INTEGRATING FAITH INTO ALL WE DO



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Fall 2024







DEMY OF OUR LADY

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Advancing Our Mission: Strategic Plan Update from the PND Consultative Board







- Summary of continuing commitments for living our mission
- Focus on eight domains: Catholic identity, academics, student life, advancement, enrollment, facilities, finance, & governance

Community | Catholic Faith | Knowledge | Service

A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In his book "Educating for Eternity: A Teacher's Companion for Making Every Class Catholic," Brett Salkeld writes, "If Catholicism doesn't shape the way we teach every subject, something else will." I'll extend his statement to assert that if Catholicism doesn't shape everything we do at PND—every decision we make, every class we teach, every event we host, every athletic contest we play—something else (and something far less meaningful) will. Our mission statement to form disciples of Jesus Christ helps ensure our decisions and actions prepare our students, faculty, staff, and community for heaven while using their gifts and talents to do God's will on earth.

This school year, in line with our mission statement, we increased the number of faculty/staff faith formations and are focusing on hospitality and discipleship. We value community and invitation to the faith, so our Phone Free Flex Fridays include Bible studies, OCIA meetings, and small group discussions. We added a daily Mass so that Mass is said Monday through Friday in our chapel. Our upcoming winterim offerings include classes on angels and demons, Ignatian spiritual exercises, behind the scenes of the Mass, and a study on the TV series The Chosen. Our all-day adoration on Wednesdays and Thursdays is open to all classes every period of the day.

One incredible blessing that helps our students, faculty, and staff align decisions and actions with our mission statement is prayer before meetings, conversations, and events, whether large whole-school events or small one-on-one meetings. Giving thanks to God for His blessings, asking for His guidance and

wisdom, and seeking His will for our lives doesn't necessarily mean that meetings are always easy or that events always go smoothly, but it does ensure that God and His will for PND are at the center of our thoughts, discussions, and decisions.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Kelley



A LETTER FROM THE COO

Our legacy has been sustained by the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our students, and the support of families, alumni, and all who share in our mission of "forming disciples of Jesus Christ in a community of Catholic faith, knowledge, and service." Together, we have celebrated significant achievements across academics, athletics, the arts, and community service, each reflecting the strength of our community. The recent progress we have made together has been inspiring, and it is clear that Peoria Notre Dame continues to be the best high school in the Peoria area because of our foundation in faith and commitment to the community.

Throughout the past three years, I have been honored to work alongside such passionate supporters of Catholic education. The accomplishments of our students continue to show the impact of our community's dedication and generosity which is only possible because of our foundation in faith. Thank you to our entire community of stakeholders - faculty, staff, families, and donors - for furthering our mission.

God bless,

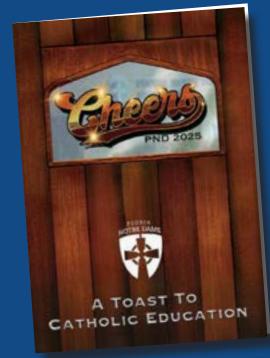
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A LETTER FROM THE CHAPLAIN



St. Paul wrote to the Christian community at Corinth: "Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Cor. 10:31) That the glory of God might be tied up with something so mundane and banal as food and drink must have surprised Christians in Corinth, as it might surprise us today. Often we are tempted to think of the things of God as being found only in Church, in the sacraments, or in a theology classroom. But compartmentalizing the faith is not of the faith. Jesus Christ came and lived like us "in all things but sin." In Jesus Christ, we can truly say things like: God ate. God drank. God laughed. God studied. God took out the trash. God helped clean the house. God worked. God got tired. God played games. God lived an ordinary life like us for 30 years. In and through Jesus Christ, nothing in life is foreign or alien to the divine presence. Or, to state it positively, everything in life becomes an occasion to come into contact with the glory of God.

At PND, our goal is to fight the tendency to "silo" God to one particular area, and rather to integrate Him into everything we do: sports, extracurriculars, meals, friendships, counseling, school culture, classes, and much more. The word "Catholic" means "according to the whole," which means that the goal of our life is to see and strive after God in every aspect of our life, and not compartmentalize Him in any way. Often God is hidden in the ordinary and unsuspecting things of life, which perhaps is why many missed Him when He came in the ordinariness of our flesh 2,000 years ago. We, on the other hand, hope to recognize Him and welcome Him into everything we do here at PND, even in the simplest of acts of eating and drinking.



Celebrate Peoria Notre Dame's past, present, and exciting future at the 42nd annual Blue and Green Gala. The fun-filled evening "where everybody knows your name" will include games, dinner, drinks, and a live and silent auction, all to benefit the students of Peoria Notre Dame.

Saturday, March 29, 2025

Peoria Notre Dame Gym | 5105 N. Sheridan Rd. Peoria, IL 61614 Cocktails at 5:00 | Dinner served at 6:30 | Program to follow

If you are unable to attend, you can still make a difference in the lives of our students! Bid online for great auction items or help us reach our fund-a-need goal of \$250,000 for scholarships so we can open doors to more students who wish to receive a quality high school education rooted in the Catholic faith.

To register for the event, or to donate to our scholarship fund, please visit https://pndhs.ejoinme.org/pndgala2025 or scan the QR code.



BLUE & GREE





Photo by Nellie Photography.



Photo courtesy of Matt Dayhoff and the Peoria Journal Star.



Athletics Astound Once Again

Peoria Notre Dame's athletic teams and individuals continue to compete at the highest levels this year. Here are some highlights from the 2024 fall athletic season.

- Our very own faculty member and assistant Boys Soccer coach, Danny Driscoll (BHS '78), was named the Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association (IHSSCA) State Assistant Coach of the Year!
- Sophomore cross country runner Max Kirby finished 4th in state.
- Boys Cross Country placed 5th at state while the girls placed 6th. Overall, PND Cross Country had the highest combined team score.
- Boys Golf came in 2nd at regionals.
- Sophomore Jack Coulter won 1st in the regional tournament and placed at sectionals to move on to the state tournament where he placed 21st overall.
- Girls Golf came in 3rd at regionals, and Mackenzie Howard placed 1st during the tournament.
- Boys Soccer had another great year with a record of 21–2–1. They were sectional champions for the 24th time (a state record) and finished the season among the Elite 8.
- Girls Swimming and Diving was 5th in conference and Sophie Gast competed at state in the 200 and 500 freestyle.
- Girls Tennis ended the season in the top half of the conference. They had a big win over East Peoria where two freshmen won decision matches.
- Volleyball finished the season 4th in conference.

On the Cover

The Peoria Notre Dame football team attends Mass at St. John's Newman Center in Champaign before a big game. The football team finished 6–5 and ended the season in the second round of playoffs.

RECAPPING REUNIONS

AOL/SI '84

We always love to see alums reconnecting. Here is a look at a few of the class reunions that took place this fall.





AOL & SL '69



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YEARBOOKS

Alums, are you missing a yearbook? Did yours get damaged in the basement? Are you regretting your decision not to order a yearbook in high school? Now is your time to reclaim the past! We have old AOL, SI, BHS, and PND yearbooks for sale. There is especially an abundance of yearbooks from the last 20 years. If you would like to purchase an old yearbook, please contact Alumni Director Tara Shane at t.shane@pndhs.org.



During the last year, generous alums have helped us restore several composite photos to Alumni Hall. We are pleased to have these treasures back on our walls to showcase the history of Catholic education in Peoria. Classes still missing include AOL '29, SI '60, SI '66, AOL/SI '68, BHS '75, AOL/SI '77, BHS '85, and AOL/SI '87. If you would like to contribute to recreating these composites, please email t.shane@pndhs.org.

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DENOTED TO DEMOCRACY THE CAREER OF Michael Maibach

BY CLARE KUBE (PND '21)

FOLLOWING THE 2024 ELECTION, WE ARE REMINDED OF THE INTRICATE WORKINGS OF OUR DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM AND HOW UNIQUELY DIFFERENT OUR ELECTION PROCESS REMAINS, EVEN TODAY. ONE BERGAN HIGH SCHOOL ALUM HAS DEDICATED HIS CAREER TO GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND PRESERVING OUR UNPARALLELED ELECTION SYSTEM.

The value of a Catholic education was highly regarded by the Maibach family. Michael Maibach's mother, an AOL alum, enrolled Michael in Catholic education from St. Philomena through his time at Bergan. Maibach recalls of his first day at Bergan, "the Dean of Men, Brother Aloysius, said 'Maibach, we heard about you from the sisters at St. Philomena. You will probably last about a week before we kick you out.' I said to myself, 'I'm going to love it here.' And I was a changed man. What I needed were men as teachers and role models, and the Christian Brothers were those men. In this way, Bergan saved my life."

During his time at Bergan, Maibach participated in a number of athletics and activities such as track and student government, receiving the Mr. Bergan award and DAR Award. Upon completing his time at Bergan in 1969, he furthered his education at Northern Illinois University. It was there that Michael continued to cultivate his love for civics. He recalls a particularly impactful professor.

"During a class, the professor asked us to compose an essay for or against the Electoral

College. To my surprise, the readings convinced me to change my mind and write in favor of the Electoral College. Today I work for a small NGO called Save Our States where I travel around the nation speaking at schools and civic groups about the Founders' Constitution and its unique Electoral College design."

It was in his junior year at NIU that he was elected to the Dekalb County Board, becoming the first American elected to public office under the age of 21 in U.S. history. He chuckled stating that, "I was on the Safety and Law Enforcement Committee of the County Board and in that role I was tasked with inspecting taverns and liquor licenses before I could even drink!"

After completing his M.A., and his County Board service at NIU, thanks to the generosity of their Alumni Association's Leslie A. Holmes Graduate Fellowship, Maibach was chosen as an Illinois State Senate Fellow. From there, he went on to open a new office of Caterpillar Tractor Co. in California as a lobbyist. In his time in California, Maibach's reputation had gained the interest of the four founders of the Intel Corporation who hired him to create their Government Affairs Department in 1983. This was just one year before the launch of the IBM PC, which included Intel's microprocessor. During his 18 years with Intel, he built a global Government Affairs team of 150 professionals around the world, their most important achievement being the opening of the Japanese semiconductor market, and lowering information technology tariffs around the world.

Maibach now serves on several non-profit boards, is the Managing Director of the James Wilson Institute, and gives speeches for Save Our States on the Electoral College. He credits Bergan with "getting me to be on a team."

When asked about his memories from Bergan, he smiled, remembering a particular basketball game in which Spalding Institute took up all the choice seating in the bleachers, leaving only the balconies open for their Bergan guests. Taking to the microphone at their next pep rally, Maibach decided they would show Spalding charitable hospitality and good Christian attitude. He asked all male students from Bergan to wear sport coats and females to wear skirts – rather than the usual casual wear for such games. The football team would sport Bergan arm bands, sewn by the home economics students, and act as ushers for the game. They also set aside the main seating for both home and away fans -



just for Spalding students and faculty. "While we may not have won the game, we won the night," explained Maibach.

He stated that if he could leave young professionals with any advice it would be, "make marriage and family the cornerstone of your life, not the capstone of your career. Professionally, associate with those with whom you share the same interests and don't say, do, or write anything you don't want to read in the newspaper. Finally, courage, humility, and gratitude seem to be among the most important virtues."



Peoria Notre Dame High School

2024 Homecoming Awards

During all-school Mass on October 4th, we celebrated four individuals who have contributed to the legacy of Peoria Notre Dame. Dr. Christopher Couri received our Fulton J. Sheen Distinguished Alumni Award for his professional achievements and dedication to Catholic Education. Matt and Kris Coulter received the Pillar Award for their contributions

in time, talent, and treasure to PND. And Karl Wagner was presented with the General Wayne A. Downing Public Service Award for his dedication to protecting our country as an agent of the CIA.



Dr. Chris Couri has set himself apart as not only a leader in his profession, but also in his faith community. Dr. Couri graduated with the first class of Peoria Notre Dame in 1989. He went on to St. Louis University for his undergraduate degree, then the University of Iowa for dental school. Chris finished his academic career at the University of Nebraska for his periodontal specialty program. He has led an active career in both the Peoria area and the Illinois State Dental Society. He is a past president of the Peoria District Dental Society and is currently a trustee and a member of the Executive Committee for the Illinois State Dental Society. In addition, Chris recently co-chaired the Illinois



Mission of Mercy at the Peoria Civic Center where dental volunteers saw more than 1,300 patients and provided \$1.6 million in free dental care for those in need. He has also been the director of the Seattle Study Club in Peoria promoting continuing education for dentists.

Dr. Couri is published in the Journal of the American Academy of Periodontology. He has been a clinical instructor in the hygiene program at Illinois Central College and has lectured on periodontics. Currently, he is a periodontal instructor with OSF St. Francis Medical Center's General Practice Residency program.

Despite his busy career, Dr. Couri has been a large presence in the Peoria Catholic community. He has served on the Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) board for many years and has led several of the TEC events. He has remained an active member at St. Sharbel, serving as a board member for several committees including the St. Sharbel's housing committee which he chairs.

Dr. Couri, along with his wife Mary Lou, have been great promoters of Catholic education throughout the years. All four of their children attended Peoria Notre Dame, including Sarah who will graduate this spring.



PILLAR AWARD PEORIA NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL The Pillar Award honors a supporter of Peoria Notre Dame through consistent dedication to the mission of the school, and Matt and Kris Coulter have continued to offer their time, talent, and treasure for the betterment of the institution.

Matt grew up in Elmwood, IL and Kris in Cedar Rapids, IA. They met at the University of Iowa through involvement in Greek life. They

graduated in 2000, and Matt earned his Executive MBA from Bradley University in 2014. After getting married in 2002, the couple has welcomed six children including Ella who graduated from PND in the spring, senior Claire, and sophomore Jack.

Matt is the Philanthropy Chair for the OSF Community Council and a board member of both the Country Club of Peoria and the River Cup Foundation. He has also coached golf, girls soccer, and girls basketball at St. Philomena. Kris has been involved in the Peoria Ad Club, the Peoria Riverfront Museum Holiday Luncheon, the Junior League of Peoria (serving as President in 2011-12) and the St. Philomena Education Commission and Parish Hall Capital Campaign Committee.

Both Matt and Kris serve on the PND Parent Board. In addition, Kris is the Vice Chairperson of the PND Consultative Board and the Board Liaison to the Advancement department. Matt was Assistant Coach of the PND girls golf team last year and is Assistant Coach of the PND boys golf team this year.

"We align our volunteer commitments with organizations whose mission we believe in. We both had powerful community service experiences at a young age that were memorable and impacted us to continually find new ways to serve," said the Coulters.





Karl Wagner is an expert in foreign affairs and international security with more than 36 years of worldwide experience. Karl graduated from Bergan High School in 1984. He received a bachelors degree in Political Science from the University of Illinois and a masters in Security Studies from Georgetown University.

Karl is a former member of the CIA's Senior Intelligence Service (SIS-3), having served as a CIA senior leader and a Directorate of Operations (DO) expert manager, including service in Latin America, East Asia, South Asia, the Middle East and North Africa. As such, he is fluent in Spanish, Mandarin Chinese, and French. In his last position at the CIA, Karl served as Chief of Counter-Intelligence (CI) Operations, directing operations throughout the CIA, both at the headquarters and overseas.



Karl also served as Executive Assistant to the CIA's Executive Director (2013-2014), Chief of the CIA's Special Middle East Task Force (2012-2014), and in leadership positions in CIA stations overseas. He is a recipient of the CIA's Distinguished Career Intelligence Medal (2017), the National Intelligence Exceptional Achievement Medal (November 2013), the DO Excellence in Leadership Award (2012), four Meritorious Unit Citations and 20 Exceptional Performance Awards.

Other past roles have included Senior Director for Global Security at Tesla and the Founder/CEO of a U.S.-based medtech start-up called ConfirmD by BuddyCheque. Karl is also the Founder/CEO of Cogence Systems, a global logistics and technology integration company as well as Sky Technologies, a global risk consultancy specializing in crisis management. Additionally, he is active in non-profit work involving veteran advocacy and PTSD prevention.



Peoria Motre Dame Golf Classic

On September 4th, 144 golfers gathered at the Country Club of Peoria for a day of golf, friendship, food, and fun. Again this year, the event was a sell-out with 36 foursomes. The

outing began with our chaplain, Fr. McShane, offering a prayer and Jacqueline Kelly, our principal, providing a welcome and an expression of our gratitude to all the participants. Before the golfers hit the links, they stood around a putting green for a putting contest. Everyone putted at the same time with the hope that their golf ball would find the hole. This happened for one lucky golfer. Then, it was on to play the course. The evening ended with dinner and the award presentations. Thank you to all our sponsors and participants as this was our most successful golf outing in history as we netted more than \$59,000. These funds assist with supporting the mission of our school - "forming disciples of Jesus Christ in a community of Catholic faith, knowledge, and service."



The ShamROCK

What name could be used to describe the gathering of 1,700 people to promote PND athletics and the arts? Add in great food from Alwan & Sons Meat Co., the band 3 & a Half Men, activities for grade school students, and it was none other than our annual ShamROCK event.

This year, it took place on Friday night, August 23. We appreciated having area pastors lead each team in prayer before their scrimmage game. PND has hosted the ShamROCK for many years, and recently it has grown to become a signature event for the community. Thanks to the many volunteers, both adults and students, who helped make this such a fun and well-attended event.



GRANDPARENTS' DAY



We celebrated Grandparents' Day on Sunday, September 8 with Mass in our auditorium followed by tours of the school, and time in The Commons to visit with one another. It was heartwarming to see about 300 in attendance. Grandparents came from near and far to spend time with their grandchild. Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck, Diocesan Vocation Director of Recruitment, was our celebrant. He challenged our students to spend time with their grandparents and to "ask them good questions" about their lives and their upbringing. Larry (SI '62) and Kay (Clancy) Shank (AOL '63) attended with their granddaughter Edie Woolsey (PND '25). Kay commented that she found the Mass and homily to be beautiful and she thoroughly enjoyed the celebration.

After Mass, Edie gave her grandparents a one-hour tour of the school and Kay remarked that "Edie's enthusiasm was amazing. "Together, they enjoyed strolling down Alumni Hall where they saw photos of eight family members dating back to 1962. Edie's photo will be the ninth of her family in Alumni Hall...until possibly the next generation!

BHS '69 Class Gift

In celebration of their 55th class reunion, some members of the Bergan class of 1969 donated funds to purchase 50 new padded chairs for use in our gym. They were delivered in time for the classmates to see them during their reunion in September. The gusset of the chair gives a shout-out to our donors with the

phrase "Bergan Class of '69." We appreciate the support from our donors as these new comfortable padded chairs are being used by visitors who attend our monthly all-school Masses as well as by the student athletes, coaches and scorekeepers of our indoor sports.

If your class will be planning a reunion, please contact Tara Shane at t.shane@pndhs.org to learn how classmates from your reunion year may be able to provide a needed gift for our students and staff.



A Running Legacy



Patricia (Pegg) Geier, AOL '58, dedicated her life to Catholic education and athletic programs. A graduate of Bradley University, Patricia emphasized stewardship of the body and fostering team spirit. She serve on the St. Vincent de Paul School athletic board and began the school's first girls athletic program. She then shifted her efforts to coaching at Bergan High School.

In 1983 she and her fellow coaches led the BHS girls to achieve three consecutive IHSA Track & Field state championships, with several athletes holding state records. In honor of her efforts and leadership, she was recognized as an inductee to the Greater Peoria Sports

Hall of Fame. Her legacy will be fondly remembered by her family, friends, and Peoria Notre Dame community.



DOUBLE_your gíft!

In the fall 2023 issue of The Irish Lens, we remembered Geoff Nault, one of our students who died during his senior year at Peoria Notre Dame. Geoff impacted many people's lives. He encouraged everyone to "Look up and look around. Look up - pray about and understand God's plan for our lives. And look around - cherish your family and friends. Take time to share your special gifts with others."

In 2002, The Geoffrey Nault Memorial Scholarship was created to help a Peoria Notre Dame student by providing tuition assistance and an opportunity to deepen one's faith. Last year, we announced that through 2026 (the 25th anniversary of Geoff's passing), donations made to the Geoffrey Nault Memorial Scholarship will be DOUBLED. This is a wonderful opportunity to support Catholic education and have your dollars go further. Checks with "Geoff Nault Scholarship" on the memo line can be sent to Peoria Notre Dame or donations can be made through the PND website, www.pndhs.org. Click on the green "Support PND" button at the top of the page, and then click on the Scholarship square where you will see the "Geoffrey Nault Memorial Scholarship" as an option.

Thank you for enriching the lives of future Peoria Notre Dame students.



Gary Snell (SI '69) died 9/30/23 John Sauer (SI '46) died 1/13/24 Tammy (Stoda) Ladick (BHS '82) died 4/14/24 Steven Aeschliman (PND '02) died 5/2/24 Janis Clinch (AOL/SI '75) died 5/3/24 Tye Elliott (AOL/SI '82) died 5/14/24 Fr. George Remm (SI '52) died 5/16/24 Kevin Gibson (AOL/SI '78) died 6/4/24 Sr. Diane Marie McGrew (AOL '84) died 6/9/24 Earlene (Everett) Martens (AOL '54) died 6/14/24 Bernard Lawrence Gilles (SI '52) died 6/17/24 Mary Kathleen (Eppel) Sager (AOL '61) died 6/24/24 Timothy McCraith (AOL '87) died 6/26/24 Patricia (Pegg) Geier (AOL '58) died 7/2/24 John "Jack" Murray (SI '61) died 7/14/24 Barbara (Bour) Cramer (AOL '52) died 7/15/24 Sr. Mary Clare Clark (AOL '66) died 7/21/24 Adam Kipfer (PND '96) died 7/22/24 Robert Schultz (SI '68) died 7/28/24 Rita (Rice) Williams (AOL '54) died 7/29/24 Jerry McDonald (SI '54) died 7/31/24 Francine (Fosco) Huber (BHS '72) died 8/1/24 Edwin Kuhlman (SI '58) died 8/2/24 Eleanor (Hall) Smith (AOL '55) died 8/3/24 Gregory Speck (BHS '66) died 8/4/24 Gloria (Sheets) McIntosh (AOL '48) died 8/5/24 Dr. Willliam Cusack (SI '64) died 8/11/24 Mark Conaghan (SI '72) died 8/15/24 Daniel Higgins (BHS '70) died 8/15/24 Joseph Lucas (AOL/SI '79) died 8/16/24 Joseph McEnroe (PND '90) died 8/25/24 Glen Tangman (AOL/SI '78) died 8/30/24 James Thomas Pearce (SI '54) died 8/31/24 William McDermott (SI '65) died 9/3/24 Richard Dwyer (SI '61) died 9/11/24 Carol Ann (Sovanski) Parry (AOL '64) died 9/24/24 Dominic Ebel (PND '04) died 9/25/24 Joan Janovetz (AOL '65) died 9/25/24 George Anthony Jr. (BHS '73) died 9/26/24 Margaret (Williams) McDonald (AOL '63) died 10/1/24 L. Elaine (Martin) Suau (AOL '48) died 10/8/24 Diane (Pilon) Nowlan (AOL '56) died 10/9/24 Terrance Tully (SI '58) died 10/18/24 Karen (Couri) Clark (AOL '69) died 10/19/24 Nancy Cremer (AOL '57) died 10/22/24 Jean (Gorman) Bachler (AOL/SI '79) died 10/28/24 Patrick Weitzel (SI '60) died 10/28/24



Domini Genovese (PND '13) married Colton Farrell on September 30, 2023 in Little Elm, TX.



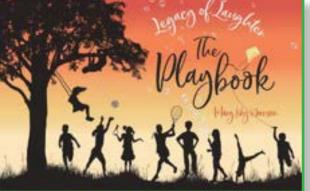


Eric Stone (PND '11) married Gina Casale-Ryan on July 14, 2023 at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, IL.



Noah Anthony Huenefeld born February 14, 2024 to Toby and Sarah (PND '03) Huenefeld.

Mary Kay Morrison (AOL '64) published a new book called "Legacy of Laughter: The Playbook" based on her research on mental health and social inclusion. Her books can be found on Amazon.







Presley Elizabeth Gilfillan born March 10, 2024 to Cody (PND '11) and Blair Gilfillan.

Lucy Lavin Smith born January 10, 2024 to Charles and Kate (Simmons) Smith (PND '06).





Katherine Jean Wetzel born June 11, 2024 to Jim and Alex (Slane) Wetzel (both PND '16).



William Francis and Joseph Benedict Bousky born June 20, 2024 to Alex (PND '15) and Leah Bousky.



Faith Integration

In athletics, we pray before and after practices and gatherings. As a member of the football team, I can say we go to Mass before every game, regardless of whether it is home or away. We cleanse our mind, body, and soul in preparation for the battle ahead. We have a prayer session every Thursday after our walk through practice. -Anthony LeFante (PND '26)

As a senior, Catholic education has been a formative part of my life since preschool. Being able to share my faith with my classmates, teammates, teachers, and friends has provided me with a community where I can grow. The way PND has integrated faith into daily life has helped instill in me a greater sense of social responsibility and respect for others. And I am fortunate share my faith by leading the school in prayer over the intercom each day.

-Jake Heberer (PND '25)





Notre Dame has such a welcoming environment with the chapel at its center. Mass is offered daily, and once a month we have an all-school Mass. In addition, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is offered all day on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Students are able to be excused at any time to go in the chapel to be with God. It's such a special place for me. I think this is such a good way to be immersed in the faith and build a strong relationship with God.

-Riley Nowlan (PND '27)

Though we have religion classes, faith is a part of all our classes. We start and end each day in prayer, and each advisory class attends Mass together in the chapel on a rotation. In addition, we pray the rosary as a school before all-school Masses and over the intercom on special holy days. I especially enjoyed our class spiritual retreat at the Spalding Pastoral Center where my class had the opportunity to pray with the bishop and take part in team-building activities. -Audrey Shane (PND '28)





AOL/SI '87 alums Brian and Karen Flaherty are long-time supporters of Catholic education. To help ensure that the traditions of faith and virtue in the school environment continue for generations to come, the Flahertys have included Peoria Notre Dame in their estate plan. By doing so, they are members of The 1863 Society.

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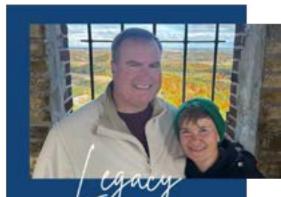
"It was an easy decision for us to contribute to and be a part of The 1863 Society. The older we get, the more we are interested in and value history. Like many others, our families have had a long history of Catholic education in Peoria. We met at AOL/SI. We have eight sons and six nieces and nephews either graduate or currently attend PND to make up four generations of Irish.

We realize that our parents sacrificed to provide us a Catholic education, and we are beyond grateful. Our lives would be completely different if we were not offered this gift, and we prioritize our faith as it is our greatest treasure." – Brian and Karen Flaherty

More Information

The 1863 Society is a legacy group created to recognize the generosity of individuals who have included Peoria Notre Dame High School in their estate plan.

For more information, please contact Cindy Dermody, Director of Advancement, at c.dermody@pndhs.org or 309.691.8741.



Impact Future Irish!

••••••

"Catholic education has formed us and helped us to form our boys. We are thankful to be able to provide an education grounded in faith and virtue for our boys, and we encourage others to pay the gift forward by joining The 1863 Society to positively impact future Irish."

THE 1863	SOCIETY	ENROLLMENT FORM	

Name:			
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone:	Email:		
I/We give permission to have our n	ames published a	as a member of The 18	63 Society.
I/We wish to remain anonymous.			
I/We have included Peoria Notre Da	ame in our estate	plans. 🌅 Please co	ntact me with more info.
Mail to: Peoria Notr	e Dame, 5105 N. S.	heridan Road. Peoria.	II. 61614

Peoria Notre Dame High School 5105 N Sheridan Rd Peoria, IL 61614 www.pndhs.org 309-691-8741

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Stay in touch with your classmates and friends! Update your information with the alumni office.

School Graduated: Email Address:		Graduation Year: Cell Phone Number:		
Life events (check all that apply): I recently married I recently changed my address I recently changed jobs. 	Spouse's name: New Address:	Today's date: Wedding date:		

www.pndhs.org. Hover over "Alumni," and click on "Update Your Info."