

XAVIER

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS OF XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL SPRING 2020

**Leading
with
Integrity**

Dermot Shea '86





Peter and the Starcatcher

The Xavier Dramatics Society brought the Tony Award-winning play to Keenan Commons the first weekend of December, telling a tale spun in the 2004 novel of the same name. In this scene, Noah Makin '20, Jack Clegg '20, Thomas Lowcock '20, and Elian Rivera '21 seek cover during a thunderstorm alongside actresses from New York City sister schools.

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Xavier's Mission

Founded in 1847, Xavier High School is an academically rigorous, Catholic, Jesuit, college preparatory school in New York City that educates intelligent, motivated young men of diverse backgrounds and means. Xavier teaches students to take responsibility for their lives, to lead with integrity, to act justly in service of others, to pursue excellence in every endeavor and to deepen their relationship with God. Ultimately, Xavier forms young men who will go forth to transform the world for God's greater glory.

On the Cover

Police Commissioner Dermot Shea '86 in his office at One Police Plaza.

XAVIER

SPRING 2020

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Dear Parents, Friends and Sons of Xavier,

One of the great joys of my work is the opportunity to delight in the breadth and depth of Xavier. Mark Mongelluzzo, Jim Keenan, S.J. and I started our Florida travel in Palm City with 40+ alumni and friends at Gene Rainis '58's home. Fr. Keenan celebrated Mass and Deacon Charlie Immordino '68 preached. Charlie, a successful healthcare professional and entrepreneur, was recently ordained a deacon. A few days later, Rosina and Joe Buongiorno '75 hosted us at the Bayside Grill in Naples, where I have always asked the senior alum to say a few words. For many years it was our former board chair Ray Keyes '37†. It is now Bill Boyan '45—the son of William J. Boyan† of the Class of 1905. Gathered in Naples was an unbroken line of Xavier history from 1901 to 2020. Bill spoke of the enduring life lessons of Mr. James Nash†'s geometry class and the political life lessons learned from his Jersey City classmate, a campaign worker for the legendary Frank Hague!

After Florida, it was off to windy Chicago to see Harrison O'Callaghan '17 play Professor Callahan in the Northwestern University production of *Legally Blonde*. It was not so long ago I wrote about Harrison's breakout performance as a Xavier sophomore in *The Music Man*. And last weekend, I boarded the E train to Archbishop Molloy for a basketball playoff game against LaSalle, a team we beat twice during the regular season by more than 20. There would not be a third victory. Despite 18 wins, a Christmas tournament championship and some excellent basketball over the last four months, the season was over seemingly as quickly as it began. I still feel lousy, less for the loss than the end of the season. How many Xavier athletes have known that feeling through the years?

Being president brings me into contact with our most senior alumni and our youngest students. It allows me to see the courage of a student living with sickle cell anemia—and the goodness of his friends helping him negotiate his wheelchair through the labyrinth that is our campus. It allows me to see the faith passed down through generations as we bury our dead. It allows me the opportunity to visit and pray with the senior Jesuits at Murray-Weigel Hall: men on whose shoulders the work of Jesuit education today is built.

This magazine gives further evidence of the breadth and depth of Xavier. It would be hard to read about the Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus or Peter Claver Day without recognizing that Xavier readily engages in the gritty realities of our world today. And no one engages that gritty reality more than Dermot Shea '86. I have the best job in New York City; Commissioner Shea may well have the toughest. When St. Ignatius made his commitment to Jesuits running schools, he did so believing that our graduates would be very well prepared to lead with integrity and conviction. Dermot Shea is doing so. Generations of Xavier's Sons have served in the NYPD. Commissioner Shea and all the men in blue have our gratitude and prayers.

Greg Stelzer '11 has penned a wonderful tribute to retreats at Xavier. Whether it was Monroe, Cornwall, Manresa, Inisfada, Morristown or beyond, retreats have been a constant of Xavier life, an opportunity to encounter the living God, the reason for Xavier's existence. It is that living God who invites us into the breadth and depth of Xavier, and sends us forth to transform the world for God's greater glory. May we do so with courage and conviction.

Be assured of my prayers for a blessed Lent and Easter season.

Jack Raslowsky
President

News from 16th Street



A DOUBLE VICTORY OVER THE ANCIENT FOE

When New York City's oldest football rivals met for the 97th time on Thanksgiving morning, Xavier emerged victorious twice. The Knights defeated Fordham Prep on the gridiron, 40-14, and amassed more young alumni donors in the Turkey Bowl Giving Challenge, 438-409. "When you lose on Thanksgiving, we are all lucky enough to go home and enjoy a special meal with our families," said longtime football coach Chris Stevens '83. "When you win on Thanksgiving, the turkey ceases to be mere poultry and becomes ambrosia—food of the gods."





A DAY IN THE LIFE

The Ping-Pong Club

On Mondays after school and during community periods when the room is free, students armed with ping-pong paddles fill **Jennifer Kennedy-Orlando P'21's** airy fifth-floor classroom in Fernandez-Duminuco Hall. Five years ago, **Paul Cucchiara '18** founded the Ping-Pong Club, and Kennedy-Orlando agreed to moderate it, adding to Xavier's lengthy, diverse list of club options.

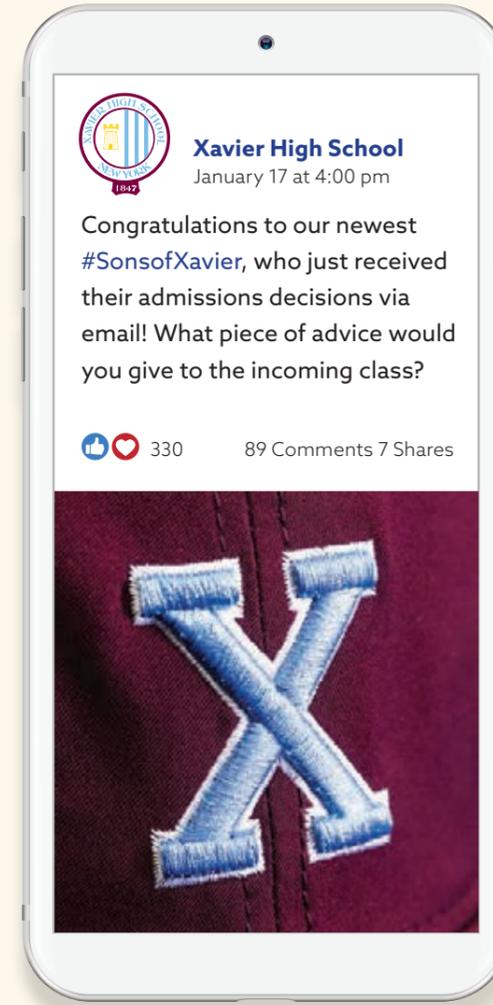
The Ping-Pong Club originally met in 4C5, her classroom before F-D Hall opened, and students played on an old table they "liberated" from a crowded storage space in the gym. The club now boasts two new tables and more than 50 members, with 10-12 students showing up to play consistently. On Thursday afternoons (or whenever a teacher is available to supervise), club members venture to "Ping-Pong West," **Mary-Grace Gannon P'03 '07's** classroom, where another table resides. **Matthew Thomas** and **Dr. James Nagle** are known to stop by to challenge them to spirited, competitive games.

"The club is really easy to moderate, and the kids who show up regularly are kind to each other and are fun and enthusiastic," Kennedy-Orlando said. "I get to meet a lot of people because of the lure of the table."



#SonsofXavier

To celebrate the admission of the Class of 2024, we posed a question on Facebook and Twitter: What advice would you give incoming Sons of Xavier? Between the two platforms, we received more than 90 replies. Here are just a few of the responses we received.



Christian Gene Enjoy every moment. Take advantage of everything Xavier and New York City have to offer. I promise you, the 4 years will fly by but I also promise, they will be the best 4 years of your life. Put the work in, make your best efforts, and know that thousands of sons that came before you are on your side rooting. God bless you all and welcome! #amdg

Antonio Scopettone Embrace the Xavier culture and enjoy the next 4 years...they will be some of the best times you will ever have. '00 Alumni

Jim McDonald Best 4 years of your life & buy your Beefsteak tickets early...

Julie Charles You're exactly where you're supposed to be so make the best of your time on 16th Street. Xavier is an excellent school. Don't sweat the commute. Hundreds of boys do it every day from all over.

Steve Fitzgerald Xavier will leave you with a sense of morality that may at times feel out of place in the business environment of your future. But don't ever lose it or surrender it. Don't rationalize. What is right and wrong will continue to be so.

Henry McGoldrick Congratulations on the best decision of your young life. Your life will be immeasurably enriched by it.

Brandon Sapienza Don't be afraid to let yourself grow in your four years there. Try new things, meet different people, and just don't let the time go by so fast. Enjoy every second of every day, even the bad ones and you'll come out of St. Patrick's a better man. Congrats to all accepted! '17

Nicole Edmund Seize every moment. Take advantage of every opportunity. Your experience at Xavier will be life-changing.

John Tringle Slow down, savor it. Find your voice. Study and be prepared... but enjoy it. Learn because you want to.

Lucia Andriani Balzamo Enjoy every minute...the 4 years there go by so fast.

Tom Kampa Xavier will be one of the best things in your life forever. '72

Michael Caloni It's the greatest gift a parent can give their son and it's one of the greatest experiences of a young man's life. Congratulations to the class of '24! Upon graduation, you will all be Sons of Xavier (SOX).





1. Andrew Gheraldi, Zane Massey '96 P'22, Jim Keenan, S.J., McGowan Spirit Award winner Richie Battaglini '67 P'96, Joe McGrane P'20, Richie Duffell P'93 '99, and Jack Raslowsky P'16 at Xavier's Basketball Homecoming. 2. Members of Xavier's esports team at the national championships in Santa Ana, California. 3. Jesuit concelebrants at a Mass marking the 30th anniversary of the deaths of the martyrs of El Salvador. 4. Israel Pierre '20 during speech and debate practice. 5. Henri Ross-Pelat '20, Damian Morley '21, Greg Norris, and William Laino '20 at USA Rugby's winter camp in California. 6. Greg Boyle, S.J. at Xavier. 7. Kalif Cooper '20, Maxime Sinal '07, and Colin O'Shea '21 at the Student Diversity Leadership Conference in Seattle. 8. Members of the cross country team after winning their third CHSAA intersectional title in four years.

News and Notes

◆◆◆ Homeboy Industries founder Greg Boyle, S.J. shared his message of compassion and radical kinship when he visited Xavier on October 8. It was his second visit to 16th Street in as many years. A *New York Times* bestselling author, Fr. Boyle runs the largest gang intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program in the world.

◆◆◆ On November 14, Xavier hosted a teach-in commemorating the 30th anniversary of the deaths of the Jesuit martyrs of El Salvador and their companions. The event explored the martyrs' legacy, the plight of immigrants and refugees, and care for our common home. A memorial Mass followed the teach-in with John Cecero, S.J., provincial of the USA Northeast Province of the Society of Jesus, presiding. Matt Malone, S.J., president and editor in chief of America Media, delivered the homily.

◆◆◆ Richie Battaglini '67 P'96 was awarded the Rev. William J. McGowan, S.J. Spirit Award at Xavier's Basketball Homecoming on December 21. Named for a legendary Jesuit and Xavier faculty member, the

McGowan Spirit Award is given to a person or persons who consistently exemplify the values of commitment, passion, and integrity through the promotion of academic, athletic, and moral development within the Xavier community at large.

◆◆◆ The cross country team made history at Van Cortlandt Park on November 9, taking home the CHSAA intersectional championship title for the third time in four years. Xavier won every team race, including the alumni race and the varsity, JV, and sophomore championships.

◆◆◆ In its first year of existence, Xavier's esports team won the regional tournament on December 11, earning a spot at the national tournament and an all-expenses-paid trip to California. In January, math teacher and coach Matthew Chicas and Director of Student Activities Alicia Psillos chaperoned the team to the Overwatch® High School Scholastic Live Finals Event in Santa Ana, where Xavier came in fourth.

◆◆◆ USA Rugby named William Laino '20, Henri Ross-Pelat '20, and Damian Morley

'21 to its boys high school All-American team. Along with head Xavier rugby coach Greg Norris, who serves as one of the All-American team's assistant coaches, they traveled to California to take on the Canadian U18s in December.

◆◆◆ Several members of the speech and debate team have qualified for the New York state championships, to be held April 25 and 26 at Hofstra University. Team captain Israel Pierre '20, bound for the University of Chicago, will lead the Congress team. He will be joined by Nate Kelley '21, Derek Halligan '22, and Jonathan Murgida '22. On the speech side, Robert Betancourt '20 will compete in varsity extemporaneous speaking. Conor Guilfoyle '23 and Isaac Pierre '23 will compete in JV extemporaneous speaking.

◆◆◆ Drama teacher Nicole DiMarco and Matthew Mendez '21 starred in director Christina Kallas' latest feature film, *Paris is in Harlem*, which is currently in post-production. Shot partly at Xavier last fall, the film tells the story of New York's No Dancing Law, which cracked down on the

performance of jazz musicians in the city during the Harlem Renaissance.

◆◆◆ In November, college counselor Tom Gibbons was invited to become a member of the St. Joseph's University counselor advisory board. He will serve in the same capacity this spring at St. Joseph's and at Fairfield University.

◆◆◆ Arabic teacher Caroline Haidar recently published her second book. Written in both Arabic and phonetics, it aids readers in Arabic verb conjugation and general conversation in the Levantine dialect.

◆◆◆ History teacher Dr. Stephen Haller '05 delivered a presentation, "The Changing History of Immigration in NYC: Digital Community Archivists," at the American Historical Association annual meeting on January 4.

◆◆◆ Dean of Academics Luciano Lovallo served as a guest speaker at the New York University School of Medicine's 7th Annual Concussion Across the Spectrum of Injury: Latest in Diagnosis and Management

conference on February 20 and 21.

◆◆◆ Religion teacher Dr. James Nagle published two peer-reviewed journal articles last year. "Learning to Leave: Expanding Shared Praxis to Understand the Religious Life and Learning of Young Catholics Beyond the Church" appeared in *Religious Education*, the official journal of the Religious Education Association, and "The Thinker and the Guide: A Conversation Concerning Disaffiliation from the Catholic Church" ran in the *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*.

◆◆◆ Timothy Cardinal Dolan presented French, Spanish, and English teacher Deena Sellers with one of the inaugural Bakhita Woman of Faith and Service Awards on February 2. Created by the archdiocesan Office of Black Ministry, the award honors St. Josephine Bakhita, a former slave from Sudan who served with the Canossian Sisters in Italy during the first half of the 20th century and was canonized in 2000.

◆◆◆ In December, English teacher Maxime Sinal '07 facilitated the National

Association of Independent Schools Student Diversity Leadership Conference (SDLC) for the fourth time. He was part of a three-person team that guided 75 students from around the country. SDLC is a multiracial, multicultural gathering of student leaders in grades 9-12 from across the U.S. and around the world.

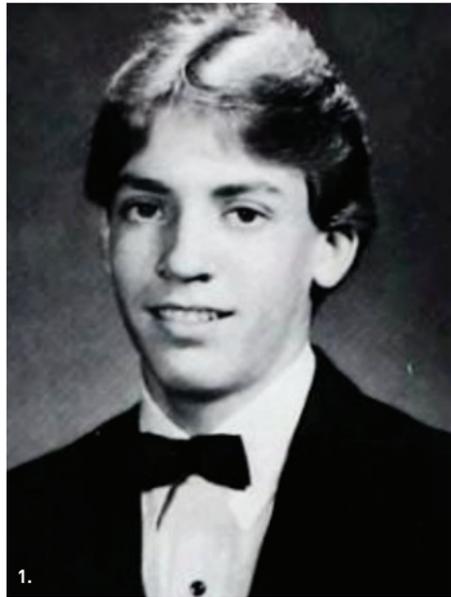
◆◆◆ English teacher Matthew Thomas, author of the award-winning *We Are Not Ourselves*, reviewed Timothy Egan's new book, *A Pilgrimage to Eternity: From Canterbury to Rome in Search of a Faith*, in *The New York Times*. The review appeared in the 2019 holiday books issue.



The CHSAA intersectional trophy

Leading with Integrity

Dermot Shea '86 helped transform the Big Apple into the safest big city in America. Now, as New York City's 44th police commissioner, he's committed to making its 8.6 million residents even safer. *By Shawna Gallagher Vega*



1. Shea in his 1986 senior yearbook photo. 2. Being sworn in as New York City's 44th police commissioner on December 1, 2019. 3. Marching in the 2019 Veterans Day parade. 4. High-fiving a sick young girl who visited One Police Plaza through the NYPD Hope program in February.

In his office at One Police Plaza, Dermot Shea '86 sits behind a 124-year-old carved mahogany desk that once belonged to his predecessor, Theodore Roosevelt. "The enormity of the job is felt immediately," he reflected on a cloudy January afternoon, just a few days short of completing his second month as police commissioner. "You feel the weight of all corners of this city. It's really humbling."

Shea took the reins of the New York Police Department on December 1, succeeding Commissioner James O'Neill, who left to take a top security job at Visa. "It all happened fast," Shea recalled, admitting to "a bit of shock" at his appointment. "There were discussions with former Commissioner O'Neill and ultimately many discussions with the mayor over a very short period of time. I just felt the enormity of the opportunity and everything that comes with the job—an agency of 55,000 employees that at its core is really about helping New Yorkers. This job plays such a pivotal role in

the lives of New Yorkers, and we don't take that responsibility lightly." A native of Sunnyside, Queens, Shea joined the NYPD in 1991 at a very different moment in the city's history. The first year he walked the beat as an officer in the Bronx's 46th Precinct, the city recorded more than 2,000 murders. Last year, the number hovered just above 300, making the Big Apple the nation's safest big city. Harnessing nearly three decades of police experience (Mayor Bill de Blasio called him "one of the best prepared incoming police commissioners that this city has ever seen"), Shea hopes to drive down crime even further. In his previous roles as Chief of Detectives and Chief of Crime Control Strategies, Shea became a major architect of the city's decline in violent crime. During his time as Chief of Crime Control Strategies, he oversaw the CompStat system, a data-driven crime reduction management tool that helps precincts identify emerging crime patterns. During the City Hall press conference announcing Shea's appointment as the city's 44th police commissioner, de Blasio hailed his work, calling him a "proven change agent... Dermot was one of the chief architects of the approach that has made New York City the safest big city in America."

"This job plays such a pivotal role in the lives of New Yorkers, and we don't take that responsibility lightly."

I think we've transformed this police department in the last five to eight years," Shea said. "We've policed in a manner that's accomplished and surpassed so many goals that we had in crime categories. We've pushed crime down and the violence level down in neighborhoods that were subjected to too much violence. People shouldn't grow up with shots being fired on their blocks." Shea is particularly proud of the NYPD's use of precision policing, which leans on CompStat's data analysis to encourage fewer but more effective stops, and neighborhood policing, a strategy that maximizes connections and partnerships between police and the communities they serve. "Can you knock crime down and do it fairly and do it in the least obtrusive way? We've done that," he said. "We've knocked

incarceration rates to levels where we're talking about closing prisons. We've dropped the stops. We've dropped the summonses. We've dropped the arrest levels to where we're now mentioned among major cities as the least incarcerated. That's something that we're quite proud of." Shea is clear-eyed about the challenges before him, including an escalating mental health crisis within the NYPD, a surge in hate crimes, and anti-police rhetoric, but he remains optimistic and confident in his department. He's also committed to reframing the narrative about policing. "On day one, I said, 'I want to change the narrative so that everyone realizes the great work that police do.' I think the majority of New Yorkers do, but when you read the bad story on page one, you have to balance that out with everything else going on," he said. "It's important for us to tell those bad stories and own up to when we make mistakes and learn from them, but to be fair, you also should balance that with all the good. We have officers doing organ donation drives, blood drives, toy drives, working with kids after school on their own time, paying out of their pockets. All of this is part of the story." He recalled a conversation he had days earlier with a police officer who resigned to take care of his sick grandmother. "He genuinely does not want to leave this job, but he's faced with a difficult situation," Shea

explained. "And that's something that you want New Yorkers to know—that they have a police department that genuinely cares. They come from the city. They put their lives on the line for New Yorkers every day. And they are really the best New York has to offer." Shea heralds the work of the NYPD each day, both through his myriad visits across the city and on his own social media accounts. "It's not just how we police or about the crime rates anymore. It's how we build relationships," he said. "This city is like no other place, where you have such diversity and such different cultures—and sometimes it's all on the same block. The good news is we have the work force to match that. It's just bringing all of those people along for the ride and making this city even better." Thirty-four years after his high school graduation, Shea happily recalls his time at Xavier, where he arrived in 1982. The son of Irish immigrants from Laois and Sligo, he followed his older brother, James Shea '79, to 16th Street after spending years attending Xavier basketball games and watching his older sisters, Helen and Geraldine, serve as cheerleaders for the Knights while attending Dominican Academy. "I was a classic underachiever. I will tell you that right up front," he said with a laugh.

"But I loved every bit of it. And I managed to beat my brother, because he went to summer school at Xavier." Xavier's "men for others" ethos rubbed off on the Shea brothers, who entered the police academy together alongside a cousin in 1991. James Shea is now the director of public safety in Jersey City, New Jersey. (A younger brother, Paul, left a lucrative career to serve in the military.) These days, Shea finds himself reflecting on the large number of Xavier graduates who end up in law enforcement and the military. "I hadn't thought about it for many years, and I find myself thinking more about it more recently," he said. "I think it's about upbringing. I think it's about family. I think it's about service and worship." He recalled the lessons instilled by Xavier's Christian Service Program, through which he volunteered with Meals on Wheels and in a senior citizens' home, keeping elderly residents company. "Those things are planting seeds, whether you recognize it at the time or not. It's who you become." After graduating from SUNY Oneonta with an economics degree, Shea considered various career options, including the military. He knew he wanted to serve, and he knew he didn't want to sit behind a desk. Now, as he oversees the NYPD's 55,000 employees, including 36,000 police officers, the seeds of service planted long ago continue to inform his worldview. "I don't think this job is in the least bit about me. It's about New York City. It's about the police department," Shea said. "The names and faces will change, but there's an incredible legacy with this department and everything it represents." *Shawna Gallagher Vega is Xavier's Director of Communications. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees at Boston College.*



COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

In an increasingly polarized society, honest conversations about our differences—and about what unites us—have never been more important. Spearheaded by the Community Life and Inclusion Council, Xavier’s annual St. Peter Claver Day aims to guide those conversations to help all students reach their fullest potential. *By Shawna Gallagher Vega*

Freshmen discuss elements of their identities on St. Peter Claver Day.

It’s January 13, St. Peter Claver Day at Xavier—a day devoted to inspiring conversations about race, identity, and inclusion.

Two hundred and fifty freshmen file into Keenan Commons, where Tiffany Taylor Smith, a cultural competency consultant and University of Dayton administrator, awaits them. She introduces herself, offers some ground rules for conversation, and begins a presentation about the many aspects of identity and the roots of implicit bias. Students then have the opportunity to speak to each other in small groups, sharing their own thoughts.

Downstairs in the gym, **Dr. Brian Purnell ’96**, the Geoffrey Canada Associate Professor of Africana Studies and History at Bowdoin College, speaks to juniors about the history of race in New York City and the benefits and burdens of colorblindness, weaving in stories of his own childhood in Brooklyn, where he grew up the son of a black Caribbean mother and a white father. Sophomores and seniors are in their homerooms participating in workshops previewing the speakers to come. Later, freshmen and juniors will transition back to their own homerooms to process what they’ve heard from the speakers and from each other, while sophomores and seniors hear the speakers for the first time.

Today is the third edition of St. Peter Claver Day, which began in 2018 as the signature event hosted by the Community Life and Inclusion Council. With its “Redeem. Revive. And RISE” theme, this year’s edition aims to build upon the growth inspired by past Claver Days while pushing conversations about race and educational equity forward.

The inspiration for St. Peter Claver Day (and for the creation of the Council) came in April 2017, when history teacher **James Costa ’02**, math teacher **Cindy DeRose**, religion teacher **Jonathan Dwyer**, Director of Alumni Relations **Zane Massey ’96 P’22**, and French, Spanish, and English teacher **Deena Sellers** joined educators from 27 other independent schools at The Dalton School’s From Diversity to Community Conference. They returned to 16th Street committed to strengthening Xavier’s efforts to foster courageous conversations about race.

The first iteration of St. Peter Claver Day, “Making My Brother’s Burden Lighter,” featured a mix of guest speakers, homeroom workshops, and a panel of students, parents, alumni, teachers, and Jesuits. Sellers, now Xavier’s diversity coordinator and chair of the Community Life and Inclusion Council, named the day after the Jesuit missionary to South America who dedicated his life to the aid of African slaves.

The following year, “Strengthening the Bonds Between Us: Empathy and Inclusion” drilled down on homeroom workshops, where students explored aspects of their identities together.

Building on lessons learned in past years, the Council planned the 2020 edition with great attentiveness to Xavier’s diverse student population. Members discussed and carefully selected guest speakers, developed detailed homeroom workshops leading up to Claver Day, and held a faculty professional development session to better equip teachers to lead homeroom conversations. The night before Claver Day, the Council hosted a parent town hall to answer questions and preview the topics speakers would address.

“That came out of the need for parents to be involved in the conversation,” Sellers said. “We brought the speakers in and provided an overview of St. Peter



1. Dr. Brian Purnell '96 addresses the senior class. 2. Tiffany Taylor Smith speaks to freshmen. 3. Deena Sellers teaches seniors in Voices of the Harlem Renaissance.

4. Sophomores share their thoughts during a homeroom activity. 5. Daryn Johnson speaks to his sophomore homeroom. 6. Stephanie Boccuzzi and her junior homeroom.

Claver Day, who St. Peter Claver was, and how this idea was conceived. We wanted parents to know who the members of the Council are and how they can contact us.”

Preparation for St. Peter Claver Day took place away from Council meetings, too. For the third year in a row, a group of Council members traveled to the National Association of Independent Schools People of Color Conference (PoCC) in early December. This year, Sellers, Costa, Massey, science teacher Daryn Johnson, and Director of Student Activities Alicia Psillos—Council members all—joined Director of Technology Hernando Avila P’23 and 7,000 other educators at the conference in Seattle. People of color and their allies working in independent schools across the nation came together there with a shared mission of strengthening interracial, interethnic, and intercultural dialogue.

Psillos said her takeaways from the conference were similar to her hopes for Claver Day.

“I’m comfortable with being uncomfortable. The conversations are raw. They’re unfiltered. And that’s how it should be,” she explained. “I’m here to listen. And through listening, I

was able to learn. That’s why St. Peter Claver Day is great. We don’t have a forced agenda. The only agenda we have is to treat each other kindly and have empathy for one another. To open our eyes, ears, minds, and our hearts. To know that we’re all different, and that’s a good thing. We have to embrace those differences.”

While Psillos and her colleagues attended PoCC, a student member of the Council, Colin O’Shea ’21, attended the Student Diversity Leadership Conference alongside Kalif Cooper ’20 and more than 1,000 students from independent high schools across the globe. A fellow Council member, English teacher Maxime Sinal ’07, served as one of the facilitators of the conference, which runs parallel to PoCC.

O’Shea said he found the event transformational. “The experience was life-changing. It was the perfect combination of humbling, inspiring, exhausting, invigorating, and informative,” he reflected. “I left the conference with a gratitude for Xavier, for our Xavier community and its willingness to engage in difficult conversations about diversity and inclusion.”

When Claver Day finally arrived, members of the Council were ready, and they were delighted to see the keynote speakers, Tiffany Taylor Smith and Brian Purnell, embrace their time with students. Taylor Smith attended a social justice class taught by Brian McCabe P’23; Purnell visited a history class taught by his former teacher, Pat Dormer P’17, and Voices of the Harlem Renaissance, an African-American literature class taught by Sellers. Purnell prepared for the latter by reading the assigned text, Zora Neale Hurston’s *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, and participated unreservedly in the classroom conversation. (Later, Sinal pointed to the African-American literature class as a signal achievement of the Council; during his years as a student at Xavier, to his knowledge, the eventual English major and teacher never read a novel written by a black author.)

The keynote presentations resounded, even if they left listeners a bit uncomfortable. Taylor Smith explained how our brains process race; Purnell urged students to celebrate their differences while walking them through the ways racial discrimination shaped housing, economic development, and New York City

neighborhoods throughout the 20th century.

In individual homerooms, conversations ranged from the easy to the controversial, but they remained respectful. Freshmen and sophomores discussed the diversity of their communities, while juniors and seniors delved into the ways institutional racism and the idea of colorblindness have affected the economic and emotional wellbeing of people of color.

Council members hope those conversations, no matter how difficult, continue to lay the foundation for honest, open dialogue to come.

“Xavier’s mission asks our graduates to ‘transform the world.’ As a graduate of Xavier, I feel obligated to work alongside our students as they grapple with the awesome responsibility of that calling,” Costa said. “Xavier prides itself on being a school that produces students who are loving, open to growth, and committed to doing justice. This work challenges our students, faculty, and administration to live up to those concepts. For our students to develop those qualities, they need the practice, they need the words, they need the experience of hearing diverse perspectives.”

“Claver Day is a reminder that we invite everyone to have a seat at the table,” added

Massey. “Whether you’re from Rockaway, from Harlem, from the Bronx, we’re all a part of this community. Claver Day is not about blaming or shaming. It’s about having a healthy dialogue about differences.”

For Purnell, a Xavier trustee who came of age alongside Massey in the 1990s, returning to Xavier to talk about race was particularly meaningful.

“With my black and Latino peers at Xavier, I experienced significant support and friendship around what it meant not to be white in a world that mostly was, and this was foundational to my development of a healthy self-esteem,” he said. “Coming back to speak to current Xavier students about colorblindness and histories of racial difference was challenging. I did not want to assume that the school was as I remembered and experienced it 25 years ago. Spending time with teachers, sitting in on classes, and speaking with students, I quickly realized the best things about Xavier are the same as they always have been. These students are funny, kind, sarcastic, witty, and a bit rebellious. I knew some of what I shared, especially about the history of racial discrimination in housing

and neighborhood development, would be new and perhaps uncomfortable. I worried that it might go over some students’ heads, but I also knew that those who attended would give me a fair hearing, and that happened.”

The two parents on the Council, Joëlle Duffy P’21 ’23 and Kim Lancial P’20, highlighted the importance of the day for their sons. Duffy, a black mother of biracial Xavier students, noted that conversations about race help students deepen their understanding of each other, thus deepening their mutual respect. Lancial commended the Council for creating opportunities to foster dialogue and inclusion—and for giving her the opportunity to be an ally.

Omar Richardson ’20, a student member of the Council, said the positive feedback he received after Claver Day gave him hope: “I’m excited to see how Xavier will continue to grow as a community.”

Ultimately, that was a common theme for many.

“This work is so ongoing that we often see its results months, maybe years later. I think that we planted seeds with great potential at this year’s Claver Day,” Costa reflected. “Now we will watch those seeds grow.”



LASTING IMPACT

THE HISTORY OF RETREATS AT XAVIER *By Gregory T. Stelzer '11*

*O*n a cold, windy afternoon in February 2010, my father picked me up from my Kairos retreat at the St. Ignatius Retreat House, also known as Inisfada, in North Hills, Long Island. The one-time estate of Nicholas and Genevieve Brady, a duke and duchess of the Catholic Church, the mansion was willed to the Jesuits after Genevieve's death in 1938. First used by the Society as a seminary, Inisfada (Gaelic for "Long Island") began hosting retreats, including many Xavier retreats, in 1963 and continued to do so until 2013.

As many Xavier alumni and faculty who went on a winter retreat to Inisfada will recall, there was an unmistakable beauty in experiencing the warmth and comfort of the old retreat house as the snow fell outside. The Kairos retreat, a prayerful experience of learning about God's love, normally concludes back on 16th Street, but because of the blizzard, the retreat ended at Inisfada, and (luckily for me and my fellow Nassau County classmates) I was able to be picked up from the retreat house and was home in only a few minutes. After a retreat filled with laughter, tears, and a new understanding of what God's love really means, it was good to be home. I can still remember embracing my parents after the

retreat, grateful for their love and for such a unique opportunity to grow in community and faith. I remember the difficulty of explaining what exactly happened on the retreat. I remember feeling like something dramatic and important had changed, even though the routine of my junior year of high school continued onward.

*K*airos is a Greek word meaning "time" in the qualitative sense (as opposed to *chronos* which represents quantitative, chronological time). This qualitative, transcendent understanding of time is central to the Kairos retreat, and really to any retreat experience. A retreat is an opportunity to step back from our busy schedules, away from our lives that are so structured around chronological time (My train is delayed! Your paper is due tomorrow! My schedule is busy today!). Kairos is "God's time," an invitation to learn about the abounding love and grace of God already present in our lives, in our relationships with others, in our struggles and anxieties, in our hopes and joys.

The structure of the retreat itself was developed in the 1960s out of the *Cursillo*

movement and by the 1990s was adopted widely in Jesuit high schools across the United States. The four-day retreat follows a series of talks by both adult and student leaders, small group conversations, and large group activities for prayer and reflection. Each talk offers retreatants an opportunity to reflect on their own lives through themes of friendship (with others and with God), obstacles to those friendships, forgiveness, and putting love into action. The retreat leads up to "the fourth day," a call to fully embrace and carry on the Kairos experience beyond the retreat itself. For many Xavier alumni who have made the retreat, Kairos is a defining moment of their high school experience. The goal and meaning of Kairos is at the heart of Xavier's broader mission—to foster an education in which students grow more open to being people of faith, ready to welcome and share the love of God that is present in their lives. This kind of experience is integral to a Xavier education that seeks to form young men who are religious, loving, and open to growth.

The Kairos retreat was first introduced at Xavier in 1994 under the direction of headmaster **Terry Baum, S.J.** Initially intended as a senior retreat to culminate one's high school career, Kairos quickly became a centerpiece of Xavier life beloved by students

and faculty alike. **John Murillo '97**, who attended the retreat and later served as a student leader, reflected:

“I was really able to reflect on myself and my faith without any distractions. I remember being in our breakout sessions and listening to classmates’ stories. While in school, everyone pretty much seems fine. Maybe someone has the look of a hard day once in a while, but not much else. But then you hear these stories and you realize that not everything in the world is sunshine and smiles. You begin to realize some of the struggles your classmates go through. You also begin to realize that you’re not alone in your own struggles, which you swore were unique to you. You begin to realize that teachers are more than just men and women who hand out homework, but that they are also people with their own matters.

As a student leader, it was enriching to help guide fellow students through a journey that I had just experienced myself months before. But in the end, those four days allowed me to connect to God, teachers, friends, classmates, and even strangers more than I could ever imagine. Without a doubt, it was the event that solidified my faith. So much of that retreat is still embedded in my heart. Sharing experiences and talking about God with people your age, especially as a teenager, is never an easy thing to do. But the Kairos program really allows for young men to open up and connect not just with God, but with those around them.”

In 2006, the Kairos retreat shifted to junior year to allow students more time during high school to process and put into practice what they had learned. This shift was part of a significant update to Xavier’s retreat program by teachers **Greg Harkness** and **Anthony SooHoo, S.J.**, who worked at Xavier during his formation as a Jesuit. According to SooHoo, this process aimed to integrate more explicit Ignatian elements into the retreat experience with the main goal of providing “tools that students could use and take away so that they could



develop a deeper relationship with God through prayer and learn to make better choices.” Moving Kairos to junior year allowed for a new opportunity for seniors to participate in a follow-up experience to Kairos, which would be called the Magis retreat. As religion department chair and an ongoing supporter of the Xavier retreat program, **Robert Reinhart '69 P'94 '99** saw great opportunity.

“I was convinced by a Jesuit friend when I first became chair of the religious education department that teaching our students to pray was a necessary element of our curriculum design. So when Campus Ministry made the decision to move Kairos from senior to junior year, I saw two opportunities,” Reinhart recalled. “The first was to develop a senior experience that would move our students towards an experience of an adult Ignatian retreat. **Fr. Robert O’Hare, S.J.** and later **Fr. Jim Van Dyke, S.J.** joined with me in this ad hoc effort. The final form of the Magis retreat was an intentional adaptation of the 18th Annotation of the Spiritual Exercises and gave the retreatants an experience of different forms of prayer, and an initial introduction to spiritual conversation that forms the basis of spiritual direction.”

The second opportunity was to develop a program for senior retreat leaders, which led to the current Ad Majorem retreat. Named

While many young alumni are most familiar with Kairos and Magis, the history of retreats at Xavier traces back to the school’s early years.

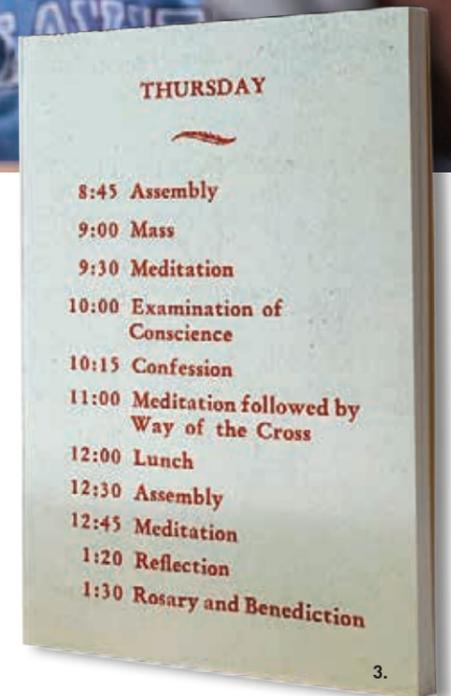
after the quintessential Ignatian motto, Ad Majorem serves to prepare students for both the practical and spiritual responsibilities of leading Kairos retreats as well as the sophomore year Montserrat retreat and freshman year Via Dei retreat. Through the commitment and personal investment of senior retreat leaders, these retreats are all considered student-led. So while there are of course adult leaders as well, the true success of the retreat program has been the leadership and faith of the students themselves, many of whom are eager to sign up as leaders following their own experiences on Montserrat and Kairos. As **Josue Ramos '21** reflected on his retreat experience:



“Kairos was full of understanding myself, my personal connection with God, and my relationships with classmates. We came back with the saying ‘everything is prayer’—how we can witness the act of God’s work in everything we do. Going with a group of students that I didn’t know as well and coming back closer than ever proved what we as brothers could do. A large amount of each junior class goes on Kairos and, through the retreat, we are able to step back and see ourselves and the growth we have had at Xavier. The work I saw with the teachers and senior leaders inspired me to hopefully be a senior retreat leader next year to allow the juniors to have a similar or even better experience than I did.”

While many young alumni are most familiar with Kairos and Magis, the history of retreats at Xavier traces back to the school’s early years. An entry in the “Diary of the College of St. Francis Xavier: July 1853-June 1878” indicates a four-day, in-school retreat taking place in October 1855. Later records

and calendars indicate that the annual student retreat continued, taking place at the beginning of the school year—typically coinciding with the Mass of the Holy Spirit. One entry in September 1901 describes a Tuesday-Friday retreat with more than 600 boys present, concluding with confession and Mass followed by breakfast on Friday morning. An article in the October 1937 edition of *The Review* describes an in-school retreat for 10th-12th grade students directed by John Cassidy, S.J.†, who at the time was an assistant superior of the novitiate in Wernersville, Pennsylvania and considered to be a prominent high school “retreat master.” The article notes the importance of the retreat as a special time dedicated to the spiritual life of students, giving them the opportunity to pray and consider their vocation. Another diary entry from October 1938 includes a detailed “Order of Exercises” for the annual retreat, revealing a schedule of morning Mass, meditation, “spiritual reading,” Stations of the Cross, and examination of conscience, followed by more



1. A Jesuit leads retreatants in prayer in Monroe in December 1956. 2. Juniors on Kairos in Morristown, New Jersey, in January. 3. The schedule for October 27, 1938—the third day of a four-day student retreat.



1. Senior retreat leaders with campus minister Jim Stayton during the 2017 Via Dei retreat. 2. Dean of Faculty Brian McCabe P'23 with juniors on Kairos in January. 3. Seniors on retreat in Morristown in the winter of 1949. 4. Students express their opinions about retreats in a March 1969 issue of *The Review*.



time for reflection, prayer, and benediction in the afternoon. On the final day, students had the opportunity to sign up for one-on-one conversations with any of the 12 Jesuits present for the retreat day.

A September 1942 article in *The Review* mentions that freshman retreat activities (separate from the 10th-12th graders) included an introduction to the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. The same article describes a smaller, optional retreat for members of the senior class which took place at the Mount Manresa Retreat House on Staten Island. Mount Manresa was opened by the Jesuits in 1911 and became the new home for the growing lay retreat movement and later for many high school retreats for schools in the New York City area. A 1944 article also describes the senior retreat at Mount Manresa directed by Gerard Knoepfel, S.J.†, an influential student counselor and leader of Xavier retreats until the 1960s. It is sobering to look back at these records, written at the height of World War II, which highlight the importance of such spiritual experiences for Xavier cadets. The student writer of the 1944 article reflected:

“The words of Fr. Knoepfel made a profound impression on them. As never before, the necessity of remaining in the state

of sanctifying grace was realized. For these seniors this may be their last retreat before stepping out into a turbulent world, and it was evident from their serious attitudes when they returned that they understood their position.”

Fr. Knoepfel was later involved in the founding of the Gonzaga Retreat Center in Monroe, New York, which became another primary host of student retreats for Xavier and for schools across what was then the New York Province. Gonzaga opened in 1952 through the leadership and dedication of John Magan, S.J. and became the first retreat house in the nation devoted specifically to youth retreats.

Bill Porter '63 attended two retreats at Gonzaga during his junior and senior years. He still reflects on these retreat experiences, sharing that they not only helped his class start the school year on a positive note but also contributed to their overall formation as young men and created strong relationships with his peers and teachers. Along with several of his classmates, Porter still regularly visits Dan Fitzpatrick, S.J., one of their faculty retreat leaders, who currently lives at Fordham University in the Bronx.

“So much of that retreat is still embedded in my heart. Sharing experiences and talking about God with people your age, especially as a teenager, is never an easy thing to do. But the Kairos program really allows for young men to open up and connect not just with God, but with those around them.”

- JOHN MURILLO '97

In some ways the retreat program has changed and adapted to the times; in other ways, the student experience has remained the same. A

March 1969 issue of *The Review* includes a thorough publication of a retreat survey taken by members of the junior class and written evaluations from members of the senior class. Some notable points include criticism of the quality of the food, praise for the Masses and small group activities, the desire for more small group activities, the question of voluntary retreats for seniors, and even the quality of the faculty retreat leaders!

The changes and adaptations to the retreat program have always served to foster a strong community of faith and support for Xavier students, which is most evident from the perspective of the students themselves. As Damian Delfino '20 reflected:

“Retreat experiences are very important for Xavier students because they allow them to connect with their true selves and find a deeper meaning in their lives. These retreats

allow all students to be part of the Xavier community, even when they might feel like outcasts or left out. These experiences allow Xavier students to understand that they are never alone in any of their endeavors and there is no reason for them to be. My Kairos experience was a really amazing and eye-opening experience. I was able to reflect on myself with friends all around me and also share things about myself that I don't usually tell people. I was able to listen to other people's stories and understand that I am not the only one facing the problems I deal with. I learned that no matter how lonely or far away I may feel, there is always someone out there, a friend, family member, or teacher, who loves me and is there for me when I need support.”

As an alumnus and now as a faculty member, I am grateful for the opportunity to experience retreats as both a student and as an adult. It was the impact of Xavier retreats and service trips that inspired me to get involved in college campus ministry at Fordham University, to return to Xavier as an alumni volunteer, and later to earn my

master's degree in theology and ministry. While leading a number of retreats over the past few years, I have had the great privilege of living in “God's time” with students while they open themselves to new ideas of faith and love on their own journeys of self-discovery. Through these retreats, my love for the Xavier community has only grown stronger as I have continued to learn about my own relationship with God through times of anxiety and loss, joy and peace.

There are many longstanding traditions at Xavier, but there are none as significantly linked to our Ignatian heritage as the retreat program. If the history and development of retreats at Xavier shows us anything, it is that the spiritual formation of our students will continue to be at the center of our mission as a Jesuit, Catholic school.

Gregory T. Stelzer '11 is Xavier's Director of Ignatian Service Programs. A graduate of Fordham University and Boston College, he also teaches freshman and senior religion.



Four Roads Forward

In February 2019, Jesuit Superior General Arturo Sosa, S.J. announced four new Universal Apostolic Preferences—pillars to guide the Society’s mission through 2029.

The preferences are the result of a 16-month discernment process involving Jesuits and their mission partners around the world. In true Jesuit fashion, that discernment focused on three principal, thought-provoking questions: Where do we hear the call of Jesus today as He carries His cross in the world? What is the Church asking of us? Where are we most needed?

The Society finally agreed upon four answers: to show the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and discernment; to walk with the poor, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated, in a mission of reconciliation and justice; to accompany young people in the creation of a hope-filled future; and to collaborate in the care of our common home.

But what do those preferences mean, and what do they mean for Xavier?

On the pages that follow, four members of the Xavier community reflect on the preferences and the way we live them—and hope to live them more fully—on 16th Street.

SHOWING THE WAY TO GOD

By Kaija DeWitt-Allen

God is here. God is already here. When it’s time to train the senior retreat leaders, I always begin by reminding them that God is already here. God is already at work in our lives.

The Universal Apostolic Preference of “showing the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and discernment” is, at its core, a mission of accompaniment. It is a mission of using the foundations of Jesuit identity to accompany us in our understanding of God and our most authentic selves.

When describing our current reality, the Society of Jesus notes that “we are constantly being bombarded with images and options and there is almost no space to find our true self or to let God find us.”

When I think about the lives of both the adults and the students at Xavier, it’s clear

this is a reality with which we are familiar. We find ourselves inundated with pressures of perfection—in our families, our professional lives, in comparing our “successes” against those of friends and colleagues. Our students have grown up in a world curated on Instagram and Snapchat. They are bombarded with the narrative that more is more, that they are only as valuable as their follows and likes.

But this reality is not the final word. Beneath the more-is-more is the reality that we are exactly what God desired when God created us. Our responsibility as Ignatian educators at Xavier is not only to help our students to know this, but to uncover this ourselves. But how? The Society of Jesus explains that “we get in touch with our deepest self, the space where God speaks to us, through discernment.





Previous page and above: Scenes from a 2017 Kairos retreat.

Discernment is not only necessary when serious problems have to be solved, it is an instrument of struggle to follow the Lord better day by day and hour by hour.”

In Ignatian speak, discernment is a prayerful process of decision-making, paying attention to our desires in order to recognize God’s own desires for us. St. Ignatius teaches this process most concretely in his Spiritual Exercises. My experiences of the Exercises transformed my understanding of God’s deep abiding presence in my life. Jesus went from being abstract to being the God who listens,

whom I watched suffer on the cross, and to whom I was present in the resurrection. God was already there with me, and it was my Jesuit spiritual director who showed me the way.

Our mission at Xavier is to form students who will transform the world for God’s greater glory. So it’s essential we give them moments to experience that glory. On retreat, our students are given the opportunity to discern the way that God is active in their lives. I get to see this first-hand. I see it when colleagues lead students through the Examen prayer. I see it on CFX trips when students discover the truest version of themselves as they serve and live with people in need. I see it when our students dream God’s dream for the world at the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice and advocate for people on the margins. I see it in the lines of students waiting quietly to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

In the decade to come, the Jesuits will continue to show us the way to God. A God who is here. A God who is already here.

Kaija DeWitt-Allen is Xavier’s Director of Campus Ministry. She is a graduate of the University of St. Thomas and the University of Notre Dame.

WALKING WITH THE EXCLUDED

By Lindsay Willert

In a master class I took recently on “Immigrant New York” at Columbia University, Dr. Rebecca Kobrin opened with a simple point: people move. Human beings have and do migrate for a host of reasons, both voluntary and involuntary. The architecture of immigration law and policy in the United States has largely been designed in terms of exclusion: sex and contract workers and beggars in the late 19th century; the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882; epileptics, unaccompanied children, and illiterate people in the early 20th century; and tens of thousands of Jewish refugees during the Holocaust. It’s hardly just a past reality, either. Currently, the United States bans travelers from countries like Syria and Venezuela with an eye toward adding more countries to the list. And at the cusp of our southern border sit thousands of individuals and families from Mexico and Central America. Some of them are literal outcasts, freshly deported following entanglements in the American judicial system and stays in detention centers. Others—having migrated to the border fleeing domestic abuse, institutional violence, discrimination, poverty, and environmental disasters—wait indefinitely in Mexico for the opportunity to initiate an asylum claim that will likely be rejected. This year, the United States is set to admit the lowest number of refugees in decades.

Our faith tradition is one that emphasizes the universality of our interconnectedness and redemption. Human dignity always precedes national identity and is at the center of our moral calling to see one another as God sees us—as God’s beloved. God’s particular and peculiar love for creation—*agape*—is what Jesus lives, prays, and teaches in the Gospels. “Agape,” Martin Luther King, Jr. explained, “does not begin by discriminating between worthy and unworthy people, or any qualities people possess. It begins by



Above: Lindsay Willert and students on the 2019 Holy Week trip to the U.S.-Mexican border.

loving others for their sakes. It is an entirely ‘neighbor-regarding concern for others,’ which discovers the neighbor in every [person] it meets. Therefore, agape makes no distinction between friends and enemies; it is directed toward both.”

This distinctive kind of love resonates in Scripture’s persistent call to care for and welcome the strangers among us, evoking in us thoughts of Exodus as well as our own recent and distant movements. It is in these sources that the second Universal Apostolic Preference, “walking with the excluded,” is grounded and moves us to seek transformation of ourselves and our world from alienation

and exclusion to relation and inclusion. The word preference is not ornamental here. It indicates an unapologetic partiality for the needs and interests of those living on the margins on behalf of the Society of Jesus and all those involved in its works. It is from these places that I have sought to witness and understand the complex realities of my fellow human beings living in vulnerability around the southern border of the United States through the work of the Kino Border Initiative. Through binational advocacy, education, and direct humanitarian assistance, KBI strives toward more humane immigration policies between the United States and Mexico. It does so in a spirit of accompaniment and solidarity with people living on the margins and in an attempt to honor the dignity of God’s beloved. In the past six years, I have traveled with three groups of Xavier students on the CFX trip to the Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, Arizona, and Sonora. There, our students did the work of listening to the stories of individuals and families at various stages in their migration journeys, learning about the complexities of American immigration law and policy, and growing in awareness that human dignity

does not begin and end at a border. They have been challenged to question oversimplified and dehumanizing characterizations of people living and working around the border with the aim of solidifying their ongoing solidarity with all people who struggle to have the fullness of their human dignity recognized and observed.

This is the apostolic work of walking with the excluded that we are called to engage in and support. It’s where we should be. It’s where Jesus would be.

Lindsay Willert is Xavier’s Dean of Educational Systems. She is a graduate of Fordham University, Union Theological Seminary, and St. John’s University.

JOURNEYING WITH YOUTH

By Michael LiVigni P’21

As I approached my senior year of college in the spring of 1990, I began discerning graduate school and professional programs. It was assumed by my family, my friends, and frankly by me that I would go to law school. This was my goal since high school. The reason for that was simple: Mrs. Sonia Lerner.

Mrs. Lerner was my law and government teacher for three years at James Madison High School, and over that time she became my mentor, a family friend, and in reality, a second mother. She saw talent and ability in me that I could not see in myself. She sparked curiosity and debate through her lessons, was not afraid to be questioned and challenged (although you had better know your stuff if you did that!), but most importantly she dared her students to set goals while continually raising the bar to push them to get there. Sonnie Lerner was the first person to tell me I had to go to law school and by her reckoning, a seat on the Supreme Court of the United States would follow soon after. As any good teacher knows, convincing your students they can do things they believe to be impossible is more than half the battle. For Mrs. Lerner, there was no good reason



Above: LiVigni with the Canisius High School yearbook staff in 2000; on CFX Mexico in 2018; and with his most influential teacher, Sonia Lerner, in 1991.

Above: LiVigni teaching AP U.S. Government and Politics in 2016.

why I wouldn't be on the Supreme Court; she dared me to explain why I couldn't do it, and of course, I had no counter-argument to that.

However, as I finished my undergraduate degree and started applying to law schools, it became clear to me that my heart wasn't in it. I thought about how I wanted to spend my life, and the more I thought about it, the less the law seemed a part of it. Instead, I became fascinated with history, writing, and teaching. The more I thought, the clearer it became that I needed to give back the gift that was given to me; I wanted to make sure that others had a mentor and a guide the way that I had. In the spring of my senior year, I went home to Brooklyn to visit Mrs. Lerner. I girded myself to break the news that I wouldn't go to law school but instead would begin a graduate degree in history and a professional program to become a history and government teacher.

I remember sitting at her kitchen table at around three in the afternoon, drinking coffee and chatting before I broached the subject. Her reaction was the typical no-nonsense, straight-shooting response that I had come to admire, respect, and expect. She looked me straight in the eye, put her mug down, and said: "Well, you will be poor and miserable your whole life." I smiled and chuckled and said, "Mrs. L, you are neither of those things." She quipped back, "Michael, we are NOT talking about me!" We both had a great laugh, discussed the program I was entering, and as I suspected, she became my biggest supporter and cheerleader.

My first teaching job was at Canisius High School, the Jesuit high school in Buffalo. As a new teacher in a Catholic and Jesuit school, I was far more excited by the thought of the day-to-day teaching and lesson writing than I was about the mission and identity of the

Society of Jesus or Canisius. Unfortunately, my faith—so important to me when I was growing up—had lapsed as a young adult. But that is the beautiful thing about being in a Jesuit school. This was okay at first.

I was coming to Canisius through my door, but soon I would be walking through the door of faith that St. Ignatius envisioned Jesuit apostolates would provide to those with whom they came in contact. Slowly but surely, the mission of Canisius and the Society entered into my daily life, and I returned to my Catholic faith. Soon after, I realized that my students needed me to be more than just a good history teacher; they needed me to be a companion to them as they walked through four years of their lives to a future that was not yet written.

I don't pretend to be anywhere near as good a teacher as Mrs. Lerner, but it is

from her that I learned the importance of journeying with my students, not just teaching them. As a teacher I have tried—sometimes successfully, sometimes not—to do this for my students. As a teacher in a Jesuit school, the Ignatian way of proceeding gave me words to describe what I had learned all those years ago from a Jewish teacher in Brooklyn: that my main responsibility was to care for, challenge, and expect more from my students than they expected from themselves.

The Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus, written in 2019, list the "accompanying of young people in the creation of a hope-filled future" as one of the main foci of the Society. Although I am glad that work with young people has received such a high level of attention throughout the Universal Society (this is a great boon to every educational apostolate of the Society of Jesus),

it is clear to most Ignatian educators that this is the foundation of good teaching, even outside of Jesuit education. However, I believe that Jesuit schools are uniquely suited to carry out this preference in a unique way. A hope-filled future is a future where God is present, active, and alive in the lives of our students. I see evidence of this every day at Xavier and in the other Jesuit schools at which I have spent time. My goal as a teacher, and now as an administrator, is to help my students see God in their lives and to bear witness to the goodness in each of them—goodness to which the world often blinds them.

Like my mentor Sonnie Lerner, my teaching is not limited to a lesson or a class. Instead, I want my students to understand that they have talents beyond my classroom, that they should think big things of themselves while being attentive to God's call in their lives. I have been

privileged to be a companion to thousands of students as they journey through high school, to walk with them on retreats, to labor with them on service projects, and I firmly believe the best way to serve them is to help them see that in both success and failure, they are God's beloved with the capacity to change the world.

When I was a young man, a teacher journeyed with me, put my feet on the right path, and walked with me for a good bit to make sure I was going in the right direction. This was one of the greatest gifts I have ever received and has been the foundation of my career and of my faith. It is my fervent prayer that somehow, in some way, I have given this same gift to another young man.

Michael LiVigni P'21 is Xavier's Headmaster. He is a graduate of the University at Buffalo and Fordham University.



Above and opposite: Members of the Environmental Solidarity Club at the Climate Strike in September.

CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME

By Brian McCabe P'23

In 2015, Pope Francis addressed his encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home* to the people of the world. It seeks to draw every person on the planet into dialogue with one another about the environmental threats that are degrading our common home and disproportionately punishing the poor and vulnerable. It is a wake-up call about the effects of unbridled consumerism, irresponsible leadership, and environmental degradation on God's creation. Pope Francis joined the social and moral teaching of the Catholic Church with the best scientific research available to convey a simple but powerful message: Climate change is real, the people of the world have influence over what is happening, and the time for "swift and unified global action" is now.

Laudato Si' provides a context for people of faith to encounter the reality of the crisis. The science is clear. Global temperatures are rising, the oceans are warming, ice sheets are shrinking en masse, glaciers are retreating almost everywhere, the global sea level is

rising, and instances of extreme weather events are increasing. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a body created by the United Nations to assess the science related to climate change, stated that "scientific evidence for warming of the global climate system is unequivocal." And scientists from all over the world agree that these trends are extremely likely due to human activity, and the need to take action is urgent.

However, climate change is one of the most complex issues facing our world today. It involves research, economics, culture, politics, and moral and ethical decision-making. It is a global problem, felt on local scales, that transcends national borders and geographical boundaries. The issue tends to polarize people, as science is denied and conversations get politicized. Perhaps the most troubling aspect is that we are told global climate change will continue to affect future generations for decades to come, even if radical changes are made today. In the face of these challenges, people are left with very basic questions: What is to be done? How do we begin to respond?

The Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus show us the way forward.

The fourth preference, "to collaborate in the care of our Common Home," sends us out into the world with a purpose. It invites us to pay attention to the "common" by building communities that look and act differently. Our schools, clubs, organizations, and families are called to adopt a new paradigm that looks beyond responsibility for creation to being one with it. Furthermore, the fourth preference asks Jesuit schools in particular to develop a communal sense of belonging to one another. We cannot figure out the solutions to climate change on our own, and we are not meant to try. It is to be a team effort, and collaboration is non-negotiable.

The starting point is an assessment of who we really are as a school community. Before we can realize and harness the power of partnerships that transform the world for God's greater glory, an internal conversion is required. We need to be honest about our complacency and complicity. Environmental degradation and poverty are partners that disturb right relationships, pollute the common good, and threaten our existence. So we must ask ourselves: What have we done to confront these injustices? What are we doing?

What ought we do?

This is where the other three preferences kick in to support our commitment. How we act as sustainers of creation connects us to a communal, loving discernment process rooted in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, which is preference number one. The second preference helps us see with whom we are laboring to steward God's creation. It leads us to see ourselves in relationship with others, especially those on the margins of society. Ultimately, the work of preserving creation leads us to the third preference, accompanying young people to a hope-filled future. After all, they will be the beneficiaries of what we do today, for better or worse. Tying all of these preferences together gives us the strength, hope, and spiritual depth to take action for environmental sustainability.

Because the Universal Apostolic Preferences are the spiritual fruit of years of prayer, discernment, and conversation among Jesuits and their partners, they are meant to free us to act in the best way we can, given "who we are and the means we have" to collaborate with others. Xavier's response inspired the formation of the Environmental Solidarity Club (or ESC),

a group of 15 students and three teachers who have taken a leadership role in forming a new ecological identity for the school. Members participated in Climate Strike New York in September. Xavier joined with STAND, Notre Dame School's social justice group, to march and rally to demand policy changes and action from elected officials and world leaders. In December, the ESC facilitated an open presentation to the Xavier community about the causes and effects of climate change and what we can do to combat it in our daily lives. Some representatives of the ESC attended the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice, an annual Catholic social justice gathering in Washington, D.C., and others hope to attend the 2020 Climate Change Conference at Loyola University Chicago.

More than traditional student-led programming, Xavier's Environmental Solidarity Club is striving to create a new spirit of co-creation based on a series of encounters. We want to forge relationships through encounters with science, nature, the history of the Church, classmates, allies beyond our walls, the vision of the Society of Jesus, and with God in all of these experiences. As we approach the 50th anniversary of Earth Day in April and the

fifth anniversary of *Laudato Si'* in May, the ESC is planning a wide array of experiences to help students discover the spiritual and temporal benefits that come with making sustainable choices, and to understand the agency they have to choose those things which relate to Christ's Gospel message and demonstrate care for our common home.

Motivated by student action, Xavier's administration will launch a new elective course designed around theology, the environment, and climate change. The course will pay special attention to the needs of the poor, weak, and vulnerable in a debate often dominated by more powerful interests. Ultimately, it will empower students to move beyond learning to action, by creating hopeful solutions in their own local context.

Despite the severity of the crisis, seeing the passionate energy of young people working for creative solutions, at Xavier and beyond, fills one with consolation and hope for healing and change.

Brian McCabe P'23 is Xavier's Dean of Faculty. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees at St. Peter's University.



1944

Bill LaMothe resides in Ave Maria, Florida, with his wife of 70 years. He is blessed with frequent visits from family members.

Larry Quinn retired from a career in engineering. He lives on Riverside Drive and enjoys strolling the streets of New York City's West Side.

Dr. Charles Westoff continues to conduct research as emeritus professor of demography at Princeton University. He has become a painter of watercolors which adorn his home and are greatly appreciated by his friends.

1945

Natale Giacobbi retired from the State Department, where he served as a foreign service officer. In that capacity, he oversaw the evacuation of Americans from Iran when the U.S. Embassy was attacked by followers of the Ayatollah Khomeini in 1979. When Giacobbi moved to a retirement community in Catonsville, Maryland, a few years ago, he was overjoyed to find his old Xavier classmate, **Vince Grey**, already in residence. They had not seen each other in 40 years.

George McAuliffe remains active as a clinical nutritionist serving patients from his office in Whitehouse, New Jersey. His two brothers who preceded him at Xavier have both passed away. McAuliffe is looking forward to the Golden Knights Luncheon in May.

1947

Last summer, **Joe Murgalo** and his wife, Mary, moved to a senior living community, Aston Gardens at Pelican Marsh, in Naples, Florida.

1948

Anton Stifter writes, "My primary accomplishment is to make it to my 89th year on God's earth in relatively good shape. I wish all my classmates a year of health, wisdom, peace, and wonderment."

1949

Members of the Class of 1949 celebrated their 70th reunion in Spring Lake, New Jersey, last September. In attendance were **John Beglan** and his wife, Paquita; **John Brady** and his wife, Joan; **Chip Cipolla**; **Louie Lopez** and his wife, Mona; **Dr. Tom O'Brien** and his wife, Nancy; and **George Torpey**. Also celebrating with the class were the widows of recently departed classmates—**Bobbi Conti**, **Victoria Madaras**, and **Phyllis McCauley**. **Barbara Curran**, widow of **Paul Curran**, hosted a delicious luncheon for all at her residence in Spring Lake. Xavier President **Jack Raslowsky** and former president **Daniel Gatti, S.J. '59** joined the class for its annual reunion dinner following a Mass in remembrance of all departed classmates.

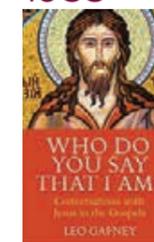
The Class of 1949 is proud to note that **Yahir Huerta-Salas '21**, the recipient of the class scholarship, is a member of the award-winning Xavier Regimental X-Squad.

1950

Joe Brostek and his family were featured in *The Q View*, an online publication of Queens College, in November. In December, Brostek was featured in the *Queens Chronicle* after making a donation of 1,000 specially imprinted pens to The Mary Louis Academy in Jamaica Estates. The pens featured a message warning students about the hazards of social media.

1953

Leo Gafney recently published a new book, *Who Do You Say That I Am? Conversations with Jesus in the Gospels*. "It is a remarkable reflection on the human side of Jesus and how it may renew our relationship with Him," writes his brother-in-law, **Dr. Tom Draper '44**.



1954

Frank Frisbie lives in Maryland. He is retired from the Federal Aviation Administration and Northrop Grumman but remains active consulting and writing articles for the *Journal of Air Traffic Control*.

Tony Gabriele and his wife, Anita Catherine, celebrated her 80th birthday and their 60th wedding anniversary in 2019.

1955

Chris Arvani has been retired from DTE Energy Company, where he served as assistant treasurer in charge of banking, finance, and cash management, since 2001.

1. Frank Frisbie '54, left, with fellow winners of the Glen Gilbert Trophy, one of aviation's highest honors.

2. Tony Gabriele '54 with his family.



1. Joe DeFoe '56, Tony Cangemi '56, Frank Perroni '56, and Charlie Ferrara '56 at lunch on Staten Island.

2. Standing: Joe LaFerrera '56, Art Fricke '56, and Dr. Emil Signes '56. Seated: Charlie Ferrara '56, Pat Rouse '56, and Frank Heelan '56 at lunch at The Vine in Basking Ridge, New Jersey.

3. Arthur Carine '57, Joseph Spinella '57, Nick Pinto '57, and Fr. Timothy Tighe '57.

4. Dr. Bob Weierman '60 and his wife, Teresa.

5. Bob Scavullo '60, Sebastian Velez '22, and Jim Cuddihy '60 P'85 '86.

6. Clockwise from bottom left: Aideen Fraser, Barbara Scavullo, Dr. Doug Fraser '60, Dr. Jay O'Brien '60, Dr. Mike Reilly '60, Maria Reilly, Bob Scavullo '60, Jeannie O'Reilly, Dr. Rich O'Reilly '60.



Peter Schleck writes that he is enjoying retirement in the Chicago area. He was thrilled to attend Xavier's Alumni Reception in Chicago in October. He looks forward to sailing on Lake Michigan in his new boat and to possibly meeting up with **Ted Wolek** and his wife, Karen, who live in Saginaw, Michigan.

1956

Members of the Class of 1956, otherwise known as "The Grain House Gang," continue to meet each month at The Vine in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. **Frank Perroni** notes that a Staten Island-based group, "The Four Amici," also meet quarterly "for lunch and to solve the problems of the world. We credit much of our success in careers, our marriages, and our good health to the fine education and self-discipline developed at Xavier High School. Our wives attend as well, but consult at a separate table.

Topics? Likely, how to improve their husbands."

Charlie Ferrara and his wife, Margaret, are moving to a senior living residence in New Jersey this year.

1957

Joe Juhasz lives in Boulder, Colorado. He has been traveling to Hungary for approximately six weeks each year and would love to show fellow alumni or students around when he is there. He is retired from teaching but remains active in the fields of psychology and architecture. He can be reached at juhaszj@colorado.edu.

Arthur Paone and his wife, Elaine, recently moved from New Jersey to Naples, Florida.

Dick Paula writes, "Hello all, especially the class of 1957. I am retired and living in Safety Harbor, Florida, near Tampa. In November, I will be 80 years old. I have been married for 52 years and have three grown children, all of whom live near me. We have five grandchildren—four boys and one girl ranging in age from 20 down to 8. God has been good to me and my wife over the years, and I thank Him for His blessings." Paula welcomes hearing from fellow alumni at rlp1204@icloud.com.

Joseph Spinella and his classmates continue to meet often, including at an annual class gathering in Greenwich Village.



1958

Dr. Bob Vecchiotti lives in Dublin, New Hampshire, and continues working as a doctoral dissertation advisor at the University of Phoenix. "I find it very rewarding to assist in creating new scholars for the business community," he writes. He remains active advising businesses and coaching budding entrepreneurs and new business owners in the Northeast as well as writing a monthly business column for the *Keene Sentinel*. He and **John Corrado** have been in touch almost every month since their 60th reunion celebration. "Peace to all my fellow classmates!" he writes.

1959

Frank Catalano marked 50 years of practice in intellectual property law in December 2019 and notes that he is "not retiring yet."

In October 2019, the College of the Holy Cross honored **Michael Toner** with the In Hoc Signo Award, an expression of respect and admiration for alumni who have distinguished themselves through dedicated, outstanding, and lengthy service to Holy Cross, regional clubs, or their class. Since his graduation from Holy Cross, Toner has served as class correspondent, class agent, and/or class chair for more than 40 years. He has also planned multiple reunions and served as a board member for the Class of '63 Foundation. Toner and his wife, Mary, live in South Setauket, New York.

1960

Dr. Stephen de Angelis lives in West Palm Beach, Florida. He plans to present a series of five lectures on Imperial Russia in St. Petersburg and Moscow.

On November 8, **Bob Scavullo** and **Jim Cuddihy P'85 '86** met with **Sebastian Velez '22**, recipient of the Class of 1960 Scholarship. That same evening, Scavullo and his wife, Barbara, dined with four classmates who all attended the College of the Holy Cross and became doctors. "Shame on me for not bringing along my list of ailments to get their opinions," he writes. Scavullo and Cuddihy are now working to plan the Class of 1960's 60th reunion on May 2. Classmates with questions about the reunion can email them at bobscaavullo@gmail.com or jcuddihy@nyc.rr.com.

Dr. Bob Weierman volunteers every Wednesday morning at Gulf Coast Community Ministries in Gulfport, Mississippi. "I learned something one day when I told a patient to put a heating pad on his knee three times a day," Weierman writes reflectively. "He said, 'How? I live in a box in the woods.'"

1961

Jerry Capeci reports that his classmate **Dr. Robert Detrano**, an acclaimed cardiologist who spends nine months a year in China, received the highest honor a foreigner can obtain—the China Government Friendship Award—in October in recognition of his work educating hundreds of village doctors and personally treating thousands of poor Chinese children with heart disease with the China California Heart Watch, a nonprofit Detrano founded 15 years ago. "Because of Bob's tireless humanitarian work, kids in the impoverished Yunnan Province are healthier, and local doctors are better trained to deal with heart problems of infants and children," Capeci writes.

Fred Salerno has been appointed chairman of the Board of Akamai Technologies.

1962

The late **Paul Cain†** was memorialized recently when the Paul F. Cain Fine Arts Center was dedicated at Ysleta High School in El Paso, Texas. After a distinguished career in the military, Cain taught at Ysleta for 42 years. "As *The New York Times* noted, Ysleta is one of those rare schools that had multiple students selected in any given year by MIT," writes Paul's brother, **Bill Cain, S.J. '65**. "The principal attributed this to Paul. Paul was teacher of the year from the State of Texas in 2008. His two main inspirations were **Joe Towle, S.J.†** and his track coach at Xavier, **Jim Scott P'79 '84†**."

Bill Fife and his wife, Pat, wish to thank their Xavier family for everyone's thoughts and prayers over the past several months. Pat Fife has been fighting acute myeloid leukemia since April 2019 and received a stem cell transplant from her sister last summer. "Memorial Sloan Kettering is terrific, and she would not still be with me without their outstanding care and medical expertise," Fife writes.

Brandon Fullam recently published his second book, *Manteo and the Algonquians of the Roanoke Voyages*, on the early period of colonial American history. The book contains biographical narratives and sketches of the native Algonquians who interacted with the English during Sir Walter Raleigh's attempt to colonize America.

Bill Grubb shared a photo of himself with Director of Development **Mark Mongelluzzo**, **Bob Gibbons**, **Jim Haybyrne**, and **George Dean** in October. "We were together to say our final farewells to **Richard Pollio†**," he writes. "A sad time, but great memories of 16th Street."

1963

John Dalessio reports that he recently downsized to a home in Branchburg, New Jersey, "closer to two of our sons and their families. I'm still working as a structural



engineer, sometimes in NYC. Having too much fun to retire."

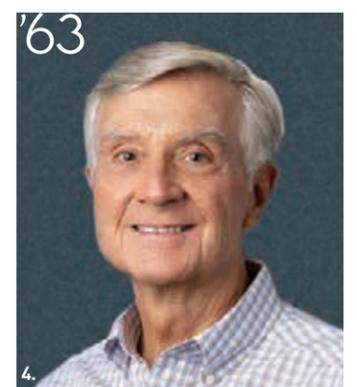
Rick Geffken's newest book, *To Preserve and Protect: Profiles of People who Recorded the History and Heritage of Monmouth County, New Jersey*, was published in February.



Joseph Rescigno's new book, *Conducting Opera: Where Theater Meets Music*, will be published by the University of North Texas Press this

spring. Rescigno is active on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and his own YouTube channel.

Thomas Ward asks for prayers for the repose of the soul of his son, Brian Thomas†, who passed away on August 12, 2017. Brian was also the grandson of **John Garrety '32†**.



1. President George W. Bush and the late Paul Cain '62†.

2. Pat and Bill Fife '62.

3. Mark Mongelluzzo, Bob Gibbons '62, Jim Haybyrne '62, Bill Grubb '62, and George Dean '62.

4. Rick Geffken '63.



THE JOY OF ATHLETICS

DR. CHARLIE CRAWFORD '58 / BY SHAWNA GALLAGHER VEGA

When **Dr. Charlie Crawford '58** traveled from his Cape Cod home to 16th Street for December's Alumni Basketball homecoming, he found himself in an interesting situation: He was the oldest alumnus in attendance.

Now a father of four and grandfather of seven, Crawford—who has been married to his wife, Eileen, for 57 years—said the experience prompted him to reflect on his time at Xavier and especially about Xavier athletics, which transformed his life.

"Xavier has loomed larger in my thoughts in more recent times," said Crawford, a Queens Village native who played basketball, baseball, and football at Xavier. "I went there kicking and screaming. The last thing in the world I wanted to do was go to a military school, but wiser adults thought I needed some discipline."

An only child, Crawford was orphaned just before he arrived on 16th Street. Sports provided him with a much-needed outlet to work through his emotions.

"The rigorous daily demands of Xavier made it a perfect place to leave other things behind. I just became so immersed in sports," he recalled. "Xavier gave me the opportunity to compete. We played in the best league, and we played all the best teams. To come there and find out that people thought you had ability, and you damn well better use it—that level of expectation has taught many people, myself included, to do the best you can. To be the best you can."

Crawford eventually played quarterback, point guard, and pitcher for 11 Xavier teams. He credits two of his coaches, **Leo Paquin P'64†** and **Richard Doyle, S.J.†**, who later became vice president of Fordham University, for their

"ONE OF XAVIER'S GREATEST LESSONS WAS THE JOY OF TEAM SPORTS. IT'S SHARED ACHIEVEMENT. IT'S ALSO SHARED AGONY."

particular care. Crawford played baseball at Manhattan College and ultimately earned a doctoral degree in education, but Xavier remains the highlight of his 26 years of schooling. "Unequivocally, the best four years of my education were at Xavier."

The passion for athletics he developed on 16th Street deeply influenced his life. For the past 66 years, Crawford has immersed himself in competitive athletics, playing Division I baseball and post-graduate lacrosse and refereeing Division I football. He coached college basketball and baseball at all levels, then served as a college athletic director and later as founder and president of Crawford Associates, an independent athletic consulting firm. For the last 22 years, he has played local, regional, and national senior softball. In softball, he's won three national championships and been named a national all-star twice. (Upon winning his third national championship on his 75th birthday, he looked at his teammates and realized he was the only one with his own knees, hips, and shoulders. He retired from national competition that day but continues to play locally and regionally—at least for one more season.)

His love of sports has led him to incredible experiences. In 1995, he ran Fenway Park for a weekend while serving as executive director of the World Junior Baseball Championships. He's also crossed paths with Muhammad Ali, Henry Aaron, **Frank McGuire '36†**, **Dr. George Kaftan '45†**, **Dave Anderson '47 P'72†**, New



York Giants great Sam Huff, and New York Mets star Ron Swoboda, whom he coached on the University of Maryland baseball team.

When asked about his proudest achievements in athletics, Crawford mentioned a pitching victory over Army at West Point, pitching a perfect game, hosting and directing the International Special Olympic Games at SUNY Brockport in 1979, and his early and continuing promotion and support of Title IX, providing equal opportunities for girls and women in sports. In the early 1970s, he penned an op-ed in *The New York Times* supporting Title IX and later became one of the nation's first college athletic directors to administer an equal opportunity program for both women and men.

"One of Xavier's greatest lessons was the joy of team sport. It's a shared achievement," he said. "It's also shared agony. Winning and losing gave me empathy as a coach. I owe all that to Xavier. The bonds of Xavier are strong."



Above: Crawford with Muhammad Ali at the 1979 Special Olympics; as a member of the varsity basketball team during his senior year (third from left in the front row); catching a punt during a football game; and playing baseball vs. Fordham Prep.

Beefsteak Dinner Xavier High School • January 16, 2020



1. Marcus Rivana '90, Paul Scariano '90 P'19 '21 '23, Michael Zysk '90, and Spencer Christopher '90. 2. Steve Winter '04, Jerry McKinney P'90 '92, Terence Tubridy '99, and Matt Dory '97. 3. Kevin Regan '68, John Kennedy '68, Bob Pinto '68, and Jim Tierney '68. 4. Members of the Class of 1974. 5. Members of the Class of 1962. 6. Frank Gregory P'80 '86 '87 and Jim Keenan, S.J. 7. Members of the Class of 2014 with LTC Roy Campbell, USA (Ret.). 8. The famed beefsteak. 9. Vincent Fedders '01, Sean O'Neill '01, Nick Iannuzzi '03, and Valentin Benitez '00. 10. Members of the Class of 1989.





1. Ed Seuffert '66 and his family.

2. Members of the Class of 1967 with Jim Keenan, S.J.

3. Bob Hubbard '69 and his family with the Xavier basketball team at Hubbard's home in Phoenix, Arizona.

4. Deacon Charles Immordino '68 with Gerald Barbarito, Bishop of Palm Beach, Florida.



1964

Bob Donnelly was recently featured on Page Six of *The New York Post* in relation to the iconic rock and roll band, the Ramones. Donnelly was the arbitrator assigned to resolve trademark and other differences between the estates of Johnny and Joey Ramone. He is quoted as advising the parties “to consider the perilous path they are on,” namely acting in a manner “unworthy of the highly esteemed Ramones brand.” Donnelly told the principals that they “have been entrusted with the exceedingly important mission



to grow this iconic brand to a new worldwide group of music fans.” A music lawyer for the past 45 years, Donnelly had seven clients up for Grammy Awards this year.

Kevin Cuddihy reports that **John Quealy** coordinated a pre-Thanksgiving luncheon at the New York Historical Society. In addition to Cuddihy and Quealy, **Tim Dwyer** (who trekked all the way from Virginia), **Steve Farrell**, **Kenny Grant**, **Bill Hebel**, **Dennis Klejna**, **Ray Lustig P'90 '92 '00**, **Andy Manganaro**, **Joe McManus**, and **Bob Persichette** attended. “**Jim Keenan, S.J.** joined the group, said grace, and kept everyone in order,” Cuddihy writes. “There was much laughter and sharing of memories.”

COL Rick Gibbs, USAF (Ret.) was recently awarded a Veteran's Hero Award by the Murrieta (California) Rotary Club. A graduate of Fordham University and the University of Northern Colorado, Gibbs enjoyed a distinguished career in the military, serving in Vietnam and holding important

assignments at the Pentagon. He served for many years on the Murrieta City Council.

1965

Peter Hansen recently finished construction of his new home in Asunción, Paraguay. He looks forward to his 60th reunion in 2025.

John Laffey reports that he has been teaching policy analysis at a variety of levels at John Jay College for the past 18 years.

John Nickl writes that he is “happy and well, living in Huntersville, North Carolina.” He recently met up with **Bob Albert** and is happy to have renewed a great friendship.

1966

Ed DeSimone lives in Omaha, Nebraska. “I serve as president and chairman of the board of Coalition Rx, a community organization dedicated to addressing the epidemic of substance use disorders,” he writes. “I have also been appointed to serve on the

Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP) of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.”

Ed Seuffert and his wife, Ginny, will mark their 49th anniversary in April. They are expecting their 25th grandchild.

Conrad Tridente celebrated Christmas with his extended family at his home in Long Valley, New Jersey. “Fourteen strong, including our two daughters and son, plus spouses and four grandkids,” he reports. “The joy of having my parents at 92 and 94 years of age joining us to celebrate made the day a truly great one.”

1967

Joseph Garvey reports that members of the Class of 1967 celebrated their 70th birthdays and the 50th anniversary of **Jim Keenan, S.J.**'s ordination at Tiro A Segno on September 28, 2019.

Joseph Maher writes that 12 members of the Class of 1967 returned to Myrtle Beach for their fourth annual golf outing in 2019. “A fun time was had by all!”

John Murray reports that members of the Class of 1967 gathered in January to celebrate the birthday of **Jim Keenan, S.J.** “Fr. Jim has been our teacher, priest, mentor, confidant, and friend since he was Mr. Jim Keenan, S.J., our beloved scholastic during our student days on 16th Street.”

1968

Kevin Craig writes, “Our classmate **Fred Stolfi** died at the end of November 2019. I loved him like a brother. We did not even know each other when we were at Xavier. We worked together in engineering, he at Xerox and I at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, for many years without realizing we were Xavier classmates. One day at a meeting, as we were sitting next to each other talking to others at the table, I overheard him say that he graduated from Xavier. I turned to him and said that so did I. Fred was so special. He was

an engineer's engineer and had a stellar professional career at Xerox and teaching career at Columbia University. But what I miss most is seeing the way he treated other people with love and respect, the way he always helped anyone who asked, and the way he loved God and his family. He could never stop talking about his grandchildren. Yes, he was a Xavier man. I am so grateful to have known him, worked with him, and learned from him. His courage facing sickness and death without fear was awe-inspiring. He always knew God was at his side. I think of him every day and miss him dearly.”

Mark Foster writes, “I haven't posted class notes in many years, if ever. I have been retired for four years and am enjoying it, although it took a little getting used to. Now I am not looking back. My wife, Sally, and I have been doing quite a lot of traveling—just last year to the Galapagos and China, to Antarctica at the end of this month. Really enjoyed the Xavier 50th reunion for our class in 2018. Drove to it from South Bend with friend and classmate **Tom Vanderputten**. It was great to reconnect with him and to see others from our class. We have a 3-year-old granddaughter and another granddaughter on the way. I've been taking piano lessons for three years, and I intend to stay with it this time. Sally is becoming more patient with my practicing! We plan to do more traveling around the U.S. in the coming years. Road trips!”

On September 7, 2019, Bishop Gerald Barbarito ordained **Charles Immordino** into the diaconate at the Cathedral of St. Ignatius Loyola in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. He was vested Deacon Charles in a time-honored ceremony witnessed by family, friends, and numerous deacons and priests of the diocese. He will serve at Saint Lucie Catholic Church in Port St. Lucie, Florida.

Ken Mansmann writes that he recently retired as a New York City high school teacher and St. John's University adjunct professor. He was an ironworker for 24 years before becoming an educator of

adolescents and teachers in training.

Mathew J. Mari is starting his seventh year as a radio talk show host on WVOX 1460 AM and *wvox.com* out of New Rochelle, New York.

Dave McGroarty, his brother **John McGroarty '70**, his sister Maryrose O'Neil, his niece Mary Elizabeth (daughter of the late **Paul McGroarty '71**), and several other family members and friends will participate in the TD Five Boro Bike Tour in May. Dave McGroarty writes that he views success as “clearing the first borough” and asks for your good wishes for a successful, injury-free ride.

Peter Monahan is happily retired and living in Arizona. His younger daughter is a sports medicine physician with the University of Arizona.

William Wilson lives in Morgan Hill, California. “After thirty years of teaching and researching English and Irish literature, I retired,” he reports. “Cheers.”

1969

Lenny Alfano reports that he has spent the last 16 years working with the New York City Department of Education as the business manager of IS 61 on Staten Island. Before that, he spent 27 years working at Chase. “Sorry for missing the 50th,” he writes to his classmates, “but as some of you know my son had an illness that needed immediate attention. So Gloria and I were on grandchildren duty. Pleased to say that he is doing well. All the best.”

Bob Hubbard lives in Phoenix, Arizona. In December, he hosted Xavier basketball players and coaches for dinner when the team traveled to Phoenix to compete in the Cactus Jam Tournament. Just before dinner, the team sang “Sons of Xavier” to the delight of Hubbard's extended family. Members of the Hubbard family also attended the Cactus Jam championship game, where they watched the Knights take home the title.

Upcoming Events

CELEBRATE XAVIER SCHOLARSHIP GALA
April 3, 2020

50TH REUNION WEEKEND
April 24-25, 2020

GOLDEN KNIGHTS LUNCHEON
May 1, 2020

5TH THROUGH 25TH REUNIONS
May 1, 2020

30TH THROUGH 45TH, 55TH AND 60TH REUNIONS
May 2, 2020

GRADUATION AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
June 11, 2020
Watch live at saintpatrickscathedral.org/live

XAVIER KNIGHT AT THE CYCLONES
June 18, 2020

JERSEY SHORE RECEPTION
July 7, 2020

ROCKAWAY RECEPTION
July 9, 2020

CAPE COD RECEPTION
August 20, 2020

QUOGUE RECEPTION
August 27, 2020

SUMMER SUNSET AT XAVIER
September 2, 2020

HALL OF FAME DINNER
October 30, 2020

For the latest event updates, visit xavierhs.org/events.



ANGELS ALONG THE WAY

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL MONTELONGO, LTC, USA (RET.) '73 / BY SHAWNA GALLAGHER VEGA

Through yet another angel, Xavier's **Dennis O'Sullivan**, the Montelongs received a break on Michael's Xavier tuition. He arrived on 16th Street in 1969 and quickly excelled. In 1972, he learned he would become Xavier's first Latino cadet colonel in only the second year of an optional Regiment.

As Regimental commander and later, the Class of 1973's valedictorian, Montelongo met teachers—more Xavier angels like **Ken Caufield, S.J.**†, **Ignacio Febles P'83 '88 '90**, **Brian Moroney, SGM Ray Carney, USA (Ret.) P'96†**, and others—who encouraged him to apply to the nation's best colleges. He earned an ROTC scholarship he could have used to attend Ivy League schools and an appointment to West Point. He chose West Point, first seeing the campus the day he arrived as a new cadet.

Montelongo served 20 years as an Army officer. During that time, the Army sent him to Harvard Business School, then brought him back to West Point to teach economics and political science as part of West Point's renowned social sciences department.

In 1995, thanks to yet more angels, Montelongo became a Congressional Fellow. He served as a legislative aide to Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-Texas) on national security matters and Hispanic/Latino and small business issues.

He retired from the Army in 1996 and entered the corporate domain, but the relationships he had formed with Sen. Hutchison and her staff changed his life a few years later. In 2001, "out of the clear blue sky," Montelongo received a call from Hutchison's office asking if he would be interested in serving the country again in George W. Bush's administration.

Prompted by a strong service ethic cultivated at Xavier, West Point, and in

the Army, Montelongo accepted, was confirmed by the Senate, and sworn in as the 19th assistant secretary of the Air Force for financial management and comptroller—the Air Force's chief financial officer—in August 2001. One month later, on September 11, he was at his desk at the Pentagon when terrorists crashed a plane into the building. He had been hired to transform the finance function of the Pentagon and the Air Force but found himself a "wartime CFO," financing two major combat operations and managing a budget of \$120 billion.

Montelongo retired once again from government service and transitioned back to the private sector in 2005. Still guided by an impulse to serve, he sought opportunities to make organizations better. That desire has taken many forms, including volunteerism and his service on various commercial, public sector, and nonprofit boards. He currently is president and chief executive officer of GRC Advisory Services, LLC, a private firm specializing in board governance, risk management, and compliance matters for private, public, and social sector organizations. Among his boards, he serves with **Dan Denihan '65** on the Leadership Roundtable Board of Directors to help improve Church leadership and management practices.

He and his family live in Scottsdale, Arizona.

"Growing up in the 1960s in Manhattan's Lower East Side public housing, there's no way you could have convinced me all of this would happen. Write that script, and see if you can sell it!" he said with a laugh. "The credit goes to all these angels, especially those at Xavier, who intervened to impact me and light my path."

He's a West Point and Harvard Business School graduate, a former White House Pentagon appointee, an accomplished corporate executive, and a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations. But if you ask **the Honorable Michael Montelongo, LTC, USA (Ret.) '73** who deserves the credit for his achievements, he quickly points to his many "angels along the way—and especially my time at Xavier."

A proud Son of Xavier and of the Lower East Side, Montelongo has never forgotten his roots. His first angels—his parents, **Michael†** and **Helen Montelongo P'73 '81†**—equipped their children with a determination to pursue higher education and a passionate ambition to rise above their circumstances.

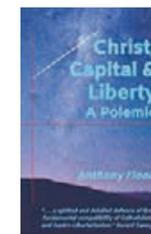
"I am the first child of a 19-sibling Mexican-American dad and an eight-sibling Puerto Rican mother," Montelongo said of his parents, who sacrificed a great deal to send their children to Catholic schools. "The two of them absolutely loved school but couldn't finish because of their family responsibilities. They always said, 'Get your education because when you do, they can't take it away from you.'"

Two nuns who taught Montelongo seventh and eighth grade at Our Lady of Sorrows on Pitt Street pointed him toward Xavier—becoming his next angels. "When you're from inner city neighborhoods like the Lower East Side, you don't know what you don't know. I didn't know there was a Xavier, much less West Point. None of my peers knew that. Sr. Joan and Sr. Gena pointed the way to Xavier."



Above: Montelongo today; leading the Xavier Regiment up Fifth Avenue; and meeting Terence Cardinal Cooke during the 1973 St. Patrick's Day Parade.

is a junior at Florida Gulf Coast University, where he plays lacrosse.



Anthony Flood recently published a book, *Christ, Capital and Liberty: A Polemic*.

Eric Hoffmeyer and his wife, Bridget, are retired and living on six acres in Bowling Green, Kentucky. "Bridget loves the large sunroom, and my new machine shop is wonderful," he writes.

1972

On June 4, 2016, **Brian Burke** was ordained as a permanent deacon in the Archdiocese of Newark.

Tom Flynn is a licensed Connecticut real estate associate at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Greenwich and has a real estate license in New York as well.

Peter Maniscalco recently became a member of Xavier's finance and audit committees.

1973

Dr. Anthony Marinello was recently appointed chief medical officer at Capital District Physicians Health Plan, a nonprofit health plan based in Albany.

1974

Kevin McLaughlin participated in the coin toss at Boston College's homecoming game on October 19 versus NC State. The Eagles won the coin toss and the game, 45-24. McLaughlin is Boston College's Alumni Board President.

Mike Nardolilli continues to enjoy his role as chairman of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

1975

Sons of Xavier recently gathered to mark the retirement of NYPD **Sgt. Patrick Whalen** after more than 30 years of service. (See more on page 40.)

Thomas Kosten attended the recent Xavier Alumni Reception in Houston, where he met **Donald Sweeney '59** and wife, Rhonda, "who are music lovers like Terri and I. ... We are both local supporters of the opera and the University of Houston School of Music, where Terri is on the faculty, and I am transitioning to leadership in a new medical school at the University of Houston. We continue to do research in addictions and have NIH funding for a new anti-fentanyl vaccine to stem the epidemic of overdoses."

Mike Sheehan, a communications coach based in Washington, D.C., was recently featured in an article in *The Atlantic*. Sheehan worked with President Bill Clinton while he was in office and began consulting on and off for then-Senator Joe Biden in 2002.

1970

Tom Cody is a licensed acupuncturist in Westchester.

James Epifanio recently moved to Anthem Country Club in Henderson, Nevada. He welcomes local alumni to contact him at jimepi@yahoo.com.

Stephen Jones reports that for the fourth time, one of his poems has been published in *Literature Today*, a recurring poetry anthology. Additionally, four of his pieces have run in *The New York Times*. Jones currently works for a major European law firm as an online proofreader/editor, and he previously worked in the same capacity for marketing and legal at American Express.

LTC Edward Larkin, USMC (Ret.) retired in May 2019, having spent 20 years as a Marine officer and 22 years as a defense contractor supporting the Marine Corps and the Army.

1971

Tom Cannon is an attorney living in Miami Beach. He is active in the commercial real estate business in the Southeast. His older son is a sheriff officer in Essex County, New Jersey, and his younger son



1976

Mike Butler recently retired as managing director and head of human capital at Point72 Asset Management. In addition to doing ad hoc consulting, he is currently enrolled in a dual executive master's program. Upon completion in 2021, he expects to be awarded a master of science degree in health economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a master of arts degree in health policy from the University of Chicago. Butler is an active member of Greenwich Crew, where he trains daily with the masters rowing team and competes regularly in events such as the Head of the Charles Regatta

1. Eric Hoffmeyer '71 shooting on his property in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

2. Kevin McLaughlin '74 on the field at the Boston College vs. NC State football game in October.

3. Mike Nardolilli '74.

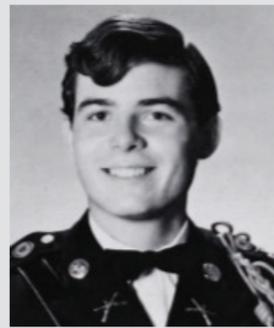
4. NYPD Lt. Patrick Steffens '88 P'11 '12 '16 '20, Lt. Michael Braccia '92, and Sgt. Patrick Whalen '75 at an event marking Whalen's retirement.



A MAN FOR OTHERS

SGT. PATRICK WHALEN '75 / BY SHAWNA GALLAGHER VEGA

"IF YOU BELIEVE IN THE MISSION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF BEING OF SERVICE TO OTHERS—COMBINED WITH XAVIER'S MISSION OF CREATING MEN FOR OTHERS—THAT'S THE CODE THAT I LIVE BY."



For 34 years, **Sgt. Patrick Whalen '75** proudly served the City of New York as a member of the New York Police Department, responding to a deeply felt call to serve instilled in him by his parents and by Xavier.

The phrase "man for others" often entered his mind, particularly during the last 19 years of his career as he accompanied police families through their darkest hours. As a member of the NYPD's Family Assistance Section, Whalen—a St. Peter's University psychology graduate—supported seriously ill and injured officers as well as the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice. He bore the responsibility of making death notifications to officers' families, overseeing funeral arrangements, and ensuring that officers and their families received the benefits they deserved.

When Whalen retired on January 28—the last day he could work before reaching the NYPD's mandatory retirement age on his 63rd birthday, January 29—both his longtime colleagues and the families he served turned out in droves.

Above: Whalen, fifth from left, with John Cavoorea '75, Barbara Cavoorea, Kenneth Colangelo '75, Jim Keenan, S.J., Mary Whalen, James Hillman '75, Vin Biagi, S.J. '67, John Kirk '75, James Palumbo '75 P'04, and Steve Vincent '75; with Commissioner Dermot Shea '86; and as a Xavier senior.

and it was bigger than I anticipated," Whalen said of his ceremonial walkout. "It was humbling that so many families I've helped wanted to come down and support me and wish me a happy retirement."

His extended family and Xavier brothers came to support him, too, making the event even more meaningful. His daughter Kiera, now a public school pre-kindergarten teacher, gave a speech, as did his classmate **Steve Vincent '75**. Whalen credits Xavier with instilling in him a sense of responsibility and service, echoing the lessons taught at home by his parents, **Patrick†** (who retired as a Transit Police Department detective) and **Anna Pauline Whalen P'75†**.

"There is an undercurrent of service to man and God at Xavier. They didn't just tell us about Christian principles. They gave us real-world exposure to Jesuits and lay faculty who lived them," Whalen recalled. "I was in the Regiment. I played sports. You were expected to be a man. If you had something to do, you were expected to do it, and if you didn't, you were expected to face the consequences. It instilled a sense of discipline."

"I had fun, too—did I have fun!" Whalen added with a laugh. "Almost 50 years later, the friendships remain. The fellas who were there [at the walkout ceremony] were all guys I played football with. Even as teenagers, they were all confident, responsible, and leaders in their own respect."

Now, as Whalen navigates the early days of his retirement, he looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Mary (a nurse practitioner who plans to retire this summer), at home in Bay Ridge and on long-overdue trips. He also anticipates being at more Xavier events, which he often planned to attend in recent years but had to forego when the needs of NYPD families called.

"It was an honor," Whalen said of his career. "It's not about us. It's about service, and service to our NYPD families. If you believe in the mission of the Catholic Church of being of service to others—combined with Xavier's mission of creating men for others—that's the code that I live by. To think that might have made an impact on others is overwhelming."

in Boston and the U.S. Rowing Masters National Championship Regatta, which was most recently held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He and his wife, Ginny, recently celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. They reside in Ridgefield, Connecticut, and have three grown children.



Dominick Ruggiero reports that he is happily married and just completed his 41st year as a professional stage director and stage manager for the theatre. He is currently the stage manager for Arizona Theatre Company in Tucson and Phoenix, Arizona.

1978
Bill Porterfield attended the Beefsteak Dinner in January, where he was excited to "see how others are doing since disco died."

Michael Suarez, S.J., a professor at the University of Virginia, delivered The A.S.W. Rosenbach Lectures in Bibliography at the University of Pennsylvania in mid-March. The topic was "Printing Abolition: How the Fight to Ban the Slave Trade in Britain Was Won, 1783–1807."

Armando Nuñez, chairman of ViacomCBS Global Distribution Group and chief content licensing officer at ViacomCBS, was inducted into the Broadcasting & Cable Hall of Fame in October. In January, he and his wife, Madeline McFadden-Nuñez, hosted a Fordham University reception in Bel-Air honoring Fordham parents Alex and Jean Trebek with the Fordham Founder's Award. Nuñez is a Fordham University trustee.

1979
Nicholas D'Agostino III ran his seventh New York Marathon and 14th overall marathon in November alongside his sister, Lisa.

Marc Miller lives on Staten Island. He established M. Miller Consulting, Inc., which provides professional services and data analytics to individuals, nonprofits, and corporations, in May 2019.

"With three scholarships, thanks to Xavier," **LTC Michael Wickman, USA (Ret.)** graduated with a

bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and distinguished military graduate honors from the Polytechnic Institute of New York in 1983. He served 22 years in the U.S. Army, commanding from the platoon through battalion levels, and won the U.S. Army General MacArthur Award in 1992. His deployments included Operation Joint Guardian in 1997 and Operation Noble Anvil in 1999. While in the Army, he was selected to attend the German Armed Forces General Staff College, which he credits to Xavier's outstanding language program. He earned master's degrees in computer information systems and military operational art. Upon retiring from active duty in 2005, he became a military intelligence civilian/special agent. He will soon deploy to Afghanistan on a NATO special assignment and plans to retire in Munich, Germany, in 2022 or 2023 after 40 years of federal service. "Xavier's total program strongly contributed to a successful military career—at least 25 years of international assignments including force protection, counterintelligence, and police/counterterrorism assignments," he writes. Wickman has four children aged 13, 15, 28, and 30.

1980
"I'm always proud when someone asks me what high school I went to, even though it was 40 years ago," **Mark Khan** writes. "After leaving Xavier for Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, I went on to become an industrial designer and inventor. About eight years ago, I invented the world's first modular cricket bat, and about three years ago, I invented a whole new sport called WIKITBALL. It's baseball meets cricket, and it's a sport where all the players play at once. No one is left



out in the field waiting for the ball. We have just introduced it to New Dorp and Curtis High Schools in Staten Island."

1982
Keith Farrell lives in Long Beach, California. He reports that his son, Hayden, won early admission and a full-tuition scholarship to Michigan's Kalamazoo College.

John W. Polis is a partner with Star Mountain Capital, an investment platform that provides growth capital to U.S. private businesses with revenues between \$10 and \$150 million and earnings before interest, tax, and depreciation of \$3 to \$20 million.

Michael Tartaglia is a certified tax preparer and financial planner. He earned a master's degree in financial planning from New York University.

Tom Weatherall was recently appointed to a second three-year term serving on the board of directors of the Edmundite Southern Missions in Selma, Alabama.

1984
Andrew Corrigan recently celebrated his 23rd year as an independent financial advisor by opening a second office on Long Island.



- 1. Dom Ruggiero '76.
- 2. Armando Nuñez '78, Brian MacLean, Alex and Jean Trebek, and Fordham University president Joseph McShane, S.J.
- 3. Mark Khan '80 at a WIKITBALL training and demonstration.
- 4. Nicholas D'Agostino III '79 and his sister, Lisa, after running the New York Marathon.



1. Alberto Roldan '84 in France.
2. Paul Casazza '82, Shawn O'Brien '17, and John Sottnik '84.
3. John Bivona '85, right.
4. Dr. Joseph Raccuglia '85.
5. Jeffrey Wilkins '85.
6. Mark Mulvanerty '85.

Alberto Roldan reports that he successfully qualified for and completed the 2019 edition of Paris-Brest-Paris, which attracts cyclists from around the globe. "The event requires you to cycle 1,215 kilometers (about 760 miles) from Paris to Brest, France, and back in under 90 hours," he writes. "I completed the course in 84 hours and 50 minutes. ... I was one of the 461 Americans who qualified to race the event in 2019 by successfully completing the qualifying series of 200-, 300-, 400-, and 600-kilometer 'brevets' between January and June 2019. It was my first participation in PBP and it was an amazing experience, to say the least. Hands down, the hardest physical challenge I have ever faced."

Last summer, **John Sottnik** and **Paul Casazza '82** welcomed **Shawn O'Brien '17** as an intern at Posillico Civil Engineering. O'Brien, a civil engineering student at Stevens Institute of Technology, learned about the role through the Xavier Internship Program, which alerts college-aged Sons of Xavier to available roles at businesses where Xavier graduates work. During his internship,



O'Brien worked at the Highbridge Interchange Project for Sottnik, the project manager, and Casazza, the municipal operations manager.

1985
John Bivona is currently serving in Riga, Latvia, as the FBI Legal Attaché to Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania. He recently retired from the U.S. Army Reserve as a colonel after more than 30 years of service.

Dr. Joseph R. Raccuglia was recently featured in *Healthy Living Magazine's* issue covering Top New Jersey Doctors. He practices family medicine in Freehold. His daughter, Laura, attends DeSales University and his son, Andrew, was inducted into the National Honor Society and recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

Jeffery Wilkins started a new career in the aerospace industry after 19 years in the semiconductor industry. "I now live in Sonoma and work at Collins Aerospace as their site senior quality manager in Fairfield, California," he writes.

1986
Terence Carroll, a captain in the New Jersey State Police, is now

serving as Troop D Deputy Troop Commander. He recently celebrated his 24th year with the department.

Mark Mulvanerty recently joined accelHRate—a CHRO, CFO, and board of directors executive search and management consulting firm—as managing partner. With more than two decades in the executive search industry, he will lead the firm's CFO practice and co-lead the board services practice.

1987
Stephan Silich is chief administrative officer and vice president of the Mount Sinai Health System in New York City. He also recently signed a three-book deal with The Brooklyn Writers Press, an independent publisher of poetry, short stories, fiction, and non-fiction. His first book of collected poems, *the silence between what i think and what i say*, spanning more than 20 years of writing, was published in 2019 to rave reviews and a five-star rating on Amazon, where the book is



available for purchase. The book is also available at all online booksellers and local bookstores, including Barnes and Noble. Silich welcomes classmates to view his writings and photographs on Instagram @stephan_silich.

1988
Bryan Grimaldi recently joined the national law firm of Greenberg Traurig LLP in the hospitality and government relations groups.

Brendan Gallagher P'17 '18 '23 shared a photo of multiple Sons of

Xavier with Police Commissioner **Dermot Shea '86** on New Year's Eve. "We were volunteering at an NYPD Police Athletic League dinner for inner-city children," Gallagher writes. "We provided dinner for 60 youths before heading off to watch the ball drop at Times Square."

Vince Piazza, his wife Sabrina, and their three sons recently moved to Philadelphia "and are enjoying Eagles games and cheesesteaks." Piazza welcomes



local alumni to contact him at pvincentg1@gmail.com.

1989
Tom Brogan P'22 shared a photo of "past, present, and possible future Brogans at Xavier."

Jim Buthorn is planning to retire from his position as Inspector in Charge at the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, bringing to a close a career that has spanned nearly 30 years in law enforcement. He is now seeking "a new and challenging career in the private sector."

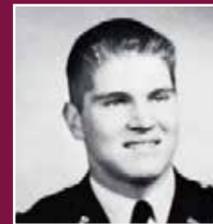


1. Aidan Gallagher '17, Brendan Gallagher '18, Gavin Gallagher '23, Brendan Gallagher '88 P'17 '18 '23, Dermot Shea '86, Jack Casey '19, Matthew Glynn '22, Billy Esposito '18, and Matthew Glynn P'22.

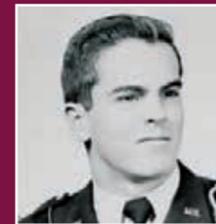
2. Jim Buthorn '89.

3. Standing: John Brogan '93, Tom Brogan '89 P'22, and Jared Brogan '97. Front: Two possible future Sons of Xavier and Luke Brogan '22.

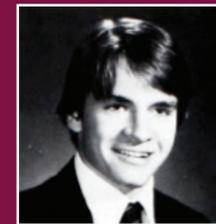
SAVE THE DATE HALL OF FAME DINNER 2020



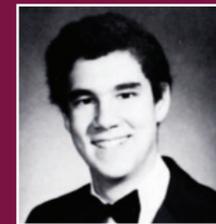
Daniel Cronin '59



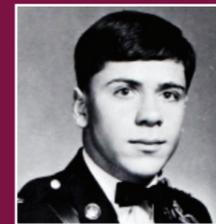
COL Peter Foley, USAF (Ret.) '58†



Dr. James Morgan '82 P'12



Richard Nolan, Esq. '83



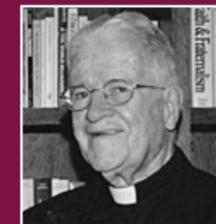
Michael Puglisi '68



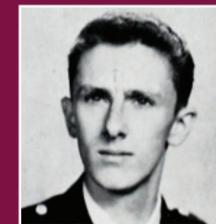
Daniel Rodriguez '58



Ramon Salomone, S.J. '51†



Msgr. John Torney '30†



Hank Woehling '55

OCTOBER 30, 2020 • 6 P.M. • PIER 60 AT CHelsea PIERS



1. James Panarella '89.
2. Todd Morgan '92 in Tanzania.
3. Brandon Tierney '91.
4. Jordan Castro '97 and his family.

James Panarella lives in suburban Philadelphia with his son and fiancée. He is an author whose first book, *The Roleplayers*, was published in the fall of 2019.

1990
Joseph Piccinotti is excited to share that his latest art collection was showcased in Chelsea at the Caelum Gallery, right next to the High Line. It was his second exhibition at the gallery.

1991
John Regan was recently appointed chief law enforcement officer at the New York City Department of Transportation.

Brandon Tierney is entering his eighth year as co-host of *Tiki and Tierney*, simulcast on 140 affiliates nationwide and daily on the CBS Sports Network. He is also part of the St. John's University basketball broadcast team, the host of the *Red Storm Report* on the MSG Network, and a panelist on *That Other Pregame Show* on the CBS Sports Network throughout football season. He branched out this past summer, hosting *Man Vs. Bear* on the Discovery Channel.

1992
Julian F. "Todd" Morgan moved to Seattle, Washington, where he works for Amazon.com as a senior manager on the risk and compliance team. He recently traveled to Tanzania and climbed and summited Mount Kilimanjaro. His next goal is to summit Mount Rainier in Washington State.

1993
Dr. Ian S. Maloney was named to the Literary Council of the Brooklyn Book Festival and invited to join the board of the Walt Whitman Initiative. He serves as professor of English at St. Francis College in Brooklyn Heights, where he directs the \$50,000 St. Francis College Literary Prize for mid-career fiction writers.

Dan Steffens and his nephew, **Pat Steffens '11**, both ran the New York City Marathon in November.

1994
Charles Stuart recently joined Emerald Hospitality Associates as regional director of operations. In this role, he leads and directs the operations across a region of 10-14 hotels, working with general managers and property teams to provide the best possible experience for guests and team members while trying to achieve revenue and profitability goals.

Andrew Garcia recently ran his first marathon.

1995
LTC Geoff Cole, USA and his wife left Korea in June 2019. They now reside in Arlington, Virginia, while he works in the Pentagon with other Xavier alumni.

1996
Christian Delgado-Scalercio and his wife, Nina, live in Harrison. They are excited to share that they will welcome their first child, a boy, this spring.

Marvin Thomas is now Xavier's Associate Director of Admissions. "I am charged with the awesome responsibility of convincing

prospective students and parents why Xavier is the best high school in New York," he writes.

1997
In August 2019, **Jordan Castro** was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the New York Police Department. He is now the Day Tour Platoon Commander at Harlem's 32nd Precinct and enjoying life as a father of two.

Keith Gallagher, Anthony Saporito, and Martin Tubridy all ran the New York Marathon in November.

John Shea, his wife Bridget, their son Jack, and their dog Maple are expecting another baby this spring. "We are so excited to grow our family," John writes.

1998
Chris Au, Michael Cobian, and Malek Hanna '99 were spotted together on the red carpet at the Golden Globes in January.



Malek Hanna '99, Michael Cobian '98, and Chris Au '98 at the Golden Globes.

Au works in finance, Cobian is a television writer and producer, and Hanna is an actor and executive producer of Reel Life Pictures.

Andrew Cruz ran the New York Marathon, his first, in November.

On August 1, **Joseph Minucci** retired after 21 years in the Marine Corps Reserves. He was recently transferred from California to the Naval Criminal Investigative Services (NCIS) Middle East Field Office in Bahrain, where he conducts human trafficking and general crime investigations.

Michael Simone was recently promoted to an Instructional and Curriculum Specialist at the New York City Department of Education.

1999
Last fall, **Vernon Balanza** ran the Wineglass Marathon and the New York Marathon within a month of each other. After his friends

XAVIER KNIGHT SHOP

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Save 25% off non-uniform items through July 31 with the code **SPRING2020**
campusstore.xavierhs.org



1. Vernon Balanza '99 after finishing the New York Marathon.

2. Msgr. Robert Ritchie and Loual Puliafito '00 after finishing the New York Marathon.

3. Michael Mallett '05 at the NYSE.

4. Zac Stackell '02 in Peru.

5. Kevin McCabe '03 and his parents in Ireland.

6. Fidel Santiago '04 after finishing the New York Marathon.



surprised him with a Popeye's chicken sandwich at Mile 24 of the New York Marathon, "I took it and carried it all the way to the finish line and savored my first bite once I got my medal. What a way to complete my eighth marathon!"

Justin Guiterman lives in Gainesville, Florida. In December 2019, he completed his executive MBA at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.

Terence Tubridy and **Matt Donohue** are gearing up for the much-anticipated opening of The Rockaway Hotel.

2000
Franco Paolino recently accepted the position of occupational health and safety specialist for the National Park Service at Ellis and Liberty Islands. This is his 17th year with the agency. Paolino also works part-time as an animal caretaker for the live animal collection at the Staten Island Children's Museums. An animal lover, he recently adopted a Louisiana Catahoula named Lulu from a shelter in Tennessee.

In November, **Loual Puliafito**, director of development at St. Patrick's Cathedral, joined St.

Patrick's rector, Msgr. Robert Ritchie, for his fourth marathon. They walked the 26.2 miles due to Msgr. Ritchie's two replaced knees but enjoyed the full marathon experience, including 20 weeks of preparation and the energy of the city's crowds.

Last summer, **Ernie Rosado** cycled from Colorado to New York to bring awareness to mental health issues, particularly among veterans. He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

2001
In January, FDNY paramedic **Michael Toomey** was featured in the *New York Daily News* after being promoted to lieutenant. His father, firefighter **Jack Toomey P'01†**, completed all the requirements needed to be promoted to lieutenant before he died of a heart attack fighting a Crown Heights fire in 1987. "I feel like I'm doing what he wanted to do," Toomey told the *Daily News*.

2002
"2019 was a fantastic year," **Ted Serro** reports. He got married in July and was inducted into the Franklin & Marshall Athletic Hall of Fame in October.



Zac Stackell is a licensed associate real estate broker with Douglas Elliman Real Estate. Earlier this year, he traveled to Peru and climbed Machu Picchu with his Xavier hat in tow. A portrait of St. Francis Xavier hung outside his hotel room. "He watches over us alumni!" Stackell writes.

Bryan Zabala started 2020 with a move to Baltimore and a new role—senior manager, derivatives middle office at T. Rowe Price.

2003
Kevin McCabe recently returned from Ireland, where he earned an MBA from Trinity College Dublin in November 2019.

2004
Robert Kurzatkowski founded Kurzatkowski Law Group, PC, a full-service real estate firm, in July 2017. The firm represents lenders, buyers, and sellers of real estate in New York.

Peter Puglisi was named financial controller of Alma Realty Corporation, a family-owned real estate company in Long Island City, in July 2019.



Fidel Santiago ran his first New York Marathon in November as part of the NYPD running team.

2005
Salim Lewis recently appeared in *Seattle Met Magazine*. He was featured kayaking across Lake Union from his home to his office.

Michael Mallett is celebrating five years working in sales at Medallia, a customer experience management company that went public on the New York Stock Exchange in July 2019.

At long last, **Chris Redden** received his Xavier diploma last fall. He works as a general contractor and carpenter, building houses from the ground up. His wife is a swim instructor with a degree in adaptive aquatics. Their 4-year-old twins, Hunter and Abigail, will start kindergarten later this year.

James Riso and his wife, Amanda, live in Brooklyn. He

leads analytics for Daily Harvest, a direct to consumer food brand, and Amanda is founder/CEO of The Call List, an interactive video platform.

2006
Leon Hampton passed the Ohio bar exam and is now a practicing business and acquisitions attorney at Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

2007
Seamus Campbell has been named chair of the Youth Committee of the Democratic National Committee's Disability Council.

CPT Michael R. Nilsen, USA is currently serving in Afghanistan as captain of the headquarters company for the 82nd Airborne, 3rd Brigade Combat Team. He deployed in June 2019 and works for the general and colonel in charge. He is scheduled to return to the States this spring. He and his wife, Christina, also expect a baby this spring.

William Slattery has been promoted to vice president, investor relations at Burns McClellan, a leading life sciences communications agency.

2008
Artem Derkach lives in Amsterdam, where he operates a hospitality business.

Santi Lara recently moved from Delaware to New Jersey to start a new job at Heraeus Inc., where he works as the indirect tax and trade compliance manager for the U.S.



region. He looks forward to coming to Xavier events more often.

2009
Nicholas Pope received a commission as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps at Quantico, Virginia, in November 2019. He will be engaged in further training for six months before receiving his assignment.

2010
Chris Corrado is entering his fifth year as a lead software engineer at Johnson & Johnson in Providence, Rhode Island.

2013
Kevin So recently appeared on Season 18 of the Food Network's *Worst Cooks in America*.

2014
Nic Inglesse recently played a supporting role in the feature film *After Class*. It stars Justin Long, Fran Drescher, Lynn Cohen, and Richard Schiff and premiered at the 2019 TriBeCa Film Festival. Inglesse was credited as one of the film's editors. He traveled to Los Angeles in December for Q&A screenings with the cast and director. The film is available now on demand and on Amazon Prime.

Michael Klusendorf is excited to be working as an assistant project manager in esports and gaming for ZeroCode, part of the OmnicomGroup, a leading global marketing and communications company located in downtown Manhattan.

Ryan Mullin graduated from Adelphi University in 2018 with

1. Nic Inglesse '14, right, with Justin Long and Fran Drescher in *After Class*.

2. Chris Redden '05, center, with his family and members of the Xavier faculty and administration.

3. Chris Corrado '10.

4. Michael Klusendorf '14.



1. Liam Coles '15 in the Nepalese Himalayas.

2. Jeremy Mesias '16 at the New York Marathon.

3. Jack Palillo '16 after finishing the New York Marathon.

4. Andrew Perez '16, foreground, at a meeting on Capitol Hill.

5. Michael Martell '15, right, at a bowling match.

6. Jonathan Chin '16, Justin Pastilha '16, and Giovanni Borrometi '16 in China.

7. Peter Thomann '16, left, and Mark O'Brien P'18 '23, right, with colleagues.

a bachelor's degree in exercise science and in 2019 with a master's degree in exercise physiology. He currently works as an assistant coach for the NCAA Division III swimming team at Franklin College in Franklin, Indiana.

2015

Anthony Chillo graduated from SUNY Cortland *summa cum laude* with a bachelor's degree in biology and a minor in chemistry. He spent two years researching JC polyomavirus, a virus that kills individuals suffering from immunodeficiency disease. He is working as an alumni fellow in the Xavier Advancement Office as he prepares for medical school.

Liam Coles graduated from the University of Chicago last spring. He has been working in India since October. "I traveled to the Nepalese Himalayas for Christmas and got a chance to rep Xavier at 4.8km," he writes.

Michael Martell recently came in second out of 175 bowlers at the Team USA Trials in Las Vegas, earning a spot on the 2020 national team. "This gives me the chance to travel to Kuwait towards the end of 2020 to represent the U.S. in the World Cup," he writes.

Matthew Rienzi is working toward an executive management MBA and playing his fifth year of baseball at St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn. "I am also planning my career as a professional athlete overseas with contract offers from Sweden and Germany," he reports.

2016

Giovanni Borrometi, Jonathan Chin, and Justin Pastilha traveled to China with fellow students from Loyola University Maryland in January.

Jeremy Mesias and **Jack Palillo** both finished the New York Marathon in November.

Last summer, **Andrew Perez** worked for the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Capitol Hill as a legislative intern under ranking member Sen. Bob Menendez (D-New Jersey).

Peter Thomann will graduate from Fordham University with a bachelor's degree in English this spring. Last year, he earned an internship at Compass, the real estate brokerage, as part of a team led by **Mark O'Brien P'18 '23**. Thomann learned about the role through the Xavier Internship Program. "One of the best parts of Xavier is the generous and supportive alumni across the country," he writes. "The Xavier Internship Program allows Sons of Xavier to take advantage of that network and explore possible professions. I am so thankful for the Xavier network as it has allowed me to engage a new industry and gain valuable employment experience."



2017

Ryan McGraw is a student at Fordham University. He qualified for the IC4A championship last spring in the long jump as part of the school's track and field team. He is also an intern at NBCUniversal, where he was asked to present final projects in front of the chief revenue officer, Xavier Hall of Famer **Frank Comerford '73**.

After finishing his internship with *Eyewitness News*, **Brandon Sapienza** started a new position as a college associate at Fox News working on *Tucker Carlson Tonight*.

2018

Devin On will intern with NBC Sports during this summer's Olympic Games.

Former Faculty

While at West Point for his 40th college reunion, former Senior Army Instructor **LTC Roy Campbell, USA (Ret.)**, caught up with **Justin DeoPaul '16, Andrew Rivera '16, Tom Knight '18, Brian Patterson '17, and Aidan Smith '19**.

Former Executive Vice President **Dan Dougherty**, now president of Cristo Rey New York High School, and his wife, Hee-Sun Hong, joined Dan's mother Mary for the first-ever Christmas Mass celebrated at her residence, Crane's Mill, in West Caldwell, New Jersey. The celebrant was **Msgr. John Philip O'Connor '53**, and in attendance were **Austin Fitzgerald '48 P'79 '80, his wife Carol Fitzgerald P'79 '80, Dan Dougherty, Betsey Langley P'70, and Mary Dougherty**.

Richard Saqui '68 reports that former faculty member **Fr. Christopher Whatley** has been Catholic chaplain to the Baltimore Ravens since 2008.

1. Brandon Sapienza '17 with Tucker Carlson.

2. Andrew Rivera '16, Aidan Smith '19, Justin DeoPaul '16, LTC Roy Campbell, USA (Ret.), Tom Knight '18, and Brian Patterson '17 at West Point.

3. Austin Fitzgerald '48 P'79 '80, Msgr. John Philip O'Connor '53, Carol Fitzgerald P'79 '80, Dan Dougherty, Betsey Langley P'70, and Mary Dougherty.

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1.



2.

President's Dinner New York Athletic Club • September 26, 2019



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.

1. Dympna Gallagher P'22 and Thomas Carolan P'22 with Damian Delfino '20. 2. Rudy Cecchi '69, Barbara Woods, and Ken Sidlowski '71 P'05. 3. Lidia and David Pastilha P'16 '18 and Jessica Gushée P'18 '20. 4. Jim Haybyrne '62 and Mark Mongelluzzo. 5. Nancy and Dr. Tom O'Brien '49. 6. Luca D'Ambrosio '20 and Casey Lee '20. 7. Four Xavier presidents—Jack Raslowsky P'16, Daniel Gatti, S.J. '59, Ken Bolter, S.J., and Jim Keenan, S.J.—with Board of Trustees chair Dan Denihan '65.



Things change over time.

But the heart and soul of Xavier endure.

Please consider leaving a legacy at Xavier.

Include Xavier in your will or trust, or designate Xavier as a beneficiary of an IRA or insurance policy. Your investment in Xavier students and faculty will pay dividends. Thanks to you, our 173-year history will endure for generations to come.

To become a member of the Larkin Legacy Society, please notify the Advancement Office that you have included Xavier in your estate plans. The society honors the legacy of John Larkin, S.J., who founded Xavier in 1847.

For more information, please visit Xavier's planned giving website, xavierlarkinsociety.org, or contact Director of Development **Mark Mongelluzzo** at 212-901-5151 or mongelluzzom@xavierhs.org.

The Larkin Legacy Society



J. Larkin S.J.



Sebastian Caleb Murillo



Greg Stelzer '11 and Shannon Donovan



Leslie Miller and Ted Serro '02

ENGAGEMENTS

Jeff Bloom '03 became engaged to Valentin Ferina on August 14, 2019.

WEDDINGS

Peter Blume '65 married Lara Filine on March 7, 2019. *The New York Times* featured their wedding in a story titled "Drawn Together By a Sense of Adventure." They split their time between the Upper West Side, Hunter, New York, and traveling.

MG Tony Cucolo, USA (Ret.) '75 married Evanthia Magni on May 24, 2019, in Austin, Texas.

Ted Serro '02 married Leslie Miller on July 6, 2019, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Phil MacDonald '03 married **Mollie Quinn**, Xavier's Director of College Guidance, on October 19, 2019, at the Pine Orchard Yacht and Country Club in Branford, Connecticut. Many Sons of Xavier counted among their guests.

Adam Rosello '03 married Katie Wintemberg on September 28, 2019.

James Riso '05 married Amanda Patterson on November 8 at St. Mary's Church in New Orleans in the presence of numerous alumni, including best man **Christopher Riso '05** and groomsman **Nicholas Siconolfi '05**.

Andrew Virga '05 married Rachel Chapnick on March 30, 2019 in Delray Beach, Florida.

Greg Stelzer '11 married Shannon Donovan on November 10, 2019. The wedding ceremony took place at the Fordham University Church in the Bronx, where they met during college.

BIRTHS

Bob Steeves '64 and his wife, Barbara, welcomed twin great-grandsons on July 6, 2019. Their granddaughter Amanda and her husband, CPT Justin DiCarlo, USA, are the parents of Owen and Zachary.

Conrad Tridente '66 welcomed his fourth grandchild, Arthur Easton Tridente, on June 25, 2019.

Bill Johnson '68 welcomed his grandson, Jake, in May 2018 and another grandson, Ronan, in April 2019.

Ray Martinez '69 and his wife, Lili, welcomed a new grandchild, Ophelia Jane Martinez Shearman, on June 20, 2019. Ophelia is the daughter of Ray's son, Daniel Martinez, and Daniel's wife, Dannial Shearman. "Ophelia's beauty and awareness are a testament to God's blessings," Martinez writes. "Lili and I are ecstatic."

Charles Clausing '71 welcomed his fourth grandchild, Adrielle Mary, on May 15, 2019. Adrielle joins Clausing's other grandchildren, Charles William IV, 18, Celeste Lynn, 10, and Michael Xavier, 2.

Michael Tartaglia '82 welcomed his third child, Kylee, in February 2019.

Vince Piazza '88 and his wife, Sabrina, welcomed their third son, Dante, in June 2019. Dante joins his brothers, Luca and Leo.

JP Stathis '96 and his wife, Courtney, welcomed a daughter, Marigrace Frances, on December 10, 2019. "Mom, Dad, and baby Marigrace are all doing great in Breezy Point," Stathis writes.

John P. Murillo '97 and his wife, Jillian, welcomed their second child, Sebastian Caleb, on July 9, 2019. "Sebastian is hoping to be part of the Class of 2038!" Murillo writes.

Patrick Forde '99 and his wife, Shannon Donohue, welcomed a son, Finn Patrick, on May 5, 2019.

Eric Gutierrez '02 and his wife, Karol, welcomed a son, Joaquín Federico, on April 1, 2018.

Robert Kurzatkowski '04 and his wife, Monika, welcomed their first child, Matthew, on August 5, 2019.

Peter Puglisi '04 and his wife, Lauren, welcomed their first child, Leonardo Joseph, on September 14, 2019.

Reid Sessa '06, his wife, Caitlin, and their 3-year-old son, William, welcomed Colin Francis in June 2019.

Angelo Mannino '07 and his wife, Melissa, recently celebrated the birth of their second child, Sienna Martha.



Sienna Martha Mannino



Marigrace Frances Stathis



Joaquín Federico Gutierrez



Jake and Bill Johnson '68



Ronan Johnson



Amanda Patterson and James Riso '05



Reid Sessa '06 and his family



Lara Filine and Peter Blume '65



(L-R) Stephen Winter '04, James Starace '02, Thomas Winter '01, Richard Palmer '04, Mollie Quinn, Phil MacDonald '03, Matthew Kennelly '03, Thomas O'Reilly '00, and John Whelan '08.



MG Tony Cucolo, USA (Ret.) '75 and Evanthia Magni



Owen and Zachary Steeves

In Memoriam

Alumni

Frank Hammond '42, 5/10/18
Anthony Monaco '43, 11/18/19
Aloysius Tattam '44 P'72 '76, father of Kevin Tattam '72 and Timothy Tattam '76, 7/17/19
Myles Gilsean '45, 6/8/19
Vincent Grey '45, 3/10/19
George Purcell '46, 4/20/17
Peter Maloney, Esq. '47, 7/11/19
Dr. Cedric J. Priebe, Jr. '47, 1/19/19
Laurence Reilly '47, 9/12/19
Nicholas J. Unger '48, 12/22/19
Gerald T. Culkin '49, 11/10/19
Francis Carnella '51, 7/19
Rufus Duff '51, 12/8/19
William G. McMurrer '51, 8/19/18
William Shannon '51, 12/19/18
William Smith '51, 10/6/19
William J. Walsh '51, 8/16

Bernard Carr '52, 10/30/19
James Steinway '54, 9/27/18
John Coughlin, Jr. '55, 12/7/19
Joseph M. Robinson '55, 11/18/19
John Feeney, Esq. '56, 7/9/19
David B. Hill '56, brother of Harry G. Hill, Jr. '50†, 9/12/19
Dr. Joseph Boccia '57, 10/1/18
Philip A. Limpert, Jr., Esq. '57, 5/19
James Looram '57, 1/4/20
Paul Williamson '57, 8/12/19
John Muccia '58, 10/3/19
Dr. Albert G. Senger, Jr. '58, 12/15/19
James Hasselmann '62, brother of Harry Hasselmann, Jr. '62 and son of Harry Hasselmann '31 P'59 '62†, 1/20/20
Francis "Mike" O'Meara '62, 12/26/19
Richard Pollio '62, 9/28/19
Fred Stolfi '68, 11/30/19
Rodney Thomas '70, 4/21/19
Michael Clarke '75, uncle of Zane Massey '96 P'22 and great-uncle of Zane Massey II '22, 1/10/20
Arthur C. Mritallo '76, 7/21/19
Robert Hennessy '83, 11/22/19
Michael Egan '85, 7/2/19
James Bradley '15, 10/30/19

Parents

Dolores McGrath P'65, mother of T. Gregory McGrath '65, 10/23/19
John Toolan P'72, father of LtGen John A. Toolan, USMC (Ret.) '72 and grandfather of Daniel Gearity '03, Keith Gearity '05, and John Gearity '10, 9/23/19
Cynthia Caulfield P'73, mother of Bruce Caulfield '73, 7/17/19
Dorothy Lapsley P'73, mother of John Lapsley '73, 6/19/19
Henry Malon P'73 '85, father of Paul Malon '73 P'13 and Matt Malon '85 and grandfather of Ryan Malon '13, 12/15/20
Ann Billings Duffy P'74, mother of Bill Billings '74, 2/24/19
Robert Haney P'74, father of Robert Haney, Jr. '74, 1/6/20
William Branagan P'76 '79, father of John Branagan '76 and Mark Branagan '79, 7/31/15
John Prenderville P'77, father of John Prenderville '77, 10/26/19
Liliane Antaki P'78 '80 '87, mother of Elie Antaki '78, Patrick Antaki '80, and Alan Antaki '87, 9/19/19
Ernest Molinari P'80 '83, father of Ernest Molinari '80 and Vincent Molinari '83, 1/1/20
Rosemary Coster P'83, mother of James Coster, Esq. '83, 6/26/19
Mary Nolan P'83, mother of Richard T. Nolan, Jr. '83, 1/13/20
Gabriel Cusanelli P'84, father of Pasquale Cusanelli '84, 9/25/19

James Creighton P'87 '88 '90 '96, father of James Creighton '87, Daniel Creighton '88, Francis Creighton '90, and John Creighton '96, 12/18/19
Francis Brown P'90, father of Matthew Brown '90, 9/6/19
Pasquale Degliuomini P'91 '96, father of Joseph Degliuomini '91 and Patrick Degliuomini '96, 12/1/19
Angela DeVita P'93, mother of Michael DeVita '93 and Xavier receptionist from 1989-2015, 8/25/19
Deborah Massey P'96, mother of Zane Massey '96 P'22 and grandmother of Zane Massey II '22, 1/1/20
Robert G. Robertson P'99 '03, father of Luke Robertson '99 and Mark Robertson '03, 7/21/19
Eleanor Mulé P'04, mother of Michael Mulé '04, 11/28/19
Vincent DiLorenzo P'05, father of Nicholas DiLorenzo '05, 11/28/19
Catherine Gilmartin P'11, mother of Patrick Gilmartin '11, 8/25/19
Victoria Papeo P'16, mother of Joe Papeo '16, 1/23/20
Joseph Caramanico P'19, father of Marco Caramanico '19, 9/29/19
Robert Schmitt P'21, father of Matthew Schmitt '21, 1/21/20
Dr. Gus Monioudis P'23, father of Nicholas Monioudis '23, 8/30/19

Spouses

Roberta Dudley Arvani, wife of Chris Arvani '55, 12/24/19
Patricia O'Brien, wife of John O'Brien '60, 9/26/19

Children

Charles Pierce-Butt, son of Charles Butt '82, 10/11/19

Faculty & Family

Henry Bradley, 10/8/16
Josephine D'Alessandro, mother of Xavier receptionist Carmela Barbieri P'10, mother-in-law of Michael Barbieri '80 P'10, and grandmother of Peter Barbieri '10, 9/16/19
Donald Dougherty, father of former Xavier Executive Vice President Dan Dougherty, 9/11/19
Tony Taurisano, Flik's Director of Dining Services at Xavier, 12/26/19



The Preferences: A Student's Perspective

Xavier Magazine asked Timothy McGarry '20, editor-in-chief of *The Review*, for his take on the Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus.



Here, we are introduced to the world before being launched into it. We are shown what we can become, and given a wealth of resources to help realize this. We are presented with people who believe in our future, and who urge us to believe in it, too.

At Xavier, however, we aren't just provided with the resources we need and asked to participate in the making of our future. Rather, we are given a framework with which to view our lives. Xavier has more than a casual connection to Jesuit life. Members of the Society live in the school, teach us classes, and guide us through services. Spiritual exercises and discernment are both core means of showing the way to God, another Universal Apostolic Preference. The principle maintains that discovering Jesus Christ necessarily involves discovering ourselves. Xavier recognizes this and offers students an abundance of opportunities for reflection and spiritual growth, which lead to discernment. Those that are mandatory, including Career Day, Mass, prayer services, and guided meditation in religion classes, do not require an intense commitment, yet are invaluable in enabling us to get in touch with our deeper selves.

Although the four Universal Apostolic Preferences were crafted by the Jesuits for everyone to follow, they seem especially well-suited to inculcate into the lives of the young.

On March 11, 2019, during Career Day, *Today in New York* anchor **Michael Gargiulo '77** spoke at Xavier about his work. As the event's keynote speaker, he delivered a 15-minute speech with the goal of inspiring students to realize the significance of their futures and, more importantly, affect a sense of gratitude for Xavier and for the unique way the school prepares them for life. Through tears he recounted his time at Xavier, where he forged friendships he holds dear to this day.

The Universal Apostolic Preference of journeying with youth demonstrated that day is present and palpable throughout Xavier.

Building on this, Xavier offers a number of school retreats, during which the understandings gained in the classroom and church are explored and made more meaningful, such as Kairos for the junior class or Montserrat for the sophomore class. During these breaks from school routine, we are able to consider our lives from a spiritual perspective, something so vital yet nearly impossible absent such a pause in ordinary life.

The call to care for our common home and walk with the excluded are instilled in us jointly at Xavier, most notably through the amazing CFX trips offered throughout our four years here. These optional residential service experiences offer students the opportunity to help marginalized communities in need of

renewed resources. Participating in programs such as that run by Appalachia Habitat for Humanity in Tennessee or the Romero Center in Camden, New Jersey, students help underserved portions of the population and work towards rebuilding the communities in which they live. Juniors can opt to go further afield and offer aid and fellowship to communities in Mexico and Ecuador. The bonds formed between students and the communities they serve, as well as between the students themselves, foster an understanding that resources are finite and underscores the fellowship shared by all.

Further evidence of Xavier's commitment to walking with the excluded are the service projects required of all students. One of the school's parting gifts to seniors is 72 hours' leave from school to volunteer at an agency during the second half of the school year. Through our service, we become one with the people we serve. This is what we are taught within Xavier's walls and I understand this to be true through my volunteering at Cassidy's Place, a preschool for toddlers living in poverty, with medical disabilities, without homes, or without parents.

The first thing I noticed working at this daycare is how important volunteer work is. Although all I am doing is spending time with children, those teaching and caring for them thank me profusely. This tells me how rare service is today, which is the reason I am grateful for Xavier's commitment to inculcating it in our lives early on. Volunteering has become an intrinsic aspect of my identity. I derive an immense satisfaction from being useful for such a purposeful institution as Cassidy's Place.

At Xavier, we are afforded opportunities to carry out more than passing acts of compassion; an ongoing, consistent presence and effort leads to meaningful connections throughout our lives.

1955

From the Archives

Since Xavier's founding, retreats have deepened the faith of her Sons—and they've allowed for a bit of teenage fun, too. **Bob Sisto '56†** took this photo of **Gerald Knoepfel, S.J.†** as he joked with students on the way to their senior retreat at the Gonzaga Retreat Center in Monroe, New York.



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