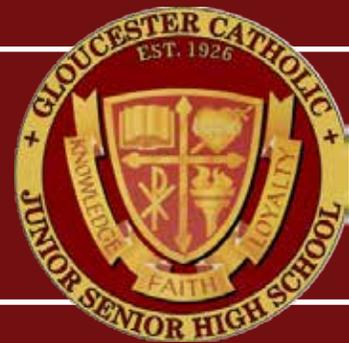


# Ramblings



## PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING

*The Experience of Shared Worship at a Catholic School*



## STAFF

### PRINCIPAL

*Ed Beckett '78*

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

*Bill Popjoy '80*

### DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

*Patrick Murphy '77*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

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### DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

*Gus Ostrum*

### EDITOR

*Cara Buckland '87*

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*Breanna Sipple '11*

I was recently asked to pen a piece on the intersection of education and Catholic faith. Let me begin with a confession: I am almost entirely the product of Catholic education. I attended a Catholic elementary school administered by the Sisters of Saint Dominic (Saint Mary's Grammar School in Gloucester City) and a diocesan high school (Gloucester Catholic) before attending Rutgers University. I was formed in graduate studies at Saint Louis University; Weston School of Theology and Seton Hall University.

This educational formation in a Catholic Christian humanism that is optimistic, reflective, creative and serious about the service of faith and the promotion of justice marked me for life and continues to shape what is best within my character. Education is my service and my ministry.

Perhaps the most powerful experiences I've had as a Catholic educator in a variety of locales — Gloucester Catholic High School; Saint Joseph's Prep and Gesu School; Central Catholic in Lawrence, Mass. ; Boston College High School and Saint Joseph's University — have been the experience of shared worship with faculty, students and staff.

Whether at Saint Agnes Church on graduation day or in our gym for all school liturgies, the experience has been the same at Gloucester Catholic as in the other settings mentioned: gathered in worship, we are most ourselves as a Catholic school. The sum of our activities in the classroom, school offices and co-curricular activities is lifted up and present as we do what Jesus told us to do: remember him in the breaking of the bread. Whatever the relation in all those other settings, we are gathered as one in prayer at those moments.

Even our non-Catholic students have commented to me that their attendance and shared prayer, in whatever its form, is a central point for their feeling that they

belong. As Vincent Li of Shandong province in China wrote, "I traveled across the world to become a Ram! My four years of Catholic teaching at Gloucester Catholic have totally changed me inside and out. Catholic teaching has helped me to become the person I always wanted to be and it will change your life too!"

The Kingdom of God is personal. It is forged in face-to-face relationships. It cannot be reduced to meme, slogan, position paper or virtual reality. It is real and proclaimed in, as the Irish poet Patrick Kavanagh wrote, "the bits and pieces of Everyday."

The Gospels are replete with testimony that anyone who came into contact with Jesus was changed by the encounter, particularly if they were present at a meal which he shared with them. Whether five thousand, a tax collector's home, the house of a Pharisee or the upper room, to share Jesus's table was to be transformed. The same is true today.

When asked who is the greatest, Jesus summoned a child out of the street, an urchin with no one to care for him or her, and proclaimed to his disciples, including the apostles, that one who is like this child — utterly dependent upon God and trusting in God's care — is the greatest among us all. And becoming like this child in a relation of trust in the God who is the source and sustenance of all creation which is good is the heart's core of our call to create Catholic communities in our schools, our parishes, our families and our lives.

My prayer is that we hear that call in our hallways, service sites, sports fields, retreat locations, classrooms and stages and answer it with open hearts.

*Ed Beckett '78*  
Principal

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“Peace begins with a smile.”

- Mother Theresa

# OUR CATHOLIC IDENTITY



## *Meeting RAMS Wherever I Go*

*Rev. Kevin J. Mohan*

Parochial Vicar

St. Mary's Church, Gloucester City NJ



Three years ago I went to get a haircut from a barber I'd never met before. As we talked, it came up that I was about to be transferred to Gloucester Catholic, and it turned out that one of the other barbers in the shop had gone there. That moment began a trend which will probably continue for the rest of my life, and hopefully in Heaven: meeting Rams wherever I go.

More recently, I filled in for Bishop Sullivan's priest secretary while he ran the New York Marathon, organized by Mrs. Anne Heim's son, Jim Heim '94. The bishop and I went to St. Clare Parish in Gibbsboro, so that he could celebrate Masses and Confirm parishioners. Of course I ran into some Rams.

As I walked down the aisle, I saw a Confirmation candidate who looked remarkably like Megan McGowan '18, a Kairos rector and Bishop Dennis Sullivan Award recipient during her senior year. Then I realized that Megan was seated behind her doppelganger, actually her little sister, serving as her Confirmation Sponsor. After Mass I had a lovely time catching up with the McGowan family.

The first Ram I saw that day, however, was current senior, Drew Venit, a leader of Kairos IX, which was only two weeks away at that point. Bishop Sullivan also remembered him as a

youth delegate to a meeting he had held a month or so earlier. "That's Drew Venit from Gloucester Catholic," I reminded the Bishop. "He's one of the best." Bishop Sullivan remarked that Drew had been very vocal at the meeting. He made sure to invite Drew to our lunch between Masses, and I made sure to ask Drew what he had been vocal about during that youth meeting.

"Jesus," was Drew's summary response. I was so proud. "Basically we need to use the methods Jesus used, going out to people, rather than just sitting back and waiting for people to show up." This kid gets it, I thought. I asked him what some of the statements were from the other youth that day. I learned that one of the biggest trends is that youth want to be considered a part of the Church now, allowed to share their gifts and perspectives as valid current Catholics, not just the future of the Church.

When I learned that I was going to transition out of education and return to parish work, some of my thoughts mirrored the comments of Drew and the other youth. My mission, broadly understood, is now that of every Catholic parish: to serve people of all ages, and assist them in serving others.

I have also been reflecting on the words so often employed by Fr. Allain Caparas, "Once a Ram, always a Ram" Similarly, Msgr. Hodge, the pastor of St. Mary's, has always made it a point to remind students and adults that everyone who is connected with Gloucester Catholic also is connected to St. Mary's Parish. As my full-time tenure at GC comes to an end, I nonetheless look forward to a lifetime of random Ram encounters. I know I will always see GC alumni at every event at St. Mary's. But, beyond St. Mary's, in whatever parish I find myself, I'll be sure to encounter some Rams. I hope I never stop helping Rams to practice our faith.

Throughout whatever time each of us has spent at GC, we have been made part of a family which is more than just temporary, and more than just something for children. We can rightly feel that we will always have a home nestled between Cumberland and Ridgeway Streets, and we always have a home at St. Mary's Church, or whatever Catholic parish we might find ourselves attached to. This is a moment for me to remember that the sense of connection I experience through GC is really just a small part of a larger invitation: to be connected with Jesus and the Church. In other words, in the words of Pat Murphy, "See you at Church!"

*“That moment began a trend which will probably continue for the rest of my life, and hopefully in Heaven: meeting Rams wherever I go.”*

- Rev. Kevin J. Mohan

## ***Sr. Angela Mastrangelo, IHM Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee***

Just as a married couple would celebrate an anniversary, sisters in religious life celebrate their jubilee at 25 and 50 years of consecrated membership in their community. Religious take vows of chastity, poverty and obedience and their jubilee is an occasion for celebrating God's faithfulness in helping them live these vows.

Here in the Camden Diocese, Bishop Sullivan celebrates Mass and hosts a dinner each year honoring religious commemorating their jubilees. Members of my family joined me for that Mass and dinner at Holy Family Parish in Sewell on February 4, 2017 to celebrate the occasion. One other IHM sister was also honored that day along with sisters from other communities throughout the diocese.

Many communities have special gatherings during the year to commemorate these significant occasions in the sisters' vocation to their Congregation. Each spring, IHM Sister Jubilarians gather at our Motherhouse in Immaculata for Mass and a chance to share memories and spend time together appreciating God's blessings. In reflecting, discussion that day centered on who influenced our vocations to religious life. Without hesitating, my response was the faith, love, sacrifice and encouragement of my parents, family and friends. Without their personal support, 50 plus years of fidelity to consecrated life would never have been possible for me to fulfill.

Another important aspect of celebrating a jubilee is knowing that each sister's vocation has two parts: a deep relationship with God and a ministry of service to God's people. During the years of ministry I have been called to serve in education at the elementary, secondary and special education levels as teacher, director, principal and counselor throughout 4 dioceses. I consider it a great privilege to be working with the students, families, teachers and other colleagues here at Gloucester Catholic at the time of my Golden Jubilee. May we share together in the blessings God offers all those He has called.



*Sr. Angela Mastrangelo*

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## ***Students Meet with Bishop Sullivan***

Student leaders from all of the diocesan high schools met with the Bishop to create a dialogue between young people and the Church in the spirit of Pope Francis' call for the Holy Spirit to renew hope and dynamism in the Church during the ongoing Synod 2018 on Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment.



Lenny Testa, Mike Walton, Drew Venit, Lauren Young and Devon Tindley represented GC

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## ***GC's New Administrative Structure***

There is a new administrative structure at Gloucester Catholic. When former principal and head of school John Colman stepped down, Ed Beckett was left at the helm running both the day to day activities at GC while also being responsible for the fiscal state of the school. Over the summer, two new roles were created and staffed to assist in these endeavors. Gloucester Catholic has two assistant vice-principals helping steer the ship. Tom Reed '80 was named the Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs overseeing curriculum and faculty development while Tom Iacovone was given charge as the Assistant Principal for Student Affairs working with discipline and school safety.

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## ***Welcome to New Faculty & Staff***

We would like to give a big GC welcome to the newest members of our faculty and staff: Valerie Castagna, Principal's Administrative Assistant, Steve Lyons, Head of Maintenance & Physical Plant, Elizabeth Glassman Amorosi '13 (Science), Andrew Staub (Science), Connor Smith (Health/PE) and Arianna Heins '12 (7th Grade Language Arts & Literature). Welcome (back) to the GC family!

# HONOR ROLL *first quarter 2018*

## **PRINCIPAL'S HONORS:**

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### GRADE 7:

Belfus, Brady  
DeAngelis, Zoeannah  
Errico, Michael  
Gerardi, Anna  
Gibson, Olivia  
Maeser, Madison  
Stuski, William

### GRADE 8:

Clay, Hayden  
Connearney, Isabella  
Driscoll, Genevieve  
Hufty, Jackson  
Jennings, Coleton  
O'Neill, Teagan  
Ruggieri, Christopher  
Toth, William  
Wyatt, Carter

### GRADE 9:

Boyle, Mackenzie  
Chernowski, Zane  
Clancy, Molly  
Cordery, Tyler  
Forand, Tahlia  
Green, Gabrielle  
Holland, Fara  
McErlain, Zachary  
Myers, Brooke  
Reed, Sara  
Walton, Erin

### GRADE 10:

Ferrigno, Jude  
Forand, Savannah  
Kearns, Tatum  
Wethman, Lauren

### GRADE 11:

Bell, William  
Chomiczewski, Camille  
Godby, Alexis  
Guldin, Ethan  
Holzworth, Emily  
Longo, Shelby  
Luck, Maggie  
Menz, Juliet H

### GRADE 12:

Finley, Travis James  
Garozzo, Domenic  
Zhang, Yu (Ivy)

## **FIRST HONORS:**

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### GRADE 7:

Brenza, Ava  
Fiore, Francesca  
Green, Casey  
Pisano, Thomas  
Taney, Bridget

### GRADE 8:

Aragon, Ricardo

Enderle, Madison  
Hoguet, Dominic  
Nolan, Tanner  
Pelosi, Christopher  
Schwarzwalder, Jackson  
Skamarakas, Granuaile  
Tucker, Ryan

### GRADE 9:

Chukwunyere, Caroline  
DiFeterici, Justina  
Dockett, Elizabeth  
Dodds, Ryan  
Goldschmidt, Vincent  
Gorman, Jameson  
Mood, Alexis  
Nunziato, Alexander  
Pickard, Dakota  
Roman, Luis A  
Trewin, Alexander

### GRADE 10:

Bonney, Sarah  
Brown, Christopher  
Chambers, Emma  
Cianfrani, Cassidy  
Collins, Ryan  
Gonzalez, Edwin  
Hutchinson, Lucea  
Regett, Ava  
Ridinger, Lauren  
Ruggieri, Jason  
Schenk, Andrew  
Sealey, Zyonnie  
Versace, Olivia  
Woodington, Kayla

### GRADE 11:

Capizzi, Alyse  
Cordery, Caitlyn Marie  
Driscoll, Liam  
Gerardi, Benjamin  
Iannelli, Gregory  
Kadelski, Kayla  
Murphy, Matthew  
Pluta, Serena  
Pollander, Julianna  
Polo, Anthony

### GRADE 12:

Alemian, Jennifer  
Bishop, Lindsay  
Cappello, Carlana  
Constanzo, Justin  
Demitrio, Pasquale  
Dornisch-Moyer, Ethan  
Grace, Joseph  
Heath, Brigid R  
Hill, Ava  
Jones, Carter  
Jones, Emily  
Laux, Matthew  
Lesch, Luke  
Lozuke, Caitlin  
Mondel, Ciara  
Mozulay, Kelly

Myers, Nicholas  
Anthony  
Parker, Lauren Elizabeth  
Patel, Radhika  
Regan, Conor  
Rumbol, George  
Simila, Mia  
Stewart, Nicholas  
Tesi, Joseph S.  
Tofani, Samuel  
Walker, Madison  
Walton, Michael James  
Xu, Shusen (James)  
Xu, Yuange (Zoe)

## **SECOND HONORS:**

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### GRADE 7:

Guldin, Kyle  
Mondel, Emily

### GRADE 8:

Beam, Tyler  
Kain, Ella

### GRADE 9:

Angelastro, Nicholas  
Barrera, Angelina  
Beckett, Kevin  
Emery, Karley  
Groves, Carly  
Iannelli, Justin  
Ibisi, Aydin  
Kearns, Declan  
McKinney, Brynn  
Murphy, Colin  
Musick, Natalie  
Pelosi, Adrianna  
Serafinelli, Cameron  
Shea, Brogan D  
Talorico, Ryan  
Taormina, Alaina  
Williams, Genna  
Wolf, Jeremy

### GRADE 10:

Carter, Tyler  
Cassidy, Caragh  
Donahue, Ethan P  
Elder, Amina  
Frett, Matthew  
Second Honors  
Continued  
Friel, Cade  
Green, Kenda  
Johnson, Zachary  
Kupiec, Megan  
Laphan, Abigail  
Martinelli, Joseph  
Negron, Ian  
Patel, Nakul  
Platenecky, Nikole  
Rai, John Paul  
Snyder, Jessica  
Snyder, Savanna  
Testa, Sophia

Van Dine, Ella  
Williams, Jada

### GRADE 11:

Baback, Alexandra  
Belfus, Jenna  
Burns, Jillian  
Camarillo, Joseph  
Carney, Mycala  
Clifford, Sarah  
Crane, Jared  
Dawson, Noah  
DiGiacomo, Ryan  
Duer, Emily  
Fiore, Paige  
Fitzpatrick, Alexis  
Gedaka, Madison  
Greenfield, Christine  
Hernandez, Iverson  
Labbree, McKayla  
Leone, Roman  
Liscio, Christopher  
Madalion, Brandon-  
Ashby  
Maeser, Nathan  
McMahon, David  
Mills, Savannah Renee  
Mitchell, Erika  
Moore, Taylor  
Nutley, Ryan  
Polidoro, Alexander  
Renaud, Ian  
Sanango Guaman,  
Bryhan  
Schmid, Michael  
Stetser, Adam  
Sullivan-Heiney, Bailey  
Tamagni, Andrew  
Wolf, Heidi  
Zhang, Chenlong (Frank)

### GRADE 12:

Baines, Azana  
Cannon, Tyler  
Dysart, Emily  
Frampton, Allison  
Hall, Megan  
Holmes, Darin  
Laskowski, Megan Kayla  
Lozuke, Meghan  
McDonald, Jordyn  
Orgera, Kaitlin Ann  
Pontano, Alexandria  
Quan, Jiahao (Stephen)  
Solomon, Juliauna  
Tate, Ayana  
Tindley, Devon  
Tran, Nhu (Kat) Minh  
Wu, Chuyi (Larry)  
Zhao, Guowei(Wayne)

# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

## *Junior High Spotlight: Tanner Nolan, Grade 8*

Tanner Nolan is a member of our Gloucester Catholic Junior High Class of 2019. Residing in Deptford Township, Tanner joined the GC family last year in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Tanner is an honor roll student who participates in club baseball and aspires to be a future contributor to our RAMS baseball team. Beyond the classroom and baseball diamond, Tanner is a member of the Youth Advisory Council for Nemours DuPont Pediatric Hospital. The council is a vibrant group of kids ages 10 to 18 who commit their time and talents to making the hospital a better place for patients and families. Each month, the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) comes together to have a say in how the hospital is run — to work on projects and share opinions, concerns, and ideas for improving hospital care in all kinds of ways. Tanner enjoys serving on this council with kids his own age to help sick children who are in the hospital.



## *Gloucester Catholic Student Athletes Announce College Commitments!*

Eight Gloucester Catholic High School student-athletes have committed to the following colleges to play sports in the 2019-2020 school year. The student athletes made their announcements public during a Fall Signing Day ceremony in the GCHS gymnasium on Tuesday, November 13 at 10 am. Proud parents, family members, coaches, and faculty members attended the ceremony.

### *Congratulations to the following student athletes:*

- Azana Baines, Duke University, Women's Basketball
- Lillo Paxia, Florida State University, Baseball
- Tyler Cannon, Iona College, Baseball
- Sean Beers, Cabrini University, Men's Lacrosse
- Allison Frampton, Sacred Heart University, Field Hockey
- Emily Jones, Georgia Southern University, Women's Swimming
- Luke Lesch, Rider University, Baseball
- Jacob McNellis, Frostburg State, Baseball



## *Gloucester Catholic's Azana Baines Commits To Duke University for Women's Basketball*

Gloucester Catholic senior basketball star Azana Baines has given a verbal commitment to play basketball at Duke University next season. Azana has been one of New Jersey's premier guards since her freshman season. The 6-foot-1 Baines finished her junior year in 2017-18 averaging 20.1 points per game while pulling down more than six rebounds and dishing out 3.4 assists per contest. According to ESPN.com, other schools under consideration by Azana included Georgia Tech, North Carolina, Virginia and Miami. "Azana has worked extremely hard to achieve her success, and we know she will succeed at the highest level of collegiate athletics," said GCHS Lady Rams coach Lisa Gedaka. "We are excited that she has chosen Duke University and we want to congratulate her on her choice. Azana has an amazing opportunity with the Duke women's program, and we know she will make the best of this opportunity."



Duke  
UNIVERSITY



# RAM-DONE ACTS OF KINDNESS

- GC raised \$1850 for **Catholic Relief Services** to aid with typhoon relief in the Philippines, hurricane relief along the Carolina coast & tsunami relief in Indonesia.
- On Saturday, October 6 Gloucester Catholic added PINK to their maroon and gold. During the football game the fans were treated to pink beads, footballs, and candy as they cheered on their RAM football team.



*This was done to show support for those battling breast cancer and for hope that a cure is in the near future.*



- Rams in the kitchen! GCHS students volunteer at **Cathedral Soup Kitchen** to serve our community in Camden. Members of the volleyball team, Victoria and Bailey, donate several items collected by their team. Seniors Colin Schumacher and Ethan Moyer lend their support as well... Go Rams!



- The 2018 Thanksgiving Drive was a great success. Forty families from our sending parishes have received food and gift cards to make their holidays better. Some would be without a meal without our efforts. The Student Council did a great job organizing and running the drive. The entire council packed baskets and cars. Senior and junior members of student council delivered the baskets. **Thank you for all you do to make the drive a success.**
- On Oct. 10th, our junior high students had a service retreat day focusing on the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. Students and faculty prepared 100 lunches for the St. Vincent De Paul Society at St. Mary's parish and 150 sandwiches for the Cathedral Soup Kitchen in Camden.

# GCHS LEADERS

## *2nd Annual Powder Puff Game & Bonfire*

The GC community rallied on November 21st to cheer on our junior and senior girls during our annual Powder Puff game. Officiated by Mr. Murphy and Mr. Flynn and coached by Mrs. Quinn and Mrs. Leonhardt, the girls played their hearts out. By the final whistle, our senior girls prevailed. The girls' game was followed by a new tradition, a pep rally and bonfire to kick off the annual Gloucester Catholic vs. Gloucester City Thanksgiving football game. Students gathered as our head football coach, Casey Murphy, saluted our senior players and started the fire. Our boys' football team went on to win the game on Thanksgiving morning defeating Gloucester High.



## *GC Cheerleader Nora Smith*

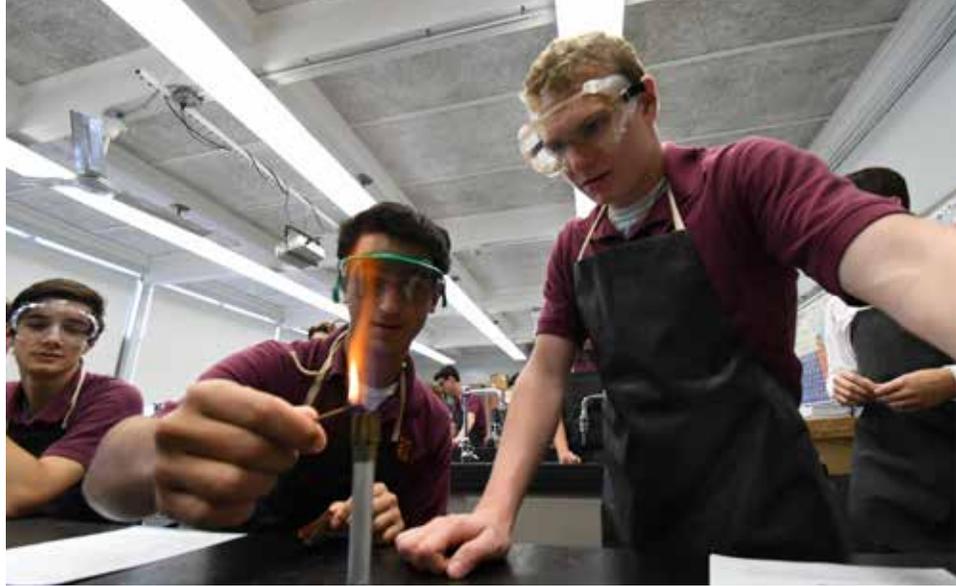
Mike Dougherty, GC's own Transportation Director, is pictured here holding his mom's GC Cheerleading sweater with the 2018 Varsity Cheerleaders. Nora Smith Dougherty ('45) proudly donned this sweater in the halls of GC. Mike came to a practice and spoke to the team about his mom's years at GC. He brought along her yearbook and vintage cheerleading sweater for the girls to see.



## *GC's Resident Aesthetic Director*

Deb Heins '81 can be found each morning at GC answering phones, writing passes and making announcements all with a smile on her face. Although Deb has been present at GC for several years as our cheer coach and receptionist, she now has a new role that focuses on her artistic talents! Deb is sharing her gifts around the halls of GC and has worked tirelessly sprucing up the lobby, adding artistic touches in the hallways and keeping our displays current. Most noticeably, Deb has spent time hanging bold, bright pictures of recent grads and current students produced for us by Tom Iacovone ('70) and his company, Art Guild. Additionally, Art Guild has supplied us with our GC RAMS and LOGO Banners as seen throughout the buildings.







# SPORTS WRAP UP

The 2018 field hockey season proved to be one for the record books for Coach Pam Leonhardt's team. The Lady Rams collected the school's first-ever field hockey conference championship along with an NJSIAA playoff win, highlighting a solid Fall sports season for Rams' teams.

Other success stories included the football team's third straight win over Gloucester City in the annual Thanksgiving Day contest, along with playoff appearances for both the boys' and girls' soccer teams, as well as the girls' volleyball team.

In addition, several Ram athletes announced their formal commitments to play sports in college next year (see separate story), including basketball star Azana Baines, who will play at Duke University next fall.

## ***Field Hockey Recap***

The Lady Rams compiled a solid 11-5 overall record and captured the Tri-County Conference Classic Division championship with an 8-0 league mark. In addition, GCHS topped St. Joseph's (Hammonton) in a Non-Public Playoff match before falling to Red Bank Catholic in a tough battle in the following round.

Senior midfielder Allison Frampton, a 4-year varsity member of the program, turned in an all-star season with 27 goals and 7 assists to easily lead the team in offensive output. She will pursue her academic and field hockey careers at Sacred Heart University next year.

Goalkeeper Olivia Blome collected 86 saves on the season in compiling an 11-5 overall record. Sara Hussey chipped in with 11 goals and two assists while Emily Leonhardt did her part offensively with 6 goals and 7 assists.



## ***Football Recap***

The Rams' 2018 season did not see progress until mid-campaign when they posted a 35-21 win over Woodstown. The Rams were also able to close out the season on a high note with a Thanksgiving Day victory over arch-rival Gloucester City, the Rams' third straight in the series.

In the 30-14 Turkey Day battle, running back Dashaun Harris finished with 222 yards on 23 carries and three total touchdowns to give the Rams a victory in front of an estimated crowd of 500.

Offensive linemen Andrew Shenk, Pat O'Neill, Brandon Madalione, Jason Ruggeri and Luke Lesch opened huge holes for Harris, who finished the season with 1,415 rushing yards, 15 touchdowns, and added 300 receiving yards. Quarterback Conor Regan enjoyed a solid season with more

than 800 passing yards and 7 TD passes. Junior running back Da'Juan Vales added 262 rushing yards and two TDs on 49 carries.

The Rams now lead the series, 22-21-1. They finished the season with a 3-8 overall record and 2-3 mark within the West Jersey Football League.

## ***Girls' Volleyball Recap***

The girls' volleyball team won 10 matches this season and qualified for the NJSIAA playoffs. The Lady Rams finished in second place overall in the Olympic Freedom Division standings with a 5-2 division record before dropping a playoff match to Union Catholic.

Top players on the roster included Lauren Wethman, who finished with 45 service aces, 20 service points, and 628 digs; Emily Duer, who led the team in service points with 33 while turning in 31 kills and 209 digs; and Serena Pluta, who paced the team with 111 kills. Heidi Wolf also collected 87 assists while teammate Lindsey Rios added 87 assists.

## ***Girls' Soccer Recap***

The Lady Rams enjoyed a successful 2018 campaign. They placed second in the Tri-County Conference Classic Division standings with a 9-8 record overall and 6-2 league mark behind division champion Pitman. GC also fared well in the postseason as well as Ella VanDine's overtime goal secured a 2-1 Non-Public playoff win over Wildwood Catholic. The Lady Rams then dropped a heart-breaking 1-0 decision to Wardlaw-Hartridge in the second round. Ella VanDine led the team in scoring with 9 goals and 4 assists. Caitlyn Cordery also was a strong contributor with 6 goals and 8 assists while teammate Lindsay Bishop added five goals.

## ***Boys' Soccer Recap***

GCHS claimed a third place finish in the Tri-County Conference Classic Division with a 6-11-1 overall record and 3-4-1 division mark. The Rams grabbed an NJSIAA playoff win over Doane Academy, by a 5-1 count on November 1. They then bowed out of the tournament with a close 1-0 loss to Rutgers Prep in the semifinals. Midfielder Chayse Rand led the team in goals scored with 6 while teammates Joe Grace and Joe Tesi each had three goals..

## ***Boys' and Girls' Cross Country Recap***

The Rams cross country season enjoyed another successful season in the Fall of 2018.

Among the top runners at the Tri-County Conference Showcase in the boys' section included Adam Stetser, Mike Walton, Anthony Polo, Michael Schmid, Travis Finley and Eric Zhang.

In the girls' Tri-Co Showcase, top finishers included Lauren Young, Libby Dockett and Cambrie Todd.

## ***Girls' Tennis Recap***

The girls' tennis team had several close matches this season and showed improvement throughout the campaign. Members of the team included seniors Jenny Allemian, Olivia Lopane, Carly Cappello, and Devon Tindley along with teammates Hannah Fultano, McKayla Labbree, Haley Lacklore, Sara Reed, Grace Riley, Olivia Versace, and Erin Walton.

# ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT

## GC Grads Well Prepared to Excel in College and Beyond!

**Caitlyn Hill ('15)** is a senior at Cabrini University and will student teach in the spring. She will graduate as a member of the Kappa Delta Pi Education Honors Society with a dual major in elementary education and special education. She is also a member of the Cavalier's swim team.

**Brendan Buckland ('16)** is on the Dean's List at the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business. He is studying finance with a concentration in data analytics and will also earn a minor in psychology. He recently secured a summer internship with JPMorgan & Chase Co. in Newark, DE.

**Quinn Murphy ('16)** is currently in her 3rd year at the University of South Carolina. She will be leaving in February, 2019 to continue her studies at University of Santiago in Chile for 10 months. She is studying supply chain and finance and hopes to return from her trip speaking fluent Spanish.

**Taylor Nacci ('16)** will graduate with a bachelor's degree in political science with minors in pre-law and criminology. She was recently elected VP of her sorority, Phi Sigma Sigma, and previously served as the parent/alumni, fundraising and philanthropy chairperson. Taylor plans to go to law school after graduating from CCU with hopes to become a prosecutor or divorce attorney.  
<https://www.coastal.edu/coastal-now/ccufamily/taylorlornacci/>

**Nick Testa ('16)** is studying business at Neumann University and is a member of the men's soccer team. Nick led the Knight's to its first Atlantic East Conference Championship over Cabrini where he scored the final goal of the game.

**Haley Finley ('17)** is currently a sophomore at Loyola University, MD. She has maintained a 4.0 while studying statistical engineering with a minor in data science. She plans to study abroad for the fall '19 semester in either New Zealand or Australia.

**Regina Raube ('17)** has been accepted into the Disney College Program for 2019. She will start working in Walt Disney World on January 28th and will work there until August 1st in the quick service food & beverage area.

**Timothy Reiners ('17)** is currently a sophomore at Rosemont College carrying a 3.54 GPA and plays for the Raven's men's soccer team. Tim was named to the CSAC Honor Roll for a hat trick against Bryn Athyn leading his team to a 5-0 win. He was also recruited to play for the school's lacrosse team and did well!

**Kate Allison ('18)** finished up her first semester at Seton Hall University and was selected to participate in Habitat for Humanity. She and fellow alum, (**Carly Fultano '18**) will be traveling to Oklahoma over spring break to build houses for the organization.

**Laura Blaston ('18)** is feeling right at home at Villanova University. She is enjoying her first semester, particularly her chemistry class, which is being taught by **Dr. Paul Fazen ('83)**, a fellow GC graduate. Both Laura and Dr. Fazen were taught by the infamous **Mr. Nark ('66)**

**Christian Hill ('18)** is at Mount Saint Mary's University studying cyber security and computer science. He is enjoying swimming for the Mount swim team.

**Johnny Jackson ('18)** and **Matt Mood ('18)** are both playing for the WBS Knights Junior Hockey team and having a great season!

**Andrew Stetser ('18)** is at Mount Saint Mary's University pursuing a double major in history and education. He also is a member of their division I track team as a thrower!

## Another Ram Moves to the NHL

Eric Robinson, GC class of 2013, graduated from Princeton University June 2018 with a History Degree. Eric was a member of the men's hockey team at Princeton and was Captain in his senior year. He led the Tigers to a ECAC Championship in 2018. Eric recently signed with the National Hockey League's Columbus Blue Jackets and played his first game vs Nashville Predators on April 7, 2018.

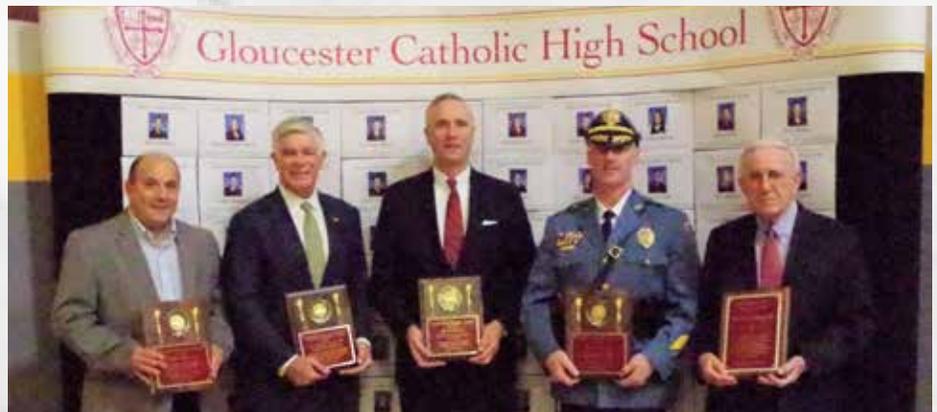
He is now with the Cleveland Monsters AHL team for his rookie season.



Eric Robinson '13

## GC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Congratulations to the Gloucester Catholic Alumni Association Award Winners, who were honored on Sunday, November 18 during the Annual Communion Breakfast. Photo highlights of the breakfast appeared on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/gchsrms](http://www.facebook.com/gchsrms). All were recognized for their outstanding service to Gloucester Catholic and their lifetime of professional achievements. Monsignor William Hodge of St. Mary's Parish in Gloucester City celebrated mass for the 300-plus attendees prior to the awards ceremony. \* From Left to Right: Robert Iacovone '8 (Dr. Frank and Catherine Kelly Award), Dr. Patrick Harker '77 (Thomas Iacovone Legacy Award), Paul Kelly '76 (John and Jackie O'Donnell Award), Captain Sean McKenna '89 (Thomas Stewart III Award), Dr. James Gross '51 (GCHS Special Recognition Award).



# ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT *continued*



*Ernest Holtzheimer '07*

## ***Young Alumni Spotlight***

### *Ernest Holtzheimer '07*

Ernest “Ernie” Holtzheimer graduated from Gloucester Catholic in 2007. He moved on from the halls of GC to Rowan University where he graduated in 2012 with a Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship and a Bachelor of Science in Business Management. Soon after, he earned his Master of Business Administration from Rowan University in 2013. Ernie completed his formal education in 2016 and attained his Juris Doctorate from Drexel University’s Thomas R. Kline School of Law with a concentration in Business and Entrepreneurial Law.

Ernie currently lives in South Philadelphia and works in Center City, Philadelphia as a corporate and securities attorney at Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads, LLP. As a corporate attorney, his job involves advising individuals and business entities on a wide variety of matters ranging from entity formation to mergers and acquisitions. His firm specializes in middle market M&A transactions, with most transactions falling somewhere between \$20M and \$200M. They also act as outside general counsel to private equity clients’ portfolio companies and other small businesses, advising them on day-to-day operations and various commercial transactions.

As a member of the legal profession, Ernie is encouraged to be involved in the community. In that regard, he currently serves on the board of directors for The Spruce Foundation, advisory boards for Special Olympics PA-Philadelphia, Covenant House PA, and Rowan University’s Innovation Venture Fund and Entrepreneurship Council, and the executive committees of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Business Law Section and Young Lawyers Division.

When asked how GC prepared Ernie for success beyond high school he stated that, “Gloucester Catholic introduced me to a number of friends who have become my family.

Though it has been eleven years since we’ve walked the halls at GCHS, I still talk to many of the same people on a daily basis, and I know that most Gloucester Catholic alumni feel the same way about those they became friends with while students at GCHS. The Gloucester Catholic community truly is a family and without those I added to my family from my time at GCHS, I wouldn’t be where I am today.”

Ernie added that, “In addition to giving me life-long friends, Gloucester Catholic prepared me for the academic challenges I faced in college, business and law school. Though it is certainly

(and thankfully) not a subject I use in every day practice, I vividly remember Mr. Briles’ Physics class and how much effort it required in order to pass. Classes such as that one really altered my mindset on what it would take to succeed in college and during my advanced studies.”

Lastly, when asked what advice he would give to current students, Ernie replied, “Work hard and do what makes you happy. Don’t choose a career solely for the salary it provides or because someone “expects” you to follow a certain path. We all take a different route through life and as cliché as it sounds - the journey is the destination.”

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## ***Young Alumni Spotlight***

### *Francesca Fourney '09*

Francesca Fourney graduated from Gloucester Catholic in 2009. She relocated to Florida where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology in 2013 and her Master of Science in Marine Biology both from Nova Southeastern University.

Francesca now lives in Delray Beach, FL and works for an environmental consulting firm, CECOS, located in Deerfield Beach, FL. Francesca noted that, “Construction and development is inevitable and necessary for our safety and progression in society, however my job involves protecting the environment and animals along the way! We work in both the public (government) and private sectors involving environmental permitting, environmental monitoring and compliance, mitigation, threatened and endangered species, and the investigation and analysis of impacts to terrestrial, wetland, and coastal marine resources in tropical and subtropical environments.

When asked how GC prepared her for success beyond high school she referenced that GC provided multiple resources during the college search, which lead to a college fair in Atlantic City. This ultimately helped Francesca find the broad range of options available so she could tailor her specific passion to a program that was the right fit. GC also provided her with a strong scientific background, helping her find success in her studies and career. Francesca’s advice to our current students is, “Don’t be afraid to go out of your comfort zone and challenge yourself. You will surprise yourself in what you can achieve every time, and will most likely have fun doing it!”



*Francesca Fourney '09*

# MILITARY SPOTLIGHT



Casey Kupcha ('13) received her bachelor of science in public health from The George Washington University in Washington DC where she received the presidential scholarship and graduated early with the honors of Summa cum Laude. She went on to receive her Masters Degree in Physician Assistant Studies from the Chapman University in December, 2018. She is a recipient of the Navy's Health Scholarship Collegiate Program for PA school and will be commissioned as a Naval Officer. Her father, retired Commander Joe Kupcha ('76), had the honor of swearing Casey into the Navy. Casey has orders to serve with the 7th Marine Regiment at 29 Palms in California following officer training in Newport, RI. She is very excited to be serving our country and the men and women of our Armed Forces.



A Message 1LT Brandon H. Wethman ('13) "My name is 1LT Brandon H. Wethman. I am currently the Distribution Platoon Leader of H Troop, 2d Squadron, 2d Cavalry Regiment in Vilseck, Germany (pictured here with my unit). I commissioned into the Transportation Corps (Logistics) out of West Point in 2017 and have since done rotations in Germany, Poland, and Lithuania. My time here in the Army has been great, and is all directly the result of the teachers, coaches, and mentors I had while at Gloucester Catholic, from which I graduated in 2013. Although I have not been home for some years, I regularly remember the wonderful friends and leadership lessons I learned while I was still a student at GC. From the football field to the classroom, memories of GC constantly remind me of why I joined the Army. Finding this page reminded me of where I came from, and I wanted to write this as a small way to thank you for highlighting the great city of Gloucester and honoring the young men and women who have chosen to join the military from GHS/GC. Facebook needs more pages like this! God bless and Go Army!" As published on Facebook Page, "Title Town"



HTFR Brown, Johnathan ('16) graduated Navy bootcamp in June of 2018 then moved on to graduate A school in October. He is deployed to the USS Ronald Regan CVN 76 based in Yokuska, Japan until 2022.

## Gloucester Catholic Remembers

*We remember and pray for the members of the Gloucester Catholic Family who have recently passed away. Our thoughts and sympathy are with their families and loved ones:*

**Mary Jane Gartland Collins '46, John V Kain '50, Dr. Geri Hennessey '51, Eileen Murphy Giusti, '57, Joseph Ashton '62, Paul Clayton '62, Edwin Cooper '62, Alice (Bunny Githens) Richards '62, Joseph Lynch '65, George Conaway '66, Ruth Mulville Candy '67, Elsie (Bower) Loebell '69, Mike Kearney '71, Patricia Kearney Lentini '76, Mark Vandetty '76, Peter Gawason Sr. '84, Dennis Murphy '85, Michael Brown '87, Jason Allison '88, Christopher Harris '12**

★ Please pray for all alumni serving in our military, especially:  
United States Coast Guard: Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class **Christopher Dill ('04)**

### ***Gloucester Catholic Benefits from the Alliance for Catholic Education at St. Joe's University***

Gloucester Catholic has had the distinct pleasure of partnering with St. Joseph's University over the past 6 years through the Alliance for Catholic Education at Saint Joseph's University which is commonly referred to as the "ACESJU Education Fellows Program". This program is an academic fellowship where there is an academic degree program that each fellow completes as well as a teaching or administrative practicum at a partner school. Fellows can earn one of three Masters degrees: a Masters in Education from St. Joseph's; a Masters in Church Management from Villanova; or a Masters in Organizational and Strategic Leadership from Neumann University.

Director of the ACESJU Education Fellows Program, Daniel R. J. Joyce, S.J., stresses that a big part of the program is to have fellows learn about Ignatian spirituality and pedagogy that are part of the Jesuit educational tradition. The fellows live in intentional communities which foster four pillars of growth: education, spirituality, simple living and community.

Gloucester Catholic has utilized several ACESJU graduate students in our classrooms in recent years. Teaching everything from religion to English and chemistry to world history, these young, ambitious teachers are mentored consistently by GC faculty as well as program administrators from St. Joseph's University. We currently have two ACESJU teachers working at GC as well as two graduates of the program, who chose to stay at GC to continue their teaching careers.

Andrew Staub is new to the GC faculty and completing his second year in the program teaching Chemistry and Physical Science, and Joseph Pooler is also in his second year working both in the classroom, as a religion and history teacher, and administratively as a member of our Development team. Joe is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, majoring in Classical studies. His interest in education was sparked when he landed a position on the academic support staff of the Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation. While working for the foundation and

substituting in the charter schools of Philadelphia, Joe learned that he had received admittance to the ACESJU program. When asked to summarize his thoughts about GC, Joe responded that, "Gloucester Catholic's mission statement captures so well what I've discovered this school to embody. The mission also is absolutely flush with my own educational philosophy, informed as it is by the Jesuit notion of the Cura Personalis."

Two graduates of the ACESJU program, Mrs. Elizabeth Mariani and Mrs. Alaina Silber, currently teach full time at GC. Elizabeth teaches religion and language arts in our junior high school, while Alaina is our service program coordinator and teaches religion and English in the high school. Alaina completed her practicum at Gloucester Catholic and was hired as a teacher upon completion of the program. When asked how being at GC helped fulfill the mission of the ACESJU program, Alaina stated that the same pillars of the ACESJU program (education, simple living, spirituality and community) are accentuated at Gloucester Catholic. "It's not just education, but quality education that is stressed at GCHS. Spirituality is infused into everything we do – service, Mass, retreats, daily prayer. Community is what drew me to GCHS – the faculty and staff truly embody the spirit of community. Everyone here welcomed me with open arms, and I feel like I have many extended family members at GCHS."

The two communities of St. Joseph's University and Gloucester Catholic High School share many similarities in mission and educational conviction. This partnership will continue to strengthen our mission and educate children into the future as strong, Catholic leaders.



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### ***RAMbassador Leadership Program Launches at GC***

RAMbassadors are a select group of volunteer students whose primary focus is the positive promotion of Gloucester Catholic Junior Senior High School. They are dedicated to serving as the main connection between current students of GC and prospective students and families. The RAMbassadors are expected to be visible at major GC events while having the unique opportunity to develop their communication, leadership and interpersonal skills. The goal of the program, in addition to the promotion of GC, is student development of key leadership skills: Integrity, Vision, Communication, Relationships, Persuasion, Adaptability, Teamwork, Coaching and Development, Decision-making and Planning. The group meets monthly for training, skill development and leadership speakers. Any alumni interested in speaking to this group in order to help promote the program goals can contact Cara Buckland at [cbuckland@gchsrams.org](mailto:cbuckland@gchsrams.org) to schedule a time.

# MILESTONES



Lynne & Joe at St. Mary's Church on their wedding day.

**Lynne Murphy McNasby ('66)** & Joe McNasby of Steamboat Springs, Co recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Lynne attended St. Mary's School and graduated in 1962. The happy couple was married at St. Mary's Church in Gloucester on September 7, 1968, by Msgr. Edward Lucitt. Lynne's husband was a 1965 grad from Bishop Newman HS in South Philadelphia (currently known as Maria Goretti – St. John Newman HS).

**Joe Gurecki ('57)** and his wife, Regina, celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on October 24, 2018. Regina graduated from St. Joseph's ('56) in Camden, NJ.

**Mike and Mary Gorman ('73) Murphy** are proud to announce the birth of their first grandchild, Colin Peter Murphy!! Colin is the child of their son, **Ryan Murphy ('04)** and his wife Stephanie.

**Jack Barron ('74)** retired on October 2, 2018 after working 40 years with FMC and their affiliates. So far he is enjoying this new page in his life.

**Sue Burns Parker ('76)** will be celebrating her 31st wedding anniversary with her husband, Bob. They have two children. Billy is currently attending the University of Bridgeport Chiropractic Program and Jane is currently an active duty United States Marine.

**Jack Heath ('77)** will be publishing a second running book coming out this winter. His previously published book, *Browning Ross: The Father of American Distance Running*, was listed by Runner's World Magazine as one of the top running books of 2017, and listed it again in August as one of the top 20 all-time books for runners. Among its other honors, it was named One of the 3 Best Running Biographies and One of the 10 books every runner should read by other running publications. The book is available on Amazon and B&N.com

**Trish McNutt Green ('82)** Inducted Into Camden County Sports Hall of Fame

**Rudy Decker ('88)** is proud to announce that his daughter, Kendra, is a junior nursing student at Ramapo College of New Jersey. She has consistently made Dean's list while also playing on their D3 softball team!

**Steve Meduri ('88)** and his wife Kim are proud parents of a future RAM. Their daughter, Angelina, will graduate from St. Margaret's Regional School and enter GC's Class of 2023. Angelina was awarded one of our Dominican Scholarships due to exceptional test results on the High School Placement Test.

**Kathy Townsend Suckiel ('89)** is a Weekend Air Personality/Fill-In for Philly's B101.1 radio in Philadelphia. You can hear Kathy overnight from midnight - 5:00 am.

**Denise Hakanson ('92)** has been a Brigantine, NJ resident for 5 years, and this year she is running as a candidate for the Council-at-large seat on Brigantine's City Council, focusing on environmental issues. She currently works for the Navy Energy Program as a Senior Geospatial Analyst and proudly volunteers for the Brigantine Beach Green Team. Denise lives in Brigantine year-round with her family.

**Mike Dickson ('96)** was recently inducted into the Rowan University Men's Hall of Fame. Dickson was an outfielder for the Profs' baseball team from 1997-2000. In 144 career games, he had a .388 batting average with 118 RBIs, 41 doubles, five triples, nine home runs and 60 stolen bases.

**Audrey Sedalis ('97)** is a registered nurse and clinical outcomes manager in the cardiac catheterization lab at Inspira Health Network in Woodbury. She was recently voted in as leader of the Quarter for the hospital. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in nursing administration and management.

**Stephen Barry ('01)** was recently presented with the Running Deer Golf Club Champion award by owner, Ron Jaworski.

**Michael Kohler ('08)** completed his bachelor's degree in political science at the University of Central Missouri during a 6 year stint with the US Air force. He is currently finishing his 3rd semester of law school at Rutgers, Camden this December and is working as a law clerk at Swartz Campbell in Philadelphia.

**Brooke Barron ('09)** was a ball girl this past summer for the Philadelphia Phillies. She plans on returning for the 2019 season.

**Joseph Amorosi ('10) and Elizabeth Glassman ('10)** were recently married on 10/13/18. Liz is currently a teacher at GC.

**Christine Barron ('10)** is currently attending University of the Sciences working towards a degree in occupational therapy. Christine already has her Bachelor of Science from Rutgers-Camden.

**Katie Barron ('11)** recently got engaged to Tim Miller. An October 2019 wedding is planned.

**Kristina Brenner ('12)** just graduated from Stockton University with a master's degree in occupational therapy.

**Catherine Driscoll ('12) and Christopher Reichardt ('12)** were married in May of 2017. Catherine received her master's degree from Stockton University in May of 2018. She and Christopher are the proud parents of a 4th generation RAM, Josette Grace, born on June 18, 2018. Catherine is the first of 6 Driscoll RAMS to graduate with more to follow: **Jack ('15), Olivia ('17), Sam ('20), Genevieve ('23) and Brody ('25).**

**Patrick Hill ('13)** graduated from Stockton University in 2016 and was hired at Vanguard this past April as a full time brokerage trained customer service representative. He has passed his series 6, 7 and 63 licensing.

**Abby Merryman ('13)** graduated from Rutgers' University in December of 2017 with a major in marketing and finance. She currently works for Konica Minolta in Philadelphia.

**Julia Pedersen ('13)** graduated from Sacred Heart University in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in psychology and was captain of their D1 swim team while there. Julia also earned a master's degree in teaching in May of 2018. She now works as an elementary school teacher at Riverside Elementary School in Riverside, NJ.

**Jenna Brenner ('14)** just graduated from Holy Family University with a bachelor's degree in nursing and started a preceptor program at Einstein Hospital in Philadelphia.

**Mike Glennan ('14)** has recently been hired as an apprentice lineman for the IBEW Local #351.

**Nicole Allison ('15)** was recently named employee of the month at Ulta Salon where she is a stylist.

**Ryan Gervasi ('15)** recently accepted a position as a full time analyst at JPMorgan Chase & Co.



# Gloucester Catholic JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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## SAVE THE DATE

Friday, July 26, 2019

*Ron Jaworski's Running Deer Golf Club*

1111 Parvin Mill Road, Pittsgrove, NJ

[www.johnnyhockeygolf.com](http://www.johnnyhockeygolf.com)

*4<sup>th</sup> Annual*

*Johnny Gaudreau*



**SCHOLARSHIP  
GOLF  
TOURNAMENT**

*All proceeds benefit*

**Gloucester Catholic**



### *23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Father John Sullivan Alumni Golf Tourney*

*Monday, June 17, 2019*

Pitman Golf Club

Registration: 12 Noon

Putting contest precedes 1:30pm Shotgun  
Start

Proceeds benefit the Gloucester Catholic  
Alumni Scholarship Fund & GCHS  
Athletic Programs

For Info contact:

Pat Moughan 609.970.1822

or [patrickmoughan@gmail.com](mailto:patrickmoughan@gmail.com)



### *Please come and support our future RAMS by attending our Basket Auction!*

DATE – Thursday, April 11, 2019

WHERE – Adelphia's

You can also make a donation by going  
to the sign up genius link below. No gift  
is too small!

[https://www.signupgenius.com/  
o/4090C48AAA828A4F58-gloucester](https://www.signupgenius.com/o/4090C48AAA828A4F58-gloucester)

### *GCHS Class of 1959 60<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion*

DATE – Wednesday, October 9, 2019

TIME - 12.00 PM to 4:00PM

**COST:**

Approximately \$39

Additional details will be sent to you.