

T H E
Eagle
FALL 2019 Vol. 30 Issue 2

East Catholic High School
Alumni Magazine



East Arts
Mary Poppins

National Merit
Scholars

Sr. Peggy Evans,
SNDdeN

Graduation
2019

FROM THE PROVOST



To Our East Catholic High School Community Members,

As a valued member of the East Catholic High School community, it is important that you be apprised of significant happenings at the school that means so much to you. Recently, Mr. Thomas Maynard decided to step down after four years of dedicated service to ECHS, most recently as Head of School. The school family expresses its appreciation to Mr. Maynard for his hard work and commitment to East Catholic, and assures him that he will remain in the prayers of this community.

During this time of transition, East Catholic is embarking on a collaborative effort with the Office of Education, Evangelization and Catechesis (OEEC) of the Archdiocese of Hartford in order to ensure that the school continues its pattern of growth in academic excellence and operational viability. East Catholic and OEEC are taking advantage of this unique opportunity to re-imagine the school's administrative model in order to determine which structure best suits its current needs and that of its different constituencies. This invigorating process will include obtaining input from the current ECHS administration, the School Advisory Board, the faculty and staff, a group of fine professionals who remain deeply committed to the school. In short, we are all committed to East Catholic's bright and foundationally sound future in which its students and families are served in the most exceptional way.

Among our first steps will be the further strengthening of both the Advancement and Admissions Offices at East Catholic. As we move forward to hire additional staff in these areas, we are proud to note that the current dedicated staff members in these offices are very capably handling their responsibilities and look forward to playing a key role in the new team being created.

Here is a brief list of the tasks being undertaken during this period of transition:

- Assessment of the school budget to ensure operational vitality
- Evaluation of operations, systems and controls to fine tune school policies
- Review of the academic programs, coursework, and departmental needs to continue East Catholic's outstanding educational tradition
- Determination of the administrative model that will best suit the ECHS community
- Enhancement of the Advancement and Admissions operations to strengthen the school's outreach to its supporters and its prospective families

In addition to myself, members of the OEEC who are partnering with East Catholic in this process include Valerie Mara, Assistant to the Provost, Laura McCaffrey, Assistant to the Provost, and Anne Clubb, Director of Community Engagement. The entire ECHS/OEEC team looks forward to working together to ensure that the needs of the student body remain at the forefront of every decision as we chart the course for East Catholic High School's brightest future. We are most grateful for your ongoing support of the school, and we assure you that your continued membership in the East Catholic High School community is one of the factors that makes this school such a special and blessed place.



Sincerely in Christ,

Sr. Mary Grace Walsh, ASCJ, Ph.D.

Provost, Archdiocese of Hartford

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CALLED TO SERVE
RYAN HINTON, ECHS PRINCIPAL

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On the cover: Claire Murphy '21 performs in the spring production of *Mary Poppins*.
See article on page 4.

Fr. Philip Sheridan, who helped write our school song and was a personal friend to our founder Fr. Charles Shaw visited on November 1, 2019.



After Fr. Sheridan spoke to our school community sharing history from those early East Catholic years, the student body gave him a standing ovation in appreciation of his visit.



Fr. Philip Sheridan, shown seated above with Joe Duffy, Sr. Peggy Evans, SNDden, Ryan Hinton, Principal and students; Mia Healy '20, Christian Luca '21, and Madeline Bolduc '21

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EAST CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL

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THE EAGLE FALL 2019





In the photo from left to right: Catherine Cannamela '20; Julia Cannamela '20; Maya Gopal '20; Lily Moseni '20; Pratham Patel '20; East Catholic High School Principal Ryan Hinton

National Merit Scholars

East Catholic High School is pleased to announce that Robert Costello has been recognized as a Semifinalist in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program. East Catholic is also pleased to announce that Catherine Cannamela, Julia Cannamela, Maya Gopal, Lily Moseni and Pratham Patel have been named Commended Scholars. A Letter of Achievement from the school and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program, has been presented to each of these scholastically talented seniors.

Robert Costello's academic achievement on the 2018 Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) allows him to join a nationwide pool representing less than 1% of high school seniors, including the highest scoring entrants in each state. National Merit semifinalists have the opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 scholarships worth more than \$31 million, which will be announced in the spring.

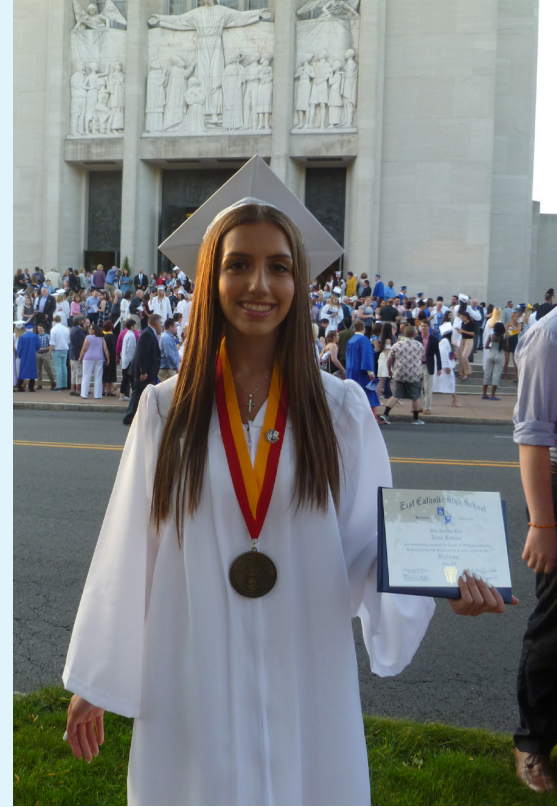
East Catholic's Commended Scholars are among the top 34,000 PSAT test takers nationwide. Over 1.5 million students took the PSAT last year. The students were given

a commendation by their school counselor on behalf of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success.

These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success.



Robert Costello '20 with East Catholic High School Principal Ryan Hinton



2019 National Merit Scholar Update

East Catholic would like to congratulate Irene Soteriou '19 on being a Finalist in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. Irene is the first East Catholic student since 2015 to be named a National Merit Finalist. In the spring of 2019, Irene was named a US Presidential Scholar Program Candidate, one of only 5200 candidates out of nearly 3.6 million graduating high school seniors across the United States.

Irene is part of the University of Connecticut's Honors Program, where she is planning to double major in Economics and Communication.

2019 National Spanish Examinations

East Catholic recently had Honors Spanish 2, 3, and 4 classes take the 2019 National Spanish Exam which measures performance (interpretive communications) and achievement of students who are studying Spanish as a second language. The mission of the National Spanish Examination is to recognize student achievement and to promote language proficiency in the study of Spanish.

East Catholic had 29 students receive national recognition: 6 Silver medalists, 3 Bronze medalists and 20 Honorable Mentions.

SILVER:

- Spanish 2 **Claire Murphy '21**
- Spanish 4 **Julia Cannamela '20**
Emily Carra '20
Robert Costello '20
Sophia Giliberto '20
Nathan Mothes '20

BRONZE:

- Spanish 2 **Christine Duah '21**
Maya Gopal '20
Lily Moseni '20

HONORABLE MENTION:

- Spanish 2 **Leah Ansaldi '21**
Erin Carbonell '21
Allison Carra '22
Sophia Choi '20
Madison Lee '21
Matthew Levin '21
Anna McDowell '21
Emma Terlizzi '22
Lauren Trymbulak '21
- Spanish 3 **Jason Cressotti '21**
Caroline Dorman '20
Genevieve Kirsche '20
Matthew Knowling '20
Madison McHenry '20
Mallory Moriarty '21
Julian Nunez '20
Jenna Ptachcinski '20
Lauren Viveiros '20
- Spanish 4 **Catherine Cannamela '20**
Pratham Patel '20



Silver Medalists: in photo left to right - Emily Carra '20, Julia Cannamela '20, Robert Costello '20, Sophia Giliberto '20, Nathan Mothes '20, Claire Murphy '21



Bronze Medalists: in photo left to right - Lily Moseni '20, Christine Duah '21 and Maya Gopal '20

Joseph Bouchie '19 becomes an Eagle Scout.



Joseph Bouchie recently earned the Boy Scouts of America's highest rank: Eagle Scout. As required for this rank, Joe undertook a project to benefit the community and demonstrate leadership. Joe's project was to build a bridge near Risley Pond in Vernon. The land is owned by the Manchester Land Conservation Trust. A hiking trail on the property surrounds a lake and requires hikers to cross a small stream. Joseph designed a bridge, organized a fundraiser to cover the costs, and led a group of volunteers through the process of building the bridge and making nearby trail improvements. Following completion of this project and East Catholic Graduation in June, Joseph is now attending Bryant University.



ECHS Spring Musical

MARY POPPINS

BY LISA PUTNAM KIRSCH '86

STAGE EAST

East Catholic High School
Performing Arts Department

Victoria Zacharski '19

If you have any doubt that, as the song goes, “anything can happen if you let it,” the Stage East Players’ spring production of *Mary Poppins* offered most convincing evidence that this is true. With its complex dance numbers, exquisite set, detailed costumes and even a late storm that compromised dress rehearsals, the musical gave the cast, crew, production team and musicians almost as many challenges as the Banks family initially gave *Mary Poppins*. Yet, under the excellent leadership of director Jillian Fiorentino, assistant director Nadine Huertas, music director Chris Russell and pit orchestra director David Brudz, the players rose to the occasion, delivering not only an actual flying kite but soaring performances.

First, veteran Stage East senior Victoria Zacharski shone as *Mary Poppins*, evoking the lyric “practically perfect in every way” in every scene. Her unwavering British accent and devotion to gestures, facial expressions, posture and inflection underscored her stellar performance, and her vocals completely validated New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts in its decision to accept Victoria for its incoming class. Next, sophomore

Michael Chomick was most impressive in his role as Bert, staying in dialect and exuding Bert’s kindness and creativity. He also wowed the audience with his extraordinary facility and stamina as a tap dancer and singer in multiple numbers. The actors playing the Banks family, too, gave excellent performances. Senior Chase Jagel and junior Jenna Ptachcinski poignantly captured both the anxieties and underlying love shared by Mr. and Mrs. Banks. Junior Sean Kennedy and freshman Gillian

Top - Sarah Guzzi '19
Sitting - Ilyssa Rivera '22

Michael Chomick '21





Victoria Zacharski '19, Sean Kennedy '20, and Gillian Millin '22

Millin, both newcomers to Stage East, radiated the childlike fractiousness and tender growth of their characters. In addition, junior Danielle Savino turned in a stand-out performance with sharp comic elements as the exasperated housekeeper, Mrs. Brill.

Not to be outdone, the ensemble cast and dance company executed lengthy, demanding choreography with, as one song says, "precision and order." Dance captains Caitlin Barry and Danielle Savino led featured dancers, junior Emily Carra, sophomore Leah Ansaldi and freshmen Ally Carra, Rachel Donnelly and Emma St. Jean, who led the cast as they tapped, whirled and twirled across the stage. Sophomore Morgan Chambers knocked out the crowd with her lead-off role as Mrs. Corry in "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious," during which the company created a smashing spectacle. The



Rachel Donnelly, Michael Chomick '21, and Ally Carra '22

songs, too, engaged the audience, as when junior Natalie Vargas gave her lovely rendition of "Feed the Birds" and senior Alex Bradley powerfully belted out "Brimstone and Treacle." Clearly, Stage East "reached for the heavens" and got "the stars thrown in" with *Mary Poppins*.

Behind the scenes, students, families and faculty contributed to the success of the show. Senior Caitlin Barry and junior Michelle LaVoie did outstanding work as stage manager and assistant stage manager, junior Tim Leyden designed the program and poster and took cast photographs, Sarah Thierry Poirier '89 worked magic with costumes, and Stage East students and family members, including the ever-helpful "SuperDads," built and painted the set. It all came together "spit-spot, spic and span" thanks to the many efforts of all involved.



Gillian Millin '22, Sean Kennedy '20



Cast and ensemble of *Mary Poppins*.



Tom Malin '65



Meghan Faulkner '19

Tom Malin and Meghan Faulkner Honored by Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors

BY LISA PUTNAM KIRSCHKE '86

The Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors (CAAD) honored former ECHS Athletic Director Tom Malin '65, inducting him into the CAAD Hall of Fame on March 21, 2019. In a banquet held at the Sheraton Hartford South in Rocky Hill, Mr. Malin was inducted by CAAD Awards Chair Dave Johnson. Mr. Malin served as East Catholic's Athletic Director for 36 years, retiring in 2016. As noted by CAAD, he was active at state and national levels with CAAD, the Connecticut High School Coaches Association (CHSCA) and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC). He continues to serve as the CIAC Boys and Girls Soccer Tournament and Boys Golf Tournament Director, and he coaches Boys Golf at East Catholic, leading his team to win the CIAC Division III state golf championships in June 2019.

Also honored at the CAAD banquet, East Catholic alum Meghan Faulkner '19 was recognized as the female Connecticut winner of National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) Scholar Essay. Writing on the topic "How High School Athletics Has Impacted my Life," Ms. Faulker read aloud her winning essay about her experiences with golf, noting, "I now approach life, like golf, with humility and positivity." The NIAAA scholarship recognizes "the distinguished scholastic, leadership, and citizenship attributes of high school student athletes, and the importance of high school athletics in each student's life."

As someone who has had the pleasure of being Mr. Malin's student and Ms. Faulkner's teacher, this writer is especially eager to attest to how much each one deserves these honors.



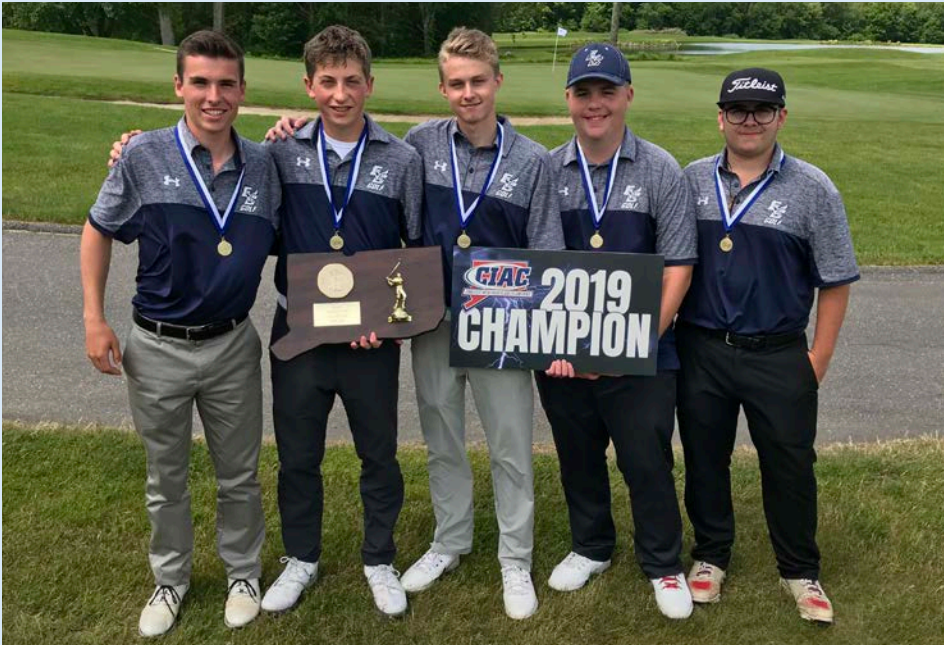
Bill Baron Added to CAS-CIAC Hall of Honor

Bill Baron, East Catholic assistant cross country coach and head indoor and outdoor track coach, was inducted into the CAS-CIAC Hall of Honor at a ceremony on Thursday, April 11, 2019 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville.

Bill Baron and the other Hall of Honor inductees were selected for their exceptional service to the Connecticut Association of Schools -Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference. A Connecticut coaching legend with over 50 consecutive years of experience, Bill has been a prominent figure in high school cross country and indoor and outdoor track. He has coached at East Catholic since 2002, side-by-side with his wife Marie, and has received many accolades, including induction into the Connecticut Coaches Hall of Fame. He and Marie were honored in 2014 as members of the East Catholic Hall of Fame. In addition to coaching, Bill serves as longtime State Meet Director for the CIAC cross country, indoor track and outdoor track & field championships and serves on various committees supporting athletics.

A Year of Champions

Boys Golf Division III State Champions



Lucky "13" for Boys Golf

This past June at the Fairview Farms Golf Course in Harwinton, the boys varsity golf team captured the CIAC Division III State Championship. This state championship marked the 13th state title for East Catholic boys golf which is the most of any sport at the school and the most by any boys high school golf program in the state.

The team, coached by Tom Malin '65, finished with an overall season record of 15-1-2, finished second in the CCC Championships at Stanley Golf Course, and won the CCC East Championship!

Team members pictured above are (left to right): Heath Olivieri '19, Colin Luca '19, Ryan Zurcher '19, Michael Walling '21, and Kenny D'Attilio '20

Class S State Wrestling Champion



Jacob Marselli '19 celebrates as he is crowned Class S State Wrestling Champion! Jacob was also recognized as an All-State Wrestler during the 2018-2019 season. He is now wrestling at the Division II Level at American International College. Jacob is pictured above with Eric Cruanes, Wrestling Coach.

Boys Basketball Division I State Champions



Members of the 2018-2019 Boys Basketball team celebrate after winning the 2019 Division I State Championship. The game was played on Saturday, March 16, and East Catholic defeated Windsor, 79-74. Congratulations on a successful season as the #1 ranked team in CT!





Kathy O'Neill Reilly '83



Jim Penders, Jr. '90

Manchester Sports 2019 Hall of Fame Class Honors Two Well-Known East Catholic Alums

BY REBECCA DURANTE

The Manchester Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2019 had some familiar faces and notable East Catholic High School alums at its recent induction ceremony. On Saturday, November 9, Jim Penders, Jr. '90 and Kathy O'Neill Reilly '83 were inducted into the Manchester Sports Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame recognizes Manchester's athletic greats and contributors to the sports community. Jim was a student athlete and Kathy is a veteran cross country coach. Both continue to be involved with their alma mater.

Kathy O'Neill Reilly received the 2019 Marcy MacDonald Title IX award. This is a humbling honor for O'Neill Reilly as she considers MacDonald, International Hall of Fame Open Water Swimmer, to be one of her heroes. Asked how she felt being a woman coach in a male dominated profes-

sion, she explained that she never felt like a woman coach, just a coach, thanks to the coaching community at East and at the CIAC.

Kathy spoke highly about the impact East has had on her life, including meeting her husband, Mike, at the school. Many members of Kathy's family have graduated from East, and she is thankful her sons will experience the same academic rigor blended with faith and traditions. Kathy makes it clear that she was not athletic in high school. Being cut from volleyball was the push she needed to find her sport, cross country. She discovered her love of cross country while training for the Manchester Road Race with her dad. Subsequently, she ran cross country at Albright College.

After graduating from college, Kathy returned to East Catholic to teach math and

coach cross country, indoor and outdoor track.

Kathy used her induction into Manchester's Sports Hall of Fame to publicly thank a community and town for giving her the tools and experiences to have the confidence to pursue and succeed in coaching.

Jim Penders, Jr., who recently became the winningest baseball coach in UConn's history, is another honoree of the Manchester Sports Hall of Fame who has East Catholic running through his veins. His father, Jim, Sr., was a physical education teacher at East Catholic for 44 years, in addition to coaching boys basketball and baseball. His mother, Joan, was an English and Spanish teacher at the school, and his two brothers also graduated from East Catholic. He speaks fondly of his time at East Catholic, explaining that so much of



Spring 2019 Athletics in Review

his personal growth can be traced back to his time at the school. Ironically, Kathy was one of his teachers at East Catholic. “He was in my class then, and now we are in the same class,” she says.

Jim calls East Catholic “more than just a school,” explaining that the bold model of the school is something to aspire to and one that sets the tone for excellence. “The experiences you have as a teenager here have a monumental impact on the person you become,” he says. “Things like athletics, high academic standards, uniform expectations and more teach discipline and force students to be held accountable.”

For Jim, being inducted into the Manchester Sports Hall of Fame is very humbling. Like Kathy’s dad, Jim’s father is a member of the Manchester Sports Hall of Fame, so following in his footsteps is a big honor. Jim aspires to be like his father in many ways and is constantly working toward that goal. Jim explains that his career path was very much influenced by his father and inspired by the legacy of his parents and the ways in which they touched their students. His induction into the Manchester Sports Hall of Fame enforces those feelings.

Jim’s daughter is an alum, and his oldest son is a member of East’s Class of 2021. Jim is reminded of his father’s legacy every day when he drops his son off at East Catholic and passes the school’s Jim Penders Field. He regards that as a poignant reminder to do good and represent the name well. According to Jim, “Everything you do on a day-to-day basis ties back to the things you learned at East Catholic. Here you were held to a higher standard than your peers at other schools.”

Both Kathy and Jim have experienced great success in their careers and look back at their time at East Catholic with gratitude and fondness. Each of them has deep roots in the school, and continues to make it a part of their lives. We congratulate them both for their contributions to the town of Manchester and to East Catholic.

SPRING OVERVIEW:

- Division III State Champions – Boys Golf
- 11 CIAC All-State Honorees
- 26 CCC All-Conference Honorees
- 84 CCC Academic All-Conference Honorees

CIAC ALL-STATE

- Baseball – Anthony Mozzicato ’19
- Girls Lacrosse – Macy Wilcox ’19, Jill Mountford ’19, Cami Pasqualoni ’20
- Boys Lacrosse – Jake Tellers ’19, Matt Bergquist ’19, Austin Graves ’19, Rocco DeSimone III ’20, Nick Campagnone ’20
- Boys Golf – Colin Luca ’19, Michael Walling ’21

ALL-CCC

- Baseball – Anthony Mozzicato ’19, Frank Mozzicato ’21, Emilio Acosta ’19
- Girls Lacrosse – Macy Wilcox ’19, Jill Mountford ’19, Cami Pasqualoni ’20, Ava Eklund ’21, Katie Splain ’20
- Boys Lacrosse – Jake Tellers ’19, Matt Bergquist ’19, Austin Graves ’19, Rocco DeSimone III ’20, Nick Campagnone ’20, Luke Boland ’20, Zach Light ’20
- Boys Golf – Colin Luca ’19, Michael Walling ’21
- Girls Outdoor Track - Nicole DiBenedetto ’19, Mimi Griffin ’19, Sophie Kisner ’20
- Boys Outdoor Track – EJ Wilson ’19
- Girls Tennis - Caroline Dorman ’20
- Boys Tennis - Patrick Roth ’20, Robert Costello ’20

CCC ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE (TEAM TOTALS)

- Baseball - 8
- Boys Golf - 2
- Boys Lacrosse - 11
- Girls Lacrosse - 19
- Boys Tennis - 8
- Girls Tennis - 13
- Boys Track - 8
- Girls Track - 8
- Softball - 7

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Boys Golf won the Division III State Championship – 13th time winners, most in the CIAC
- Girls & Boys Lacrosse each won CCC North Division Championships
- Girls Lacrosse was recognized by NBC30 for their help at the Miracle League
- Nick Campagnone ’20 won Hartford Courant Student-Athlete of the Week (Spring Week 3)



The Legacy of Coach Liz Palmer '84

BY ANDREA OBSTON

“Learning the skills of the game was always important to me, but my highest priority was to support my players in developing their life skills.” With those words Liz Palmer '84 summed up her 27-year career as the head coach of the East Catholic High School girls' soccer team. Liz's retirement and her long, successful career at East Catholic were honored at the 29th annual Tom Malin Eagle Invitational Golf Tournament on June 14, 2019. Proceeds from the tournament went to East Catholic's Athletics Department in honor of Coach Palmer's service to the school.

Liz followed in her father's footsteps when she became the girls' soccer coach at East Catholic in 1992. “My dad helped start the program and was the assistant coach when I graduated from the school in 1984,” she recalls. “I played collegiate soccer at the University of Hartford. When he retired from coaching, I took over as East Catholic's girls soccer coach. Soccer taught me so much when I was growing up. I knew I wanted to give back.”

And she gave more than anyone could have imagined at the time. She built the East Catholic girls' soccer team into a competitive program over her 27 years of coaching. The team won the Class M State Championship title in 2014. It was the first time the team captured the Championship. Palmer points to another accomplishment that she's particularly proud of. It was the



Liz Palmer, center holding eagle trophy, surrounded by family and friends at the 29th Annual Tom Malin Eagle Invitational Golf Tournament, June 14, 2019.

year when every single member of her squad was named “Academic All-Conference.” This honor, bestowed upon players for their outstanding academic performance, demonstrates Coach Palmer's coaching approach of developing her athletes on and off the field, “I didn't want to just teach them the game,” she says. “I wanted to teach them how important it is to give back and believe in yourself. My

philosophy is that they should put their family and God first, academics second and soccer third on the list.”

Retirement for Liz is bittersweet: “I'm definitely going to miss it, especially in the fall when the season begins,” she says. “But I'm still going to be there for the girls. I'll be there supporting the team. I'll be their number one fan on the sidelines.”

Q&A with Jimmy Titus '16



East Catholic

Jimmy Titus graduated in 2016 from East Catholic and headed to Bryant University to begin his college career. What came next was the start of a life-long dream coming true...being drafted by the L.A. Dodgers to play professional baseball.

What is your favorite East Catholic baseball memory?

I had a ton of great memories like getting to the state semifinals my junior year and hitting a walk off homerun my freshman year, but I would definitely say my favorite baseball memory was getting to 111 career hits in my last regular season game, breaking the school's all-time varsity record.

What was draft day like?

Draft day, or should I say, days were honestly stressful for me. I knew I would not be drafted on the first day, but I was excited to see where some of my friends went. I was expected to be picked toward the end of Day 2, but when a team was about to pick me, they consulted with their team doctors and decided that my repaired knee was a problem. I started to get nervous on Day 3 thinking that I was going to be passed up on. After the 20th round passed, I started preparing to go to the Chatham Anglers in the Cape Cod league, who luckily let me stay home while the draft concluded so that I could be near my family. I didn't think I would be picked at this point. Luckily, in the 22nd round, my name popped up on the draft tracker, pick 671, going to the Los Angeles Dodgers. I didn't believe it at first, but it was real. They called me right after to congratulate me. It was truly the best feeling in the world.

If you had to give one piece of advice to East Catholic students, what would it be?

Make sure you take school seriously. I was lucky enough to go Bryant University without having to worry about paying off student loans, thanks to not only my athletic scholarship, but also academic scholarships. East Catholic prepared me athletically and academically, and without having good grades, I would not have been recruited in the first place.

Favorite non-baseball memory from your time at East?

East Catholic allowed me the opportunity to make friends as a 14-year-old that I still keep in touch with to this day as a 21-year-old. I also miss a lot of the faculty that supported me as a high school student, like Mrs. Reilly, Mrs. Andrews, and Mr. Urbanski, and of course, my relationship with Coach Fiori has become much more of a friendship over the years.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

I see myself as a Major League Baseball player. I have always had this dream and plan to chase it as long as I can. I have always had the confidence to do it, so now it is just a matter of getting it done. If it doesn't happen, it wasn't meant to be, but I know I will put in my best effort and go above and beyond as much as I can.

What has your experience been like in the Minor Leagues?

My experience has honestly been great with the Dodgers. People will talk about how they have had almost "nightmare scenarios" in the minor leagues. While the travel is tough, I am getting paid to do what I have wanted to do my entire life. It's an amazing feeling, and it is surreal that it's truly happening. The Dodgers are fantastic with the way that they treat their minor league players.

When you were at Bryant, what was it like balancing baseball and academics, plus recovering from a serious injury your sophomore year?

It was a challenge to balance baseball and academics at Bryant. I had to make some sacrifices socially to stay on top of school as well as practices, lifts, and games, but it was never too overwhelming. The hardest part was traveling so much during the first few weeks of the season, being out of class for days and days at a time. The timing of my ACL injury was extremely difficult, considering how important sophomore year is for building draft stock. The rehab process started right away, and I was not able to play baseball in the summer for the first time since I was 5. My rehab went well, and I was ready for the first day of the season when it rolled around. I am excited for what my first full season of professional baseball has to bring!



Bryant University



Ogden Raptors



Los Angeles Dodgers



“ East taught me so much which still carries me forward today.
Mary Lee Grondin '78 ”



1965

COACH TOM MALIN '65 with East graduates, **SCOTT HOWAT '82** (left) former hockey goalie and **MIKE COONEY '76** (right) golfer on two state championship golf teams at Amelia Island Golf Course in Florida



1978

MARY LEE GRONDIN welcomed her first grandchild, Sienna, on May 14, 2018.

1969

FATHER JOSEPH DEVINE, CLAIRE CAMPBELL, and STEVEN HINCHEY represent the Class of 1969 celebrating 50 years since their graduation at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph for the 2019 Graduation ceremony.



Pictured here are Sr. Peggy Evans, SNDden and Charleen Miele.



1974

COLLEEN CULLETON CANNY '84, Christine Culleton Radocchia (wife of **JACK RADOCCIA '74**), **PATRICIA CULLETON THOMAS '74**, **NOREEN CULLETON BOTTICELLO '71** enjoying time at Groton Long Point, CT

1981

CHARLEEN MIELE, LPC conducted a session on “High School Students and Anxiety” for East Catholic faculty at a fall Professional Development Day. Charleen operates The Sacred Self, LLC., a private counseling practice that focuses on the WHOLE person by helping individuals re-discover the Sacred Self within. Her practice is located in Newington, CT.



Pictured here are Elizabeth and her husband, Stephen Hall, and children Wyatt Cote and Emma Hall.

1988

Congratulations to **ELIZABETH DUNN HALL** and her recently opened Manchester breakfast spot, The Angry Egg. They were recent winners in the CTNOW “Best Of” edition for Best New Restaurant and Best Breakfast Spot Manchester or Glastonbury!



2000

CAROLINE BASS and Michael Sorrentino welcomed their daughter, Madison Alexis, on April 1, 2019. Madison joins big sister Amelia, age 2. The family lives in New York City where Caroline sells residential real estate as an Associate Broker and Michael is the Regional Vice President, Brooklyn Division. Both work at The Corcoran Group.



2005

ASHLEY (DEFEO) GILMORE married Gregory Gilmore on October 27, 2018 at the Oceancliff in Newport Rhode Island. **VICTORIA DEFE0 '07** was the Maid of Honor. **DANA ANDRE0 '06** was a bridesmaid and **ANDREW CARTER '05** was a groomsman. The couple were married by **JOHN ANDRE0 JR. '05**. Other alumni in attendance were **DAVID CARTER '75**, **JOHN ANDRE0 SR. '78**, **MICHAEL**

ANDRE0 '72, **PAUL NICHOLAS '78** and **ANNMARIE (PEASE) SEITZ '07**. Greg manages New Balance Garden City in Cranston, Rhode Island, and Ashley works for Lifespan at Newport Hospital. The couple just bought their first home together in Warwick, Rhode Island.



ALUMNI NEWS

2009

BRITTANY CLARKE is still maintaining her 100 pound weight loss and living a healthy, balanced, happy life! Brittany works for Manchester Public Schools at Buckley Elementary as a DWLC full-time Behavioral Paraprofessional and absolutely loves it. She works with kindergarten to second grade students and does her best to “educate the core values she was once taught at East Catholic to make a difference in their lives.” She’s either in the gym, doing a 5k, furthering her education, prepping for her next work day, or spending her time with her boyfriend Jason and their families while loving every bit of life’s journey!



Brittany Clarke

2016

During the summer of 2019, **ADAM LEWIS** worked on a biomedical informatics project as an intern at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. The project involved using patient medical reports, many of which had genomic information, to create data structures. These structures were then analyzed for potential patterns in the records, both temporal and across various conditions, as well as any correlations with the genomic information. Adam is attending Clark University doing a student-designed major in mathematical biology and bioinformatics.



Stefan Sumsky with Lesa Milas, East Catholic Biology teacher who attended his UConn PhD dissertation defense

STEFAN SUMSKY received his B.S. in Neuroscience from the University of Rochester. He has just completed his PhD in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Connecticut. His research focuses on using techniques from machine learning and computational neuroscience to improve diagnosis, treatment, and understanding of drug-resistant epilepsy, with side projects in brain-machine interface and the brain network origins of consciousness.

2014

MATTHEW BELL Matt visited Lesa Milas’ Biology classes. He recently graduated from The Ohio State University where he received two separate B.S. degrees in four years: Earth Sciences with a specialization in Geological Sciences, as well as a degree in Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology. He says “Thanks to Ms. Milas’ influence, I currently work at The Connecticut Audubon Society as Sales and Marketing Manager/Tour Guide for the EcoTravel division. I specialize in planning and leading bird-focused trips that range from day trips to weekend excursions to multi-week international adventures!”



Matthew Bell and Lesa Milas



Adam Lewis visits Lesa Milas’s AP Biology Class

2019

In June 2019, **OLIVIA FIORI** traveled to Western Africa shortly after Graduation. While there, she volunteered with children ... and unexpectedly heard a few familiar words from home, realizing that messages of God's love are universal.

"I traveled with Global Leadership Adventures to the village of Krobo, in Western Africa. Beating drums, children's laughter and Ghana's warm greetings welcomed me into their family. The children's laughter was constant and a steady source of energy while I volunteered among one of Africa's most passionate and kind communities. I volunteered in a pre-school setting, working with children of different ages to help improve their English skills, tutored those who might be falling behind and contributed to each school's needs, including making improvements to the facilities. One of my fondest memories from the trip is of my Sunday church experience when the pastor said, "God is good all the time, all the time God is good." This is something that reminded me of home and my days at East with Mr. Urbanski."



Coach Tom Malin '65 catches up with **HEATH OLIVIERI** at Coastal Carolina University where Heath competes in Track & Field/Cross Country for the Chanticleers.



GRADUATION 2019

BY LISA PUTNAM KIRSCH '86





Zachary Henkin and Ayla Skoly



The Byam Family



Most Reverend Peter A. Rosazza

In the summer evening light of June 6, 2019, East Catholic's senior class lined up outside the entrance of St. Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford. Preceded by faculty and surrounded by family and friends, the graduates filed in wearing blue and white caps and gowns, joining the tradition shared by all East Catholic alumni. Wearing special robes for their "second" ECHS graduation, members of the Class of 1969 processed in as well, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of their first cathedral walk. Most Reverend Peter A. Rosazza presided over the graduation ceremony, and senior class president Jillian Mountford delivered welcoming remarks. After a Scripture reading and reflection by student government president Colin Luca, Bishop Rosazza and Former Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Griffin distributed the diplomas, assisted by principal Ryan P. Hinton, vice principal Susan J. Perillo and senior class advisor Sister Peggy Evans, SNDdeN. Senior class treasurer Bezawit Woldemichael introduced the commence-

ment speaker, senior class vice president Alexia Hayle shared farewell thoughts and Bishop Rosazza gave the final blessing to close the ceremony.

Capping off a year of celebration, including a Mass and a reception on April 6th in honor of her 50 years of service to the school, Sister Peggy gave the baccalaureate address. In her speech, she anchored her reflections in the seven hallmarks of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, "the essential characteristics, values and activities of a Notre Dame Learning Community," and by extension, "of an East Catholic education." Explicating each hallmark, Sister Peggy reinforced the SNDdeN devotion to the good God, noting the community's "commitment to honor that goodness in ourselves, in others and in our world." Throughout her speech, she drew relevant parallels to the accomplishments of the class of 2019 in terms of honoring the dignity and sacredness of others, working on behalf of justice and peace, serving those in need, embracing diversity and

educating others. "During these last four years," she stated to the graduates, "you have been exposed to each of these hallmarks through your many acts of service to others, and each one of you has risen to the challenge." She also noted, "As a class, you have inspired us with your personal quests to discover positive contributions you can bring" to today's society.

Sister Peggy closed her speech with an allusion to Matthew 5:13, when Jesus tells his disciples, "You are the salt of the earth." Ever the teacher, she explained, "By referring to his disciples as salt, Jesus is telling them they are a valuable and necessary part of God's plan. Tonight, I use the same analogy to let you know that you too are a valuable and a necessary part of God's plan." Her speech underscored how not just the class of 2019, but all East Catholic alumni remain important to our community; it also showed everyone who attended graduation what it truly means to be the salt of the earth, as Sister Peggy Evans, SNDdeN surely is herself.

A group of young men in blue graduation gowns and caps. They are sitting on a wooden bench, looking towards the camera with various expressions, some smiling and some looking thoughtful.



**Rev. Carlos Castrillon,
ECHS Chaplain**



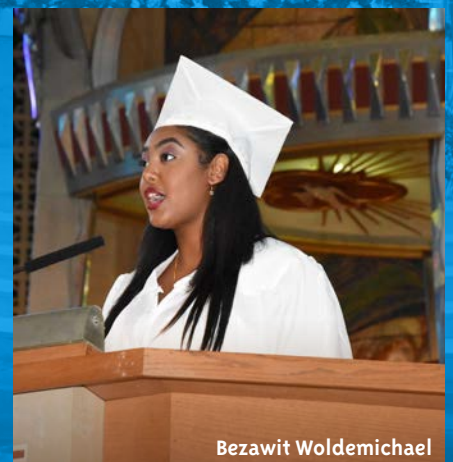
Sister Peggy Evans, SNDdeN



Jillian Mountford



Colin Luca

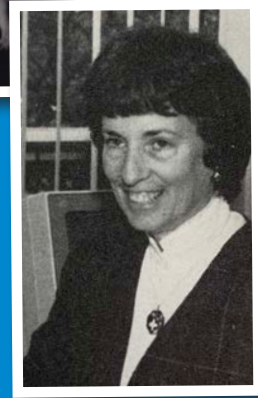


Bezawit Woldemichael

East Catholic 2019 Graduates

- Emilio Francisco Acosta
- ◇ * Isabella Katherine Amata
- * Isabel Paris August
- Justin Prescott Bailey
- Olivia Barbara Barrett
- * Caitlin Marie Barry
- * Riley Anne Batman
- * Ryan Phillips Bebyn
- * Matthew Everett Bergquist
- Skylar Sage Blackman
- * Madison Sydney Blazejowski
- Joseph Alexander Bouchie
- Alexandra Laurel Bradley
- Kyle Michael Bradley
- ∞ Caitlyn Emma Brady
- § Kaitlin Rose Brosnan
- * Molly Patricia Brown
- ∞ Danielle Coyne Burns
- * Matthew Colby Byam
- Vincent Serafino Caccavale
- S ◇ * Justine Ann Canina
- * Gabrielle Molly Carroll
- ∞ Jiarui Chen
- Yuang Chen
- Elija Noel Chiuchiolo-Cruz
- * Nguyen Khoi Chu
- * Zhuoyi Cui
- Erin Elizabeth Cullinane
- Zachary Ty Daigle
- Caleb William Daly
- * Ngan Bich Phuong Dang
- Kyle Christopher Darby
- * § Jessica Teresa Datta
- Ω S ◇ * Berk Dayanir
- * Joseph Francesco DeRosa
- * Bailey Marie DiBella
- * Nicole Rose DiBenedetto
- ◇ * ∞ Michelle Vu Dinh
- Anna Katherine DiNino
- Allison Faith DiPrato
- Ngoc Nam Phuong Do
- Nam Khanh Duong
- Ω * Joshua Ryan Duvall
- Harrison Everett Eklund
- Brandon Edward Elio
- * Meghan Grace Faulkner
- Sean Robert Fellows
- * Olivia Helen Fiori
- * § Emily Christine Fritsch
- Audrey Scarlett Gervais
- Kamron Seyed Ghoreishi
- Simon Arthur Gilson
- John Emanuel Golino
- S ◇ * ∞ Qingqing Gong
- Austin Lewis Graves
- * My Linh Walpole Griffin
- § Sara Michaela Guzzi
- * Kayley Marie Hallisey
- Deana Marie Handfield
- Connor Steven Hartnett
- Colin Mayer Hastings
- Alexia Nichole Hayle
- Christina Marie Helin
- Kylie Margaret Heneghan
- Zachary Ryan Henkin
- Luke Reilly Hills
- Matthew William Hohenthal
- Ω * Mahi Hosein
- Jaylin Denard Hunter
- Ω S ◇ * Sarah Danielle Ibrahim
- * Chase William Jagel
- ∞ Sumin Jeong
- * Machaerus Gracelyn Johnson
- Hailey Lynne Kastauskas
- Anya Maria Kriak
- Feiran Li
- Diman Liu
- * Colin McManus Luca
- David Matthew Lundy
- * Jack Nathan Yu MacDonald
- * Elizabeth Rose Machon
- Alexander Rey Malenfant
- * Sophia Sera Malenfant
- ∞ Clara Isabelle Marler
- Jacob Xavier Marselli
- ∞ Amelia Grace Martin
- * Hannah Rose Mascaro
- Nicholas Michael Massaro
- James Andrew McDowell
- S ◇ * Amy Lynn Milewski
- Madison Rose Moran
- * Julia Nicole Morin
- ∞ Alivia Rae Mountford
- * Jillian Rene Mountford
- Anthony Mozzicato
- Ω * ∞ § Laura Gillen Mund
- Caitlyn Elizabeth Murphy
- Tamisha Elizabeth Myers
- ∞ Samantha Carla Nadeau
- * Katherine Helen O'Brien
- Heath Clayton Olivieri
- Jillian Renée Parent
- * ∞ Seon Min Park
- * Tess Avery Penders
- Sarah Lyn Phelan
- § Jillian Alexandra Pignatiello
- ‡ S ◇ * Paige Elizabeth Plucker
- Kaycee Castillo Rabara
- * Christopher Joseph Ragazzi
- ◇ * Joseph Luke Reilly
- Logan Richard Reynolds
- * Alexandra Nicole S. Russell
- Lily Kathryn Ryan
- Brayden Michael Santy
- * Carolyn Rose Schwendy
- Ayla Marie Skoly
- *** Ω ‡ S ∞ * Irene Soteriou
- Timothy Charles Splain
- Madeline Erin Sullivan
- Timothy Francis Sullivan
- Darby Agnes Sweeney
- Taylor Alexandra Talavera
- Jake Allen Tellers
- ∞ Cody John Terra
- Benjamin Alexander Thompson
- Melina Evangelynn Toolan
- Alanna E-vette Torres-LaBoy
- William Ross Towill
- Brendan Patrick Truman
- * Mary Anastasia Upenieks
- Noah Francis Vail
- ◇ * Rebecca Kathleen Villanueva
- Alexandra Rose Vitarelli
- * § Keila Kieu Vo
- * Samuel Alexander Walch
- ◇ * Zetian Wang
- Zixi Wang
- Alexia Susanna Weir
- Macy Margaret Wilcox
- Reina Angeline Willhide
- Eric Michael Wilson, Jr.
- * Kelly Kristine Wilson
- Bezawit Seifu Woldemichael
- * Katharine Boyden Yerke
- ∞ Natalia Ann Yip
- Ω * § Victoria Gabrielle Zacharski
- Yikai Zhu
- * Ryan Michael Zurcher

- ◇ Henry J. O'Brien Scholar
- Ω AP Scholar
- ‡ National Merit Commended
- S Summa Scholar
- National Honor Society
- ‡ National Merit Finalist
- ∞ National Art Honor Society
- § Tri-M National Music Honor Society



Sister Peggy Evans, SNDdeN

BY LISA PUTNAM KIRSCH '86

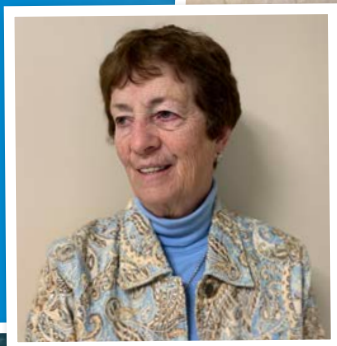
“Any honors I’ve received,” she says, “I attribute to who I’ve been working with,” and in 50 years of service to East Catholic High School, Sister Peggy Evans, SNDdeN has deservedly received many honors indeed. Though she has no desire to be the center of attention, Sister Peggy has been the center of the East Catholic experience for countless students and families over five decades of service. Since the fall of 1968, when she began her tenure at ECHS as an English and Religion teacher, she has extended her talents to the Spanish and Guidance departments, as well as the administration, and her heart to the entire community. With all she has given, she emphasizes that she is the one who has “received so much. The gift of the people who have come across my path” through East Catholic “is just amazing.” What’s amazing to the rest of us within the East Catholic community, of course, is the blessing of Sister Peggy herself.

Back in 1968, Sister Peggy would not have predicted a fifty-year career for herself in one school. Having joined the Congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1960, she taught first and second graders at St. Aedan’s School in New Haven from 1963-1968. “I loved teaching those kids,” she remembers, and the transition to high school teaching brought its challenges. She notes the kindness and expertise of Sister Marion Julie O’Leary, SNDdeN as pivotal to her acclimation to teaching high school English: “She was one of the cornerstones of East, a phenomenal English teacher, and she guided me every single day that year.” As one of 29 Sisters of Notre Dame at ECHS in 1968-9, Sister Peggy lived in community in the convent on the property, and with daily walks “from the convent chapel to the school chapel to my classroom,” she successfully navigated her earliest days at ECHS.

As Sister Peggy had already earned her Master’s degree in Spanish, she taught

Spanish and Religion in her second year at ECHS. As she pursued her second Master’s degree in School Counseling, she was invited by department director John O’Connell to join the Guidance department, where she found new ways to fulfill her passion for working with students. In 1980 she found yet another way, serving in the ECHS administration as Vice Principal for Academics from 1980-1984. “I loved working with Father Bill [Principal Msgr. Bill Charbonneau] and Steve [Vice Principal for Student Life Stephen Cullinan]” in those years, she recalls. “We were a real team. They made administration enjoyable; whether we laughed or cried, we did it together.” While she still values that experience, she transitioned back to Guidance to protect her health, a decision that brought her back to “my favorite work of all, the counseling” and safeguarded the longevity of her service to the school.

What Sister Peggy now knows about her health took months for doctors to diagnose



accurately, months she spent in the hospital as her family members and her SNDdeN Provincial, Sister Eileen Sullivan, called her medical team for constantly changing updates. Ultimately, she learned she has lupus. Now in remission and off medication, Sister Peggy does not dwell on how lupus has underscored the health issues she has faced. No medical crisis has derailed her, but only redoubled her gratitude for still being able to do the work she loves.

For she does still love the work. “The reason I’m at East Catholic is the kids,” she says. “I’ve seen wonderful students come out of East Catholic,” and she still loves “the community, the family” that ECHS continues to be. This family stays close, she says, because our students “know they are loved, cared for, prayed for,” something that has always been true, however times have changed. “I’m humbled by the people I work with,” she continues, “both teachers and students. I can go back years and years and be grateful for their example. And so

many good people are still here.” Thanks to her five decades of service, her ECHS colleagues, families and students go back years and years as well, finding their own gratitude for the high bar Sister Peggy has always set.

Not that her admirers are limited to the ECHS community. Sister Peggy has earned numerous awards and recognitions outside of East Catholic as well, including those tied to her hometown of East Hartford, CT and to her Irish heritage. A lifetime member of the Irish American Home Society, she served as Grand Marshal of the Hartford St. Patrick’s Day Parade in 2012. “Ireland,” she says, “is a part of me,” as her dedication to the art of step-dancing, her annual trips since 1969, her service with the Corrymeela Community in 1972 and 1973, and her devotion to her family and the Irish American Home attest. “I’ve been so lucky,” she adds. “I’ve had so many wonderful experiences” for which she continues to be thankful.

Yet Sister Peggy’s deepest thanks are reserved for the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. “I’m just so grateful to them for originally sending me to East, and allowing me to stay there all this time,” she says. Also, “I have such a love for the Sisters of Julie House,” the assisted living facility for retired SNDdeN sisters in the Connecticut area. “It is such a grace for me” to visit and care for them. Sister Peggy’s closest friendship is rooted in the Congregation as well; she lived in community with Sister Marion Raymond Hurley, SNDdeN for 44 years. Celebrating her Golden Jubilee in 2010, Sister Peggy has immersed herself in the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur’s commitment to “making known God’s goodness” and “educating for life.” In doing so, she has built an unparalleled legacy at East Catholic.



April Chesley Canna '87, Justine Canna



Nicole DiBenedetto, Catherine Murphy DiBenedetto '89



Grandfather - Gregory Kelleher '68, Gabrielle Carroll



Bailey DiBella, Brian DiBella '88



Eric Wilson, Sr. '94, Eric Wilson, Jr., Danielle Abran Bloom '94,
Grandmother - Claire Campbell '69



James Penders '90, Tess Penders



Brandon Ello, Greg Ello '85



Jane Rossitto Golino '80, Jack Golino, David Golino '79



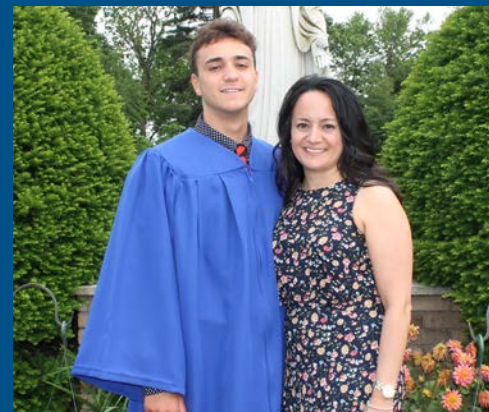
Caitlin Barry, Todd Barry '91



Brendan Truman, Maureen Ward Truman '89

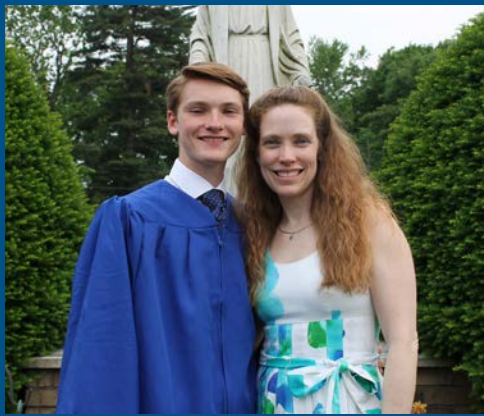


Christina Frese Jagel '82, Chase Jagel



Vincent Caccavale, Marialuisa Veneziano Caccavale '87

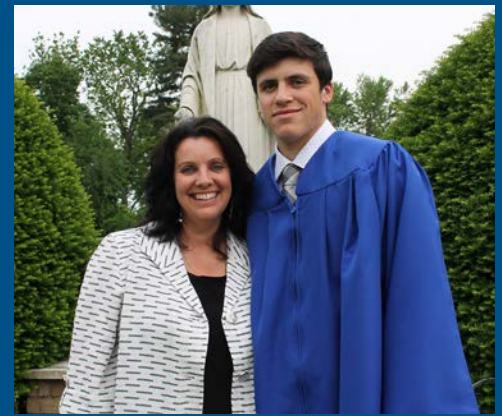
GRADUATES *with A*



Joshua Duvall, Sherry Krause Duvall '91



Matthew Byam, Michael Byam '83



Suzanne Ingersoll Mozzicato '87, Anthony Mozzicato



Kyle Darby, Christopher Darby '84



Tristan Gervais '15, Maddie Gervais '17, Audrey Gervais, Dale Gervais '87



Peter Thompson '77, Benjamin Thompson



Matthew Bergquist, Everett Bergquist '89



Brian Cullinane '86, Erin Cullinan, Kyle Smith Cullinane '86



Molly Brown, Jill Holmes Brown '88



Martin Fiori '90, Olivia Fiori



Pasqua Lippolis Guzzi '84, Sara Guzzi



ALUMNI PARENTS



We are pleased to share a reprint of this article published on Veterans Day by the Alliance of Catholic Education (ACE) at Notre Dame University featuring East Catholic's Principal, Ryan Hinton. Ryan is an example of Faith and Service in the daily lives of the students at East Catholic. We thank him and feel blessed that God's plan brought him to our school community, first as a religion teacher from 2007 - 2013, and as principal since 2017.



For 27 years, students have applied to ACE's Teaching Fellows program from the comfort of their dorm rooms or the solitude of a campus library. Few have felt the call to become an ACE teacher while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, but that is exactly where Ryan Hinton found himself in July of 2003.

After graduating from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in 2000 with a degree in theology and pastoral formation, Ryan had designs on ministering to high school students.

"My plan was always to become a high school religion teacher," said Ryan, "but first I felt like I needed some more life experience."

So he followed the example of his father and grandfather and joined the U.S. Army, serving as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom in Mosul, Iraq. Following a particularly unnerving combat mission, the Army chaplain noticed a dejected Ryan sitting on his cot and inquired, "What were you planning to do before you

joined the military?" After hearing of Ryan's plans to teach, the chaplain encouraged him to explore that calling further.

A lifelong product of Catholic schools, Ryan had heard about ACE Teaching Fellows during his junior year at Saint Mary's. He decided to use his 15 minutes of daily internet access to reach out to ACE faculty members and start his application. While still on active duty, he was granted an interview with the ACE team and made his way to campus.

"As an Irish Catholic kid who grew up cheering for the Fighting Irish, I couldn't think of a better treat than to go to Notre Dame, regardless of whether I got accepted or not," Ryan said.

During his visit, Ryan began a personal tradition of visiting the Grotto and lighting two candles (one for ACE and one for all members of the U.S. military) before visiting the East entrance of the Basilica to pray a Hail Mary and run his hand over the names of the deceased Notre Dame alumni who served in World War I.

Ryan was accepted into ACE's 11th cohort





the principal at East Catholic. “The military allowed me to realize that I am part of a larger mission and a larger community, and it seemed like a natural progression for me to pursue the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program and move into school leadership.”

and placed in Savannah, Georgia, where he taught fifth grade at Notre Dame Academy and lived with three other ACErs—Carol McCarthy Martino, Tai Romero Hart, and John Bacsik—whom he still considers extended family.

In addition to the support of his ACE Savannah community, Ryan also felt the loving embrace of the larger Notre Dame and ACE community when he was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) during his second summer in the program.

“It sounds very cliché to say that none of what I’ve been able to accomplish would have been possible without ACE,” Ryan said, “but I work with a lot of combat veterans who are unable to handle the PTSD recovery process. I know that the support from Notre Dame, ACE, and Fr. Scully’s pastoral outreach allowed me to successfully transition back to a civilian lifestyle.”

After graduating from ACE Teaching Fellows in 2006, Ryan moved to Manchester, Connecticut, to teach religion at East Catholic High School. With his military training, it seemed to be only a matter of time before he ascended to a school leadership position.

“I knew that I had certain skill sets from my experiences in the military that would help me in a leadership role,” stated Ryan, now



In addition to his master’s degrees from ACE Teaching Fellows and the Remick Leadership Program, Ryan is also currently a member of ACE’s Reform Leaders’ Summit and the Catholic School Advantage’s Latino Enrollment Institute.

What keeps Ryan coming back to Notre Dame and ACE?

“The reality is that Notre Dame has made a concerted effort to better Catholic schools,” Ryan said. “It’s clearly part of the University’s mission, and the extension of ACE lets everyone know that we are going to build—and in some cases rebuild—what Catholic schools can be and should be in the United States and beyond.

“When you have an institution like the University of Notre Dame supporting you, you want to keep that support line open at all costs,” Ryan continued. “There is no better resource for a Catholic educator and administrator than Notre Dame.”

In addition to spiritual and professional support from Notre Dame, Ryan also received military training from the U.S. Army and obtained the rank and position of Senior Religious Affairs Noncommissioned Officer for the Connecticut Army National Guard, the highest-ranking enlisted person in that position. In December 2020, he will retire from his military service.



IN MEMORY

Eagle Deceased May 1, 2019 – October 30, 2019

ALUMNI

WILLIAM MANNIX, SR. '72, brother of John Mannix '75; died 5/4/19

RICHARD PTACHCINSKI '75, brother of Judith Ptachcinski Jorgensen '72, Thomas Ptachcinski '79 and Niel Ptachcinski '83; died 5/17/19

HEATHER DIMINICO '97, daughter of Joseph Diminico '67 and sister of Laura Diminico Griffin '03; died 5/24/19

KAREN LAMONTAGNE KERNAN O'BRIEN '77, sister of Lori Lamontagne Cerone '79 and David Lamontagne '84; died 6/22/19

THOMAS "CHAD" MCPARTLAND '65, brother of Kathleen McPartland Wimberly '68; died 7/7/19

FRANK SENERTH '77, brother of Kenneth Senerth '70, Joseph Senerth '79 and Mary Senerth Keegan '83; father of Olivia Senerth '10; died 7/7/19

JANET REICHLER GRZYBOWSKI '71; died 7/8/19

JOHN IULIANO '69; died 9/16/19

JAMES DENIGRIS '65, father of Stacie DeNigris Rosedale '85, Tammy DeNigris Fiske '90; died 9/21/19

FACULTY & STAFF

LOUISA HARVEY, mother of Richard Harvey, Jr. '66, Robert Harvey '69, Susan Harvey Fornabi '72, Sandra Harvey Flavell '75, Sharon Harvey Roma '80 and Sheryl Harvey Sylvester '85; grandmother of Sarah Harvey '91 and Matthew Harvey '94; died 5/7/19; former business officer

FAMILY OF ALUMNI & CURRENT STUDENTS

JAMES LAMONTAGNE, father of Karen Lamontagne Kernan O'Brien '77 (deceased), Lori Lamontagne Cerone '79 and David Lamontagne '84; died 5/10/19

MARIA BUFALINO, grandmother of Alexander Fulco '12 and Natalie Fulco '15; died 5/13/19

JENNIE GORRA, mother of Michelle Gorra O'Neil '69, William M. Gorra '73 and Patricia Gorra Meehan '76 (deceased); grandmother of Allison O'Neil Williams '00 and William Gorra '09; died 5/21/19

EDWARD MCGUINNESS, grandfather of Jack Hallisey '21; died 5/24/19

ANGELA KIRSCHKE, grandmother of Genevieve Kirsche '20 and Marielle Kirsche '22; died 5/29/19

MONICA "MONA" WILKE, mother of Michele Wilke Petrone '73, Mary Pat Wilke Devanney '74 and Thomas Wilke '82; grandmother of Amanda Devanney Murphy '95, Molly Devanney '96, Christine Devanney Sheehan '98, John Devanney '99, Tim Devanney '00, Cathleen Devanney Dyer '03, Anthony Petrone '03, Kimberly Petrone Pulino '05 and Matthew Petrone '08; died 6/11/19

BETTY FLUCKIGER, grandmother of Meghan Fluckiger '04, Thomas Fluckiger '06 and Sarah Fluckiger '13; died 6/13/19

JOHN DOCHERTY, father of Colleen Docherty '87 and Jennifer Docherty '89; died 6/30/19

ELLEN MURPHY, mother of John Murphy '77, Kathleen Murphy Cronin '78 and Michael Murphy '86; grandmother of Kara Larsen '99 and Samantha Murphy '07; died 6/30/19

FRANCES KATKAUSKAS, mother of Andrew Katkauskas '77; died 7/8/19

JOHN J. CALANDE, JR., grandfather of Sabrina Calande '22; died 8/8/19

JACK LINGER, son of Kathleen Harnett Linger '83; died 8/16/19

CHARLES HATHAWAY JR., father of Charles Hathaway III '93; died 8/19/19

JOHN SALVAS, father of Josh Salvas '20; died 8/19/19

WALTER BASS JR., father of Caroline Bass '00; died 8/23/19

KATHERINE ANSALDI, mother of Andrew Ansaldi '81, Adam Ansaldi '84, Amoree Ansaldi Casey '86, Aaron Ansaldi '88, Alex Ansaldi '91; grandmother of Alexandra Ansaldi '18, Ally Ansaldi '21 and Leah Ansaldi '21; died 8/24/19

PAMELA WHITE, mother of Tyrrell White Hemenway '87, Tiffany White Munkacsi '88; grandmother of Jack Hemenway '21 and Brady Hemenway '23; died 8/25/19

JOHN FRESE, father of Gina Frese Paternostro '78, John Frese, Jr. '80, Christina Frese Jagel '82, Jill Frese Clarke '84; grandfather of Elise Paternostro Piotrowski '03, Christopher Jagel '15, Carley Jagel '16 and Chase Jagel '19; died 8/28/19

JOSEPH MCMAHON HALLISEY, grandfather of Jack Hallisey '21; died 9/13/19

JEANNINE RICHARD, mother of Mark Richard '84 and Lisa Richard '82; died 9/16/19

HARRY EGAZARIAN, father of Margaret Egazarian McGowan '76, Gregory Egazarian '77 and John Egazarian '88; died 9/22/19

MARY ELIZABETH LESLIE, mother of William Leslie IV '82, Joseph Leslie '84, Margaret Leslie Warren '84 and Beth Leslie '88; died 9/26/19

RICHARD BENDER, father of Brian Bender '85 and Kelli Bender Corsetti '90; died 10/2/19

EDWARD STUPCENSKI, father of Marsha Stupcenski Hartlieb '79, Barbara Stupcenski Feldstein '84 Mark Stupcenski '86; died 10/4/19

RUSSELL BILODEAU, father of Russell Bilodeau '72, Gary Bilodeau '73, Greg Bilodeau '76, Douglas Bilodeau '83; grandfather of Kyle Bilodeau '03 and Ashley Bilodeau '07; died 10/5/19

PAULINE KOZUCH, mother of Carolyn Kozuch DeFrancesco '77 and Elizabeth Kozuch Dawber '79; died 10/12/19

DOMINIC FULCO JR., father of Dominic Fulco III '77, Mark Fulco '80; grandfather of Nicholas Fulco '05, Gabrielle Fulco '07, Eva Fulco '11, Alex Fulco '12 and Natalie Fulco '15; died 10/20/19

ALMA DEPIETRO, grandmother of Robert Mayo '03 and Nicklaus Mayo '04; died 10/30/19



EAST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DANIELLE BURNS '19

Inspiring
Excellence
for more than
50 years!

East Catholic's rigorous college preparatory program has stood the test of time. East graduates are well prepared for college and for life. If you know someone who is seeking a great high school experience, one filled with challenge, achievement and friendships that last a lifetime, invite them to become a part of our community!

Prospective parents, families and friends can also reach us at 860-649-5336 ext. 6456 to arrange a family tour or to learn about our "Eagle For a Day" program for students.

For more information, visit us online at www.echs.com

Congratulations, Class of 2019!

We are very proud of your success!

- ◆ 98% of our Senior Class has advanced to College
- ◆ Colleges our students have been accepted to include Bentley University, Boston College, Cornell University, The University of Connecticut, The Citadel, and Stonehill College.



East Catholic High School

115 New State Road
Manchester, CT 06042-1820
www.echs.com

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EAGLE UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

December 20 - January 1	Christmas Break
February 17 - 21	Winter Break
March 6 - 7	Spring Musical
March 26	Sophomore Ring Ceremony
March 27	Sophomore Event
April 4	"Taste of East" Spring Social and Fundraiser
April 9 - 17	Easter Break
April 24	Junior Prom

For a complete calendar listing, including times and locations of events, visit www.echs.com/calendar

A Taste of East Catholic

SPRING FUNDRAISING SOCIAL

SATURDAY
APRIL 4, 2020
7 P.M. - 11 P.M.
IN THE ECHS CAFETERIA

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING
OF SAMPLING FOOD
FROM SOME OF THE BEST LOCAL
RESTAURANTS AND FOOD SERVICE PROVIDERS.
PARTICIPATE IN OUR LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS
FEATURING VACATION GETAWAYS, CONCERT TICKETS,
GOODIE BASKETS AND MORE!

For more information and to purchase tickets,
please contact Heidi Carlson at carlsonh@echs.com