

# ALUMNI ARROW

## NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2024

### ARCHIVE MINISTRY HARD AT WORK

As St. Sebastian Parish approaches its 100th anniversary in 2028, a new ministry was formed to help preserve and organize artifacts from the parish's long and rich history. The Parish Archive Ministry team was created in 2023. It is composed of volunteers and operates under the parish's marketing department.

The Archive Team has been working steadily to identify and organize photos, documents, and artifacts. Many parishioners, most of whom are from families that include multiple generations of parishioners as well as alumni, have contributed to the effort. The current team is led by Dave Redle, alongside core team members Ed Balaun '76, Mike Brown, and Marjorie Reiheld Parrish '69. Prior to 2023, the following alumni were instrumental in organizing the archives, and the parish is very appreciative of their efforts and dedication: Ralph Witt '39, Mary Loftus '53, Ann Loftus '55, and Becky Schmidt Davis '65.

At present, the team has its hands full reviewing and organizing hundreds of items that have been stored in the rectory basement. The primary items are documents and pictures, including the old photos reprinted here. The group has also enjoyed cataloging an interesting array of physical artifacts, including Christmas ornaments, St. Sebastian playing cards, school uniforms, and various religious items. The Archive Team's goal is to present an organized, well-documented inventory of items. The team continues to explore the best means by which people can access the inventory, including both on-line and in-person options. The parish is very thankful for this work and is looking forward to displaying items from the archives during its 100th anniversary in four years.

Contributions from parishioners and alumni are welcome! Anyone wishing to donate items may contact the rectory by phone (330-836-2233) or email ([church@stsebastian.org](mailto:church@stsebastian.org)) to arrange delivery. Please provide as much identifying information as possible (year, activity, persons in picture, etc.) for any items donated. Questions for the Archive Team may be emailed to [archives@stsebastian.org](mailto:archives@stsebastian.org).



# ALUMNI UPDATES

## CLASS OF 1957

While in town visiting family, **Joe Zeno** and his wife Kathy met with Kathy Holaday (Foundation Director) and toured our campus. They were impressed with the condition and upkeep of our campus and particularly the school building. Joe and Kathy marveled that our students have incredible and multiple opportunities for creative learning with the library, technology, art, music and STEM curriculum. Joe commented, "Resources that you have made available to your students are just not in abundance in education today. It is obvious that the vision, planning and execution of the parish school's mission is in a favorable position for continued success." Joe and Kathy are pictured here during a recent visit to Slovenia.



## CLASS OF 1965

**Monica Fields Ingram** lives in Durand, Michigan. She and her husband, Patrick (who she lost in 2022), celebrated their golden anniversary in 2021. They raised two sons and have five grandchildren. She shared that she has very fond memories of her time at St. Sebastian Parish School, saying it was like a second home and that she hopes it feels that way for children and families today. Here are a few of her memories:

- The new school building for 7th-8th grade classes when the school was bursting with "Boomer" kids.
- The "new" church being built and seeing the mosaic go in a little at a time each Sunday until it was complete.
- Msgr. Zwisler and how our parish split in two with the founding of St. Hilary (named after him) ... and how he passed out theme books to students 3rd grade up and gave us a Lenten topic for us to write a report about.
- Getting huge peppermint sticks attached to a gold-colored cardboard arrow for St. Sebastian's feast day.
- The Holy Humility of Mary nuns teaching at the school. They were awesome!
- The new gymnasium being built and playing on the girls' basketball team.
- My best friend from 1st to 8th, Cheryl Pesko.



## CLASS OF 1967

**Ryan Wise** wrote to say that he and his wife met up with former teachers Sr. Laurel and Sr. Loretta for lunch in Sarasota, FL, in April, and they had a wonderful time getting caught up. Ryan reports that both Sr. Laurel and Sr. Loretta now live at the Sisters of the Humility of Mary "Mother House" in Pennsylvania near Youngstown. He adds, "If any of the St. Sebastian alumni would want to drop Sr. Laurel a note, I'm sure she would be thrilled to get it!" If you would like Sr. Laurel's contact information, please contact the Alumni Office at [alumni@stsebastian.org](mailto:alumni@stsebastian.org).

## CLASS OF 1970

Some classmates from 1970 had started planning for a reunion that was in the works for 2020, but it was canceled due to Covid. If anyone is interested in planning a 55th reunion in 2025, please contact the Alumni Association (see below), and we would be happy to send you a class list to help you get started!

**INTERESTED IN PLANNING A REUNION?** Reunions for individual classes are organized by volunteers from the class. The Alumni Association is ready to assist you by providing class lists and by promoting the event in our publications. Please contact the Alumni Association at [alumni@stsebastian.org](mailto:alumni@stsebastian.org). The St. Sebastian Parish Foundation is happy to provide informal tours for reunion groups or alumni at any time! Please contact Kathy Holaday at 330-836-2233 x113 or [foundation@stsebastian.org](mailto:foundation@stsebastian.org). For more information on reunion planning, visit [www.stsebastian.org/school/alumni/events](http://www.stsebastian.org/school/alumni/events).

## CLASS OF 1972

**Julie Buehrle Luyster** was one of the authors at the Akron Public Library's Book Fest in March, where she promoted her book, "Our Five Senses: What We See, Hear, Smell, Taste and Touch." Julie is an educator who attended Hillsdale College and has a master's degree in Science Teaching from Loyola University. She and her husband Mark raised their four children in New Orleans and Houston, where they now live. Julie (right) is pictured here alongside her sister **Kathryn Buehrle Hiney '70**, who assisted Julie throughout the Akron event.



## CLASS OF 1978

**Michelle Traverse Huber** retired from her job as the director of marketing for St. Sebastian Parish in June.



Michelle was hired as the parish's first marketing director in 2013, and in her 11+ year tenure, she created and implemented a highly successful marketing program that provides consistent branding and messaging for both the parish and the school. Her work helped improve everything from choir programs, banners, and campus signage, to the website, social media, logos, and advertisements. Michelle has also given countless school tours and provided essential support for the school's largest annual fundraiser, the St. Sebastian Spectacular. Michelle has been a wonderfully effective communicator and promoter of the parish and school, and we thank her for her dedication and talent!

## CLASS OF 2003

**Carley Whitney**, head coach of the St. Vincent-St. Mary High School varsity girls' basketball team since 2014, was named the 2023-24 All-Northeast Inland District Co-Coach of the Year by the Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association (OPSWA). In the 2023-24 season, she led her team to its second-consecutive district championship.

## CLASS OF 2006

Congratulations to **Melanie O'Neil**, who was recently elected as the President of the Junior League of Akron! She will serve a two-year term from 2024-2026.

Several members of the St. Sebastian Class of 2006 traveled to Denver, CO in June for the wedding of Cat Consilio. Pictured here (l to r) are **Kevin James, Hannah Karg Kolish, Kelly Wheeler, John Heising, Cat Consilio Macnee, Kim Almenar, Chelsea Harbaugh, and Ben Musci.**

## CLASS OF 2015

**Alex Phillip**, a member of the UNC cross country and track & field teams, broke the school record in the 10,000-meter event with a time of 27:51.26 at the Bryan Clay Invitation-al in Azusa, CA. Alex's time, which was almost a full minute faster than the previously-held school record, secured him a spot in the Olympic qualifiers on June 21 at the iconic Haywood Field in Eugene, Oregon, where he placed 14th. Alex also qualified to compete in the 2024 NCAA Division I Track & Field Championship meet on June 5 at Haywood Field, where he placed 12th in the 10,000-meter final (pictured here) and earned Second Team All-American Honors. Congratulations, Alex!



*Photo courtesy of UNC Athletic Communications*



## CLASS OF 2018

**Sawyer Huckabee** was featured in a front-page story in the Akron Beacon Journal on May 9, 2024. The article details his experiences as a student reporting on campus protests for Columbia University's student-run radio station, 89.9 WKCR-FM.

## CLASSES OF 2020-2023



**Anne Rea '20** was named valedictorian for the St. Vincent-St. Mary High School Class of 2024. She was also an Akron Beacon Journal Star Student. This spring, Anne competed in two events at the OHSAA Div. II Track & Field state championships, placing 6th in the 3200-meter race and placing 10th as part of the 4x800 relay team. Anne will be attending John Carroll University, where she will compete on the cross country and track teams.

Additional awards for St. Sebastian's 2020 graduates include: **Mia Ross** and **Michael Walter** received the Celtic High Cross Award from STVM for outstanding student leadership. **Michael Walter** and **Anne Rea** received the OHSAA Scholar Athlete Award from STVM for the highest GPA with at least four varsity letters. **Nadia Edgar** was named one of Firestone Community Learning Center's valedictorians for maintaining a GPA above a 4.0 for four years. **Anysia Reimund** received the 2024 Knights of Columbus Womanhood Award for Walsh Jesuit High School for outstanding leadership, character, scholarship, and citizenship. **Dominick Calleri** received the Archbishop Romero Faith and Justice Award given by the Walsh Jesuit Campus Ministry Office. **Dominick Calleri** (Walsh hockey) and **Brennan Chivers** (STVM volleyball) earned Athlete of the Year honors at the Greater Akron-Canton Sports Awards, and **Jimmy Bordenkircher** (Hoban volleyball) earned a nomination for this award. **Jasper Liggins** (257) and **Arabelle Loyed** (225) received the high score award for the STVM bowling teams. **Logan Hill** was a member of the Walsh indoor track team that placed 6th in the state in the 4x200 and 8th in the 4x400. Logan and his teammates competed in the New Balance National Track and Field meet in Boston in March, placing 41st in the nation.



In other high school news, **Sebastian Blaser '22** was named an Academic Knights during the second semester at Archbishop Hoban High School. And pictured here (left to right), **Michael Walter '20**, **Brennan Chivers '20**, and **Kofi Powers '20**, along with **Nate Sparhawk '22** (not pictured) were members of the STVM boys' volleyball team that finished as the state runner-up.

### Send Us Your Alumni Updates!

We love to hear from our alumni! Please let us know what you are doing. Email us at [alumni@stsebastian.org](mailto:alumni@stsebastian.org) or use the online form: [stsebastian.org/school/alumni/contact](https://stsebastian.org/school/alumni/contact).

## ALUMNI TAKE ON DUBLIN FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Six recent St. Sebastian graduates enjoyed the trip of a lifetime to Ireland with the St. Vincent-St. Mary High School marching band, which marched in Dublin's annual St. Patrick's Day parade. Pictured below, left, are **Dietrich Loyed '22** (band member), **Clare Rothkopf '20** (Irish dancer), **Arabelle Loyed '20**, (band member), **Bella Incorvia '22** (band member), **Andy Thomas '19**, and **Susie Thomas '22** (band member). Andy, who is a student at Ohio State, was one of several STVM band alumni who were invited to join in the trip with their alma mater. Their whirlwind week in Ireland also included traditional Irish food, music, and dancing; a medieval banquet; a chance to kiss the Blarney Stone; and a coach tour of castles, abbeys, a sheep farm, and such beautiful places as Killarney, the Ring of Kerry, and the Cliffs of Moher. Joining the STVM crew were a few more St. Sebastian alumni, including **Matt Loyed '90** (father of Arabelle and Dietrich) and **Joe Thomas '87** (father of Susie and Andy). Joe's other two children, **Henry Thomas '24** and **Ella Thomas '19**, also made the trip, and the Thomas family even had a chance to meet up with Joe's brother, fellow alum **David Thomas '91**, who lives in Ireland in Midleton, Cork. Pictured below, right, are David (left) and Joe (right).



## 40 GRADUATES WELCOMED INTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Congratulations to the St. Sebastian Parish School Class of 2024, which celebrated graduation on May 30. We are pleased to welcome these new members to the Alumni Association: Seth Armstead, Sadie Borges, Grant Bradshaw, Sophia Brdarski, Helena Buehner, Sophia Byard, Abigail Coleman, Tyler Considine, Benjamin Hagenbush, Joseph Haller, Chance Hardin, Ashlin Holvey, Doris (Bailey) Huckabee, Drew Johnson, Claire Jopperi, Hunter Jopperi, John Jopperi, Grace Keso, Noelle Keso, Daphne Kindbom, Frances Knauer, Jordan Large, Owen Lawson, Abigail Leffler, Benjamin McDonald, Nathan Paxton, Liam Peoples, Jonathan Schnurr, Alyvia Severns, Alexis Skovira, James Stallings, Christine Sturm-Poth, June Taray, Henry Thomas, Christian Trenor, Cecelia Walker, Grace Walker, Samuel Walker, Brady Whitney, and Adriana Wilkerson. They will continue on to the following high schools: Archbishop Hoban (21), Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy (1), Firestone (1), St. Vincent-St. Mary (13), and Walsh Jesuit (4). The Class of 2024 earned over \$550,000 in scholarships to our local Catholic high schools. Good luck to this outstanding group of students!

### FAMILY LEGACIES, CLASS OF 2024:

The Class of 2024 included 10 children/grandchildren of alumni: Sophia Byard (daughter of **Tara Boswell '98**), Ashlin Holvey (daughter of **Erica Lupica Holvey '91**), Jordan Large (daughter of **Brian Large '95** and grandchild of **Jim Large '66**), Ben McDonald (son of **Jennifer Leslie McDonald '98** and grandchild of **Terry McDonald '69**), Alexis Skovira (daughter of **Alissa Danckaert Skovira '84** and grandchild of **Kathleen Krill Danckaert '55**), James Stallings (grandchild of **William Stallings '51**), Christine Sturm-Poth (daughter of **Adam Sturm '79**), Henry Thomas (son of **Joe Thomas '87** and grandchild of **Marie Ann Wright Thomas '52**), Grace Walker (daughter of **Lisa Dalessandro Walker '86**), and Brady Whitney (son of **Ben Whitney '96**).



### ++ *We Will Remember ...* ++

The Alumni Association extends our sincerest sympathy to the families and friends of our deceased alumni (approx. March 2024 to June 2024). If you learn of the passing of a St. Sebastian alumnus, please contact us by phone at 330-836-2233 x113 or by email at [alumni@stsebastian.org](mailto:alumni@stsebastian.org).

Donald R. Albrecht '40, January 6, 2023  
James M. Coulter '40, April 5, 2023  
Rosemary Semonin Coon '41, July 5, 2023  
Thomas B. Semonin '46, April 10, 2024  
Charlotte Hummel Reymann '51, April 19, 2024

Thomas E. Gardner '52, April 22, 2024  
John W. "Jack" Bauer '53, December 27, 2023  
Mary Kraker Stief '57, March 4, 2024  
Jean Burgoon Bourne '62, March 10, 2024  
Roger E. Loraditch '78, March 29, 2024

## STUDENTS EARN 64 SCHOLARSHIPS WORTH \$48,500

The St. Sebastian Parish Foundation was honored to host the annual Foundation Scholarship Mass on March 14 to recognize scholarship recipients. This year our students earned an impressive 64 scholarships worth over \$48,500! The awards will be applied to tuition for the 2024-25 school year at St. Sebastian Parish School or (in the case of eighth-grade students) at a local Catholic high school. Congratulations to all these fantastic students and their families! Many thanks to all the students who submitted applications and to the generous donors and organizations who made these scholarships possible!

### St. Sebastian Parish Foundation Scholarships

The Michael R. Beck III Memorial Scholarship: Sadie Borges, Sophia Brdarski, Drew Johnson, Abigail Leffler

The Mary Ley Burke Scholarship: Evelyn Bradshaw, Jackson Edgar, Luca Hall, Giuliana Ricchiuti, Myra Singh, Connor Whitney

The Christopher James Consilio Memorial Scholarship: Seth Armstead, Helena Buehner, Daphne Kindbom, Jordan Large, Jonathan Schnurr, Brady Whitney

The Dayspring Opportunity Scholarship: Niomi Finney, Sammyullah Malik, Royce Reese

The Denise Maroon Finley Memorial Scholarship: Bailey Huckabee, Alyvia Severns

The Lynn Frey-Steward Organ Scholarship: Reed Olsen

The Gerstenmaier Family Scholarship: Sadie Borges, Sophia Brdarski, Abigail Leffler

GOAL Scholarship (Graves O'Neill Academic Leaders): Simon Borges, Aubrey Coates, Dominic Dagnall, Gemma Griffin, Graham Rea, Charlotte Ryan, Gemma Wilgus, Felicity Wittler

The Hanlon Family Scholarship: Luka Austin, Parker Chapin, Charlotte Conrad, Zoe Obringer

The Karg Family Scholarship: George Knauer

The Tom and Jeanne LaRose Family Memorial Scholarship: Chad Gerbick, Emma Gilbride, Emerson Kavulic, Bryce Large, Thomas Myers, Harlyn Nordberg, Cali Rizopulos, Steven Ryan, Nolan Taray, Charlotte Tober

The William and Mildred Loftus Memorial Scholarship: Henry Thomas

The Frances L. Sharp Scholarship: Nathaniel Chuba, Gabriella Deagan, Evan Rea, Ryan Senko

The John A. Trecaso Scholarship: Seth Armstead, Helena Buehner, Jordan Large, Jonathan Schnurr

### Additional St. Sebastian Parish/School Scholarships

HASA Youth Christian Service Scholarship: Frances Knauer and June Taray

The Knights of Columbus Council #14255 Deacon Terry Peacock Scholarship: Noelle Keso, Tyler Considine

The Sanctuary Society Service Scholarship: Evan Rea

The St. Irene Principal's Scholarship: Frances Knauer, Evan Rea

*Congratulations  
to these Terrific  
Terriers!*

