

Autumn 2023



ESTABLISHED 1968

Youngstown Diocesan Confederation of Teachers

President's Message



Our annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 3rd, at 10:00 a.m. at Rachel's in Austintown. Hope to see many of you there.

Thanks to the Building Representatives and the Officers for all that they do.

We are very grateful!



The Youngstown Diocesan Confederation of Teachers



Invites all Members and Retirees to our

32nd Annual Christmas Breakfast Sunday, December 3, 2023

10:00 a.m. at Rachel's Restaurant
54 Westchester Dr #23, Youngstown 44514



Please RSVP by November 17, 2023.

Complete the reply form below, and submit it to your building representative. (Retirees should mail the form to the Confederation office:
8090 Market Street, Suite 1, Youngstown OH 44512)

Reminder: You can access our newsletters, this invitation, and other YDCT info at: ydct.us

The cost of the Confederation member's breakfast is compliments of the Confederation. Guests may attend at a cost of \$15.00 via check made payable to:
Youngstown Diocesan Confederation of Teachers. (Check must accompany reply form.)

_____ No, I cannot attend.

_____ Yes, I plan to attend.

_____ Yes, I am bringing _____ as my guest. (Please attach check.)

Name _____ School _____

Please return to your building representative by Nov 17, 2023!

Thank you!



News From the Front

St. Rose School

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

How blessed we are at St Rose to be off to a great school year! We welcomed new teachers Gina Leeworthy (6th & 7th grade Social Studies), Sydney Hargis (Spanish), Christina Leone (Kindergarten), and Garrett Mulrooney (PE & Health).

We started our school year with a whole school mass to celebrate the feast day of St Rose on August 23. Our students learned about the caring loving nature of our patron Saint. We are also lucky enough to have a new school garden and outdoor gazebo space. Father Jordan blessed this space after our Mass.



We had a whole school pep rally to highlight our fall sports and recognize our student athletes. Fall sports were off to a great start, and we look forward to a great winter season of sports and activities. Our home and school hosted our second annual Family Tailgate before the Ursuline football game on October 6th. There was a DJ, food truck and games for the kids. Fun was had by all.

God Bless us all on the new school year!



News From the Front

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

St. James School

Welcome to our new first grade teacher Janelle Eyster. Janelle lives in Magnolia with her husband Seth. They have 3 children and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of their second grandson. Although this is Janelle's first year teaching at St James, this is her 7th year at our school. After many years as an awesome paraprofessional, Janelle was inspired to return to college and obtain her education degree. She has taken the reins from Beth George who retired after 40 years. Janelle's commitment and excitement have made her a welcomed addition to our St James family.



St. Nicholas School



A warm welcome to all of our new students and Mrs. Mediate

The students and faculty at St. Nicholas School are excited to be back in the classroom! We would like to welcome Mrs. Samantha Mediate to the Hornets family. First grade is so blessed to have Mrs. Mediate as their teacher. We would like to congratulate Mrs. McBride and her family, baby Kenna Lee was born on September 8th. Students are excited to celebrate Halloween with our annual Halloween parade and skating party. Students are continuing to learn and grow academically each day and are focusing on being more kind to one another and the importance of how kindness matters.



Congratulations Mrs. McBride on the birth of your daughter Kenna



Mrs. Clark's computer stem classes: first grade building different houses and third graders coding their mice to find the cheese



John F. Kennedy Lower Campus

Happy Fall from JFK Lower Campus! It is great for school to be back in session and wishing everyone a great school year. A warm welcome to all of our new Faculty members; Mara Wilson, Tom Sharp, and Kyle Zimmerman. Congratulations to Nicole Gelonese on becoming Mrs. Nicole Glenn and Stephanie Cervi becoming Mrs. Stefanie Tempesta! A sad goodbye and Good Luck to Sean Zekkour and Christie Hrdlicka. We wish you the very best and we will miss you!



St. Charles School

Saint Charles School has had a wonderful start back to the 23-24 school year. We are excited to welcome our new fourth grade teacher Mr. Brock Powell who is a recent graduate of Westminster College. He is teaching 4th & 5th grade Math and English. This year, Saint Charles has started a Spanish class for 4th through 8th grade students. Mrs. Vargus is teaching Spanish and we are excited to have her with us. In addition, we also welcome Fr. Steve Zeigler as our new Associate Pastor. We have all enjoyed getting to know Fr. Steve and look forward to spending time with him this year.

As always, we love meeting our new kindergarten students. Saint Charles has 36 new sweet faces who are excited to be in school learning new things and making new friends. Each day they learn about acts of kindness and how to share with friends. They are loving school and bringing such joy to all of us. All of our students have been working hard in school and are excited to be back. Many of the students have celebrated Johnny Appleseed Day - our second graders were testing and tasting different apples and using adjectives to describe them and had a STEM challenge where the students built apple trees. Other second graders enjoyed a caramel Apple bar to celebrate the beginning of Fall. Our first grade students had a Camp Kindness Day where each of their learning centers reinforced concepts of friendship and kindness. First graders were also superheroes for a day ; they made masks and flew their homemade planes to see which one was the fastest. The third grade students had a great time as they conducted an experiment with drops of water and pennies: how many drops of water can fit on a penny? They were surprised just how many could fit. Our fourth graders have made it to the second floor hallway—that is always exciting for them. Also, our 4th grade students have ordered their recorders and books and are anxiously waiting to learn how to play the recorder. Our sixth graders are officially part of the junior high and they love switching and having different teachers throughout the day for all of their subjects; they also love having gym class together. The seventh graders used their five senses to predict what was inside a taped box in science class. There were many surprises when they were actually able to open the boxes. In art class, our 8th graders are using a grid to draw and enlarge black and white animal photos- we can't wait to see their finished projects.

Our fifth grade students enjoyed Camp Fitch with one another and their teachers. They enjoyed their experience with the great outdoors on three beautiful days filled with sunshine. They hiked, made butter, saw animals, walked along the lake and did so many other fun activities while there. The 5th grade students made memories that will last a lifetime.

As a school, we celebrated our first mass together on September 11, where we remembered all of those heroes who lost their lives that day. We prayed for those who died and their families. We also prayed for each other- that we all may be peacemakers like Christ.



St. Charles School—cont.

Our junior high is preparing for student council elections; our Beta Club is looking forward to performing acts of service throughout the year. Our Beta Club will be sponsoring a leadership program for our school and we are excited to have guest speakers to help us conduct workshops to help the students be the best they can be in and out of school.

Our students have been active outside of the classroom as well playing in many different sports such as cross country, soccer, football, volleyball, and cheerleading.

Saint Charles School is ready to have a great year filled with learning, fun, and positive memories. So many great and exciting things are happening in our school each and every day. Our school is filled with wonderful teachers and staff who make each day a positive experience for all of our students.



Holy Family School

Holy Family School has had a busy start to the school year. We have many new faculty members. They are Mandi Calve, Grade 4; Camryn Constance, Grade 4; Mary Ann Tyger, Grade 7; and Resource Officer, Marc Paluso.

Fall sports are in full swing with volleyball and cross-country. There are also many activities planned. The Week of October 9 is Spirit Week. Activities include Pajama Day and Spirit-wear Day. A Fall Festival will take place Friday, October 13 at 5:30. October 18 is Unity Day. Students will wear orange to celebrate the day. Students are preparing for the English Festival, Drama Club, Power of the Pen, and many other things. We are also looking forward to Halloween!



St. Christine School

The Crusaders of St. Christine have started off the 2023-2024 school year with many academic, athletic and artistic activities. Kicking off the school year with Meet the Teacher Night and Open House, our faculty and staff were able to showcase their goals and expectations for the year as we welcomed students and families back after summer break. The 8th grade students were blessed and commissioned as school leaders during our Opening Mass and the SCS Choir and the Cantor Group began their role in the mass as well.

Our annual Grandparents' Day event was a day filled with worship, breakfast, crafts and photographs as our students and their grandparents and special visitors made wonderful memories spending time together. Our volleyball teams, cheerleaders, cross-country runners and football players achieved success on the field, court and course while growing in their skills, leadership and teamwork. All of our fall sports teams were recognized at the Fall Bonfire, including the Kindergarten -3rd grade students who participated in the Cheer Camp facilitated by our 4th-8th grade cheerleaders.

We are delighted to welcome eight new faculty members this year: Maria Gentile, Theresa Kelly, Delaney LaBelle, Aaron Hurd, Carissa Pyles, Jennifer Houser, Gina Daltorio and Olivia Saunders. As the first quarter comes to a close we look forward to preparations for celebrating the joy of the holidays.



News From the Front

MIDDLE SCHOOL

St. Thomas Aquinas Middle School

We have 4 new middle school teachers this year: Tiffanie Pyles, Zach Kauffman, Joe Neff, and returning as our gym teacher is Jahari Murdock. We are very excited to have them join the middle school team this year! Some of our 6th and 7th graders in Miss Pyles' class had the opportunity to attend a webinar with Amer-



ican author Rick Riordan last week! The students were able to get their questions answered by him and hear what he has planned next. Rick Riordan is mostly famously known for his series "Percy Jackson." STA students are currently reading two of his books in the Social Studies classes this year, "The Maze of Bones" and "The Red



Pyramid. 6th grade, ELA, will be reading Percy Jackson this year.



Meet our STA Middle School Kids of Character for the month of September: Luke Shafer and Akeisha Villegas-Camacho!

Luke and Akeisha embody the values of kindness and dedication and we are proud to have them at St. Thomas Aquinas.



HIGH SCHOOLS

St. Thomas Aquinas High School

STAHS is happy to welcome Hailee Mudrick and Jahari Murdock to our teaching staff! The STA family have been working hard to improve the student experience by revamping opportunities, student council, NHS, and more. The future is bright at STA.



News From the Front

HIGH SCHOOLS—continued

John F. Kennedy Upper Campus

John F. Kennedy's Upper Campus has enjoyed an exciting start to the 2023-2024 school year. We welcome three new faculty members to our building: Kyle Zimmerman (music), Jen Story (physical education), and Darla Plant (campus minister). In September, our seniors traveled to Lower Campus to celebrate the kindergartners' first school Mass. Early October marked our homecoming spirit week, which included a blessing of the keys for our student drivers at Mass. After a four year-hiatus, the Upper Campus was delighted to host the Lower Campus students at our homecoming pep rally. Each high school homeroom has paired with an elementary class; we met our partner classes at the pep rally, and we are excited to keep in touch with them throughout the year.



Ursuline High School

Ursuline High School was proud to welcome our students for our 119th year! We once again have over 140 freshmen walking the halls this year! We are also excited to welcome a number of new faces to the teaching staff for the 2023-2024 school year! Our new teachers include Taryn Courtney, Sydney Hargis, Joe Kolenick, Amy Lisi, Michael Samek, and Karlee Williams. Ursuline also congratulates Greg Sauline '10 and his wife, Desirae, on the birth of their first child, Anabeth Marie, in mid-September. A congratulations also goes out to our beloved art teacher, Miranda. Over the summer, Miss Miranda Timmons became Mrs. Miranda Drummond. Congratulations to Miranda and her husband, John, on their summer wedding!



News From the Front

HIGH SCHOOLS—continued

Cardinal Mooney High School

Cardinal Mooney is welcoming many new faces this school year. A warm welcome to new Confederation members and full time teachers: Melvin Jones, Samantha Rulong, Allison Cooper, Stephen Bada, Garrett Guerrieri, and Dan Kosco. We welcome back to our building Justin Prommersberger, Social Studies and Tina Furano, Language Arts.

Congratulations to Stephen Bada and his wife on the birth of their daughter Aria Rose on 9/30/23.

For over 50 years, Hispanic Heritage Month has been celebrated in the United States from September 15 - October 15. This year, Mrs. Bassil's students from her Spanish classes participated in the Hola Fest in Youngstown and her AP students were a part of the Hispanic Heritage Month opening ceremony at the courthouse. (photos below).

We are looking forward to a successful year at CMHS and we are happy to welcome our new teachers as well as our new students!



News From the Front

Central Catholic High School

Central Catholic welcomed four new teachers this year: Shayla Jeffries, teaching Spanish; Jillian Olihan, teaching Math, Rachel Schmidt, teaching Theology, and Deacon Randy Smith, who already was our Campus Minister, and is now also teaching Theology. Both Deacon Randy and Mrs Olihan are CCHS alumni. We were happy to welcome all four of them to our CCHS Family as well as alumni, Chloe Keane, to our office



Shayla Jeffries



Jillian Olihan



Rachel Schmidt



Randy Smith

We have had a busy start of this year with fall sports, activities, classes, and service. Seniors and some juniors visited the Holocaust Museum in Beechwood in conjunction with our Holocaust Literature Course. Later that week the senior class helped our local SAM Center (Serving Area Military) with a project for veterans at the MAPS Air Museum as a class wide service project. Then the next week seniors were off to Camp Wanake for their 2 day Senior Retreat. On the last day of senior retreat the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors had a Community Outreach Day in which they worked on service projects throughout the community in small groups.

CCHS is looking forward to what the rest of what this year will bring!



Seniors picked a class theme for their year. They then worked on their banner which was on their retreat with them, and now hangs in the main hallway, and will be used at their Baccalaureate Mass at the end of the year.

Camp Wanake in Brewster has been our destination for Senior Retreat for the past 25 years. On this past retreat the Camp staff had us place a plaque on their cafeteria wall.



Mr. Dave Vincente, teacher and retreat leader, CCHS class of 1997, and senior Dan Boron, CCHS class of 2024, do the honors!





Reminders:

Check Your Pay

We should all check our pay stubs to make sure the deductions are correct. It is our responsibility to let our bookkeepers and the Confederation know of any changes affecting our benefits, etc. This includes changes of address.

Delta Dental

Dependent children who are over age 19 will only remain covered if they are full time college students **and** are unmarried **and** are listed as dependents on the parental IRS form. Further, dental coverage only extends, even in all three of these circumstances, until the dependent is age 25.

**"Trade unions have been an essential force for social change, without which a semblance of a decent and humane society is impossible under capitalism."
Pope Francis**



*Among the basic rights of the human person must be counted the right of freely founding labor unions. These unions should be truly able to represent the workers and to contribute to the proper arrangement of economic life.
(#68, Gaudium et Spes, Vatican II)*

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