



# THE TORCH POST

CRUSADER ALUMNI NEWSLETTER  
APRIL 2024

Dear Catholic Central School Alumni, Family, and Friends,

Springtime at Catholic Central ushers in a flurry of activities as students across all grade levels await the beautiful traditions of May Crowning, prom, field day, ring ceremonies, award banquets, graduation, and more. As we prepare for these exciting weeks ahead, we are deeply thankful for the vibrant community that defines Catholic Central School and the enduring support of so many.

Your commitment to our values enriches the journey of every Catholic Central School student. As our seniors navigate the remainder of their school year, emotions run high as they anticipate June's milestones. From college applications to scholarship forms and ceremonial events, Senior Year is a whirlwind. It is amazing to think that in a few short weeks, the Class of 2024 will become Crusader ALUMNI and will join a community that is so integral to the legacy and heritage of Catholic education.

Some of you had the privilege of hearing Kianna Lang, current Vice-President of Catholic Central's Student Council, speak at the Maureen Stapleton Centennial Event in March (*you can listen to her speech in the Centennial video below*). Her heartfelt message, tracing her journey from a 7th grader to Senior Year, was inspiring and spoke to the strength of the collective community that is the cornerstone of our Catholic heritage. The honor that our students have for belonging to such a landmark institution in the Capital Region continues to inspire us all as we build upon the foundation of faith-filled learning combined with a spirit of giving and a commitment to excellence.

Your influence continues to shape the core of Catholic Central. It is on your shoulders that our current students stand as they uphold the principles that define Catholic Central, and we are humbled by your unwavering support and dedication to this incredible educational landmark.

Thank you for being the guiding force behind the next generation of Crusaders.

With faith and gratitude,

Lily Spera and Richard Harrigan, III  
Co-principals  
Catholic Central School

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There's something truly transformative about a Catholic education that goes beyond textbooks and classrooms. Nurturing the intellect with the inclusion of spiritual growth and character development provides students with guiding principles that prepare them for a lifetime of decision-making, relationships, and contributions to society. Values-based learning, community, belonging, academic excellence, faith, service, and social justice are hallmarks of an education at Catholic Central School. Through this year's **Annual Appeal, "One Campus. One Mission."**, we aim to build upon the many areas that make Catholic Central School exceptional, such as ongoing facility improvements, tuition assistance, classroom technology, ongoing professional development, and athletic equipment for our new outdoor fields and programs.

***Your investment plays an important role in advancing and imparting Catholic values to the next generation.***

**Join us today in our Annual Appeal by  
clicking the button below to invest in Catholic Central School.**

**INVEST TODAY**

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# FROM THE VAULT



In 1957, four years after moving from 8th Street to 116th Street in North Troy, a vacant lot was converted into the Monsignor Burns Gymnasium. The first floor of the new building contained the cafeteria, kitchen and storage rooms; the second floor housed the combination gymnasium-auditorium. Then New York Governor Averell Harriman was invited to attend the dedication ceremonies and he sent the following telegram to Most Reverend William A. Scully, Bishop of Albany:

**CLASS OF SERVICE**  
This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

**WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM**  
W. P. MARSHALL, President

**SYMBOLS**  
DL = Day Letter  
NL = Night Letter  
LT = International Letter Telegram

1201

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

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SY ABA198 PD=FAX ALBANY NY 10 1157AME=  
HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST REVEREND WILLIAM A SCULLY=  
465 STATE ST ALBANY NY=

I AM SORRY THAT I MUST BE IN NEW YORK CITY TODAY AND THEREFORE CANNOT BE WITH YOU AT THE DEDICATION CEREMONIES OF THE NEW GYMNASIUM BUILDING AT THE CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL OF TROY. COMPLETION OF THIS SPLENDID NEW BUILDING REPRESENTS AN EXAMPLE OF THE GREAT CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN NEW YORK STATE WHICH THE PRIVATELY SUPPORTED SCHOOLS ARE MAKING. IN ADDITION TO

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

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SYA185/2 1957 DEC 10 AM 11

THE FINE EDUCATION WHICH THEY PROVIDE, THEY OF COURSE RELIEVE OUR GOVERNMENTAL BODIES, STATE AND LOCAL, OF A VERY SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC BURDEN WHICH THEY WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE TO MEET. MY CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION AND WARM PERSONAL REGARDS=  
AVERELL HARRIMAN=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



### CLASS OF 1952

**Margaret Ahearn Oathout** is busy volunteering at Martin North Hospital and sings with The Robert Sharon Chorale.

**Jean Agostine Holmes** runs "Nana's Place on the Lake" on Snyder's Lake and is an active parishioner of St. Jude the Apostle Church, a Trustee of the North Greenbush Public Library and officer of Its Friends group, Treasurer of Eastern District Home Bureau, member of Rensselaer County Home Bureau/Snyder's Lake Chapter and a member of the Wynantskill Seniors. She is a writer and just completed the book "Home Bureau October Musings", is putting the finishing touches on her autobiography and has plans for a collection of her favorite quotes.

### CLASS OF 1959

### CLASS OF 1979

**Robert Kern** has been living in Raleigh, North Carolina for the past 24 years where he enjoys the warm weather and his career as a Benefit Advisor.

### CLASS OF 1985

**Kathy Page Lane** retired from her engineering career. She now keeps herself busy by playing tennis, golf and volunteering!

### CLASS OF 1965

**Mary Anne Glass Clement** is retired after 45 years in her career as a nurse. She is a globe trotter now and has criss-crossed the country several times and enjoyed trips to the Caribbean and Europe!

### CLASS OF 1997

**Kevin Gilligan** graduated from St. Bonaventure University and joined the catering and facilities management company, Sodexo. Kevin has enjoyed a 25+ career with Sodexo and is currently a District Manager and handles all university partners in Wisconsin. His beautiful family includes his wife, Courtney and two children: Robby, age 7 and 3-year old McKenzie.

### CLASS OF 2000

**Shawn Bova** is a Certified Industrial Hygienist and has a career as an environmental health and safety professional. He has been married for 18 years and is busy keeping up with his 2 teenagers!

### CLASS OF 2018

**Elmer Keach** graduated Magna Cum Laude from Temple University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He received the Bosch Sustainability Fellowship Award at the University of Michigan where he completed his Master of Engineering in 2023. He currently works for Ford Motor Company in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

*Have news and updates to share? Please email them to:*

**[alumni@catholiccentralschool.org](mailto:alumni@catholiccentralschool.org)**

*Photos are welcome, too!*



We were thrilled to be able to celebrate with so many Catholic Central family and friends on March 9th at the Maureen Stapleton '42 Stage and Screen Symposium! It was wonderful sharing this milestone with the Capital Region community and we are extremely grateful to the hospitality of **Hudson Valley Community College** and also to the support from the **Hart Cluett Museum** and the **Stapleton family, Dan, Katharine and Max Allentuck**. As you will hear in the video, **Roseanne Raneri from HVCC** beautifully spoke about the importance of connecting with others, and we are truly appreciative to everyone who volunteered for this event, especially our friends, **William G. Carey and Russell Sage professor David Baecker, St. Rose volunteers Nate Johnson and Erika Nestor, Catholic Central School students Colin LeFave and Kianna Lang**, and our alumni who were so generous with their time, especially **Kathy Knothe Sheehan, '73, Jackson Murphy, '16 and Tina Coblisch Gierka, '86**. In addition, we are grateful for the publicity and media coverage by the **Times Union, Saratogian, Troy Record, Berkshire Edge and ABC News 10**.

And, finally, special thanks to

**Maureen Casale Mainello, '79 and Bella Napoli bakery** for providing the delicious reception desserts!

**ENJOY THE SHOW!**



# MAUREEN STAPLETON '42

STAGE & SCREEN SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 | 2:00PM  
@ **MAUREEN STAPLETON THEATER**  
Hudson Valley Community College  
80 Vandenberg Avenue, Troy, NY

*This special Pre-Oscar celebration will follow Maureen's journey from her early years in Troy to her stage debut on Broadway, her artistic collaboration with legendary playwright Tennessee Williams and her leap to the big screen.*

*Presented in association with Hudson Valley Community College & the Hart-Cluett Museum.*



CELEBRATING THE CINEMATIC AND THEATRICAL LEGACY OF A **CRUSADER FROM TROY.**



Enjoy issues of The Torch, Triune, back issues of alumni newsletters, update your contact information and more by stepping into the History Department here!

Let's be social!



**Your investment makes a DIFFERENCE!**  
Support Catholic Education at  
Catholic Central School by clicking here...  
**THANK YOU!**

**Our Contact Information**  
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