Brother Brian M. Walsh
A Legacy of Compassion, Faith & Vision
Spring 2018

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JULY 2018
Thursday, July 26, 2018
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
The NYC Crusader Network presents: Dr. Brian Mahoney, President, Bergen Catholic High School
The MADE Hotel
New York, NY

SEPTEMBER 2018
September 7, 2018
7:00 PM
Freshman and Transfer Parent Wine and Cheese
Joseph S. Smith Library

September 16, 2018
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Open House

Saturday, September 29, 2018
The Class of 1978 40th Reunion
Bacari Grill, Washington Township
The Class of 1993 25th Reunion
The Brick House, Wyckoff

OCTOBER 2018
Friday-Saturday
October 19-20, 2018
Homecoming Weekend

Friday, October 19, 2018
Icebreaker — The Class of 1968 50th Reunion
Nickleby’s Pub at The Woodcliff Lake Hilton, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Saturday, October 20, 2018
The Class of 1968 50th Reunion
Bacari Grill, Washington Township

Monday, October 22, 2018
Fall Wine Tasting
Bacari Grill, Washington Township

NOVEMBER 2018
Thursday, November 1, 2018
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Open House

Saturday, November 3, 2018
Memorial Mass

Friday, November 16, 2018
6:30 PM
Crusader Gala
Venetian, Garfield, NJ

Unless otherwise noted, please contact Marge Quinn at 201-634-4142 for event information, RSVPs and payment.

If you would like to schedule your reunion, please contact Adele Dessimone at the Alumni Office, 201-634-2218.
We are celebrating years ending in 3 and 8.
June 4, 2018

Dear Friend of Bergen Catholic,

The first edition of CRUSADER MAGAZINE was issued in the Spring of 2010 in the first year of my first three-year term as president.

In my letter to you, in that issue, I focused on the many physical changes that had and were taking place in the school as we prepared for our seven-year Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools evaluation visit.

In this edition of CRUSADER MAGAZINE, being issued in the last year of my third (and last) term as president, I write of the May 1, 2018 report from the Middle States Association extending our Accreditation to May 2025.

From the Report Delivered by the Chair of the Visiting Team:

“All of us saw from the first that Bergen Catholic is a special place. Your school is vibrant with activity...throughout the year, not only during school hours but also well beyond. Student involvement in so many activities and athletics, and the school’s commitment to and celebration of excellence, is remarkable.”

“We were most impressed first of all by your use of technology as a two to one school. More centrally to your mission, we were most deeply impressed by Bergen Catholic’s Catholic identity and how students live the faith and exemplify your school’s mission. We found the spirit of Blessed Edmund Rice and the Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother education to be more than placards posted in classrooms, but lived experiences not only by your students but all the members of the school community.”

It is my hope that in serving you since July 1, 2009:

I have helped more than hurt;
caused you to laugh more than to cry;
was fair more often than I was unfair;
was other-centered more often than self-centered.

I thank you.

May God and His Blessed Mother, ever guard and guide, Bergen Catholic High.

Sincerely,

Br. Brian M. Walsh
President
They would not find me changed from him they knew
— Only more sure of all I thought was true.

“Into My Own” by Robert Frost
Brother Brian M. Walsh
A Legacy of Compassion, Faith & Vision

In a 16-year career at Bergen Catholic spanning some 50 years, Brother Brian M. Walsh has made his mark in remarkable ways, leaving his imprint on many areas of both the school and the boys who have attended. Close friend Jay MacDonald, who met Brother Walsh in 1976 when he was in training for Christian Brothers, recounts Brother’s influence on him: “He helped make me become a better teacher, friend and human being.”

INTERNATIONAL REACH

During his tenure at the school Brother Walsh introduced the Flagships of Achievement, three areas critical to boys successfully competing and leading in an increasingly connected world. “Brother was instrumental in opening up the school to the world,” says Joe Charles ’02 who worked as a teacher and in the Admissions office at Bergen Catholic. “Brother Walsh introduced Mandarin to the language department when we hadn’t introduced a new language in many years. He had the vision to see that taking a more global approach was critical to the school’s mission of preparing young men to become the next generation of dynamic, global leaders. For Brother Walsh, it was always about opening the boys up to the whole world. Whether it’s an exchange program to Argentina or Peru or opening Bergen’s doors to students from Africa, Europe and all parts of Asia, it was about connecting Bergen Catholic students to the entire world.”
INTRODUCING TECHNOLOGY

Bergen Catholic has been on the forefront of integrating the latest technology into their academic programs while at the same time keeping traditions that continue to make the school a community of faith. “We’re a very high tech school now,” says Brother Walsh. “We’re working to become paperless, all of our exams are done on computers and every student has an iPad for content delivery (the textbooks are on the iPad) and a MacAir for content creation (taking notes). Every classroom has an Apple TV with a 70-inch screen of its own to use. We’re also keyless; I have an ID badge I wear around my neck that gets me into every room at school, prints out paper for me and buys me lunch.” But the school will always remain faith driven, he says. “Our fundamental values will always stay the same,” he says. “We still start every day and every period with a prayer, and every month the entire school community gathers for Mass in the gym. All of this has been consistent throughout the years and won’t change.”

SPORTS AND BEYOND

Bergen Catholic remains one of the most competitive schools athletically in the state. On and off the field, the boys are taught to work their hardest and show good sportsmanship. In his eight years at BC as the Crusader’s football coach, Nunzio Campanile was grateful to be part of a program that became a national powerhouse. Coach Campanile says, “Without the guidance and encouragement of Brother Walsh we never would have achieved the success that we have.” The coach has also seen firsthand the care and generosity Brother Walsh has shown to the boys themselves. “I have been moved by his compassion and empathy towards the kids,” Campanile says. In at least one case, he recalls, without the boy even knowing, Brother Walsh personally ensured one promissing student was able to financially afford a crucial summer course required in order to attend the school. “That was a turning point for me in really understanding the depths of his devotion to the boys, to see the real impact he has had on them. For this kid it was life changing. And it was never about the recognition; it was about doing the right thing. In his 50 years in education who knows how many others he’s helped like that?” Coach Campanile says.

“We’re about developing leaders here,” says Brother Walsh. “Dynamic leaders who see themselves helping others, not just passively standing by and watching. We work to convince them every day that there is life beyond the corner of Oradell and Forest Avenues.” Alumnus Doug Sealy ’65 sums up Brother Walsh’s impact on the school and the boys the best: “Brother’s faith, devotion, dedication and passion to God and Bergen Catholic may be the platform for his legacy, but for me it’s much more simple: He makes me realize the person I want to be.”

Dear Brother Walsh,
A few years ago, I spoke to you on the phone. I had wanted to recognize and thank you for the time I had spent learning in your biology class back in the ’71-’72 school year at Bergen Catholic. My science curriculum during my years at Bergen Catholic were exemplary, and I wanted to share that with you. You told me that you still think of yourself as a biology teacher. I think I shared then that I considered teaching a noble profession and wanted to recognize those that had done it well in my experience.

I have been a physician for 35 years moving through work as a clinician, educator as well as both elected and executive leadership of physician medical staffs. I now turn to a new phase in my career, and have sought to teach high school science as a way of paying my experience forward. I have pursued licensure and multiple high school science curriculum endorsements in my home state of Virginia. I thought I would let you know that I plan to accept a position as the biology teacher at Peninsula Catholic High School down here.

(Got any of your old materials or advice?)

I understand you will be leaving your position as president soon and wanted to add my congratulations and thanks for all the time and energy you have contributed. Bergen Catholic was a very important part of my life, and I wanted to express my gratitude for the difference your vocation has made to me and to so many others.

It certainly has not been easy for you at times.
As we used to say in the Navy, “Fair winds and following seas,” Brother Walsh.
My best to you.
Doug Wall,
Class of 1974
As his term as President of Bergen Catholic High School winds down, Brother Brian M. Walsh took some time to reflect on his years at the school; from his first term as a young teacher, to one of his most iconic moments and what he wants his legacy to be.

Tell us about your first year at Bergen Catholic

I came in as a 22-year-old kid in 1966 just out of college and assigned to work here by the Christian Brothers to teach algebra. Brother McNally started teaching that year as well. One thing I learned and still tell young educators is you never admit to your students that it’s your first year teaching and, more importantly, never compete with a kid because you’ll never win. I have what I now call the Zino Rule, named after a former student, Brian Zino ’70. He was in my class that first year and I would have to tell him over and over again to please stop talking. When he wouldn’t stop I made him write “I will not talk” dozens of times, but when I counted he was always 10 short so I would have him double it. He would be short again and again so he finally got to the point where he would just have everybody in the room write it out for him. I couldn’t win with that one. And by the way McNally and I to this day go out to dinner twice a year with Brian and his classmate Chris Corrini ’70.

If you could pick one, what would be your most iconic moment?

When I came back as President in 2009 I met with the faculty and asked them what they hold sacred in the school and what they would change. Several asked why they only heard the school anthem sung at graduation. So we started printing it in school programs and singing it more. My moment came after the first football game this past fall when after the game, the team gathered in front of the student cheering section (THE CRAZIES) and they sang the alma mater to each other. We had no idea they were planning that. It had never happened before. That was really something to see. Very moving.

What would you like your legacy to be at Bergen Catholic?

I would hope it would be the way that the boys treat each other and others. I tell them not to judge a person without getting to know them because it’s pretty hard not to like a person once you know their story. For Bergen Catholic students, brotherhood doesn’t just mean embracing each other; it’s the way you view and treat others. It’s outward looking and I hope our graduates are very conscious of that.

What’s ahead for you?

I will be assuming the role of Co-Director of the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers Office of Education Services in New Rochelle, New York with a focus on working with school presidents and principals on Catholic identity in the 21st century. Looking back, this school has been a wonderful place to be a part of and to lead. I’ve had three “slices” of time here with 20 years between each slice and it’s been interesting to be here and see what changes and what remains the same.
Dr. Brian Mahoney Named 4th President of Bergen Catholic

Bergen Catholic is proud to announce Brian Mahoney Ed.D. has been named the 4th President effective July 1, 2018. He was most recently the Head of School at EF Academy in Thornwood, N.Y.

Dr. Mahoney will succeed Brother Brian M. Walsh C.F.C., who assumes the role of Co-Director of the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers Office of Education Services in New Rochelle, N.Y., focusing on Catholic identity in the 21st century for Edmund Rice Christian Brother schools in North America.

Dr. Mahoney has more than 20 years of experience in private education, both in the classroom and in numerous leadership roles. He has taught history, English and geography, and coached several sports including lacrosse and basketball. He received a Bachelor of Arts in History from Siena College and earned a Master’s Degree and Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Administration from Fordham University. He has served as a trustee and president of the Mahopac N.Y. Board of Education and for the past seven years as EF Academy’s Head of School.

Dr. Mahoney was chosen following an intensive national search led by a committee consisting of members of the Board of Directors faculty, administration and alumni.

Dr. Mahoney was introduced to the Bergen Catholic Community at a Faculty/Staff Professional Day on February 2, 2018 to which the media was invited. Following up on remarks they made jointly on that day Brother Walsh and Dr. Mahoney have been meeting monthly and exchanging emails daily to ensure a smooth transition. Conversations have been had and explanations given on the meaning of Boards of Limited Jurisdiction; the differences between civil and church law; budgeting-tuition-scholarships-financial aid; curriculum and scheduling; Flagships of Achievement: Technology, Internationalism, City as Classroom; athletics and activities; parents and students; alumni and THE BROTHERHOOD.

Please join us as members of the Bergen Catholic community in giving Brian, his wife Amy (an Academy of the Holy Angels alumna) and their three children a very warm welcome to our family.
Over the past 19 years, Coach Bell built Bergen Catholic into one of the best wrestling programs in New Jersey and nationally. This past season, Coach Bell and his Crusaders, who finished ranked No. 1 in the nation as a team by W.I.N. Magazine, set a new standard with nine wrestlers finishing in the top eight of their weight class, which gave BC its seventh straight NJSIAA team title. Three BC wrestlers captured individual state titles. In the last three years, BC has seven state champs, giving Bell a total of 18 during his illustrious career. Well done, Coach Bell!
Hallowed Halls to Ivy Walls:

In his last year at Bergen Catholic, Allen Delgado ’18 is busy. While as Captain of the Mock Trial team he argues cases in court in competition with other high schools. He can also be found singing solos as part of the school choir and debating as a member of the Junior Statesmen of America. But he wasn’t always comfortable being front and center, not even close. “I was a very shy kid coming in freshman year,” he says. “I didn’t speak to anyone at first, I always sat in the back of class and didn’t interact much.” But through inspiration from teachers as well as his own natural curiosity, Allen has flourished. “Instead of keeping to myself I have been encouraged to express myself without being afraid of what people are going to think,” he says. As a result he has thrived as a student and is pleased to be attending Princeton University in the fall. “I am so thankful for all of the opportunities given to me during my four years here and glad that I took full advantage of them,” he says.

Growing up in Fair Lawn as the oldest of three, with two younger sisters, Allen was born to parents who emigrated from Ecuador and is the first in his family to attend college. “In Ecuador, my father graduated from high school but my mother didn’t so they are very proud,” he says. He was drawn to Bergen Catholic because of the sense of brotherhood he felt immediately at the open house that he visited while in middle school. “Many of the schools I looked at emphasized sports and sports isn’t really my thing,” he says. “But at this open house they had the choir sing and the debate team was there. They showed many aspects of the school that were interesting to me.”

Allen is also a member of the BC Men’s Vocal Ensemble and has performed in many musicals, including most recently 42nd Street with Immaculate Conception High School in Lodi. He is also part of the newly formed Chamber Ensemble, directed by alumnus and renowned bassist Charles Dougherty ’05. In Allen’s sophomore year Dougherty encouraged him to learn to play the viola. “I had never played it before then,” says Allen. “But Mr. Dougherty taught me in his free time, gave me pieces to work on and now has me playing in the Ensemble.”

Being part of the Mock Trial team has led Allen to an interest in a career in trial law. “When I joined my freshman year I knew nothing about the law field but once I went to my first competition, held at the courts in Hackensack, I saw how it worked and knew from that day on that I wanted to pursue a degree in law,” he says. Along the way, he and other team members have been supported by Bergen Catholic alumni who are former Mock Trial participants. “They are always reaching out to ask if we want help or advice with preparing cases,” says Allen. Among those alums who have reached out are Nicholas Barile ’14 and James Lowell ’15. “Seeing how they have reached back and helped us inspires me to do the same once I have graduated and am in a position to help out as well,” says Allen.

“It sounds cliché but when you actually go to school here, you see that it’s a real thing. Whether we’re all together at a pep rally, cheering on the basketball team or praying together in mass there is a real feeling of brotherhood.”

Close to the end of his time at Bergen Catholic, Allen reflects on where he was when he started and where he is now and credits his classmates and the culture at the school with his tremendous growth. “In the end we are all part of Bergen Catholic,” he says. “It doesn’t matter what you are involved in at school; we all connect with each other. It sounds cliché but when you actually go to school here, you see that it’s a real thing. Whether we’re all together at a pep rally, cheering on the basketball team or praying together in mass there is a real feeling of brotherhood.”
RICH TAYLOR: A MAN OF HIS WORD

Rich Taylor ’70
Bergen Catholic Hall of Fame Inductee 2012
1970 Class Chair
Rich Taylor ’70 has a motto in his business that he uses every day: “The answer is yes; what’s the question?” Those who know him aren’t surprised that he lives his life following the same adage. Through giving back to a struggling community that helped him early in his career when he needed it the most, Rich practices what was taught to him in his years at Bergen Catholic: “A lot of the values and character that I learned came from my time at Bergen,” he says.

Educated in Catholic school throughout his young life growing up in Wood-Ridge, when it came time for high school the choice wasn’t difficult. “About half a dozen guys from my town were going to Bergen Catholic, a group by the way who I still keep in touch with today, and I heard that the best went to Bergen so that’s where I wanted to go,” he says. Admittedly not the best student, Rich excelled at electrical and mechanical classes and clubs. “I was in the radio club, a mechanical kid with good hands. I wasn’t a great studier, but if I was interested in a subject, you couldn’t keep me away.”

After graduating from Bergen, Rich went to work at PSE&G, where he received extensive electrical and electronics training, and continued his education at night at the Bergen Vocational Technical School in Hackensack. Four years later he became a service technician at Rapid Pump & Meter Service Co. and four years after that founded Machinery Services Corporation in Paterson as a turnkey electrical and mechanical service company. In 1982 he purchased Rapid Pump and moved the company across town into an old silk mill built in 1992. “Paterson was once know as Silk City, the silk capital of the world,” he says.

Rich met his future wife, Aleta in the first grade at Our Lady of the Assumption Grammar School and they were married in 1974. They are the parents of four now-grown children, all of whom now work in the family business in technical, administrative and management positions, including Brian ’93, a Bergen Catholic graduate.

Still based in Paterson, Taylor feels connected to this once major industrial city that has seen its share of hardships. “When I was going into business in the late ’70s Paterson was having its challenges, but I was able to come in at a fairly low cost and gain a foothold in my industry and for that I am grateful,” he says. So he has stayed put while other businesses have left and has invested strongly in the Paterson community as well. “It was instilled in me that when you make money you can’t keep it all; you have to give back. You have to give it away in order to keep it.” As a result he and Aleta have focused their giving on service to the poor, service to recovery from all types of addictions and helping support vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Two local Paterson organizations that remain near and dear to them are Oasis, which works to change the lives of women and children through programs to feed, clothe, educate and empower them, and Eva’s Village, whose mission is to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, treat the addicted and provide medical care to the poor. “These are amazing places that transform lives,” says Rich. “What they do is instill hope within people and help get them back into the workplace, providing advantages they would never have had.”

Early on Rich knew that he was given a special opportunity at Bergen Catholic and worked hard to take full advantage of everything he had learned. “What I wanted was to be something in my life and to give back and, along with what was already within me, Bergen Catholic gave me the moral character and the fortitude to do it,” he says.
For his seminary training, Stephen Fichter ’85 spent many years in some of the most interesting and beautiful parts of Europe, but one place always held a special spot in his heart. “I was in Rome for seven years, Ireland for four, and Spain for one. While I’m grateful to God for all that, I’ve always told people that I look back on my four years at Bergen Catholic as one of the happiest periods of my life. It shaped me into the person that I am today in so many ways.”
Growing up in Tenafly, Father Stephen attended public school until, along with a half dozen local friends, he enrolled at Bergen Catholic. “One of my first memories is feeling rather grown up wearing a jacket and tie to school. It made me feel more mature. It was a nice first step into adulthood, and it expanded my world at a time when I was ready and able to appreciate it.”

While at Bergen, Stephen was very involved in student government and the school newspaper as well as consistently being a top student. He fondly remembers his French teacher, Brother Hallinan, who challenged and inspired him in life-changing ways. “Brother Hallinan was someone who took me under his wing and helped me to grow and flourish. While he was a tough teacher, he was also a fair one.” Every Monday morning, Brother would give his young student a photocopy of The New York Times Sunday crossword puzzle and challenge him to complete it within 48 hours. “He would give me the answers on Wednesday to check against my own. This prompted a lot of learning for me. I felt like my brain was opening further and further, and I was using a part of it that was creative, resourceful and imaginative. I was very encouraged by this exercise and by Brother’s interest in me.”

After his years in Europe, the newly ordained Father Fichter returned to Bergen County in October 2000. He spent a few months as parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Ridgewood, and then became parochial vicar at Saint Gabriel the Archangel in Saddle River. In 2008, he was assigned as pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Haworth, where he founded the VITA Youth Group whose last summer mission was to Haiti. Cardinal Tobin appointed him as pastor of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish in Wyckoff in July 2017. He is happy to be in Wyckoff but joked that many of his parishioners are graduates from “that reformatory school in Ramsey.”

Father Fichter earned degrees from the Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum in Rome, an M.S.W. from Fordham University’s Graduate School of Social Service, and an M.A. as well as a Ph.D. in Sociology from Rutgers University. He works as a research associate for CARA (The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate) at Georgetown University, specializing in clergy research. Last year, he was invited to be a visiting scholar at Fordham’s Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education. He has written three books; his latest one, about Catholic bishops in the United States, will be published by Oxford University Press in November 2018.

Father Stephen is often asked to celebrate Mass at 1040 Oradell Avenue or at alumni events. This past winter at the Bacari Grill, he led a Theology on Tap discussion on the intergenerational transmission of faith. “I feel blessed that I live close enough that I can remain connected to Bergen.” He still keeps in touch with his friends from the Class of 1985 (Andy, Bill, Dan, Dante, Fran, Jimmy, John, Matt, Peter, Tom, and Vin) and he sees the school’s legacy living on in them. “All of us are deeply committed to the values imparted to us at Bergen. I see my classmates as upstanding citizens who are bringing up their kids to be generous and kind people. I think that’s a wonderful reflection of what Bergen Catholic is all about.”
Sunday, March 25, 2018 marked Bergen Catholic’s return to Season’s for our Annual Hall of Fame Ceremony. This year we honored eight inductees with 325 guests coming together to show their love and support. Please save the date for our 2019 celebration, which will take place on Sunday, March 31, 2019. Nominations for the 2019 Hall of Fame are due by Friday, October 5, 2018.

We appreciate your input in our search for future candidates. Please include as much information as possible to ensure your nominee is selected.

Christopher J. Carbone ’96

Christopher J. Carbone, Class of 1996, is a Major in the US Army Reserves and a police officer in Wayne Township. As a US Army Officer, on 9/11, he began his combat service with three deployments to Baghdad, Ramadi and Doura, Iraq, between 2004 and 2009, serving with the 1st Cavalry Division, 2nd Marine Division and 82nd Airborne Division and one deployment to Afghanistan with the 10th Mountain Division. His final deployment was to East Africa with USACAPOC and Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa, where he trained Burundian, Kenyan, and
DJIBOUTI

Djiboutian military forces for peacekeeping in Somalia. In 2005, Chris was critically wounded serving in Iraq and wounded again in Afghanistan in 2011 during combat operations. Instilled with the BC hallmark of charity, while deployed he solicited for distribution to the Iraqi youth books, school supplies, soccer balls, clothes and shoes. Chris has been awarded two Bronze Stars, the Meritorious Service Medal, two Purple Hearts, the Army Commendation Medal with Combat “V” Device for Valor, the Combat Infantryman Badge, Combat Action Badge, US Army Airborne Wings and the Turkish Airborne Commando Badge. He was selected and featured as a “Hero of the Week” by Lou Dobbs and CNN. As a Wayne Police Officer, he was awarded the Meritorious Medal for rescuing a woman trapped in a house fire, the NJ Honor Legion Award for saving a family during Hurricane Sandy and the 2009 NJ State PBA “Officer of the Year” award. Chris was raised a Presbyterian. He began the preparation for RCIA while in Iraq with his Benedictine Army Chaplain and continued while in Africa, where he was received into the Church in Djibouti, Africa. Chris’s greatest success is his marriage to his wife, Janine, and family which includes his daughters Alania and Johnna and son Gavin.

John DeBoyace ’94

John DeBoyace, Class of 1994, was one of the most successful swimmers in Bergen Catholic history. Throughout his four years of swimming at BC he helped lead the team to many county and divisional championships.

John was county, state and national champion in the 100 Butterfly. John earned All-American Awards in the 50y, 100y & 200y Freestyle and the 100y Butterfly in 1992, 1993 & 1994. In 1994, John was the fastest high school 100 Butterflyer and ranked #1 in the entire country. His swimming expertise earned him an invitation to the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association’s Meet in Ft. Lauderdale. This annual event held at the International Swimming Hall of Fame is invitation only and only the best high school swimmers in the nation participate. John still holds records at BC and at pools throughout NJ, NY and the country in multiple events. John went on to the University of Texas, the premier college swimming program in the nation, on a scholarship. In 1996, John swam in the US Olympic Trials and was a member of the Men’s Swimming National Championship Team at The University of Texas. John was also a four-year member of the BC Track and Field Team and placed fifth in the State in Pole Vault at the Meet of Champions. John currently resides in Doylestown, PA and he focuses much of his time on his four wonderful children, his triplets — Wyatt, Jack and Makenna — and his fourth child, Allison.

James F. Higgins

James F. Higgins † received a basketball scholarship to Georgetown University, where he played on the varsity team for four years and was named team captain for his senior year. He graduated in 1970 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. Jim served on various committees for Georgetown University as well as its Board of Directors. Jim serviced in the National Guard based out of Sea Girt, NJ as a Second Lieutenant from 1970–1976. In 1971, Jim began his professional career at Dean Witter. He held a variety of positions at the securities firm and served as Chairman, President and Chief Operating Officer of the Individual Investor Group of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. Upon his retirement, he served as Senior Advisor to Morgan Stanley and a member of the Board of Directors of the Morgan Stanley Fund Family, the Company’s principal asset management business. Jim was associated with Morgan Stanley and its predecessor Dean Witter for over 40 years. Jim’s sons, Michael (’97) and Christopher † (’04), graduated from Bergen Catholic and he was delighted to have his daughter Erin follow in his footsteps, graduating from Georgetown University in ’99. Jim was a proud member of the Br. Martin P. Burns Golf Committee from 2002–2004; he was pleased to support Br. Burns and Bergen Catholic in any way he could. In 2002 Jim contributed generously to the Saingas Training Center Project knowing that his support of this new facility would improve and enhance the lives of students at Bergen Catholic High School. Jim’s family was his most cherished and important accomplishment. He is survived by his wife, Jackie, their children and six grandchildren.
Dr. Michael Isnardi ‘78

Dr. Michael Isnardi graduated from Bergen Catholic in 1978 and then attended MIT, where he spent the next eight years obtaining his Bachelor’s, Master’s and PhD Degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the Media Lab. In September 1986, Michael began his career in television technology at SRI International (formerly RCA Labs and Sarnoff Corporation) in Princeton, NJ — the birthplace of color television. During his career, Michael managed numerous television, imaging and video projects for both commercial and government clients. Key contributions included the development of the DIRECTV system and Sarnoff’s Compliance Bitstreams product, which received a Technical Emmy Award in 1999. Recent work includes conditioning ads for cable TV systems and creating algorithms to detect tampering in images and video. For his contributions to television technology, Dr. Isnardi has received several honors, including the David Sarnoff Award, the Marconi Young Scientist Award and the Digital Processing Award from the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers. In 2017, Dr. Isnardi was elevated to Fellow of his professional society, a distinction limited to 0.1% of the membership each year. Dr. Isnardi is currently a Distinguished Computer Scientist in the Center for Vision Technologies at SRI’s Princeton facility. He serves on several committees in his professional society and has given numerous papers and tutorials on digital television at industry events. Michael has published over 25 papers and holds 39 US patents. He lives with his wife Catherine and four daughters in Plainsboro, NJ.

Rev. Robert B. Stagg ‘67

Rev. Robert B. Stagg ’67 is the pastor of the Church of the Presentation in Upper Saddle River, one of the state’s largest parishes. Presentation has long been a center of ecclesial innovation. The parish owns and operates a fulltime clinic in Haiti, developed a model for religious education that was honored last year by the National Catechetical Leadership Conference as the parish of the year, and developed a retreat program, Cornerstone, which is now in several states. Bob has always been active in priestly affairs, serving as an adjunct professor at Seton Hall’s Seminary, training new pastors and being active as a national retreat director. Cardinal Tobin recently appointed him chaplain to Legatus. He sits on the Board of Covenant House and Merrill Lynch’s Global Non-Profit Board. Bob is a Class Chair for the Class of 1967 and was a member of the Class of 1967 50 Year Reunion Committee. He enjoys giving back to Bergen Catholic in any way possible.

Thomas Mesereau ’68

Tom Mesereau ’68 was on the honor roll and played middle guard on the football team at Bergen Catholic. He graduated cum laude from Harvard University in 1973, received a Master of Science degree from the London School of Economics in 1975 and earned a law degree from the University of California’s Hastings College of Law in 1979. Tom is one of the best trial lawyers in America. He is best known for acquitting the late entertainer, Michael Jackson, of all 14 charges in 2005. This trial attracted more worldwide media than any trial in history. Tom is known for his pro bono work on behalf of the poor. He has traveled to the Deep South (Alabama and Mississippi) for the last 20 years, defending indigent clients against murder charges for free. Many of them were facing the death penalty. Not one has received a death sentence. Mr. Mesereau founded and co-manages the Mesereau Free Legal Clinic in Los Angeles, where judges, lawyers, law students and activists provide free services to the underprivileged community. Each year, Tom marches with the Women of Watts and their children against gang violence. In 2005, celebrity journalist Barbara Walters named Tom Mesereau as one of the year’s “Ten Most Fascinating People” for his trial excellence and commitment to the underprivileged. GQ Magazine named him one of its “Men of the Year” for his determined effort, in the face of substantial obstacles, in the Michael Jackson case. Mr. Mesereau has received numerous “Trial lawyer of the Year” awards throughout his career. Tom’s greatest joy in life is spending time with his wife, Alice, and daughter Elaina.
Gregory Tramontozzi ’88

Greg Tramontozzi ’88 was an accomplished soccer and tennis player during one of the most successful periods in Crusader soccer and tennis history. A three-year starter in both sports, Greg was a member of the 1985 soccer team that won the school’s first Bergen County Championship as well as a Parochial A North Sectional Title. During his senior year, Greg captained BC’s first State Championship team. Greg earned second team All-State and All-County honors as a senior. He also earned All-League honors in all three of his years on the varsity soccer team. Greg was selected to play in the inaugural Bergen-Passaic Soccer All-Star Game following his senior year. He is one of two players to start on both the school’s first County and the school’s first State Championship soccer teams. In tennis, Greg was a key player on teams that won consecutive Parochial A North Sectional Titles in 1987 and 1988, captaining the 1988 team during his senior year. As a junior, he and his doubles partner came within two points of winning a Bergen County Championship. Greg earned First Team All-County honors as a senior and Second Team All-County honors as a junior. He also earned All-League honors in all three of his years on the varsity tennis team. Greg was the Class of 1988’s Bergen County Coaches Association student-athlete scholarship award winner. He went on to play Division I soccer at Georgetown University.

Donald Viggiano

Don Viggiano graduated from Rutgers University in 1965, where he lettered for three years in football. He began his tenure at Bergen Catholic in 1967, as the Department Chairman of Health and Physical Education. During this time, Don also coached both track and football for eight years, and was the head football coach from 1970-1974. He was also a longtime commendator for intramural bowling, and assisted Bergen Catholic students in their annual efforts to deliver holiday food baskets to underprivileged families in Jersey City. In addition, Don taught driver’s education theory, and behind-the-wheel lessons, to BC students for four decades. Mr. Viggiano received the BC Founders’ Medal in 2001, and he retired from full-time teaching in 2011, after 44 years at Bergen Catholic. Don’s greatest accomplishment is his family, which consists of his wife of 49 years, Arlene, his daughters, Susan and Lisa, and his four granddaughters, Micaela, Sophia, Leah and Brooke.
Greetings,

During the week of November 27, 2017, Bergen Catholic High School engaged in an accreditation experience. A team of five educators from area Catholic high schools visited Bergen Catholic and conducted an evaluation based on a self-study report, which was provided to them prior to their visit. The evaluation was comprehensive, with every constituent group of the school interviewed. Upon the conclusion of the school visit, a report was produced by the team members and provided to the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools for its administrative review. On April 26, 2018, Bergen Catholic High School received a notice from the Middle States Association stating that Bergen Catholic has received full accreditation status through May 1, 2025. It took an entire school effort to achieve this standing and I thank everyone who took part in the process.

Bergen Catholic High School offers 17 AP courses within its curriculum. Additionally, AP courses not offered at Bergen Catholic such as AP Psychology, AP Physics or AP Italian can be taken through Virtual High School or Educre — two online providers that Bergen Catholic partners with to expand its course offering. This year, 229 Bergen Catholic students sat for 519 AP examinations. These numbers are impressive and indicate that Bergen Catholic students are eager and willing to engage in higher level (college level) courses.

The senior class finished its academic calendar on May 25, 2018. The Class of 2018 has truly been a transformational group of young men. This class was the first to engage in a 2-1 device platform with the use of both an iPad mini and a MacBook for each of its courses, the first to utilize online textbooks and digital resources for its entire Bergen Catholic experience and the first class to use Examssoft (an online testing software) for each of its mid-term and final examinations. The Class of 2018 has been a willful group of pioneers and as a result has made Bergen Catholic a stronger and better school.

The spring interscholastic athletic season has come to a close. There were many exciting contests, team efforts and individual achievements. In regards to championships, the Varsity Golf Team captured the following:

- Big North United Division League
- Big North United Division Conference
- Non Public “A” North
- Group III-IV Non Public “A”

The Varsity Outdoor Track Team was crowned:

- Bergen County Relays Champions
- Big North Conference United Division Champions
- Bergen County Group Champions

Also worth mentioning again, the Varsity Football Team won this year’s Group IV Non-Public A State Championship and the Varsity Wrestling Team finished its season as the #1 Ranked Team in the Country.

It has been an exciting year.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. McElhinney
Principal
Greetings to the Bergen Catholic Community,

As the school year has closed, we are happy to report that we have quite a strong and well-rounded class of 2022 entering our community this fall. In addition to incoming freshman, we have seen a large number of transfer students into our community as well, with more to be joining this summer. We saw a very large turnout at our spring open house with almost 100 seventh grade families beginning their research into the HS admissions process, which looks to be a promising fall applicant pool. This fall we will be hosting two open houses on Sunday September 16th from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursday November 1st from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. For additional information please feel free to check out the Admissions page on the Bergen Catholic website.

If you know someone considering Bergen Catholic, please bring them to one of these events. If not, please continue to spread the good news about Bergen Catholic and the impact it has made on your life. You can make a difference. Thank you for all that you do to make our BC family great!

Deus Vult!

Matthew Rosa ’08 and Bill Leonard ’10
The BC Admissions Team

Follow us!

www.facebook.com/BergenCatholic
@BergenCatholic
www.youtube.com/user/BergenCatholic1955

OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY SEPT 16TH 1 – 3 PM
THURSDAY NOV 1ST 7 – 9 PM
REGISTER AT BERGENCATHOLIC.ORG

PREPARING LEADERS FOR OVER 60 YEARS

IN THE CLASSROOM, ON THE FIELD AND IN SERVICE TO OTHERS

Founded on the seven Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Education, Bergen Catholic challenges students to pursue excellence in all endeavors — intellectual, physical and spiritual. We challenge students in all they undertake and provide them with the tools they need to succeed so they fulfill their potential as the next generation of leaders.

To learn more about how a Bergen Catholic education develops leaders, call the Admissions Department at 201-634-4141. PREPARE TO LEAD!

BERGEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Developing leaders in mind, body and spirit.
Founded and staffed by the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers
1040 Oradell Avenue | Oradell, NJ 07649 | 201-261-1844 | www.bergencatholic.org

Spring 2018
Inside the Halls

Parents Association Luau
Wednesday, May 9, 2018

It was a beautiful night for a Luau with a little karaoke mixed in. Everyone had a great time.

Paint & Sip
Wednesday, January 10, 2018

On January 10th, the Parents Association held their 1st Paint & Sip Night, Dreaming of Toes in the Sand. Mr. Konciak from the BC Art Department guided the attendees in executing their masterpieces. A fun time was had by all.
Financial Aid Presentation  
Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Jamie Miller ’82 is with Garretson Financial in Cranford, NJ. For several years, Jamie and his staff have come to BC to do a presentation for junior and senior parents, educating them on the financial aid process for college applications. The information Jamie and his staff provide is very helpful for parents going through the financial aid process.

Parent Club

The 2018 Crusader Gala Committee Thank You Dinner at Bacari Grill. These wonderful women graciously signed up again to be on the 2019 Committee! We are already singing “Start spreading the news” for our NY, NY Theme.

Sitting Sharon LaMonica, Regina Radoslovich, Debbie Regis  
Standing Linda Hobeika, Marge Quinn, Monica Borg, MaryKate Menapace
The Bergen Catholic Performing Arts Program continues to emphasize the importance of music and performance in the development of our talented students. Our Ensembles, both instrumental and vocal, continue to impress audiences with their musicality, fineness and stellar performances. Our Ensembles are called upon to perform at numerous school events, from Open Houses, Masses and Commencement in addition to their annual Holiday and Spring Concert Series. Our musicians are actively involved in competitions, musical festivals and collaborative projects with Mary Help of Christians Salesian Voices, the Rockland Youth Jazz Ensemble and the Bergen Community College Jazz Band.

The Men’s Vocal Ensemble again participated in the All Male Choral Festival, this year hosted by Saint Peters Prep. What an exciting evening for all the young men involved, culminating in a master class and performance with the Rutgers Male Glee Club under the direction of Dr. Patrick Gardner. Our recent performance at the National Catholic High School New York Regional Choral Festival was a huge success. Renowned clinician, conductor and organist John Robinson was very impressed with the Ensemble, and his praise and positive critique were a testimony to the great work being done by our young musicians.

Bergen’s impressive Jazz Ensemble continues to bring audiences to their feet with their renditions of jazz classics and standard repertoire. Their recent performance at the fountain in Lincoln Center was a rousing success.
Our Chamber Ensemble, under the direction of Alumni Charles Dougherty, has flourished and continues to impress audiences with musical arrangements written by their director.

Our annual Coffee House Cabaret has become a musical highlight for the Bergen Catholic Community. This was an evening showcasing the individual talents of the Performing Arts students. Our musicians took to the stage and wowed the packed house with their favorite solos, duets and instrumental combos. Guest appearances by Faculty Member Jeremy Winter and Bowling Coach Larry Fierro brought down the house. What a fantastic evening of music for all involved!

Our Ensembles are heading to Washington, DC (May 11/12) for their annual Festivals of Music Competition, Adjudication Trip. Master classes with music professors at the University of Delaware will help fine-tune their competition repertoire and hopefully prepare them to bring home numerous first-place trophies.

Our Bergen Goes to Broadway Series is open to the entire Bergen Catholic Community and continues to be a huge success. We are already looking forward to next season and considering NYC trips to the following shows: Summer (the music of the Queen of Disco, Donna Summer), SpongeBob SquarePants (which was nominated for 12 Tony Awards) and the revival of the musical theater classic, Carousel.

We continue to offer the best possible musical and performance opportunities for our students and invite the Bergen Catholic Community to join us for all of our future events.

SAVING THE DATE

LOOKING AHEAD

As the 2017/18 school year has come to a close, the Bergen Catholic Performing Arts Department is already filling the calendar for the 2018/19 season. Our Bergen Goes to Broadway Series has become so very popular that we are in the process of booking tickets for next season NOW! Be sure to SAVE THE DATES!

SpongeBob SquarePants
Thursday, October 11, 2018 (7:00 pm)

Summer (The music of Donna Summer)
Tuesday, October 23, 2018 (7:00 pm)

Other shows being considered are: Carousel (the revival of the Broadway Classic)
The Cher Show
Mean Girls

Tickets will be available for purchase beginning August 1st.

Our annual Choral Boot Camp for both new and returning students is scheduled for August 28th, 29th and 30th.

Our Bergen Catholic Holiday Concert Series will begin with our Jazz Band and Chamber Ensemble on Tuesday, December 11th and will continue on Monday, December 17th when the Men’s Vocal Ensemble takes to the stage.

We hope you will join us for these wonderful events. This is just the beginning of what promises to be a fantastic musical season!
On May 11th and 12th, the Bergen Catholic Performing Arts Department traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the Festival of Music, Music in the Parks Competition and Adjudication. On route to Washington, the students had the opportunity to attend Master Classes at the University of Delaware. Both the Vocal Ensemble and the Jazz band worked with esteemed professional musicians and college professors to help fine tune their repertoire for competition. It was most gratifying to hear the comments and praises for the quality of work being done in preparing students for musical performance at Bergen Catholic! These Master Classes were indeed a highlight of our trip and helped us to attain such high scores at the competition.

The Men’s Vocal Ensemble, Jazz Band and Chamber Ensemble all placed first in their respective categories and achieved excellent and superior ratings. An outstanding soloist award went to David Mendoza for his performance on the tenor saxophone. We definitely need a display case for the many trophies our students continue to bring home to Bergen!

In addition to all the musical activities Bergen students participated in over the weekend, they also had the opportunity to visit the Basilica and do a guided tour of the Washington monuments. It was indeed an eventful weekend and we are already looking into next year’s competition trip!
The Bergen Catholic Art Department is beginning to wrap up after a vigorous year. The Advanced Placement Art classes that are offered continue to afford the opportunity for students to create professional artwork that is guided through the confines of a two-year art program. During early May, the AP senior students prepared their work to be sent out to College Board. Each student sent digitally 12 art pieces from their junior year (Breadth section) and 12 pieces from their senior year (Concentration section). In addition, each student sent five actual pieces of art that represented their very best work.

The Bergen Art Club is a component of the AP art classes. This activity gives the students in those classes the opportunity to have extended time to work and build their art portfolios. The club also encourages friendly communication amongst fellow students with discussions relating to the students’ artwork and current trends in the “world of art.”

Presently, the Freshmen art class has been diligent in learning the basic concepts of shading and drawing. Paired with these new skills, the students have also explored learning art history and digital media. The sophomore (fall semester) and the freshmen (spring semester) have successfully participated in a long-term assignment that focused on key notable images spanning over the past 100 years. Starting with the 1920s and moving up to the present, each student drew and shaded pictures that exemplified that particular decade. It turned out to be a true visual creative timeline.

This year we had two students who participated in The Scholastic Art and Writing Award of 2018. These students upheld the great achievement of winning a national art award. Bergen Catholic should be very proud of Jae Byeok Yoon and Alex Cho.

To put a successful closure to the year, the school art show was held in the library in the month of May. The show included more than 200 pieces of Bergen Catholic students’ artwork. Each piece was matted, carefully displayed and organized into 15+ categories of artistic technique. Each piece of art can be compared to gallery quality work.

Bergen Catholic’s Art Department is a strong and vital part of the community. The art program envelops each student’s talent, which is further rendered to a refined sophistication. Stay tuned next year to see the great accomplishments and beautiful works of art from Bergen Catholic students.
Wrestling: Bergen Catholic’s Wrestling Team Becomes First Crusader Squad to Win a National Championship for BC Since 1991

If you know which BC team won that national championship, kudos to you. We will identify the coach and some of its key members at the end.

Coach Dave Bell and his wrestling team enjoyed perhaps the most successful season in school history this year. So many of these teams are comparable in that they possessed multiple state champion wrestlers and were ranked #1 in NJ, now, for seven straight years. But it wasn’t an easy climb to the top with graduations of multiple-time state champions.

In this quarter’s edition, three seniors — Carmen Ferranti, Gerard Angelo and Shane Griffith — were interviewed about the season.

When asked if they were confident going into the 2017-2018 season, all three responded very much in the affirmative. They attributed their confidence to four factors:

1. Experience from the tough season a year earlier (still finishing #1 in NJ) but perhaps not earning that final jewel to the crown.
2. A number of transfers from Queen of Peace, which closed this past year and found a home in BC.
3. Recognizing the hard work and sacrifice that went into making them the best individually and collectively.
4. Fun. While the previous years of winning were great, this year turned out to be a lot more fun, which helped to create a culture for capturing a national championship.

The young men who joined the squad and made the biggest impact included Jacob Cardenas ’19. In talking with the group, they saw him grow tremendously through the season as he was working with exceptional wrestlers in the room every day. It brought the best out of him and helped him to drive to an individual state championship. The second was Freshman Dylan Weaver, another great wrestler. Obviously as a freshman, he came in with no high school experience and he won some really big matches. The seniors felt that being at BC forces a wrestler to mature quicker, which can help him to win some really big matches for the team when they really need him to come through.

Those who have been following the Crusader wrestling program recognize it is the best in NJ. Some of the numbers are staggering. Start by considering the team has won 29 consecutive district championships (next year will mark three consecutive decades of district championships). Next, consider the County Tournament simply is not competitive enough for the Crusaders, who have won it 19 times and now seek out nationally recognized tournaments like the Doc Buchanan in California in order to wrestle competitively. Lastly, the Crusaders have won eight consecutive Non-Public “A” North Sectional and Non-Public “A” State Championships. The team’s talent and depth have made many of those matches blowouts.

The event was the “Who’s Number One Duals.” The place was Hoehl Gymnasium at Bergen Catholic High School. The ultimate opponent was Blair Academy.

As a wrestler described it, “…best dual of my career, easily.”

Another said, “You go into that match kind of knowing we are not going to win.”

And from our third interviewee, “This year had a sense of confidence and desire. The environment was special. It was our friends, our family, our people.”

The evening started with Dylan Weaver in the first match of the meet. He pinned his opponent in what many prognosticators would qualify an upset. That gave the team confidence that they could actually win this match. BC went on to defeat Blair for the first time in school history by a score of 33-19. The Crusader Crazies stormed the floor and the team rejoiced.
Some of the outstanding achievements by this year’s wrestlers include: Jacob Cardenas: State Champion, Regional Champion, District Champion; Shane Griffith: State Champion, Regional Champion, District Champion; Robert Howard: State Champion, Regional Champion, District Champion; Josh McKenzie: State 2nd Place, Regional Champion, District Champion; Nick Foca: State 2nd Place, Regional 2nd Place, District 2nd Place; Nick Kayal: State 4th Place, Regional Champion, District Champion; Wade Unger: State 5th Place, Regional 2nd Place, District Champion; Sage Mosco: State 6th Place, Regional 2nd Place, District Champion; Gerard Angel: State 7th Place, Regional Champion, District Champion; Carmen Ferrante: Regional Champion, District Champion; John High: Regional Champion, District Champion; Dylan Weaver: Regional 2nd Place, District Champion; Joe Zargo: Regional 4th Place, District Champion and Kelly Dunnigan: District 2nd Place.

In summing up, despite all the championships, individual and team, the student-athletes agree: Coach Bell has changed all of our lives. He taught us how to be good people, not about the wrestling. He taught us how to be responsible and kind; characteristics that will help us throughout our lives. He is great helping to place us in colleges and we will always recognize what an invaluable part of our lives he has become.

“THE OTHER” National Champion Team came with the Class of 1991 and the Coach’s name was Babetta Ferris. Perhaps not what many expect, but this group went on to win a State Championship and then travelled to capture the school’s first National Championship in Mock Trial! Glen McGorty ’91 was lead counsel and joined by an all-star group.

Basketball

The 2017-2018 edition of the Crusader Basketball Team told the tale of a twin-tower, if not triple-tower skyline of talent. Six-foot-niners Zach Freemantle, Matthew Zona and Myles Wilmoth often blocked out the gym lights as their shadow cast over opponents a bleak view of the rim. Coach Armstrong’s Crusaders put together a championship season, winning 23 of 27 games, earning a share of the Big North United Division and reaching the Bergen County Jamboree Final for the second consecutive year.

Perhaps the shot heard ‘round the world this year was Matt Zona’s three-pointer vs. Don Bosco Prep at Hoehl Gymnasium on the Christopher J. Donfield Court. In this day and age, it’s still one of the most exciting highlight clips on Varsity Aces as the Crusader Crazies rushed the hardwood at the buzzer.

Throughout the season, Doug Edert served as one of the team’s long-range shooters and Jayson Earle tossed in a couple of hundred points himself in making this year’s Crusaders one of the top teams in NJ.

Zach Freemantle came up a point short of the 500 mark, but did not come up short as an All-County Athlete as he was named to the First Team.

Bowling

Coach Larry Fierro’s team proved to be the most determined for the third consecutive year in the Big North United, capturing another team championship. Notable honors go to Michael Bellifemini (1st Team All-League, and Honorable Mention All-County), Hunter Butker (1st Team All-League, 3rd Team All-County), Hyunwoo Kim (2nd Team All-League), Ryan Kitz (1st Team All-League, Honorable Mention All-County). Coach Fierro was named Big North Division Coach of the Year and looks to 2018-2019 to be another big year at Bowler City!

Indoor Track

The Indoor Track Team enjoyed great success this year as they earned a number of team championships due to the hard work and great individual efforts from a number of student-athletes.

During the 2017-2018 winter, the team won the Big North Conference United Division and the Bergen County Relays “E” Division. Coach Lee’s team was recognized as the Bergen County Coaches Association Non-Public Team of the Year as well.

This year’s most outstanding achievements came from a number of athletes. They include, starting with one of the fastest young men to don the scarlet and gold, Rahmir Johnson – First Team All-County (55 meters), First Team All-Conference (200 meters), Second Team All-State (200 meters); Braedon Fiume – First Team All-County (1,000 meters), First Team All-Conference (1,600 meters); Elias Shaha – First Team All-Conference (800 meters); Henry Hughes – First Team All-Conference (Triple Jump); James Blair – First Team All-Conference (High
Sports in Review

For updated information on each team, please check out the Athletics pages at www.bergencatholic.org.

Jump; Michael Hyland – First Team All-Conference (Shot Put); Ivan Jacob – First Team All-Conference (All-Around); Adrian Taffe – Second Team All-Conference (55 meters); Robbie Finizio – Second Team All-Conference (.3200 meters); Dean Williamson – Second Team All-Conference (Shot Put).

Two relay teams earned accolades as well: 4 x 400 (Elijah Somerville, Elias Shaia, Graydon Nichols, Braedon Fiume) – Second Team All-Conference; 4 x 800 (Nick Martinez, Andrew Chi, Paul Caprio, Jack Welch) – Second Team All-Conference.

In addition, five Crusaders qualified for the New Balance Nationals in 2018. They include: Sprint Medley Relay (Rahmir Johnson, Adrian Taffe, Anthony D’Addetta, Braedon Fiume); and individuals Rahmir Johnson (200 meters) and Adrian Taffe (Freshman 60 meters).

We are very proud of all of the runners, coaches and parents. BC Track is kicking strong!

Ice Hockey

This year Coach Brian Monteverdi’s Ice Hockey program fought through one of the toughest schedules in the state of New Jersey and realized some fantastic wins along the way. One of the biggest was a 7-2 downing of Chaminade of NY as five different Crusaders scored. Chris Branch turned away 43 shots in the victory and BC won the interstate battle of Red and Golds.

The Crusaders made a little bit of splash in the Non-Public State tournament with a victory over Paul VI of Haddonfield, which was entering as CVC Valley Division Champions with a record of 9-3-1. The Crusaders glided to a 7-1 victory in a true team effort with seven different Crusaders scoring goals. Craig Barbaro, Cam Monteverdi and Dylan Pasley all shot one past the keeper in the first. Tommy Olson, William Prinz and Nicolas Arcaroli had second period goals and Tommy Kleinman netted one in the third period to lift the Crusaders to the next round of the tournament.

The team worked hard to prepare for this season and while the wins may not necessarily represent how strong the team actually is, with the younger players in the program and great enthusiasm among players and parents, there is good reason for optimism in 2018-19.

Swimming: Swimmers Combine Success with Service

This year, not only did the BC Swim Team enjoy another championship season, they were selected to receive the Ridgewood YMCA’s Youth Program Award for the team’s volunteer service at the YMCA’s Saturdays in Action program. The team volunteered over 80 hours this school year at the YMCA, which is a terrific team accomplishment. A number of team representatives received the award at the Ridgewood YMCA’s volunteer recognition reception on Friday, April 20th. Coach Lia Kunnapas’s leadership is helping her young men to not only succeed in the classroom and in the pool, but manage their time wisely in order to contribute to the community.

But turning the focus to the pool, the 2017-2018 season saw the swimmers earn yet another Big North United Division Championship and swim their way to the NJSIAA Non-Public A State Finals, a feat that has happened only two other times in school history.

The team also travelled to Loyola in Baltimore as they swam in the National Catholic HS Swimming Championships, where they placed fifth.

Outstanding performances through the year came from senior leaders Sean Griffenkrantz, Austin Lee and Tom Scrvianich, all of whom were recognized as All-County. With a strong nucleus of returning swimmers including Dylan Sesink-Clee, Louis Orlando, Julian Chun, Thomas Haemmerle and Sam Hughes, the future looks bright for the swim team from Oradell.

Skiing

This year, Coach Scott Savage’s Ski team once again traversed the northern half of the state to compete at Mountain Creek in the Giant Slalom and Slalom Meets, which make up the New Jersey High School ski season. With a young group, his team performed very well and reached a new pinnacle as one of its skiers qualified for the Race of Champions at Mountain Creek on Thursday, March 1st. Sophomore Ian Lee recorded the qualifying times he and his teammates look to continue to build this young program.

Ian Lee ’20 masters the Slalom in the NJSRA
The school year has ended and a special thank you goes out to everyone who has supported the 2017-18 annual appeal. Your gifts have made a positive impact on our students, staff, faculty and facility. Thank you!

If you are or will be working on your will, please consider Bergen Catholic as a beneficiary. Your gift will help establish a strong foundation for future generations of Crusaders. Feel free to contact me directly at 201-261-4948 if you have any questions or would like to inform us that Bergen Catholic is already in your will.

May you and your family have a safe and healthy summer!

Sincerely,

Zeke Rodgers ’92
Vice President for Advancement

Support the Annual Fund
DONATE TODAY!
Go to:
Fellow Crusaders,

We would like to wish a fond farewell to Brother Brian Walsh as he closes his third successful tenure at Bergen Catholic. The Alumni Association has had no greater champion than Brother these past nine years, as our numbers grew steadily and we were encouraged to launch many new initiatives to serve our Bergen Catholic family. We are grateful for his support.

And another huge thanks goes out to all alumni who showed up to the dozens of events we host throughout the year — we couldn’t do it without you!

As you enjoy the summer, please give some thought to getting back involved with The Brotherhood when September comes around. Here is a handy list of some of the more popular initiatives we run, and whom to contact.

- **Careers4Crusaders**
  - Mike Jordan ’89
  - mjordan@maywoodschools.org
- **Fall Wine Tasting**
  - Pete Manzetti ’78
  - pkmanzetti@comcast.net
- **Memorial Mass**
  - Kevin Rigby ’72
  - kevinrigbynj@gmail.com
- **Cigar Night**
  - Mike Panos ’72
  - speed6050@aol.com
- **Hall of Fame**
  - Marge Quinn AP ’05, ’11
  - mquinn@bergencatholic.org
- **Admissions Support**
  - Paul Bonistalli ’69
  - pjbgringo@verizon.net
- **NYC Crusader Network**
  - Alex Orlando ’09
  - adorlando@gmail.com

These events are just a sample of events where we are asking for additional volunteers, so please consider getting involved!

And finally, if you graduated Bergen Catholic in a year ending in a 3 or an 8, this is a reunion year for you! Most class reunions will be held over the September 21-22 weekend. Contact one of your Class Chairs or Marge Quinn to see what’s going on.

Deus Vult!

Brian C. Hughes ’86
President, Bergen Catholic High School Alumni Association
bchughes@hughesenveng.com

**SAVE THE DATES**

**Fall Wine Tasting**
Monday, October 22, 2018

**2018 Crusader Gala**
Friday, November 16, 2018
Alumni Online Directory

The Alumni Online Directory is for alumni only. Visit us on our website at www.bergencatholic.org.

When you arrive at the website’s main page, click on the word “ALUMNI” near the top right corner of the site. Click on the navigation bar link titled “Alumni Online Directory Login.”

Follow these first-time login steps:

• At this point, you won’t yet know your username or password, so click on “Forgot login or first time logging in?”
• Supply your email address where indicated and put checkmarks in both the “Username” and “Password” boxes, then hit the “Send” button.
• If your email address is not on file with us, you will receive a screen that indicates along the top: “Login Help — We are unable to process your request. Please contact Regina Radoslovich at rradoslovich@bergencatholic.org or 201-634-4146.”
• If your email address IS known by us, you will receive two separate emails from Regina, one containing your pre-assigned username. Make a note of it for future login purposes.
• The second email will contain a link labeled: “Password Reset URL”; click on the link, then enter “New Password” of your choosing.
• You will be taken to a screen that will allow you to have access to the Alumni Directory.
• Click on the drop-down in the “Directories” area (the fourth navigation bar item) and select “Alumni.”

Note: The first three items on the navigation bar are not operational at this time.
• You will be sent to the New Alumni Online Directory.

We wish you fun in your searches and success in reconnecting with your classmates and friends!
Gerald Petraglia is in an acoustic band. He was in a rock band for a few years before doing the acoustic thing. Ash & Snow is an acoustic act highlighting warm, sultry tones; a wide variety of tunes spanning many decades and genres; and lively three-part harmonies. They play all over the Lehigh Valley and in Central Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Paul Bonistalli will have 2 Crusaders in September. His son PJ will be a member of BC’s class of ’22 and his daughter Danielle, who just graduated from IHA, has signed to swim at the College of Holy Cross who also are Crusaders.

Wally Collins has been named a Super Lawyer for entertainment and sports from 2014–2017. His law firm is in New York City.

Robert Hille is a partner at McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP. Concentrating on insurance and healthcare law, Bob has extensive trial experience and has litigated a number of insurance defense and coverage, healthcare, professional liability defense, fraud and abuse, and regulatory matters. He has published and lectured widely in the areas of insurance and healthcare law. Bob was installed as president of the NJ State Bar Association on May 18, 2017. This was incorrectly listed under ’79 in the Winter 2018 edition.

Christopher De Phillips was elected to the NJ General Assembly on November 7, 2017, from the 40th Legislative District. The 40th District serves municipalities in Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic counties. Chris is a former mayor of Wyckoff, NJ, where he resides.

Michael Bibbo has been a television producer for nearly 20 years and has more than 250 television programs to his credit. He graduated from Bennington College with a degree in architecture, but found himself constantly making short films with an old Betamax camera. He decided to follow this passion and pursue a career in film. He attended the New School University in New York City and graduated with a M.A. in Film and Media Communications.

Follow-up programs took Michael outdoors and into the wild with “Virginia Outdoor Life” (VOL). He co-produced, photographed and edited over 60 episodes for VOL. When VOL ended, Michael was asked to produce a pilot for a children’s educational program. The resulting show was called “Brain Stew.” Michael created “Brain Stew” together with his wife, Jennifer, who was featured as the host for three seasons. “Brain Stew” was syndicated in several states and rated “highly educational” by the Annenburg Public Policy Center. It was also named a top 10 educational show of the year and nominated for an Emmy. In 2000, Michael joined Kevin Krizvold to co-produce a new program for NASA called “Destination Tomorrow.” Together they created 25 programs over five years that have aired globally and won a regional Emmy Award in 2001. In 2007, Bibbo co-created one of NASA’s most successful outreach programs, NASA 360. This vodcast/television series has over 16 million downloads. It was the first NASA program to air on Hulu and is still broadcasted nationally and internationally on-board numerous airlines. Along with accepting a Capital Region Emmy Award in 2008 for editing on NASA 360, Bibbo was nominated for a National Daytime Emmy Award in June 2011. Michael also produced and directed two live interactive Space Station programs for NASA for an audience of more than 15 million viewers. He continues to work on commercial projects in his spare time. Along with NASA 360, Michael co-created and produced “Discovery Now,” a daily 90-second program featuring highlights in aeronautics and astronautics technology, science, history, innovations, research and inventions from the aerospace industry. www.discoverynow.us. Michael currently resides in Norfolk, VA, with his wife and two daughters.

James Sieradzki has been appointed as a Judge of the Municipal Court of the city of Clifton, NJ. Jim has a law practice in Clifton.

Eric Basilo is currently an Assistant Principal at the Sanford Middle School, Math, Science and Technology Magnet in Sanford, FL. Eric has been recognized as the 2018 Florida Assistant Principal of the Year. He was chosen by the Florida Associa-
tion of School Administrators. Eric is a nine-year assistant principal veteran and he will represent Florida at the National Association of Secondary School Principals Conference in Chicago this summer. Eric aggressively worked to elevate the number of minorities in advanced and gifted courses in his school by opening the courses up to all students. The school saw 84% of those students maintain an A or B average in advanced courses. Eric has also been awarded an Adjunct Faculty Award for Excellence at Seminole State College for his dedication to teaching and student success.

Mark Fabish and his wife, Lara, welcomed their second son, Charles “Charlie” Kennedy Fabish, on February 16, 2018 at 2:27AM. Charlie weighed in at seven pounds, five ounces. Big brother Tommy is ready to show him the ropes.

Steve Angeli has taken on the challenge of fundraising on behalf of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in memory of his cousin, Ronnie Pisani. He is humbled and honored to be a candidate for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s 2018 Man and Woman of the Year (MWOY) campaign. There was ten weeks, from April 10 to June 20, to raise $50,000 to continue research efforts to help improve the quality of life for patients and their families, and to have a research grant named in Ronnie’s memory.

Tim Sullivan was appointed by NJ Governor Phil Murphy to lead the Trenton-based EDA as its chief executive officer. Tim is a former top New York City economic-development official who served in the administration of former Mayor Michael Bloomberg and most recently was the Deputy Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. Tim is expected to help grow and strengthen the NJ economy and make NJ a better place for businesses to call home. Before his tenure in city government, Tim worked in the financial industry at Barclays Capital and Lehman Brothers.

Brent Sopko and his wife, Kat, welcomed their second child, daughter Olivia Paton, on May 16, 2018. Olivia checked in at six pounds, three ounces and 19 inches long. Big brother, Braden Patrick can’t wait to show her the ropes!

Bob Olson recently announced that Bolero Snort Brewery will have its own brew house. After five years of contract brewing, where Bob would brew batches using other breweries’ facilities, Bolero purchased a 15,000 square foot building in Carlstadt to call home. Bob and his co-owners are hoping for a spring 2019 opening. The facility will start out brewing up 6,000 barrels annually and could grow to more than 15,000 barrels. Current plans are to have a tasting room painted in the brewery’s trademark reds and grays and littered with bull-themed decor, in keeping with the brewery’s bovine mascot. Bolero has been around since 2013.

Clayton Patton and Alexandra Montone were engaged on May 21, 2018 during a walk on the beach with their two dogs. Clayton told Alex the dogs needed a drink and while on his knee getting the water bowl out, he looked up at Alex and proposed. Clayton and Alex live in Mount Pleasant, SC. Clayton is the Controller for JEM Restaurant Group in Charleston, SC.
**Class Notes**

**NEWS AND NOTES FROM YOUR CLASSMATES**

**05** **Brian Walsh** went to the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point after he graduated from BC. Graduating from West Point in 2009, Brian has served in various positions and locations in the Army. He had been a Special Forces Captain stationed at Joint Base Lewis McChord, VA until he received his orders in March of this year to move to the USMA. At West Point, Brian is a TAC Officer (cadet company mentor/leader in charge of cadet leadership and military development). Now that he is closer to BC, Brian is willing to speak with any BC student who has an interest in attending the Academy.

**07** **Richard DeLuca** has joined O’Halloran Ryan PLLC as an associate in the firm’s commercial real estate practice group. He will support the firm’s growing representation of owners, lenders and investors with respect to the acquisition, sale, financing and leasing of real estate assets across the United States. Rich earned a B.S. from Stevens Institute of Technology in 2011 and a Juris Doctor in 2017 from the Fordham University School of Law.

**07** **JP Sticco** and his wife, Debra, welcomed their first child, a little girl, Keira, in November 2017. JP, Debra and Keira reside in Mount Pleasant, SC. Jeff Sticco ’02 is a very proud uncle.

**10** **Chris Quinn** became engaged to Ashley Eyer. The BC family came to congratulate Chris and Ashley and rejoice in their engagement.

**17** **Brian Smith** recently became an Eagle Scout at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor. His community service project was to construct a new bocce ball court on the property of the Sloatsburg Senior Center as well as two benches and cedar planting boxes. Brian just finished his freshman year at Sacred Heart University.

**WE’D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

If you have an event or milestone you would like to share with your fellow alumni, please submit a short email, with photo if available, to Regina Radoslovich at rradoslovich@bergencatholic.org.
Robert Zampieri, a graduate of the Bergen Catholic Class of 1989, considered Jersey City a special place.

Robert was one of eight Bergen Catholic alums to die in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on 9/11. In tribute to Robert, his family established a financial assistance fund for students at Saint Anthony’s High School in Jersey City.

In June 2017, when Saint Anthony’s High School closed, the Zampieri Financial Aid Fund was transferred to Bergen Catholic.

Recipients of the Zampieri Scholarship have demonstrated need and interact with Robert’s mother, Patricia, and his brother, Dr. Michael Zampieri, from time to time.

This year we had six students selected as Zampieri Scholars: two in Grade 12, two in Grade 11, one in Grade 10 and one in Grade 9.

Bergen Catholic is most grateful to the Zampieri family for the vision they had of honoring Robert with a scholarship program and for the assistance our six Bergen Catholic families received this year.
None of us gets through the day without relying on our judgment. Whether it’s making decisions, forming opinions or trying to get to the truth, when the facts are clear our judgment is generally good.

But when news organizations whose purpose should be to educate and inform are now breaking news via text message in the morning with facts that change by the afternoon and social media sites muddy the waters with stories that may have no basis at all in fact, sometimes they get it wrong and as a result we the public are misinformed. Sometimes it’s easy to tell what’s right and what’s wrong but oftentimes it’s not and lives can be forever affected by this race to the top of the news cycle, damaging not only people’s reputations but the very purpose of the press: the obligation to tell the truth.

It could be allegations so outrageous we are led to believe they must be true: whether it’s lacrosse players accused of rape, an innocent bystander at the Boston Marathon labeled as a bomber then finding his picture on the front page of a major newspaper, or five black males wrongly accused of assaulting a jogger in Central Park. In the rush to get the story out fast and first, speculation takes over and lives are forever changed. And while we can generally rely on trusted news sources to deliver information truthfully, when the story hits close to home to people we know and trust it’s important to take the time to consider the sources and wait until the entire story unfolds.

And as news watchers and readers it’s our obligation to carefully assess what we choose to read and trust. Oftentimes when Googling news reports we treat the content as fact when the sources are clearly sketchy, or we jump on Facebook to get the “real” story. And keep in mind that while connecting with others online to discuss and dissect a topic can be helpful, we must realize that their opinions are just that, opinions. Nothing short of the truth should be considered, even if it takes a few days or even weeks, to be revealed.

Be careful, be cautious and don’t rush to judge. Walk up slowly, gather the facts and use good judgment. Someone’s reputation and character may be at stake.
Crusader Swimmers have had a busy year, both in and out of the pool. Several of the team members dedicated their Saturdays this past school year volunteering at the Ridgewood YMCA in their “Saturdays in Action” program for young kids with special needs. One Saturday a month the swimmers go to the Y ready to play and swim. Each is paired up with a child to shadow for two hours, spending the first hour in the gym playing sports and doing crafts and the second hour in the pool. Whether it’s splashing, playing games or working on swim strokes, the kids guide their volunteer friends in the activity. And for their efforts the Crusader swimmers were given the Youth Program Award from the YMCA for volunteering over 40 hours as a team last fall (by the end of the school year that number doubled).

Junior Dylan Sesink-Clee has been back to volunteer several times and plans to continue to do so: “This is the perfect opportunity to combine my love of swimming with helping kids with disabilities. It’s very rewarding to see the look of pure joy on the kids’ faces as they splash around in the pool,” he says. And the kids in the program weren’t the only ones benefiting from the experience, says Julian Chun ’20. “I became involved with this project because I thought it would give me a chance to help those in need. But it actually helped me discover more about myself, my peers and the people I served. Going to this event helps me to connect more with myself, and my sense of empathy grew as I saw people struggling with challenges that I could never shoulder. It was truly a humbling experience.”
Alumni Events

Class Chair Letter Signing
Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Over 90 Class Chairs gathered at Seasons on January 9th to mingle with their fellow Class Chairs and brainstorm about how they can work together to help Bergen Catholic in its mission to prepare the next generation of leaders. We hope some of you enjoyed the handwritten notes by your fellow classmates. Our Chairs take their responsibility very seriously; see # 9 of the Class Chair responsibilities. We are always looking for Class Chairs, so please let us know of potential Class Chairs who believe in our mission and may inspire some new enthusiasm into our team. Thank you to all our Chairs for leading by example and tirelessly giving back to your alma mater with time, talent and treasure.

Bergen Catholic Class Chair Description and Responsibilities

What is a Class Chair?

Class Chairs are an extension of the Office of Advancement & Alumni Relations. Class Chairs lead by example by contributing each year to the Annual Campaign at a donation level that is comfortable to each Chair respectively; our goal is to continue to increase alumni participation.

What are the responsibilities of a Class Chair?

1) To support of the Annual Campaign and attend the January Class Chair Letter Signing Event.

2) Communicate with your classmates about the success stories that are occurring at Bergen Catholic. This is vital information that needs to be shared with all who live in and outside of Bergen County. A quick email or phone call goes a long way to keeping the Brotherhood connected. Your source of information will be your Class Decade Rep.

3) Inform your classmates that they can stay connected with Bergen Catholic on Facebook and/or follow us on Twitter.

4) Promotion of and participation in all Alumni and Advancement functions whenever possible.

5) Planning and organization of Class Reunions, including recruitment of other Committee Members to achieve the highest possible participation rate.

6) Identify and mentor other Alumni to join the Class Chair team.

7) Act as a Bergen Catholic Ambassador in your local community.

8) Keep Alumni Office informed of email and address changes of your classmates.

9) Remind classmates of the June 30th Campaign deadline and encourage giving to those who have not done so.

10) Once a Crusader, always a Crusader. Deus Vult!

If you believe you know someone who would like to join our Class Chair team, please invite them to join us. If you have any questions, please contact your Decade Rep or any member of the Alumni Board.
The Careers4Crusaders event was once again highlighted by an impressive turnout of both young alumni and alumni who took time out of their schedule to assist with networking and career advice. Over 60 young alumni took advantage of this great evening and the chance to hear from alumni who are currently working in various fields of interest. “This evening is about brotherhood and alum looking out for alum. This so happens to be the event that careers is the topic. It is nice to see so many take part in this gathering and the many others that the Alumni Association provides,” says Michael Jordan, Class of ’89 and current Superintendent of Schools in Maywood and chairperson of Careers4Crusaders.

Future Careers4Crusaders events are in the planning stages and anyone interested in serving on the committee and/or volunteering in any way is asked to reach out to Michael Jordan at 201-280-2115 or mjordan@maywood-schools.org for further information.
Alumni Events

Faith and Family: *Theology on Tap*

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

Thank you to all who came to listen to Father Stephen Fichter, Class of 1985, Pastor of Saint Elizabeth Parish in Wyckoff, on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at Bacari Grill for our Faith and Family presentation. Fr. Stephen shared information concerning research on faith and family in the United States today.

We were all intrigued to listen and learn from Fr. Stephen. He shared with us that the life expectancy of people who never attend church is 75 compared to 82 for those who attend once a week and 83 for those who attend more than once a week!

Another interesting fact that was touched upon was that the single most important social influence on the religious and spiritual lives of adolescents is their parents. (Smith and Denton 2005) Children who remain in the faithful fold as adults had parents who were consistent, unconditionally supportive and active role models of love, respect and patience.

We are eternally grateful for Fr. Stephen’s dedication to Bergen Catholic and his Community that also came to listen to Fr. Stephen and supported our *Theology on Tap* event. Please look for our next *Theology on Tap* in the fall. All are welcome and we hope to see you there.
Cigar Night
Thursday, May 24, 2018

On May 24th, 69 Crusaders came together to share fine food, scotch and smokes. Mike Herklots (Nat Sherman) wowed us with his auctioneering skills as he spurred the Crusaders on to generous giving. An epic night!

By the cigars they smoke and the composers they love, ye shall know the texture of men’s souls.

— John Galsworthy
Alumni Events

Ridgewood Memorial Day Run
Monday, May 28, 2018

The Ridgewood Run is the premier road race in Northern New Jersey on Memorial Day and true to form, the Crusaders were there! Brian Hughes, Kevin Rigby, Kevin Gaynor, Joe Charles, Bill Leonard, Mike Haviland and Adele Dessimone greeted visitors and gave out swag, coffee and donuts. We had a steady stream of guests enjoying the treats. Thank you to our generous donors: PSEG, Holy Name Medical Center, Bacari Grill and the Friends of Rigby Foundation who helped make this possible. John Malone ’78, former BC track star, ran the 5K.

Brian Hughes, Kevin Rigby, Kevin Gaynor, Mike Panos

Greg Tramontozzi and his brood, future Crusaders
On Wednesday, January 10, 2018, hundreds of Christian Brother Communities around the globe received this message from Brother Hugh O’Neill, Congregation Leader:

So there we have it, from the obit and announcement of Brother O’Neill, the life of Brother JB Walsh. Well maybe for some Christian Brothers but not for “JB.”

As a Christian Brother JB’s aim was the Evangelization of Youth within the Mission of the Church. Evangelization is a fancy way of saying to kids in word and deed:

**God loves you and so do I.**

And didn’t JB do that so well to everyone!

The number of hits on the Facebook posting reached over 8,100 and with the number of shared, the estimated number is over 10,000.

One post read,

“JB was a loyal, caring, friendly man who had no airs about him. He was a friend to many and could relate to us in ways no others could. He was someone we all knew we could talk to. He made us feel important and liked. We will miss him, but our fond memories will last.

“RIP JB. Thank you for everything. God Bless.”

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**The measure of a man is in the lives he has touched.**

— Ernie Banks of the Chicago Cubs
Once, Twice, Three Times

An Evening of Gratitude — Farewell to Br. Brian M. Walsh
Thursday, May 17, 2018

A celebration fitting for Br. Brian M. Walsh (“The Man”) was held on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at Bergen Catholic High School. The Bergen Catholic Gymnasium was transformed into a beautiful reception hall and 225 family members, alumni, parents, faculty, staff and Christian Brothers filled the room to celebrate Br. Brian M. Walsh, the Teacher.

The room was captivated while listening to stories of mentorship as well as friendships established with Br. Walsh during his three terms at Bergen Catholic. The stories all shared a common thread, although Br. Walsh is no longer a teacher in the classroom (and may always be referred to as the “GBT — Great Biology Teacher” by his students that he taught from 1969-1972); he still manages to teach us all very important life lessons. Sometimes we learn the lessons accompanied by long moments of silence, and difficult glaring looks from Br. Walsh, but we walk away better people having learned powerful lessons. There was no doubt that everyone in attendance at our Evening of Gratitude will hold Br. Walsh in high regard and will always remember him as friend and mentor. Dr. Brian Mahoney, Bergen Catholic’s incoming President, was with us for the evening as we said our farewells to Br. Walsh. We all laughed as we remembered one of Br. Walsh’s messages to us when he first arrived back at BC in 2010 for his third time at Bergen Catholic; he explained to us to, “Keep your fork...the best is yet to come.” Although we have sadness in our heart to know that Br. Walsh will be moving on to his new appointment in New Rochelle, we do have hope knowing that Br. Walsh and Dr. Mahoney will continue to have a shared vision and are in agreement that the best is yet to come!

Doug Sealy ’65 traveled from Winter Park, Florida to attend the party as a surprise for Br. Walsh and shared some very exciting news with all of us. Doug announced that he is happy to kick off and begin the funding for the Br. Brian M. Walsh Scholarship Fund with his donation of $100,000.00. Doug returned back to Bergen Catholic for his 50th Reunion in 2015 and established a fast friendship with Br. Walsh. He admires his dedication to Bergen Catholic and our students and wants to see Br. Walsh remembered and his legacy continued. Doug has high hopes that his classmates and many others will join him in supporting and honoring Br. Brian M. Walsh with donations to the Br. Brian M. Walsh Scholarship Fund. Long live the GBT! Gone yet never forgotten.

Thank you, Br. Brian M. Walsh. You will be IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER!

THE BROTHER BRIAN M. WALSH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Named for the educator who served as Bergen Catholic’s seventh Principal (1992-1993) and third President (2009-2018), the Brother Brian M. Walsh scholarship is established by Mr. Doug Sealy of the Class of 1965 as a means of memorializing his passion for teaching, for administering with wisdom, guidance and compassion, for his ability to envision a future full of hope and for his willingness to take the risks to make it happen.

The Brother Brian M. Walsh scholarship is awarded to a student at the end of grade 9 who, at the time of admissions did not meet all the requirements for a Presidential Acceptance Scholarship.

The ideal candidate has shown that during his time in Freshman year Bergen Catholic High School is an important place for him to become the person he and his God want him to be by:

• showing respect and pride in himself, his friends and Bergen Catholic;
• the effort he puts into homework and class participation;
• working to his potential in a way that shows that Good enough is never Good enough;
• and his Academic achievement is on the Honors level.

The scholarship is renewable each year during which the above conditions are being met.
Joan and Scott Gismond enjoying the party

Sharon LaMonica, Dr. Brian Mahoney and Linda Hobeika

Bill McKee, Jack McGovern ’76, Gary Adler, Vito Campanile, Jon Germano ’13, Matt Rosa ’08, Bill Leonard ’10

Br. Walsh and Family

Sue and Michael Haviland ’78
Many thanks to Lisa and John Amoratis ’77 for having all of us to their home in Naples. It was like being in paradise with the best hosts possible. Although we had alumni that graduated at different times, the stories were similar and filled with great memories. The stories related to how each classmate left Bergen Catholic heading off to college with trepidation but quickly learned that BC had prepared them for college better than their peers and instilled in them values, friendships and lessons that would last a lifetime. We all discussed the stories of Bergen Catholic students today and were glad to hear that the values and brotherhood still continue to guide the lives of our young men for years to come.

There is a contingent of 1960 alumni on the west coast of Florida who enjoy getting together over the winter. The visit by Marge and Br. Walsh is always welcome to keep us “old guys” up to speed on the happenings at BC. We greatly appreciate the hospitality of John and Lisa Amoratis hosting your visit. There are always stories of our time at BC and we enjoyed sharing them with Br. Walsh. We look forward to your winter sojourns to the sunny climes of Florida.

– Steve Warwick ’60

It was great to see the BC leadership team in Naples and to get an update on the school’s mission and activities. Thanks to Brother Walsh on his service and best wishes to him on his new assignment. The hospitality of John and Lisa Amoratis in hosting the affair was without match. Hope to see everyone again soon.

– Tom von Ohlen ’60

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– Steve Warwick ’60
March 1, 2018 – Tampa Alumni Reception

Words can’t express how much we appreciate the hospitality, support and generosity of Donna & Bob Orf ’71. The evening in their Tampa home was just perfect and we will be forever grateful for their willingness to open their home to us and our Florida alumni. Everything was spectacular, from the lovely presentation of the delectable food to each and every bite we all enjoyed as we dined together. The setting was unforgettable: Donna and Bob really made us feel right at home and went above and beyond for us. We all enjoyed stories and listened to Br. Walsh share an update on Bergen Catholic today as well as our future. Thank you to Donna & Bob Orf ’71 and all of our alumni that traveled to come and visit with us. We all left that evening feeling grateful for the values and blessings that Bergen Catholic has bestowed upon us. Deus Vult.

March 3, 2018 – Winter Park

On Saturday, March 3rd, we were treated to lunch by our favorite residents of Winter Park! Thank you Doug Sealy ’65 and Kelly Price for the best lunch and visit possible. After lunch we visited the Morse Museum, which has the world’s largest collection of Tiffany lamps and window panes. The Tiffany chapel from the Chicago World’s Fair is fantastic; do not miss this museum if you are ever in Winter Park, FL. Doug and Br. Walsh made sure to spend some extra time together, so Doug could hear all about Br. Walsh’s future plans once he leaves Bergen Catholic on June 30th.

Kelly Price, Br. Walsh and Doug Sealy ’65
BC Goes on the Road

Bergen Catholic on the Road to South Carolina
Saturday, May 5th – Dinner Reception at High Cotton in Charleston

I first met Brother Walsh in person at last year’s Inaugural SC Road Chapter of BC Alums in Charleston. I was impressed with his dedication and devotion to BC and its ideals. I was sad to learn at this year’s meeting that he will be leaving BC but I’m convinced BC has been better off having had his leadership and will be well positioned for future success thanks to his tireless efforts on behalf of BC.

– Jim Wenthe ’64
Monday, May 7th – Lunch at the Sea Captain’s House in Myrtle Beach

Br. Brian Walsh made a return visit to South Carolina as promised. He and Marge Quinn had an action-packed visit with stops in Charleston, Hilton Head and Myrtle Beach. It is always a pleasure to visit our alumni where they live. The BC South Carolina Alumni Chapter is our Flagship Chapter and they really know how to stay connected and network with each other. Once a Crusader... always a Crusader. Attending Bergen Catholic is more than four years; it is the gift that keeps on giving! Thank you to all that joined us as we were on the road sharing the good news of Bergen Catholic today and moving forward.

I had a wonderful time attending the Bergen Catholic “On the Road” luncheon held at the Sea Captain’s House in Myrtle Beach. It was a small group but we were all delighted to be together. The luncheon gave us an opportunity to share stories and honor the retirement (and birthday) of Br. Brian Walsh and the restaurant was great! Thanks, Bergen Catholic and Br. Walsh, for organizing. I look forward to similar events in the future. Possibly, next time do golf in Pawleys Island.

– Rick Broberg ’62

It was an absolutely wonderful day in Myrtle Beach having lunch with Marge and Br. Walsh and the others in attendance. We looked forward to the day with great anticipation and it met our every expectation. We’re sorry to see Br. Walsh leave BC but know he is on to bigger and better things with his new job in New Rochelle. Thanks for coming back to see us, Br. Walsh, before leaving BC.

– Joe Hordych ’65

Dear Brother Walsh,

Good luck in your retirement from Bergen Catholic. We will miss you at the Bergen Catholic Alumni gatherings, but please know we will continue to appreciate and love you!

– Marlene Stagnaro

Marlene Stagnaro was sad to miss dinner at High Cotton but happy to have breakfast with Marge in Mt. Pleasant!
In Memoriam

Deceased Alumni

Joseph Bolger ’79
Jerry Bosco ’64
Louis DiLeo ’62
Father of Christopher ’91
William Fornaci ’68
Griffin James ’09
Son of Greg ’78, Brother of Tucker ’13, Cousin of Chris O’Dea ’84, Bryan O’Dea ’96 & Chris Wheaton ’21
Thomas Mooney ’66
Brother of Jim ’64 & William ’65 (RIP)
Vincent Tirone ’78
Br. James Benildus (JB) Walsh, C.F.C.
Former Faculty

Deceased Family and Friends

Mary Beebe
Mother of J. Carter Beebe ’74 (RIP) & Mother-in-Law of Fred Fischer ’69
Nicki Brunner
Wife of John ’65
Robert Burke
Father of Robert ’78 & James ’80
Karen Camporeale
Mother of Carlo’17
Charles Cumello
Father of Thomas ’82
Ronald DiBisceglie
Father of Ron ’93
Delores Ferriola
Grandmother of Rickey ’04 & Mother of Rick, B.C. Staff
Lyda Figueredo
Mother of Jorge ’78
Evelyn Finn
Mother of Bob ’72, Jack ’73 & Jim ’82
Dorothy Y. Helm
Grandmother of Matt Bott ’97 & Mark Bott ’00
Barbara Katulka
Mother of Christine Sorrentino, B.C. Faculty
Lena Kelly
Mother of John ’79 & Robert ’81
Bernard Kenny
Father of Kevin ’83 & Martin ’84
Phil Lilgeberg
Father of Rich ’73 & Philip ’81 (RIP)
Edward & Dorothy Maloney
Parents of Mark Maloney ’72
Jack Maloof
Uncle of Terry ’02
Michael Marino
Father of Michael ’74 & Mark ’80 & Grandfather of Louis ’05 & Mark ’16
Vincent Martin
Grandfather of Vincent ’17
Eric L. McGuire, Sr.
Grandfather of Peter ’11
Richard Miller
Father of Phil ’66, Greg ’69 & Dennis ’72 & Grandfather of Matt ’07
Nicole Minson
Sister of Frank ’15
Debra Moye
Wife of John ’81, Sister-in-Law of Jerry ’71, Jim ’74 & Joe ’78
Margaret Mullen
Mother of Dave ’72
Margaret Murphy
Grandmother of Liam Verdon ’18
Nicholas Noble
Father of Doug ’79
Eugene & Susan O’Connor
Grandparents of Ryan ’14 & Jack ’16
James Panos ’66
Father of James ’97 & Timothy ’99, Brother of Mike ’72 & Paul ’73, Uncle of Steven ’99 & Mike ’01, Cousin of Pat ’60 (RIP) & Peter ’64
Raymond Robertson
Grandfather of Matthew ’20
Lucia Sticco
Grandmother of Jeff ’02 & JP ’07
Samuel Sullivan
Son of James ’88
James Sweeney
Grandfather of Tyler Garcia ’13
John Wenston
Uncle of Parker Tobia ’13 & Pierson Tobia ’20
Dorothy Zydel
Grandmother of Tom ’01

Bergen Catholic wishes to extend its prayers and condolences to the family and friends of those who have passed away.
Who Should Be Your Retirement Beneficiary? The IRS or Bergen Catholic?

I Choose Bergen Catholic!

Here’s Why You Might Want to Choose Bergen Catholic

Your retirement plan is always subject to federal and state (if applicable) income taxes. And, for some of us, even estate taxes. These taxes can significantly shrink what’s left for your family compared to other estate assets.

Here’s Another Option*

Designate Bergen Catholic as the beneficiary of all, or part, of your retirement accounts (IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s — even life insurance policies) and the proceeds will come to us tax-free! Then, make sure your after-tax assets, like bank accounts, stock or real estate, pass to your heirs through your will or trust.

Your loved ones may receive more from your non-retirement estate assets, and Bergen Catholic will benefit, too! And it’s easy to do. Simply complete a beneficiary designation form with your retirement account administrator or life insurance agent.

Contact: Zeke Rodgers ’92
Vice President for Advancement
201-261-4948
zrodgers@bergencatholic.org

To learn more about estate planning/planned giving opportunities, visit our web page at www.bergencatholic.org → Giving → Ways to Give → Estate Planning/Planned Giving

“...something as a benefactor. Bergen Catholic has always been an important part of my life. So I decided to leave a legacy gift to the school.”
— Bob Fortsch ’73

We recommend that you always consult with your estate attorney and/or tax advisor for professional advice and education before making any planning decisions.

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Crusader Legacy Society Membership Roll

Thomas J. Alrutz ’61
F. Ronald Biggs ’65 (RIP)
Joseph L. Branciforte ’64
Roger W. Breslin, Jr., Parent
John M. Brunner ’65
Owen T. Clarke ’67
Francis X. Donlan ’63
James J. Dowling ’64
Robert E. Fortsch ’73
Deirdre Fortune, Parent
Thomas J. Furlong Jr. ’80 (RIP)
Carl G. Haas, Parent
Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Harrington ’62 (RIP)
Michael J. Haviland ’78
Jack C. Howley ’79
Michael James Jordan ’61
Stephen Koll ’69
Jean E. Lowe and John Lowe Jr. ’69
Mr. (RIP) & Mrs. John Lowe, Parents
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mady, Parents

Peter Manzetti Jr. ’78
Mr. & Mrs. Gerard J. Maugham, Parents
Thomas McCarthy ’72
Mr. & Mrs. James W. O’Brien ’62, Parents
BJ O’Connor ’92 (new)
The Honorable John B. Paolella ’67 (2 gifts)
James C. Petrolino ’62
Artie Prior ’59
Robert J. Rapport ’69
Dennis M. Sigrist ’82 (RIP)
Frank J. Sposato ’69 (RIP)
Mary C. Steidl, Parent
Mr. & Mrs. Brian A. Tramontozzi ’90
Kathleen M. Treubig, Parent
John A. Uzzi ’63
Steve Warwick ’60
Mr. & Mrs. James Whelan, Parents
Kurt E. Zecchin ’68 (RIP)
Joseph A. Zodi ’66
Anthony M. Zupcic ’66

Spring 2018  53
Bergen Catholic High School
1040 Oradell Avenue
Oradell, NJ 07649

**NEW YORK NEW YORK**

2018 Crusader Gala

**Save the Date**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018

THE VENETIAN • GARFIELD, NJ

6:30 – 7:30 PM COCKTAIL HOUR

Followed by dinner, dancing, silent auction and 50/50 raffle

**MISSION STATEMENTS**

**Bergen Catholic High School**

Bergen Catholic High School is a diverse, Catholic community, which prepares young men to become dynamic global leaders by deepening religious faith, developing academic excellence and strengthening social consciousness and responsibility in accordance with the Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Education.

**Office of Advancement**

The Office of Advancement, guided by the spirit of Blessed Edmund Rice, seeks to build growing, sustainable relationships with people and organizations who care about the mission of Bergen Catholic High School and to spread the “good news” of Bergen Catholic to all who care to hear it, embrace it and support it with their time, talent, treasure and prayer.