



Saint Agnes School
Arlington Catholic
High School

Alumni Newsletter

May 2024

Reflections from Dr. Andrew Keough

Dear Saint Agnes School/Arlington Catholic High School Community,

Not long ago, I was visiting with some of our younger students during lunchtime. Suddenly, I caught the gaze of a kindergartner who was staring at me, smiling broadly... clearly contemplating something! She looked to her right and then to her left and then jumped from her seat, ran up, and grabbed my leg giving me a long and strong bear hug. The next thing you know, not wanting to be left out, her classmates joined in and suddenly I was surrounded by a flock of students hugging my legs and pulling me in every direction! It was one of those days at school that I will never forget because the kids, once again taught me what is most important in life.



Shortly after that event, I saw a clip on social media of a newly released primate running back to Jane Goodall, the renowned scientist, and the chimpanzee's famous caretaker, to hug her one last time before heading out into the wilderness. It was touching, to say the least, and got me thinking more about our need as human beings and primates to hug our loved ones whether spontaneously or intentionally. Simply put, it is in our nature. It is what we do.

In some recently posted Instagram photos, I was caught by my daughters and their friends, hugging my new granddaughter (Phoebe) tightly, as if I did not want to let go. My daughters sent me comments from their friends observing, "Your Dad looks like he can't believe his luck when he holds her. It's so sweet!" and "He's the baby man, Margaret loved the time she had with your Dad." Following up, one of my girls asked me, why do you hug Phoebe so tightly, Dad? I paused for a moment, questioning whether I should speak from the heart or not for fear of coming across too strong. I decided I could not hold back. I needed to

tell them the truth. I reminded them that sadly I lost two siblings young in life. If I had known the last time I saw them, that it would be the final time in this lifetime, I would have hugged them harder than ever and told them how important they were to me.

Life is short and I am pushing 62. I have learned some things. Even though I am not from a “huggy” family, I have concluded that it is important to hug your loved ones when you get the chance. Even if it feels awkward, uncomfortable, or untimely. Even if someone might laugh at you... or make fun of your “goofiness”... just do it. Unfortunately in life, we often do not get the chance for do overs, so we must seize opportunities when they come our way.

I hope you are finding time for family and friends during this gorgeous spring in Boston!

Sincerely,

Andrew

The infographic is a grid of nine white rounded rectangles on a dark blue background. Each rectangle contains an icon and text. The first row has two rectangles: 'DID YOU KNOW?' with lightbulb icons and 'BRIDGE PROGRAM AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS TRANSITIONING TO HIGH SCHOOL.' with a person at a computer icon. The second row has three rectangles: 'ACHS BOYS DIV.1 HOCKEY TEAM RANKED #6 IN THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS' with a hockey stick and state map icon, 'THE ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM JUST SURPASSED \$1.1 MILLION AT ONLY THE 10 MONTH MARK.' with a money bag icon, and 'CAMPUS SETTING IN ARLINGTON CENTER ON THE ROUTE 2 CORRIDOR.' with a road sign icon. The third row has two rectangles: 'STEM PROGRAM AT ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVELS.' with science icons and 'RECENT COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES INCLUDE:' with a list of university logos including Wesleyan University, Boston College, New York University, University of Virginia, and University of Michigan.

DID YOU KNOW?

BRIDGE PROGRAM AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS TRANSITIONING TO HIGH SCHOOL.

ACHS BOYS DIV.1 HOCKEY TEAM RANKED **#6** IN THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

THE ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM JUST SURPASSED **\$1.1 MILLION** AT ONLY THE 10 MONTH MARK.

CAMPUS SETTING IN ARLINGTON CENTER ON THE ROUTE 2 CORRIDOR.

2 Arlington

STEM PROGRAM AT ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVELS.

RECENT COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES INCLUDE:

Wesleyan University
BOSTON COLLEGE
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

AMONG OTHERS!

Alumni Spotlight: Jeremiah Hallisey, SAS '52

We recently had the opportunity to speak with Jeremiah “Jerry” Hallisey, a 1952 graduate of Saint Agnes School. Jerry is an attorney living in the San Francisco Bay area, is widowed, and is the father of two sons. After leaving Saint Agnes, Jerry attended Matignon High School. Following his graduation from Matignon

High School, he matriculated to Boston College where he received his A.B. degree in 1960. He received his Master's degree in 1962 from Cornell University. In 1966 he received his J.D. degree from the University of California at Berkeley and was admitted to the California bar in 1966. Jerry's areas of expertise include Trial Practice, Probate, Trusts and Estates, Educational Law, Commercial, and Energy.



Jerry spoke highly of the Sisters of St. Joseph who taught him at Saint Agnes and Matignon High School. When asked if he had a favorite teacher, he replied, "I liked them all". Jerry enjoyed playing football at Matignon High School. When asked if he could give some advice to present students at Saint Agnes/Arlington Catholic, he stated he would encourage them to continue to grow and learn – "there is no substitute for hard work and getting a good education".

We recently held a 135th Celebration for Saint Agnes School, which Jerry traveled from California to attend in support of his Alma Mater. He has always supported Saint Agnes, and recently made the inaugural donation of \$2,000 for the "We're Saving a Seat for You" project to support classroom expansion with the purchase of new desks and chairs. We are grateful to Jerry for his generous donation to jumpstart this initiative.

A man of great faith, Jerry attends daily Mass and shares that faith with others. We enjoyed our conversation with Jerry and we wish him continued blessings of good health and happiness. God bless you for your kindness, Jerry!

We are committed to featuring SAS/AC alumni and their lives after graduation in future editions of our alumni newsletter. Do you know of fellow alumni living the mission of SAS/AC in their professional or personal lives who would be open to being interviewed by Sister Barbara McHugh and featured in a future alumni publication? Please email Sister Barbara directly at sbarbara@achs.net to nominate an alum or yourself!

Congratulations to Dr. Robert Harrington '78

Congratulations to Dr. Robert Harrington '78 for receiving the American Heart Association's (AHA) Gold Heart Award. This award is the AHA's highest honor and is being awarded to Dr. Harrington for his transformative contributions as a volunteer and past president of the organization.

Dr. Harrington currently serves as Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean of Weill Cornell Medicine and Provost of Medical Affairs at Cornell University.

To read more about Dr. Harrington's career, please [click here](#).



(Photo courtesy of the American Heart Association)

Congratulations to Sister Cathy Clifford, CSJ

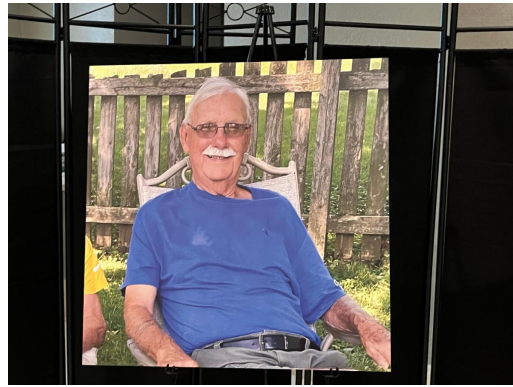
On Thursday, April 25, five members of the Arlington Catholic community attended a Gala for the Bethany Hill Place in Framingham. Bethany Hill Place is a sponsored ministry of the Sister of St. Joseph. For the past thirty years, in a climate of respect and inclusion Bethany Hill Place combines housing with learning opportunities to help families in greatest need develop skills, strengthen their lives, and build financially stable futures. Former Arlington Catholic Principal, Sister Cathy Clifford, CSJ, was presented with the Legacy of Justice Award for her leadership at Marian High School and other organizations advancing social justice and personal growth.

Pictured below left to right: Maura Lavalley, Dan Shine, Sheila Babine '75, Sister Barbara McHugh, Sister Cathy Clifford, and Serge Clivio.



In Memoriam: Remembering Lenny Cassidy

On Sunday, April 28, a special Memorial Service was held at St. Agnes Church to honor Lenny Cassidy, a long-time bus driver for Arlington Catholic. Lenny's family and the Arlington Catholic community hosted a lovely collation following the Prayer Service. Father Marc Bishop, Pastor, presided over the service and shared lovely reflections. The Arlington Catholic Class of 2001 dedicated their yearbook to Lenny and Father Marc read their message to him. It was clear that Lenny was more than a bus driver, but truly a mentor to the students and staff. Lenny also served in the military and was a first responder in the Arlington Fire Department. Representatives of the Navy were present to honor Lenny and present the American Flag to his family in thanksgiving for his military service. Members of the Arlington Fire Department were also present for his dedicated service to the town of Arlington. Rest in peace, Lenny! Well done, good and faithful servant!



Campus Happenings

135th Anniversary Celebration of Saint Agnes School

We celebrated the 135th Anniversary of Saint Agnes School on Saturday, May 4. SAS alumni and current SAS families were invited to join us for a community Mass at Saint Agnes Church. A combination of SAS alumni and current SAS students assisted in serving as greeters, altar servers, lectors, choir members, and Eucharistic ministers.

Following Mass, members of the SAS community were invited to join us for a reception held in Barton Hall. The reception featured dinner, photo ops, current student and alumni speakers, and performances from Saint Agnes and Arlington Catholic drama students. In addition to the many current Saint Agnes students and families in attendance, we were joined by 25+ Saint Agnes alumni (pictured below) and seven Sisters of St. Joseph!

[CLICK HERE](#) to view a special video slideshow from the evening.



Golf Tournament

What a day for golf! We hosted our long-awaited SAS/AC Golf Tournament honoring Monsignor John J. Linnehan at Indian Ridge Country Club on Monday, April 29. We had been rained out twice last fall but the skies were bright and sunny for 140 golfers on the course! We had more than 37 alumni participating in our event (pictured below)! All proceeds raised from this tournament support our School and school community. Save the date for September 16 for the next tournament!



Celebrating Earth Day

The Climate Club celebrated Earth Day by presenting a slideshow of environmental activists, selling Eco-smart t-shirts, and hosting a movie event. Over 50 students and teachers supported the events and our sale! All proceeds will be donated to a future outdoor planting project.

The Climate Club also gathered to plant beautiful Peace Lilies and spider plants to honor Arbor Day and the environment. The plants will be donated to the Arlington Health Center for the residents' bingo prizes. AC students join the residents for fun Friday nights of bingo.



Also, the club sends a huge thank you to the Donovan Family and Earthworks Landscaping Company for their donation of these beautiful plants, pots, and supplies!



We're Saving a Seat for YOU!



Saint Agnes School
Arlington Catholic
High School



We're Saving a Seat for YOU!

Will you help support the expansion of classrooms at Saint Agnes School?

Our school will be adding new classrooms this fall due to our growing enrollment and we will need to purchase new desks and chairs.

In honor of the 135th anniversary of the founding of Saint Agnes School, we are asking you to consider a gift of \$135. Funds raised will allow us to replace aging furniture and also equip new classrooms.

Your gift will be put to immediate use to benefit Saint Agnes School.



YES, I want to help Saint Agnes School celebrate 135 years and prepare for the future!

Quarter Century Society Induction

Next month, we will recognize two long-serving faculty members for their 25 years of service: Mrs. Betty Lally and Mr. Dave Wilcox. If you would like to submit a favorite memory or gratitude message to Mrs. Lally or Mr. Wilcox (or both!), please **[CLICK HERE](#)**.

Upcoming Reunions

Class of 1974 - 50th Reunion

Date: Saturday, June 22, 2024

Location: Savinos Italian Restaurant, 449 Common St, Belmont, MA 02478

Time: 5:00 PM

Cost: \$60

Contact: Bill Driscoll at bdriscoll@lindenmeyrcentral.com and Larry Barton at laurencebartonllc@gmail.com

CLICK HERE for more information!

Class of 1979 - 45th Reunion

Date: Saturday, November 2, 2024

Location: Knights of Columbus, 15 Winslow St, Arlington, MA 02474

Time: 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM

Contact: Patty Mazure at pmmazure@gmail.com

Class of 1984 - 40th Reunion

Date: Saturday, November 9, 2024 (tentative)

Location: TBD

Time: TBD

Contact: Paul Buckley at arlexins@gmail.com

Class of 1994 - 30th Reunion

Date: Saturday, October 5, 2024

Location: Menotomy Grill & Tavern, 25 Mass Ave, Arlington, MA 02474

Time: 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM

Contact: Michelle Deasy at michelledeasy@icloud.com and Christine Fleming at christinejfleming@gmail.com

Class of 2004 - 20th Reunion

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2024

Location: Sam Walker's American Tavern, 1 Rainin Rd, Woburn, MA 01801

Time: 5:00 PM

Contact: Mary Bowen at marycecilia.bowen@gmail.com

4's and 9's...It's Your Reunion Year!

Reunions are held every 5 years so if your graduation year ends in '4 or '9 your reunion year is 2024!

CLICK HERE to view a message from our Alumni Relations Ambassador, Sister Barbara McHugh about planning for your upcoming reunion.

Class Notes and In Memoriam

Submit your class note for the next edition of Fidelitas!

This is a great chance to let your fellow alumni know what is happening in your life. Whether you've just hit a major life milestone, recently

traveled somewhere new, or began a new business venture, we want to hear about it!

Click below to submit a class note today!

Submit a Class Note

In Memoriam

If you are aware of a graduate of Saint Agnes School or Arlington Catholic High School who has passed away, we would be most grateful if you would kindly email Sister Barbara McHugh at sbarbara@achs.net.

Update Contact Information

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