

EQV Magazine

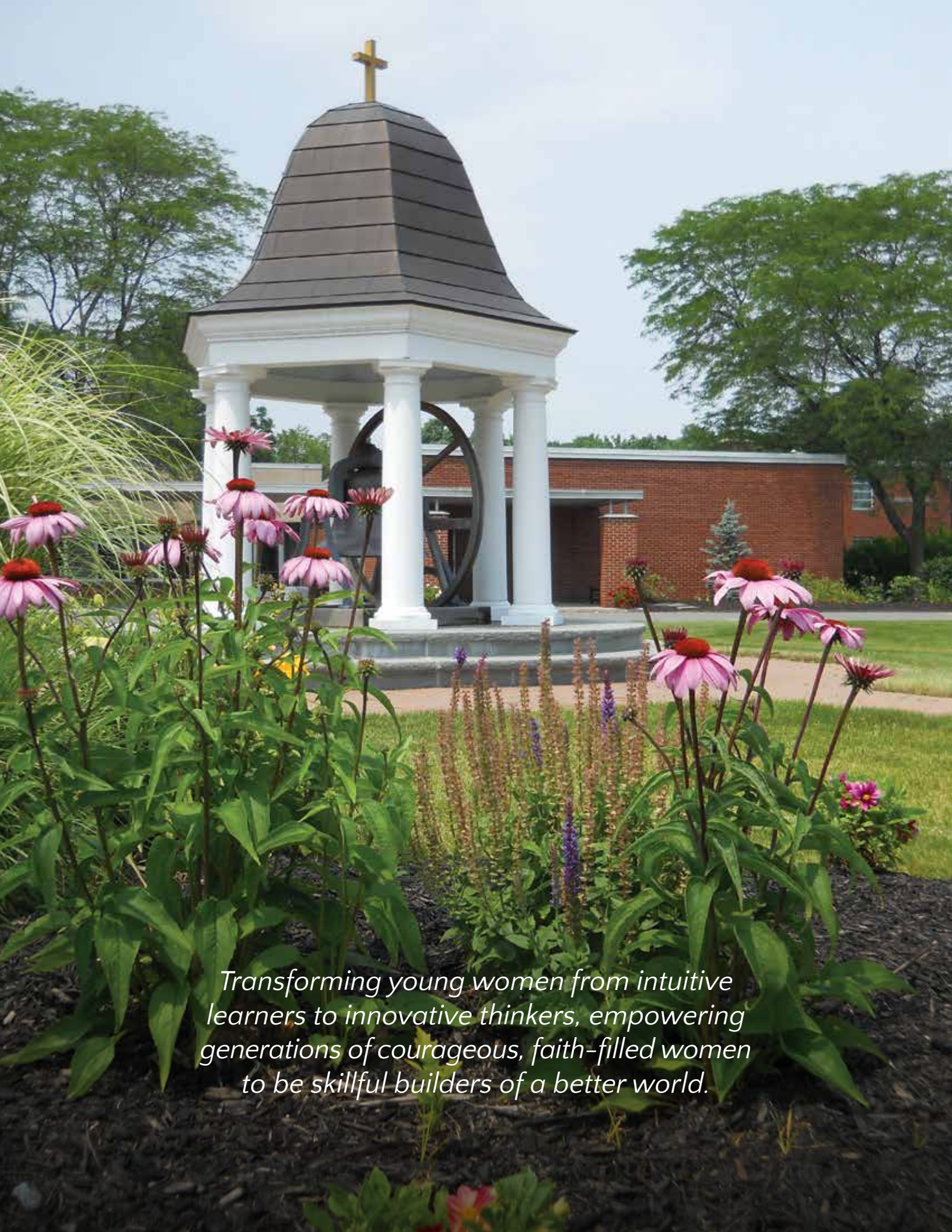


ACADEMY OF THE
HOLY NAMES



Esse Quam Videri

PREMIERE EDITION FALL 2023



Transforming young women from intuitive learners to innovative thinkers, empowering generations of courageous, faith-filled women to be skillful builders of a better world.



Contents

Holy Names by the Numbers 4

Letter from Board Chair and President 5

TO CREATE: Transforming Young Women into Innovative Thinkers

- Makayla Mackey '23..... 6
- Carolyn Stum '25..... 7
- Donor Spotlight: McKenna Family..... 8
- Alumnae Find Connection at Regeneron..... 9
- Like Mother, Like Son: Meet the Baxters 10

TO SERVE: Skillfully Building a Better World

- Ella Schoenborn '26..... 12
- Service Projects..... 12

TO LEAD: Education in Faith

- Michele Musto Farewell..... 14
- Margaret Taranto Introduction 15

The Future is Now: AHN Gets a New Look 16

Honoring AHN's Academic and Athletic History 18

Year in Review 20

Keeping in Touch..... 22

In Memoriam 23

To Give: Ways to Support..... 24

To Be: Helping Hands Support Holy Names Legacy 26

Thank You to Our Donors 27

ON THE COVER: Sandra Odom '23, winner of YWCA of The Greater Capital Region's Young Girl on a Mission Award; Margaret Tromp '23, leader of Project Linus blanket drive; Daniella Oberting '25, Student Ambassador and Youth Minister; and Makayla Mackey '23, whose research on iron deficiency in heart failure patients led to procedural change at Albany Medical Center.

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Congratulations to the Class of 2023



100% acceptance to 4-year colleges & universities

100%

Including: Boston College · Cornell · Fordham Northeastern · Tufts University · Wake Forest University

\$18.4MM

100% earned merit-based scholarships totaling \$18.4 million over 4 years

2,300 service hours performed over last 4 years

2,300HRS

Alexandra Lasch

The Award for Science
The Lisa Philo Corcoran Writing Scholar Award

Alexandra will be attending Boston College

Morgan Hannafin

Class President
The Nancy O'Donnell Memorial Service Award · Triple C Award

Morgan will be attending Fairfield University



ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2023 / VISIT ahns.org

↑ 10% ENROLLMENT GROWTH

A Holy Names education is an investment in the future, and thanks to a restructuring of our tuition beginning in the 2023-24 academic year, we've made that possible for more families throughout the Capital Region. It's already paying dividends, as the school year is opening with a ten percent increase in enrollment.

Our day-to-day focus is on your daughter and preparing her to attend a top-tier college or university and to live a life of purpose.

We are excited about today's Holy Names and its future and invite you to learn more about a tradition of achievement that is being shaped and realized every day. Learn more at ahns.org.



ACADEMY OF THE HOLY NAMES

Dear Families, Alumnae, Donors, and Loyal Contributors to Holy Names,

We are pleased to present you with the inaugural edition of EQV (*Esse Quam Videri*) Magazine. You play an integral role in executing our vision of inspiring our young women, and further igniting in them the passion to go out and build a better world.

We are thrilled to celebrate with you the great things happening at Academy of the Holy Names and showcase the “all-girls’ advantage” which for nearly 140 years has produced well-rounded young women who are leaders, scientists, artists, and athletes. They are confident, compassionate, competitive, and caring, taking the values and skills honed inside the classroom outside our campus confines and improving the lives of those around them.

In this issue we are paying special attention to the role of science and technology in our curriculum and in the lives and careers of our Alumnae and benefactors.

As you’ll read in the following pages, Holy Names students and graduates are the change they want to see in the world. They are the embodiment of “To Be, Rather than to Seem.”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Edwards".

Christopher Edwards, Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Kilbridge".

Martin Kilbridge, EdD, President

Student Research Project Leads to Procedural Change at Albany Medical Center

Warren Mackey passed away in 2021 after battling heart disease. Not only has his family endeavored to keep his spirit alive with the establishment of the [Warren & Denyse Mackey Foundation](#) (more on that later), but his youngest daughter, Makayla '23, has taken things a step further. She has become an agent of change, championing advancements in healthcare so other families can spend more time with their loved ones.



"I always knew I wanted to be a doctor," Makayla says. "My mom was diagnosed with cancer when I was a freshman, and my dad got sick when I was at a very young age. Doctors weren't able to fix my parents, so I wanted to be able to fix others. With my research, I'm hoping to make the world a better place and help prolong people's lives." Denyse Mackey is now a colon cancer survivor.

Mackey's research zeroes in on an issue within the medical community: how iron deficiency and anemia can drastically impair the quality of life in heart failure patients.

"Many hospitals don't have protocols," Mackey says. "There is a lack of awareness on how to treat congestive heart failure patients with iron deficiency. It's fairly new in terms of severity when it comes to the differences of functional capacity in these patients."

Mackey researched the project for three years with the assistance of Holy Names faculty member and Science Research Program Advisor Andrew Licari. The research was done primarily at Albany Medical Center under the supervision of Dr. Dmitri Belov. Dr. Greg Lewis of Massachusetts General Hospital was conducting a similar analysis, and each shared their results to compare statistics.

She says what they found was astonishing.

Mackey's (combined) study* revealed only 21% of congestive heart-failure patients were tested for iron deficiency when admitted to the hospital. Twenty-five percent received iron replacement when certain requirements were met.

Mackey says all parties found those numbers to be alarmingly low and decided something needed to change. So, she met with leading physicians in Cardiology, Apheresis (blood withdrawal), and Cardiac Nursing at Albany Med to discuss how to remedy the issue.

The solution: all patients who meet the requirements of absolute iron deficiency upon admission** are to receive Ferric Carboxymaltose (an injection used to treat iron-deficiency anemia) instead of the more typically used Iron Sucrose which is administered via IV. The less invasive injection limits the amount of times a patient needs to receive treatment. [The new protocol standards](#) were adopted by Albany Medical Center in December 2022.

In recognition of her achievement, Makayla received the [Regeneron George Yancopoulos Award](#) at the Greater Capital Region Science and Engineering Fair for demonstrating the most creativity in improving or identifying health issues.

About the honor, Makayla says it felt surreal. "I felt blessed and humbled, but it was also bittersweet because I had been researching this so long because of my father."

As for what the future holds, Makayla, now beginning her first year at Wake Forest, says this project has opened many doors for her. "I was fortunate to have the opportunity to meet with department chairs of biology and health/exercise science who have offered major opportunities to continue my research as an undergraduate, which sets me up on my path for med school."



She thanks Mr. Licari, Dr. Belov, and her parents for always believing in her and setting her up for success. She's also grateful for her family, including her sister, Madison '22, who is currently attending Villanova University.

*The study took patients who were admitted to Albany Medical Center between May 2019-2021 with a primary diagnosis of heart failure exacerbation and filtered out which patients were tested for iron deficiency. The next step was to determine if the patients met iron deficiency requirements. If so, they then received IV iron replacement therapy.

**These patients are tested for iron deficiency if they meet certain requirements when admitted to Albany Medical Center. They do not receive iron replacement therapy if they do not qualify and/or are not tested.

The Warren and Denyse Mackey Foundation presents a scholarship each year to a deserving black student who demonstrates academic excellence, resilience, and leadership skills. If you'd like to contribute to the scholarship, you can do so by [visiting the giving page of our website at ahns.org.](#)

Research Program Inspires Student to Pursue Science

It wasn't your typical science fair. If you're expecting baking soda volcano eruptions or tornadoes in bottles, you'll be sorely disappointed. Instead, we expect you'll be blown away by what you see: presentations ranging from brain wave analysis to how to better treat heart-failure patients with iron deficiency.



2023 marked the 27th year for the Annual Holy Names Science Research Symposium. The showcase, led by teacher and Science Research Program Advisor Andrew Licari, provides students the opportunity to present the results of a three-year program in which they choose the area to focus their research.

For Carolyn Stum '24, that focus is treating spinal cord injuries.

Carolyn has been working closely with scientists at a research institute in Rensselaer studying the effect of a drug that acts as a selective inhibitor of nuclear export on recovery after spinal cord injury in rats.

In layman's terms: the drug will help these rats recover better from spinal cord injuries. The goal of her research will be to test the effectiveness of the inhibitor.

Carolyn says after researching spinal cord injuries and treatments in class, she was in search of a mentor. With the help of Mr. Licari, she found three in Rensselaer and says getting hands-on experience under the tutelage of Dr. Caitlin Hill, Dr. Sol Torruella, and Dr. Shrstha Sinha has been amazing.

"I love the environment and the people and have learned a lot. I have been able to take part in research at an advanced level," Carolyn says. "I have participated in western blotting to see the levels of biomarkers in blood samples. I was

involved in collecting and analyzing behavioral data. I have been able to observe surgery on the rats to give them the spinal cord injury."

Carolyn, who was awarded the Bausch + Lomb Honorary Science Award from the University of Rochester for high achievement and rigor in science, says her experience in the Holy Names Science Research Program has inspired her for life after AHN.

"It helped me to realize I want to major in biochemistry or molecular biology," Carolyn says. "And also, that I want to go into research science for work. The research I am conducting will prepare me for lab work in college and in my career."

McKenna Family, Albany Medical Center Link AHN's Past and Future Scholarship Bearing Family's Name Inspires New Generation

Albany Medical Center and Academy of the Holy Names have been linked for more than a century. Albany Medical College was formed in 1839, known as "Albany Hospital" at the time. In 1884, along came the Academy of Notre Dame (which would later change its name to Academy of Holy Names in 1899).

A year after opening its doors on Hamilton Street in Albany, the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM) purchased the property at 628 Madison Avenue and began preparations to move the Academy. Today, that property houses Albany Medical Center's Kidskeller childcare center, and AHN is at its current home at 1075 New Scotland Road.

"It's a powerful reminder of the impact and durability of our missions," says Dr. Dennis P. McKenna, president, and chief executive officer of the Albany Med Health System. The synergy that exists between the two has particular significance for him. Albany Med is where he would meet his future wife, Karen, an emergency department nurse.

"My grandmother was a nurse," Karen says. "My mom was a nurse. I never thought it would be for me, but once I decided to go to nursing school, it became the only thing I could ever see myself doing."

Now the pair have four children, who, not coincidentally, were all born at Albany Med: Kate, a student at Syracuse University; Jack, a graduate of Christian Brothers Academy who is beginning his fall semester at Purdue; youngest son Matty; and Maggie, now a junior at AHN. Karen says Maggie was in search of something more and found a home here at Holy Names.

"Maggie asked to change schools in seventh grade, and we thought we would try out AHN. We very quickly realized that the smaller academic and social

environment better suited her, and she has been thriving ever since."

Karen has joined the fold as well, serving as a part-time nurse.

"My day-to-day at AHN is pretty simple. I hand out a lot of band aids and ice packs. Sometimes the girls just need a shoulder to cry on.

I'm there when the crazy question or an emergency rises." You'll often find her on the standing treadmill at her desk — she walks upwards of 8 to 10 miles while at work — a practice she says makes her more productive. "I think it sets a good example for the girls. Taking care of yourself is an important part of life."

As for Dennis, he says his day starts before he even leaves the house. "I am often checking reports or talking to members of the team before I even have my first cup of coffee. Obviously, lots of meetings, often well into the evening, but what I enjoy most of all is meeting and talking with our front-line staff in the hospital and college who deliver our mission to the community."

In the spring of 2022, AHN's Admissions Department collaborated with Albany Med to display student art focused on the human body. Dennis says the exhibit is just the beginning of what he hopes can be a fruitful partnership between the school and the medical center.

"We loved that collaboration," Dennis says. "We are open to anything that exposes young minds to consider working in healthcare." His advice to students interested in the field is to seize more opportunities like this and volunteer to see what excites them. "There are the obvious areas that people often think



Dr. Dennis McKenna and Karen McKenna, P'25 and family (daughters Kate, left; and Maggie '25, right; and sons Jack, center; and Matty).

of, like doctor or nurse, but there are so many other avenues for those who want to work in healthcare. We have excellent schools in the area to train you for a career working in healthcare and offer many students a chance to rotate through Albany Med. Keep your mind open to all possibilities."

The McKennas are doing more than talking about opportunities for students to succeed. They're creating them. In 2022 Dennis and Karen established an endowment in recognition of the education Maggie is receiving at Holy Names. The scholarship provides support to a student attending AHN who is academically qualified and financially challenged.

"The McKenna Family Scholarship is meant to help out those students whose parents may just need a little extra help in making the decision to send their daughter to AHN," Karen says. "We are so blessed to be a part of the AHN Community, and we want others to have that same experience."

Dennis adds, "We feel it is important to give back to our communities. Our goal is to help Holy Names alumnae send their daughters to AHN and continue the tradition and give their daughters the private school education that they themselves were able to enjoy."

Alumnae Find Connection at Regeneron

You're never far from home when you're a Holy Names alumna. Just ask Courtney Astemborski '10, Elizabeth Hanchar '18, Melanie Lynch Murphy '05, and Grace Bartow '21. In addition to being graduates of Holy Names, they, along with Andrea Thomas '21, Kathleen McCarthy '10, and Lauren Walsh Frasier '11, are all employed or interned at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals in Rensselaer.

Courtney is a medical device quality engineer. She works with medical device development teams to design and develop devices to deliver pharmaceuticals to patients.

Elizabeth is an associate device development engineer. She is part of the Combination Product Labs Team, which works to develop safe and effective medical devices.

Melanie is an executive assistant supporting Regeneron's Senior Management Team.

Grace, who's currently studying at NC State University in Raleigh, is a warehouse and logistics intern working on optimizing the storage of labeled drug product retention samples.

Andrea is a process science intern.

Kathleen is a principal analytical development specialist.

Lauren is an associate manager of process sciences.

Together, they're taking lessons learned from Holy Names and making practical, scientific applications to help improve the state of healthcare through the pharmaceutical industry.

"I have always been interested in helping people through the medical field," Courtney says. "When I explored my options in college as a biomedical engineer, I learned I could have an impact on the world by creating medical devices that will aid in their patient care. Being able to be a part of a team that develops delivery modalities for life improving drugs fulfills that passion of making an impact on the medical community."

"My passion for science was fostered by AHN's science teachers. In particular, Mrs. Baxter cultivated my love of biology," adds Elizabeth. "AHN nurtured my STEM interests beyond the classroom. At a school career fair, a guest speaker introduced me to biomedical engineering. The field resonated with my goal to use science to improve people's lives." Elizabeth says complex ideas in STEM fields require effective communication, and Holy Names was able to provide her with a solid foundation in both writing and public speaking. "Attending an all-girls school offered unique opportunities through which I developed

confidence in my abilities and learned to trust my own voice. As a result, in college and in the workforce, I have had the self-assurance that is crucial to making valuable contributions."

"Holy Names taught us to be strong, independent women and to have a voice," Melanie adds. "It gave us the confidence to learn new things and take chances to be a part of something. She says Regeneron is an incredible place to learn and feel part of a team. The alumnae make it a point to get together often, having lunches to collaborate and share stories.

"I absolutely love that I am able to be surrounded by so many alumnae daily," Grace says. "There is a certain bond between Holy Names women, and I have seen that firsthand since I started at AHN. Being educated in an all-girls school, we have that unspoken understanding; as AHN women, we can always trust each other to get the job done. I truly have to thank Courtney for getting us together this summer! As an intern, entering the corporate world can be a little daunting at times. Always knowing I have women in my corner all because of my AHN connections it such a great feeling. I have loved getting to see familiar and new faces all summer and make connections with these incredible women!"

"It's amazing to know there are women here at work who had a similar middle-/high-school experience as me because it is truly one of a kind," Courtney adds. "Many people cannot understand what it is like to attend AHN unless you did yourself and you have an instant connection when you realize you are both alumnae. It is important to meet with other alums because we can help mentor one another as well as broaden their career opportunities. You never know what door the Holy Names network can open!"



Andrea Thomas '21, QC Process Science Intern; Elizabeth Hanchar '18, Associate Device Development Engineer; Grace Bartow '21, Warehouse and Logistics Intern; Courtney Astemborski '10, Medical Device Quality Engineer; Kathleen McCarthy '10 Principal Analytical Development Specialist



Mother and Son Educators Have Teaching Down to a Science

She's a little bit biology. He's a little bit physics.

They're Debbie and Matt Baxter, the dynamic mother-son duo in the Holy Names Science Department. She teaches AP Biology and Biology. He teaches Physics, AP Computer Science, and Computers and Technology.

"Technically I have been here longer than you might expect," says Matt, who has been a teacher at AHN for six years, "by helping my mother set up her room over the summer as a child!"

It's been a bit longer for mom Debbie, who is heading into year 32.

"I always wanted to be a teacher from when I was really young," Debbie says. "I was always the teacher when I 'played school' in the summer with the kids in the neighborhood. I was older than most of them, and I would hold pretend classes in my backyard for about six or seven kids. They were all in different age groups. I made up assignments for them to do in math and other simple areas. I would even give them report cards."

Math came easy to Debbie in school, but it was science she always found "super fun and interesting." She especially loved biology. "I loved learning about how my body worked and why. I thought that

everyone should understand their own body and how it works."

She says the science bug runs in the family. Her husband is an "IT guy." Her daughter is a pediatrician. For Matt, who's a fan of all sorts of sciences, especially computer science, he was convinced he'd be a researcher.

"I quite enjoyed working as a teaching assistant, and the professor I worked with thought I would be a good teacher. This would eventually be my inspiration to consider the realm of education."

Debbie says her son was always a serious student who wanted to "do

“Technically I have been here longer than you might expect,” says Matt, who has been a teacher at AHN for six years, “by helping my mother set up her room over the summer as a child!”

well.” As a son, she says, “he’s caring, thoughtful, and empathetic”: a combination of elements which would serve him well in academia.

“I think Matt is one of the most patient and generous teachers I know,” Debbie says. “He always thinks the best of his students. He gives them the benefit of the doubt. He has endless patience, and he offers extra help at night and on weekends frequently. This shows his endless dedication to his students.”

The feeling is mutual.

“She (Debbie) is a very passionate teacher, caring deeply about her subject area and about helping to grow her students into the best person they can be.”

Each hopes their students leave their classrooms with more than they came with, especially when it comes to deduction and reasoning.

“I hope after taking my class, my students can look at how they changed over the

course of the year as a student and they see the growth in themselves that I see in them,” Debbie says. I hope they realize they are better students when they learn slowly and carefully and do not cram information into their heads but that learning comes when they methodically learn the processes in biology and when they work to understand what is happening.”

Matt adds, “It is my goal for students to develop an appreciation for the content areas I teach, but I know not everyone is going to fall in love with rocks or motion equations. At the very least, I strive to ensure all students further develop their scientific and critical thinking skills.”

All this experimentation, innovation, and molding of young minds does come with its perks.

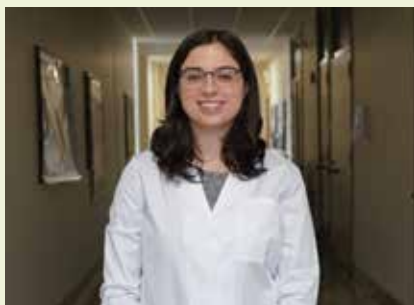
“It is really fun working with Matt,” Debbie says. “I think he has a great sense of humor, and he often tries to make me

smile during the day here at work — especially if it has been a long day. Not to mention that he sometimes brings me a cookie!”

Both also find value in educating in a more intimate, private school setting.

“With our smaller class sizes, we can better help each student to succeed,” Matt says.

“The personal connections here make all the difference,” Debbie adds. “Students are given every opportunity to get the help that they need to be successful in all areas. They are given personal guidance in an outstanding advisory program where lifelong connections are built with another adult. A major difference that I see in the teaching is that I get to teach. My students give me the freedom to teach my subject. Most of them truly want to learn and want to be better students. Students and faculty partner together to make learning happen.”



Stefania Bonnani '20, a senior at Fordham University who says classes with the Baxters inspired her to pursue career in science, is [being recognized for her work](#) in the lab. At Fordham’s Rose Hill campus, she is currently studying heart disease in fruit flies, the spread of an invasive plant species, and sea turtle conservation.



Courtesy: Arin Cotel-Altman, Spectrum News Capital Region



Ella Schoenborn with her parents, Christina Gifford and Gus Schoenborn

Ella Schoenborn — PROJECTELLA

Ella Schoenborn '26 capped off 2022-23 by being named 2023 Youth of the Year by the youth advisory board in Greene County.

Since starting [ProjectElla](#) when she was just 12-years-old, along with her father, Gus, she has worked with organizations throughout the Capital Region and beyond to deliver thousands of meals and food pantry items to people in need.

This year Ella has received numerous accolades for ProjectElla, including being selected one of 11 nationwide recipients of the National Catholic Education Association's Youth Virtues, Valor, and Vision Award. She also received the Sunmark Credit Union It's Cool to Be Kind Award and the YWCA Northeastern NY Young Excellence Award.

Allie Lasch/Anaya Thomas — NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION

More than two-thousand hours. That's how long our seniors spent giving back to the community this year for their service projects. Included among them was Allie Lasch's colorful mural painting at the [St. John's/St. Ann's Outreach Center](#)!

As the mural was being painted, many locals stopped and commented on how grateful they were to have someone paying attention and bringing beauty to their neighborhood.

Children stopped to smile and chat, and cars honked as they passed.

Among the students who assisted Allie was Anaya Thomas, who is no stranger to the Center. Anaya's senior service project involved painting the center's windows on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. Her goal: use art to bring joy and light to a community.



Anaya Thomas '23 (center) and fellow students joined by Fr. Sean O'Brien, OFM



Allie Lasch '23 outside the St. John's/St. Ann's Outreach Center in Albany



Maggie Tromp '23 (second from right) and fellow students hold up blankets for Project Linus

Maggie Tromp — PROJECT LINUS

Maggie Tromp's senior service project was a huge success as well.

40 volunteers from combined events stepped up to make 20 blankets which were donated to [Project Linus](#) and distributed to children in need.

Morgan Hannafin — PINK PANTHER PODCAST

For her senior service project, Morgan Hannafin '23 created the "Pink Panther Podcast" to raise awareness of breast cancer.

One of her guests was Sheila Hogarty Mendleson '83, a breast cancer survivor. Sheila is President of the Troy Savings Bank Charitable Foundation and is responsible for Business Development and Collaborations at Pretty Rugged. The blanket manufacturer was [recently featured on ABC's Shark Tank](#).

You can listen to Morgan's podcast on [YouTube](#).



Mission to the Border

During this past winter break, Campus Minister Theresa Moran, along with Theology Teacher Bernadette McSparron, and former Associate Head of School Dr. Phyllis Morrison visited the U.S.-Mexico border.

It was part of [Encuentro: Immigration and the Catholic Educator's Response](#), a class offered through Boston College, which provides Catholic educators with the opportunity to examine the current reality of immigration.

During a special in-service day, faculty and staff learned about the plight of migrants the trio encountered during their stay at Sacred Heart Parish in El Paso. There they visited shelters and met with religious and lay ministers as well as border patrol agents.



Theresa Moran and Bernadette McSparron addressed students and staff regarding their mission trip to the border at El Paso, TX

Celebrating Michele Musto



It's a family affair for Michele Musto, who has been a fixture at Academy of the Holy Names since her first daughter attended Pre-K in the mid-80s.

It's been a bit of a whirlwind since.

She started as a volunteer, first serving hot lunches to students, then as a "room mother" for all three children (Kristin, Alexis, and Terence); and later an eighth-grade tutor. When presented with an opportunity from then Division Head Mary Anne Vigilante '64 to coordinate the High School Math Lab, Michele jumped at the chance. 32 years later, she added Algebra teacher, Assistant Principal, Division Head, and ultimately Principal to her resume.

This past year, Michele announced she'd be retiring at the end of the 2022-23 school year. In recognition of her decades of service, she, and her husband Ron, who has been by her side every step of the way, were honored with The John Henry Farrell Building the Future Award at this year's Spring Gala.

John H. Farrell, who created the modern Times Union, visited the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM) in 1880 and expressed his wish to register his seven-year-old daughter, Mary. Mr. Farrell was not only the father of the first student but a lifelong friend and faithful benefactor of the Sisters.

The award named in his honor is given to individuals who, through their continual service and dedication to Holy Names, have a lasting impact on the student body and entire campus; and whose commitment to the school and its student body have helped in AHN's growth and development leaving a lifelong imprint on its campus, staff, and students.

"As my time at Holy Names is coming to a close, I think of Eulalie Durocher (Blessed Mother Marie Rose) and her dream to educate girls," Michele says.

"She provided the foundation upon which the future of Holy Names is built. During my 38-year affiliation with Holy Names, I have worked with faculty and staff of the utmost professionalism; they embrace the Mission of the school and the charism of the Sisters. To them, I say thank you for all they bring to the students. It has been a privilege to go to school with them!"

While Michele may have packed up her office — she won't be going too far. She and Ron are AHN "lifers." She says once you join the Holy Names family, your circle tends to expand.

"I can say that many of our friends today are from Holy Names," Michele, the mathematician says. "My daughters are still friends with their classmates, some of them they have known since they were in Pre-K! I consider them part of our family. I guess you can say our family has grown exponentially!"

PASSING OF THE TORCH

Holy Names Welcomes Its Newest Principal

After a national search, Margaret Taranto was appointed the next Principal of Academy of the Holy Names, succeeding Michele Musto, who retired after 32 years of service to the school. Taranto previously served as the Middle School Coordinator and a Math teacher at the school.

“We had many qualified candidates apply,” AHN President Dr. Martin Kilbridge said. “Margaret stood out as someone who understands the value of a faith-based, college preparatory education for nurturing young women and who appreciates the need to foster connections in our tight-knit community.”

“Educating our young women is not simply about teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic,” Taranto said. “Rather, any effective educational institute seeks to develop the whole person. I’m thrilled to take on this new challenge at a place I’ve called home for the past ten years and look forward to furthering this academic environment where each member of the community feels welcomed and accepted for who they are.”

Mrs. Taranto came to Holy Names in 2013 as a math teacher. In recent years, she took on further responsibilities as Middle School Coordinator, overseeing a substantial growth in enrollment and engaging middle school faculty in a comprehensive curriculum review.

Mrs. Taranto has degrees from Hamilton College and Harvard Graduate School of Education and a Certificate of Instructional Leadership from Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Even before she took the reins in July, Taranto was working closely with Kilbridge and Musto to ensure a smooth transition. Her summer was devoted to preparing for the school year. All the preparatory work has paid off, as the first weeks of school have been filled with energy and excitement.

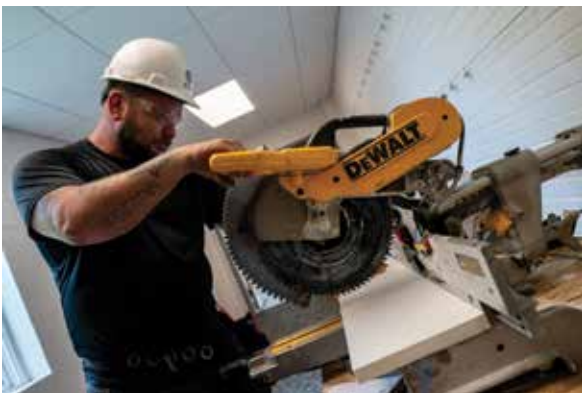


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The Future is Now: AHN Gets a New Look

**Capital Campaign
Draws to a Close
with Completion
of Upgrades**



As you walk through the doors of Academy of the Holy Names, you'll notice a facility that has embraced its traditions while taking a leap into the future.

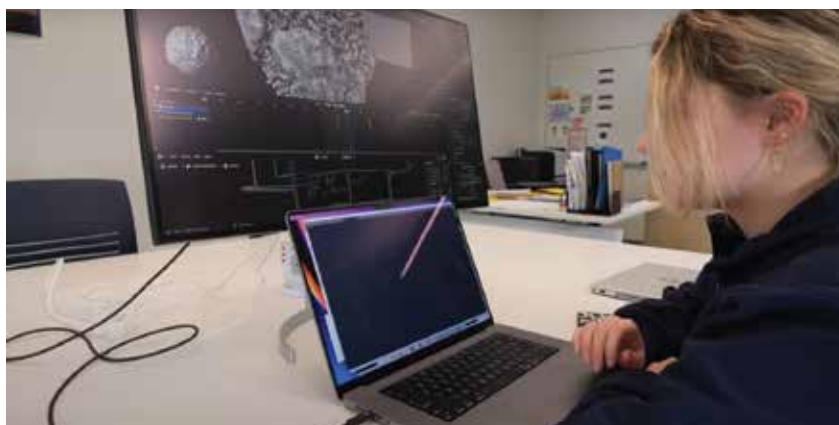
After nearly four years which included the pandemic shutdown, we can officially celebrate the conclusion of the "Invest. Ignite. Inspire." capital campaign which saw the construction of the state-of-the-art St. Joseph's Hall on the site of the former North wing. The wing features a modern physics lab made possible from a generous donation from and named in honor of Judith A. Smith, '70.

The final steps in meeting our vision for a modern facility included renovation of ten 1960s era classrooms and the middle school hallway, as well as enhanced safety and aesthetics at the entrance to the school building.



Over the course of the last few years, the Board of Trustees modified the final stage of the project. Skyrocketing costs since 2020 forced the Board to scale back the plan for a renovated façade while the outstanding outcome of the new construction of St. Joseph's Hall made stark the tired appearance and outdated functionality of the older classrooms, especially in the middle school - an area that is important to attract and retain students. These classrooms were updated with drop ceilings and better lighting, new flooring, fresh paint, electrical access to accommodate technological needs, and interactive touch screens. The renovations, made possible by our generous donors, help to fulfill the overall vision of investing in our campus.

Holy Names Innovation Lab



At the 2023 Spring Gala, it was revealed that this year's Paddle Raise would support the creation of a Holy Names Innovation Lab. This project is the brainchild of former principal Michele Musto, who, as she has done for so many years, was thinking about what's next and what's best for the future of our students, the school, and the greater community.

Now, AHN has taken the first steps to making that dream a reality, procuring programmable robots, snap circuits, and the start of a makerspace. The Lab will be housed in the library and will be a space for students to come explore and create.

By providing our young women with these tools and educational technology needed to succeed in today's world, they will be able to learn how to leverage them to be the builders of a better world.

As an extension of the Innovation Lab project, Holy Names will be launching "WAHN PantherVision," a student-run live-streaming broadcasting program.

As part of the program, members of the Communications Club will live-stream our morning announcements from a small "studio" within the library/ Innovation Lab space.

Additional opportunities will be made available as the year progresses.



Riley Auditorium Renovations

Riley Auditorium is now home to a new large screen, backlit with a high-definition projector.

The state-of-the-art audio-visual system, which includes powerful new speakers throughout the room, is the centerpiece of a long-term renovation plan come to fruition, which included new curtains on the stage and a new, brighter paint job for the walls. The work, made possible by the paddle raise to honor former trustee David Hayes P '14 '19 '21 and his wife Lauren '89, was completed over Easter recess. The photo illustrates the transformation from the small portable screen used for years to the large retractable screen on the stage.



HONORING AHN'S

Academic and Athletic History

The fall of 2023 will be a time of great celebration at Academy of the Holy Names, as we honor AHN's storied history in academics and athletics.

CARLO CHERUBINO ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Carlo Cherubino - Guiding Athletic Excellence at Academy of the Holy Names

Carlo Cherubino, a former professional basketball player and coach, has spent the last 30 years of his life at Academy of the Holy Names. He has been instrumental in the development of the school's athletic program, which has become one of the most successful in the state. Under his guidance, the school has won numerous state and national championships in basketball, volleyball, and soccer. Carlo's dedication to excellence and his commitment to the well-being of his students have made him a beloved figure at AHN. He is a true leader and a role model for all who are fortunate enough to know him.

1910s: In the Beginning There Was Basketball

The first basketball game was played in 1891 by Dr. James Naismith in a YMCA gymnasium in Springfield, Massachusetts. The game was a combination of soccer and football, and it was designed to be played indoors during the winter months. Basketball quickly spread across the United States and became one of the most popular sports in the world.

1920s: Off the Court

The 1920s were a time of great change for the world. The Great Depression had begun, and many people were struggling to make ends meet. However, sports provided a source of entertainment and a way to escape the hardships of daily life. Basketball and volleyball were particularly popular during this time, and they continued to grow in popularity throughout the decade.



This History Made Possible Through the Generous Support of the Following Donors

Ms. Mary Anne Vigilante
Ms. St. Constantine Casey
Ms. The Albany v. Rome Basketball Rivalry and the State of Interscholastic Sports
Ms. The Old Gym
Ms. Our Yearbooks

Esse quum vid

Faith

Dedication to Women and Children

The Full

Our Fighting Foundresses

St. Constantine Casey

Mary Anne Vigilante

The Albany v. Rome Basketball Rivalry and the State of Interscholastic Sports

The Old Gym

Our Yearbooks

The culmination of nearly 140 years of legacy, tradition, and faith are now on full display with the unveiling of our History Wall and the Carlo Cherubino Athletic Hall of Fame. The former pays tribute to the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM) and the many women whom they empowered through their example for generations. The latter, named in honor of Coach Cherubino's four decades of nurturing young talent, celebrates the competitive spirit of AHN's athletes and the inspiration they provide on and off the courts and fields.

The large-scale project will be completed in time for the Fall Sports Awards Banquet, which will coincide with the Fall Sports Award Banquet in November. [PostMktg](#) provided the designs.

Renderings provided by PostMktg





Grade 8 Graduation



AHN Golf Classic at Normanside Country Club



Christmas Song Contest



Window Painting



High School Graduation



Mother Daughter Luncheon



Pep Rallies



"You Are Beautiful" Day

Spring Gala Honorees: Cindy Pettit '78, Dr. Ron and Michele Musto P '99 '01.
Courtesy: Michael Gallitelli



Father Daughter Dinner Dance



The Legend of Sleepy Hollow



Seniors present AHN with check at Alumnae Induction: class achieved 100% participation during #ALLINFORAHN



Annie



Pep Rallies



Pep Rallies



70s

• **Cindy Haselsteiner Pettit '78:** Thanks to Cindy Haselsteiner Pettit '78 and her team from KeyBank for making our chairs look like new again as part of the 32nd Annual Key Bank Neighbors Make the Difference Day! The group painted more than 40 chairs in two and a half hours.



• **Class of '73:** A mini-reunion in Cape Cod for the Class of '73: **Jan Prendergast Cayan, Ellie Dribben Alexander, and Peggy Apple Woods**



80s

• **Joan Lipscomb Arthurton '87** was featured in the Times Union, which highlighted her role as a Capital District Juvenile Secure Detention Facility teacher.

• **Amy VanDerzee Wiggins '80** was featured in The Eagle Tribune for National Athletic Trainer's Month for her years of work with students at Philips Academy in Andover, MA.

90s

• **Aaren Hatalsky Harris '95** was featured on Spectrum News Albany for the "Little Wings Farm School" pre-school program she created which serves to inspire future farmers.

• **Tamara Thorpe-Odom '92** joined her daughter, Sandra '23, during her senior theology class for a presentation during Black History Month. The pair were also joined by Sandra's grandfather, Earl Thorpe, via Zoom. Thorpe — a member of the doo-wop group The Fidelities who appeared on American Bandstand and performed at the Apollo Theater in Harle — delighted the class with a rendition of "My Girl." Thorpe is featured in filmmaker Chris Howard's civil rights documentary "The Activist Next Door."



• **Class of '91:** It was a double-birthday bash for classmates **Betsy Naughtner '91** and **Amy Platt Connolly '91**, who proved 50 is fabulous and celebrated with friends in Waltham, MA. Among them were other AHN faithful, including **Julie Platt Farlow '93, Mary Edwards Convertino '91, Maggie Naughtner Burns '85, and Ellen Naughtner** (former AHN lower school faculty member).



00s

• **Taylor Pettit McGrath '08:** was featured on Capital District Moms' website for authoring two children's books, *Olivia's Red Hair* and *Always By Your Side*.

• **Nora Fazioli Matthew '07,** founder of Her Strength Studio in Latham, was featured on News 10 ABC. Nora and her team want to help customers find their inner strength.

• **Andrea Riccio '05:** was featured as an interactive speaker during a Participatory Government class. Read more about Andrea at AHNS.org.

• **Kristen Hans Curran '04,** director of Government Relations for the New York State Catholic Conference was featured in *The Evangelist*. Kristen gave a shout-out to AHN in the interview, saying, "I try to stay involved with Holy Names because I had such a great experience there and they do such great work."

• **Lindsay DiDio '01:** Lindsay, a stained-glass maker, was featured in the *St. Alban's Messenger* in a story to promote her upcoming summer arts classes.

10s

• **Abby Sullivan Gonyaw '14:** Congratulations Abby, who was married in May!



• **Catie Vivian '14:** "As a freshman I was intimidated to be in a new place with new people, curriculum, and expectations of me," says Catie, who was featured in the Weekly Watch earlier this year. "After the first several weeks having been immersed and adjusted to AHN, I knew I was going to enjoy my experience over the next 4 years." You can read her story on AHNS.org.



• **Mary Kate Murray '13:** Congratulations to Mary Kate on her wedding



• **Amanda Pentak Vershay '13:**

Congratulations to Amanda (daughter of Physical Education Chair Molly Pentak) who was also married in May, her fellow 2013 AHN alumnae **Katie Nerses, Hannah Haggerty, Ana O'Neill, Morgan Cooper,** and **Alli Barranca** were all in attendance.



• **Peggy Hogan Mill '13:** It turns out wedding bells were ringing for more than one member of the Class of 2013 that same weekend in May! Congratulations also go out to Peggy. Her AHN classmate **Rebecca Cribbs Rice** was also in attendance.



• **Class of '12:** Members of the class of 2012 celebrated their bride-to-be in San Juan, Puerto Rico! Left to right: **Tess Diefendorf, Angelina Multari, Arianna Clark, Meghan McCarty,** and **Avalon Bohunicky.**



• **Leah Mall '11:** Congratulations to Leah, who got married in June! Her AHN classmates were right by her side, including **Sarah Ferritto**, who served as a bridesmaid; **Brittany Schneider,** and **Julianne (Quinn) Burns.**



• **Victoria Cribbs Palma '10:** Congratulations to Victoria, who was married in May. Her Matron of Honor was her sister **Rebecca Cribbs Rice '13.** Victoria's best friend since 3rd grade **Theresa Kennedy Palmisano '10** was a bridesmaid. Theresa's husband, (Rev. Michael Palmisano) performed the service.



• **Paige DeSorbo '10:** visited her alma mater The College of Saint Rose in March to speak with students and was photographed with AHN President Martin Kilbridge and Saint Rose President Marcia White.



20s

• **Madison Mackey '22:** was featured on Spectrum News Capital Region for her role in helping first-time swimmers get the life-saving lessons they need.

• **Quinn McNaughton '22:** With her fellow students at St. Bonaventure University, Quinn spent spring break serving 200 meals a day at the St. Francis Inn, Philadelphia, along with helping at the clothing closet.

• **Class of '21:** AHN Class of 2021 graduates **Veronica Lewis, Katie Bennett,** and **Athena Rodrigues** attended the Spring Garden Tour together at The White House on Palm Sunday.



• **Megan Bell '21:** Congratulations, Megan Bell '21, part of The University of Rochester women's 4x400 meter relay team which took home the 2023 NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field National Championship.

In Memoriam*

- Joan Fitzgerald Bailey '44
- Sr. Joan Byrne
- Judith Myers Cavanaugh '58
- Jean Tierney Conway '59
- Kathleen Ray Crawford '67
- Rosemary Bolognino Cuzdek '58
- Jean DeSanto Degen '47
- Gloria Piela Doherty '62
- Jane Barrett Florick '56
- Maureen Flynn '66
- Lucille Calsolaro Gutto '45
- Janet English Hans '46
- Mary Theresa Roche Hooper '47
- Lorraine Turcotte Hopko '51
- Sheila Killelea '60
- Gertrude Ellen Ryan Kresge '54
- Mary Jill Cassidy Leonard '62
- Anne Roche Malone '51
- Pamela Noonan Montimurro '60
- Kathleen Scherer Murphy '51
- Joan Murray '71
- Barbara Gorzynski O'Brien '54
- Abby Bennett Orton '64
- Marie Gendron Ricketts '74
- Theresa Tarzio Rinaldi '43
- Sr. Mary Alice Shannon
- Anatoli Lindroth Sullivan '90
- Regina Treffiletti '68

*For year ending June 30

Say Thank You by Supporting the 1884 Fund



Spring Gala 2023 Provided by Michael Gallitelli



The Annual Fund has a new look! For nearly 140 years, Holy Names has developed an enviable reputation for excellence in educating young women. Please consider your important role in continuing this legacy by donating to the school with a generous heart. Contributions to the 1884 Fund further the mission of AHN by providing funds that enhance academic programming, individualized attention, STEM, personalized college counseling, technology upgrades, campus improvements, visual and performing arts programs, scholarship opportunities, and athletics. Collective annual giving impacts every aspect of our school every day and for every student.

Sponsorship of and attendance at signature events support the 1884 Fund and build community throughout our extended Holy Names family. Your gift makes a difference, and your generous support is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



← Make your gift at ahns.org.

Convey Important Personal Values to the Next Generation by Making a Planned Legacy Gift



The Mother Marie Rose Legacy Society honors those who make a vested commitment to Holy Names through planned giving.

Mother Marie Rose Legacy Society Members

*The Estate of Constance Keeler Bopp '51	*The Estate of Lois Delehanty Moll '32
Judith Myers Cavanaugh '58 †	*The Estate of Elizabeth Flood Morrow '50
Janet Doolin '71	Cynthia Haselsteiner Pettit '78
The Estate of Jane Barrett Florick '56*	*The Estate of Ellen A. Picotte '69
*The Estate of Sally Mosher Guerard '48	Mary Patricia Yanas Rowlands '79
Regina Scarano LaGatta '70	The Estate of Carol Andre Sullivan '63*
*The Estate of Raymond J. Lauterborn	Mary Ellen Conners Trumbull '66
*The Estate of Mildred Rabe Mansfield '37	Mary Anne Vigliante '64
Terilyn McGovern Mazza '70	*The Estate of Joyce M. Wrenn '54
*The Estate of Patricia A. Moffitt	*Posthumously honored †Deceased



Jane Barrett Florick '56

Jane Barrett Florick '56

Jane Barrett Florick '56 honored her AHN experience by leaving a gift through her will.

A 1956 graduate of Academy of Holy Names, Jane established lifelong friendships with many of her classmates. She passed peacefully at home in October 2022. Jane was a highly respected medical secretary. She greeted everyone with a smile and compassion. Jane was always there to lend a helping hand and an ear to those in need. She was a woman of great character and beloved by many, especially her late husband of 38 years, David L. Florick. A proud supporter of numerous organizations, Jane was a generous benefactor of Academy of the Holy Names through a bequest in her will.

If you've made a commitment to Holy Names in your estate plans, please let us know, so we can acknowledge you as a part of the Mother Marie Rose Legacy Society. It brings our community joy to appreciate you in this lifetime for a gift that lives on into the next.

Ways to Create a Legacy

- Bequests from your will or trust
- Gifts from life insurance, IRAs or other qualified plans
- Charitable gift annuities
- Gifts of cash, stock or securities

Visit our giving page at ahns.org or contact Kristin Vivian, Director of Institutional Advancement at 518-438-7895 x219



The Joan Fitzgerald Bailey '44 Endowed Scholarship

Joan Fitzgerald Bailey '44 worked for the Sisters of the Holy Names at AHN for 45 years and was loved by the students, the faculty, and the administration. Though she officially retired at 88, she continued her service and love for the sisters well into her 90s. In 2002, Joan received the Mother Marie Rose Distinguished Alumna Award, followed closely by the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009. Joan shared an enthusiasm for Holy Names selflessly "as a role model, friend, and ambassador for the school." Her son, Jim, and daughters Lynda '67, Geraldine '73, Bonnie '74,

Debra '76, Nancy '79, and Suzanne '81 say Joan "had a heart for lifting others up." Following Joan's passing in 2022, her children wanted to establish a scholarship in her name to honor their mother's legacy and contributions to Holy Names. Jim says, "we wanted to continue her gratitude for and stewardship to the school that made her who she was. She loved AHN and was a great ambassador." In Joan's memory, a student in need of a helping hand will get that lift, making attendance at Holy Names possible. By doing so, Joan's generous spirit continues to give.

The Ryan Family Scholarship Fund in Honor of the Murphy Family and Sister Margaret Murphy, SNJM

A 50th birthday is a momentous celebration, but for Daniel Ryan, it became an opportunity to honor his wife, Cynthia Vogel Ryan '91, with a named scholarship. In working with the Ryans to establish the scholarship, Cindy's humble spirit shined through each decision. While the scholarship was in her honor, she wanted it named for her family and beloved Sister Margaret Murphy SNJM, who greatly influenced Cindy's life. "I received a scholarship while I was a student at Holy

Names, which made it possible for me to attend. Dan and I wanted to give back in the same way someone had given to me," says Cindy. The Ryans' scholarship will be awarded to a deserving incoming sixth grader and be made available to that same student for her entire seven years at AHN. Family and friends celebrated Cindy's birthday in June, but through the gift of scholarship, the legacy of giving continues for years to come.



To contribute to either The Joan Fitzgerald Bailey '44 Endowed Scholarship or The Ryan Family Scholarship Fund in Honor of the Murphy Family and Sister Margaret Murphy, SNJM, visit ahns.org and offer a helping hand to a deserving student.

Thank You to Our Donors

Thank you for the many generous ways in which you give back to Holy Names.
Your support impacts every student every day, changing lives along the way!

HOW DO YOU GIVE BACK?

PARTICIPATION!



CLASS OF 2023,
FACULTY AND STAFF

FIRST TIME DONORS

165 = \$33,279!

GIVING TUESDAY GOAL

\$50,000

RAISED
\$56,225

#ALLINFORAHN GOAL

\$50,000

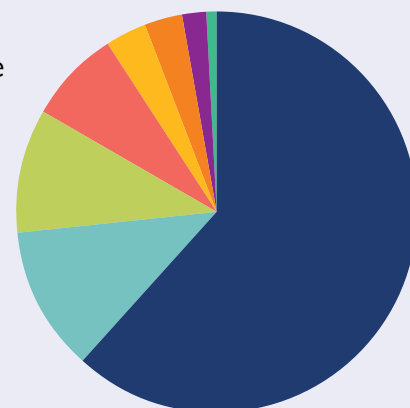
RAISED
\$53,781

ALUMNAE GIVING...

TOP 5 CLASSES \$	TOP 5 CLASSES participation
#1 1956 \$61,000	#1 2023 100%
#2 1981 \$22,000	#2 1991 37%
#3 1977 \$21,000	#3 1996 18%
#4 1964 \$16,500	#4 2005 16%
#5 1975 \$16,000	#5 2010 16%

ANNUAL GIVING 2022-23

- Friend \$1-\$249: **506**
- Blue and Gold Society \$250+: **97**
- Bell Tower Society \$500+: **81**
- Esse Quam Videri Circle \$1,000+: **63**
- Stewards of Excellence \$2,500+: **27**
- Durocher Society \$5,000+: **25**
- Founders' Club \$10,000+: **15**
- The Pillars of AHN \$25,000+: **6**



To our students, parents, alumnae, and friends who support Holy Names as Class Connectors, IA committee members, Annual Fund ambassadors, career panelists, and Gala committee members, we appreciate you!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO TO MAKE HOLY NAMES A SPECIAL PLACE!



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Help others in the community
by opening doors for them in
your network.



Network

Build your network by
finding other members
who want to help.

Save the Date
2023

President Kilbridge on the West Coast

Los Angeles
OCTOBER 7
San Francisco
OCTOBER 14

Admissions Open House

NOVEMBER 8

Friendsgiving

NOVEMBER 15

AHN Giving Tuesday

NOVEMBER 28

Community Christmas Celebration

DECEMBER 7

Save the Date
2024

#ALLINFORAHN

FEBRUARY 8

AHN On the Move

Naples, FL
MARCH 2

Admissions Open House

MARCH 7

Spring Gala

MAY 3

Alumnae Induction

MAY 21