

THE GRAPEVINE

The Newsletter for Friends and Alumni of Prince of Peace Catholic School, Prince of Peace College Preparatory, Mater Dei High School, St. Mary's High School, Mt. St. Clare Academy, and Our Lady of Angels Academy



Welcome!

Prince of Peace Catholic School is pleased to present this publication of *The Grapevine*.

This semiannual newsletter is sent to alumni and friends of Catholic education to update them on events happening at their school.

If you are a parent receiving this newsletter for a child who has moved, please pass along his or her address. This information can be mailed to the school or emailed to nate.vanderbleek@prince.pvt.k12.ia.us

We'd also love to hear your updates so we can publish them in our next issue!

Prince of Peace Welcomes Director of Advancement

Upon the retirement of Karen Witt (SMHS '76), longtime Development



Director, Prince of Peace Catholic School had big shoes to fill. The Clinton Catholic School

community is very thankful to Karen for over a decade of service to her alma mater and the Prince of Peace Catholic School Foundation.

Prince of Peace Catholic School alumnus Nate Vander Bleek (POPCS '14) has been chosen to take over. The position, renamed to the Director of Advancement, focuses on alumni relations and fundraising for both the school and the Foundation.

Vander Bleek is the son of Bart and Maureen (Frett, SMHS '79) Vander Bleek. Nate attended Prince of Peace from preschool through his senior year. After high school, Vander Bleek attended and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, majoring in Integrated Marketing. During college he also worked for the University of Wisconsin-Platteville Alumni Foundation.

"I am very happy to get back to where I started," Vander Bleek says. "There's something very poetic about going full circle in life. I have always loved my alma mater and am very eager to help in a more hands-on way."

During high school, Vander Bleek participated in drama, speech, quiz bowl, band, chorus, student council, and National Honor Society. He is also an Eagle Scout.

"There is no doubt in my mind that my education at Prince of Peace prepared me for college and beyond," Vander Bleek says. "Both inside and outside of the classroom, I found that I was more ready for that transition than most of my peers."

Vander Bleek says that he attributes much of his success to his high school teachers. Mrs. Kathy Andrews and Mr. Matt Hovey were especially impactful. "They pushed me to truly own the things that I am passionate about and use that motivation to propel myself toward my goals."

Outside of his role as Director of Advancement, Vander Bleek also serves as the Prince of Peace Quiz Bowl coach, speech coach, and as the public address announcer at varsity basketball

Blount Marks Third Straight Appearance at XC State

Prince of Peace junior Marcus Blount is getting very comfortable in Fort Dodge. Blount punched his ticket to the State Cross Country competition for the third consecutive year.



Blount finished twenty-eighth in the field with a time of 17:31.20.

Blount told the Clinton Herald, "I think I'm kind of behind where I wanted

to be this year. I'll just have to try to work harder next year to get my times lower. That's one thing that motivates me but also going out four times in a row would be awesome as well."

Blount, who is the son of Nathan (MDHS '93) & Lisa Blount, is looking forward to his senior season, especially after a year with a full team. The Irish had a complete boys' cross country team for the first time in Blount's

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Alumnus Leads Red Ravens to National Title

Jay Herkelman (MDHS '81), is a Clinton Catholic School Alum, NJCAA Hall of Famer, and the winningest men's basketball coach in NJCAA Region 6 history. But this year he added one more mark to his résumé: national champion.

Since 1995, Herkelman has been the men's head basketball coach at Coffeyville Community College in Coffeyville, Kansas. On April 24, 2021, his Red Ravens defeated Crowley County Community College to become NJCAA National Champions. The Red Ravens were ranked in the top ten for the entire season and finished with a record of 27-3.

Coach Herkelman now has a record of 661-188 in his coaching career, and he was inducted into the *Herkelman, continued on p. 5*



Peace Catholic School to continue offering quality education for the children of our Parish and community. Please support the Prince of Peace School Foundation through a bequest and/or other planned giving vehicle. For information, please contact Nate Vander Bleek, Director of Advancement, at 563-242-1663.

Foundation Board Members

Ricci Aquilani -President

Sue (Bertrand, SMHS '69) Bergman-Vice President

Sharon (Trine, SMHS '60) Alm - Secretary

Jacque Rutledge - Treasurer

Cyndi Winter

Joel Kaczinski

Tom Streveler

Andrew Bradley (ex-officio)

Nate Vander Bleek (POPCS '14) (ex-officio)

Irish Athletes Honored at CHAPY Awards

Three Irish athletes were winners at the Clinton Herald Athletic Performers of the Year (CHAPY) Awards. The awards began in the 2019-2020 school year and are intended to recognize the area's best athletes. Additionally six other students and one coach were also honored as finalists.

The winners from Prince of Peace Catholic School are:

Anabel Blount (POPCS '21), Volleyball Offensive Player of the Year

Marcus Blount (Junior), Boys Soccer Player of the Year

Eric Berry (Sophomore), Boys Goalkeeper of the Year

Those honored as finalists are:

Madison Anglese (POPCS '21), Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year Finalist

Isabel Hansen (POPCS '21), Volleyball Offensive Player of the Year Finalist

Dasean Mingo (POPCS '21), Boys Basketball Defensive Player of the Year Finalist, Boys Soccer Player of the Year Finalist

Kaelyn Goodsmann (Senior), Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year Finalist

Lilly Isenhour (Senior), Girls Basketball Defensive Player of the Year Finalist

Jeremiah Wauford (Senior), Boys Soccer Player of the Year Finalist

Anabel Blount (POPCS '21), Female Athlete of the Year Finalist, Girls Basketball Offensive Player of the Year Finalist, Girls Basketball Defensive Player of the Year Finalist

Marcus Blount (Junior), Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year Finalist

Dave Nelson, Coach of the Year Finalist (girls' basketball) 🍀



Prince of Peace School Foundation

The Prince of Peace School Foundation exists to provide resources for stability and security now and in the future. The Foundation provides an excellent means by which those who believe in Catholic education for our children can dedicate, forever, a portion of their personal assets for the good of our school. Your planned gift today enables Prince of

Revenue & Expenses

Year Ended June 30, 2021

Beginning Balance - July 1, 2020

Money Market	\$ 15,595.26
Investments	\$ 905,100.98
Total	<u>\$920,696.24</u>

Additions

Interest/Dividends	\$ 19,008.70
STCG/LTCG/Net gain	\$ 41,925.42
Donations/Mem/Bequests	\$ 31,161.86
Grants	\$ 13,499.50
Total Additions	<u>\$105,595.48</u>

Disbursements

Prince of Peace School	\$ 53,039.41
Grants	\$ 13,499.50
Invoices	\$ 7,216.66
Other	\$ 164.80
Total Disbursements	<u>(\$73,920.37)</u>

Ending Balance - June 30, 2021

Money Market	\$ 15,592.11
Investments	\$ 936,779.24
Total	<u>\$952,371.35</u>

Foundation Fair Market Value

Money Market	\$ 15,592.11
Investments	\$1,233,902.02
Total	<u>\$1,249,494.13</u>

Our Newest Alumni: Class of 2021

Prince of Peace Catholic School graduated sixteen seniors on May 23rd, 2021 at Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Church.

The Class of 2021 valedictorian is Anabel Blount and the salutatorian is Isabel Hansen. Ms. Jennifer Hansen served as their class sponsor and Mrs. Kathy Andrews delivered the commencement address.

Front row (left to right):

Madeline Adams, daughter of Steven & Erin Adams. She plans to attend Clinton Community College and major in graphic design.

Kaitlynn Boettcher, daughter of Michael Boettcher. She plans to attend Capri College and major in cosmetology.

Grace Dehner, daughter of Josh (MDHS '94) & Maggie Dehner. She plans to attend Kirkwood Community College and major in dental hygiene.

Mary Schnier, daughter of David (SMHS '79) & Laura Schnier. She plans to attend Kirkwood Community College and major in psychology.



Ava Ruden, daughter of Rodney & Thea Ruden. She plans to attend the University of Northern Iowa and major in elementary education.

Middle row (left to right):

Isabel Hansen, daughter of Jennifer Hansen. She plans to attend the University of Iowa and major in business.

Sophie Griffin, daughter of John Griffin (MDHS '82) & Michelle Snyder. She plans to attend Iowa State University and major in business management administration.

Paige Kuehl, daughter of Bob Kuehl & Patti West (MDHS '88). She plans to attend the University of Iowa and major in psychology.

Madison Anglese, daughter of Eric & Crystal Mallicoat. She plans to attend Iowa State University and major in engineering.

Anabel Blount, daughter of Nathan (MDHS '93) & Lisa Blount. She plans to attend the University of Iowa.

Back row (left to right):

Dasean Mingo, international student from Aruba. He is the host son of Sean & Tiffany Hellweg. His future plans are undecided.

Kyle Sager, son of Patrick (MDHS '97) & Kate (Peart, MDHS '95) Sager. He plans to attend Mount Mercy University and major in Sports Management.

Brandon Raab, son of Rod & Lauri (Kandybowicz, SMHS '79) Till. He plans on pursuing an apprenticeship.

Kyler Wallace, son of David & Angela Wallace. He plans to attend Eastern Iowa Community College.

CamRon Williams, son of Kimilah Williams. He plans to attend Kirkwood Community College and major in construction management.

Not pictured:

Kylee Baldwin, daughter of Latravius Fenn & Kimberly Baldwin. She plans to attend the University of Georgia.

The Clinton Catholic School Alumni Association congratulates you and welcomes you to the alumni family! 🍀

Fifty Years Ago... Irish Blast Indians For Title, 40-0

First Unbeaten Season In St. Mary's History



On Friday, November 5, 1971, the St. Mary's Irish defeated the Savanna Indians to capture the Hilltoppers' first and only undefeated football season.

Under the leadership of head coach Bob Josten (SMHS '66), the Irish rolled a 6-0-1 record in the Illowa Conference, snapping a six year streak of Illowa titles by the Comets of Sterling Newman. The Irish

were led by several seniors, including quarterback Randy Trine's seven passing touchdowns, Gary Jungen's ten rushing touchdowns, and Jim Peart's eight rushing touchdowns. The '71 Irish football team will be remembered for their dominant play, beating their opponents by an average of over 17 points per game.

Go Irish! 🍀

In Memoriam

1940s

Mary (Nelson) Emrick, 97, of Iowa City (SMHS '41) 1/21/2021

Donald Manning, 95, of Camanche (SMHS '43) 8/28/2020

Virginia "Jeanne" (Ricker) Mumm, 95, of Clinton (SMHS '43) 8/28/2020

Clayton Sherwood, 93, of Fulton, IL (SMHS '44) 8/9/2020

Therese (McDevitt) Donahue, 94, of Davenport (SMHS '44) 7/18/21

Betty (Anthony) Vogel, 94, of Urbana, IL (SMHS '45) 10/24/2021

Jim Timmer, 93, of Clinton (SMHS '46) 9/5/2021

Gerald Jost, 92, of Bryant (SMHS '47) 9/23/2021

Florence (Vance) Kelly, 91, of Davenport (SMHS '47) 6/6/2020

Mary "Cookie" (McClimon) Hansen, 91, of Clinton (SMHS '47) 6/12/2021

Raymond Kraciun, 94, of Clinton (SMHS '47) 6/23/2021

Louise (Ehrhart) Walters, 89, of Palatine, IL (SMHS '48) 5/15/2021

1950s

Betty (Kelly) Samuelson, 89, of Clinton (SMHS '50) 12/10/2020

John "Jack" Blossfeld, Sr., of Green Valley, AZ (SMHS '53) 7/27/2021

Charles Klinkner, 84, of Clinton (SMHS '53) 11/11/2020

Jon Bristol, 83, of Foxboro, WI (SMHS 1956) 9/3/2021

Mary Ann (Evans) Walsh, 82, of Ocean Pines, MD (SMHS '56) 9/2/2020

Sr. Kathleen Cleary, 80, of Clinton (MSCA '58) 4/24/21

Geraldine (Pestka) Dixon, 81, of Clinton (MSCA '58) 7/11/21

1960s

Frances (Sullivan) Norman, 77, of Morrison, IL (MSCA '61) 11/1/2019

Jean (Kaffenberger) Griffin, 77, of Marshalltown (SMHS 1961) 7/5/2020

Gary LaCourse, 78, of DePere, WI (SMHS '61) 6/19/2021

John Kaffenberger, 69, of Chesapeake, VA (SMHS '62) 7/15/2020

William Wisor, 78, of Clinton (SMHS '62) 7/5/2021

Tom Rastrelli, 73, of Stevenson, WA (SMHS '65) 2/12/2021

Greg Nitschke, 74, of Lee's Summit, MO (SMHS '65) 7/31/2021

1970s

Paul VanNieuwenhuyse, 68, of Keokuk (SMHS '71) 10/23/2021

Gregory Waddell, 62, of Clinton (SMHS '76) 6/8/2020

1980s

Sharon (McDonnell) Thomas, 58, of Charlotte (MSCA '80) 11/21/2020

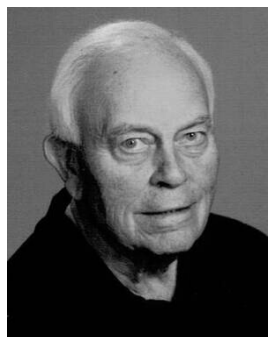
Colleen (Tobin) Humphrey, 58, of Williamsburg (MDHS '81) 11/15/2021

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.



Jack Merdian

1935-2021

Jack L. Merdian passed away at age 86 on September 9, 2021. He taught history and coached basketball at St. Mary's High School from 1959 to 1971. While at St. Mary's, he coached many great student-athletes including the 1965 boys' basketball team, which finished as Iowa State Runner-Up. At the time, there was only one class tournament for

boys' basketball.

"Coach was a kind but tough coach," says Gary Harstick (SMHS '65). "He helped us believe that we could play tough and win no matter the opponent. We gave our all for him and for St Mary's High School. My senior year, 1965, was a magical year, along with senior teammates Terry Gertson, Jim "Vinnie" Dalton, Dave Hilgendorf, and our now departed teammates Larry Brennan, Larry McMahon and Tom Quinn."

Coach Merdian will forever be remembered by the Clinton Catholic School Community as a valuable member of the school family and we thank him for his contributions to its students. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen. ♣



St. Mary's Class of 1955 Celebrates Reunion



The St. Mary's Class of 1955 observed their 65th class reunion one year late because of the ongoing pandemic. Dinner and a program were held at Rastrelli's in Clinton on September 11, 2021. Alumni present include: **Front row:** Steve Doyle, Jovita Tieso, Bill Clark, Jean (Klinkner) Waterman. **Middle row:** Mercedes (Hlubek) Murphy, Mary (Hayes) Morris, Donna (Trine) Herkelman, Rose (Darsidan) Ward, Lorna (Schultz) Deering, Joe Nelson. **Back row:** Rich Clary, John Lemke, Ed Bebensee, Ken Springer, Don Dodd, Tom Buckman, Jerry Schumacher, Allan Poole.

St. Mary's Class of 1961 Marks Sixty Years



Members of the St. Mary's Class of 1961 recently celebrated their sixtieth class reunion.

Front row: Pat (Eads) Sack, Margaret (Richerl) Holle, Gretchen (Hlubek) Finkle, Donna (Kabler) Gard, Louise (Welsh) Pethis, Connie (Hendrick) Waltrip, Mary (Richter) Clegg. **Back row:** Jim Winkel, Dave Brown, Michael Rupp, Michael Clemence, Fran Edens, Jack Eads.



Herkelman, continued from p. 2

NJCAA Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2018. Jay lives in Coffeyville, Kansas with his wife, Leslie, and their three daughters.

The Irish family extend their congratulations to Coach Herkelman and his Red Ravens for this great accomplishment! 🍀



Left: Herkelman goes up for a shot during the 1980-1981 Mater Dei basketball season.



Officer Audrey Griffin (POPCP '12) and Officer Alex Dodd from the Clinton Police Department stopped by the school to conduct a routine security inspection. Officer Griffin is a graduate of Clinton Catholic Schools and Officer Dodd attended Clinton Catholic Schools for ten years and is the son of Margaret Kuhl (MDHS '81).

Vander Bleek, continued from p. 1

and volleyball games.

"Growing up, my folks were always super involved in our school. There was no negotiation; it was just something that they did without hesitation. They instilled those values in me and I'm more than happy to be involved to this day."

Looking ahead, Vander Bleek hopes that he will continue to advance the mission of the school and ensure that it is here for generations to come.

"Catholic schools have been a part of the Clinton community for 169 years. We, as an alumni family and as friends of Catholic education, need to take it upon ourselves to continue the same mission that was set in 1852: to form young minds while also nurturing the spirit and promoting Gospel values in everyday life. I am very thankful for the opportunity to lead this family on our pursuit of a bright tomorrow." 🍀



Blount, continued from p. 1

career.

Coach Owen Howard (POPCP '04) will look to Blount to provide senior leadership next year.

"You can never be too disappointed when you end your season at a state meet like that," Howard told the Clinton Herald. "It wasn't exactly what we wanted

but it is what it is - you finished on the biggest stage that there is."

The Prince of Peace Irish family is very proud of Marcus and all of his work this season. Our entire community is pulling for Marcus and the cross country team to become even better next season. Go Irish! ♣



Marcus Blount (center), poses with head coach Owen Howard (left, POPCP '04), and assistant coach Mike Davis (right) ahead of the State Cross Country competition in Fort Dodge.

Foundation Seeks Contributions for Peart Scholarship

The Prince of Peace School Foundation is still seeking donations toward the Nancy Peart Scholarship Fund. The scholarship, which commends

Mrs. Nancy (McDonnell, SMHS '69) Peart for her twenty-one years of service to Clinton Catholic Schools as both a teacher and administrator, helps offset tuition for a high school student attending Prince of Peace Catholic School.

In order for the scholarship to be awarded to a student in Fall 2022, additional funds are needed to establish the endowment.

Contributions to the Prince of Peace School Foundation can be made by contacting Nate Vander Bleek, Director of Advancement, at 563-242-1663. ♣



Irish Basketball Home Games Now Streaming



Prince of Peace Irish Varsity basketball home games will be streaming via the NFHS Network. Your subscription gains you access to a virtual seat at the Joe O'Donnell Sports Center, no matter where you are in the world!

Subscribe today at <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/>

Irish E-Sports Team to Begin Play

A different kind of opportunity is now available for Prince of Peace high school students. For the first time, Prince of Peace Catholic School will field a competitive eSports team.

eSports, which is a competition that uses video games, is one of the newest extracurricular activities in Iowa high schools. Professional

eSports is a \$1 billion industry and Prince of Peace hopes to expose and engage students in this new activity.



Under the direction of Coach Jack Adolphson, the Irish will compete in Smash Brothers: Ultimate, Overwatch, Rocket League, SMITE, and Mario Kart.

The Iowa High School Esports Association is currently in its third season. Prince of Peace will join forty other Iowa high schools in competition. Other area schools, including Davenport Central High School, Mount Vernon High School, and Iowa City West High School also have competitive eSports teams. ♣

Fifth Grade Celebrates All Saints' Day

The fifth grade class at Prince of Peace celebrated the feast of All Saints on November 1st.

Mrs. Allison (Schuetzle, POPCP '03) Schultz led her class in presentations about various Saints, beginning with celebration at Mass. Among

the Saints represented were St. Anthony, St. Casimir, St. Clare of Assisi, St. Gabriel The Archangel, St. Gianna Beretta Molla, St. Hubert, St. Joseph, St. Lucy, the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and St. Sebastian.

Great job, fifth grade! ♣



Prince of Peace Welcomes New Faculty and Staff



Ten new faculty and staff members started at Prince of Peace this fall. From left to right: Mr. Fortino Garcia (MS/HS Library), Ms. Nivia Thomas (K-8 Spanish), Ms. Joann Winkler (6-7 & HS Art), Ms. Stephanie Cossman (Elementary Para), Mr. Jack Adolphson (Athletic Director), Ms. Brenda Jacobs (Elementary Library), Mr. Andrew Bradley (Principal), Mrs. Crystal Mallicoat (Elementary & 8th Grade Art), Mr. Nate Vander Bleek (POPCS '14, Director of Advancement), and Mr. Sam McEleney (Physical Education).



Alumnus Nathan Moeller (POPCS '20) recently returned to say hello to some little buddies at Prince of Peace. Nathan is currently a sophomore at St. Ambrose University.

Many and One

THE FUND FOR
PRINCE OF PEACE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Many and One:
The Fund for Prince of Peace Catholic School, has raised nearly \$24,000. Thank you very much to all who have contributed so far!

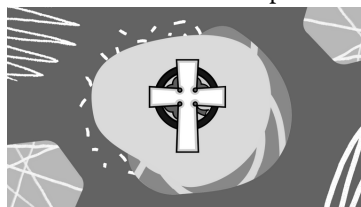
We still have quite a distance to cover before we meet our goal, so if you have not yet returned your pledge card, we ask that you please do so! If you need another card, please contact the school at 563-242-1663. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Extra Credit: Prince of Peace Teachers Star in Interview Series

Principal Andrew Bradley has begun a project highlighting the awesome faculty and staff at Prince of Peace. Each week, Principal Bradley sits down with a teacher at our school to get a better understanding of what motivates them to teach, what keeps them at our Catholic school, and what interests them in their personal

lives.

A new episode is set to release each week, and it is never too late to get caught up! The episodes can be viewed on the Prince of Peace Catholic School Facebook page, as well on our YouTube channel at www.bit.ly/youtubepriinceofpeace or by scanning the QR code below. 🍀



Fifty Years for SMHS Class of 1971



The St. Mary's Class of 1971 recently celebrated their fiftieth year. Alumni present include: **Front row:** Pam (Peart) Hamilton, Molly (Oveson) Manemann, Sally (Freudenberg) Weis, Chris (Musch) Clark. **Second row:** Pat DeMong, Tom Mallary, Terese (Smith) Schumacher, Deb Montgomery, Dennis Jost. **Third row:** Barb Krebs, Dave Parker, Ray Hughes, Jan (Hoffman) Neisslie, Dan Waters, John Raab, Paul Giunta, Gerry Weis. **Back row:** Jim Manion, Brian Brown, Kathleen (Frett) Cotton, Tom Griffin. **Wall Mount:** Joe Manemann.



Save The Date!

Irish Dinner Auction

The Irish Dinner Auction will be a hybrid event, with an in person event held Saturday, March 12, 2022 along with virtual and mobile bidding. You can participate in the Auction no matter where you are! More details to come!

ALUMNI TICKET

PLUS ALUMNI SPOUSE

Joe O'Donnell Sports Center
525 8th Ave S, Clinton, Iowa

Friday, February 4th, 2022
5:30pm



@



HOMECOMING 2022



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022

Calling all alumni! You are invited to attend the Prince of Peace Catholic School Homecoming Game on Friday, February 4th, 2022. The Prince of Peace Irish will welcome the Eagles of Midland High School at the Joe O'Donnell Sports Center (formerly Central Catholic Auditorium), 525 8th Ave S in Clinton. The Homecoming Game consists of junior varsity boys' games beginning at 4pm and the varsity girls' and boys' games beginning at 5:30pm. **Admission to the Homecoming Game is free to all alumni and their spouses.** Come cheer on the Irish to victory!



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 2022

The following evening, on Saturday, February 5th from 6pm-9pm, join us for an (early) Mardi Gras celebration at the Eagle Point Lodge! In cooperation with the Clinton Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Prince of Peace Booster Club is sponsoring the event complete with music, food, drinks, and friends! The cost is \$20 per person and includes one food or drink sample from each participating vendor at the event. Beer and wine will also be available for purchase. We hope to see you there!

The Grapevine is a publication of the Clinton Catholic School Alumni Association
Website: www.prince.pvt.k12.ia.us Phone: 563-242-1663
Nate Vander Bleek, Director of Advancement Email: nate.vanderbleek@prince.pvt.k12.ia.us
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