

A Newsletter for Catholic High Schools in the Archdiocese of New York



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS *in the*
ARCHDIOCESE *of* NEW YORK

Faith-Based. Future-Focused.

Volume 18
November 2024

THE SCOOP

A Newsletter for Catholic High Schools
in the Archdiocese of New York

The Office of Secondary Schools serves forty-two high schools with over 21,000 students within the Archdiocese of New York including The Bronx, Manhattan, Staten Island, Westchester, and Upper Counties.

Served by Linda Dougherty, Associate Superintendent of Secondary Schools and Carmen Leon, Secondary Schools Administrator, their responsibility is focused on liaising between the Office the Superintendent of Schools and the high schools located throughout the Archdiocese of New York.

Linda Dougherty
Associate Superintendent
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Carmen Leon
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To learn more about Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of New York, visit:

catholicschoolsnyc.org/secondary

COVER PHOTO

St. Vincent Ferrer Annual Walk-a-thon!

On Friday, October 11th the Ferrer Falcons held its 16th annual walk-a-thon. Students, faculty, and staff delighted in the warm autumn weather as they walked through Central Park to raise money for their school. Students were able to raise just under \$100,000. **Go Falcons!**



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Catholic High Schools Pray, Give, Celebrate Achievements, and Travel...



The Great Ignatian Challenge Fordham Prep joins Loyola, Regis, and Xavier High School in the 9th Great Ignatian Challenge

On Tuesday, October 15th, students in Fordham Prep's Hunger Awareness Committee gathered in the Leonard Theatre to kick off their plans for this year's hunger awareness initiative. Led by Assistant Director of Campus Ministry for Social Justice Carolyn Wright, Associate Director of Campus Ministry Madeline Pikus, and Director of Campus Ministry Mike Kravatz P'23, the meeting focused on two cornerstone events: the 9th annual Great Ignatian Challenge (GIC) and the Hunger Awareness Luncheon.

Happy Thanksgiving!

May love and laughter light your days, and warm your heart and home. May good and faithful friends be yours, wherever you may roam. May peace and plenty bless your world with joy that long endures. May all life's passing seasons bring the best to you and yours! - *An Old Irish Blessing*



All Saints Day—Day of Prayer and Service at Maria Regina

Entire Maria Regina High School Student Body Participates in Unprecedented Program of Helping Those in Need During All Saints Day—Day of Prayer and Service.

Among the highlights of the special day were five service trips that students took to help support essential community causes in the region.

These included:

- HOPE (an acronym for ‘Help Our People Eat’) Food Kitchen in New Rochelle, one of the largest in Westchester that serves more than 100 nutritious meals a night.
- The Sharing Shelf in Port Chester that addresses the clothing needs for children and teens in Westchester.
- GiGi’s Playhouse Westchester in Ardsley whose mission is to change the “way the world views Down syndrome and to send a message of acceptance and hope.”
- Hillside Food Outreach in Mt. Kisco which provides nutritious food for homebound individuals in the community who are chronically ill and disabled.
- Topfield Equestrian Center in Cold Spring which provides therapeutic interactions with horses for children, teens and adults experiencing physical, psychological, and behavioral challenge.

Notre Dame School AP Language and Composition

Every year Notre Dame English Department Chair, Scott Vasey, takes his AP Language and Composition class to the iconic NYC bookstore The Strand.

There, they select their own independent non-fiction reads!



Cardinal Hayes Rosary Prayer Service

Cardinal Hayes High School continues its over eight-decade tradition of Rosary Prayer Services in the Month of October, the month of Mary. This Marian Tradition is still part of the fiber of the school and every student participates in a small group Rosary Prayer Service.

The Hayes Religious Activities Committee coordinates these services with Father Steven Gonzalez, Chaplain, leading several of the services.



Dominican Academy Travels to China

In late June, a group of Dominican Academy students traveled to Nanjing, China, through the Ricci-Guangqi Young Scholars Program, an innovative partnership between Dominican Academy, Regis High School, and Nanjing Foreign Language School.

The two-week itinerary included visits to cultural institutions and schools, and a homestay with the families of the Nanjing scholars, giving students – all of whom had studied Mandarin at D.A., – the opportunity to fully immerse in the language.



Iona Prep's Plunketts Lead Gaels to Walk for ALZ

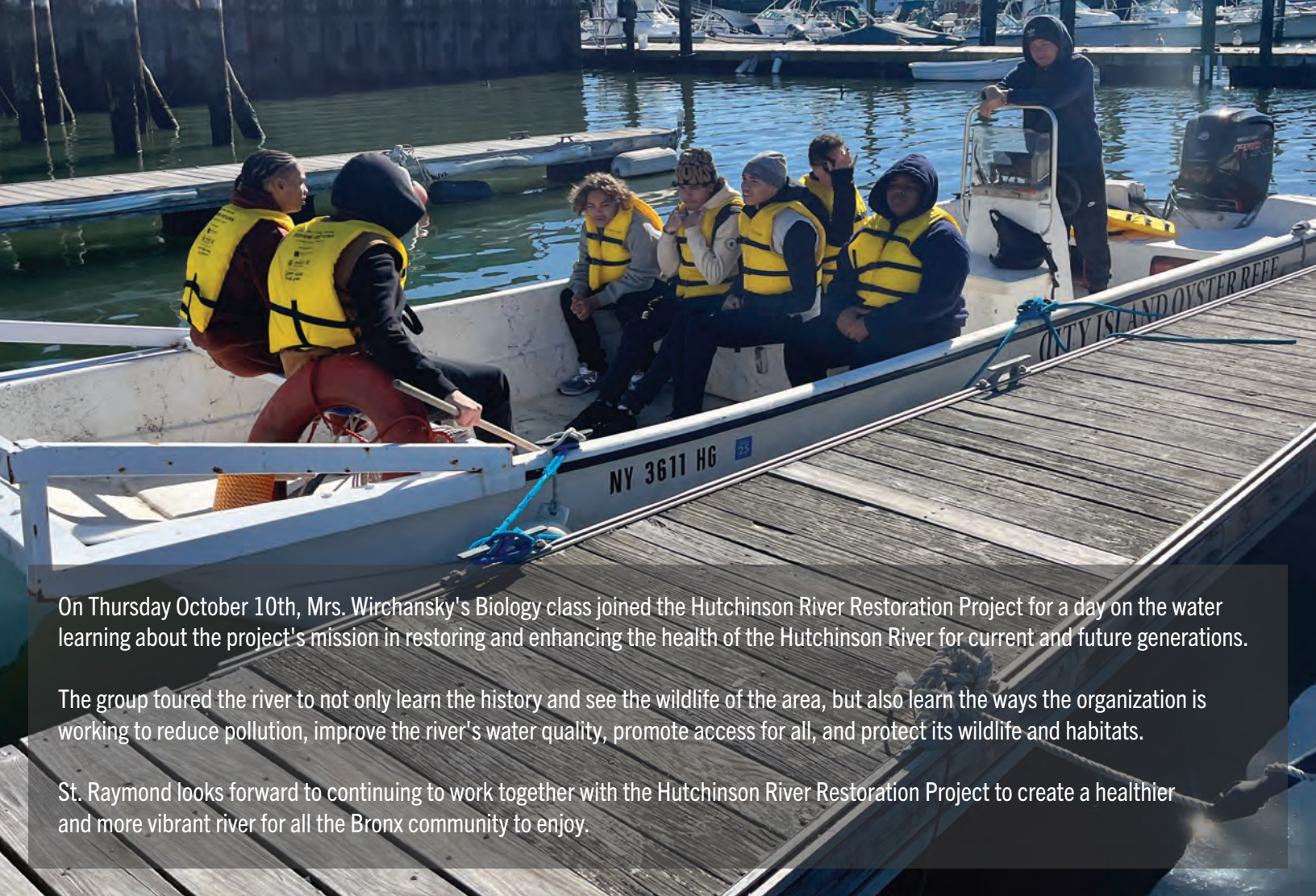
Last month, two Iona Preparatory brothers from Tarrytown – Matthew '25 and Timothy '26 Plunkett – led a team of over 60 walkers and supporters in raising more than \$10,800 for the Walk to End Alzheimer's on Oct. 6. The pair of scholar athletes – Matt is a starting football middle linebacker and lacrosse midfielder verbally committed to College of the Holy Cross, while Timothy is a starting attacker for varsity lacrosse verbally committed to the University of North Carolina – created the Iona Walks for Alz Club, recruited fellow students, and encouraged friends, family members and teammates to participate in the walk.

Spellman Students Attend Alfred E. Smith Dinner

Out of the 11th and 12th grade recipients of Inner-City Scholarships within the Archdiocese of New York, eight Spellman students were invited to attend the 79th Annual Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation Dinner joining the most powerful people in New York. These students are participants of Inner-City's "Mighty Warriors Essay Contest"



St. Raymond Biology Students and Hutchinson River Restoration Project



On Thursday October 10th, Mrs. Wirchansky's Biology class joined the Hutchinson River Restoration Project for a day on the water learning about the project's mission in restoring and enhancing the health of the Hutchinson River for current and future generations.

The group toured the river to not only learn the history and see the wildlife of the area, but also learn the ways the organization is working to reduce pollution, improve the river's water quality, promote access for all, and protect its wildlife and habitats.

St. Raymond looks forward to continuing to work together with the Hutchinson River Restoration Project to create a healthier and more vibrant river for all the Bronx community to enjoy.



Albertus Magnus Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

For Hispanic Heritage Month, Albertus Magnus High School (Bardonia, NY) students sold bracelets in support of the Pulsera Project. The Pulsera Project employs artisans in Central America and the proceeds are invested back into their communities.

This endeavor was hosted by the Building Bridges Club, who seeks to increase cultural awareness and celebrate diversity through guest speakers, open discussion meetings and unique community service opportunities.

APGA Tour Visits Preston HS

Representatives from Bally's at Ferry Point & the Advocates Professional Golf Association (APGA) visited Preston High School to promote women in golf. Brian Crowell from Bally's at Ferry Point and Cole Smith from APGA facilitated a discussion between APGA players and the students.

Players Chase Johnson, Gregory Odom Jr., and Zoe Slaughter spoke about the numerous opportunities that the sport can provide from those within the industry.

For the 2024-2025 school year, Preston High School will have its first ever Golf Club!



Lourdes Seniors Named Semifinalists by National Merit Scholarship Corporation


Congratulations to Our Lady of Lourdes High School students, Noah Garb and Erin O'Donnell who have been named Semifinalists in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. According to the 2025 National Merit® Scholarship Program, Noah and Erin are amongst more than 16,000 Semifinalists across the country who were notified that they had qualified. They were selected out of the 1.3 million students that entered in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. They have since applied for Finalist consideration.



Three Salesian Seniors Receive College Scholarship Money

The Angeles T. Arredondo Foundation was established in 1981; since then, it has had a long history of providing merit-based tuition assistance to students. Each year, the foundation awards STEM scholarship prizes to Salesian High School Seniors who achieve the highest average in six of Salesian's advanced Math, Science, and Technology courses during their first three years.

Recently, the foundation awarded a total of \$85,000.00 to three seniors who excelled in science and mathematics. Bilal Malik, Nikhil Ghose, and Nicholas Albit were the deserving recipients of this prestigious award. The Salesian school community is extremely grateful to the ATA Foundation and proud of the recipients of this award.

A photograph of four young women, likely students, standing in a hallway. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. They are wearing dark blue or black blazers over white collared shirts and dark plaid skirts. The blazers have a circular logo on the left chest. The hallway has a large arched window with a decorative pattern in the background.

St. Raymond Girls Medical Internship

This past summer, four St. Raymond Academy seniors had an amazing chance to join a special program at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx. The program gave the girls the opportunity to visit the college weekly to listen to doctors and medical experts talk about their work experiences.

They also participated in the "The Citizen Science Project," where they created and sent out surveys about mental health issues in the Bronx which they then shared with their classmates.

In addition, the students volunteered at a local hospital, Montefiore Gun Hill where they worked 8-hour shifts, helping with various tasks and shadowing nurses. This gave them valuable firsthand experience and a better understanding of how patient care works.

Famed Sportscaster Bruce Beck Inspires Ursuline Students

Ursuline students were treated to an unforgettable all-school assembly on Thursday, September 19, featuring renowned sportscaster Bruce Beck. The Lead Anchor for NBC 4 New York wowed students with his engaging presentation on the importance of life skills and the keys to professional success.

Beck, known for his expertise in sports broadcasting, shared invaluable advice on the power of interpersonal skills in the professional world. Through personal anecdotes and interactive activities, he stressed the importance of a firm handshake, active listening, and building relationships for success in any field. Beck's message of perseverance and embracing failure as a learning opportunity resonated with students and faculty alike.

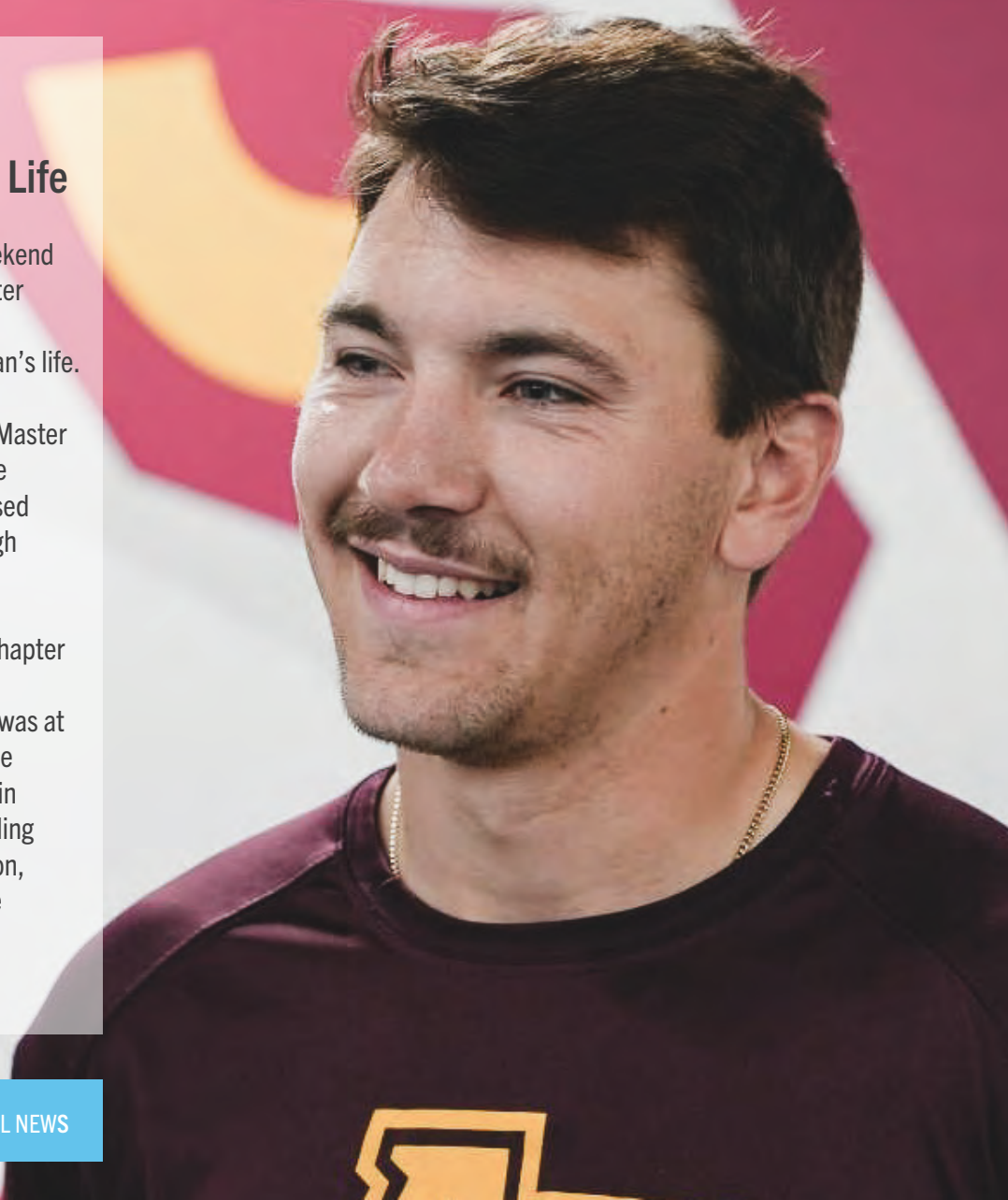


Burke Catholic Alum '20... Now MSAT Student Saves a Life

Students often use the long Labor Day weekend to catch their breath before the fall semester kicks in. This year, Jackson Hoovler BC '20 and MSAT '26 used his breath to save a man's life.

Utilizing the skills he learned in Alvernia's Master of Science in Athletic Training program, the 21-year-old revived a man who had collapsed following a football game at Twin Valley High School on Friday, August 30.

A volunteer with Tri-County Young Life, a chapter of a Christian organization that helps high-schoolers grow in their faith, Hoovler was at the game to reach out to students. After the contest, he was chatting with a co-worker in the parking lot when a woman ran by pleading for medical help. Hoovler jumped into action, sprinting across the lot until he located the victim and saved his life.



Mount Religious Brothers and Staff

For decades, classes at Mount St. Michael Academy have been taught by Marist Brothers dressed in long black cassocks. While today the administration, faculty, and staff are primarily lay men and women, this year three Marist Brothers will be on staff at the school!

We welcome, Bro. Michael Flanigan as School President. Brother Michael brings a wealth of ministerial experiences to The Mount. For the past 15 years, Brother Michael has worked as part of the Campus Ministry team at Marist College. He has been a teacher and campus minister at Our Lady of Lourdes, Cardinal Hayes High School, St. Agnes High School, and Mount St. Michael. Brother Michael also served as Head of School at Bishop Donahue High School in West Virginia.

A Bronx native, Bro. Luis Ramos taught at Marist High School in Chicago and has worked with student groups at Marist College. He comes to the Mount most recently from Archbishop Molloy High School, where he taught Spanish and Religion to teach Spanish to the freshmen at Mount.



MEET OUR TEAM OF MARIST BROTHERS!

BRO. MICHAEL FLANIGAN, FMS
School President

BRO. STEVE SCHLITTE, FMS
Principal

BRO. LUIS RAMOS, FMS
Spanish Teacher

FUN FACT
This is Bro. Michael's 2nd term as President of Mount St. Michael Academy.

FUN FACT
Bro. Steve is now in his 15th year as Principal of Mount St. Michael Academy.

FUN FACT
Bro. Luis is a Class of 2011 graduate of Mount St. Michael Academy.

Learn more at mtstmichael.org



St. Catharine Academy Missions 3rd President

On September 20th, the school community gathered for the Missioning of Kerry Bader, the third President and first lay President of St. Catharine Academy. Members of the Mercy Education Board, Alumnae, faculty, staff, and students joined in the ceremony where Mrs. Bader formally committed herself to lead in the tradition of Mercy and follow the legacy of our foundress, Catherine McAuley. Mrs. Bader remarked, "I was taught by the Sisters of Mercy at Our Lady of Victory Academy, so I am familiar with the charism of the Sisters of Mercy. I am delighted and grateful to be part of this community." Welcome Ms. Bader!

Cathedral Alum '24 Returns to NYC for Scholas Fall Encounter

Danielle Conte, Cathedral Alum '24, began her journey with Scholas USA, a Pontificate program started by Pope Francis in his native Argentina.

In May 2023, Danielle joined four other ADNY and LA Catholic high school students in Miami to prepare a project to present to the Holy Father via Telemundo livestreaming for the 10 Year Anniversary of Scholas. Since then, Danielle was chosen for a meet and greet with Pope Francis in Rome and has continued to participate in the semi-yearly Scholas Encounters as part of the Scholas USA Team.



*99% of our seniors graduate
and 99% of graduates are accepted
to post-secondary education*

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