a team leader the last five of those years. St.

Sebastian graduates might recognize Laura's deep ties to the St. Sebastian community just by looking at her name. Laura is the daughter of **Charlotte Lesneski**, who taught at St. Sebastian Parish School for over 30 years, and she is married to fellow St. Sebastian alumnus **Paul Martucci '77**, who also happens to be the son of **Ellen Martucci '42**, the long-time organist at St. Sebastian Parish Church.

CLASS OF 1989

Fr. Christopher Trenta has returned from his six year residence in Rome where he completed his license degree in Sacred Liturgy and began doctoral studies at the Pontifical Liturgical Institute in Rome at Sant'Anselmo. Fr. Trenta is now finishing his dissertation at St. Mary Seminary in Wickliffe, where he has also been appointed to serve as an assistant professor and a formation adviser for seminarians.

CLASS OF 1999

Patrick Vassel received the Fr. Thomas F. Mahar Outstanding Alumni Award from St. Vincent-St. Mary High School on October 17, 2019. Patrick was recognized for his contributions to the wildly successful production of *Hamilton*. After graduating with a political science degree from the University of Notre Dame, Patrick worked in politics and then as a teacher with Teach for America in New York City. He began working as a theater director as well, turning to directing full-time in 2014 when he landed the job as the Associate Director of *Hamilton*. He has continued as Associate Director for each American company of *Hamilton*, now including Chicago, two national tours, and a company that – after playing a sold out run in Puerto Rico – is now running in San Francisco.

Patrick is now in Australia to do casting for the Australian premiere of *Hamilton* in 2021. He is also preparing for the March, 2020 opening of the Los Angeles company of *Hamilton*. While in Akron to receive the award, Patrick



gave a speech at St. Vincent-St. Mary, during which he was asked to reflect on his educational experiences. He said that St. Sebastian and STVM instilled a real love of learning, a love of working hard, and a desire to always do your best. But, just as important, he said he learned that “it matters what kind of person you are, how you will make a difference in the world.” He said the whole production of *Hamilton* echoes this philosophy, where the team works to create ways for people to do their best work, and that the way you work is just as important as the work itself. “The way that you work makes a difference,” Patrick asserted.

Do you keep in touch with your former teachers or staff from St. Sebastian Parish School?

We would love to invite them to the “Come Home for the 90th” event on November 29. Please send any contact information you have to alumni@stsebastian.org. Thank you!



CLASS OF 2007

Jackie Grible wrote to say that she has more fond memories of St. Sebastian than she can count, but one of her favorites was painting a few of the tiles on the art room ceiling. Jackie says she discovered her interest in her current career in the field of genetics from participating in Science Olympiad under the guidance of Mrs. Betty Indriolo. Jackie is currently completing her Ph.D. in Human and Molecular Genetics at Virginia Commonwealth University, in Richmond, VA. She is also the current president of Women in Science, a student organization that supports and promotes the career development of women scientists. Jackie adds, “I genuinely believe the education I received [at St. Sebastian] significantly contributed to my current academic success.”

CLASS OF 2016

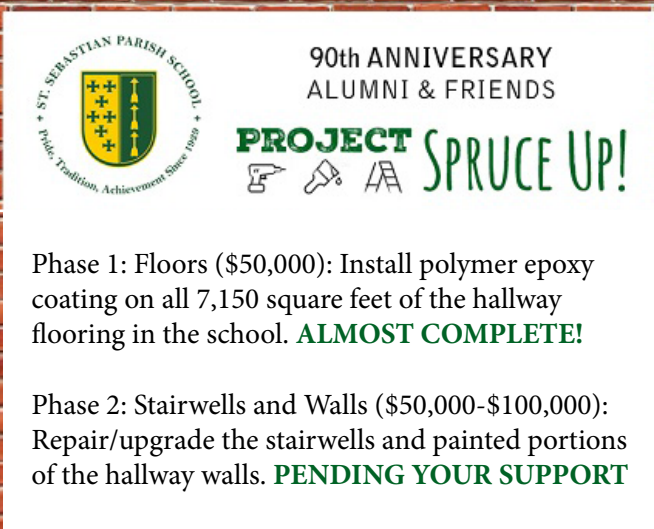
George Zografakis, a senior at Walsh Jesuit High School, was named a Semifinalist in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship competition. He has the opportunity to compete for one of the 7,600 National Merit Scholarships awarded in the spring.



CLASSES OF 2015-2017

Congratulations to our alumni who earned special recognition from the College Board. St. Vincent-St. Mary High School seniors **Jake Pentasuglio**, **Kevin Rybka**, **Jimmy Thomas** and **Natalie Tobin** were named AP Scholars, a designation earned by those who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams. **Brianna McCarron** and **Audrey Ruscak**, seniors at Archbishop Hoban High School, were also named AP scholars. **Ian Doucet**, a 2019 Hoban graduate, was named an AP Scholar with Honor for earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken as well as scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. Congratulations also to STVM class officers elected this fall: Senior Class VP: **Kevin Rybka**, Junior Class President: **Andrew McSteen**, and Junior Class VP: **Abby Minear**.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF PROJECT SPRUCE UP!



90th ANNIVERSARY
ALUMNI & FRIENDS

PROJECT SPRUCE UP!

Phase 1: Floors (\$50,000): Install polymer epoxy coating on all 7,150 square feet of the hallway flooring in the school. **ALMOST COMPLETE!**

Phase 2: Stairwells and Walls (\$50,000-\$100,000): Repair/upgrade the stairwells and painted portions of the hallway walls. **PENDING YOUR SUPPORT**

Project Spruce Up is an effort to improve the condition and appearance of the school's hallways and stairwells. These heavily used areas, which are an important point of first impression, have suffered significant wear and tear over the years, and it's time for a major "spruce up!" This year, in honor of the school's 90th anniversary, the hallways and stairwells are being completely refurbished.

Thank you to everyone who has generously supported this project; we are almost halfway to the \$100,000 goal! The first phase of work is nearly complete, and plans are being finalized for phase two. For questions or to learn more about Project Spruce Up, visit: stsebastian.org/foundation/current-needs, or contact Kathy Holaday at holadayk@stsebastian.org or 330-836-2233 ext. 113.

110 DONATIONS TOTALING \$42,976 AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019

Anonymous (4)
Linda Becker
Joan & Bert Brownfield
Rosanne Burns
Marybeth & Larry Furman
Ron George
Alice & Richard Gross
Anne & Bill Hergenrother
Kathy & Mark Holaday
Emerson Marshall
Maynard Family Foundation
Steve Panzner
Patrick Schwartz

1940
Jeanne Schreiner Ott
1942
The House of LaRose
1944
Margaret Freer O'Neil
William Stiller
1945
John and Nancy Beringer
James and Marie Henry
1946
Richard Keeney
1948
Marjorie Wozniak Burkley
Sally Delagrange Longville
Pat Snyder Stiller
1949
John Bachmann
Anne Fahey Frey
Joyce Scheatzle Rajki
Susan Meadows Straits
Marie Klocker White
1951
Albert Caliri

1952
Thomas Gardner
Patricia Perkins Taylor
1953
Robert Dettling
William Fanelly
Paul Hummel, Jr.
Mary Loftus
1955
Barbara Farr Brizes
Ann Loftus
Bernard Rothermel
1956
Micki McCool Trenta
1957
David Naples
1958
James Maurer
Dennis McAleese
1960
Joseph Bachmann III
1961
Ronald Elsner
Paul McCann
Michael McGuckin
1963
Richard Desman
1964
Susan Korosa
1965
Anne Marie Lynett Clark
Becky Schmidt Davis
1966
Dennis Krill, Sr.
Charles Marshall
David Tschantz
1967
Mary Beth Reiheld Pittak

1968
Louise Hellwig
Patricia Cunningham Post
1969
Cathleen Cleary Hawes
Jim Luby
Marjorie Reiheld Parrish
Elaine Markel Shean
1970
Robert Ball Sr.
Jeffrey Franks
Mary DeMiglio Williams*
1971
Stephen Buschko
Janie George Frank
Mariwin Longville
Linsenmayer
1972
Patricia Abdenour
Paul Longville
David Marshall
Alan Murrow
1973
Kathleen Coyne Bergh
Teresa Redle Brostowitz
Bill Burke
Francis Del Greco
Kaye Kipp Rowe
1974
Stephen Abdenour
Chuck Barresi
Thomas Bauer
Charlie Crowley Jr
Thomas Freeman IV
James LaRose
Jay Traverse
Elizabeth Munka Vass
1975
Michael Demeter
Denise Labut

1976
Larry Aylward
Mark Bachmann
Jim Barter III
Albert Hilkert
Theodore Ley, Jr.
Mike Maloy
Jim Meadows, Jr.
Paul Sheeks III
Brian Thomas
1977
Bridget Burke Beringer
Margaret Karg
Joseph Walsh
1978
Mary Ellen Crowley Huesken
1981
Michael Hergenrother
1982
Elizabeth Pinkerton
Marcy Smith
1985
Anne Morgan Dennée
1994
Katherine Furman DesJardins
1995
Anne Furman Worthington
1997
Megan Furman
2001
Maximillian Bedell
Colleen Furman
2004
Courtney Gerstenmaier Felton
2009
Katelyn Holaday
2014
Erin Wagner

* deceased