

Alumni News

Saint Philip Catholic Central High School

Vol. 16, No. 2

2016

St. Philip Catholic Central
High School Alumni Association
Proudly Welcomes



THE CLASS OF 2016

Congratulations to the Class of 2016 Academic Top Ten



Emily Forche

Emily will attend Grand Valley State University.



Lauren Janus

Lauren will attend Loyola University.



Anna Lehouiiller

Anna will attend Grand Valley State University.



Abby McKinzie

Abby will attend Virginia Tech University.

VALEDICTORIAN



Stephen Graham

Stephen will attend Butler University.

SALUTATORIAN



Megan Gordon

Megan will attend the University of Michigan.

Kellyn McKnight

Kellyn will attend the University of Michigan.



Diana Mejia-Lugo

Diana will attend Central Michigan University.



Abby Mullis

Abby will attend Central Michigan University.



Patrick Sprague

Patrick will attend Columbia College.



ALUMNI'S GUIDE TO WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN & WHY
TAKE A LOOK WITH YOUR CALENDAR BOOK

**20TH ANNUAL ALUMNI
 HOMECOMING REUNION**

All alumni and friends are invited September 17, 2016 to the 20th Annual Alumni Homecoming Reunion. You should have already received your invitations for this day of nostalgia, food and fun.

The day begins with a Tiger Tailgate at 12:00 noon and Big RED Football kicks off at 1:30 p.m. During the game, we will honor the 2016 Athletic Hall of Fame.

The festivities continue at the 4:30 Mass at St. Philip Church where we will honor all the STP alumni and remember those who have gone before us.

A cocktail hour will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the St. Philip Parish Center, followed by dinner.

The 2016 Distinguished Alumni will be honored and the school will be open for all alumni to explore. Reconnect and reminisce while wandering the hallways and classrooms of your alma mater. There is still time to sign up!

REUNION ROLL CALL

**Class of 1951's 65th Reunion
 September 16-17, 2016**

Contact Vern Herzing
 vjherzing@aol.com
 (269) 963-6101

**Class of 1961's 55th Reunion
 September 16-17, 2016**

Contact Sally Austin
 (269) 967-2917

More information is being mailed.

**Class of 1966's 50th reunion
 September 16-17, 2016**

Contact Anne (Burke) Norlander
 annenorlander@hotmail.com
 (269) 967-1977

**Class of 1986's 30th reunion
 September 16-17, 2016**

Contact Audra (Cutsinger) Gapinski
 audragap@gmail.com
 (312) 813-8609

**CALLING ALL MEMBERS
 OF THE CLASSES OF**

**1926, 1931, 1936,
 1941, 1946, 1956,
 1971, 1976, 1981,
 1991, 1996, 2001,
 2006 AND 2011**



**WHEN DO YOU WANT TO
 "REUNION"?**

Celebrating a Century of Education

**ST. PHILIP CATHOLIC
 CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

1917 - 2017

Our story continues



Remember: You are welcome to visit your alma mater whenever life brings you to Battle Creek!

SAVE THE DATE

**ALL SAINTS
 SUPERFEST**

SEPTEMBER 24-26, 2016

Fun for the whole family
 on the grounds of St. Joseph Parish

DON'T FORGET TO LIKE US!



STP's on Facebook:
 Saint Philip Alumni
 Association

The 11th Annual

**Sheila Guerra
 Memorial Golf Outing**

Sunday, September 18, 2016
 Marywood Golf Club

- 12:30 lunch •1 p.m. Shotgun Start
- Men, Women and Mixed Divisions
- \$65 per person •\$50 for tee and green sponsorship •Contact Vicky Groat at 269.963.1462 or Mary Rabbitt at 269.963.4503

All Proceeds Support BCACS Scholarships

CLASS REUNIONS * ENGAGEMENTS * WEDDINGS * ANNIVERSARIES * BABIES * SPECIAL MOMENTS * HOLIDAY PARTIES

STP ALUMNI SMILES AND MILESTONES



[top] Members of the Class of 1974 gathered in June to celebrate turning 60!

[middle left] Lena (Maddelena) Wood and Mary Ann (Clay) Cole, Classmates from the Class of 1944 celebrated 90 years young!

[middle center] Connor William Theis was born on June 1, 2016. Connor is the son of Nick and Molly (Vaughan) Theis, Class of 2006.

[middle right] Carter Joseph Rabbitt was born on June 24, 2016. Carter is the son of Kyra and Chris Rabbitt, Class of 2000. He is pictured with siblings, Cooper and Lyla.

[bottom middle] Nancy M. Brown, Class of 1954 celebrated her 80th birthday in June!

[bottom left] Oliver Patrick Buckley was born on June 11, 2016. Oliver is the son of Nick, Class of 2003 and Alexis (Rainier) Buckley, Class of 2004.

[bottom right] Calvin Alcoser Chadwick was born on May 10, 2016. Calvin is the son of Jeff and Mary Chadwick, Class of 1997.

Awards, Honors and Distinctions

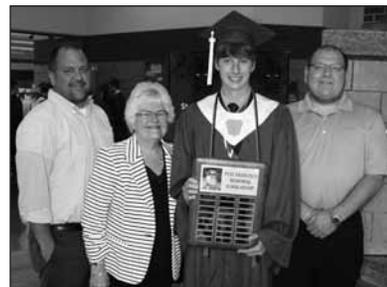
Twenty-seven members out of forty-two scored a twenty-three or above on their ACT (American College Testing). This qualifies them for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship. Thirty-six out of forty-two members were offered or qualify for some type of scholarship. Collectively, the Class of 2016 has been awarded nearly \$2.4 million in college scholarships. We congratulate all the members of the Class of 2016.

Noah Andrews – Kellogg Community College
 Sara Boggio – Kellogg Community College
 William Conkey – Western Michigan University
 Maritza Corral – Kellogg Community College

Landon Craven – Western Michigan University
 Brayden Darr – Western Michigan University
 David Downey – Hillsdale College
 Lydia Drake – Kalamazoo Valley Community College
 Omar Gaona – Kellogg Community College
 Brendan Gaussein – Kalamazoo College
 Faith Guzzo – Albright College
 Evan Hanna – Western Michigan University
 Albert Hruai – Kellogg Community College
 Suzanne King – Michigan Career Tech Institute
 Chandler Klein – Kellogg Community College
 Elizabeth Kuenzel – Grand Valley State University
 Hayden Landstra – Kellogg Community College
 Morgan Luoma – Michigan State University
 Andrew Marsden – Kellogg Community College

Wade McIntyre – Kellogg Community College
 Chelsea Reece – Grand Valley State University
 Reina Reyes – Kellogg Community College
 Olivia Robinson – Kellogg Community College
 Riley Rutherford – Michigan State University
 Anahita Saifollahi – Michigan State University
 Lucas Sang – Kellogg Community College
 Trevor Searls – Western Michigan University
 Julia Slattery – Grand Valley State University
 Benjamin Unger – Aquinas College
 DeAngelo VanSyckle – Western Michigan University
 Emily Wesner – Kellogg Community College
 Jack Wojcik – Columbia College

The Battle Creek Catholic Schools Foundation proudly announces the Class of 2016 scholarship awardees



The **Carrie Adams Memorial Scholarship** was established by Carrie's parents, Chuck and Cheryl Adams, in Carrie's memory. Carrie graduated in 1991, following a distinguished academic and athletic high school career. The 2016 recipient is **Emily Forche**. Emily will study physical therapy at Grand Valley State University.

The **Sheila Guerra Memorial Scholarship** honors the memory of Sheila Guerra, former St. Philip teacher and volleyball coach. Prior to her death in 2006, Sheila established this scholarship fund for students to pursue their secondary education goals. The 2016 recipient is **Morgan Luoma**. Morgan plans to study dairy science at Michigan State University.

The **John B. and Margaret A. Hogan Medical Scholarship** was established by John B. Hogan, Class of 1939 and Margaret (Skaggs) Hogan, Class of 1942. The 2016 recipient is **Megan Gordon**. Megan is attending the University of Michigan for pre-med.

The **Pete Francisco Memorial Scholarship** which was established in 2014 by Mrs. Jo Francisco and her sons Jason, Class of 2000 and Chad, Class of 1998 to honor the memory of Pete Francisco, husband, father, grandfather,

coach, friend and mentor. The 2016 recipient is **David Downey**. David will study engineering at Hillsdale College.

David Downey also received the **Al Leibert Family Scholarship**, which was established by retired educator and longtime coach and mentor, Al Leibert.

Mrs. Edith List and her son, Charles List in memory of Mr. Howard M. List and Howard and Edith's daughter, Elizabeth, established the **Howard M. and Edith M. Scholarship**. The 2016 recipient is **Abby Mullis**. Abby plans to attend the Central Michigan University for music education.

The **Sonneborn Football Athlete Scholarship** was established in 2015 by Dr. Arthur A. Sonneborn. The 2016 recipient is **Brendan Gaussein**. Brendan will attend Kalamazoo College for pre-med in the fall.



Pictures from left to right: Chuck Adams, Class of 1967 and Emily Forche; Morgan Luoma and Vicky (Guerra) Groat, Class of 1985; Megan Gordon; Jason Francisco, Jo Francisco, David Downey, and Chad Francisco; Abby Mullis; Brendan Gaussein and Dr. Arthur Sonneborn)

A dozen cheers for a dozen years

Front Row: Riley Rutherford, Beth Kuenzel, Abby McKinzie, Patrick Sprague, Suzie King

Second Row: Evan Hanna, Stephen Graham

Third Row: Hayden Landstra, Trevor Searls, Chelsea Reece, Julia Slattery, Emily Wesner

Fourth Row: Anna Lehouiller, Chandler Klein, Wade McIntyre

Fifth Row: Noah Andrews, Brendan Gausselin, Ben Unger



Class of 2016 graduates who attended BCACS all 12 years

Celebrating an STP family tradition



Class of 2016 graduates of St. Philip Alumni

Front Row: Hayden Landstra (Mike Landstra - '85, Norma (Cull) Landstra - '57, Agnes (Byrne) Cull - '34), Riley Rutherford (Jim Rutherford - '81, Janet (Calhoun) Rutherford - '53), Beth Kuenzel (Patti (Austin) Kuenzel - '87, Sally (Black) and Tom Austin - '61, Margaret (Tenuta) and Gerald Black - '32) Chelsea Reece (Michelle (Galen) Reece and Mike Reece - '86, Linda (O'Connell) Reece - '60 and Jerry Reece - '58)

Back Row: Sara Boggio (Kelly Krzyzanski - '85), David Downey (Dave Downey - '78, Patrick Sprague (David Sprague - '87 Nancy (Ughetti) - '53 and David Sprague - '54)

VALEDICTORIAN & SALUTATORIAN SPEECHES



STEPHEN GRAHAM VALEDICTORIAN

Good afternoon, friends and family, teachers, parishioners, students, and most of all graduates of the Class of 2016. Thank you for being here with us today. It is an honor to speak to you on this special occasion. The St. Philip Catholic Central High School Class of 2016 includes students who like myself started at Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools, as well as many others who have found their home here over the years. We each have brought unique experiences, interests, and talents, which have made the St. Philip Class of 2016 so vibrant and distinct. We have been challenged in the classroom, on the athletic field, the stage, and in our communities to be the best we can be. We are forty-two individuals who are forever linked by a common thread. Some of us remember selling our wares at the St. Joe second grade supermarket, while others joined us for trench warfare in Miss Reed's US History class. Here at St. Philip we have learned, served, worshipped, prayed, celebrated and wept together. And through it all we have supported one another bound by a desire to know, share and live our Faith everyday.

Throughout our four years at St. Philip, the Class of 2016 has had many rewarding and memorable experiences. Who could forget walking down to Kellogg Arena all four years to watch the volleyball team play in the state semifinals? Or the thrill of following the 2015 Fighting Tigers on the road to the 8-man football state championship? Individually, we have represented Saint Philip at the state level in cross-country, track, swimming and diving, band, forensics and competitive theater. We have excelled academically, pursuing our individual interests at St. Philip, the Battle Creek Area Math and Science Center, the Calhoun Area Career Center, and Kellogg Community College. While the word "capstone" may now be a trigger for many of us, we can take pride in being the first class to complete this challenge, which stretched us to demonstrate our research, composition, and presentation skills. Each of us has been called to live our faith through service to others as have all at St. Phil who has come before us. Mr. May was a model of this service, and we can continue to honor his memory by serving those in need in our community. May we always remember the words of Peter to the church at Rome, "As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." As we start anew this fall, cherish your St. Phil friendships and memories while also being open to new experiences, which may lead to new opportunities and passions.

One new opportunity that many of us will have in the fall is voting in our first presidential election. The 2016 presidential election race has been filled with contention

PLEASE SEE GRAHAM, PAGE 7



MEGAN GORDON SALUTATORIAN

Good afternoon fellow students, teachers, administration, friends, and family. It is an honor to have the opportunity to speak to all of you today. School is like a game, a play, a job, a performance. Being a student is like being a teammate. You remember falling short: didn't win the game, didn't do well on a paper, or a test. You also remember exceeding: winning the game, doing well on a paper, or getting an A on a test. Performing your best. But in the end, when it's all over, what really matters, and what you really remember, is your teammates, your classmates, the friendships you will cherish forever. The bonds you have created, and how they won't ever really go away. You remember the friends you've made. The bonds, and the friendships we've made here at St. Philip are unique. Something we couldn't get anywhere else. That, I'm sure of.

Sometimes it's hard to believe, hard to wrap your mind around all of the memories we've created while being students here at St. Philip. It doesn't really hit you until it's over: the buzzer goes off or the bell rings for the last time. That's when it really kicks in, it's over. It's moments like this when you look back and think wow, what an incredible journey. St. Philip will forever hold a special place in each of our hearts. For some, St. Philip means a place of learning. For some, St. Philip means a place away from home. For some, St. Philip means friendship. This school has fostered learning both in and outside the classroom. A lot has changed over these past years: new principals, new teachers, and new students. But change is not a bad thing. Change allows us to grow and mature. And the change we will experience after high school will strengthen us for whatever the future has in store.

When Mr. May passed away, we banded together in a way that not many schools can. That's something that is so unique about attending a Catholic school. Mr. May would be proud. Proud of each and every one of us, as we finished our days here at this school. He would be proud of our accomplishments; of our perseverance. Most of all, he would be proud of the people we have become. Our journey through St. Philip has been one to remember. We will never forget the impact that this school has had on us. As we move on to the next chapter in our lives, we carry with us all we have been taught here at this school. As many of you know, I was new to the St. Philip family my freshman year. I've learned so much about myself, and about others. The friendships I've made here are unmatched, and I know I wouldn't have wanted to spend my high school career anywhere

PLEASE SEE GORDON, PAGE 7

and shows of personal aggression. James Danko, President of Butler University, suggested in a recent editorial in the USA Today that “in fact, the opposite is true: leading with civility and respect, embracing vulnerability, and learning from failure is what genuine success is all about. That requires humility.”

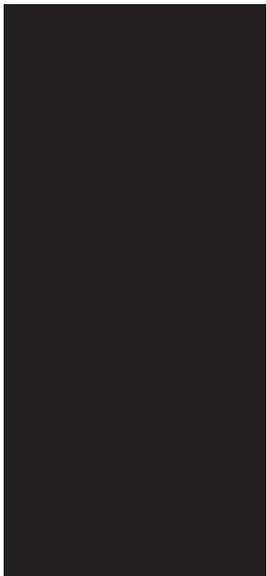
Jesus is the ultimate example of humility as he came to earth as a servant, took the form of man, and was obedient until death. We must remember to follow Christ’s example as we leave this faith based school community and venture out into the world where we will encounter a society focused on personal achievement. Never forget to humble yourself, and consider how you can serve others with gifts of your time, talent, and fortune.

When we leave here today we will no longer be St. Philip Catholic Central students but rather graduates ready to take the lessons we have learned out into the world. Each of us will be encouraged to explore new ideas, embrace new challenges, and accept inevitable failures. We are well prepared to meet these challenges because of the academic, personal and spiritual formation we have achieved through the commitment of our teachers, coaches, and mentors. Thank you to all who have supported and taught us throughout our time at St. Philip, and to our parents, family, and friends. When we face uncertainty about our future let us remember that it is less important to know where we are going than whom we are following. Our faith in Christ will help us overcome obstacles and provide strength in times of uncertainty. Congratulations, Class of 2016. Thanks for all of the memories, I’m sure Mr. May would be proud.

else. And I’m willing to bet many of you feel the same way. I would like to thank my wonderful family: my parents, my grandparents, and yes, even my little brother, for helping me every step of the way, and for sticking with me through it all. Thank you for pushing me to do my very best, and for encouraging me to be myself. Thank you to all of my friends and classmates. You have all been a blessing in my life, and for that, I am truly grateful. It’s friends like you that have made high school such an incredible time in my life. I’d like to extend my sincere appreciation to all the teachers and administration, on behalf of all of the students. Thank you for everything. We appreciate what you’ve done for us and for the school more than you will ever know. You encouraged us when we needed it most, and pushed us to achieve things we never knew we could. We will all miss you, as we move on to the next chapter in our lives. For all the students who will continue on at St. Philip, may you work hard to finish off your high school careers. Cherish the bonds you make with your friends, your family, your teammates, and your classmates. Work hard to always do the very best that you can, while still having some fun. And, as I say goodbye to my fellow seniors, as we move closer to that moment we’ve all been waiting for, I wish you all the best of luck, with whatever future endeavors you may have. And, may the odds be ever in your favor.



2016 SENIOR MEMORIES



2016 SENIOR TRIP TO ROME



REFLECTIONS FROM ROME

BY: CPATTI (AUSTIN) KUENZEL, CLASS OF 1987, AND
SALLY (BLACK) AND TOM AUSTIN, CLASS OF 1961

The St. Philip graduates took their yearly pilgrimage to Italy this June of 2016. More than 20 of the students were able to make the trip. I was lucky enough to accompany my daughter, Beth on her senior trip. We were both excited to make it a three generation journey of St. Philip graduates which included Grandpa and Grandma (Sally (Black) and Tom Austin, class of 1961), Mom (Patti (Austin) Kuenzel, class of 1987) and Daughter (Beth Kuenzel, class of 2016). From the parent perspective, the senior year is filled with so much excitement and anxiety. After the graduation caps had flown, there was still a final trip to look forward to. I can't imagine a more fitting experience to cap off the senior year. It was a journey of both destinations and faith experiences. Fr. Simon was an excellent spiritual guide for us as we experienced daily mass in some of the most beautiful churches and incredible places like the tomb of St. Peter, the tomb of St. Francis, and the Catacombs. Our highlight of the trip was going to St. Peter's Square to attend the Papal Audience with His Holiness Pope Francis. It was humbling to climb the Holy Steps on

your knees while praying, which are believed to be the actual steps that Jesus climbed when He was sentenced to death. But it was also inspiring to see the next generation encountering and embracing their faith in new ways.

From the Grandparent's point of view: "Rome is built on seven hills and when they are walked with a group of 17-18 year olds and their youthful energy, it can seem to accompanying grandparents that those hills only go up and never come down! But, would we do it again? YES... it is a trip worth making for so many reasons. For the second time it has been so special to accompany a grandchild and parent. We feel that it is not what you give a child or grandchild, but what you DO with them that creates lifelong memories. And in our case, it is also a chance to share with them and to vividly expose to them a part of their Italian heritage, as well as their Catholic heritage. It is an experience of history, beauty, art, good eating, and passionate living. I only wish that everyone could make the trip. Ciao!"

[I tor] Sally (Black)
and Tom Austin,
Class of 1961, Beth
Kuenzel, Class
of 2016, and Patti
(Austin) Kuenzel,
Class of 1987.



BCACS ALUMNI CHOSEN TO LEAD

Vicky Groat, Class of 1985, has been named as principal of Saint Philip Catholic Central High School, following her interim appointment which began in December, 2014 after the sudden death of high school principal, Mr. Tim May in November, 2014. Mrs. Groat continues to serve as Director of Athletics, a position she has held since 2008, as well as Varsity Volleyball Coach.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Central Michigan University and an Associate of Arts Degree from Kellogg Community College. She is also pursuing a degree in educational leadership.

Sara Myers has been appointed principal of Saint Joseph Pre-School, Elementary and Middle School. Mrs. Myers has served as principal of Saint Joseph Pre-School and Elementary School since 2013.

"It is with pleasure and confidence that I approve the selection of Vicky Groat and Sara Myers as Principals of St. Philip High School and St. Joseph Middle and Grade Schools respectively", said Bishop Paul J. Bradley, Bishop of the Diocese of Kalamazoo. "The strong leadership they both have already demonstrated is so valuable to our Catholic Schools, and under their leadership, I am confident that the Catholic Schools in Battle Creek will continue to remain strong. I also take this occasion to thank Mrs. Marcy Arnsen for her many years of dedicated service and for the lasting impact she has made on the St. Joseph Middle School, and wish her well in her retirement."

Mrs. Marcy Arnsen has announced her retirement as principal of Saint Joseph Middle School effective July 1,

2016. Mrs. Arnsen served as Middle School Principal from 2001 to 2011 and 2013 to 2016.

Katie Reed, Class of 2000, was recently named assistant principal and middle school athletic director at St. Joseph Elementary and Middle School. Katie Reed, Class of 2000, was recently named assistant principal and middle school athletic director at St. Joseph Elementary and Middle School. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Olivet College. Katie will earn her Masters Degree in Educational Leadership with a Catholic school concentration in January. She previously taught History and Social Studies at St. Philip High School for ten years.

"I am very excited about the new position and working with the elementary and middle school staff, students and families," said Katie. "I am also very excited to work with little tiger cubs."



Vicky Groat,
Class of 1985



Sara Myers,
BCACS alumni



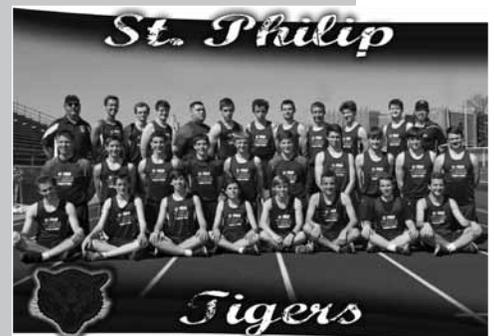
Katie Reed,
Class of 2000

2016 SPRING SPORT TEAMS

[top left]
Baseball Team



[top right]
Boys Track



[bottom left]
Girls Tennis



[bottom right]
Girls Tracks



St. Philip students discover Costa Rica...together

This past summer, eight students along with staff members, Ms. Katie Reed and Ms. Dani Orton travelled to Costa Rica. The nine-day experience was planned as a cultural, geographical and ecological adventure. To experience some of what they saw, Emily Pearl developed a video featured on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/bQiXmxWPXCY>.

"The trip was amazing! Some of the activities included hiking a volcano, touring a coffee plantation, whitewater rafting, zip lining, horseback riding, kayaking, crocodile boat cruise, swimming at the base of a waterfall, hiking the rainforest, folklore dancing, and visiting an aboriginal tribe."

~Staff member Katie Reed
Class of 2000

"There was plenty of fun things to do such as zip lining over the rainforest, white water rafting, swimming in a waterfall, etc. While doing this, we learned a great deal about the culture of Costa Rica. Overall it was an awesome experience which none of us will ever forget and I'd do it again in a heartbeat."

~ Jack Gallagher
Class of 2018



THREE ST. PHILIP SENIORS PRESENT CAPSTONE PROJECTS TO DIOCESE



The senior Capstone Project is a new graduation requirement for all Kalamazoo Diocese high school students aimed at recognizing outstanding achievement. The Capstone Project encourages students to demonstrate their depth of understanding of the Catholic faith through a presentation on a selected topic before a panel of theological and academic experts. Each presentation will showcase the student's academic, organizational, presentation and leadership skills. Students select their theological topic at the end of their junior year. They then conduct research, prepare a report and present it to a panel of judges. Scores are tabulated based on a variety of factors including demonstration and depth of knowledge on the theology topic, research quality and written and oral presentation skills.

"I'm honored on behalf of the entire Diocese of Kalamazoo to recognize the outstanding work of these Catholic school students in the first of what I hope are many years of the St. Thomas Aquinas Scholarship awards," said Bishop Paul J. Bradley. "The depth of all the students' topics shows they can wrestle with the challenging moral and theological questions of our day much in the spirit of St. Thomas Aquinas, a doctor of the Catholic Church."

"The students' presentations were outstanding and inspiring," says Margaret Erich, Superintendent for the Catholic schools in the diocese. "Their work is a testament to the outstanding instruction and mentorship they've received. We're thrilled to be able to recognize these students with scholarship monies to assist them in their college careers."

This was the first class of students at the three Diocese of Kalamazoo High Schools to complete the capstone project and compete for one of ten St. Thomas Aquinas Scholarship.

Pictured with Bishop Bradley are the finalists from St. Philip. [l to r] Emily Wesner, Patrick Sprague, and Stephen Graham. Each received a \$500 college scholarship.

RAISING FUNDS & HAVING FUN



25th Annual Michael J. Hume Big Red Golf Outing

The 27th Annual Michael J. Hume Big Red Golf Outing was held at Riverside Country Club on June 18, 2016. Michael J. Hume was and remains today “Mr. St. Philip.” He was athletic director and football coach for over twenty years. His football teams captured two state championships. Mike began the first Big Red Open and today this event is a way for us to honor him and his contributions to St. Philip and the Battle Creek community.

This year’s winners were:
Men’s Division: Dino English, D. Sayers, M. Harvey and B. Larson,
Women’s Division: Mary Kay Pessetti, Amy Bauman, Joyce Soebbing and Linda Morrison and the Mixed Division: Natalie Miller, Vince Miller, Jim Boyer and Pete Werner. Closest to the pin winners were Dino English and Mary Kay Pessetti. Longest drive winners were Scott Johnson and Mary Kay Pessetti.



CLASSMATES AND CLASS ACTS



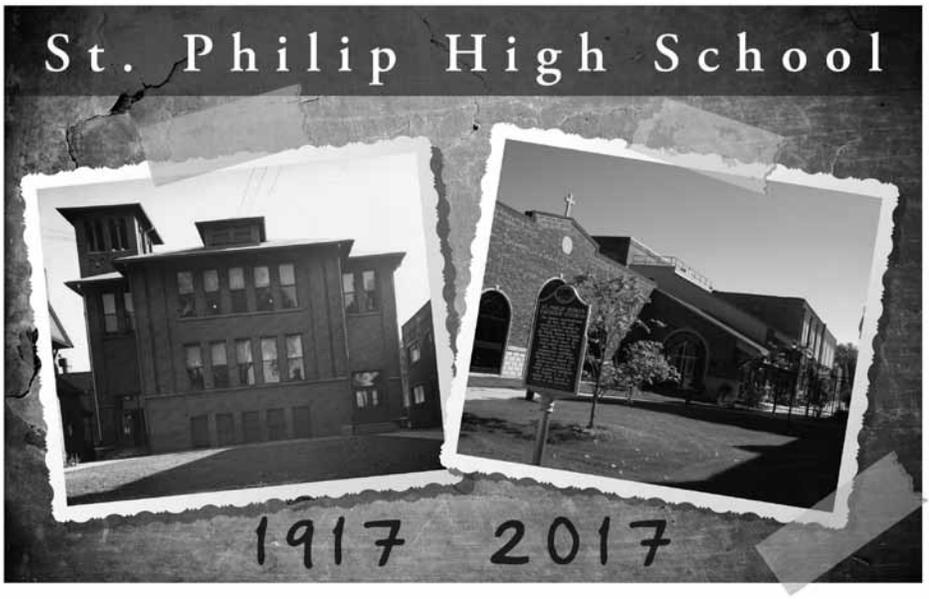
[l to r] Sheri (Cobb) Robotham, Class of 2003 and Matt Davis, Class of 1979, manage the digitalization of STP yearbooks.

St. Philip yearbooks go digital, thanks to the Class of 1975 and friends

Preserving our history and increasing alumni access to great memories resulted in the Class of 1975 spearheading a drive to raise the funds necessary to digitize all of the St. Philip yearbooks from 1942 to today!

Special thanks to Tom Zavitz, Class of 1975, for coordinating the fundraising, Matt Davis, Class of 1979, and Sheri (Cobb) Robotham, Class of 2003, for managing the project. The team is working on the digitized yearbooks to be hosted on Willard Library's and the bcacs.org websites.

We are in need of yearbooks from 2007 and 2013. If your copy is in good shape and without a ton of personal notes, please loan it to us for digitization so our archive is complete! Drop it off at the St. Philip High School office.



ST. PHILIP HIGH SCHOOL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

St. Philip High School celebrates its 100th Anniversary in 2017! This is a huge milestone and we wish to celebrate in a big way! In the works is the development and printing of a "Centennial Yearbook." We are gathering photos, articles and memorabilia from our 100 years. If you have memorabilia that you wish to share, send it to St. Philip High School. Be sure to direct it to the Centennial Committee. Include instructions on how to return it to you or if you wish it to remain archived at St. Philip. We plan to "kick-off" our celebration on June 17, 2017 with an event at McCamly Plaza Hotel. Watch for more details on the centennial celebratory events!

OUR BCACS FAMILY

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

\$100,000 STRENGTH OF OUR FAITH CAMPAIGN COMPLETE

Blessings abound! What an amazing opportunity we were blessed with when the anonymous family foundation came to us with the \$100,000 Challenge Pledge. And what a wonderful group of supporters – alumni, school families, parishioners and community members! You enabled us reach this awesome goal. Over \$100,000 was pledged or given in support of our Battle Creek Area Catholic schools. There is no doubt of God’s hand guiding this campaign. And there is no doubt that Father Fitz is smiling down on us from above. This is exactly what he would want for our Catholic schools. I’ve been overwhelmed by the generosity of our entire community. The number



of you that made gifts, second gifts, and third gifts to help us toward our goal is incredible. The strength of our faith can move mountains. How powerful to work together for our children providing excellence for our future leaders.

We’ve gone above and beyond our 2016 Annual Fund Drive goal. We’ve raised funds for teacher and staff compensation. We’ve raised money so that we can finish the roof at St. Philip High School. It makes me so proud to be Tiger. Thank you for being part of the Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools family to provide Catholic education for our youth.

BY LOUANNE MCINTYRE, BCACS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



Sending our kids to the Center of the Universe

BY: NICOLE MULLIS, BCACS PARENT

I knew nothing about Battle Creek when Denso offered my husband a job, except Google told me there was a Catholic school.

We weren't so sure about moving, but we were sure about giving our kids a Catholic education.

Enrolling the kids at St. Joseph Elementary School was easy. Finding a house in Battle Creek was not. We set a conservative price range, hoping to offset tuition. Unfortunately the houses in our price range were either too small,

too far, or required too many repairs. Whenever our real estate agent sent us another listing, I would ask the same question.

“How far is it from St. Joe?”

As the fruitless weeks dragged on, we started referring to St. Joe as the Center of the Universe.

The new semester approached and we were still without a house. Our agent suggested looking at houses without the school in the equation.

“You and Ben seem like good people. Your kids will learn about God from you.”

I smiled.

Yes, Ben and I tried to be good people and we had faith, but we were just people. We had our bad days. Sometimes we had a whole string of bad days at the same time. If my kids had a shot of knowing God in this secular world, they would need a village of believers.

Three weeks to deadline, a modest house popped up, just inside our price range and 15 minutes from Center of the Universe. It has

been our home for the last 12 years.

During that time, my three children have prepared for their sacraments and learned their letters at the Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools. They have become altar servers and athletes, musicians and scholars. When we went to Canada for two years, the BCACS community kept in touch. When we returned to Battle Creek, knowing our kids were behind academically, BCACS teachers tutored them after school and during lunch. And when their beloved principal passed away two years ago, the entire community grieved with them in the church on their knees.

I’m not going to lie. The tuition has been and continues to be a struggle, but I can’t argue with the results.

How powerful is it to see your teachers pray? How immeasurable and indelible is it to bow your head everyday with every single one of your classmates in prayer? How important is the routine of crossing yourself before the day begins, before the game begins, before the concert begins? This is what my kids saw throughout their formative years, and they saw it so consistently they didn’t even know they were seeing it.

But I saw it.

Our babies have become young adults – ones who serve and pray, ones who are kind and responsible, ones who know the Lord. Was this because my husband and I are “good people”? A little. But mostly it is because they have a village full of “good people”. And when one of us stumbled, the others were still standing. We had herd immunity.

Last May, my oldest child graduated from St. Philip High School. She received \$40,000 in scholarships. She knows what she wants to do and where she wants to go. More importantly, she knows how to persevere in prayer, that the Lord is the Center of the Universe.

REMEMBRANCE & GRATITUDE

IN MEMORIAM

The following members of the STP Family have passed from this life to the next. Please remember them in your thoughts and prayers. We extend our sincere condolences to their loved ones.

Sister Mary Anne Humbel
January 16, 2016
Marietta (Fitzgerald) Brutsche, Class of 1946
May 1, 2016
Jeannette (Peltier) Starring, Class of 1949
March 8, 2016
Betsy (Gordier) Herman, Class of 1951
May 14, 2016
James Turley, Class of 1951
June 23, 2016
Robert Moutz, Class of 1953
May 11, 2016
Sharon (Malovey) Cooper, Class of 1962
May 11, 2016

Annette (Spence) Sanders, Class of 1965
February 15, 2016
Vicki (Beckley) Smith, Class of 1967
May 12, 2016
Leland Bacon, Class of 1969
May 7, 2016
Donald C. Bakken, Class of 1974
April 7, 2016
David Fettig, Class of 1978
March 21, 2016
Peggy (Burdick) LeClear, Class of 1982
January 2, 2016
Mark Elferdink, Class of 1991
June 5, 2016

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Editor's Note: Our sincere apologies to Mary Frances (Hiestand) Chambers, Class of 1963. She was mistakenly remembered in the In Memoriam listing in Volume 16, No. 1. We rely upon classmates and family members to inform us of a loved ones passing. We deeply regret the insensitivity this portrayed.

IN THANKSGIVING

St. Philip Catholic Central High School and the BCACS Foundation extend their deep appreciation for recent gifts received in memory or in honor of these STP Alumni.

GIFTS GIVEN IN HONOR OF ALUMNI:

Chuck Adams, Class of 1967
Nancy M. Brown, Class of 1954
Mary Ann (Clay) Cole, Class of 1944
Keith and Mary Culp, Class of 1964
Vicky (Guerra) Groat, Class of 1985

Gloria (Scott) McNamara, Class of 1980
Mary (Hunt) Rabbitt, Class of 1974
Katie Reed, Class of 2000
Amy (Nelson) Schaub, Class of 1990
Lena (Maddalena) Wood, Class of 1944

CLASS OF 1965 ENDOWMENT FUND A LIFE-LONG LEGACY

In honor of their 50th anniversary, alumni from the Class of 1965 established a scholarship fund within the BCACS Foundation. To date, classmates have raised nearly \$8,300 toward the goal of \$10,000. Once the fund reaches its goal, an annual tuition assistance scholarship will be awarded for a student to attend St. Philip. Louanne McIntyre, Development Director shared, "We are so thankful for the leadership demonstrated by the Class of 1965! Their generosity makes a Catholic education possible for students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend St. Philip. This is truly a life-long gift



Jane Flathau,
Class of 2029.
This photo
was taken by
her father,
photographer
Ryan Flathau.

St. Philip Alumni Association
BCACS Foundation
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Battle Creek, MI 49017

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THE CLASS OF 2016 JOINS 99 YEARS OF ST. PHILIP GRADUATES