



Saint Agnes School
Arlington Catholic
High School

Alumni Newsletter

September 2024

A Word from President Keough

Dear Saint Agnes School/Arlington Catholic High School Community,

They say that with age comes wisdom. I am not sure I buy that completely because even as a pretty old guy, I still make a lot of mistakes and clearly lack wisdom at times. But I will say this: I am coming to understand much more than I did as a young person, and much of that understanding has come from life's experiences.



As I greeted students at our middle school and high school a few weeks back, I could not help but notice some of the angst on the faces of the students. It is a new year with new routines, plenty of moments of awkwardness, and even some setbacks (not making specific teams, not having the teachers they'd hoped for, or the classic, not "having any friends" in their classes). Going through these challenges as a teen can be hard and seem like "the end of the world" in the moment. The American folk singer Joanie Mitchell, in her song, *I Think I Understand* helped me to see life and its challenges through a whole new lens and has helped me to gain new insights through the years.

In it, she writes of the traveler who while following life's path, encounters incredibly dark, frightening stretches of "wilderland" wherein the light is blocked out and the trail feels like stretches of "stepping stones and sinking sand." But, as she "comes to understand", it is within her power to confront the darkness that comes with being afraid, through thoughts of brighter times and friendships. She clearly understands that dark times are part of life's experience... and can be very scary. However, when we recognize that they will pass and brighter times will come, we rob the "darkness" of its power.

At Saint Agnes School/Arlington Catholic High School, we take the additional stepping of "robbing the darkness blind" by teaching our students about faith. Faith that hard times come but will always pass when we trust in God. Teaching our young people that God never abandons us and that having a relationship with him is the equivalent of

wrapping oneself in a protective cloak or shield that provides remarkable strength during the inevitable challenging times of life and especially adolescence. In truth, especially after watching senseless school tragedies like the one that played out in Georgia recently, I wish all students could be taught about faith, much as they were many years ago, when going to church and saying grace before dinner were commonplace in everyday American life. Perhaps there would not be so many young people viewing their world as perpetually dark, with no hope of brighter times. Our students are incredibly fortunate to come from families that understand this need for faith and I am grateful to be part of what takes place here on Medford Street.

I genuinely appreciate the support you show for us day in and day out and am praying for you and your families as we start the new year. Have a wonderful transition to fall!

Sincerely,
Dr. Andrew Keough

Alumni Spotlight: Class of 1974 - 50th Reunion

"CLASS OF '74 DOES MORE"

Fifty years ago, the ACHS Class of 1974 chose those words as their class motto, and classmates proved themselves true to those words with a grand reunion that attracted 65 graduates plus spouses and guests on June 22 at Savino's in Belmont. Bill Driscoll '74, served as chair of the event that included a buffet dinner, DJ, a round of trivia with AC branded prizes and class mementos. A special award was given by SAS/ACHS President Andrew Keough to former English teacher William Murray, recognizing his 45 years of service to the institution. Sister Barbara McHugh led a brief memorial to graduates who have passed on, and the class was informed that an anonymous donor had given \$35,000 to help the Parish schools purchase a new van that will be especially helpful for sports and academic teams during competitions. "We are already having discussions about the next reunion- that's how fantastic this gathering was for all of us," notes Bill. Members of the committee that assisted him included Natalie Frissore, Larry Barton, Betty Lally and Dottie Lyons Amanti. Classmates came from around the country to celebrate the heritage of the Sisters of St. Joseph, their respective friends, extracurricular activities and more.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view more photos from the evening.



We are committed to featuring SAS/ACHS alumni and their lives after graduation in future editions of our alumni newsletter. Do you know of fellow alumni living the mission of SAS/ACHS 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!

Introducing Michelle Famolare Casey '84, P '14 '17 Director of Advancement



We are delighted to welcome Michelle Famolare Casey '84, P '14 '17 to our Development team as the new Director of Advancement. In her short time with us, Michelle has already made a significant impact. Should you wish to connect or learn more about our initiatives, please feel free to reach out to her at mcasey@achs.net.

Campus Happenings

Van Update!

Did you know that last year, we were able to raise over \$70,000 to purchase a new 13-15-seat van for our school? We could not be more excited or grateful for the support of this vision. With this van, we will now be able to transport our smaller athletic teams to various competitions, provide further opportunities for service trips, and internships, and so much more. Unfortunately, because there is a significant lag between the date of ordering and the date of delivery, as well as some unanticipated production challenges being addressed by the Ford Motor Company, it has not arrived yet. But we have been assured, it is happening!

On behalf of the entire student body of Saint Agnes School/Arlington Catholic High School we want to thank the following donors who got behind this initiative and made it happen for the benefit of our students. We could not be more grateful!

Larry '74 and Eliza Barton
Arlington Council 109 Knights of Columbus
John Carroll '64
Ken Hintlian, P '07 '09 '11 '13
Keefe Funeral Home
Connie Mugnai
Mark Sullivan '72
Charlie '79 and Robin Uglietto, P '13
Anne Valeri, P '14 '18
Carl Valeri, P '14 '18

Golf Tournament

On September 16, we held our 33rd Annual Monsignor John J. Linnehan Golf Tournament! As you will see in the photos and captions, it was a fantastic



success! Although it has always been considered a fundraiser to benefit our students directly, it also serves as an amazing community builder and reunion. Those who attended consistently remarked on how smoothly the event went and how much fun they had. None of it would have been possible this year without the many people who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to seek sponsors, solicit donors, and organize the schedule from beginning to end. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Golf Committee for organizing this special event and the many volunteers and school staff who worked so hard to benefit our students. Their efforts do not go unnoticed and we are truly grateful!

2024 Golf Committee

John Donato '86
Tom Fitzgerald '71
Tim Keefe '03
Ed Nolan, P '21

Mike Pallotta '81, P '08 '10
Mike Pallotta '10
Tom Porter, P '86
Charlie Uglietto '79, P '13

2024 Staff and Community Volunteers

Michelle Casey '84, P '14 '17
Alecia Connolly
Patricia Crane '81, P '15 '17
Tom Fitzgerald '71
Gabbie Foderaro
Julie Hall, P '20 '22 '26
Maura Lavalley, P '88 '89
Sr. Barbara McHugh, CSJ
Ed Nolan, P '21
Bob Sacca
Shannon Sullivan, P '28 '33
Katie Waitt '08, P '37 '37

[CLICK HERE](#) to view this year's sponsors.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view more photos from the day.



Alumni House

Recently, through the vision of Father Marc and our concerted effort to find space, we rented One Chestnut Street to serve as our new *Alumni House*. It will be the new home of the President's Office and our Development Team. This is an essential step for us, as for some time we have been using spaces across the campus that students and staff could better utilize. We are excited to be here and welcome you to stop by to say hello! We hope to schedule social events and Board meetings here very soon. Thank you all for supporting us as we continue to advance SAS/ACHS.



A Word About Planned Giving

As most of you know, SAS/ACHS is dependent on the support of our alumni and families. We count on your annual donations to help us bridge the gap between that which we bring in through tuition, and that which we pay out for our expenses. These funds are our lifeline! But did you know that in many schools like ours, alumni and families actually remember their schools in their estates? Commonly referred to as Planned Giving, individuals or families leave funds to their alma mater in their wills, via securities or property donations, by way of life insurance policies, and even life insurance policies that pay for themselves (whole life). Is this something you might consider as you think about ways to support the school that gave so much to you? We are happy to discuss the possibilities or to introduce you to others who have already taken these steps.

Please reach out to Andrew Keough (akeough@achs.net) or Michelle Casey (mcasey@achs.net) for more information and to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for considering the long term future of Saint Agnes School/Arlington Catholic High School.

Upcoming Reunions

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

Location: Donut Villa, 319 Broadway, Arlington, MA 02474

Time: 6:30 PM

Cost: \$50

Contact: Tricia DeBenedetto at TDeben@gmail.com

More Information:

- Check the AC 84 Facebook page for updates!- link to Venmo is there
- Discount Rates at AC Hotel Cambridge- mention AC 84 Reunion
- Brunch on Sunday, November 10 - TBA

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

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 Agents

We need Class Agents for the following classes: 1965, 1966, 1968, 1973, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1997, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2012, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Click below if you are interested!

Become a Class Agent

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.

Join us for Open House!





Saint Agnes School
Arlington Catholic High School



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FALL OPEN HOUSES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 2024
6:00-8:00 PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD, 2024
10:00 AM-NOON



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