

Bethlehem Catholic High School Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter

May 2018

(P)reunion meeting update...

Despite the avalanche of responses (11) that indicated an interest in “having a reunion,” I haven’t received any suggestions for when and where to have that meeting or get-together to discuss the event. Since I’ve been living in south Jersey for the past 35 years, I kinda lost touch with any venues for the meeting. Perhaps anyone interested in such an encounter could meet at the school some time...like after the next alumni-student mass? Let me know what you think.

The next (final) alumni - student mass for the school year is...

...scheduled for Tuesday morning May 22nd at 9:45am. If you go, please park on the girls’ (auditorium) side and try to get there around 9:30am. This is the final mass for the seniors with the underclassmen before they graduate. Since we are seniors too, maybe we can try to attend.

Looking Back 90 Years...

Let’s read and give the class of ‘28 a virtual reunion...

...from notes taken from the 1928 yearbook “**Brown And Gold**”

It was 1928, and there were 14 graduates (10 boys and 4 girls) in this, the second graduating class of the high school at the Fourth and Webster Streets’ location. Father Joseph A. McPeak was the Director. Other member of the staff included: Reverend John F. Morton, Reverend Joseph N. LaRue, Sister Rose Immaculate, SSJ, and the other Sisters of St. Joseph. Father Charles E. Bowles was the Rector at Holy Infancy parish.

[Note many of the last-name similarities and potential relations to our class of the fourteen graduates including]:

John F. Beckett	John P. Gallagher, VP	George L. Martin
Isabelle Rose Blackton	Robert T. Hart, Treasurer	Robert T. Morgan
Francis P. Boquel	Joseph P. Kelley	Helen Elizabeth Powell
Harry Dougherty	Joseph McGoldrick, President	Mary R. Reagan, Secretary
James F. X. Dugan	Mary G. Mahoney	

The football team was 5 wins – 0 losses – 1 Tie. They outscored their opponents 245-6, and therefore averaged 40.8 pts/game and allowed 1 point per game.

The boys’ basketball record was 13 wins – 3 losses, and the girls’ basketball record was 3 wins – 9 losses.

Bethlehem Catholic High School
Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter

May 2018

Gotta message from Jack Klucsik...

"...Enjoy receiving your newsletter and returning to the Beca days. After more than 38 years working as an environmental and energy attorney, 8 in DC and Maryland and the last 30 in Syracuse, NY, I retired from the practice of law at the end of March. At the beginning of April celebrated 44th anniversary with class of '69 alum. Jane Sinnott. Looking forward to traveling, delving into some hobbies that have been put on hold and spending time with my grandsons..."

Special prayers for Kathy Gaydos Bickert and her family...

...On the passing of her husband of over 41 years, LeRoy. LeRoy as a graduate of P-Burg Catholic and retired from Hoffman-LaRoche and DSM after 43 years of service. Please say some special prayers for Kathy and for her children Matthew and Jennifer.

Newsmakers, notes, findings and such:

Q. The largest graduating class at Beca was in 1969, with 274 scholars. What class years made up the largest number of students in Beca at the same time...

a) 1967, 68, 69, 70 b) 1968, 69, 70, 71 c) 1969, 70, 71, 72

- **In the 1950s**, there were an estimated 848 Becahi graduates. Those graduates came from 18 different parishes, and 66% of those graduates came from 5 parishes:
 - 156 from Holy Infancy
 - 114 from SS. Cyril and Methodius
 - 111 from St. Ursula
 - 107 from Holy Ghost, and
 - 76 from SS. Simon and Jude
- Q. What parish had the next highest number of graduates in the '50s?
- **In the 1960s**, there number of graduates grew to 1,481 in this decade, and the number of contributing parishes grew to 25. During this time, the school moved from the Fourth and Webster Streets' location to Madison and Dewberry Avenues. Then, the top five parishes accounted for 52% of the graduates, including:
 - 197 from St. Ursula
 - 152 from SS. Cyril and Methodius
 - 143 from Holy Infancy
 - 139 from Holy Ghost, and
 - 137 from St. Anne
- Q. What parish had the next highest number of graduates in the '60s?

Bethlehem Catholic High School Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter

May 2018

I found a few of our classmates on LinkedIn, and I thought, that because it's a networking platform, I'd share a bit of what I found about some of our classmates...

Tom Ardizzone, who graduated from the former Kutztown State College, is a Freelance Videographer and Producer and has been working with major corporations and nationally televised broadcasts including Jon and Kate Plus 8, MSNBC and CNN.

Tom Demschock, who graduated from American University, is the Broker/Owner of Fishburn Realty Co. in Bethlehem. He holds a CRB, Certified Real Estate Brokerage Manager from NAR, and a CRP, Certified Relocation Professional from the Employee Relocation Council.

Paul Vidas, who graduated from The University of Scranton, earned a MS in Taxation from American University, and received his CPA, is a Director in Tax Advisory Solutions at CBIZ MHM, LLC in Plymouth Meeting, where he is responsible for coordinating tax research and tax planning.

Joe Zylwitis, who graduated from St. Joe's University, is now retired as an FAA Inspector after over 30 years of service and lives in Monaca, out in western Pennsylvania

More newsmakers and findings...

- **Annette Sullivan Bicking '55**, was the first girl in the Lehigh Valley region to score 1,000 points in basketball according to an Express-Times article by Tom Mugavero.
- **Rafael Perez '78**, has announced that his nearly 40-year high school coaching career has come to a close. Over the years Rafe coached football, baseball, and basketball at Beca, Liberty, Dieruff and Emmaus. Rafe said "It's time. We've got a lot of young coaches sitting on our bench and it's time for them to move up. It's their time and it's my time to sit back and go to games for enjoyment."
- **Dean Reimer '84**, was recently named as the Morning Call's 2017-2018 Girls' Basketball Coach of the Year for his work in leading the Freedom High School girls to a District II Class 6A championship. The University of Delaware graduate's eight-year coaching career has seen each teams' win total improve over the previous season each year.

"Wanna go to Bermuda next April?" asked an Angel.

The second annual alumni cruise sets sail from New York City next April 28, 2019. Angel Rivera '71, has provided an attached flyer for your reading pleasure and planning for this 7-Day Bermuda from New York escape.

Bethlehem Catholic High School
Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter

May 2018

The Sisters of Saint Joseph
Remembering and thanking them for their service...

I read in the March 18, 2018 edition of the *Morning Call* that Dan Roebuck's recently released movie "Saving Grace" is to be followed by another planned film entitled "*The Hail Mary*," which will focus on an all-boys Catholic school led by a cantankerous sister of St. Joseph, a Catholic religious order of women that numbers 7,000 in the United States. He's planning to start filming this summer in the Lehigh Valley.

So, speaking of the Sisters of St. Joseph, I haven't been able to find much about the classes in between 1930 and 1950 because no yearbooks were printed. But I did read a dedication in the 1950 yearbook to the memory of the Sisters of Saint Joseph...

*"... who have taught us, throughout our high school years, with a patience and understanding
that will long be remembered;
...who have counseled us, at a time when we most needed guidance;
...who have sustained and encouraged us by a life of prayerful sacrifice*

We, the Class of 1950, gratefully dedicate this book."

I have listed (below) the names of those Sisters of St. Joseph who have taught us throughout our high school years between 1950 and 1970. We thank them and we pray for them.

- 1954 – 1964 Sister M. Agnes Consillii, S.S.J., taught religion, music and dramatics
- 1965 – 1968 Sister Agnes Josephine, S.S.J., taught chemistry and physics, passed away in 2005
- 1964 – 1970 Sister Alma Patricia, S.S.J., taught religion, passed away in 1985
- 1967 – 1968 Sister Andrew Joseph, S.S.J., taught English and creative writing, passed away in 1995
- 1952 – 1956 Sister Angelica, S.S.J. taught English and national problems
- 1966 – 1967 Sister Anita Christi, S.S.J.
- 1968 – 1973 Sister Anita David, S.S.J. later Sister Adele Solari, S.S.J., taught chemistry and physics
- 1952 – 1954 Sister Anita Xavier, S.S.J., taught music
- 1967 – 1970 Sister Ann Maurice, S.S.J., taught math and biology, passed away in 2010
- 1968 – 1970 Sister Anne Charles, S.S.J. > Sister Mary Corbett, S.S.J. taught Spanish and religion

- 1965 – 1971 Sister M. Blanch, S.S.J., taught history and home economics, passed away in 1999

- 1964 – 1971 Sister Catharine Immaculate, S.S.J., taught music appreciation and dramatics, passed away 8/11/2012
- 1950 – 1951 Sister Catherine Veronica, S.S.J. taught math

Bethlehem Catholic High School
Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter

May 2018

- 1963 – 1965 Sister M. Clare Gervase, S.S.J.
1957 – 1958 Sister Clare Xavier, S.S.J. taught English
1963 – 1968 Sister M. Cordata, S.S.J., taught art, business education, science and Spanish, passed away 4/10/2008
- 1967 – 1971 Sister M. Donatus, S.S.J., taught library science, passed away in 1992
- 1955 – 1960 Sister Edward Anita, S.S.J taught science
- 1954 – 1958 Sister Florence Teresa, S.S.J. taught commercial studies and dramatics
- 1967 – 1974 Sister Helen Anita, S.S.J. > Sister Elizabeth Ledger, S.S.J., taught English, passed away 9/16/17
- 1964 – 1966 Sister Helen Edwin, S.S.J.
1965 – 1966 Sister Helen Regina, S.S.J., passed away in 1974
1969 – 1970 Sister Honora Maria, S.S.J. > Sister Barbara Bradley, S.S.J. taught social studies
- 1954 – 1990 Sister Irma Loreto Tierney, S.S.J., taught art, Latin and math, passed away 10/08/1996
- 1968 – 1970 Sister James Leona, S.S.J. taught physical science
1949 – 1955 Sister John Eudes, S.S.J. taught religion and Latin
1949 – 1955 Sister John Gertrude, S.S.J. taught science and math
1964 – 1970 Sister Joseph Bernard, S.S.J., was vice-principal
- 1949 – 1952 Sister Loreto Aloysia, S.S.J. taught music and dramatics
1952 – 1962 Sister Louis Bertrand, S.S.J. taught religion and math
- 1958 – 1959 Sister Madeleine Marie, S.S.J. taught social studies
1964 – 1970 Sister Madeleine Marie, S.S.J., taught religion, passed away in 1972
1949 – 1952 Sister Margaret Isabelle, S.S.J. taught literary culture, English
1959 – 1964 Sister Margaret Teresa, S.S.J. taught social studies
1958 – 1959 Sister Marguerite Francis, S.S.J. taught religion, Spanish, bookkeeping
1964 – 1970 Sister Marie Brigid, S.S.J., taught French, passed away 10/10/2009
1958 – 1960 Sister Marie Christine, S.S.J. taught French, Spanish and typing
1949 – 1957 Sister Marie Jeanne, S.S.J. taught religion, history and social studies
1967 – 1970 Sister Marie Jerome, S.S.J., taught typing and bookkeeping, passed away 2016
- 1960 – 1966 Sister Marie Matthew, S.S.J. taught Latin and Spanish
1955 – 1960 Sister Marie St. John, S.S.J. taught Latin
1967 – 1970 Sister Mary Luke, S.S.J., taught English, passed away in 1984
1967 – 1968 Sister Mary Nicholas, S.S.J., taught Latin and English, passed away 1971
1954 – 1957 Sister Mechtilde, S.S.J. taught English and Latin
1949 – 1962 Sister Michael Cecelia, S.S.J. taught typing, commercial studies

Bethlehem Catholic High School Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter

May 2018

- 1968 – 1970 Sister Michael Francis, S.S.J., taught Latin and world culture, passed away 2015
- 1951 – 1952 Sister Miriam Rita, S.S.J. taught religion, English and math
- 1959 – 1966 Sister Regina Pacis, S.S.J., taught English, passed away 1979
- 1949 – 1953 Sister Regina Rita, S.S.J. taught math and English
- 1961 – 1965 Sister Rita Geraldine, S.S.J. taught English
Sister Rita Patricia, passed away in 1983
- 1960 – 1963 Sister Rita Xavier, S.S.J. taught science
- 1957 – 1959 Sister Rose Andrew, S.S.J. taught English
- 1962 – 1966 Sister Rose Charlotte, S.S.J., taught business education, passed away 1968
- 1967 – 1968 Sister Rose Clare, S.S.J., taught religion and Spanish, passed away 1988
- 1950 – 1957 Sister Rose Eleanor, S.S.J. taught English and religion
- 1949 – 1950 Sister Rose Ines, S.S.J. taught national problems
- 1965 – 1966 Sister Saint Bernadette, S.S.J.
- 1956 – 1966 Sister Saint Edmond, S.S.J., taught social studies and English, passed away in 1977
- 1958 – 1961 Sister Saint Winifred, S.S.J. taught English
- 1949 – 1950 Sister Stanislaus Kostka, S.S.J. taught math
- 1949 – 1957 Sister Terese Catharine, S.S.J. taught Spanish, French and religion
- 1962 – 1971 Sister William Teresa, S.S.J. taught math

Next, I'll do some more research and list those who have followed in the seventies and eighties for inclusion in future editions.

Passings

Classmates	Class	Passed Away	Age
August "Lindy" Evrard	1943	3/31/2018	93
Francis Shramko	1952	3/31/2018	82

Family and Friends

- LeRoy Bickert, husband to **Kathy Gaydos '70** and father of **Matthew '02** and Jennifer, passed away on 4/2/2018.
- **"Lindy" Evrard '43**, brother to **Dolores Evrard Horvath '45 (Betsy's mom)**

Bethlehem Catholic High School Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter

May 2018

- James “Jim” Hodrick, former principal of Allentown Central Catholic, who then worked for Becahi’s academic program for eight years in the early 2000’s, passed away on 4/13/2018.
- Walt King, husband of the late **Christine Letowt ’60**, and former math teacher and head coach of the 1967 Undefeated football team, passed away on 4/2/2018.

The table below shows the 1967 season’s achievement in Becahi football lore....

Rank	Year	Won	Lost	Tied	Games	Pct.	Coach
1	1988	14	0	0	14	1.000	Bob Stem
1	1974	11	0	0	11	1.000	Jim Mazza
1	1967	10	0	0	10	1.000	Walt King
4	1999	13	1	0	14	0.929	Bob Stem
5	1985	11	1	0	12	0.917	Bob Stem
5	2002	11	1	0	12	0.917	Chuck Sonon
7	1990	12	2	0	14	0.857	Bob Stem
7	2014	12	2	0	14	0.857	Joe Henrich
9	1989	11	2	0	13	0.846	Bob Stem
10	1975	9	1	1	11	0.818	Jim Mazza
10	1982	9	1	1	11	0.818	Chuck Sonon
10	1984	9	2	0	11	0.818	Bob Stem
10	2015	9	2	0	11	0.818	Joe Henrich
Honorable Mention	1927	5	0	1	6	0.833	George Jacobs

Current Sports Update:

Becahi’s boys’ basketball team was named the Morning Call’s “Boys’ Basketball Team of the Year.” Third-year **coach Ray Barbosa’s** team finished 28-4.

Ryan Young, a senior, was named Morning Call’s “Boys’ Basketball Player of the Year.” Ryan plans to be headed to Northwestern University in the fall.

Taliyah Medina, a sophomore, was named to the 2017-2018 first team all-state in Class 4A by the Pennsylvania Sports Writers. Taliyah was selected last year for the third team all-state in Class 4A.

George Harmanos started coaching tennis in 1974 and has close to 800 wins.

Mike Grasso is in his 31st season as head baseball coach and has over 360 wins.

Rich Mazza is in his 16th season as head girls’ softball coach and has over 260 wins.

Bethlehem Catholic High School Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter

May 2018

Jeff Karam, Beca's head wrestling coach for the last 10 years is stepping down from his position to spend more time with his family. His successful career here included a 159-20 record and six state team titles. Wow and thanks Jeff.

LinkedIn is an online platform that people use to build social networks with other people who share similar personal or career interests, activities, backgrounds or real-life connections. Many of our classmates have profiles on LinkedIn that are viewed by and shared with the public. In future newsletters, some of those profiles of BecaHi grads will be posted so we can continue to share our stories and connections with each other. It's a great way to market the school and the alumni. The following grads were found on LinkedIn this year:

Jim Bayer '78, a graduate of Millersville University, is the Regional Sales Director for Axion Health Inc. in the greater Atlanta area. Axion Health, Inc. is the leader in Occupational and Employee Health Software solutions to healthcare companies and institutions.

Kevin Donovan '78, a graduate of the University of Scranton who then served in the Army for a number of years, is a Senior Management Analyst at the US Navy Patuxent River Naval Air Station in Maryland.

Gina Alloggio Althouse '88, who attended Kutztown University, is a Senior Administrative Assistant at Dun and Bradstreet in Center Valley.

Frank Kochenash '88 Valedictorian, a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and the Imperial College, London, is the Managing Director, North America at Wunderman Commerce, a global eCommerce consultancy, in the greater Seattle area.

Stephen Kochenash '93, who attended Northampton Community College, the University of Pittsburgh and earned his Doctor of Pharmacy at Temple University's School of Pharmacy, is a Pharmacist at Cardinal Health.

Siva Raja '93, MD, PhD, is Surgical Director of the Center for Esophageal Diseases and a staff thoracic surgeon in the Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery at the Sydell and Arnold Miller Family Heart & Vascular Institute at the Cleveland Clinic. He received his undergraduate degree from Muhlenberg College and his MD from the University of Pittsburgh.

Kelly Deily '98, who received her BS from Widener University and MA in Counseling from the University of Delaware, is the Assistant Director, MBA/MS Career Services at Drexel University's LeBow College of Business in the greater Philadelphia area.

Bethlehem Catholic High School
Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter

May 2018

Megan Fenselau Pildis '98, who received her BA in Social and Historical Inquiry – Modern US History from New School for Social Research, is Director of Development at The National Museum of Industrial History in Bethlehem.

Sarah Gomes '98, is a Masters Level Therapist at US Medical Staffing Inc. in the Allentown area. Sarah, a graduate of Kutztown University, is “working to blend the combined 15 years of yoga practice and teaching experience with her graduate degree in Clinical and Counseling Psychology from Chestnut Hill College.”

Luke Schray '98, is the Assistant VP for Development at the NYC Housing Development Corporation in the greater New York City area. Luke received his BS in geography from Penn State and earned a Masters in City Planning, Urban Design from MIT.

Kirstin Thode, MD, '98 valedictorian, is a board-certified psychiatrist in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. She is currently licensed to practice medicine in Virginia and Indiana. Kirstin earned her BS in Biology from Penn State University, received a medical school scholarship from the United States Air Force and completed her medical degree from the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College.

Lisa Vuchak, salutatorian for the class of '98, is the Publications and Scientific Content Manager at Bristol-Myers Squibb in Morrisville, PA. Lisa's received her BS in Biology from Bucknell University and earned her PhD in Pharmacology from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

Jennifer Villare '08, who received her undergraduate and graduate degrees on Counseling from the University of Scranton, is a Drug and Alcohol Counselor at the Penn Foundation in Sellersville.

Cecelia Perez '13, who graduated from Albright College with a degree in Marketing, is a Certified International Sales Specialist managing the accounts based in Manhattan for DHL Express in the Phoenix, AZ area.

Natasha Tax '13, who graduated from Temple University with a degree in Political Science, is a Missionary at the Fellowship of Catholic University Students in the greater New York City area.

I heard that the Class of 1978 is planning their 40th Reunion on...

...Saturday, October 27th at the Steel Club from 7:00pm to 11:00pm. Contact Sally Kamettler for more information sallykamm@gmail.com

**Bethlehem Catholic High School
Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter**

May 2018

Just a reminder...

The **Class of 1958's** 60th Reunion is scheduled for Saturday May 19th from 11:30am to 3:30pm at the Prime Steak House on 325 Stoke Park Road in Bethlehem. Please contact Anna Marie DelGrosso Zieger amzi@ptd.net or Joan Balik at 610 868-1369 for more info.

Reflection

The Catholic practice of assigning a special devotion to each month goes back to the early 16th century. Since the best known of those devotions is probably the dedication of May as the month of the Blessed Virgin Mary, it might come as a surprise that it wasn't until the late 18th century that this devotion arose among Jesuits in Rome.

So, I thought I'd end this newsletter with a prayer that we say at the end of each rosary...

Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy!
Our life, our sweetness, and our hope!
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve;
to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn, then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us;
and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.
Pray for us, O holy mother of God, that we may become worthy
Of the promises of Christ.

And now...

Despite every effort to prevent errors, sometimes they occur. If I inadvertently misinterpreted a story or fact, or if your name has been omitted or misspelled, please notify me and/or the Advancement Office and accept my sincerest apologies, and...

If you have any stories, comments, concerns, opinions, etc., that you'd like to share, please let us know.

Sincerely,
JohnnieO (John O'Boyle)
jobisob1@yahoo.com

**Bethlehem Catholic High School
Class of 1970 Alumni Newsletter**

May 2018

Key Points of Contact at the school:

Ms. Connie Druckenmiller, Events Manager
Bethlehem Catholic High School
2133 Madison Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610 866-0791, ext. 323
cdruckenmiller@becahi.org

Ms. Tina Giordano, Advancement Assistant – Ext. 321
tgiordano@becahi.org