

Summer

2022



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Youngstown Diocesan Confederation of Teachers

President's Message

As we finish this school year we can be both grateful and proud for all that we have been able to accomplish. In the midst of so many obstacles we have been able to provide another year of learning and another year of growth for our students and our schools. We have met many challenges and have worked hard to continue finding new ways of doing things. In his encyclical, *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis reminds us all that “the notion of the common good ... extends to future generations” (#159). Our work very directly enables us to have a meaningful part in creating this particular aspect of the common good. May we all grow in our ability to carry out this call for the young people whom we serve!

Special thanks to all of our high school and elementary negotiators and to John Peplowski and Karen Joseph for all that they have done for all of us in negotiating contracts this year.

Have a great summer!



News From the Front

Elementary Schools

Holy Family School



Holy Family is busy with spring and end of the year activities. On April 8, twenty-nine seventh and eighth graders went to the English Festival. Winners were as follows: Not So Trivial Pursuit - 1st place Pariza Sharma and Abigail Markey, 2nd place Lillian McDonald, and 3rd place Andrew Bushey. I Love Limericks— 2nd place Heath Nickell. 3rd place Mason Gay, Abigail Markey, and Marco Beato. Writing Games - Honorable Mention - Carolyn Dambrogio, Chris Clautti, and Abigail Markey. Impromptu Writing - 1st place Evan Brockway!

On Tuesday, April 8, Father Martin took five eighth graders to the Chrism Mass at Saint Columba Cathedral. They were Gabriella Memo, Lillian McDonald, Abigail Markey, Luke Lantz, and Evan Brockway.

Our track season is off to a great start. Seventh and eighth graders are coached by Mrs. Savko.



Eighth graders are going to Washington D.C. April 28, 29, and 30. Saturday, May 14 is the Holy Family Father Daughter Dance. May/June activities also include May Crowning, Academic Awards (Gr.6-8), Field Day, 8th grade retreat, and graduation.

Everyone enjoy the end of the year!!

St. Christine School

At St. Christine's School we made Pysanky eggs in honor of Ukraine and collected 264 blankets that were donated to the Ukrainians.



St. Charles School

What a great feeling it was to have normalcy back into our school once again. This year was filled with much enthusiasm and positivity and it truly has been a great year. Most especially, it was an honor to have Bishop Bonnar in our school for our Catholic Schools Week Mass! The students and teachers enjoyed visiting with him and felt his sincerity and the love and support he has for Catholic education.

All of our students traveled to see the movie *Encanto* during Catholic Schools Week and enjoyed popcorn and a treat while being among our friends. In addition to the movie and a pajama party day, the B Scott Basketball Academy spent a day conducting mini camps for all of the students in kindergarten through 7th grade. Catholic Schools Week was a great week filled with many fun activities and a week to reflect on all the many wonderful qualities of our school.

Our kindergartners loved making new friends and learning to play and learn together. They especially loved being with their 7th grade buddies and working together on several different fun activities. Our first graders learned to read; it is truly amazing that these young children work so hard and learn to love reading. Each night the students use Raz Kids and read to their teachers. Our teachers love listening to their students read. The first grade also learned about baptism and reenacted baptism using baby dolls. Our second graders loved their days filled with so much learning. Each of them participated in the Wax Museum where they researched a famous person and presented it to parents and friends. Most importantly, it was a sacramental year for them. Making their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion brought them closer to Jesus. The third graders had a cultural day that taught them to appreciate the many different cultures. This year many of our third graders began to sing in the choir, sharing their gifts with all of us during our liturgies. The fourth graders learned how to become organized and how to study for tests. They read several novels during the year. They conducted many experiments and STEM projects in Science. As always, they enjoyed outdoor recess with all of their friends especially on Kindness on the Hill Day. Most importantly, our 4th graders celebrated Autism Awareness Month by wearing their shirts in honor of our fabulous Rich Center Program. Our students show such compassion and are genuine friends to all of our Rich Center friends. Our fifth and sixth graders traveled to Camp Fitch together in September. It was a great experience filled with so many packed fun days. They studied reptiles and amphibians; they participated in a Lake Erie study while walking along the shore. They learned to live like a pioneer and made their own butter. They also learned how to live like a Native American on the shore of Lake Erie. Also, our fifth and six graders visited both of our high schools: Ursuline and Mooney this year. They learned just how wonderful these two high schools are and what they have to offer. The seventh grade students enjoyed switching classes since they did not have the opportunity to do that last year. They also enjoy their friendships with our kindergarten students and enjoy working with them weekly. Our 7th graders did a beautiful job presenting the Washing of the Feet and the Last Supper to our student body on Holy Thursday. Our 8th graders are anxiously awaiting their new chapter next year in high school. This year they have enjoyed a year filled with many exciting activities including their trip to Gettysburg. On this trip, they visited the Pittsburgh Zoo, Pirate Stadium, the Flight 93 Memorial and the Battle of Gettysburg. They presented and acted out the Stations of the Cross to our students and parents during Lent.

K through 8th grade had many opportunities to participate in different sporting events such as soccer, cross country, football, basketball, track, and cheerleading. Our students represented us well at this year's English Festival winning many awards. We held a Choose Your Charity Volleyball Tournament for our junior high which raised money for Purple Cat. Most importantly, all of our students participated in many service projects such as donating to Martha's Cupboard, making cards for Veterans, placemats for Nursing Home residents, and bringing items for Making Kids Count.

Mrs. Bartholomew, after 35 years of teaching, retired this past year. We honored Patty at our Easter Mass to show her how much we appreciated her for her spiritual guidance at St. Charles. St. Charles had a great year with many new teachers in our building. Mr. Venasco, Mrs. Wills, and Mrs. Bussard came to us from St. Vitus. Mrs. Allison and Mr. Hungerford were also new additions to our school. They felt extremely welcome and all of them love our school. We are blessed with a wonderful school, and we thank God for guiding us through these unprecedented years and bringing us back to normalcy. We look forward to next year with even more exciting activities.



St. Charles School (cont.)



St. James School

At Saint James School in Waynesburg, we have a lot of exciting news to share! Next school year, we will only be a kindergarten through 6th grade building. The past couple years we have had up to 7th or 8th grade, but the amount of students wanting to return for these grade levels are few and far between so we decided to just stop at 6th grade. We have been getting new families to tour our school and hopefully they will sign up to enroll their children here next school year! We have recently celebrated Right to Read Week with a Disney Theme that was planned by our student council members. They did an excellent job! Each day was a different theme, including Minion Monday, Sleeping Beauty Tuesday, Star Wars Day for May 4th, Cinco de Mayo on Thursday, and Flashback Friday. Students could dress up every day according to the theme. We had snacks to enjoy and students got busy reading! Our student council also had been raising money for our 6th and 7th graders to go on a trip to Cedar Point for a farewell gift. We have exceeded the amount and students will get to go next week! Our third graders get to go on a trip around the Sandy Valley area after learning about the history of the area in which our students live in this week and next week, which they are looking forward to! Teachers, staff and students are continuing to push through and work hard as we have a few weeks left of school! It has been a successful school year and we are looking forward to enjoying our summer breaks to recharge and get ready for next school year!

Elementary Schools continued

St. Rose School

Our students and teachers have been very busy during the second half of our school year. During Lent we had school prayer services, stations of the cross and our student council planned a scavenger hunt for all the classes. Our third-grade class made bracelets and sold them to help the people of Ukraine. Our eighth-grade students celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation in March, and our second-grade students received their First Holy Communion in May. We also celebrated special grown-ups in our lives as we had a Bagels with the Boys event and a Mother's Day tea.



St. Nicholas School

Students at St. Nicholas School are ending the school year strong, continuing to learn and grow academically. Lots of exciting things are happening as the school year comes to an end. Eighth graders and kindergarteners are preparing for their graduations, end of the year school masses, and our end of the year school picnic. We would like to congratulate Aaliyah and Jezabelle, two of our second graders, who received their First Eucharist. May God continue to bless them as they continue to grow in their faith. We would like to wish our Eighth grade students the best of luck as they head off to high school. Always remember you will always be a hornet and you will be truly missed. We are so proud of each and everyone of you. What a great school year it has been! We want to wish all of our St. Nicholas School family a fun, healthy and safe summer.



Aaliyah and Jezabelle, our two 2nd graders who made their First Holy Communion, with Fr. Martin.

St. Thomas Aquinas Middle School

The 6th graders at St. Thomas Aquinas enjoyed their outdoor education experience at Beulah Beach Camp (located on Lake Erie). Students participated in team-building activities, went canoeing, zip-lining, and hiking. It was a great way to kick off our spring break!



JFK Lower

Greetings! Here we are at the end of the school year; where did the time go? JFK Lower Campus has been very busy the last few months and the students worked very hard. A favorite activity is when the therapy dogs come for a visit. The children love petting them, reading to them, or just saying hello. Happy Secretary's Day to Mrs. Molten, our school secretary, who keeps our school running smoothly. Fifth Graders worked on a digital escape room in Science and wore costumes for Idiom Day in ELA. We were so happy and grateful that our church has reopened due to a fire before Christmas. Thank you Father Cicero for your guidance and faith. Our beautiful children in Second Grade made their First Holy Communion, welcome to the family! Third graders dyed Easter eggs using rice, they were beautiful. Students learned how to make crosses using the palms from Palm Sunday. The school Book Fair was a success and thank-you to all that dedicated their time. Second Graders learned geometric shapes by using a hands on activity. All students made a Birthday Card for Father Cicero's birthday; he was so surprised! Congratulations to our girls that represented JFK Lower Campus at The YSU Lake to River Science Day. Three won first place in their division and all qualified to go to Ohio State University for the state competition. Good Luck! Fourth Grade collected money for the refugees of Ukraine. Kindergarten students walked in Jesus' footsteps for a day. In art class, students learned the "drip paint" technique to make beautiful pictures. Blessed Sacrament Church presented "The Living Stations" in which several of our students played a role. Science Club made catapults in which marshmallows were launched. First Graders had fun making Leprechaun traps to catch those elusive rascals. Sad to see this wonderful school year come to a close; have a great summer!



JFK Lower (cont.)





St. Thomas Aquinas High School

Hopefully everyone had a blessed and rested Easter holiday and break. We, at STA, started the Easter season off by holding our annual Easter egg hunt. It was held at STA's grass practice field on Saturday, 4/2. This event was sponsored by our NHS organization, which spent numerous hours filling almost 2500 eggs with treats and prizes all donated by the members of the NHS. The weather held off, and we had over fifty children.

STA would like to congratulate our Boy's Basketball team on their successful season on making it to the regional finals only to fall to the eventual state champs. Now that winter sports are over and spring sports have begun, we would like to wish all Diocesan sports teams good luck in their seasons as they strive to achieve their goals in making it to the next level of competition.

On a sad note, STA, mourns the loss of a past administrator, Father Terrence Hazel. He was our Principal from 1986 to 1995. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to his family, friends and the communities of STA and St. Michael's Parish. He will be missed, but not forgotten.

Good luck to everyone with all the end of the year activities. This is one of the most hectic times of the school year. Patience and Perseverance, we are almost there.

Cardinal Mooney High School

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. — James 1:2-3

Perseverance is the best word to describe the teachers at CMHS. Over the past several years our teachers have persevered through many changes and I commend them for working so hard to adapt to the changing personalities and agendas that naturally accompany administration changes.

We have several people who, for various reasons, will not be joining us for the next school year. We wish them the best as they move along their career paths. Hopefully, their experience at CMHS has been a positive one and that they take a piece of Mooney in their hearts as they engage in future opportunities.

Finally, I must take a moment to thank Sue Trewella (there is not enough space in any newsletter to share her accolades!!) for her years of service to our school and ALL of the people who have passed through our doors. I ask everyone who reads this—whether you know Sue personally or not—to take a moment to reflect in prayer for all of the endless years of service Sue has given to the Diocese of Youngstown as she journeys along the path of retirement. This special blessing is for Susan Doyle Trewella!! We love you!



An Irish Prayer

May God give you...
For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
And a blessing in each trial.
For every problem life sends,
A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer.





High Schools continued

Ursuline High School

This year, Ursuline has two faculty members taking on new head coaching positions. Kristina Dugan, a member of the Ursuline Math department, is Ursuline's new head softball coach this year. Paul Kempe '11, Ursuline's Intervention Specialist, now heads the baseball program at UHS! Both teams started the year off with a win! Congratulations to both Kristina and Paul on a fantastic season so far!



Kristina Dugan and Paul Kempe '11

The Ursuline Quiz Bowl Team is led by advisors Cindy Lacko and Mary Kay Scudier. This year a team of teachers was able to join in on the fun by competing in a "Trash Tournament" held at Salem High School. The Trash Tournament tests the students' and teachers' knowledge of pop culture. This year the Quiz Bowl team finished second in their division and third at the end of the year tournament. The JV team finished in first place!



Ursuline faculty members in the front row (L-R) Eleanor Klucinec, Nicole Uerling, Cindy Lacko, DeAnna Sheffler, Pam Pasquale, and Anne Kakavros are pictured with student members of the Ursuline Quiz Bowl team.

JFK Upper

John F. Kennedy's Upper Campus has enjoyed an exciting second semester. We began with Catholic Schools Week, where students and staff came together for service projects, spirit days, and the annual Seniors vs. Staff Volleyball Game. In March, our seniors traveled to several area shrines for a unique retreat experience. On Holy Thursday, Mr. Klockner and members of the National Honor Society led the school in Stations of the Cross. Just after returning from spring break, Mr. Malcolm and his wife welcomed their son Luke on April 25. At the end of April, high school houses were able to compete in our first Olympic Day since 2019, where the House of St. Cecilia won the cup. In early May, students and staff spent Service Day volunteering with local parishes and organizations. As we wind down for the school year, JFK Upper Campus is excited to present *The Lion King, Jr.* in collaboration with our Lower Campus students.

Central Catholic High School

So much going on as we approach the end of this school year! Congratulations to Latin and Technology teacher, Kevin Powell, who is retiring this year. We wish him all the best in his retirement and are so glad that he will be returning to help us with technology as we're not quite sure how we will function without him! Thank you, Kevin for all you have done for CCHS throughout the years!

Pictured on top is one of our Salutatorians, Lexie Perretta, helping her friend since grade school days, Sophia Okress, get ready for the Awards Ceremony. Lexie is the daughter of our building rep, Dana Perretta, and Mark Perretta, who at one time also taught at CCHS. Pictured on the bottom are our "Tower of Light" Award winners, Ian Paul and Kendall Compton. The "Tower of Light" is our award given for students who exemplify the values of CCHS and all that we stand for by their involvement in liturgy, service, and school activities, but also, for the way they reach out to others in their day to day lives to help, to be kind, and to live the gospel.

We are proud of all our graduates and wish them well!





Youngstown Diocesan Confederation of Teachers Scholarships

We are so happy to be able to offer scholarships to children of YDCT members who are in our diocesan schools!

This year's winner of the High School Senior College Scholarship is:

Alexis Perretta (Central Catholic High School)

Congratulations to Lexi and her family!!

Congratulations to these winners of our freshman scholarships:

CMHS

Garrett Bogan
Maximus Scott
Roselyn Wade

UHS

Rocco DiLisio
Hope Hyland
Isabella Thornton

CCHS

Louis DiRuzza
Emily Schmidt
Luke Vlacovsky

STA

Kamryn Ellis
Londyn Frank
Mira Lombardi

JFK Upper

Riley Curd
Jenny Huang
Alexa Szykulski

High School teachers recently received a link to the contract.

High School Building reps will be distributing a signature form stating that you have received access to the contract.

You can find all future editions of the newsletter and the contracts
on this website:

www.ydct.us



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OFFICE MANAGER

Jackie Prologo

*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)*