



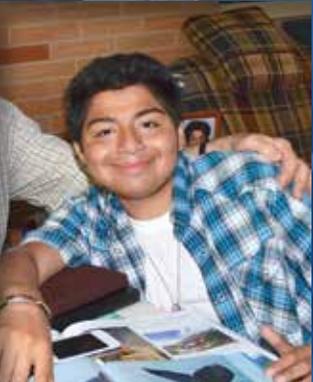
FALL  
2014



# CONNECTION

CLEVELAND CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## All You Need Is Love

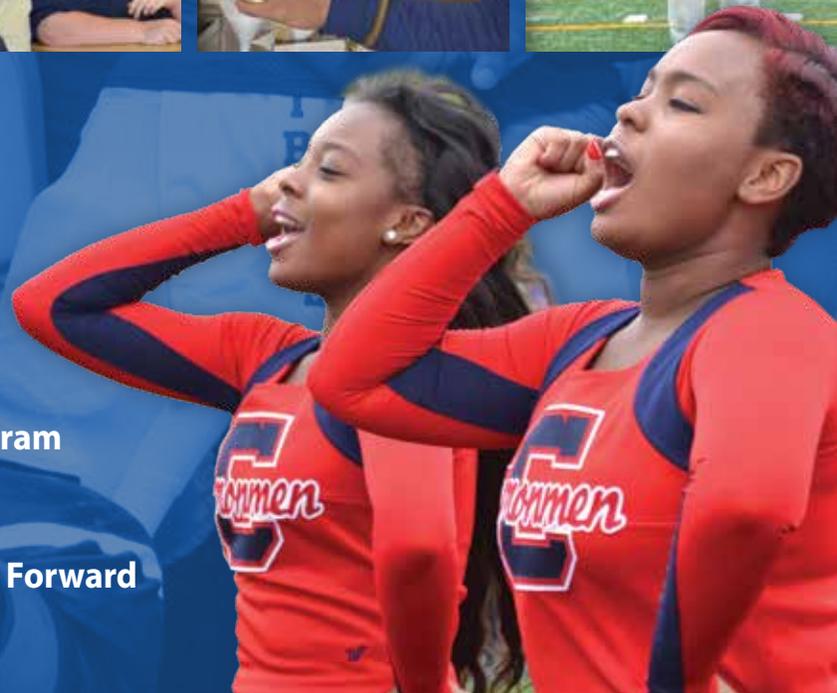


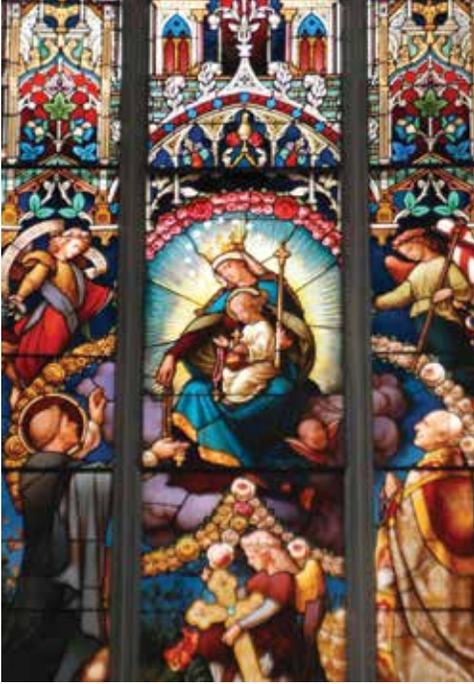
Also inside:

Third Federal Work Service Scholarship Program  
Yields Outstanding Results

Class of 2014 Standouts

Advisory Board Member Allyn Davies Pays it Forward

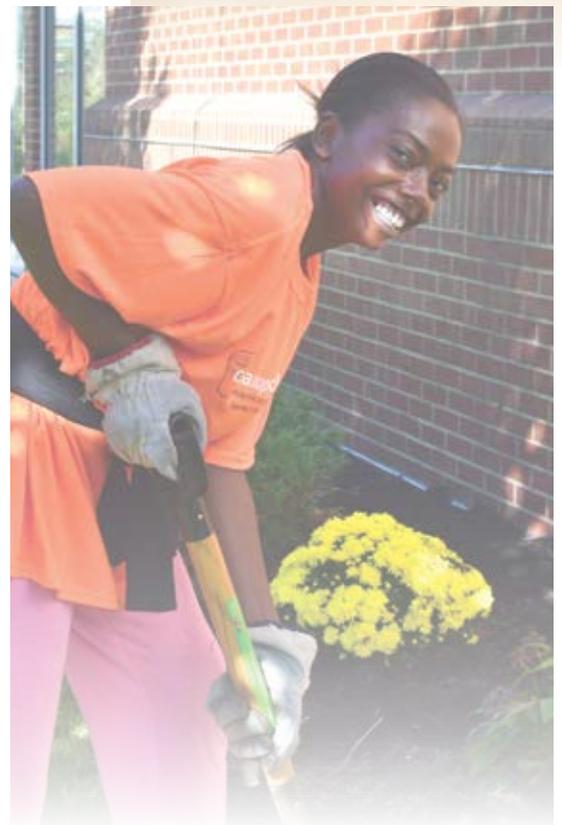




# Mission



**Rooted** in Gospel values  
and **Catholic tradition**,  
Cleveland Central Catholic High School  
educates and **prepares**  
**diverse young men and women**  
for the future and **challenges**  
them to excel and  
**deepen** their faith  
**to responsibly serve** God, church  
and community.



# Contents

Fall 2014

## From the President and Principal

Letter from Leo Hyland.....	4
Letter from Sister Allison Marie .....	5

## Feature Articles

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE .....	6
Third Federal Work Service Scholarship Program Yields Outstanding Results .....	8
Class of 2014 Standouts.....	10
CCC Advisory Board Member Allyn Davies Pays it Forward.....	14
Cleveland Central Catholic Bids Final Farewell to "Magnificent 7".....	16

## Advancement

Letter from Patrick J. DiSalvatore, Director.....	20
Cleanup + Clams .....	21
Opportunities to Support CCC, Lunch & Learn, Recognition Night .....	22

## School News .....

23

## Alumni News

Grand Reunion.....	24
--------------------	----

## Fall Sports .....

26

## Giving .....

30



Leo P. Hyland, President

Sister Allison Marie Gusdanovic,  
SND, Principal

Dr. Lanny Hollis, Associate Principal

John Psenicska '87, Dean of Students

John Crawford Jr. '84, Associate Dean  
of Students

Patrick J. DiSalvatore, Director of  
Advancement

William Sluzewski, Director of Annual Giving  
and Alumni Relations

Carmella Davies, Director of Admissions

Maggie Lash, Director of Athletics

Please send address changes and any correspondence regarding this publication to:

Kathy Schwartzfigure-Yopp  
Data Base/Information Manager and Website Coordinator  
Cleveland Central Catholic High School  
6550 Baxter Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44205  
yoppkat@centralcatholicichs.org  
216.441.4700 x 231

For information on giving opportunities, please contact:

Patrick J. DiSalvatore  
Director of Advancement  
Cleveland Central Catholic High School  
6550 Baxter Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44205  
disalvatorepat@centralcatholicichs.org  
216.641.2034

[www.centralcatholicichs.org](http://www.centralcatholicichs.org)

Connection is a publication of the Advancement Office  
Written, designed and produced by Write 2 the Point  
Photography: Allen Clark, Sr. Karen Dolovacky, William Sluzewski and Margie Wilber





Leo Hyland

“The class of 2014 graduated 100 percent of its members – and over 85 percent were admitted to college.”



## From the President

**A**s we celebrate the 45th Anniversary of the opening of Cleveland Central Catholic in 1969, it is an appropriate time to reflect on our school’s many accomplishments and blessings. In doing so, we naturally feel a sense of gratitude and appreciation for the thousands of people who have been part of the amazing story that is Cleveland Central Catholic High School.

Thanks and praise to God, foremost, but also to the Diocese of Cleveland, for the vision and commitment to this important and very special ministry in the city. We also must recognize and thank the Central Catholic administrators, faculty and staff members, whose dedication and service through these years has been the hallmark of faith and excellence in our community. We also thank all the alumni, families, students, and friends – including our many corporate and foundation partners – who have provided the love, care, and financial support that have allowed CCC to thrive. This includes, in a special way, the communities of our founding parishes: Our Lady of Lourdes, St. John Cantius, St. Michael, and St. Stanislaus.

This fall, our school enrollment reached 625, a 25-year high and a 5.9 percent gain over last year. Our enrollment is at capacity and we have wait lists on each grade level. This is clearly great news for our school, but it does present some challenges for both our current operations and future planning. This year we are focused on addressing these items, while also determining how best to organize and prioritize CCC’s competing needs – and how to generate the financial resources that will be required to do so. To that end, the CCC Board of Advisors earlier this year created a special Steering Committee to begin examining these issues and to recommend specific actions to move CCC forward.

The leadership provided by this group has made excellent progress in positioning CCC for future success. Their work has helped establish the needs that must be addressed in order to enhance the “CCC experience” for the next generation of students in our community. In addition, we spent a significant amount of time and energy this summer engaging our constituents in creating a new “shared vision” of what CCC might evolve into over the next several years. The combination of these activities has generated a great deal of excitement regarding Central Catholic’s future.

We are grateful for a letter of endorsement of our plans from Bishop Richard G. Lennon. “Our diocesan commitment to Catholic Education and our schools remains steadfast and I look forward to our continued partnership to carry forth this critical ministry in the heart of Cleveland,” he wrote recently. Bolstered by this endorsement, and inspired by the energy of propelling our school to its next level, we now can take the action that will transform today’s shared vision into tomorrow’s reality.

Thanks to a generous anonymous gift, Central Catholic was able to hire Partners in Mission, a Boston-based consulting group that specializes in helping Catholic schools advance their mission. We engaged this firm to counsel our efforts as our new vision takes form. Partners in Mission has been actively assessing our needs and interviewing stakeholders. They will be meeting with our CCC Advisory Board in November to share their findings. Through that dialogue and counsel’s recommendations, we will have a better understanding of CCC’s relative priorities.

As we progress as a community of faith, I ask each of you to be an advocate for Catholic education at Cleveland Central Catholic. The CCC Class of 2014 graduated 100 percent of its members – and over 85 percent were admitted to college. Our ministry here at Cleveland Central Catholic is providing a hopeful future for hundreds of young people each year. Your investment in our efforts is welcome and appreciated.



Sister Allison Marie

“When students see content as relevant, they are able to dig deeper and make conjectures about alternate solutions to a real problem.”



## From the Principal

In walking through the halls and visiting classrooms, a Cleveland Central Catholic visitor commented, “Your students are so friendly and polite!” Another said, “This is a happy place.” What is at the core of this energy? When students are asked about their experience, they describe Cleveland Central Catholic as a family where teachers care about them.

Researchers who ask students to describe the attributes of a caring teacher report responses such as: caring teachers help me with my homework; they expect me to do well; they don’t let me give up; they answer my questions; they explain things to me; they show me where I made my mistake; they help me understand why what we are learning is important; they expect me to behave.

In early October, as part of a professional day for our instructional staff, two teachers shared how they have been implementing what they learned at a conference they attended last spring sponsored by the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD). Although the focus of the workshop was on implementation of the Common Core curriculum, these teachers described classroom behaviors that mirror what students describe as “caring.”

One of our math teachers, Jayce Bailey `06, described how he has been using collaborative groups, giving students an opportunity to explain their thinking and teach each other. Not only does the collaboration help to reinforce the content, it also builds confidence.

In geometry class, as Mr. Bailey was moving from group to group to assist them, one group said, “Go on to another group - we have it; we don’t need you!” Clearly, the members of that group had been empowered to take responsibility for their own learning and were proud of it. They had found value in being able to think for themselves. That kind of response does not happen by accident. The teacher had taken students where they were, modeled the thought processes required for problem solving, and facilitated their learning.

English teacher Cassandra Busch described a unit on “Romeo and Juliet.” She found a number of articles on modern day “star-crossed lovers” and had each group read a different article, making connections between a tragedy set in the late 1500s to today. When students see content as relevant, they are able to dig deeper and make conjectures about alternate solutions to a real problem. How did Romeo and Juliet communicate with their parents? Did Romeo or Juliet really know what their parents thought? What was at the heart of this tragedy? What could they have done differently?

These examples exemplify how the mission of Cleveland Central Catholic is lived out on a day-to-day basis. Students are challenged to excel; they experience an environment where they know that adults care about them and want them to succeed. It is incredibly gratifying to work with dedicated staff who truly care about the students. As Saint Julie said, “Oh how good is the good God!”

*Sister Allison Marie, SND*

All  
You  
Need  
is



(Left to right) Pat, Rich and José Dybzinski in their home.

## Despite overwhelming challenges, CCC student José Dybzinski models strength & faith

Seventeen-year-old José Dybzinski is like most young men his age. He enjoys watching YouTube videos on his iPad; texting friends at all hours of the day and night; reading the “Hunger Games” trilogy and then comparing the books to the movies; and listening to music. His favorite song is a classic: “All You Need is Love,” by the Beatles. Perhaps, this is where José begins to differ from his peers.

José knows a lot about love for such a young man. At 9 months old, José was adopted by Pat and Rich Dybzinski, of Cleveland, from Guatemala, South America in 1997. The Dybzinskis had also adopted a daughter, Marie, from Paraguay in 1995.

“I love my parents and thank them for adopting me. If not, I would have been dead already. My mom and dad are my heroes. They gave me a chance to go to school, find a job, get married, have children and, hopefully, die an old man,” states José, seated with his parents this afternoon around the family dining room table. Pat, Rich and José reminisce as they flip through family photos and then commence with their heart-wrenching story.

In 2001, at age 4, José faced his first brush with death, spending 16 days in the Intensive Care Unit of University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital, having been born with underdeveloped and scarred kidneys. In 2010, as a sixth grader at Julie Billiard (JB) School, José was diagnosed with leukemia. What followed were chemotherapy treatments, seizures, and worsening kidney function.

“It was difficult to watch. He was tethered to a hospital bed and in such pain,” the loving father remembers, choked with emotion. “José is the best kid you will ever meet. He is so brave and gives you hope. He gives everyone hope.”



"When I received chemo, it was sad," José recalls. "I lost all my hair, and I couldn't be with my friends all day at Julie Billiard." Thankfully, José's cancer went into remission, but the chemotherapy further damaged his kidneys, causing José to need dialysis – three days a week for four hours at a time. Those treatments occurred at the Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital for Rehabilitation on Shaker Boulevard.

### Health problems continue to avalanche

"Due to the necessary steroid use as part of his treatment, José sustained problems with his hip joint," explains his mother, Pat Dybzinski, a registered nurse at the Cleveland Clinic. "This caused septic arthritis, and José was often forced to use a wheelchair or walker to get around."

Despite the slew of complicated health problems, doctors, nurses, family and friends, and classmates and faculty at Cleveland Central Catholic celebrate José's example of love and courage.

In 2012, José received the Cleveland Clinic's Courage Award that honors young, courageous patients for their bravery. Physicians at the Cleveland Clinic described José at the ceremony: "Despite his medical issues, José is a consummate optimist. He greets each day with a smile, seeking the positive in every situation and cherishing each encounter he has with others. ... His positivity is infectious and his confidence admired by all he meets."

### Fast forward to January 27, 2014.

The CCC sophomore and his parents receive the call they have been praying for – there is a match. José will be receiving a new kidney.

While overjoyed, the news was bittersweet for the Dybzinski family, who learned the kidney had come from a young man who had died in an automobile accident at the age of 24. They later received a card from the recipient's father, letting the Dybzinskis know how important it was for their son to be an organ donor. The letter went on to wish José a happy life.

The kidney transplant was a success. Within eight days, the young man left the Cleveland Clinic and returned home. José's faith continues to sustain him, as it sustains his mother, father and sister. Around his neck, José wears an emblem that reads: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6)

### Welcome home

The junior at Cleveland Central Catholic High School greeted his classmates this fall on his feet, his wheelchair replaced with a cane for balance – no small feat for the young man who has battled serious health issues most of his life.

"My wish is to run again – to be strong again," José exclaims. "I want to climb a mountain one day – Mt. McKinley."

José will need two knee replacements and a left hip replacement in the months to come – a side effect of the chemotherapy. While these obstacles stand before him, the young man remains positive.



**"José is the best kid you will ever meet. He is so brave and gives you hope. He gives everyone hope."**  
*– Rich Dybzinski*

"God gives me the strength to go through it. God is first in my life. My family is second. And I am third," José states. "I want to say thank you to my parents for helping me go through all these health problems. For their love and sacrifice. I am happy to be back at Cleveland Central Catholic this fall. CCC is like home. The kids are really nice and always ask how I am doing. The teachers are great. In fact, when I was having my kidney transplant, they told me to take my time making up the school work. I was able to make it up," José says proudly.

Sister Allison Marie Gusdanovic, SND, principal of Cleveland Central Catholic, says, "José's courage is truly an inspiration to our school community, and he is embraced by faculty, staff, and students as a member of the Central Catholic family."

"Central Catholic really helped José," adds Rich. "The athletes would help wheel him around in his wheelchair to class. Everyone – faculty, administration, classmates – were all so kind and accommodating. Our faith has gotten us through. I often wonder how other people get

through illnesses in their family when they don't have faith."

"I have so much more energy now," José says excitedly, his large brown eyes bouncing from object to object around his home. "Some nights I have trouble falling asleep. I wrote a few quotes in my journal that inspire me:

***'Even during your darkest moments, God still has a plan for you to shine bright.'***

***'Pain demands to be felt but life demands to be lived.'***

"If anyone is struggling, please remember: Don't give up, keep the faith, and love is all you need."



# Third Federal Work Service Scholarship Program Yields Outstanding Results



Kurt Karakul, executive director of Third Federal Foundation.

In 2007, Third Federal Savings & Loan generously offered financial assistance to students at Cleveland Central Catholic (CCC) High School in exchange for service hours within the community through the Work Service Scholarship Program. Now in its seventh year, the program's results speak for themselves. Cleveland Central Catholic reports in 2014 a 100 percent graduation rate annually with 85 percent going on to attend college – statistics far above the local, state and national averages.

Leo Hyland, president of Cleveland Central Catholic, believes the Work Service Program helps students appreciate their education, learn the value of serving others, and gain valuable work experience. Hyland praises Marc Stefanski, President/CEO of Third Federal, for being a neighborhood hero for his generous support of the community and the Catholic high school.

“Third Federal is the primary anchor of Slavic Village, and one of the reasons Central Catholic exists today. Third Federal Foundation stepped in offering \$10 tuition credits for each hour of community or school service. This reduces the students’ tuition balance. Without this program, many families could not afford to send their children to Central Catholic,” Hyland says.

Commitment to community has been a core value of Third Federal Savings & Loan since its founding in 1938 by Ben and Gerome Stefanski. Its mission has also remained the same: help people achieve the dream of home ownership and financial security. Over the years, Third Federal became the largest mortgage broker in Ohio, and by the late 1990s, the Savings & Loan had outgrown its national headquarters on Broadway Avenue in Cleveland. Rather than leave the community, Marc Stefanski chose to stay in Slavic Village, investing \$25 million in facility expansions.

David Reavis, Marketing and Public Relations at Third Federal, says, "Third Federal bases everything we do on four guiding principles: concern for others, trust, respect and a commitment to excellence. Now after more than 75 years, we still work hard to make sure these principles show in everything we do – which includes giving back to the community that supported us through the years."

Kurt Karakul, executive director of Third Federal Foundation, says the Foundation's goal is to support education through the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and Cleveland Central Catholic, and support the community. The Foundation has already provided more than \$2.5 million in tuition assistance to CCC through its Work Service Scholarship Program, \$1.5 million for capital improvements to the high school, and \$640,000 for the new athletic field.

"Marc's brilliant idea to offer tuition assistance through the Work Service Scholarship Program and his continued commitment ensures the future success of Central Catholic," Hyland insists.

Approximately 85 percent of Cleveland Central Catholic families live near or below the poverty level. Most can receive one of four state-funded vouchers to help cover tuition costs. With the Work Service Scholarship Program, many families can earn the remaining tuition balance. "Our students also 'learn to earn' through this program, which is a valuable lesson that will serve them throughout their lives," notes Hyland.

CCC's president says students, their parents, and even other family members can work and earn tuition credit for the student. Central



*Kurt Karakul welcomes students to the Ironmen's first home football game.*

**The Foundation has already provided more than \$2.5 million in tuition assistance to CCC through its Work Service Scholarship Program, \$1.5 million for capital improvements to the high school, and \$640,000 for the new athletic field.**

Catholic reports the hours worked to Third Federal, which then cuts a check to CCC for the hours served.

Karakul says this is just one initiative Third Federal has been involved in to help its neighbors. "Through the Broadway Initiative, Third Federal has teamed with other institutions to rebuild the brick and mortar of this depressed community. Improvements include a new RTA stop, a Boys and Girls Club, and financial support of Cleveland Metropolitan School District's Mound-STEM school in Slavic Village, the first LEED-certified school in Ohio," says Karakul proudly.

He says Third Federal Foundation has committed one-third of a million dollars annually to CCC's Work Service Scholarship Program. Work projects through this program include neighborhood cleanup projects, volunteering at Slavic Village festivals, campus cleanups, and much more. "Central Catholic students shovel the sidewalks and mow the lawns for the elderly in the neighborhood," Reavis adds. "Other CCC students tutor at the Boys & Girls Club and at the University Settlement."

"There are any number of projects Central Catholic students have been involved in. As these kids got out and worked in their community, they valued their education more," describes Karakul. "They saw how their education could help them and their community. The Work Service Scholarship Program has been spectacular."

"Marc Stefanski is appreciative of the customers who have stayed loyal to the Savings & Loan. Marc is a classic example of leadership by example. He lives Third Federal's core values every day, both in his personal life and at work here," says Reavis.

Hyland says the Work Service Scholarship Program has been a huge success, benefitting the community served and students who receive an outstanding education at Central Catholic. "The Central Catholic Board of Advisors, administration, faculty and students want to thank Marc Stefanski and the leadership team at Third Federal for their continued generosity and financial support of Central Catholic. You are wonderful role models and neighbors who have impacted generations to come."



# Class of 2014 Standouts

*Kudos to the following graduates who e...*

### Marissa Alvarado



Marissa Alvarado truly embraced the cultural diversity of Cleveland Central Catholic. A member of the student senate, she discovered common ground among her classmates, namely the desire for a quality education and a bright future. With a 3.8 grade point average, Marissa capitalized on CCC's academic opportunities and broadened her world view.

"Attending CCC showed me that we are in a world of people from different walks of life," she says. "I met people with similar and different backgrounds from my own. I learned that although we started life out differently, we came here for a common and good reason—to further our education and better our future and lives."

Although she is not Catholic, attending a Catholic high school allowed Marissa to grow in her faith, she says. Classroom discussions opened her mind to facets of her own religion and helped her apply classroom knowledge to her life. She felt very fortunate to receive financial aid, grants and scholarship that made it possible for her to attend CCC. Marissa now attends Kent State University and majors in child and youth development. She is grateful to her alma mater for steering her toward her career path.

**"Central Catholic definitely helped me choose what I wanted to do with my future,"** says Marissa. "The Bridges programs and other sessions we went to helped me decide what I wanted to do. CCC is a great school, filled with hardworking teachers and staff who want to help you. I know this because they helped me be successful."



### Manuel Carrion



When asked about his faith journey as a Central Catholic student, Manuel Carrion says he really enjoyed religion class. He shares his fondness for the story of David and Goliath. As a person with autism, Manuel can identify with David's struggle. Thanks to his faith perseverance, he also identifies with David's triumph.

"The story of David and Goliath was one of my all-time favorites because it is kind of like me when I was young," says Manuel. "The lion is like the obstacles. When I grew up, I succeeded. I conquered, kind of like David conquered Goliath. The obstacles were like problems in school—faith helped me conquer them."

Manuel's mother, Carmen Colombani-Ealy, explains that after a tragic automobile accident in which his grandmother died, Manuel's family moved to Cleveland from Sharon, Pennsylvania. They decided to enroll Manuel at Central Catholic for his senior year. The special services available at CCC were deciding factors in school selection.

"Manuel is a high-functioning autistic kid," says Carmen. "Central Catholic was able to work with him. Thanks to the help of CCC professionals, Manuel succeeded. He made all of us proud! With the right help, he can succeed in life."

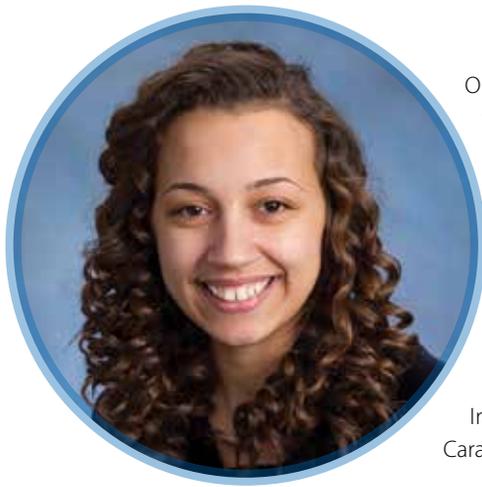
This fall, Manuel will study graphic design or computer technology at Cuyahoga Community College. He is excited about the future and is thankful for those at CCC who helped prepare him for the next leg of his academic journey.

**"I liked the principal and teachers," he says. "They really helped me out and gave me encouragement.** I want to thank Mr. Rock (English) and Dr. Hynes (Science) for helping me succeed in school."



# Exemplify the spirit of Cleveland Catholic High School

## Cara Guidaitis



On her first day as a freshman at Cleveland Central Catholic, Cara Guidaitis admits that she was nervous. It did not take long, however, for her to feel comfortable in her new surroundings. After all, being an Ironman was something Cara had always hoped for.

"My heart was always set on Central—my grandmother graduated from CCC when it was four schools," she says.

**"If anyone asks me what Central means to me, I would say it was a family."**

Cara went on to earn a 3.7 grade point average and participate in student council, softball, Student Ambassadors, and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD). Though Catholic education can be expensive, Cara and her family learned that a CCC education was attainable. From financial aid to scholarships to work programs, CCC works with students and families to make tuition affordable.

"Affording Central wasn't the easiest thing, but the school helped us a lot," says Cara. "They have a student work program; I stayed after school to work and earn money toward my tuition."

"Even though I came from the neighborhood that I came from, I learned to believe in myself," she continues. "A lot of teachers inspired us to be the best people we could be. I got a lot of that at Central – to be the best person I could possibly be."

Cara says she had an amazing experience with sports at Central. That experience influenced her career path—she is studying athletic training at the University of Mount Union, Alliance, Ohio. Reflecting on her high school years, Cara offers some advice for current CCC students. "Do not be afraid of what Central is going to offer you. Everyone there is like a family. Be comfortable and take advantage of all the school has to offer."



## Chanautica Hall



As a member of the National Honor Society, Student Senate, and cheerleading squad, Chanautica Hall jumped right into the CCC experience, all while earning a 4.2 grade point average. Hard work, along with the support of school staff and faculty, helped her reach her goals.

"Attending CCC made me feel like everyone wanted me to graduate and be successful," she says.

In addition to her strong commitment to academics and extracurriculars, Chanautica remained committed to her faith. Being immersed in a faith-based school helped her maintain her spiritual life.

**"We prayed every day, so I was on top spiritually,"** she says. "My Christian faith was not something that I could put off. Some people backslide (in faith), but I couldn't because it was always there. I would pray to get through classes. I enjoyed Ms. Modic's religion class. That really helped me learn about the Catholic faith and understand it."

During her senior year, Chanautica suffered from iron deficiency, causing her to miss several school days. The CCC family banded together to help Chanautica stay on track as she dealt with absences, fatigue and make-up work. "My teachers would call my mom and gather up my homework and help me catch up after class," she recalls. "My teachers and friends really helped me."

Chanautica has fond memories of Senior Career Experience Week, when she shadowed nurses and nurse practitioners at University Hospitals Case Medical Center. The experience helped shape her vision for the future. Currently enrolled at Ursuline College, Chanautica is studying to become a neonatal nurse practitioner.

"Central Catholic is a great school," she says. "All of the teachers will help you if you have the motivation. Life is what you make it. If you're willing to learn, reach for the sky. You have no limits."





## Class of 2014 Standouts

*Kudos to the following graduates who e...*

### Kathy Lewicki



The familial atmosphere at Central Catholic left a lasting impression on Kathy Lewicki. "CCC felt like a second family," she says. **"I felt very welcomed and accepted. We all came from different backgrounds, religions and values, but there was no judgment."**

Taking honors classes both challenged and encouraged Kathy. She was able to maintain a 3.7 grade point average, serve as captain of the cross country and track teams, and participate in National Honor Society and Student Ambassadors. Kathy relied on her faith to help her through all aspects of life, including school.

"God was always with me, throughout my whole life," she says. "Attending CCC—and taking theology classes and praying together—strengthened my faith. I learned about my religion and others."

She adds that she feels very lucky to have received financial aid, grants and scholarship that made it possible for her to attend Central Catholic. Kathy is grateful for the many opportunities that CCC afforded her, including participation in Look Up to Cleveland, a leadership development and diversity awareness program for Greater Cleveland's outstanding high school leaders. The program is part of the Cleveland Leadership Center.

Kathy's appreciation for cultural diversity spurred her to spend the summer of 2013 in Poland. She enjoyed her time there so much that she decided to expand on the experience. In September, Kathy journeyed to Kraków. For 10 months, she will study Polish language and culture at Jagiellonian University, the oldest university in Poland. When she returns, Kathy will attend Cleveland State University. She plans to pursue a career in law.



### Mary Nekl



Whether playing softball and basketball or participating in Drama Club, Campus Ministry or Ski Club, Mary Nekl immersed herself in the Central Catholic experience and maintained a 4.3 grade point average. Balancing academics and extracurricular activities gave Mary the chance to share experiences with many fellow students.

"Personally, attending CCC showed me how to work in diverse situations," she says. "Academically, it helped me improve skills." Mary adds that she made big strides in subjects that were once her biggest challenges, including science.

"Science is the most challenging subject for me," she explains. "I always wanted to be a dentist. So, I am going to attend Hiram College and major in biology. After that, I want to go to dental school!"

In addition to strengthening her academic life, attending Central Catholic and daily exposure to gospel values fortified Mary's spiritual life.

**"I felt very comfortable going to CCC because it felt like a family,"** she adds. "Everyone is welcoming."



# Exemplify the spirit of Cleveland Catholic High School

## Cordaireus Percy-Hubbard



Cordaireus Percy-Hubbard made the most of his four years at Central Catholic. He earned a 3.7 grade point average and was involved in track and field and cross country. He served as Key Club president and co-captain of the Soccer Club. CCC impacted Cordaireus in variety of ways.

When asked what it meant to him to attend Cleveland Central Catholic, Cordaireus says, "It meant being the underdog at every occasion. It meant being the one to go above the expectations of other schools and doubters. To me, being a CCC student meant being a child of faith, intellect and prosperity."

Cordaireus notes that attending Central Catholic provided him the opportunity to understand the viewpoints of people from other races and religions.

**"CCC made me look into my faith, and helped me find the core reasons as to why I chose to be what I am today,"** he adds. "Great teachers like Mr. Zito helped influence me to look deeper and actually understand why religion is so important in our world today. Academically, CCC allowed me to build a great work habit and it helped me to be well prepared for college."

Currently, Cordaireus is pursuing a degree in exercise science at Kent State University. He credits Central Catholic sports programs for helping drive his passion for sports and physical fitness.

## Samantha Stypa



Like her father, aunt and cousins, Samantha Stypa was destined to be an Ironman. The legacy student maintained a 4.0 grade point average and participated in volleyball, Student Ambassadors, Student Senate, and National Honor Society. In addition, she helped out with various sports programs through the Boosters. With encouragement from her teachers, Samantha gained confidence and embraced leadership opportunities at Central Catholic.

**"CCC—especially the teachers—helped open me up,"** she says. "I used to be shy, now I am more open. Student Senate helped me to become more of a leader. I was one of four delegates to help plan dances, Spirit Week, and Freshman Orientation Day."

Samantha appreciated the flexible class schedules which allowed her and other students to take two classes in the same subject within a single year.

"If I didn't go to Central, I don't think I would have been able to piggyback classes as much as I did," she explains. "I piggybacked math and science. This helped me get further in what I needed for college."

Samantha considered pursuing a degree in forensics, but after participating in a blood drive at CCC, she changed course. Currently, she is putting her math skills to great use by studying computer science at Walsh University, North Canton, Ohio.

# CCC Advisory Board Member

# Allyn Davies

## Pays it Forward

Allyn Davies adamantly believes in paying it forward. The former nurse, current business owner, and now five-year Cleveland Central Catholic Advisory Board member considers her life blessed. Davies says she now wants to help others achieve success.

This dynamic business woman earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Akron and worked as a nurse at University Hospitals of Cleveland and MetroHealth Medical Center prior to partnering with her husband to develop a successful business.

Today, Allyn and her husband, John Davies, own and operate Merrymeeting Group (MMG), a Cleveland-based firm involved in the acquisition and development of intellectual-property-driven businesses—focusing on franchising, technology, and related-business service sectors.

The 59-year-old dynamo's personal core values mirror MMG's corporate values, guiding her business and personal day-to-day decisions and behavior. These core values include maintaining integrity in all endeavors; interacting with others according to the golden rule; measuring performance by objectives; excellence in all your endeavors; and investing in people.

MMG's motto, "Helping People Help Themselves," effectively reflects her objective in serving on the Cleveland Central Catholic Advisory Board. "I want to help our students move ahead in life and become contributing members of their communities," Davies states enthusiastically.

She says she was first introduced to Cleveland Central Catholic through friends who invited her to attend a "Lunch & Learn" program on the high school's campus. "I was impressed with what I saw. Wonderful things were happening at the school. I heard how many of the students came from challenging circumstances but were graduating (100%) and going on to attend college (85%). I immediately asked how I could get involved."

Initially, she collected prom and bridesmaid dresses from friends to be used by students who couldn't afford to buy a prom dress while other dresses have been used in theatrical productions at the high school.

Married for 33 years, Davies reflects on the role of CCC in the area. "Cleveland Central Catholic is an anchor that brings the community together. What this school has been able to achieve in the lives of their students is nothing short of amazing," the energetic Advisory Board member insists. "Our students are taught about faith in action. They are taught how to treat each other with respect. And, they are taught service and the need to give back. I completely love my involvement here at Central Catholic. I would encourage others to get involved in the great work being done at Cleveland Central Catholic through financial gifts or service."

As for goals within the CCC Advisory Board, Davies would like to help bring more enrichment programs into the school and build closer relationships with vocational schools for those students who don't see college in their future.

No stranger to board service, Davies also serves on the Achievement Center for Children Gala Committee, Cleveland International Piano Association Board and Cuyahoga County Library Foundation Board.

"I like connecting with people and making a difference one-on-one," she reiterates. "My husband and I have been very fortunate in life. I believe in the truth of scripture that reads, 'to those who receive much, much is expected.'"

Leo Hyland, president of Cleveland Central Catholic High School, is thrilled to have Allyn Davies on CCC's Advisory Board. "We have an outstanding Advisory Board. Allyn arrived at CCC at the same time I did. She brings energy, enthusiasm and is always present – attending meetings, participating in activities and special events on campus. She is an A+ board member, and we are fortunate to have her," exclaims Hyland.

"I believe I bring many things to the Central Catholic Advisory Board – enthusiasm, logistics, event planning, organizational skills, to name a few," Davies says with a nod. "I think Cleveland Central Catholic is one of the best kept secrets in Cuyahoga County. It's important we get the word out."

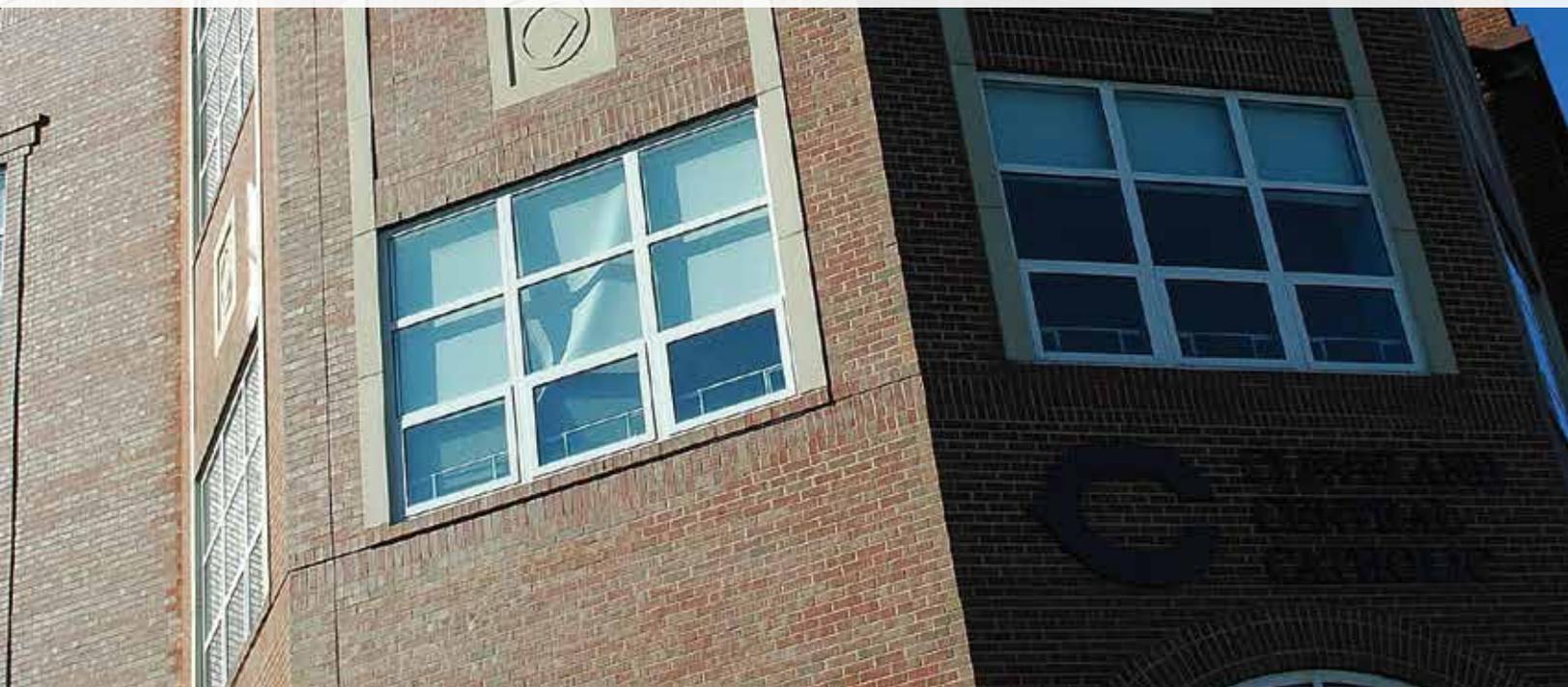


*Allyn Davies, CCC Advisory Board member and Merrymeeting co-owner.*





**“I was impressed with what I saw. Wonderful things were happening at the school. I heard how many of the students came from challenging circumstances but were graduating (100%) and going on to attend college (85%). I immediately asked how I could get involved.”**





# Cleveland Central Catholic Bids Final Farewell to “Magnificent 7”



While Marvel Comics has Ironman, Captain America, Hulk, Wolverine and Spider-Man, and DC Comics has Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman and Shazam, Cleveland Central Catholic boasts its own cast of superheroes, including the “Magnificent 7.”



By definition, a superhero is one that displays the following traits: a strong moral code; a motivation, such as a sense of responsibility, a formal calling, or a strong belief in justice; and exceptional skills or extraordinary powers. A superhero need not possess superhuman powers but, like Batman, have mastered skills to a remarkable degree.

The Magnificent 7 of Fred Badar, Joe Kilburg, Ellen Fasko Howard, Ron Gilak, Lin Sinclair, Christine Pelegrin Lottig, and Joanne Kasayka Hynes certainly meets the criteria for superhero with flying colors. No spandex, cape or mask hid their identities as they boldly worked in the public eye, helping students overcome such villains as poverty, illiteracy, ignorance and injustice and gain life skills to serve them into the future. We applaud these seven teachers as they now enjoy retirement.



**Fred Badar** joined the staff of Cleveland Central Catholic in 1970. Strong moral code? Sense of formal calling? Master of skills? You bet. Badar graduated from Cathedral Latin School in 1966 and John Carroll University in 1970. That fall, he began teaching at Cleveland Central Catholic and never looked back.

“Every day I tried to challenge my students to be the best they can be,” Badar says. He taught computer science, biology, and history in the earlier years and later business education, accounting and computer science at CCC. Badar also coached freshman, JV and varsity football for decades and served many years as senior class moderator.

“Our students are basically inner-city kids from diverse cultural backgrounds. They come to school with problems and fears. So, it was more than just teaching them computer or business skills. It was about teaching them life skills,” Badar states. “The students, through their actions and words, have made CCC very rewarding for me.”

**Badar’s superhero skills:** *excellent teacher, avid listener, a man of justice.*



**Joe Kilburg** began teaching at CCC in 1979 and taught at CCC until 2013. He actually worked in the attached junior high of St. Michael’s since 1970. Master of skills? You name it, Kilburg has mastered it. Kilburg taught physical education, health, American history, government, current affairs, physical science, integrated science I & II, biology and

English study skills. He also coached baseball, soccer, golf, bowling, and CYO girls basketball, while assisting with freshman and JV football. “The Lady Ironmen got me a league Coach of the Year award three times with their efforts,” recalls Kilburg, quick to reflect credit onto the players themselves.

“Central has always been family. I worked with great people over the years. While I was offered other teaching positions, I chose to stay here because of the people.”

He says the Mag 7 were only those that stayed the longest, but there were great faculty people throughout the years. “CCC was a place that presented new adventures every day. The multiple buildings, flexible schedules, and teacher freedom in terms of creativity and class management gave teachers the opportunity to be as creative and innovative as their minds could be. Many times you could find someone to share the idea and go cross-curricular,” describes Kilburg.

Kilburg is especially appreciative to have taught at a Catholic high school these many years. “It was an extension of my educational experience and gave me the freedom to touch on the ethical and moral aspects of life. I felt I could help guide students without wondering if this was acceptable. I think right and wrong is right and wrong. Sadly, in public schools teachers can get in trouble for getting into some of these areas.”

He continues, “Over the years, I have taught non-Catholic (Muslim, Baptist, etc.) students who were able to see our faith in a different light, learn tolerance, and see an open-mindedness toward others while recognizing some of the similarities in what they believed compared to us.”

“The Magnificent 7 grew into a core of people who could envision each others’ ideas and help one another accomplish as many of these as we could -- by listening, encouraging, seeking advice, believing in and supporting in any way possible,” Kilburg describes. “We were not just ‘comrades in arms’ but friends. We were all strong in our ‘wants’ but were able to talk things out, compromise, and determine what was best for the students and school. Central always seemed to be point one.”

**Kilburg’s superhero traits:** *exceptional teaching skills, strong sense of responsibility, tireless commitment to serve.*



**Ellen Fasko Howard** earned a rock-solid reputation for possessing a creative mind and spirit. For almost 44 years, Howard taught art including Drawing I, II, III-IV and Photography. During the last three decades, she focused on teaching Introductory Drawing, Photography II and Related Arts as well. But that was only a miniscule part of her contributions to Cleveland Central Catholic. The gifted educator also wrote the Connection magazine, created theater costumes, moderated the Ingot yearbook, constructed floats, photographed events, archived the school’s history, assembled displays, managed field trips and, most importantly, loved the students.

A daughter of Slavic Village, Howard attended Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. She earned an undergraduate degree from Notre Dame College and post-graduate credits from Cleveland Institute of Art, Kent State University, and other institutions.

“I enjoyed my classes and my colleagues. The challenges of the early decades energized me, and no two days were the same,” Howard says. “The Sisters of Notre Dame taught me in elementary school, high school and college. It was wonderful to teach with them at CCC.”

Howard’s creative hand guided students within and outside the classroom. Rather than donning a cape, her superhero attire included a paint-spattered apron and camera around her neck. Students flocked to her for advice and assistance where Howard encouraged them to reach high and pursue rewarding careers -- whether in the fields of journalism, design, technical theater or photography or business, medicine, education or law.

“I grew up in a family where depression-era parents did not waste anything. In my art classes, we recycled, reused and repurposed materials before that became popular,” she describes with a smile. “The camaraderie of the staff has been a constant, even as the names and faces change. Teachers who have come and gone validate this. As for the

Magnificent 7, Fred and Joe were classmates at Cathedral Latin High School, Class of 1966. Fred and I started teaching together in the fall of 1970. The other six were all coaches at one time or another. Often I photographed their teams and games.”

When the consummate educator reflects on her teaching career, Howard is most proud of the individual students and adults they became. “From the early days, these would be yearbook staff members and drama students who worked on costumes and sets. It was fun to watch them develop their talents. Many of them keep in touch,” Howard concludes. “Over the last three decades, all students could benefit from the art program: those who were interested in art school; those who needed to discover their talents; and those who needed basic art education. In my last year as department chairperson, many CCC students elected art classes beyond the requirements.”

**Strive. Reach. Endure. Prevail. Howard's superhero skills are epic.**



Heroine of the highest order, **Lin Sinclair** is truly a Wonder Woman. The formidable educator taught at CCC for 31 years including senior level English classes that truly captured her students' imaginations, introducing them to Shakespeare, English and British literature, and contemporary writing.

She remarks, “The quality of the faculty and staff was a contributing factor to my remaining at CCC for so many years. As the years passed, we realized that classroom instruction was only one part of our jobs. It was important to educate the whole child...from teaching what fork to use at a formal dinner to the appropriate way to meet and greet people. Learning the Social skills needed to exist beyond their own neighborhoods was as important as academic learning.”

Sinclair coached girls volleyball and softball and the only boys volleyball team from 1994-1997. She also served as class moderator and advised the staff of the Millwrite and Cauldron publications. In addition, Sinclair chaired and served on the boards for chemical dependency and discipline review. Finally, she served as a representative to CHALTA, the teachers' union for Catholic High School & Academy Lay Teachers, where she earned a stellar reputation for tirelessly negotiating on behalf of teachers.

“I taught in Catholic schools because I am a product of Catholic education. Being in a faith-filled community provides the opportunity to discuss literature from a common reference point. It also enables discipline to be growth oriented rather than punishment centered. It creates an environment of learning as an integral part of the whole day not just in the classroom.

She continues, “Cleveland Central Catholic has the potential to break the cycle of poverty for the families of its students. The measure of its success lies in the percentage of students who become successful contributing members of their communities. That does

not mean the number of college graduates or advanced degrees. It means the number of graduates who take responsibility for their actions, maintain gainful employment, take family responsibility seriously and give back to the community.”

**Sinclair's superhero skills: Motivated, dedicated, strong moral code.**



Who was that self-controlled, respected, responsible PE, family health and physical education instructor whose achievements remain legendary? **Chris Lottig** joined the CCC staff in 1976 and retired June 2013. Her many recognized accomplishments at CCC included a conference championship. Yet, her consistent teaching style and unwavering high standards with an upbeat manner is what the Central family will forever remember.

“I continued at CCC for so many years because I became ‘hooked,’” Lottig says. “I got hooked on the CCC environment, the faculty, the staff and the students. I became involved in the athletic department which added to the commitment I made to the school.”

Lottig attended Catholic schools her entire life. “Making a decision to teach at one was very easy,” insists the faith-filled educator. “I enjoyed the structure and values provided by a Catholic education. Parents send their children to a school that will provide a safe learning environment that supports the values they wish to instill in their children. It was important that I worked in an environment that supported parents' wishes and provided structure and values to students. I'm sure that attending a Catholic school contributed to positive character development in our students. Students received an education that prepared them for life after high school. Students learned to accept the differences in others and respect them for who they are.”



**Ron Gilak** attended Borromeo and was hired at Central Catholic in 1980. His 32-year teaching career at CCC included serving as English teacher, theology department chair, campus minister, Millwrite moderator and coach. Level-headed and calm, Gilak oversaw liturgies, retreats, service hours, and theology curriculum while always taking time to listen and counsel students and teachers alike.

A courageous, tireless soldier of social justice causes, Gilak sought opportunities to help the downtrodden.

**Gilak's superhero devotion for justice sets the bar for future Ironmen.**

Lottig continues, "Cleveland Central Catholic provided a comfort zone away from a neighborhood that may not have been so encouraging. Many of our families have been impacted by the economy. Many students may come from poor neighborhoods, but they brought many riches with them to our school. Teaching at CCC gave me the opportunity to work with students who were genuine."

She says she was very comfortable with her Magnificent 7 friends her entire time at CCC. "I respect each of them, and I enjoy being in their company. I am very fortunate to be included in this special group."

Friendly yet disciplined, Coach Lottig encouraged Self-control, Participation, Order, Respect/Responsibility, Teamwork and Safety (SPORTS), and her athletes and students enthusiastically responded.

For 37 years, Lottig taught lessons that would serve her students throughout life.

**Superhero skills:** *Extraordinary power to see beyond the surface and extract excellence.*



**Joann Hynes, Ph.D.,** received the outstanding educators of Northeast Ohio Crystal Apple Award from the Plain Dealer in 2012-2013. This came as no surprise to Cleveland Central Catholic students, who knew her as "Mama" Hanes. Her devotion to student success was already legendary.

Dr. Hynes earned her B.S. from Notre Dame college with teaching certificates in physical education and biology. She joined the staff of Central Catholic in 1973 and taught math and science and served as an academic coach. The dedicated educator later pursued a Master's degree in education with a specialty in students with special needs from Baldwin Wallace in the 1980s while working at CCC.

"This has been the most rewarding part of

my teaching," says the outspoken cheerleader for students with special needs. "I worked to make sure that students who learn differently than the majority have the chance to be exposed to higher-level math and science classes."

Unsettled by the required testing for graduation in the 1990s, she tried to do something about it. Earning a 2003 Doctorate degree in Urban Education from Cleveland State University, she became a forthright challenger of required testing for student graduation.

**Superhero skills:** *tireless crusader for justice, visionary, answered the call.*

Sinclair sums up the Magnificent 7: "The term 'Magnificent 7' was coined by Ellen Howard to encompass this group who all chose to retire at this time. We have many things in common: we all traveled among campuses, participated in the closing and consolidation of campuses, acted as advisors/coaches of numerous extra-curricular activities, participated in fundraising activities and recognized that teaching at Central was different than other high schools. The nature of a multi-campus school made us all realize that we needed each other to survive and thrive. We have always been able to rely on each other and see each other not as colleagues but friends."

**The administration, faculty, alumni and students at CCC ask the Magnificent 7 take a final bow as they enjoy retirement from our beloved high school.**



# How Can I Help?

How often have we asked ourselves this simple question!

- Maybe a friend is having a bad day, and we think about how we can help.
- Maybe we see an injustice or loss of hope in the lives of others, and we wonder.
- Perhaps, we witness how people are pulling themselves together and we think about what we could do to help.
- Maybe we know about life-altering transitions that some people are making and we ask ourselves: "How did they do that?"
- Perhaps, we look around our communities and wonder how anything can improve for some without greater access to hope and opportunity in their lives.

"How can I help?" comes from the heart, from an awakening to the plight of others, from the realization that for most of the time in our lives, we have been greatly blessed. This question seems more informed and relevant to our personal aspirations.

All of these real life situations exist in our own backyards. We see great human need juxtaposed with hope for the future because people – just like us – have committed themselves to the promise of good works and prayer to build hope and opportunity in our region here and now.

At Cleveland Central Catholic High School, these life changing situations are a matter of everyday life. These challenges exist in the lives of our young men and women, who look to us for hope. "How can I help" has been asked by thousands of our benefactors over the 45 years of this school's existence. In the future, Central Catholic will continue its ministry of serving the underserved youth in our region only because our friends, benefactors and supporters continue to answer that question of "How can I help?" throughout the year.

It's within this confluence of good people replacing despair with hope and frustration with opportunity in which Central Catholic operates daily. To maintain operations, our school's most pressing financial priority is providing adequate tuition assistance funding to our families and students in need. CCC's ability to provide ongoing tuition support is currently made possible by four sources of funding: tuition assistance provided by our friends and partners, scholarship awards and grants, emergency grants, and Third Federal's Work Service Scholarship Program. The reality is 100% of our students receive some kind of help with tuition to be able to attend CCC. Our enrollment has grown by 63% over the past 13 years; the need for tuition assistance of all types continues to grow commensurately.

Our newly reorganized Advancement Office is confronting these needs with greater emphasis on annual giving to cover these operational expenses, while also seeking new sources of capital and endowed giving, and working to ensure CCC's future through planned giving. Our 2013-2014 Advancement Review will be released in the fall of 2014 with reports regarding the progress made during the previous fiscal year.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Going forward, we are keenly aware that only a coordinated effort of all members of the Cleveland Central Catholic family can provide adequate funding for our school. You can help support this effort in your own way with this simple "Rule of I's" that gives "How can I help?" new relevance in our fund development efforts:

- **Identify** your own charitable priorities and ...
- **Invest** in CCC's mission and services.
- **Identify** and **Invite** new friends to CCC.
- **Inform** new friends about CCC's mission and services.
- **Involve** new friends in the mission, life and activities of CCC.
- **Invite** new friends to **Invest** in the future of CCC's students.



Patrick J. DiSalvatore, Director of Advancement

Our Advancement team is ready to assist your efforts in supporting Cleveland Central Catholic mission and services in any way possible. Please contact:

- **Patrick DiSalvatore, Advancement Director, 216-641-2034 or [Disalvatorepat@centralcatholic.org](mailto:Disalvatorepat@centralcatholic.org):** fund development and marketing planning; donor cultivation; major gift planning and initiatives; endowed and capital giving and planned giving; publications; news and information; and coordinated fund development and marketing campaigns.
- **William Sluzewski, Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations, 216-441-4700, ext. 281 or [Sluzewskiwil@centralcatholic.org](mailto:Sluzewskiwil@centralcatholic.org):** special events including CleanUp+Clams and the Calcutta Auction; annual mailings seeking operational support; alumni relations, services and coordination.
- **Kathy Schwartfigure-Yopp (new to CCC Advancement), Database / Information Manager and Website Coordinator, 216-441-4700 ext. 231 or [yoppkat@centralcatholic.org](mailto:yoppkat@centralcatholic.org):** database and information support; questions re gift and pledge receipts; reports and mailings; website maintenance and coordination; general information and contacts within our Advancement Department.



# Cleanup + Clams

**September 27, 2014:** More than 250 volunteers assembled at 8:00 a.m. at Cleveland Central Catholic to help improve its neighborhood environment. They worked on indoor and outdoor painting projects around the school and landscaping projects both on the school campus and on properties owned by the Land Bank. CleanUp+Clams is a community event that has attracted the attention and participation of CCC's neighbors and supporters for a decade.

This year, CleanUp+Clams Committee Co-Chairs Jerry Kysela, from Aon Insurance, and Ellen Zerucha, from Tremco Industries, challenged their committee, volunteers and school staff to target needs on and around campus that would make a substantial difference for the long term - and that's exactly what happened..

Fourteen projects and teams, some of which involved 20 to 40 volunteers each, were organized. Some cleared brush and trees that had overgrown the Morgana Park softball field, parking lots and a parcel of municipally owned land that had been an empty eyesore for years and that had accumulated trash, high weeds, wild growth and discarded building materials. Other teams planted trees, perennial flowers and shrubs around the school, on East 65th and 67th streets, Forman Avenue and Broadway Avenue. This year, most of the weeding and trimming jobs were completed prior to September 27th by volunteers, coordinated by Bob Powell '70, thereby creating time for the larger and more challenging jobs to be handled by volunteers within a limited time frame prior to the clambake.

Kysela, a member of the CCC Advisory Board, headed his own project team that scraped, cleaned and painted 30 feet of wrought iron railings at the former main entrance on Baxter. "It was an amazing morning ... We really enjoyed seeing our hard work make such a tremendous difference for today and for the long term," said Kysela. Zerucha, an Advisory Board member, also headed her own team that trimmed and mulched all the trees around Stefanski Stadium. "Our teams were wonderful," added Zerucha.

Volunteers included students, families, grandparents, other family members, friends, neighbors and even Councilman Tony Brancatelli, all of whom pitched in and worked very hard for more than three hours on that warm and sunny day. A mom that brought her kids to work said, "It's so nice to see so many people

coming out to be a part of this day." CCC school nurse Lynn Kanengeiser headed a crew and added, "We worked hard but had a lot of fun!" CCC alumnus, Rich Cegonko '74 captured the spirit of the event: "What an awesome day. I've been away from the school for a while and this was the perfect opportunity to come back and be involved." CCC Advisory Board and CleanUp+Clams Committee member John Cvetic, who headed the largest group (40 volunteers), said, "My group worked like a machine. Everyone was on task and enjoyed each other's company. They never stopped the entire morning until everything was done!"

### Our Corporate Sponsors:

- Aon Foundation
- Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff
- Chromascape, Inc.
- Cutting Dynamics Inc.
- Durrel Corporation
- Fifth Third Bank
- Industrial Manufacturing Corp.
- Merrymeeting Group
- Surety Title
- Swagelok Foundation
- Third Federal Foundation
- Tremco, Inc.
- University Hospitals

### Our Corporate In-Kind Donors:

- Kurtz Bros, Inc.
- Sherwin-Williams (Cleveland Heights)
- Sherwin-Williams (Garfield Heights)
- Pettiti Garden Center
- Grande's Nursery
- TLC Landscaping
- Romano & Sons
- Home Depot (Steelyard)



**"Thanks to our volunteers who worked so hard, our campus and neighborhood shine brightly today," noted Cleveland Central Catholic President, Leo Hyland. "In addition to being a gorgeous and productive work day, CCC also generated \$42,000 in corporate sponsorships," reports Leo. "These funds will be used to help families with tuition assistance. Thank you to all of our volunteers, sponsors, friends and supporters!"**

### To access the CleanUp+Clams' Report to the Community:

#### Browser:

<http://www.centralcatholics.org/cleanupclams-2014-report-community>

or CCCHS Website: [www.centracatholics.org](http://www.centracatholics.org)

#### Homepage:

Go to: "Giving" tab, drop down

Select: Cleanup + Clams 2014

## Opportunities to Support Central Catholic throughout the Year

Here are some suggested ways that you can plan your participation in and support of Cleveland Central Catholic's mission throughout the year. For more information, please contact the Advancement Office at 216-441-4700 X231 or [www.centralcatholic.org](http://www.centralcatholic.org)

### 2014

- November** Support the Central Catholic Fund for tuition assistance
- Nov. 15, 6 p.m.** **Ironmen Center:** Recognition Night
- Nov. 25, 11:30 a.m.** **CCCHS:** Lunch & Learn – learn more about the mission and contributions of Cleveland Central Catholic and our students

### 2015

- February** Support the Central Catholic Fund for tuition assistance
- Feb. 24, 11:30 a.m.** **CCCHS:** Lunch & Learn
- Mar. 18, 6 p.m.** **Ironmen Center:** 12th Annual Calcutta Auction
- April** Support the Central Catholic Fund for tuition assistance  
**Connection** Magazine published
- April 19** **Ironmen Center:** Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame Awards
- Apr. 21, 11:30 a.m.** **CCCHS:** Lunch & Learn
- June 13, 10 a.m.** **Valleerie Golf Club:** Alumni Golf Outing
- June 20, 4 p.m.** **CCCHS:** Second Annual All-Schools, All-Classes Grand Reunion

Thank you for helping to strengthen CCC in its 45th Anniversary year of helping young women and men learn to lead and prepare to serve.

May God bless all of our students and alumni!

## Lunch & Learn – CCC's Open Door to the Public



(Left to right) Samantha Agnes '17, Antwon Lillard '15, José Dybzinski '16.

Anyone interested in learning about the mission and ministry of Cleveland Central Catholic High School is welcome to join our student ambassadors, faculty and staff for a short tour and box lunch with time to get to know each other. Sometimes guests for this 90-minute experience seek to discover more about this dynamic urban secondary school without an invitation. But most of the time, members of our Central Catholic

community invite their families, friends and associates to join them at CCC for a "Lunch and Learn" session to experience our school on the inside. Almost always, they are amazed and moved by what they see and hear... right here! Friends are made, and communication builds bridges. Please plan to host a group at one of our **2014-2015 "Lunch and Learn" sessions, starting at 11:30 a.m. and ending promptly at 1 p.m. on:**

**Tuesday, November 25, 2014**

**Tuesday, February 24, 2015**

**Tuesday, April 21, 2015**

To reserve a seat or learn more, please contact CCC Advancement at (216) 641-2034 or [disalvatorepat@centralcatholic.org](mailto:disalvatorepat@centralcatholic.org). Thank you.

Stay in touch online:

[www.centralcatholic.org](http://www.centralcatholic.org) and Like us on Facebook

## Recognition Night!

You are cordially invited to attend Cleveland Central Catholic's Recognition Night honoring Joann Kasayka Hynes and Ellen Fasko Howard

**Saturday, November 15**

**6:30 to 8 p.m.**

**Wasmer Ironmen Auditorium**

**light hors d'oeuvres will be served**



(Left to right) Ellen Fasko Howard and Joann Kasayka Hynes.

Cost: \$20 per person

Please RSVP by November 12th to Kathy Yopp at 216.441.4700, x231. Hope to see you there!



## CCC Welcomes Bill Sluzewski as Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations

Bill Sluzewski joined the Advancement Team at CCC in July; his first day started a mere seven hours after the birth of his third child. A product of public grade schools and Jesuit colleges he comes to Central Catholic with a combined 10 years of experience in marketing and fundraising. After starting his career at an NPR affiliate as a membership manager, he ventured into retail marketing before feeling a need to have a greater positive influence in the community. Most recently, Bill spent the last four years managing giving programs at Hospice of the Western Reserve before being called to serve at CCC. In attending Xavier University in Cincinnati and John Carroll University, he earned a BA in Communications and an MA in Non-Profit Administration. Away from the office, his life revolves around music and his family.



*Bill Sluzewski, director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations at CCC.*

## Alumni as Student Deans at CCC

Central Catholic started the school year by welcoming two new deans of students to the staff, both of them alumni. John Crawford '84 and John Psenicska '87 have an understanding of the culture and history of CCC that will serve the students well. They can also relate to the student body because they have been there. We are so happy to have them and wish them well in their new positions.



*(Left to right:) John Psenicska '87 and John Crawford '84, deans of students at CCC.*



# On June 21, 2014 We Were Five Schools...One Heart!

On a beautiful Saturday in June 2014, alumni of Cleveland Central Catholic High School (CCC) and its four founding parish high schools came together to celebrate the very first Grand Reunion for all CCC alumni and all alumni of its four founding schools: St. Stanislaus, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Michael the Archangel and St. John Cantius. CCC was established by the Diocese of Cleveland through the consolidation of these four schools in 1969; its first graduation commencement was held in 1970.

2014 is CCC's 45th Anniversary year of service to young urban men and women in the Cleveland region. "The founding schools date back to 1881 and had been preparing young women and men in Cleveland for lives filled with hope and opportunity for nearly 90 years. CCC's mission remains constant and faithful to the heritage of the founding schools," noted CCC Advisory Board President John Peca '70.

"The Grand Reunion brought back more than 300 alumni from all five schools," noted CCC President Leo Hyland. "We were brought together as alumni of five schools, and remain one heart in the lives of our combined alumni group of more than 8,000. It was a remarkable and touching day of reconnecting and appreciation."

Alumni, their families and friends came from states both near and far. Many had not seen each other since graduation, which for some was decades. The day's schedule was loosely structured with a buffet followed by opportunities for alumni and current and former faculty of all five schools to share memories, reconnect,

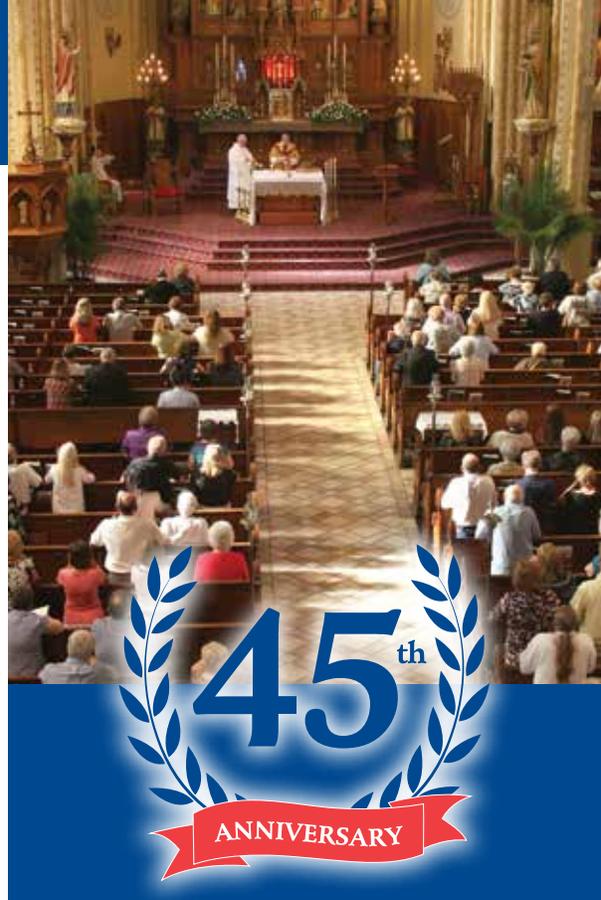
plan future reunions, and tour CCC's growing campus. Mass was celebrated in the evening at the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus.

CCC Alumni Association President, John Simon '72, stated: "CCC has a storied past and a bright future, but one fact remains the same: all five schools share one heartbeat." He thanked the hard work of Reggi (Mack) Tomek '77 and the Grand Reunion Committee – made up of some 30 alumni and many CCC staff members - for their hard work in bringing this historic event together.

### CCC's Annual Grand Reunion set for Summer of 2015

"Today, Cleveland Central Catholic is a school thriving in the heart of Cleveland's Slavic Village. Measurable signs of success in the lives of our graduates include 100% of our 2014 seniors graduated, and more than 85% of our seniors have been admitted to post high school graduation studies," added Hyland. "The second annual Grand Reunion is planned for June 20, 2015 ... more information to follow."

For more information or to update alumni contact information and news, please contact CCC Advancement's new Annual Giving and Alumni Relations Director, William Sluzewski, at



Elaine (Zwolinski) Baburek '61 St. Stan, Jim Baburek



216-441-4700, Ext. 281 or SluzewskiWil@central-catholics.org. Comments and suggestions for future Grand Reunions are gratefully received, according to Sluzewski.

For more about the June 2014 Grand Reunion, go to the Cleveland Central Catholic website at: [www.centralcatholics.org](http://www.centralcatholics.org) and click on the Alumni tab, choose "Grand Reunion" in the drop down to see a beautiful full-page spread that was published in the July 4, 2014 edition of the Catholic Universe Bulletin. Jerri Donohue, CUB writer told the story through the eyes and words of alumni from all five schools.



Damon Malcolm '76



Joe Jagielo '63 OLL, Jane Morgan (former faculty), Georgiana (Schamberger) Mindzora '73





# Fall Sports







### Anton Grady '11 – Pointing the CSU Vikings in the Right Direction

**CCC** Basketball standout Anton Grady is back at Cleveland State for his third year as the starting forward for the Vikings. After surprising the Horizon league his first two seasons, this year opponents will have to keep Anton front and center. He is a two-time selection to the All-Horizon League second team. Despite battling through injuries his first two seasons he has come through in the clutch for the Vikings. Anton posted double-doubles in big games against Wright State and Valparaiso last season, blocked a shot at the buzzer against Youngstown State and iced the game against Iona with free throws in the last five ticks of the clock. His success at the college level comes under the direction of Coach Gary Waters who helped another CCC alumni and Anton's uncle, Earl Boykins, to break the record books at Eastern Michigan University in the mid-1990s.



## Ironmen Display Strength and Resilience of Steel on Gridiron

John Lundy, head football coach at Cleveland Central Catholic for the past 14 years, describes CCC's football team performance as "unpredictable" through his years as head coach. Still, as the defending NCL white division champions, the Ironmen have displayed steel this season – even pulling out a welcome back victory against John Hay High School with under a minute to go.

"We started off slow this season, but as a team, we regrouped and made adjustments," says the determined football coach. The Ironmen finished the season at 5-5.

"I am humbled by all the people that support us," Coach says. Go Ironmen!



## Lady Ironmen Show Vast Improvement

The Lady Ironmen of Cleveland Central Catholic's volleyball team wrapped up its regular season with a record of 9-10, and bowed out of State Tournament plate in the first round of Sectionals.

The Lady Ironmen made vast improvements again this season with their varsity team consisting of eight seniors and one junior. Senior Captain Lizandra Alicea led in kills and digs, and Senior Meghan Moore led the team in aces served.

Go Lady Ironmen!





## The Central Catholic Fund

### “Blessings of a Catholic Education”

In many ways, Cleveland Central Catholic reflects the best in Catholic Education. Our students, coming from diverse backgrounds, are joined together as a family in Christ and provided a strong education in a religious environment. Encouraged and inspired by caring adults, they learn together about Catholic values – such as charity, joy, truth and justice – and how to put them into action. These are life lessons!

Nearly all of us know first-hand about the power of these values, and about the blessings of a Catholic Education. And most of us can agree that we benefited from the goodness or charity of others to receive this blessing; several of the religious communities come to mind. It might have been our parents, or other relatives, who sacrificed to make this possible. The point is that those of us who experienced a Catholic Education can appreciate the huge impact it has had on our lives, and the sacrifices made to ensure these blessings.

This year, the cost to educate a student at CCC averages nearly \$10,000 per pupil. Most of our students qualify for one of the state voucher programs, which significantly helps defray their tuition cost. Many others take advantage of the generous opportunity to “learn to earn” tuition credits through the Third Federal Work Service Scholarship Program. Families pay what they can, but even with all this help, it is a struggle for most families to afford full tuition costs.

That’s why all funds collected through the Central Catholic Fund are used for tuition assistance to families with demonstrated financial need. I hope you will join me in supporting the Central Catholic Fund and help pay your blessings forward. You can use the enclosed envelope, visit our website at <http://centralcatholicchs.org> or look for your Central Catholic Fund mailing soon.

However you choose to help, please know that your generosity is changing lives!

God bless,

Leo P. Hyland

President



To make a gift to the Central Catholic Fund on a secure link, go to [www.centralcatholicchs.org](http://www.centralcatholicchs.org), choose the “giving” tab and complete the form for your credit card information. Thank you.



## Reasons to Support Cleveland Central Catholic School

Cleveland Central Catholic provides a values-driven Catholic education to promising young people. Today more than ever, CCC needs your support to keep this opportunity available, affordable and accessible to all of our students. Here are a few of the many reasons your gift today matters:

- Cleveland Central Catholic High School is preparing a diverse community of young people who, with the help of outstanding Central Catholic educators, are learning to lead and preparing to serve in the 21st Century.
- CCC successfully educates students with impressive results that defy local and national urban education data. Over 85 percent of the CCC Class of 2014 was admitted to college - a statistic that is trending upward at CCC.
- While other urban schools struggle with low school attendance and poor academic results, Central Catholic's primary challenge is securing tuition assistance for our talented students. Your gift helps fund their hope for a bright future through faith and education.
- The Central Catholic Fund is a powerful way to pay forward the blessings of a Catholic education. Others in the broader community often contribute to CCC to help move the City of Cleveland forward through the successful education of young people. A CCC education is a good investment!

Giving Back...Looking Forward.  
The Central Catholic Fund.

\*Please use the enclosed envelope and mail your gift today!



**We need your help!**

Send us your current contact information:  
alumni@centralcatholicchs.org

## 2014-2015 Calendar of Events

**Third Annual Recognition Night**

Saturday, November 15, 2014  
6:30 PM, Ironmen Center

**Choir Concert**

Thursday, December 4, 2014  
5:30 PM, St. Stanislaus Social Center

**Instrumental Concert**

Thursday, December 11, 2014  
5:30 PM, St. Stanislaus Social Center

**Catholic Schools Week**

January 26 to 30, 2014  
Cleveland Central Catholic

**12th Annual Calcutta Auction**

Wednesday, March 18, 2015  
6:00 PM, Ironmen Center

**Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame**

Sunday, April 19, 2015  
2:00 PM, Ironmen Center

**Spring Choir Concert**

Friday, May 8, 2014  
5:30 PM, St. Stanislaus Social Center

**Honors Assembly**

Monday, June 1, 2015  
Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus

**Graduation and Mass**

Tuesday, June 2, 2015  
St. Colman Church

**Alumni Golf Outing**

Saturday, June 13, 2015  
10:00 AM, Vallearie Golf Club

**Grand Reunion: All Schools, All Classes**

Saturday, June 20, 2014  
4:00 to 10:00 PM at Cleveland Central Catholic

### Home Boys Varsity Basketball Games:

**2014:**

**Friday, Dec. 12**

7:30 PM, Warren JFK High School

**Saturday, Dec. 27**

7:30 PM, Benedictine High School  
(CCC Night at the Hoops)

**2015:**

**Tuesday, Jan. 6**

7:30 PM, St. Vincent-St. Mary High School

**Friday, Jan. 9**

7:30 PM, St. Thomas Aquinas High School,  
Louisville

**Saturday, Jan. 10**

7:30 PM, St. Ignatius High School

**Friday, Feb. 6**

7:30 PM, Trinity High School

**Friday, Feb. 20**

7:30PM, Holy Name High School

**Saturday, Feb. 21**

7:30 PM, St. Edward High School

**Friday, Feb. 27**

7:30 PM, Villa Angela-St. Joseph High  
School

**Incoming Class of 2019 –  
Scholarship/Placement  
Exam Dates**

(All tests are scholarship based) Parents and administrators Q&A during test times

- Thursday, November 6, 2014, 5:00 to 6:30 PM
- Thursday, November 20, 2014, 5:00 to 6:30 PM
- Thursday, December 11, 2014, 5:00 to 6:30 PM
- Tuesday, January 6, 2015, 5:00 to 6:30 PM

For more information, please contact Carmella Davies, Director of Admissions at admissions@centralcatholicchs.org or 216-641-2056