Saint Anthony's High School

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UNIORS CELEBRATE THEIR THIRD YEAR

Junior Writers: Chloe Nuccio Jordan Turansky

JUNIORS! What a crazy thing to say---the fact that graduation is next year is a hard image to grasp. Through the past few years, this group of students has shifted and grown in such a positive way, that we amaze Brother David each year growing in his admiration. With many events happening recently, and the aspect of college being right around the corner, this class has truly had the chance to learn and develop the true ideologies of not only what is ahead, but what is ahead through the eyes of God.

Being at a Franciscan school, and being enveloped in its morals has worked into the souls of the Junior class and changed them for the better drawing them closer to each other. These 612 students are now finding their rhythm amongst their peers, people are not afraid for what lies beyond because they now know they have their friends right beside them. Saint Anthony's does not just provide you with an excellent education, but a true home that you can always rely on.

As Freshmen, our class did not understand the true values and ways we impact everyone directly around us. As a group, we hurt and we withdrew from the morals we were supposed to be following. But as the years went on and we grew as individuals, our souls morphed into loving young adults that finally opened their hearts to a Franciscan education.

Sophomore year flew by; our grades improved, character ratings stabilized, and our true love for God was beginning to shine through. The tenth grade teachers helped each and every student prosper in the aspects of our education. Every student worked together and gladly we accomplished that task.

One word to describe the class of 2026 is perseverance. Hard work pays off, and that has truly shown academically and faithfully through our love for God. No matter our challenges and struggles, He looked after us ensuring that our stories were on the right track---we found a sense of reliability behind every action we completed.

At Saint Anthony's High School, two of the most highly anticipated events for juniors are Junior Ring Day and the Junior Cotillion. These valued traditions symbolize the junior classes' progression into their senior year, creating a sense of accomplishment and pride. Junior Ring Day ny's Juniors had another exciting event to marks a significant milestone in the junior classes' academic and religious journey at St. Anthony's.



Junior Ring Day is not just about receiving one's junior ring but it is a deeply symbolic event that represents students' dedication and perseverance to Saint Anthony's. The ceremony, which is held in Saint Elizabeth Church, brings together students and families to celebrate this milestone. The tradition of class rings dates back many years and is a meaningful way for students to carry a piece of Saint Anthony's with them for the rest of their lives. The ring design incorporates the school's coat of arms and student's graduation year. Some students even receive their familial rings, where a sibling, parent, even a grandparent who attended Saint Anthony's High School, passes down their junior class ring.

During the ceremony, students receive their rings from our principal, Brother David, reinforcing the school's values and sense of community. There is a prayer for students' futures and speeches from Brother David and students who encourage juniors to reflect on their journey so being a senior. For many juniors, wearing the ring is more than just a tradition—it is a reminder of their commitment to academic excellence and growth at Saint Anthony's. The ring also serves as a connection to alumni, linking current students to their family who came before them.

"The Cotillion was a new format this year...early feedback indicates the Juniors enjoyed the lounge setting. Special thanks to Mrs. Mattutat for spearheading this transformation!" -Brother Joshua

Following Junior Ring Day, Saint Antho-

look forward to: the Junior Cotillion. This event is a highlight of the school year, giving students the opportunity to dress up and celebrate with friends. Held within the school's decorated cafeteria, students arrived with their dates or in groups of friends. The dance was open with an amazing DJ, hor d'oeuvres served, and games such as pool and table hockey. Both Junior Ring Day and the Junior Cotillion encourage students to reflect on their achievements and appreciate the community they have at Saint. Anthony's. As the juniors at St. Anthony's High School looks ahead to their senior year, these events leave a lasting impression, reinforcing the deep appreciation for their time at St. Anthony's.



Evidently, our time at Saint Anthony's is starting to wither down; we have less time at the school left than we have spent in each hallway. With less than a year and a half left, our mark on this school is one of the most important legacies we have left to complete. We owe it to ourselves to live in the moment and never diminish our dreams of the future. Whether we are aspiring engineers, astronauts, doctors, teachers, or authors; our legacies all lead far and the responsibilities that come with us back to this school. It doesn't matter if you make a high honor roll, or if you were the star player on the Varsity team, this Franciscan High School is your home. It does not matter your background, your grades, or what food you eat during lunch; what truly matters is how you will bring God into every situation and tough time that you overcome.

> The core belief behind Saint Anthony's High School is to put God first and persevere through every challenge that comes your way. The most important factor about this our path and experience, is that we choose our futures with the knowledge that was given to us by our predecessors willingly and diligently. The aspiring Junior Class of 2026 is ready to take on the role as Seniors, and provide an example of what it truly means to be a Friar.



Mr. Christopher Farrell, Dean of Admissions

Editor-in-Chief: Logan Taylor, '25

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Brother David Anthony Migliorino, OSF Principal

Brother Joshua DiMauro, OSF Assistant Principal, Dean of Student Activities

VEWS BRIEFS

Ski Butternut Mountain

The Ski Trip is an exciting trip that happens every year in the first week of February. This year, three busses of students went to Butternut Mountain, a popular spot with great slopes and beautiful views in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Accompanied by Brother Joshua and Mr. Farrell, along with other faculty chaperones, the day started early as students boarded buses at 4:30 AM and arrived at 7:30 AM, excited to begin.



Students had up to seven hours to ski or snowboard, whether they were beginners or experienced riders trying harder trails. The trip, which is open to all students at Saint Anthony's, is a great way to have fun, enjoy the fresh air, and take a break from school. Students spent the day laughing, exploring the mountain, and making great memories with friends. Always a favorite part of the winter season, the Ski Trip brings students together for a day of adventure and excitement on the slopes.

Freshman Writer: Ashley Caiazza

Saint Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day, also known as Saint Valentine's Day, is celebrated on February 14th as a day to express affection and love. The origins of Valentine's Day are somewhat unclear, but it is known that it wasn't widely associated with romance until the 14th century. Although there were many Christian martyrs named Valentine, the most common legend is one of love and defiance. According to this story, Saint Valentine secretly married couples against the emperor's orders to spare husbands from going to war. While traditionally a day for lovers, in modern times, it has become a day to show love in many forms, whether through quality time, gifts, or cards. Valentine's Day cards often feature images of Cupid, the Roman god of love, desire, and attraction. Cupid is known for shooting arrows at people and gods to make them fall in love. While there may be no Cupid to help you "shoot your shot," remember that it's up to you to express your affection on this special day.

At St. Anthony's High School, the Student Council showed their love by handing out heart-shaped lollipops in the cafeteria, available for purchase for yourself or someone special. Valentine's Day continues to be a time to celebrate love in all its forms, reminding us that love is something worth sharing every day of the year.

Sophomore Writer: Maya Williams

Freshman Writer: Andrew Soojian

After the Varsity Football entrance of the fall pep rally went viral on Instagram, on House of Highlights, SportsCenter, and many more pages, as well as being reposted on TikTok thousands of times, Winter Pep Rally had to make a real splash to get national attention!



This time, the pep rally featured a Hawaiian theme, giving a tropical feel in the brutally cold winter.

After a Patriotic National Anthem by the Symphonic Band and Gregorian Schola, President Jacob DiazGranados ac-knowledged the cheerleaders, who were in Florida at their national competition and thanked them for their support of our teams. Kickline entertained the crowd as their presented their performance to many different songs, including some throwbacks from the early 2010s.

This year, the Pep Kally featured a shootout which included students from each grade and two teachers. The winning team, the Juniors, won \$100!

The Winter Teams were then called to

the stage beginning with Varsity Hockey. The captains introduced their team, concluding with the one and only Mikey Hockey, who received more cheering and fanfare than even the captains. With their team on stage, the captains revealed the Friars were nearly undefeated this season, with an 18-1 record. Bowling came next with the boys acknowledging their fun season, and the girls commenting on their big wins and an overall great season.

To pump up the crowd, Phys Ed Teachers Mr. Schroeder and Mr. Anderson excited the audience with T-shirt toss, with students on the bleachers jumping up in hopes of getting a shirt. The T-shirt toss led into the boys Swimming and Diving whose amazing season garnered a New York State Federation Title this year!

Girls and Boys Winter Track were introduced highlighting their national rankings. Captains from both teams proudly annouced their League Championships. The Girls also brought home the State Championship.

After the track teams exited, the gymnasium erupted in a "We want step team" chant. Soon, President DiazGranados delivered, with his introduction of the step team, who ran out to do their performance, captivating the audience.

Varsity Wrestling's presentation took center stage, when the final five wrestlers carried in a chair, three recorded, one sat down, and the last one gave him a buzz-

cut in front of the whole gym!
After the Celtic Friars Band marched in to play their set, the Girls and Boys Basketball Teams presented their starters and stats. It was then that the students knew it was time for the Faculty-Freshmen Basketball Showdown! Presided over by Homecoming King Gregory Lindsay and Homecoming Queen Anna Gross, the game has become a long-standing tradition at Winter Pep Rally. Announcers Michael Reilly and Michael Forrest kept the crowd laughing with hilarious commentary ranging from Mr. Schroeder's glasses and Mr. Cap's shoes.



For the halftime show, the Senior Boys Pep Squad was back by popular demand. They danced along to "Yeah!" by Usher, "Bring the boom" and many more songs, ending with "Gangnam Style" which was abouted for her reserved.

cheered for by many.

The Freshmen started off the 2nd quarter strong inevitably scoring a layup at the buzzer, making the final score 12-11, Freshmen. Brother David ran over to the Freshmen Team and shouted into the microphone, "Freshmen you won!!" The upperclassmen took this as an opportunity to do the infamous "Freshmen stand up!" chant. Luckily, no one fell for it.

INTER ART SHOW

Sophomore Writer: Amelia Reich-Hale

The Saint Anthony's High School Winter Art Show is one of the art community's favorite events of the year. There was an art show in the winter and there will be another one in the springtime. The winter art show took place on Friday, January 24 from 5:30 to 7pm and on Saturday, January 25 from 1:30 to 3:30 pm downstairs by the art room hallways. The Spring art show will take place on Friday, May 9 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm and on Saturday, May 10 from 1:30 to 3:00 in the art room as well.



This exhibit was open to all students, families and friends. It was filled with hundreds of displays from every art class from Studio in Art to Portfolio Prep Honors. Not only were there hand drawn drawings and hand painted paintings at but there is also digital artwork. These the show but there was also handmade ceramics; from freshly kneaded clay, glazed, then painted by our students.

the show was the ceramics, because of the computer lab and their iPads. They learn lot of talent and patience. The artwork begins as a block of clay that is kneaded until it is softened. Then the student shapes it into a mug, bowl or a plate. Then it is glazed in a bisque for firing and is then painted with a design.

In the Studio in Art class, which is one of the first art classes students are enrolled in as freshmen, you are taught the different ways to draw lines, value, the color wheel and how to draw with the many types of pencils. Some of the pieces of artwork from the studio in art class include graphite drawings, like a self portrait.

Portfolio Prep Honors is one of the highest art classes here at Saint Anthony's High School. In this class students are taught many types of art, starting with learning how to paint a still life. Many students choose still life as their art show display piece.

A still life drawing is sketched using pencils. Then the artist uses charcoal, followed by oil paints. The still-life paintings are extremely realistic.

Not only is there also physical artwork classes are Digital Illustration and Design, Digital Media Content Creation and AP 2D Art and Design. In these classes,

One of the more interesting aspects of the students create their works using the way that they are created. Ceramics take a how to use platforms, photoshops and different types of media techniques.



If you like to learn about art history but do not like creating artwork as much there's just the class for you, AP Art History. In AP Art History, you get to analyze, discuss and visualize different types of paintings that span from all the way to prehistoric times up until present day. It's a great class to take if you really want to understand the purpose and connections that art has to the world.

Each student has worked extremely hard and prepared for this event to showcase their wonderful and very creative art. In this year's winter art show every student got the chance to display at least three of their pieces and they will also be able to do so in the spring as well. The art community hopes to see you all in the springtime.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Junior Writer: Riley Brennan

In the busyness of our everyday lives, it is important to take some time to reflect and appreciate just how lucky we are. To have a community to lean on, people to depend on, and love to count on. Without these things we would be lost in the sea of our lives, without an anchor of values to ground us to ourselves.

Catholic Schools Week, which is held in late January, is aweek-long celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It is a time to recognize and celebrate the unique benefits of a Catholic education as well as express our love for each other as a community. The theme of the 2025 Catholic Schools Week was "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community," showcasing that the purpose of this week was to draw even closer to our peers, to appreciate our educators, and to strengthen our faith. With that in mind, Saint Anthony's each other and for the school community.

Throughout the week, Brother David honored the staff, faculty, and students by giving out gift cards to random winners at would fit them perfectly. As always many the end of each period. Those few who got of the students went above and beyond those coveted Starbucks gift cards were to the point where someone even gifted a definitely the luckiest! Throughout the mini bowling set! week many students participated in Project A.R.T.F.L.Y, where any one of

thoughtful gifts and notes. Whether they teachers and thanking them for always

knew each other or not, students made sure they knew how much their hard work and dedication are appreciated at this school



The National Honor Society specifically had a lot of participation from its members, helping to spread the love from all the students back to the faculty and staff. Gifts consisted of chocolates, potted plants, candies, writing supplies, candles, and so much more. Students had the freedom to give whatever they wanted and many took High School's students and faculty did not it a step further by asking around about hesitate to express their appreciation for their chosen faculty member in order to glean what they like personally. Their favorite foods, favorite flowers, and even what their hobbies are, so that their gift

Though what are gifts without a thoughtful note to go along with it? Many students them had the opportunity to honor their took the initiative to express their gratfavorite teachers or thank faculty they itude in cards alongside their daily gifts, haven't had the privilege of meeting with writing how much they appreciate their

being there. While some students decided to reveal their identities at the end of the week, there were also students who never told their chosen faculty who they were. These mysteries provided the faculty with a question left unanswered. Who should they thank for their gifts? By some students never informing teachers of who they are, it shows that many of them are not looking for praise but instead to imply that their gratitude is shared by anyone and everyone of the student body.



As students, teachers, and faculty we spend a lot of our time at school. Most people can't wait to leave so they count the hours until they are free to go home. But the hours we spend here learning bring us closer to each other whether we notice it or not. Saint Anthony's High School is a home away from home, a place where community and Catholic education flourish behind its walls. Catholic Schools Week > was simply a time to remind ourselves of that, of the love, faith, and service we provide to each other that bring us closer tovide to each other that bring us closer together. Without these things we would be 2 lost but with them we are lost no longer.



CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA TRAVEL

Senior Writer: Tatyana Poland Junior Writer: Anthony Caiazza

"Un viaggio di una vita" which means A trip of a lifetime is the only way to describe this pilgrimage. This trip was a onein-a-million chance for the students in the Chorus and Orchestra to sight-see obscure places, sing and play our hearts out, in many a locale, and spend time with our friends and teachers.

In 1989, Brother Joshua DiMauro was deeply inspired to begin the Pilgrimage Program each February for students at Saint Anthony's to discover the culture, food, architecture, art and history of Western Civilization. Together, with Brother Peter Dawson, Brother Shane Burke, Brother Gary Cregan and now Mr. Christopher Farrell, Brother Joshua has led an annual trip for students to France, Greece, Austria, Spain, Switzerland, Portugal and Italy. This year's pilgrimage took the 92 students and 13 chaperones to Sicily and Southern Italy.

In preparation...

Planning for the trip began toward the end of the Spring of 2024. Following registration, came time complete necessary paperwork, submit passports, and finalize rooming lists. All of these steps only began to build excitement for the trip ahead. Once school resumed this past fall, evening night practices and dinners began. After school and extracurriculars, we began to rehearse our respective repertoires. Brother Joshua, directed the chorus in reviewing and learning the vocals, while the Traveling Orchestra, under the leadership of Mrs. Meaghan Avellaneda, rehearsed their own scores. Every so often, the chorus and orchestra would rehearse together, combining both the vocals and the instrumentals of each song for our Concerts. On the occasional Sunday, all students would convene in the chapel and celebrate a morning Mass, before enjoying a festive breakfast together. In fact, every practice, bread together, helped people to really During this

After four months of practice it was time to take off! After saying our goodbyes, many photo opps, and a nine hour flight, the pilgrims touched ground in Rome! The seniors took a connecting flight to Catania, while the juniors and sophomores caught a flight later in the day. The trip officially began! It was time to say "ammuni" (Sicilian for let's go!) to Sicily!

In Italia...

While waiting for all of the other pilgrims, the seniors were brought to the hotel, Excelsior Palace in Taormina, Sicily, where they were served fresh granita and brioche, while relaxed in the Sicilian sun. The Juniors and Sophomores joined 당 them about an hour later, and together the

group feasted on their first Italian lunch ---tomato and mozzarella and pasta ala norma. On that very first afternoon, the students were transported to the 3rd Century B.C. when they visited the Ancient Greek Theatre overlooking the Ionian Sea. What a spectacular piece of architecture! One could only imagine witnessing an ancient Greek comedy in the shadow of the might Mount Etna. This evening was also special as we celebrated la festa di San Valentino!

The following morning, the performers gave a morning concert in the local city of Acireale and got were treated to a traditional Sicilian puppet show, highlighting the history of the island of Sicily! The following day, all of the pilgrims bravely faced Mount Etna, where they rode in snow tractors up to the peak. Mount Etna is one of the highest and most active volcanoes in the region. As the wind calmed, the group was able to hitch a ride on the ski-lift down. After our visit to Etna, it was time to say "arrivederci" to Sicily as we traveled up to the mainland of Italy.

With our departure from Palermo, we were back to Rome, where the next few days would be spent. A lot happened in Rome. A lot of sightseeing, a lot of shopping, and a lot of fun! Before a full day in Rome was spent, the pilgrims experienced a full day in Assisi, the home of Saint Francis. On the way, the pilgrims had the opportunity for prayer and devotions at the Porziuncola. The Porziuncola is the very chapel that Saint Francis himself rebuilt. It is now houses under the magnificent Santa Maria degli Angeli Church. The students then made their way up to Assisi proper. It was here that they had the chance to offer a prayer before the San Damiano Cross, the cross that spoke to Saint Francis and gave him the command to rebuild the church. The San Damiano Cross was a particularly reverent experience because of the importance of it to the Franciscan Catholic faith. With there would be a meal shared. Breaking a small walk, our students then visited the tomb of Blessed Carlo Acutis, the young form a bond and become great friends. Italian who will soon become a Saint. The most important moment during our time in Assisi was Holy Mass and Veneration of the relic of Saint Francis at his tomb in the main Basilica of Assisi. As Mr. Farrell said during the presentation for our trip, "Assisi is a city where you can feel the breath of a saint". The spirit of Saint Francis is felt through every alley and piazza in the quiet and gentle town of Assisi.

The next day, the students, chaperones and those parents of the Shadow Tour, visited the seat of our Roman Catholic Faith - The Vatican. Throughout the day, the pilgrims were amazed by the statues, the history, the grandeur of the basilica and the works of art, including Michaelangelo's *Pieta*. The group gathered in the

(continued on Page 5)



TO SOUTHERN ITALY AND ROME



Sistine Chapel, one of the most important sacred spaces of our faith. It is in the Sistine Chapel, with the great painting of The Last Judgment that the Pope in elected during a Papal Conclave. It is surreal to walk through these holy sites where such momentous historical events have taken place. For Seniors on the trip who also went to Italy as Sophomores, these Veterans as they are called, had a unique treat in that they were able to tour the "Scavi"-the excavation below Saint Peter's Basilica where the Apostle Peter, the first pope is buried. The most memorable experience at the Vatican was the privileged opportunity to walk through the Holy Doors, especially during this Jubilee Year of Hope! The Jubilee Doors, opened every twenty-five years, gave the pilgrims the opportunity to gain a plenary indulgence during their pilgrimage.

Then from the Vatican, the students had their chance to try their hands as "pizzaioli" with a pizza making demonstration. We enjoyed the fruits of our labor, as the pizza we made was our lunch! With full stomachs, the group arrived at the church of Sant'Andrea della Valle where they performed their second concert for local Romans.

As many the faithful know, Pope Francis is in the hospital suffering from double pneumonia. It was on this morning that we found out the sad news that he would not hold his General Audience which we were to attend. In lieu of our Audience though, the group was given the graced moment to climb La Scala Sancta--the Holy Steps--said to be the very said steps that Jesus Christ himself climbed as we to be condemned to death by Pontius Pilate.

We then returned to Saint Peter's Basilica for Holy Mass in the Vatican, before departing to Sorrento. After one night in Sorrento, the pilgrims were wide awake and ready for the day to begin again. The pilgrims went to the ruins of Pompeii, where they were given a walking tour and saw the ancient ruins left after an eruption of Mount Vesuvius. However, later that night was when everyone had the most fun. The pilgrims, walked from their hotel in Sorrento and went to an evening disco, just for them! It was an hour of music, lights, and dancing. We were also treated to a delectable sfogliatelle. All the while, everyone was in bed before 11:30.

The next morning, the pilgrims went to see the Amalfi coast, where they were given free time to explore the town of Amalfi and do some last minute shopping. On the return from Amalfi, the students went to a quiet little farm, where they saw how mozzarella was made, and even got to try some of the delicious cheese. On our way from La Costiera Amalfitana to Rome, the group made a short journey to Monte Cassino, the site of a the Abbey founded by Saint Benedict in the year 529. This

was surreal to experience as the walls were mosaiced with Latin chants and words. At the end of the ten day trip, this profound holy site was an emotionally exhilarating moment for the students and teachers and a highlight to crown their religious trip.

On return...

After a final Italian meal at a local farm, complete with a celebratory fireworks show, the group made their way back to Rome for one last night of sleep in Italy. Early in the next morning, the students left the Grand Hotel Tiberio with some excitement and but also sadness. They were happy to be returning home, but knew they were going to miss Italy. The plane ride home from Italy allowed the pilgrims to look back on the hundreds of things they experienced in only one short week. Whether it was the fun events, the musical concerts or the reverent masses, the students and teachers returned home with a sort of happiness that you only find when you get closer to God, as experienced on this meaningful trip.

After the ten hour plane ride, they touched down back at JFK. It was officially the end of the Pilgrimage, and our pilgrims were home again. They were greeted by the cheers of family and friends who had gathered with signs, balloons, flowers and small gifts welcoming us all back to the United States.

A religious pilgrimage and concert tour of this magnitude would not be possible without the steadfast leadership of Brother Joshua, the meticulous planning of Mr. Farrell, the musical expertise of Mrs. Avellaneda and Mr. Mataban, , the photographic genius of Mr. O'Connor or the watchful eyes and never-ending support of Ms. Mazzucca, Ms. Vertolomo, Mr. Zonin, Mrs. Mattutat, Ms. Malangone, Miss Roveto, Mr. Schroeder and Mr. Volpe.

But a great deal of credit and congratulations are due to the students--the singers and the instrumentalists---whose dedication, curiosity and talent allowed their minds and hearts to be open to learning about our Roman Catholic Faith, our Franciscanism, Italian Culture and the World. Brother Joshua ended the first meeting in the Spring of 2024 with these words:

"A European Pilgrimage is a life-changing experience. Many of our students choose to go to Europe to spend a semester or longer in college, studying abroad, based on the fabulous experience of a Pilgrimage Tour. It is a very exciting adventure, but it entails a lot, a lot of work and preparation, But in the end you will look back and see it as one of the most valuable events of your life." Nothing could be further from the truth. So we say *Ci veatamo num* now, but look forward to the Concert Tour and Pilgrimage in 2027 to Venice, Flor-

FACULTY SPOTLIGHTS

For each issue, the Paduan sits down with one of our esteemed Faculty Members to introduce them to our school community. If you have a teacher recommendation, please write to paduan@stanthonyshs.org

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Ms. Lisa Seewagen

Senior Writer: Nikolina Johannessen

Leading with Passion and Purpose

For the past two decades, Ms. Seewagen has been an integral part of our school community, inspiring students with her passion for literature and learning. Now, as the newly appointed English department chairwoman, she continues to make a lasting impact—both inside and outside the classroom.

From an early age, Ms. Seewagen was drawn to a career that would allow her to be creative and make a meaningful impact. "I think I always wanted to be a teacher, though I toyed with other possible career fields," she says. "Ultimately, I wanted a job where I could be creative, make a difference, and help people." With this mission in mind, she has spent 20 years fostering an engaging and inclusive learning environment where students feel encouraged to actively participate and connect with literature in meaningful ways.

Currently, Ms. Seewagen teaches AP Seminar to ninth graders and Literature of New York/Modern Drama to seniors. She particularly enjoys the interdisciplinary nature of AP Seminar and the opportunity to team-teach with Dr. V, an experience she describes as rewarding and eye-opening. Teaching seniors gives Ms. Seewagen the unique opportunity to shape her curriculum each year, allowing her to introduce literature that resonates with her students. "I love having the freedom to change up my curriculum every year and teach topics and stories that are important to me," she says, aiming to expose students to diverse narratives that encourage meaningful discussions. she says, hoping to introduce students to literature that broadens their perspectives and sparks critical conversations.





In addition to her teaching, Ms. Seewagen plays a crucial role as English department chairwoman, overseeing curricula, mentoring teachers, managing schedules, and ensuring the department continues to evolve. One of her key objectives is modernizing and diversifying the curriculum while maintaining the best traditional teaching methods. She emphasizes the importance of balancing technological advancements with proven educational practices and fostering collaboration among faculty. "We teach better when we work together. No man is an island," she notes, underscoring her commitment to teamwork and continuous improvement.

Her love of literature extends beyond the classroom and into the choices she makes in her personal and professional life. For instance, she decided to keep her last name after marriage, valuing the connection it holds to her identity. This perspective aligns with some of her favorite works, including Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's We Should All Be Feminists, a thought-provoking text that challenges societal norms and encourages students to think critically about identity and self-expression. By incorporating such literature into her classes and sharing her own experiences, she fosters an environment where students are encouraged to explore different perspectives and develop their own sense of identity and voice.

Ms. Seewagen's dedication to education and leadership makes her an invaluable member of our school community. Whether in the classroom or in her role as department chairwoman, she continues to inspire students and colleagues alike, ensuring that her impact will be felt for years to come.

Ms. Anne Ferrara

Freshmen Reporter: Jenna Caniano

Opening Students Eyes to the World

Paduan: How many years have you been teaching at St. Anthony's?

AF: I started at St. Anthony's in September of 1998, so that makes this my 27th year.

Paduan: What classes do you teach or have you taught before?

AF: My first classes were Global 9 and 10. A few years later, I switched to AP European and Global Honors. Then we introduced AP World History, which at first was a 2 year course. This made me change classes again, as I started the AP World course. When the College Board changed World to AP World Modern, a 1 year class, we brought AP European back for the sophomores and I started teaching that again. I really enjoy having the AP scholars for 2 years in a row. I've also taught the Business Law class and in summer school I've had the opportunity to do Economics. AP European and AP World are my favorites.





Paduan: What is your favorite part about St. Anthony's?

AF: St. Anthony's is a special place. I don't know if I can really identify my favorite part or my favorite memory. I've been working here for a long time; I've been blessed to have come into contact with so many special students, faculty and staff members. I went to a very small public school; the AP scholars know the story that I had Mr. Piano as my Physics teacher, and it was much different than this place. We didn't have the sense of community, of faith, of belonging that you have here.

Paduan: Who has been your biggest role model at the school?

AF: My role model in the building was a teacher who retired Tina Grottano. She taught in the building for over 50 years! She mentored all the young teachers and was like a mother hen to everyone. She was everyone's mom and grandma. She taught everyone the skills they needed to be better teachers and just to be better at knowing how to deal with the students and parents. She also taught pretty much 80% of the faculty that work here now.

Paduan: What advice would you have for students taking an AP class for the first time?

AF: Advice I would give students taking an AP class is simple – don't let the class beat you. AP is different, it is more challenging than your regular classes but also more fun. You have to get used to the type of questions, the style of the question, the prompt and the material. There will always be some topics that will be more interesting than others, but there should be something that will get you hooked. Use your time wisely and don't try to cram it all in the day before the test; that is a sure way to end in disaster. If you need any help, I am always here for you.

Logan Taylor

dents within the independent Science recompetitive success.

advance among the ranks of competitive alternative to traditional methods. science fairs.

At LISEF, students are asked to present their research and methodologies to a group of judges. These judges typically include researchers from the island's premier scientific institutions, such as Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Brookhaven National Laboratories, and the Feinstein Medical Institute among others. From here, they are evaluated upon the quality of their research, their depth of understanding, and the implications their designs might have on the landscape of science as a whole. Annually, students from across the island contribute their research, developing innovative solutions to long-standing problems and drawing sophisticated conclusions as to how science should move forward. Among the many who participated, St. Anthony's students were featured heavily.



Our research program, known commonly as 'Friarquest' draws students from advanced placement science classes to conceive and perform robust scientific ests. An optimal pairing, Friarquest mengram collaborate with researchers from es- serve their goals; teemed scientific institutions throughout
Intent on furthering her scientific career within the scientific community.

Friarquest's litany of academic benefits and opportunities were strongly reflected in the Junior Science and Humanities Sunday, February 12th at York College in Queens. A competitive science fair which encourages and recognizes achievement in experimental research among high school students, JSHS provides students with the and thirst for knowledge of all our science opportunity to present their cutting edge work for feedback and exposure.

generously represented, with many science scholars serving as student pre-Grace Nolan, Ella Santos, Olivia Czoch, certainly make to their field and the world.

Senior Writer and Editor-in-Chief: and Sophomore Jack Laurinavicius, all of whom offered state-of-the-art findings.

Olivia Czoch, investigating the roles of As the school year has progressed, stu- electricity and TEMPO-derived alkoxyamines in sustainable chemical reactions, search program have witnessed continued worked to improve efficiency and reduce waste during the Ritter reaction; a re-Each year, the program sends students action in which benzyl alcohol is used to to showcase their research at LISEF (Long form ether compounds, creating stable re-Island Science and Engineering Fair). A active molecules via a controlled breaking large gathering of the Island's active sci- of chemical bonds. Through her research, entific community, LISEF serves as the she determined the use of electricity to be first major step for students seeking to a cleaner, safer, and more energy-efficient



Speaking of the immense need for energy-efficient solutions in modern times, Czoch stated, "This approach aligns with green chemistry principles by utilizing electricity to generate stable carbocations under mild and environmentally friendly conditions", offering a cleaner method for carbocation reactions.

Czoch's findings were the result of consistently diligent investigation towards all aspects of her research. When offering advice on how students should approach this process, she notes, "Start early by choosing a topic that genuinely interests you... focus on developing a clear hypothesis and a strong methodology while seeking guidance from mentors or professionals in the field".

For her mentor, Czoch worked under the guidance of Dr. Yalan Xing, an Associate Professor of Chemistry at Hofstra University. Dr. Xing's research centers around the development of novel carbocation reaction methodologies and sustainable approaches for plastic degradation; research that directly coincides with Olivia's interresearch, often in professional laborato- torship showcases our students' drive to ry settings. Most students within the pro- actively seek out the resources which best

New York State and beyond. The unique through college, Czoch plans to revisit mentorship opportunity offered through and expand upon her research in the near the program allows students to develop future, stating, "The process of working their skills for working in professional with advanced techniques like the NMR laboratories, as well as build connections machine has sparked a deeper interest in molecular analysis, and I'm eager to explore how it can be applied in fields like biochemistry."

Czoch is a contender for the Regeneron Symposium (JSHS), which took place on International Science and Engineering Fair being held in Columbus, Ohio from May 10-May 16. We wish her the best of luck!

With the collective tenacity, hunger, scholars, there is no doubt that they will succeed wherever they go. We hope for the At the symposium, St. Anthony's was best in their competitions, and applaud their continued pursuit of science through college and beyond. Above all, we are exsenters. Among the group were seniors cited to witness the contributions they will

COLOR GUARD HITT THE

PAVEMENT

The end of February ushers in one of the busiest, but most exciting times of year for the Celtic Friars Pipe and Drum Band and the Saint Anthony's Color Guard. With a parade season that keeps both groups on the move nearly every weekend day for two months, February and March give our students a time to showcase their talent, as well as the months of hard-work, practice and preparation that has gone into preparing for these parades.

The Celtic Friars, founded in 2009, have become one of the most integral parts of the school community, playing at various school events including the Black and Gold Gala, the Alumni All Souls Mass, the Friar Shield Mass, among others. The band also regularly marches in the Columbus Day Parade in New York City. This summer the band plans on traveling to Scotland to compete in the Piping World Championship. This will be their second trip abroad.

Currently under the leadership of Director Mr. Michael Saxer and Moderator Mr. Bruce Dexter, the Celtic Friars have marched in Kings Park, East Islip, Bay Shore, Huntington, Saint James, Bayport, Rocky Point, Brentwood, Glen Cove and Lindenhurst. The pinnacle of parade season though is the Saint Patrick's Day Parade on March 17 down 5th Avenue in New York City. The Celtic Friars joined hundreds of others celebrating Irish History and Heritage. Our Franciscan Brothers can trace their lineage back to the Brothers from Galway, Ireland!



For the last four years, the Celtic Friars have been joined by the Saint Anthony's Color Guard who proudly march with their Black and Gold flags as representatives of Saint Anthony's. Under the direction of Principal Brother David, the Color Guard regularly practices their formation ensuring perfectly straight lines, marching rhythm and coordination. The Color Guard also presents the American, Papal, School, State and Irish Flags behind the banner of the Celtic Friars.



The Friars were hard to miss this year in New York City! They were one of the most impressive delegations to join this year's parade. Special thanks to the Brothers David, Joshua, Vincent, Owen and Geoffrey who led the students. And to Ms. O'Neill, Mrs. Mattutat and Mrs. Sudentas who □ served as chaperones. Be sure to catch the \triangleright Friars on a "Main Street" near you!

THE FRIARS

From Newsday By Brian Heyman brian.heyman@newsday.com

The large, modern scoreboards high up at each end of century-old Rose Hill Gymnasium didn't reveal much to like for St. Anthony's throughout the first half.

After being down by as many as 13, the Saturday at Fordham. They were rushing and misfiring almost 77% of the time in John's Prep.



"It was a dead locker room at halftime," senior forward Connor Mannix said. [Head Coach] Sal Lagano then woke the dead. "They saw an angry coach at halftime," Lagano said, "but they responded." Junior guard Kevin Moore delivered six of his 13 points plus a big steal and a huge astitle "state champion" has a very nice ring to it for St. Anthony's.

The Friars emerged with a 57-47 win over the city champs — this basketball eight-rebound, six-steal day, drove to program's first state title in 20 years."It's honestly great," Moore said. "I've been working with these guys for the last three years and I wouldn't want to play with anyone else. I'm glad we got to go out on really good." that note.'

Moore added six assists and five steals Friars were in a nine-point halftime hole to the cause for the 25-3 Friars. Senior forward James Taylor Jr. scored all 10 of on offense, turning the ball over too much his points in the second half. And Mannix contributed 10 points and eight rebounds this state CHSAA Class A final against St. in a game that was there for either side to grab at that 3 1/2-minute mark, tied at 41.

> "We've been in close games all year, so we know how to handle them," Mannix said. They handled it Dec. 18 against St. John's Prep when they rallied in the fourth for a 56-52 home victory. "As I said to our guys in the locker room after the game there, 'This will be a rematch (in) the state finals,' and here we were; it was," said coach John Kiggins, whose Red Storm (24-4) still have another game, the Mayor's Cup matchup against the eventual PSAL champ on March 23.

This time, the 6-1 Moore stepped forward when it was tied. First, he grabbed an offensive rebound and scored for the lead. Then he stole the ball and ultimately jammed it through the hoop. Then he spotted Ouse Ninche and fed him for a layup to make it a 6-0 burst, triggering sist in the final 3 1/2 minutes. And so the a 16-6 closing run. "I even said it on the bench, 'Someone's got to make a play,' Lagano said. "And usually it's Kevin."

Daquan Bryant, who had a 15-point, cut it to 47-43. But Taylor made two free throws and Moore hit two more. The Friars' lead was eight with 58.5 seconds left. "Credit to them," Kiggins said. "They're



It wasn't showing when they were down 23-10 in the second quarter and 28-19 at the break. "It was the worst half of basketball we ever played, so we knew we couldn't do much worse once we went back on the court," Taylor said. "We just had to do us and it would just go up.

Not only had St. Anthony's shot only 6-for-26 in that first half, but it committed seven turnovers that led to nine points. "I challenged them with things we talk about every game," Lagano said. "It's not like we started splitting the atom. We just got after them more about being better than this." They turned out to be the best.

Lent: The Season of Lost & Found

Few experiences are as anxiety-inducmap apps, the experience of losing our way has become less frequent over the vears. Those of us who remember life bephysical maps or, in some cases, verbal nects all of the points. directions that often include landmarks where I'm going.)

countries. Three years ago, I visited Iretryside with ease—until we tried to find my friend's aunt and uncle's cottage in County part of the journey. The problem? Houses never leave them lost or abandoned. aren't numbered the way they are in the tination: Enagh North, along with some landmarks: a few houses past a small factory with a line of tall trees in front of it. It my friend's uncle by name that we were able to find the cottage.

where your destination is in the first place. can turn into despair. Even when life hurls

The Church gives us the season of Lent each year to look at the landscape of our existence with greater clarity and awareing as getting lost. Thanks to a variety of ness. Through this season, we're provided with a map to help navigate the journey. In his 1937 classic A Map of Life, Frank Sheed explains the importance of not just fulness, Christ has come to find us. fore smartphones—and even before in-car following road signs, but understanding GPS—recall a time when we had to rely on the bigger picture of the map that con-

During this season, which includes trato help orient us (I still tease my dad for ditional practices like prayer, fasting, his insistence on giving me detailed direc- almsgiving, meditations on Christ's Pastions when I just need an address to get sion and death, and reminders of our own struggles, toward our heavenly homeland. mortality and sinfulness, there are plenty To my surprise, GPS navigation today of "signs" marking the season. But perstill isn't always straightforward in foreign haps a map would help us make sense of it all. The first and most obvious truth is land for the first time with a priest friend that our lives have purpose, meaning, and who has a number of family members still direction. The sin we struggle with stems living in "the old country". We rented a car from our first parents'; departure from and made our way around cities and coun- living in the joy of full communion with God—caused by their insecurity and their desire for the "knowledge of good and Clare, where we were planning to stay for evil," rather than trusting that God would

In our own experience, it's not hard to States. The family gave us a two-word des-recognize the inherited spiritual illness that continues to plague humanity. In the face of this challenging landscape, we who claim Christ as Lord dare to live in hope. was only with the help of a local who knew As Lent leads us to Easter, this season invites us to keep our eyes on the final destination of our earthly pilgrimage. When the Getting lost is frustrating enough, but it's destination and directions are unclear, we even worse when you don't know exactly become disoriented, and discouragement

disappointments our way, the hope that reorients us is far more than mere wishful thinking. Our hope is firmly rooted in the Cross and Resurrection, by which we are made truly free. Simply put, Lent reminds us that while we get lost in the fog of sin-

As we enter into this Lent here at St. Anthony's, may the "sights and sounds" of the season remind us that the Church provides us with a map for the adventure of life, constantly guiding us through its peaks and valleys, our triumphs and

Father John Crozier



In addition to his role as Chaplain at Saint Anthony's, Father Crozier serves as the Chaplain of Hofstra University and diocescan Director of Vocations.

HUNTINGTON YOUTH WRITES

Freshman Writer: Lilah Carden

for the 26th annual Huntington Youth Writes contest. In this contest you had the opportunity to submit either a piece of poetry, short story fiction or an essay. The winning students from each of the age groups will be published in a journal. Submission to this contest was promoted in posters around the school, specifically in the library, and in the creative writing club. A freshman student, who wishes to remain anonymous, submitted two poems to this contest. In conversation with her, she gives insight into why writing is not only important to her, but why all teenagers should value writing.

When asked why she writes in general, she responded with "... it's a good way to release emotions, create characters and make up characters who feel what I feel through a different point of view." In the poems she submitted, they're specifically from characters she's writing about for a novel. She wanted to get into some of the side characters' heads more and learn more about why they would do the things they do, leading to the inspiration for these to submit these poems, she replied that, "Sharing work is important. I'd love for her why she feels it's important for all self exploration, however with this

teenagers to write, to which she responded, "Writing connects people back to basic This past February, submission was open communication skills and in a digital age, the practice of creative writing is getting lost, and that shouldn't be the case."

Focusing more on the emphasis of writing amongst teenagers, the International Writers Collective (IWC) cites IWC instructor Jennifer Gryzenhout, an English teacher at the International School of Amsterdam. Through teaching teenergers for years, she's concluded that when teenagers write they are being actively in touch with their imaginations. In a world of mindless scrolling, it's important that teens hold onto the whimsy outlook they had on the world in their youth. Being imaginative and creative is not something that should be left in childhood as those skills will help elevate academic pursuits in schooling years and beyond. Additionally, she explains that writing boosts teens' growth in personal thought, language, and expression. Writing can be a great tool to explore yourself through, similar to how the student who submitted her poems phrased it, "... making up characters who feel what I feel through a different point of view." When emotions get too tough to poems. Then, when asked why she wanted handle on your own, it can be very therapeutic to explore it through someone else's perspective, which can easily be accomothers to see it, and just get something I've plished with creative writing. Additionalwritten out into the world." Finally I asked ly, journaling is a way to achieve this same



you'd be addressing your emotions directly. The National Institute of Health even conducted a study where they determined that the anxious participants enjoyed the intervention of journaling quite well, 29.4% reporting activity made them feel "somewhat better" and 18.2% reporting it made them feel "much better".

Though submission is now closed for this writing competition, there is always next year. In the meantime, it would be a great idea to begin your writing journey, or progress on a story you've always wanted to write yet never have yet. As established, writing is a great escape to get in touch with yourself, unleash creativity and even decrease anxiety for some. Though in our digital age, the act of writing and creating has been getting progressively undervalued and growing less common amongst teens, the benefits of writing cannot be denied. (For more info, visit: https://huntingtonmatters.com)

gages in a re-accreditation process with Anne Ferrara of the Social Studies Dethe Middle States Association of Elementary and Secondary Schools. The primary goal of the Middle States Association is to and Ms. Ferrara where excited to begin affirm schools with accreditation that are the process. The most important part for providing quality education for their students, that achieve excellence in teaching the entire school community, an integral and learning and operates in a collaborative way with the many stakeholders that cluded forming a Planning Team to tackle the school over the next seven years. make up the school.

Saint Anthony's has been accredited for decades beginning as far back as when the school was situated in Smithtown, Long Island. As part of the accreditation, the school solicits the feedback from its stakeholders -- Administrators, teachers, students, parents and alumni -- to garner an understanding of the overall areas of success for the school, as well as the areas in need of improvement. "It would be foolish to think we do not need to improve...we always need to improve. The Middle States process is healthy! It's a time for us [the school] to reflect on what we are doing well and where we need to grow. A good school remains the same...a great school continues to make improvements for its students. We need to be a great school", said Mr. Farrell, who served as the Midlast re-accreditation process.

has been chaired by Mr. William Quinn, ny's. Our Core Values are a collective list crediation this year.

Every seven years, Saint Anthony's en- the Math Department Chairman and Ms. of beliefs that we as a school community partment. When tasked by Brother David to spearhead the process, Mr. Quinn Mr. Quinn and Ms. Ferrara was engaging component to Middle States, which inthe endeavor.

> "The goals we are setting forth are based on policies and procedures that will allow Saint Anthony's High School to be an even better school than it already is." -Mr. Quinn

is fairly straightforward. Once the Planning Team is formed, it is their job to review the Mission Statement, the Profile of Graduates and the Core Values. The Mission Statement is what continues to drive

hold as paramount to our mission. The three, as you can see, go hand in hand.

The next step is surveying the school community on the major "standards"; for example, Governance and Organization, Teaching and Learning, Student Well-Being and among others. These surveys form the foundation for the goals to be set by



Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools

The plan for growth and improvement The strategy to achieve re-accreditation established during this re-accreditation process includes increasing attendance rates for our students, creating aligned standards for our humanities courses and increasing comprehension in math courses. With eves set on the future, Saint Anour faculty and students each and every thony's will certainly be well on its way to said Mr. Farrell, who served as the Middle States Internal Coordinator during the
day. The Profile of Graduates describes
achieving its re-accrediation with Middle Estates We thank Mr. Ouinn and Ms. Fer-This year, the Middle States Evaluation gained in their four years at Saint Antho- rara for leading the Self-Study for Re-Achas been chaired by Mr. William Quinn, ny's. Our Core Values are a collective list crediation this year.

California Resilience

Senior Writer and Editor-in-Chief: have provided assistance to those desper-Logan Taylor

At the beginning of the new year, on January 7th, 2025, wildfires began to run rampant throughout California, ravaging Los Angeles and the broader Southern California areas. This was a disaster of seismic proportions. Many were displaced, forced to evacuate, killed, or severely injured.

Likely spurred by the combination of arid conditions and high winds, these fires quickly spread across the Californian coast, requiring responses from an international coalition of over 51,818 emergency personnel.

The two largest fires were those which ignited in the Palisades and Altadena regions, classified as the Pacific Palisades Fire and Eaton Fire respectively. They have since been ranked as the third and second most dangerous wildfires in California's history.

While firefighters worked doggedly to contain these large fires, several smaller blazes broke out in tandem throughout the Los Angeles area. Those smaller fires included the Lidia, Archer, Woodley, Sunset, Kenneth, Hurst and Auto fires.

In response, Brother David established a donation drive which ran through catholic schools week (January 30th - February dollars towards supporting the relief efforts.



As of January 31st, all fires have been contained, however most are still actively burning. Through this crisis, citizens of Los Angeles have experienced devastating losses. As the fires tore through their city, significantly damaging homes, workplaces and schools, all those affected recognized the definite need to lend a hand to one's neighbor during a desperate time. In regards to catholic education, this was no exception.

Two Catholic schools, Corpus Christi School in the Pacific Palisades and St. Elizabeth's School in Altadena perished in the fires. The destruction of these institutions forced two immediate closures, with students being granted expedited transfers into nearby public elementary schools.

The loss of St. Elizabeth's school was particularly tragic, with close to 100% of the school's teachers residing within the surrounding Altadena neighborhoods. Consequently, this disaster has displaced the overwhelming majority of the faculty at St. Elizabeth's.

It is estimated that over 800 students throughout the area were affected by the fires. Thankfully, these schools are not without help. The local elementary schools in the Pacific Palisades and Altadena have taken initiative, additionally operating various food, uniform, clothing, and monetary drives to support students and families who have lost everything. The drives

ately in need, as well as served as reminders to the remarkable value of charity and

"They lost everything", says Adrien Lopez, CEF's Associate Director of Development. "We want to be that saving grace for them for the next semester and beyond".

The Catholic Education Foundation of Los Angeles, which specializes in providing tuition assistance to under-privileged families within Santa Barbara and Ventura counties, has been at the forefront of working to support struggling families during this time. The foundation rushed to establish a 'Wildfire Tuition Relief Fund', which is actively accepting donations. So far, the relief fund has received donations from 15 different states, and it is looking to build upon that. Students are encouraged to scan the QR code attached below in order to give towards all those struggling.

Facing an ordeal of this magnitude 3rd), in which students would each give 2 requires immense resilience; and the catholic community of Los Angeles has demonstrated that quality in abundance. At Catholic Education Foundation's second annual Ethical Leadership Luncheon —held on January 29th at Our Lady of Angels' Conference Center — both principals of Corpus Christi and St. Elizabeth's Schools, Paola Sessarego and Dr. Phyliss Cremer respectively, delivered hopeful, moving speeches on the value of catholic education, and their unwavering will to continuously provide it to children.

Given the year's apt theme, of Resilience that Brother David has asked us all to strive for, we, as Friars, must be further compelled to not only help ourselves when we are in need but also to help our neighbor. This is true now more than ever. We must consistently strive to rise, bettering ourselves and our communities around us. To seek virtue in a manner which unites, rather than divides, and ultimately contributes to the greater good.

"The unique thing about this tragedy is that you see love in action. ... Amongst the it!

elementary schools...amongst the high schools, and across the nation there's an outpouring of support for our students here; And I think that's the universal truth of Catholic education", stated Lopez.

This remarkable, sustained resilience is no small feat; and it does not come without some help. While CEF and various other charitable foundations throughout the area have received significant donations, the relief effort is nevertheless an ongoing continuum, and needs consistent resources to account for what has been lost. It is absolutely vital that we within the Saint Anthony's community do everything we can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all those affected by the fires. Once again, students are highly recommended to utilize the QR code towards the 'Wildfire Tuition Relief Fund'.



"We need help. ...In times like this, this is a true call to action. This fund specifically goes to students that have been directly affected by the wildfires. ...Zero we take away from overhead; one hundred percent of the proceeds go directly to the

Even in the darkest hour, no one is alone. The calling of the Catholic community has always been to pray, persevere, be resilient, and lend charity to those in need. Now, it is imperative that we help each other out. We must do our part to see that each and every one of our students, faculty, and staff within the Los Angeles Catholic School communities are safe, secure, and able to continue. We must aspire to the dignity of the enriched community, and match the resilience witnessed within these struggling areas. The time to help is now, and we must work to meet it. Today's the day to give, and we must seek to seize

