INSIDE

CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL | SPRING 2023

Student artwork by Jackie Eliassen ’25

INSIDE

Spring 2023
Vol. 10 No. 1 | INSIDE CATHOLIC CENTRAL

Catholic Central High School
319 Sheldon Blvd. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616.233.5800

On the Cover:
Christina Hermiz '23 stands with a cake she baked and decorated. It is a three-tiered, blue-and-white-striped velvet cake with buttercream frosting. Christina sculpted the cougar from modeling chocolate and hand painted its features with edible paint. The logos have been printed on edible paper with edible ink. You can read about Christina and her impressive culinary skills on page six.

From the Principal

Bearing the image of our triune Creator, we are in our purest essence creators and connectors. Catholic Central strives to partner with families to provide a foundation on which our students will become who they are being called to be, ultimately bearing witness to their divine design as they live out these realities.

We celebrate the students and alumni featured here for the ways in which their creativity provides glimpses of who God is and for the ways in which they bring people together in the holy moments of everyday life. Stories like theirs abound in our community, and as we take steps each day to innovate so that we can better live out our mission, I am grateful for and inspired by their efforts. I hope you will be as well.

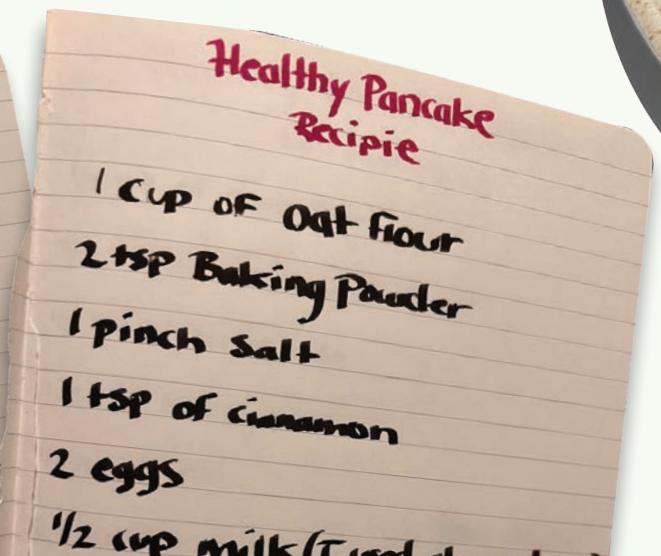
Tiffany Marrinan
Principal

CAKE BOSS

Healthy low fat muffins
fall Pumpkin
1/4 cup of Casava flour
3/4 cup of whole wheat flour
1/2 tsp of baking soda
1 tsp of baking powder
1/2 tsp of salt
Bake @

Catholic Central senior, Christina Hermiz,

has been commissioned by multiple staff members to bake cakes for various occasions. Her business, *Christina's Cuisine and Confections*, is fairly new, but her passion for all things culinary is not. She started cooking with her mom when she was five and by the time she was in fifth grade, she was cooking and baking on her own. At that time, she says, baking was a struggle, but she still loved doing it. In ninth grade, during the Covid shutdown, her skills really took off; she had lots of time on her hands and nowhere to go. She dedicated herself to trying harder and harder recipes. Now she's making everything from multi-tiered wedding cakes to croquembouches! Come and take a peek into Christina's quirky and passionate world of culinary arts.



Cake Boss continued on page 8

Cake Boss continued from page 7

The most difficult thing she's made:
Croissants

Most memorable kitchen accident:
When her sourdough starter exploded a glass jar

Favorite kind of desserts to bake:
Anything French, but if she had to choose, eclairs and macarons

Favorite sweet to eat:
She doesn't eat sugar anymore (!) but if she did, ice cream.

Kinds of ice creams she's tried making:
Regular, rolled, and stretchy (called booza)

Favorite savory cooking project:
Cheesemaking, both regular cow's milk cheese and vegan nut-based cheeses.

Weirdest thing she's made:
Slime! She loved making it so much, she started an Etsy business to sell it: Nerds for Slime. Though the slime wasn't edible, she stayed true to her culinary heart with foody flavors like, Cap'n Crunch and Blueberry Pancake.

What she loves most about baking:
Experimenting, challenging herself, and getting creative with decorations.

Her big plans and dreams for the future:
In her dream-world she would love to get PhDs in both chemistry and nutrition, then go to culinary school in France, and eventually use all of her knowledge to teach others about culinary arts, chemistry, and nutrition. Dream big, girl! We're rooting for you!

SAVE THE DATE

ANNIVERSARY YEARS REUNION

Homecoming Weekend 2023

September 29 & 30

Celebrating class years ending in 3 and 8

Friday, September 29

BBQ before Homecoming Football Game

Saturday, September 30

Archives Open House - Reception

School Tour - Mass at the Cathedral of St. Andrew

More details will be shared this summer on our website and via email.

Questions about this reunion or planning your own class reunion?
Contact Community Relations Manager, Mary Lippelt at marylippelt@grcatholiccentral.org.

In addition to ephemera and memorabilia, the Archives holds a sizable collection of Catholic Central apparel. We picked a few of our favorite pieces to share with you, but if you'd like to check out the full collection, you may schedule a tour of the Archives or attend our Archives Open House in September. The Archives contact info is on page 21.

CATHOLIC
CENTRAL
322
CATHOLIC
CENTRAL

OUGAR GEAR

CATHOLIC
CENTRAL
COUGARS
3
Cougar

IGNITE OUR FUTURE
a bold vision for mission and ministry

In the fall Inside CC edition, *we unveiled Catholic Central's five-year strategic plan:* Ignite Our Future: A Bold Vision for Mission and Ministry. *This strategic plan builds on the school's successful past and helps to ensure generations of future CC students are prepared to be servant leaders for a Christ-centered life. Here are some exciting developments from this year.*

AMDG stands for Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

AMDG stands for Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam – "for the greater glory of God" – the program is designed to benefit all students and create an environment where students of all abilities are welcome.Catholic social teaching guides our belief that inclusion promotes the dignity of the individual and the call to build community by honoring the unique gifts of each student. We seek to foster belonging through our Peer Mentor program, where students support one another in the classroom, hallways and co-curricular activities. Students who serve as Peer Mentors take an academic class to prepare them for this role and receive support through adult mentoring and reflection.

The AMDG program at Catholic Central has allowed our daughter to succeed academically, to make new friendships, to gain independence and to grow in her faith. The staff, and especially the students at CC, have given her opportunities she wouldn't have had otherwise.
Chad Bice, current parent.

Kairos

Campus Ministry kicked off Kairos 1 this fall with Kairos 2 and Kairos 3 scheduled to occur in February and June. Kairos is an invitational religious retreat program grounded in Christian incarnational theology and designed for seniors. It is an experience of Christian community, with a series of talks given both by students and adults. Prayer and the sacraments are an essential part of the program as well as the participants' involvement in discussions and other exercises. The program itself lasts for three and a half days, with the challenge to continue it for as long as one possibly can.

Kairos for me was Corex times 1000. I got to not only develop and further relationships with my classmates and with God, but also with myself.
Leah O'Connell '23

Cougar Cafe

Ryan Gorski's entrepreneurship class has been planning for the grand opening of the student-led Cougar Cafe since the start of the semester. The class looks to teach real life skills that will prepare students for careers in marketing, business, and management.

The entrepreneurship program involves opportunities for collaboration and everyone gets a chance to voice their opinion. It helped us as a class not only start a business but learn the steps it takes to get a business up and running.
Gena Wesche '23

Increased Enrollment

The Class of 2026 is the largest and most diverse incoming freshman class in over six years with 170 members from all over West Michigan.

After seven years of enrollment decline, Catholic Central was excited to welcome our largest freshman class in five years in August, allowing for our largest overall enrollment growth in ten years. We look forward to continued enrollment growth in the near future with the goal of over 700 students by 2026.
Terry Tyrrell, President of Catholic Central

ROBOTICS

Robotics is on the move. Students participated in the Competition Kickoff on January 7th at GVSU with the regular competition season well underway. The team is coached and mentored by Mike Stitt and six other community members.

Robotics offers great opportunities for teamwork and collaboration. It is an exciting and innovative teaching tool that facilitates STEM learning through skill building such as coding, manufacturing, and leadership. This boosts creativity and provides students with skills that are transferable to today's world.
Julie VanderMolen, Director of Innovation

Briana Paiz

FEET ON THE GROUND AND HEAD IN SPACE

Briana's interest in space travel was piqued by Hollywood, but her curiosity and passion for the topic surpass mere entertainment. While at Catholic Central, she did two projects on space exploration and now, several years later, her lab at Arizona State has received funding from NASA to work on the problem of growing food on Mars.

'18

"CC has had such a positive impact on my life."

Tell us a little about what you are up to at the moment.
This past spring I graduated from Arizona State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Molecular Bioscience & Biotechnology, a minor in Business, and a certificate in Applied Business Data Analytics. I am now in my first year as a Biological Design PhD student at Arizona State. I am also a graduate research assistant in the Biodesign Swette Center for Environmental Biotechnology.

What is Biological Design?
Biological Design is a unique program offered at ASU, which teaches students how to work in teams in order to solve large-scale problems and focus on "big science." Research in this program revolves around both human and environmental health, from disease detection and virology applications to sustainability challenges.

What kind of projects does your lab typically work on?
My lab typically works on ways to improve the quality of contaminated soil and groundwater and gain a better understanding of microbial metabolism.

Tell us about the work that your lab just got funding for from the National Science Foundation.
My lab supervisor, Anca Delgado, recently received an Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation Grant co-funded by the National Science Foundation and NASA. The goal is to utilize microorganisms to develop a fertile soil for Mars that will allow for plant cultivation. Currently martian soil is highly toxic due to the presence of a chemical known as perchlorate. Therefore, my research will focus on breaking down perchlorate which will produce organic carbon and provide the appropriate chemical properties needed for plant cultivation.

Have you always had an interest in space?
My interest in space exploration developed from movies like *The Martian* and *Interstellar.* Then, while at Catholic Central I did two major projects which focused on solving problems with space exploration. My AP Seminar project was on food in space and in the Dual-Enrollment Program at Grand Valley State University I worked on solving the problem of astronauts losing muscle mass in space by creating an exercise machine that utilizes magnets to overcome the absence of gravity.

How did your time at CC influence your post-graduate path of study or how you approach your work?
CC has had such a positive impact on my life. I am so grateful for the opportunities to be in the AP Capstone Program and CC's Dual Enrollment Program with GVSU; I strongly believe that without them, I would not be where I am today. CC always pushed me to be the best version of myself.

I am also grateful for the impact CC had on my faith. Graduating from college and not having a set plan was very stressful and unsettling; however, I was able to trust in my faith and know that God would lead me to the best path. After months of praying, I received an email from a professor inviting me to join their lab and that brought me to where I am today.

My work at CC has literally come full circle. Originally my PhD research was supposed to be on Microbial Chain Elongation in groundwater. However, after hearing about the grant my lab supervisor received, I sent her my paper from my AP Seminar project at CC. She then decided to put me as the lead on the Mars project, because she is a firm believer that "luck favors the prepared mind." It is really cool to have done minor research on food in space five years ago and now to be working in the lab contributing to innovative research in this field funded by such credible organizations.

Do you have any big dreams or plans for the future?
I plan to complete my PhD in the next four years and potentially move forward with a postdoctoral fellowship. I hope to see the impact my research has on future Mars explorations and farming techniques here on Earth. In the long run, I would like to lead research within a company of my own.

Maddie Schaab

Foundation Development Officer at University of Michigan Health-West Foundation

Job Description: My main focus is on corporate giving and event sponsorship, but I also serve as the staff liaison to the impACT Board of Directors.

Mission: The University of Michigan Health-West Foundation utilizes philanthropy to relentlessly advance our nonprofit health system's ability to deliver world-class care in West Michigan.

Kelly Jandernoa

Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Red Glasses Movement®

Job description: To share Red Glasses and spread the message to live differently through Red Glasses Takeovers at schools, organizations, and businesses.

Mission: The Red Glasses Movement encourages us all to live boldly, love big, and pass it on, like Audrey Lou did.

Mission-Mi

Alexis Hartman

Manager of Corporate & Foundation Relations at Blessings in a Backpack

Job Description: My responsibilities include grant writing; prospect research on new potential partners; growing our current corporate and foundation relationships; activating and managing marketing efforts, online corporate giving campaigns, and in-person corporate volunteer events.

Mission: Blessings in a Backpack mobilizes communities, individuals, and resources to provide food on the weekends for school-aged children across America who might otherwise go hungry.

"I love being a part of an organization with a proven solution to a problem. We are at the forefront of ensuring that every kid in America struggling with food insecurity will be cared for through our growing weekend nutrition programs and chapters."

nded Grads

When our faculty, staff, and students served at nonprofits around the city for this fall's annual Serve-a-thon, they ran into several CC grads working at those organizations. It was uplifting to see so many alumni doing mission-minded work in and around our community. Let's take a moment to celebrate alumni who work at nonprofits; their work makes West Michigan a better place for all of us. We have featured just a handful, but we are grateful for all of them!

Megan Muma

Camp Director at YMCA Camp Algonquin

Job Description: I work to provide 600+ kids each summer with overnight and day camp experiences. We serve youth ages 4-14 years old, from a variety of backgrounds and socio-economic statuses.

Mission: The YMCA of Barry County serves our community by providing programs such as summer camp, youth and adult sports, child care, community outreach/feeding, mobile library, mentoring, and more.

"I love allowing kids to experience a safe place to learn, grow, try new things, and discover their authentic selves. I am so honored to work with a community that loves camp. I get to make magic and change lives every day."

McKenzie Hollern Southerington

Events and Corporate Giving at the Van Andel Institute

Job Description: I plan and execute fundraising events that benefit the important research happening at VAI.

Mission: Through cutting-edge biomedical research, inspired scientific education, and relentless commitment, Van Andel Institute is unleashing innovations that will improve health and enhance lives for generations to come.

"Unfortunately, my family has been deeply impacted by cancer; working at Van Andel Institute allows me to join in on the fight against cancer."

Emily Evers

Director of Development at the West Michigan Center for Arts + Technology

Job Description: My role is focused on leveraging funding to support WMCAT's mission and programs.

Mission: WMCAT provides a culture of opportunity for people to make social and economic progress in their lives and community. We fulfill this mission through visual arts and tech engagement, workforce development, and social enterprise.

5 Questions with Julie Kimmons '97

Meet Julie (Norman) Kimmons, the Director of Broadcast for the NCAA! We had a chance to connect with her to hear about some of the amazing highlights of her current and past work in broadcasting.

1 Tell us a little about your current position at the NCAA.

As the Director of Broadcast at the NCAA, I oversee and manage the broadcast media rights sold to our partners (Turner/CBS, ESPN, and Golf Channel). Across all three divisions (DI, DII, and DIII), we currently have over 30 NCAA Championships that have television coverage. I work closely with production, programming, and operations to ensure that our partners are fulfilling their obligations and providing the best possible television coverage of NCAA Championships.

2 How did you end up in broadcasting?

I graduated from Saint Mary's College (Notre Dame, IN) with a degree in Communications and Public Relations. While I was in college, I spent some time interning with the sports department at the local CBS affiliate in South Bend, as well as with ABC Sports, working as a runner for Monday Night Football and College Football. Following graduation, I moved out to Breckenridge, Colorado where I was hired by a local TV station to work on the morning show hosting, reporting, and directing. I also spent some time working as the News and Sports Director for a local radio station before getting hired by ABC Sports in New York to work in remote production.

3 What were some of the highlights of working for ABC Sports?

I spent seven and a half years with ABC Sports and ESPN, during which I had the opportunity to travel the world working on some of the greatest sporting events - Super Bowl, Wimbledon, NBA Finals, College Football National Championship, PGA golf, WNBA, X Games. I loved the thrill and excitement of live sports and the travel was a major bonus on top of that.

4 What do you love about your current job?

I love being part of the experience of crowning National Champions. There's really no better sporting event than March Madness, and I work on that year-round. I also travel to our DI Women's Volleyball Championship, the Beach Volleyball Championship, and the DI Men's and Women's Golf Championships. Watching these tremendous student-athletes compete at the highest level of collegiate sports is inspiring and makes my job so rewarding.

5 Do you have any advice for any students looking to get into broadcasting or media production?

Be open to learning as much about the industry as you can - you might have one job in mind but the more you have a chance to understand the various roles and positions, you may find you are better suited for something different. Volunteer with school or local media companies to really get a "behind the scenes" idea of how production works.

Julie and her husband, Rob, at the NCAA 2022 men's Final Four in New Orleans.

IN MEMORIAM

Below are deaths that were reported to us from July 2022 to January 2023. The Advancement office works with alumni and community members to create our In Memoriam page. If your loved one was missed in this edition, please contact us at cchscommunications@grcatholiccentral.org. *This is not a comprehensive list.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

1933
Florence (Ziomkowski) Haraburda

1940
Clara (Sruba) Volpe

1941
Maxine (Fortier) Falls

1942
Joseph Griner

1943
Maxine (Ziomkowski) Krolik

1945
Stanley Karas

1946
James Dudick

1947
Dolores (Syrek) Poniatowski

1948
Patrick Schullo

1949
Thomas Baranoski
Mary (Maly) Bolen
Donald Dudek
Thomas Harring
W. Thomas Hoban
Thomas Scheidel

1950
Mary (Jandernoa) Centilli
Robert Kelly

1952
Cynthia (Karl) Barkeley
Charles Carson
Jo Ann (Tauter) Droski
Barbara (Kaminski) Kalinowski
Donald Prus

1953
Marjorie (Husted) Rochach
Margaret (Ryzanca) Sobol

1954
Ralph Hauenstein
Robert Lucas
Geraldine (Karpinski) Ploeg
Geraldine (Hillary) Quinn
Nancy (Bailey) Rohloff
Richard Trappen

1955
Ratricia (Reynolds) Jennings
Andrew Meholic
James Verbrugge

1956
Nancy (Parcher) Archer
Maureen (McCarthy) Goeldel
Richard Kleff
Thomas Vesbit

1957
Diana (Askins) Weaver

1958
Patricia (Gorman) Hiller
James Popma

1959
Thomas Kinney

1960
Margie (DiPiazza) Kramer

1961
Rosemary (Zerfas) Balczak
Patrick Bell

1962
Robert Ciucci
Kathy (Hansen) Dyer
Joseph Kenshol
Jacob Kroon
Anne (DenBraber) Osga

1963
Robert Brock
Susan Harmon

1964
Timothy Didion

1973
Michael Hickey

1974
Sandra (Bek) Lowery

1977
Douglas Hood
Brian O'Driscoll

1981
John Neis
Edward Smith

1994
Christopher Heintz

2004
John O'Neil

Upcoming Reunions

1973 Class Reunion
September 22: Golf at Scott Lake Golf Club
September 23: Reunion at the Waddell Center
Contact Marsha Freiburger: marsha.freiburger@gmail.com

1983 Class Reunion
Saturday, July 29 at LMCU Ballpark
More info to come.
Contact Maria (Hake) Meleca: riameleca@gmail.com or 616-307-8445

2003 Class Reunion
Saturday, September 23 | 6-10pm
The B.O.B.
Contact Blake Powers: blakepowers44@gmail.com

CC Archives Update

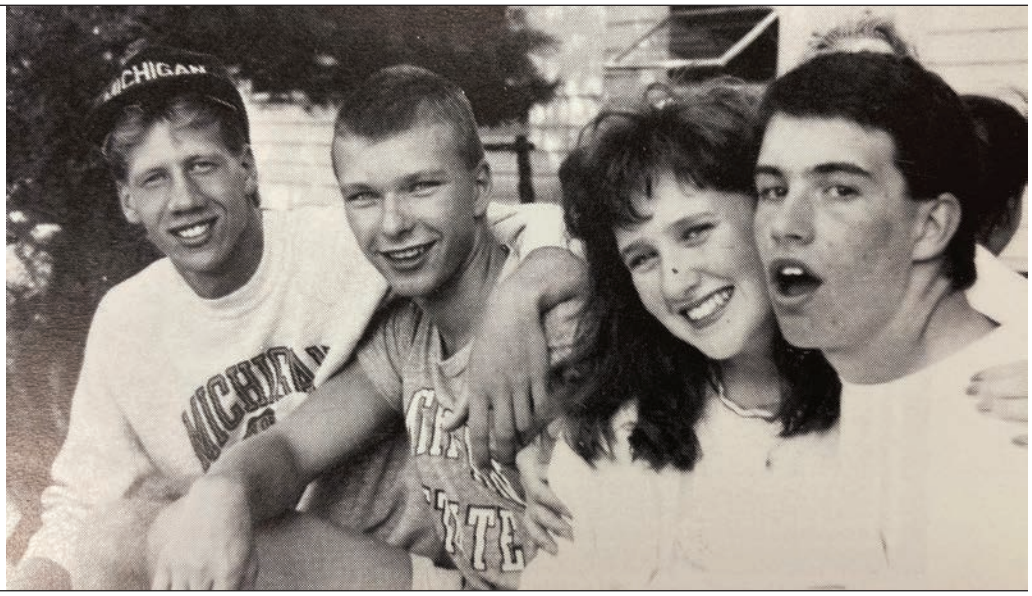
We can help you!
Contact us to schedule a tour of the archives, consult with an archivist about our collections, or use our materials for a reunion.

You can help us!
We accept any and all donations of CC ephemera and memorabilia. In particular, Blue & Whites from the 1950s are needed.

Missing A Yearbook? – We have a surplus of Spires, including many from the 1940s through the 1980s. If you'd like one, please contact one of the Archivists.

Our CC Family Tree – To celebrate the newly organized Alumni Association, we're asking people to write down the members of your family–nuclear or extended–who have attended CC, with graduation years. Include a photo(s) if you want. Submit to the Archives for posterity by mailing to CC Archives, 319 Sheldon SE, GR 49503 or emailing to djbmoore@comcast.net. Thanks to those who have participated so far, the Kaupa and VanderLaan families. No deadline!

Featured Photo
Here are Class of '90 members John Jarosch, Bob Gable, Sara Hieshetter, and Jay Rosloniec at COREX before the start of their Senior year. If you have COREX memories to share, please contact the Archivists and we'll share in the next issue.



Thank you!
The CC Archives continues to grow and thrive from thoughtful and generous donors like you. Appreciation goes to the following for their recent donations: Margo Wessely Hoover '58, Cathy Vicari Flickinger '78, Jim Feiburger '69 (on behalf of Dorothy Simon '44), Jules Somme '45, Fred Erhardt, Paula Schulte Raymond, Donald Pelka '52, Mary Payne Eardley '75, Vinny Reilly '89, Mary Jane Drobot Purwin '48, Hank Milanowski '58 (on behalf of Henry J. Milanowski '28), Class of '71 Women, Patricia Ann Mazurkiewicz Lizarski '65.

Contact the archivists

CC Archives, 319 Sheldon Blvd SE, GR 49503

Maureen Korte, 616-458-4503
moeskorte@comcast.net

Deb Bek Moore, '69, 616-490-2652
djbmoore@comcast.net

CC BY THE NU

C·C

55

Latin phrases taught by Dr. Menno in his Theology Classes

40

Families supported by our annual Christmas Families drive

116

Years since Catholic Central was founded

2,446

Lines of dialogue memorized by the cast of *The Curious Savage*

16

House competitions

1

Snow day

All numbers are from the first semester of the 22-23 school year.

UMBERS

157

Books read collectively in freshman English classes

365

Prayer cards written by parents and delivered to students

56

Students went to the 2023 March for Life

11,647

Lunches served

CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Office of Catholic Schools
David Faber, *Superintendent / Canonical Administrator*
Sarah Grey, *Assistant Superintendent*
Kathy Purcell, *Business Manager*

Catholic Central High School
Terry Tyrrell, *President*
Tiffany Marrinan, *Principal*
Morgan Green, *Assistant Principal*
Nellie Richthammer, *Director of Admissions & Enrollment Management*
Trevor Hinshaw, *Athletic Director*
Beth Banta, *Chief Advancement Officer*
Tim Marroquin, *Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*
Scout Tosi-Milhorn, Director of *Communications & Marketing*
Fr. Steve Cron, *Chaplain Emeritus*
Fr. José Quintana, *Co-Chaplain*
Fr. Logan Weber, *Co-Chaplain*
Deacon Dennis Rybicki, *Campus Ministry*

Board Members
Michele Anderson '90
Jennifer Crowley
Dorothy Danko
Lawrence Duthler
Tammy Helminski
Steve Jandernoa '01
Charles Lott
John Lowery
Brad Mathis '88
Thomas McGovern '83
Michelle Morrow '01
Fr. José Luis Quintana
Bryan Rellinger
Joesph Schetz '91

Inside Catholic Central is published twice yearly by Catholic Central High School to connect the community of alumni, friends, and family.

Send comments to:
Editor
Inside Catholic Central
319 Sheldon Blvd. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
cchscommunications@grcatholiccentral.org

Mission
Catholic Central High School is an inclusive community rooted in the Catholic faith that prepares servant leaders for a Christ-centered life.

Online:
grcatholiccentral.org
facebook.com/grcatholiccentral
instagram.com/GRCatholicCentral
@GR_CCHS

CATHOLIC CENTRAL
HIGH SCHOOL

319 Sheldon Boulevard
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
GRAND RAPIDS, MI
PERMIT #398

RACE ON OVER & CELEBRATE

THE KENTUCKY DERBY

2023

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY | MAY 6 | 5:00 PM