

CRUSADER CONNECTION

Notre Dame High School's Alumni Newsletter

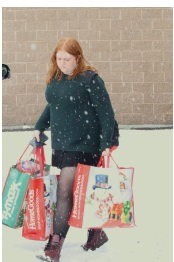
GOLDEN MASS

Notre Dame's traditional Golden Mass was celebrated on Friday, December 20, 2024, in the Charles & Mary Crossed Auditorium. We welcomed alumni and friends to celebrate with current students and families. **Fr. Scott Kubinski '84** joined us as celebrant of the Mass.

Golden Mass is a beloved tradition at ND; for many alumni, it is one of their favorite memories of Notre Dame. When the curtains are pulled back to display the many gifts and food items collected by students and their families, the reaction of those gathered in the auditorium is one of wonder, excitement and joy. As alumni joined the choir at the front of the auditorium for a chorus (or two) of "Joy to the World", the spirit of Christmas was everywhere you looked.

Notre Dame sponsored 21 families and 64 children in our community. Following the Mass, as excited students were dismissed for Christmas break, they were reminded of the real meaning of Christmas. They cleared the stage and packed their cars, and left the school to distribute the food and gifts.

A video compilation of the day can be found [here](#), with a special message from our international students at the end.



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THE CHRISTMAS SUIT

The history of "The Christmas Suit" dates back to the late 1990's when **John "Casey" Dunlavey '02** wore it for Spirit Week during his freshman year at Notre Dame. Casey gave the suit to his cousin, **Ryan Sullivan '07**, who decided to wear it his senior year for the 2006 Golden Mass in honor of his grandfather, **Jack Dunlavey '73**, who loved a good laugh and his wool plaid "Christmas pants". Ryan passed it to his brother, **Patrick "Paddy" Sullivan '09**, to wear to Golden Mass his senior year. When Paddy gave the suit to **Zach Stevens '10**, a Crusader tradition was born.

Each year, the suit is worn to Golden Mass by a senior and then passed down to a junior to be worn during their senior year. The person who has the suit remains a closely guarded secret until they arrive at school on the morning of Golden Mass. Crusaders and their families, faculty and staff, and alumni all look forward to finding out who will wear "The Christmas Suit"!



Gabe Patterson '25



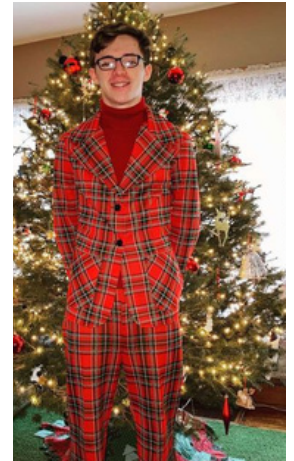
Vinny Campanelli '24



Shane Maloney '23



Steven Gough '22



Justin McCarthy '21



Patrick Finnerty '20



Daniel Stearns '19



Gary Raupers '18



Pat Brown '17



Toby Wirth '16 (with Alivia (Clark '16) Wirth)



Brian Brown '12 with classmates, (clockwise from bottom left): **Xavier Mustico, Alex Allen, Tom Agan, Sharkey Connor, Shane Manning, Collin McLaughlin, Jacob Wichtowski, Joe DeFabio**

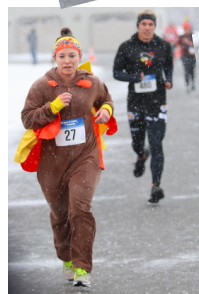
Unfortunately, we do not have a photo of the following:

- Jack Haskell '15**
- Jonas McCaig '14**
- Sean Brown '13**
- Pat O'Connor '11**
- Zach Stevens '10**
- Paddy Sullivan '09**
- Ryan Sullivan '07**
- Casey Dunlavey '02**

If you have a photo of these alumni in the Christmas Suit, please email a copy [here](#). Thank you!

**BOB AGAN
MEMORIAL 5K**

It was a chilly & snowy morning, but that didn't stop the 549 runners and walkers who joined us for the 12th Annual Bob Agan Memorial Turkey Day 5K on November 28, 2024. Thank you to all of the alumni who spent their morning with us! Additional photos can be viewed [here](#).



IN MEMORIAM

With great appreciation for her contributions to Notre Dame High School, we are sad to share the news that Sister Dolores Ann Stein, RSM passed away on February 2, 2025. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Marywood College, her Master of Science degree from SUNY Albany, and her Permanent Certifications in Business Education and Administration and Supervision from SUNY Albany.

Sister Dolores Ann taught several diocesan schools before joining Notre Dame High School in 1969, where she taught until 1984. She served as principal at St. Ann’s School in Hornell, NY from 1984–2007. Sister then served as an administrative assistant to the superintendents of the diocesan department of Catholic schools as well as an administrative assistant at Nazareth Elementary School. She was also co-director of Mercy Bridges, a literacy ministry sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy.

While at ND, Sister touched hundreds of students' lives and she remained a strong supporter of Notre Dame, attending many events in recent years. When approached by alumni, Sister Dolores Ann always remembered their name, and more often than not, some of their exploits while they were her students. The Notre Dame community shares in her family's loss and sends sympathies to them and the Sisters of Mercy.



1973



ELMIRA AVIATORS

Notre Dame is excited to announce that the school has entered into an agreement with the Elmira Aviators Junior Hockey Team.

In March 2025, ND will begin enrolling 18-20 hockey players to join the school in the 2024-2025 school year. The Aviators have already begun their recruitment using the Notre Dame partnership as an exciting opportunity for the young men. We look forward to welcoming the Aviators to the Notre Dame family!



ALUMNI CORNER



by Eileen (McCarthy'81) Ruppenthal, Alumni Relations Director

The winter season at Notre Dame is full of anticipation and excitement as the holidays approach. Basketball & indoor track seasons begin to see action, rehearsals for the winter musical are in full swing, holiday band and choir concerts are scheduled, and Crusader Christmas preparations for the Golden Mass can be seen in every homeroom, office, and hallway. Returning from winter break, the focus turns to mid-terms, Snowball, and Catholic Schools Week.

It is events such as these that mark a school year. While they recur each year with different students, the feelings surrounding the events stay the same over the years. These events and activities, and the memories of them, connect current students with alumni.

As Notre Dame approaches its 70th anniversary, discussions on how best to honor this significant milestone have begun. Throughout its 70-year history, thousands of students have walked the halls. Alumni are the history of Notre Dame, and this anniversary acknowledges and celebrates each of you.

Beginning with an Anniversary Mass and Reception in September 2025, the celebration will include events and activities through the school year 2025-2026. The anniversary committee, chaired by **Susan (Boedicker '80) Post** and **David Agan '82**, is developing ideas on types of events, and how to best reflect all of our alumni. A survey was recently emailed to alumni requesting input on the types of events that would be of interest. If you did not receive an email, you can request a survey [here](#).

Your input is important to ensure plans are made for events where you can catch up with classmates, share memories and laughs, and celebrate your time at Notre Dame.



DID YOU KNOW ...

... the Notre Dame de Lourdes statue that graces the entryway of the school was a gift to Notre Dame from Our Lady of Mercy High School in 1955. The statue is often adorned with fresh flowers in honor of feast days and holy days of obligation.



Keeping Track

1998

Dan Cain

Has announced his candidacy for Elmira City Court Judge. Dan graduated from SUNY Geneseo and obtained his law degree from Temple University. Dan has been practicing law in Elmira for 19 years and is currently a court attorney in Chemung County Court. Dan and his wife, Yada, have 4 children, 2 of whom are currently students at Notre Dame.

2018

Gavin Harrington

Spent the last soccer season on the turf at Brewer Stadium as the Assistant Coach of the Varsity Boys Soccer team.

2019

Emma Vakiener

Advanced to the semi-final round of the International Trumpet Guild Conference's Ryan Anthony Memorial Wind Band Excerpts competition. Emma submitted a prescreen tape in December and has been selected as one of ten international semi-finalists! She will be traveling to Salt Lake City in May for the next live round of the competition. Emma is currently a Graduate Teaching Assistant, pursuing her Master's of Music - Trumpet Performance at the University of Kentucky.

2020

Taylor VanDine

Is attending graduate school at University of Buffalo, pursuing a Masters in Social Work.

2023

Kate Welliver

Has accepted an offer to be a Tax intern with PwC for the summer of 2026 in the New York City office. Kate is a sophomore at Syracuse University - Martin Whitman School of Management, majoring in Finance and Accounting.

2024

Aedan Gill

Was named a Presidential Scholar for the Fall 2024 semester at Clarkson University. Aedan is a freshman majoring in Mechanical Engineering.



Keeping Track

Planning your reunion?

This newsletter is meant to inform fellow alumni of the great things you are doing, but we need your help in order to do so! Fill us in on your travels, life experiences, accomplishments, careers, volunteer work, etc. so that we can share your news with your classmates!

You may submit news directly to Eileen Ruppenthal '81 at ruppenthale@notredamehighschool.com or ndalumni@notredamehighschool.com

If your class has a reunion coming up, please contact Eileen Ruppenthal '81 at ndalumni@notredamehighschool.com to share your plans, schedule a school tour, request a class list, or for any other assistance you may need.

We hope to hear from you soon!
Thank you!

Alumni News

A new building in Elmira was recently named the "Sullivan Building" in honor of **Deb Sullivan '78**. Deb has served as the coordinator of the Elmira Christmas Parade for nearly 40 years. The Sullivan Building will be used to store the parade floats. For the video, click [here](#)



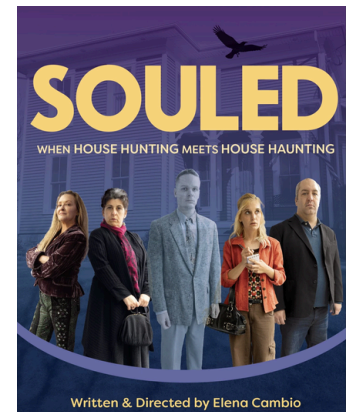
Elena Cambio '86 has written and directed a short film, *Souled*, the story of Jeannette, a conniving real estate agent specializing in "haunted houses," but when a family comes to view the house she's selling, she is forced to question her methods and answer to higher powers.

Principal photography for the film was done in an old farmhouse in Palmyra, NY, with additional drone video and an exterior shoot at St. Casimir Church in Elmira, NY.



***Souled* will be screened at The Park Church in Elmira on April 13, 2025, 2:00 - 4:00 pm. The cast and crew will be in attendance and there will be a Q&A following the screening. The event is open to the public.**

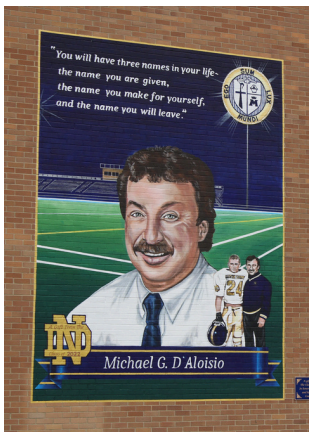
For more information on the movie, please visit the film's Facebook page [here](#). For more information on Elena's film career, her IMDb page can be found [here](#).



Congratulations to **Christina (Bruner '94) Sonsire**, who was sworn in to practice law before the United States Supreme Court. She was sworn in by Chief Justice John Roberts, with Justices Kagan, Sotomayer, Brown Jackson, Coney Barrett, Thomas, and Kavanaugh seated on the bench. Christina is a partner at the Ziff Law firm in Elmira, NY.

ALUMNI NEWS

The Elmira Infinite Canvas, a public art program through Community Arts of Elmira, sponsors both indoor and outdoor murals. Currently, there are 20+ murals around the city, a number of which have been created by **Emily (Firestine '97) Solometo**. Additional information on these murals, and others, can be found [here](#).



The mural of Coach Mike D'Aloisio on the Notre Dame campus is a project created by **Emily**, with Crystal Townsend and Brandi Moffe.



Brina Pochal '12 married Sam Bush on August 24, 2024 at the Ithaca Yacht Club. The wedding was a mini-reunion for classmates, who rented a house on the lake for the weekend. Pictured in the photo above left: (front row) **Will Pochal '14, Elizabeth Ike '12, Colin White '12, Anna VanFleet '12, Sydney (Dimon '12) Green, Brina (Pochal '12) Bush, Rachel Lamoreaux '12, Chelsea Camillo '12;** (back row) **Tyler Manning '12, Xavier Mustico '12, Shane Manning '12, Brian Brown '12, Detta (Gublo '12) Brown.**



Congratulations to **Mckenzie Allington '12** and **Tom Makowiec '12!** The couple were married on New Year's Eve 2024, and celebrated with a festive reception at the Woodcliff Hotel in Fairport, NY.



Makenzie Mahajan '17 and Steven Terry were married in October 2024 at the Colloca Estate Winery in Fair Haven, NY. Best wishes to the happy couple!

Jessica Ryan, ND Theology teacher and alumni parent of **Rebecca Ryan '17**, met **Natalie Smith '16** in New York City to see *Once Upon A Mattress* on Broadway. Both Natalie and Beckie performed in the Notre Dame production of this show in the fall of 2013.



Luke Mospan '18 dropped in for a visit and took the opportunity to catch up with Campus Minister Marie McCaig. Following his service in the United States Marine Corp., Luke was accepted into the Southern Tier Law Enforcement Academy, entering in January 2025.



Caroline Rogers '20 was the featured presenter at the Lodi Whittier Library's monthly STEAM Night event in December 2024. She discussed the Earth's history, put on a fossil show, and included activities in her presentation. Caroline is a graduate student at the University of Missouri, pursuing a degree in igneous Petrology.

Congratulations to **Erik Charnetski '20**, a med student at LECOM (Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine), on his White Coat Ceremony. The Class of 2028 White Coat Ceremony was held on November 9, 2024 at the LECOM Event Center in Elmira, NY. The ceremony marks the transition from preclinical to clinical studies. After the medical rite of passage, students recite the Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment, part of which is a pledge to provide quality and compassionate care to patients. Erik (pictured at right with Dr. Richard Terry, LECOM Associate Dean of Academic Affairs) is attending LECOM after graduating from St. John Fisher University in May 2024.



Griffin English '22, pictured left with Art teacher Susan LaVelle, visited with teachers and staff while home on winter break. Griffin is a sophomore at SUNY Morrisville.



Ashlyn Stitley '24, a freshman at Keuka College, returned to Notre Dame to gain some observation experience during her fall semester. She spent time with ND History teacher, Erik Rominger, observing his classroom and teaching style. Ash is pursuing a degree in Adolescent Education with a focus on History.

We love to hear from our alumni!!

Please continue to submit
your news & pictures to
ndalumni@notredamehighschool.com

ALUMNI MENTOR

Notre Dame's Alumni Mentoring Program, introduced in the fall of 2023, engages alumni with current students in an effort to foster meaningful relationships, prepare our students for a successful future, and leave a lasting impact on the Notre Dame community.

Alumni mentors are partnered with students based on similar career paths, interests, and goals in order for the student to gain direction and a better understanding of potential career goals and connections. Alumni sharing their professional and personal experience and expertise with current ND students is hugely beneficial in preparing them for their future career paths.



Detta (Gublo '12) Brown and Makenna Keough '25

ND Alumna **Bernadette (Gublo '12) Brown** is our newest alumni mentor, paired with Makenna Keough '25. Detta earned an AS degree at Corning Community College and then transferred to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to complete her undergraduate degree with a BA in Biology. Continuing at UNC at the Eshelman School of Pharmacy, she received her Doctor of Pharmacy Degree. After leaving UNC, she completed two years of residency training at the Providence Veteran Affairs Medical Center (PVMAC), a Post-Graduate Year 1 (PGY1) general pharmacy residency, and a PGY2 pharmacy residency specializing in Ambulatory Care. After residency, Detta stayed on at the PVMAC and is currently employed there as a Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner in Primary Care.

Detta's education and career as a Pharmacist make her the perfect match for her mentee. Makenna plans to attend St. John Fisher University in the fall of 2025 before continuing her education to obtain a pharmacy degree.

If you are interested in joining the Alumni Mentoring Program and making a difference in the lives of Notre Dame students, please contact Eileen Ruppenthal '81 at ruppenthale@notredamehighschool.com for more information.



the DRESS CLOSET

In November 2024, the Class of 2025 opened the Dress Closet, an in-school store providing gently worn, low-cost semi-formal and formal dresses for upcoming events including Golden Mass, Snowball, Prom, Senior Banquet, etc. All dresses available for purchase have been donated by alumni, alumni parents, and current students.

The Dress Closet has been a big success, allowing all ND students to participate in these special occasions without worrying about cost. The Class of 2025 is hopeful that the Dress Closet will become a mainstay at Notre Dame and will turn over the reins at graduation to the Class of 2026.

If you have any dresses that you would like to donate, please drop them off at the school office or contact Eileen Ruppenthal [here](#).

the Dress Closet

From Our Closet to Yours

Find Your Perfect Dress Without Breaking the Bank!

Dresses for every occasion
Golden Mass Senior Banquet
Snow Ball Prom

Short Dresses \$20 - \$50
Long Dresses \$40 - \$75

shop by appointment
sign up sheet outside of
Mrs Ruppenthal's office

OPEN NOVEMBER 20

SPONSORED BY THE CLASS OF 2025

ND Alumni inducted into Chemung County Hall of Fame

Natalie Frost '04 and **Olivia May '13**, two of the most accomplished athletes in Elmira Notre Dame history, were among the 2024 inductees in the Chemung County Sports Hall of Fame. Longtime area coach and broadcaster, **Larry Ransey '70**, was also inducted. The induction ceremony was held on the opening day of the annual Josh Palmer Christmas Class Basketball Tournament.

Natalie Frost '04 played five seasons of varsity soccer and four seasons of basketball. She helped the Crusaders to a combined eight sectional finals and six appearances in the state tournament. Natalie was Notre Dame's Female Athlete of the Year as a senior. She still holds Notre Dame records for goals (139) and points (338) in soccer and she had 60 career assists. Natalie was a first-team all-state pick as a senior in 2003, when she helped Notre Dame to the Class C state title. She was a third-team all-state choice in 2001 and 2002. Natalie was also part of five sectional championships in softball and was a four-time all-state selection. She helped Niagara University's women's soccer team to two Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference championship games and the program's first MAAC title in 2006. She was chosen to the MAAC all-rookie team as a freshman.

Olivia May '13 was a two-time Class C Player of the Year in softball and was named first-team all-state four times. She pitched Notre Dame to a 26-0 record and a Class C state championship in 2011. Olivia tossed 17 shutouts and had a 0.33 ERA that season. She set 10 state pitching records and her overall record was 90-11, including 46 shutouts, 12 no-hitters and 1,138 strikeouts. At the plate, she hit 26 career home runs and drove in 178 runs. In addition, Olivia was a two-time all-state pick in basketball and a tennis standout. She played softball at Cornell University. Olivia was inducted into the New York State Softball Hall of Fame in 2023 and was inducted into the Section 4 Hall of Fame in 2024.

Alumni **Larry Ransey '70** was also inducted in recognition of his coaching and broadcasting career. Larry started coaching in 1976, leading a CYO team at St. Peter and Paul. He coached Elmira Small Fry in the 1970s and 1980s, then was assistant boys basketball coach at Elmira Free Academy from 1991 to 1997. Larry began broadcasting games in the 1980s for WELM radio and has worked as a color commentator alongside Bob Michaels on RLM Sports. He called games on WETM-TV from 2007 to 2010.

Congratulations to all! For more information on the Chemung County Sports Hall of Fame, click [here](#).



**PRAYERS FOR OUR DECEASED ALUMNI
2024**

January

- 18 Mary Theresa (O'Brien '48) Martuscello
- 29 Maureen (Holleran '69) Lutomski

February

- 12 Dale Ramich '72
- 14 Aaron Mekos '92
- 23 Dr. Michael Barnoski '58

March

- 3 James P. Weingart '73
- 14 Stephen Chely '71
- 18 Janet Tobias '61
- 22 Marianne (Clune '61) Wichtowski
- 27 Joseph E Godwin '53

April

- 11 Richard McGill '54
- 14 Bridget (Sweet '67) Wetmore
- 18 Sheila (Aber '82) Cashman

May

- 5 Francis (Skilly) O'Connor '54
- 17 Michael DiCicco '85
- 24 Daniel O'Herron '60

June

- 28 David Palmer '00

July

- 21 Kathleen Madigan '64

August

- 6 Joanne (Barnard '60) Silverstein
- 16 Frances (Comereski '57) Decker
- 22 Kathryn (Ross '63) Chapman
- 25 Thomas Donnels '64

September

- 2 Rita Johnson '71
- 18 Marguerite (Cloke '59) McDonough

October

- 17 Erik Sampsell '87
- 22 Michael Hollenbeck '76

November

- 6 Joy (Ipri '62) Anderson
- 25 Dr. Ellen (Haber '82) Cain

December

- 16 Mary Kathryn (Lynott '53) Vargo
- 29 JoAnn Daly '75

**PRAYERS FOR OUR DECEASED ALUMNI
2025**

January

- 10 Anne (Michalke '52) Karski
- 19 John Myhalyk '70

February

- 12 J. Peter Fennell '49



*We carry the memories of our classmates who have gone ahead of us.
We remember their names, their faces, and the indelible mark they left on our lives.
Let us never forget the lessons they taught us and the joy they brought into our hearts.*

UPCOMING CLASS REUNIONS

Class of 1963 80th Birthyear Celebration September 12 - 14, 2025



Notre Dame High School Class of 1963
80th Birthyear Celebration Weekend
Friday September 12th, 2025 through Sunday September 14th, 2025

- ▶ **Friday Welcome Reception**: Judy's Place 6pm, casual diner, beer, wine, soda, Rossi Bakery treat. Prepaid reservations required.
- ▶ **Saturday Golf**: contact Marty O'Donnell modonnell@htva.net 607-546-8274
- ▶ **Saturday Mass for our Deceased Classmates**: St. Mary's Church 4-5pm
- ▶ **Saturday 80th Birthyear Dinner**: Tanino's Ristoranti Italiano 6-10pm, grand buffet, cash bar. Prepaid reservations required.
- ▶ **Saturday After-Party**: Judy's Place 10pm, leftover B&F
- ▶ **Sunday Farewell Breakfast**: Clarion Inn 9-11am, order from menu, pay as you go. Reservations required
- ▶ **Hotel Reservation**: Clarion Inn. Rooms blocked until Aug 1st for \$99(Fri)/\$118(Sat) (plus 12% tax). 607-734-4211 Use Group Account 4990603 "Notre Dame '63 HS Reunion" Clarion Inn reservation problems? Call 607-734-4211 Bethany Johnston, Manager

Judy's Place 510 W. Gray Street Park at McInerny's FH Sep 12 th 6pm	St. Mary's Church 224 Franklin Street Southside Elmira Sep 13 th 4-5pm	Tanino's Ristoranti 1-3 Old Ithaca Road off Hanover Sq. Hhds Sep 13 th 6-10pm	Judy's Place 510 W. Gray Street Park at McInerny's FH Sep 13 th 10pm	Clarion Inn 760 E. Water Street Downtown Elmira Sep 14 th 9-11am
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Please RSVP long before August 1, 2025

Classmate: _____ Phone: _____

Guest(s): _____ E-mail: _____

	Number	Amount
Friday night Reception: Judy's Place @ \$30 per person	_____	_____
Saturday night Birthday Dinner: Tanino's @ \$50 per person	_____	_____
Sunday morning Farewell Breakfast: Clarion Inn. Pay as you go.	_____	_____
Clarion Inn hotel reservation	_____	_____
Total	_____	_____

Please make your check payable to Jim Mockler ND '63 and mail to 12729 McCartysville Place, Saratoga, CA 95070-3847 or PayPal/Venmo funds to jim.mockler@gmail.com. Regrets to jim.mockler@gmail.com

UPCOMING CLASS REUNIONS

CLASS OF 1975 50TH REUNION

OCTOBER 11, 2025

- 2:00** Tour of Notre Dame High School
- 4:00** Mass at St. Mary's Southside
in memory of deceased classmates
- 6:00** Celebration at Ill Eagle Taphouse
200 East Church Street, Elmira, NY

Please join the class Facebook page [here](#)

CLASS OF 1981 GET TOGETHER

**MAY 17, 2025
1:00 PM**

O'Ryans Sports Bar & Grill
159 Prescott Avenue
Elmira Heights, NY 14903

Questions and/or RSVP
please text
Tom Lepkowski 607-738-5565
Bill Seymour 607-331-1737



ND CLASS OF 2005

Save the Date

August 16, 2025

for our 20-year reunion!

Tour of Notre Dame, Time TBD
Hill Top Inn Tiki Deck, 6-9 PM

Ticket price & details to come!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 26, 2025

DIAMONDS AND DENIM



PARTY AT LECOM ARENA

Sponsored by Notre Dame Spring Event Committee

NOTRE DAME SPOTLIGHTERS PRESENT



FRIDAY, APRIL 4 7:00 PM SATURDAY, APRIL 5 2:00 PM

\$12 at the door

SAVE THE DATE
2025 Annual
GOLF
Tournament



JUNE 1, 2025

Mark Twain Golf Course

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

STUDENT LIFE

With the Crusader Christmas assembly on December 3, the preparations for Golden Mass began. Notre Dame sponsored 64 children from 21 families, providing gifts and food for all. With a target goal to collect 700 gifts and food for winter break in less than 3 weeks, the ND community got to work. Homerooms were assigned to families and the food items to be collected. Wrapping paper was distributed so that gifts could be wrapped. Even with an additional family added less than 24 hours before Golden Mass, our students, families, faculty and alumni once again met the challenge and shared in the joy of the season with our community.

CRUSADER CHRISTMAS



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

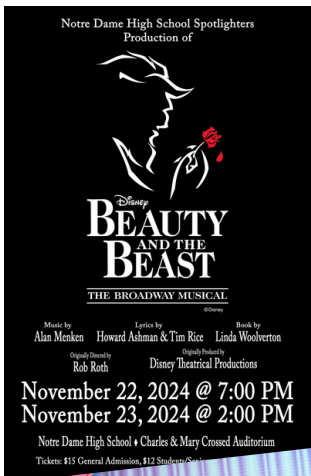
Notre Dame students performed for families and guests at the annual Christmas Concert on December 11, 2024. The beautiful holiday music was the perfect addition to the holiday season.



STUDENT LIFE

THEATER

Notre Dame's production of *Beauty and the Beast* was a highlight of the holiday season! The beloved musical was presented by the ND Spotlighters, including seniors Kylie Agan, Bunny Baldwin, Shannon Craig, Sara Looney, Bella Mashewske, Dylan Mattoon, Maggie Moore, and Alex Shultz. Brava! Additional photos can be found [here](#). Don't miss the spring production of *Grease*!



The National Chinese Honor Society partnered with the ND Supper Club at the Elmira Community Kitchen to celebrate Chinese New Year with a special meal featuring Chinese cuisine. The menu included chicken and broccoli with rice, and corn soup and served about 100 people. All the guests also received an orange and a chocolate coin for good luck!

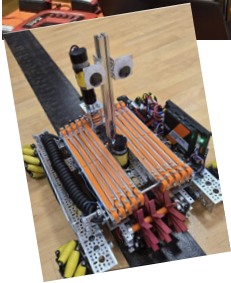
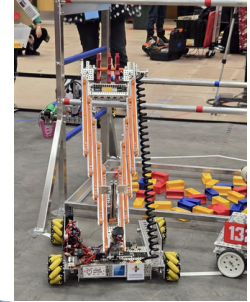
NATIONAL CHINESE HONOR SOCIETY ND SUPPER CLUB



STUDENT LIFE

JR HIGH ROBOTICS

The FTC #16854 Nuclear Detonation Team competed at the NY Excelsior Finger Lakes Qualifier in Penfield, NY in December 2024.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Each year, Notre Dame joins with Catholic Schools across the country in celebration of our Catholic identity. The week was full of surprises, including mid-day treats and an assembly.



STUDENT LIFE

Congratulations to the Girls Varsity Soccer team! Section IV Class C Champions!!



The Lady Crusaders

The Notre Dame girls' soccer team ended their season with eight IAC All-Stars! Senior Makenna Keough, juniors Ellie Green, Jhamairah Maxwell, Payton Sutryk, and sophomore MK Young all earned first-team honors.

Seniors Leah and Molly O'Connell, along with eighth-grader Liz Young, earned second-team honors.

Senior Makenna Keough led the Southern Tier Sports Report ALL-STSR Girls Soccer All-Stars.

Makenna was named Player of the Year, with 22 goals and 16 assists, leading all area players in scoring during the season.

Sophomore MK Young was named Offensive Player of the Year, with an area-best 24 goals, along with 10 assists, through the season and sectional play.

The STSR Fantastic 15 All-Stars included Makenna Keough, MK Young, Jhamairah Maxwell, Ellie Green and Jhamairah Maxwell.

Payton Sutryk, Leah O'Connell, and Molly O'Connell were named to the STSR Second-Team.

Liz Young, Lauren Coseo, and Rose Daly were named to the STSR Rookie Team.

Well done Lady Crusaders!!!

STUDENT LIFE

Congratulations to the Girls Varsity Basketball team

who defeated Ithaca for the Girls Division I Regional title in the Josh Palmer Fund Clarion Classic.

A big BLUE and GOLD shout out to juniors Payton Sutryk who earned MVP honors, Jhamairah Maxwell who was recognized with the Sixth Woman Award, and Kalysta Demark who made the All Tournament Team!!



Front row: Sadie Potter, Kalysta Demark, Emily Coseo, Jhamairah Maxwell
Back row: Coach Cara Hope, Payton Sutryk, Leah O'Connell, Molly O'Connell, Shannon Craig, Maggie Moore



Congratulations to Sophomore Gavin Meier who made his first trip to the State Class D Cross Country Championships!!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT EMERITA



by Sister Mary Walter Hickey, RSM

*Some people think Christmas
Comes from a box or a store...
But they are wrong
Christmas comes from the heart.*

Mattie Stepanek

If you walk the halls of our school or go into any homeroom, you will see the spirit of Christmas giving from the hearts of our Notre Dame High School community. You can feel the joy, happiness, and love as well as the celebration of life which comes from the generosity of our students who care about those who are less fortunate than they are.

Boxes are decorated and are filling up with sugar, flour, mixes, cereals, peanut butter, jelly, crackers, pasta, desserts, bath items, and canned goods for the families for whom we are collecting. Our students remember the gospel message, "Whatever you do for the least of my brethren..." and each day they bring in more as they prepare for the Golden Mass.

Notre Dame High School continues to provide programs that develop the whole person – mind and heart, body, and soul. We believe this is an investment that will create a tomorrow of great promise. Our school community joins me in wishing you and your family peace, joy, and love as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of the true meaning of Christmas.



SPONSOR A STUDENT

Are you interested in sponsoring a Notre Dame student?
Your financial support can cover a student's tuition, sports fees, graduation fees, lunch payments, exam fees, or Mercy Online tuition fees.

If you are interested in supporting a Notre Dame student, please contact
Eileen Ruppenthal '81 at ruppenthale@notredamehighschool.com

Thank you!!