



# The Padवान

Saint Anthony's High School  
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## RINGING IN THEIR THIRD YEAR JUNIOR CLASS CELEBRATES A MILESTONE

**Junior Writer:** Antoinette Uhler

Saint Anthony's High School's annual Junior Ring Day took place this past March sixth at Saint Elizabeth's of Hungary's Church... and to say that it was anything less than a milestone for the class of 2027 would be a great disservice! Junior Ring Day is one of the many symbolic events that the eleventh grade has to look forward to during their time at Saint Anthony's. The excitement that illuminates out of the junior class when spring rolls around is hard to miss, and if you're not already excited... you will be!

It is incredibly important to first understand what the ring represents. It may be easy to simply think of it as another accessory to keep lying around your room, however, we should not do this. Wearing the Junior Ring showcases pride in Saint Anthony's High School---A high school where each and every student has been given the opportunity to flourish in more ways than was thought possible; a high school where lifelong relationships with friends, teachers, and God Himself are made possible; a high school that you are able to reflect on after graduation and think, "I am so grateful that I chose to become a Friar".



Once you understand the importance of the ring, it is also vital to understand the significance of the ceremony. After students, parents, teachers, and everyone else makes their way into the Church, the rings are prayed over and blessed. The days between this ceremony and graduation are filled with stressful applications and bittersweet goodbyes. With the blessings, the junior class will always have one important person by their side forever through all of this, and that person is God.

This exceptional event is more than just Ring Day itself, it also signifies a step closer to graduation! In October, after

Brother Joshua made his first announcement that Mr. Murphy from *Jostens* was going to be at school for ring orders... a spark arose in the class of 2027. Juniors made their way to the auditorium lobby to speak with Mr. Murphy about their specific ring. They were able to choose from a wide variety of bands, colors, sizes, etc. After placing their order, excitement was soon to build up! The time in between was filled with plenty of things. Most students spent their time looking for spring dresses and suits to wear to the event. Others were too busy talking with their friends about how anticipated for the ceremony they were. Along with this, it would be near impossible that their parents wouldn't be excited to see their child receive the ring as well! What prouder moment is there than to see your child one step closer towards graduation, the moment that they've been waiting four years for, and the moment that you've been helping them to achieve. Now, the only thing that was left to do was flip through the old catalogs waiting for the day where they would receive their own ring.

March sixth finally rolled around after days and days of waiting, and each and every feeling of anticipation was definitely worth it for the Class of 2027. Students and their parents, teachers, Father Irinel, and many more made their way over to Saint Elizabeth's on a picture perfect Friday morning. The students sat down next to their parents, watching the other students receive their rings until it was time to receive their own. When it was finally their turn, they lined up in alphabetical order by homeroom with the help of Dr. Buehler and Mr. Arrigo, and made their way down the aisle. One by one, their name was announced when they shook hands with Brother David. And finally the moment they've been waiting for, Brother David ecstatically handed each and every one of them their ring. As they made their way back to their seats, they each were soon to see the camera flash from their parents, their friends smiling at them, and everyone else in attendance clapping for them.

After the ceremony was over, everyone made their way outside of the Church. An incredible number of hugs were given, and an even larger number of photos were taken. Friends met up and congrat-

ulated each other. Up until this moment, it seemed as if graduation and senior year was a thousand years away. But Ring Day made the sudden realization all the more real.



Laughs were had and tears were shed... these friends realized that times like these are soon to become rare. Everyone is soon to go off to different colleges in different states to experience different ways of life... but not just yet. Despite all of the emotions that were flowing, the Class of 2027 was still able to live in the moment. Shared feelings of pride were exemplified through the rings on every student's finger. And though this one step closer means a step closer to saying those bittersweet goodbyes, these students realized one prevailing fact... Classmates for four years, Friars forever. The relationships built at Saint Anthony's are not shy to distance, which is again represented by this beyond meaningful ceremony.



Though the ring may just be a small part of junior year, it is not to say that it isn't significant. The junior class at Saint Anthony's for many years now have looked forward to this event alike. What an incredible thought it is that each generation of the eleventh grade has been able to confidently walk out of Ring Day with a strong enough foundation to support

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# A Night to Remember

## JUNIORS MARK RING DAY WITH COTILLION

them throughout the rest of their high school career, and life after graduation. This shouldn't be taken lightly, it should be taken as a testament to how well Saint Anthony's truly educates the mind and the heart.



To mark Junior Ring Day with a celebration as a class, Saint Anthony's High School hosted the annual Junior Cotillion on March seventh in the cafeteria, transformed into "The Grand Lounge" for this special night. This night has been something that the class of 2027 has been looking forward to since September. The Junior Cotillion gave every student the chance to partake in a night of dancing, celebration, games, but most of all memories!

January marked the start of planning. Yellow sheets of paper were passed around to each homeroom, explaining the rules and costs of the cotillion. As the class of 2027 read on their papers, there was going to be music and a D.J., games, a photo booth, food and drinks, favors, and much more. What about this wouldn't make you want to go? However, it's important to realize that the cotillion is not just about dancing with your friends (although most certainly weren't shy to that). The cotillion, similar to Junior Ring Day, represents a step closer to graduation. The class of 2027 has worked incredibly hard academically, extracurricularly, and spiritually to get to where they are today. Meeting demanding schedules with perseverance isn't an easy thing to do, especially when you can just jump on the 2:30 bus. However, they don't. All of this hard work will surely be rewarded at graduation, and it was especially rewarded by this night, and will continue to be rewarded by many of the other events Saint Anthony's offers its students.



As soon as everyone had their payments in, the dash to prepare started. Everyone was out shopping for dresses, suits, shoes, and accessories for what seemed like an entire calendar full of days in between then and the dance. Friends talked to each

other about what color dresses and ties they would get, what hair style and nail color they would decide on, and even what kind of corsage and boutonniere they were going to purchase.

Credit must also be given where credit is due... this process wouldn't have been easy without all the parents. Who else on this planet would drive you the night before cotillion to the shoe store because the ones you bought weeks ago won't break in? Absolutely no one besides parents. Who else would volunteer to make sure students get to and from their car safely the night of the dance? Again, no one besides parents. Parents are definitely the group of people in all of this who do not get thanked enough, even though they are the ones who should be thanked the most.



Another group cannot go without mention---all the faculty, staff, and students at Saint Anthony's that made this night possible, in particular Mrs. Mattutat and the Student Council under the leadership of Brother Joshua and Mr. Farrell. The school was absolutely transformed the night of the cotillion to the point where you couldn't identify where in the school you were. Setting up those decorations, catering the food, and hiring the D.J. takes a lot more organization than most might think. What was the usual Cafeteria was decked out with decorations, special lights, centerpieces, tables, couches, pool tables and more.



Before the class of 2027 could even blink, it was time to strap up their shoes and start heading towards the school. The car rides to school were full of looking over the pictures they just took with all their friends to remember this moment. Once they arrived at school, they presented their IDs and tickets, picked a table to put their bags down, then met up with all their friends and had fun! Everyone was amazed with how decorated the cafeteria was. Multiple seating arrangements with high top tables and couches, pool tables, an incredible D.J. setup, etc. As more and

more students showed up, the night kept getting better. The colorful lighting set the mood, the music got absolutely everyone out of their seats (regardless of how uncomfortable their shoes were), and the food kept everyone energized. Not a single person there seemed to be the slightest bit embarrassed of singing or dancing. In fact, everyone in attendance was too focused on having a good time and encouraging their friends to even think about embarrassment.



As the night dwindled down, nobody wanted to say goodbye. The last songs were played, the final pictures were taken, and the endmost hugs were given. As everyone left the school with their favors by help of the Fathers Guild, a certain feeling crept into everyone's heart... a feeling of future nostalgia. Sure, the class of 2027 won't have another Junior Cotillion to look forward to. However, they will always have an outstanding evening to look back on. Brother Joshua said, "The Ring Day and the Cotillion are a special honor for the Juniors. It marks their third year, and is truly only second in solemnity to Graduation and Commencement." With a countless number of pictures and an infinite amount of memories, March seventh will always be something to smile about.



Though Junior Cotillion may just be one component of junior year as a whole, it is not to say that it isn't significant. For the class of 2027, it's now their time to look forward to their Senior year and all of the other exciting senior events that are to come during their final year. With this step towards graduation taken, the class of 2027 is bound to do amazing things, all thanks to the community of Saint Anthony's. With an amazing school such as this, these students are more than prepared to live a purpose filled life after graduation. A tremendous thank you to all the faculty, staff, students, Mothers' and Fathers' Guilds, and everyone else who made this night possible for the junior class.

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Anthony Caiazza, '26

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**Brother David Anthony Migliorino, OSF**  
 Principal

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

# NEWS BRIEFS

## Friars take to the Slopes!

On Saturday, February 28th, over 120 students participated in the annual ski trip to Butternut Mountain in Massachusetts. The trip included both skiers and snowboarders and gave students a chance to spend time outdoors and enjoy a great day at the mountain. After arrival at the mountain around 7:30 a.m., the group prepared their equipment, ready for the ski lifts to open at 8:00 a.m.



Weather conditions were great throughout the day, with clear skies and warm sun. The mountain had a variety of open trails. Throughout the morning, students spent several hours skiing and snowboarding, taking advantage of the great conditions.

Around lunchtime, many students took a break to eat and relax before heading back out onto the slopes. The afternoon was spent out on their skis and boards, spending time with friends.

Exhausted, the group boarded their buses for a sleepy return to St. Anthony's. A 40 year tradition, the ski trips remain a highlight of the winter season at SAHS!

**Sophomore Writer:** Jenna Caniano

## Saint Anthony's celebrates Catholic Schools Week

Each year, Catholic schools across the nation unite in celebration of Catholic Schools Week, a time-honored tradition that highlights the enduring value of faith-based education. At Saint Anthony's, this observance takes on particular significance, offering students, faculty, and families an opportunity to reflect upon the unique mission of our Roman Catholic Franciscan education.

Honored at the end of January, Catholic Schools Week is marked by a series of themed days and activities that emphasize academic excellence, spiritual development, service, and community engagement. At the heart of the celebration is a reaffirmation of the school's commitment to the Gospel values.



Although truncated by snow, the school honored families, our faculty and staff, students, our nation and our diversity. Gift cards from Brother David were a plenty for families, students and teachers alike---and even in -10 degree weather, Brother surprised the faculty with a gourmet Ice Cream truck!

# FRIAR PRIDE

## HAWAIIAN PEP RALLY HEATS UP WINTER SPORTS

**Sophomore Writer:** Lilah Carden

Bring the pep! This past February, Saint Anthony's held its second pep rally of the year - none other than Hawaiian Pep Rally! Hawaiian pep rally both highlighted and showcased all of the talented students who took part in sports this winter season. It is a great time for us as a Friar community to come together and marvel at how much our athletic teams have accomplished, and all the hard work and discipline that have gone into those achievements.

In leading up to the pep rally, students took part in spirit week---Monday, kicking off with color wars! Seniors wore blue, juniors wore red, sophomores wore green, and freshmen were purple. This was a pleasure to the students, as they could now brave the cold February air with their stylish colored sweatshirts! It was also a cool effect to see take place in the school, specifically in public spaces like the cafeteria, where you could see the wave of colors shifting from the right to the left side of the room. On Tuesday of spirit week, it was black and gold spirit day! Students flooded the halls sporting our school colors with pride. On Wednesday, it was sports jersey day, but additionally, ice cream day in the cafeteria. Adorned with merchandise of their favorite teams, students created a line that wrapped outside of the cafeteria to queue for the ice cream sundaes. Served by our warm and hard-working cafeteria staff, icy bowls of strawberry, vanilla, and chocolate were passed out to students, who then were able to

decorate their scoops with toppings galore, consisting of sprinkles, maraschino cherries, whipped cream, chocolate sauce and M&M's. Thursday then went full red, white, and blue with Americana day! Students were able to show off their patriotism through both red, white, and blue sweatshirts and accessories.



And finally, the day we'd all been waiting for, spirit week culminated on Friday with Hawaiian Winter pep rally! Students adorned with flower leis, grass skirts and floral Hawaiian shirts flooded the staircases, clasping friends by the hands so they could all stay together and make their way to the coveted bleachers, as unfortunately, no one wants the fate of having to be stuck on the floor for hours on end. The St. Anthony's Rock and Roll club serenaded the audience as the Friar horse, with Fresh-

man June Cho atop it, who was dressed as a Franciscan brother, and sporting a Hawaiian shirt and festive glasses, paraded around the gym. The gym itself was wonderfully decorated with Hawaiian inspired balloon arches and other on theme decor. It was a marvel to just sit and take it all in!

Each of our winter sports team members ran out, breaking through their ornately decorated paper banners, which indicated the team. The team captains would come out first, and in their run through to the speaking podium, it was standard for each set of people to partake in some silly "bit", so to speak, such as, running with bubble guns, shooting a basketball, or even for sophomore Grace Bartasi, representing girls diving, completing a backflip! Once the captains had come out, they introduced the team and reported the current statistics and achievements that their team had had thus far in the season.

Performances also took place, including the Symphonic Band, the Varsity Kickline Team, the senior boys pep squad, and the highly anticipated Step Team! There also was the entertaining students vs. teachers basketball match, refereed by Mr. Lagano!

Undoubtedly the Hawaiian pep rally was a wonderful event that brought spirit and energy to all students in the crowd and who participated! A tremendous thank you to all the Custodial Staff who aided in setting up and breaking down the equipment to set up in the gym to make this event a success!

# BONJOUR FRANCE!

## PILGRIMS TRAVEL TO FRANCE AND LONDON

**Junior Writer:** Nicholas Tonno

### *Saying Au Revoir to New York and Hello to France & London!*

Over the February break, 39 students from Saint Anthony's set out on a once in a lifetime pilgrimage to France and London. What began as a long journey across the ocean quickly turned into an unforgettable experience filled with faith, culture, history, and moments that none of the students will soon forget.

The group departed on February 12th, beginning their journey with excitement, nerves, and anticipation for what lay ahead. After an overnight flight, they arrived in Nice on February 13th, officially beginning their adventure. The first day in Nice was packed with meaningful and memorable experiences. The students visited the ancient Arènes de Cimiez, where they got a glimpse into the region's Roman past. They also explored the Musée Matisse, learning about the life and work of Henri Matisse, whose influence can still be felt throughout the area. One of the most significant stops of the day was the Monastère de Cimiez, a peaceful and historic monastery that provided a quiet place for reflection.



While at the monastery, the students attended Holy Mass, marking a powerful spiritual beginning to their pilgrimage. After Mass, they explored the beautiful Jardin du Monastère de Cimiez, one of the most well-known and scenic parts of the monastery grounds. The gardens offered stunning views and a calm atmosphere, allowing everyone to take in the moment and reflect on the purpose of the trip.

Following this, the group enjoyed their first authentic French meal, which included traditional dishes such as tomatoes farcies and blanquette de porc. For many students, this was their first real taste of French cuisine, making it both a cultural and memorable experience. After lunch, the group headed to a Terrain Pétanque, where they participated in a lesson and friendly tournament. The students quickly embraced the game, enjoying both the competition and the lighthearted atmosphere. Small candies were even given out as prizes.

Later that afternoon, the group transferred to the Hôtel Radisson Blu Nice to check in for their first night. After settling in, they had some time to relax before heading out again for an evening illumination tour of Nice. Seeing the city lit up at night gave the students a completely different perspective, highlighting its beauty and vibrant atmosphere. The glowing streets, coastal views, and lively environment made for a perfect ending to their first full day.

The next day brought even more adventure as the group traveled along the French Riviera. They made their way to the picturesque village of Èze, known for its breathtaking views overlooking the

Mediterranean. While in Èze the students visited the Fragonard Perfume factory for a private tour and a private perfume making class; where students learned how perfume is formulated and even created their own fragrance. Walking through the narrow, winding streets felt like stepping back in time. From there, the students continued on to Monaco, where they experienced a completely different atmosphere of the posh principality.

Although a disco had originally been planned for the evening, the group instead attended the vibrant Nice Carnival. This unexpected change turned out to be one of the most memorable highlights of the entire trip. The streets were filled with music, massive floats, colorful costumes, and crowds of people celebrating together. The energy of the carnival was contagious, and students were fully immersed in the culture and excitement of the event. The day concluded with a Valentine's Day dinner, where everyone gathered in a more formal setting to reflect on the day and enjoy each other's company.

The journey soon took an unexpected turn. After dinner, the group was informed that their flight to Paris had been canceled due to snow in Paris! What could have been a major setback instead became one of the most unique parts of the trip. After extensive planning and coordination, the ACIS team arranged for the group to travel by bus to Lisieux to visit the Cathedral of Saint Thérèse.

The journey was long and exhausting. After switching buses multiple times and making several stops along the way, the group endured a 16-hour overnight ride. When they finally arrived, the students were given the graced opportunity to pray in front of the relics of Saint Thérèse and at the American altar. Although the visit was brief, it was deeply meaningful and reminded everyone of the spiritual purpose behind the pilgrimage.

Monday brought one of the most iconic stops of the entire trip: Mont-Saint-Michel. The students hiked up the steep, winding medieval streets, passing small shops and historic stone buildings along the way. Reaching the abbey at the top was an unforgettable moment. Standing there, with strong winds and incredible views stretching out in every direction, it truly felt like something out of a story. The group even had a quiet moment of prayer inside the abbey, adding a spiritual depth to the experience.



Later that day, the group traveled to the Normandy American Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach. This was not just another stop—it was one of the most emotional and impactful experiences of the entire trip. The students participated in a wreath-laying ceremony, walking among the thousands of white crosses that stretch across the landscape. Looking out over the ocean, it was impossible not to feel the

weight of history and sacrifice. The group also stayed for the ceremonial flag lowering, a powerful and silent moment that left a lasting impression on everyone.



That evening, the tone shifted as the group headed to a bowling alley for a private French bowling experience. After such a heavy and reflective day, the relaxed and fun atmosphere was exactly what everyone needed. Between strikes, laughter, and plenty of snacks, it became a perfect way to unwind and reconnect as a group. Early the next morning the group rolled into Paris with excitement and anticipation. The students visited Sainte-Chapelle, where the towering stained glass windows left everyone in awe. They then gathered at the Trocadéro for a group photo with the Eiffel Tower in the background, capturing one of the most iconic moments of the trip.

Exploring the city further the students walked along the Champs-Élysées, viewing the Arc de Triomphe, went to the famous Louvre museum and ascended to Montmartre to visit Sacré-Cœur provided a peaceful contrast, offering panoramic views of the city and a chance to reflect. The students also had free time to shop and experience Paris on their own.

One of the highlights of their time in Paris was a Seine River dinner cruise with the city of Paris and its gorgeous views of the Eiffel tower sparkling in the back. Landmarks glowed in the night, and the atmosphere was unforgettable. With great food, music, and views, it was the perfect way to celebrate their time in France.



The journey then continued to London via the Eurostar train. In London, the students explored famous landmarks such as Westminster Abbey, Elizabeth Tower, and St. Paul's Cathedral. They also attended a West End performance of Back to the Future. The performance was a highlight for many students! The final days of the trip included attending Mass at Westminster Cathedral and visiting Windsor Castle, bringing the pilgrimage to a meaningful and memorable close.

In the end, this pilgrimage was far more than just a trip. It was a journey of faith, growth, and connection. From the quiet moments of prayer to the excitement of new cultures, from unexpected challenges to unforgettable memories, every part of the experience shaped the students in a lasting way. Saying "au revoir" to France and London was not easy but the students left the trip with lasting memories and friendships.



# STAFF SPOTLIGHT



**Ms. Elise Werner**  
with Freshman Julianna Carey

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

**Ms. Werner:** My favorite part about working at St. Anthony's is the welcoming environment. Everyone is so kind and it really feels like a family. I love that in everything that we do, God is first and that there is so much school spirit.

**Paduan:** What does a normal day look like for you?

**Ms. Werner:** Another thing that I love about my job is that every day looks different. Consistently, I teach two sections of Kolbe. The rest of the day I am talking with students in the Campus Ministry Center, helping out on retreats, praying with students at adoration, and running Clare Society and Respect Life. It is always busy but a lot of fun!

**Paduan:** What do you enjoy most about working in Campus Ministry?

**Ms. Werner:** The best part about Campus Ministry is getting to know the students. So many of them have such a strong faith and inspire me every day to draw closer to God. It is such a blessing to be able to walk with students on their faith journey and to see them grow closer to Christ.

**Paduan:** What inspired you to work as a Campus Minister?

**Ms. Werner:** I will be honest, I never saw myself working as a Campus Minister. I always wanted to teach second grade! But God knows us better than we know ourselves and I heard Him calling me to serve the Church in a deeper way. I am now so happy to be a Campus Minister and to help serve this wonderful community at St. Anthony's!

**Paduan:** What started your connection to the Faith?

**Ms. Werner:** I did not take my faith seriously until college. Going to Mass was always something that I did because I had to, not because I wanted to. It was not until I went to Adoration for the first time did it finally click for me that God is truly present in the Eucharist. Since then, I have felt that my faith is not a set of rules, but having a relationship with God. I have been learning how to trust Him and love Him more deeply every day. God has been so good to me and I want to spend every day of my life giving it all back to Him.

# STUDENTS MARCH FOR LIFE

**Junior Writer:** Nicholas Tonno

On January 22, 2026, our students embarked on a trip to Washington, D.C. to participate in the annual March for Life. In preparation for the journey, Ms. Werner played a key role in encouraging students to get involved and helping them understand the importance of the event. Through meetings and conversations beforehand, students were invited to reflect on the dignity of human life and the purpose behind the march. This preparation set the tone for what would become a meaningful and memorable experience for all who attended.



Despite the long travel and cold weather, students remained enthusiastic and committed. Among them was Lucia Mercado, who shared what encouraged her most to attend--- "the idea of supporting life." She emphasized that, as members of a Catholic school community, it is important for both students and teachers to speak out

on issues such as abortion and assisted suicide, recognizing life as a fundamental right. Her perspective reflected the shared values that brought the group together and motivated them throughout the trip. Mercado also described the powerful sense of unity she experienced during the march. She explained that being surrounded by others who shared her beliefs was "so beautiful" and "amazing." Whether on the bus or walking together in Washington, students engaged in meaningful conversations not only about the cause they were supporting, but also about their faith. These moments allowed them to connect on a deeper level and strengthened their sense of community. Being with others who strive to live out their faith made the experience even more impactful.

For students who may be unsure about attending in the future, Mercado offered simple but meaningful advice: to keep an open heart and mind. She acknowledged that busy schedules can sometimes prevent people from taking opportunities like this, but emphasized that experiences such as the March for Life can have a lasting impact.

Overall, the trip to Washington, D.C. was more than just a day of travel and participation in an event—it was an opportunity for students to grow in faith, build relationships, and stand together for a sacred cause they believe in.

# SAHS HALL OF FAME

Each year, Saint Anthony's hosts the Alumni Hall of Fame dinner, where members of the Friar community are inducted into the Saint Anthony's High School Hall of Fame. The formal cocktail hour and sit-down dinner was held at the Water Mill Catering Hall. Since this event fell on a Friday during Lent, Father Irinel granted everyone in attendance a dispensation to eat meat. There were many cuisines, including a Kat's Deli station!



This year, there were three new additions to the hall of fame: Brother David Migliorino, OSF, our inspiring principal. Mr. Paul Washington '99 - dedicated academic dean and lifelong Friar, and The Adams Family—Patrick Sr., Angela, & Charlie Adams '75. These members of our community work tirelessly to make Saint Anthony's a better place.

This year, the Student Council Executive Board and the National Honor Society executive board were invited to this dinner. As senior Ruadhán Campion says, "Having the opportunity to be there for Brother while he was inducted into the Hall of Fame was a privilege!"

**Senior Writer:** Anthony Caiazza

# LI SOUP DAY

To continue embracing the spirit of almsgiving during the season of Lent, on Wednesday March 11th, St. Anthony's held its annual Soup Day charity event. Students were encouraged to donate at least a dollar to support families in need across Long Island, and in return were given a coupon that could be redeemed for a bowl of soup. Brother David's cheers over the loud speakers certainly echoed through the hallways because we were able to raise an impressive \$3,656 dollars for such a deserving cause.



Thanks to the generosity from the students, faculty, and staff, this year was the greatest amount ever collected for Soup Day, and will therefore have the greatest impact on the community. It is important to remember how fortunate we are to have the opportunity to give back to those who need it, and to show gratitude where it is lacking. Soup Day is a tradition that reflects and celebrates our school's roots in the Franciscan values of love, humility, and acts of service and was a reminder for everyone to embrace chances to show compassion and to, "eat simply so that others may simply eat."

**Freshman Writer:** Quinn Woodley

# NHS VARIETY SHOW

# NYC PARADE

## TALENT SHOW RAISES FUNDS FOR SCHOLARSHIP

**Senior Writer:** Jordan Turansky

The auditorium lights dimmed, the chatter softened, and anticipation filled the air as this year's variety show began—an event that brought together an incredible range of performances and, more importantly, the spirit of the entire student body. From opera to throwback hits to heartfelt duets, the night showcased not only talent, but also unity, creativity, and school pride.

The show began and many surprising acts followed, with an impressive highlight of student opera singers who immediately captured the audience's attention. Their powerful voices echoed throughout the auditorium, demonstrating not only technical skill but also a level of confidence that set the tone for the rest of the night. It was not something typically expected at a school variety show, which made it all the more memorable. The performance felt polished and professional, earning loud applause and setting a high bar for the acts that followed.

Switching gears completely, one of the most talked-about moments of the night came when members of the National Honor Society took the stage for a fun and energetic performance of "Ice Ice Baby", combining enthusiasm and coordinated effort for a wave of excitement through the crowd. Students cheered, laughed, and sang along bringing energy and humor to the stage. As the night continued, a wide variety of singers and bands performed, each bringing something unique. Some students performed emotional ballads that silenced the room, while others brought upbeat songs that had the audience clapping along.



The diversity of musical styles—from pop to rock to acoustic—showcased the range of talent within the school. Each act contributed to the overall experience, keeping the audience engaged and excited for what would come next. Another standout moment was the student council's group performance. Their songs were both entertaining and meaningful, reflecting school spirit and the connections shared among students. Seeing student leaders step out of their usual roles and onto the stage added a personal touch to the show. Their performance felt inclusive, reminding everyone in the audience that the event was about more than just talent—it was about community.

One of the most heartfelt performances of the evening came from Mr. Paino and his granddaughter, who performed a duet together. Their act stood out not because of high energy or dramatic flair, but because of its sincerity and warmth. The connection between the two was clear, and it resonated with the audience in a quiet but powerful way. It served as a reminder that music can bring people together across

generations, creating moments that feel genuine and unforgettable.



However, the most powerful moment of the night came at the very end. As the show seemed to be winding down, Brother David took the stage and began to sing. What started as a solo quickly turned into something much bigger. One by one, students in the audience began to join in. Soon, the entire auditorium was filled with voices, singing together in unison. What made this moment so special was its spontaneity—there was no rehearsal, no planning, just a shared willingness to participate. As the singing grew louder, students began to stand, clap, and even dance. The energy in the room shifted from that of an audience watching a performance to a community actively creating one. It was no longer about who was on stage; it was about everyone being part of something together.



The talent show was more than just a display of skills—it was a reflection of the school's culture. It highlighted the courage it takes to perform, the creativity students bring to their work, and the importance of supporting one another. Each act, whether serious or lighthearted, contributed to a night that will be remembered not just for its entertainment, but for its meaning. What's more, is that the evening was also a fundraiser for the Ralph Silvestre Scholarship Fund, bringing in \$7,000.

By the end of the evening, it was clear that the true success of the talent show was not measured by any single performance, but by the way it brought people together. The annual "Friar Idol" was also awarded following the online voting. This year's first place title went to the Pitch Perfect Rendition featuring Ethan Bramoff, Anna Christie, John Drew, Kelsey Gorman, Noelle Meenan, Brody Richert, Emma Speed and special guest Mr. Schroeder! From opera singers to student groups to a spontaneous auditorium-wide singalong, the night was a celebration of both individuality and unity—something that defines the school community at its best.

## BAGPIPE BAND & COLOR GUARD MARCH FOR SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

On a crisp, clear and cool March 17, beneath a canopy of green banners and the watchful gaze of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, the unmistakable sound of bagpipes once again echoed along Fifth Avenue as our distinguished pipe band and the accompanying Color Guard took its place in the annual New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade. With measured steps and time-honored precision, the band joined thousands of marchers in a celebration of Irish heritage, faith, and cultural pride.

Dressed in traditional Highland attire—complete with tartan kilts and sporrans—the members of the band presented a striking visual spectacle and their instruments produced a resonant and stirring sound that carried for blocks.



The New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade, one of the oldest and largest parades of its kind in the world, dates back to 1762. Each year, it honors not only Ireland's patron saint, Saint Patrick, but also the enduring contributions of Irish Americans to the cultural and civic life of the United States. Pipe bands, long associated with both Irish and Scottish traditions, play a central role in the day's proceedings.

For the marching band, participation in the parade is both an honor and a responsibility. Months of preparation precede the event, as members rehearse tirelessly to perfect their repertoire and maintain the disciplined formations required for such a high-profile appearance. They along with the Color Guard have also participated in many local parades across Long Island as they perfect their performance.

Spectators, even some Alumni, many clad in green and waving Irish flags, responded enthusiastically as the band passed and met up with the Brothers along the route. The rhythmic cadence of the drums, paired with the soaring melodies of the pipes, created an atmosphere that was at once festive and reverent. For many attendees, the sound evokes a deep sense of connection—to ancestry, to faith, and to the shared experience of celebration.



As the final notes of the bagpipes faded into the bustling sounds of the city, the band continued its march up Fifth Avenue, a living testament to tradition, discipline, and pride. In a city known for its diversity, moments like these serve as a powerful reminder of the enduring strength found in cultural expression and shared faith! *May the road rise to meet you!*

