

# FAITH AND FOOTBALL

## fill Jack Donovan's life at St. Anthony's High School

BY PATRICK  
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The senior is also a starting offensive lineman on the football team. Donovan and the Friars posted a 7-1 overall record and a 6-1 league record to earn the top-seed in the NYCHSFL "AAA" playoffs. Protecting his quarterback, blocking for a run downfield and playing in front of thousands of fans under the lights at Cy Donnelly Field motivate Donovan.

"It's a crazy atmosphere,"

As a student at St. Anthony's High School in South Huntington, Jack Donovan has a full life. The senior studies, learns about his faith, leads retreats and plays on the Friars' football team. Out of all his activities, he doesn't hesitate on what matters to him the most.

"Faith is the most important," he said. "The fact that this school stresses faith the most is important to me."

Donovan was a member of the Clare Society last year, with the responsibility of helping plan and lead freshman retreats. This year, as a member of the Kolbe Society, Donovan again assists with planning and running retreats for sophomore students.

He is also an active Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for the school community. It's just one more way for Donovan to share his faith - a perk of studying at St. Anthony's.

"It is a blessing to do," he said. "It allows me to bring what I know about my faith and spread it around to other people that may not have that faith or may not be educated enough on their faith. That is a unique opportunity and is a gift to be able to do that. I love doing that."

he said. "It's something every little kid dreams of. Playing in front of thousands of people under the lights. It really is amazing."

In the classroom, Donovan has enjoyed learning in the St. Anthony's setting. He appreciates the opportunity to learn about theology for more than an hour a week, unlike in grammar school. Donovan finds value in how the community brings together students from different neighborhoods with the same interests.

"Here, it is really amazing because you have the opportunity to learn," he said. "I love how the students are involved. I love how it brings a lot of kids that are different from each other and they are able to bond over similar things."

Donovan treasures being part of a community where he shares and gains knowledge about his faith while playing on one of the top football teams in the state. For the senior, his St. Anthony's experience has been everything he hoped for in a high school. Donovan will take the experience from the hallways of the Huntington school with him to college, and throughout the rest of his life.

"It's an amazing experience," he said. "Just having a school that offers that range of activities. It forms you into that well-rounded person that everyone wants to be. You have the good grades, you are participating in stuff and you're faithful." ✦

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