

A HOLY CHILD PUBLICATION | SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024

GLIMPSES

magazine



GRADUATION 2024 | THE CENTER FOR INSPIRATION

IMPACT REPORT 2024

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FROM COLLEEN R. PETTUS, HEAD OF SCHOOL



In the quiet of the end of June on campus, I had some time to read about our girls. I perused many of the report cards that had recently been shared with families. On the heels of my youngest child's high school graduation, I was not reading them as a Head of School, but through the eyes of a parent. After reading the first random selection, I was unequivocally inspired.

I was inspired by the time, thoughtfulness, and specificity of the advisors' comments. They knew their advisees, each and every whole child, who was in the circle of their care throughout the school year. I was inspired by the growth of our students, whether in an academic subject, in their relationships, or in Cornelia Connelly's words, in becoming "all that Gold wants them to be." I was inspired by the entirety of the Holy Child experience, evidenced in the many individual narratives I read about our girls.

Our goal is that this edition of Glimpses inspires you to stay engaged with Holy Child, come back to campus for a visit, or call us to learn more about a particular project or initiative. You will read about relationships that spurred growth and curiosity between faculty members or between older and younger students through their shared faith. I am confident that the joyful and collaborative first annual Winterim programming in our Middle School will leave you wanting to know and see more. Ultimately, both our history and our future is inspiring. Our collective commitment to our Holy Child mission and goals and our vision and planning for our new academic center, The Center for Inspiration, will both ensure a bright and joyful future. Together they will empower teachers and students to experience and create joy in teaching and joy in learning for generations to come.

When we officially open our doors to the 2024-25 school year, our community will be greeted by one of my favorite Cornelia Connelly quotes as they enter our doors, "What one is called to do, she is called to do with all her might." There is a lot of might within these pages and in the pages of our students' stories. I hope you find some quiet time to read, learn, and reflect on all that makes us Holy Child.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colleen R. Pettus". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.





WITH ALL THEIR MIGHT: Service Clubs Band Together to Support the Community

THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON FOR MAMARONECK COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Just one element of the portrait of a graduate at Holy Child is compassion. Nowhere was that seen more this past year than in the collaborative efforts of several Holy Child clubs. Each group made a commitment to leaving campus and getting into the community to share their talents and support our neighbors. Together, they focused their efforts on two local organizations in which they could make a real difference: the Mamaroneck Community Resource Center and the Don Bosco Community Center.

COOKING FOR A CAUSE

By Kate Loughney '24

Founded in 1998, the Mamaroneck Community Resource Center (MCRC) strives to provide resources to immigrant and low-income families in order to help them flourish. Three of Holy Child's service clubs, Cooking for a Cause, the Food Insecurity Club, and the Community Service Partners Club, came together this year to support the MCRC's Thanksgiving Luncheon. Each club took responsibility for an aspect of the Luncheon, coordinating their efforts to make the greatest impact. Dozens of Holy Child students created a Thanksgiving lunch for MCRC members, allowing their community to come together for the first time since COVID.

When I first enrolled at School of the Holy Child as a sophomore, I wanted to become involved in my new school community while finding ways to support the surrounding community through service. I founded a service club, Cooking For a Cause, to cultivate a passion for baking and incorporate that into serving our school's community partners. I wanted to inspire younger girls, who may have joined our club to fulfill service requirements, to find a passion in service by using something they found fun as a means to support others. Over the past three years, this idea turned into something much bigger, something that changed my life and the lives of those who volunteered. My service work at Holy Child has allowed me to become a leader who strives to grow volunteerism in my school community and better support those in need. By collaborating with two other service groups at Holy Child, we were able to bring a Thanksgiving meal to over 100 members of the MCRC. Seeing the power of their community alongside my school's was something that truly changed my life.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS SERVICE CLUB

By Alexa Coppola '24 and Caitlin Connors '24

The Community Partners Service Club leads many fun, service-based projects and events supporting organizations that help people in need in Westchester County. In November, we made paper pumpkins which were used as decorations for the MCRC's Thanksgiving Luncheon. Seeing the smiles on the community members' faces was extremely rewarding and made us want to keep giving and helping others by participating in various service opportunities. We were able to build connections with the MCRC's community members and understand that we can make an impact one simple gesture at a time.

FOOD INSECURITY CLUB

By Emily Encke '24 and Anna Kelly '24

The Food Insecurity Club was in charge of organizing the main meal for the MCRC's Thanksgiving Luncheon. We had to create and fill the sign-up list for each food and give presentations to the school community about the work that both our club and the Resource Center does. We were extremely successful with our community outreach and participation. By partnering with other clubs and reaching out within the community, we met new people, and the Luncheon continues to grow. We had parents and faculty join the effort, making this a truly unforgettable experience that we are so excited to be a part of.

Service Clubs Continued



Tutoring at Don Bosco Community Center

THE STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS CLUB

By Ella Donaghy '25, Chloe Hogan '25, Maria Potenza '25, and Leyna Schnetzer '25

When we formed the Students for Students Club, our goal was to help provide educational assistance to students outside of the classroom setting. We started by initiating a tutoring program for elementary school students at the Don Bosco Community Center in Port Chester. Its close proximity to Holy Child allowed us to coordinate easy transportation two to three times a month. Upon starting, we were nervous no one would be interested in volunteering; however, on the very first day of tutoring, Holy Child sent 15 students to the center! In total, we sent over 50 girls to Don Bosco this year. During the holiday season, we furthered our involvement with Don Bosco by wrapping over 200 gifts that would be distributed to families in need. From these experiences, we became aware of the the needs of fellow students in our area. We are always looking for more ways to get involved in our community and pursue our mission to assist all students in getting a quality education that mirrors the one we have been so fortunate to receive at Holy Child.

THE GIVING GRYPHONS JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER



By Sofia Davis '25, Daniela Fogliano '25, and Elizabeth Galasso '25

In September of 2023, as co-leaders of the Pediatric Cancer Club, our moderator, Mrs. Pettus, introduced us to an opportunity at the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS). We learned that approximately every 3 minutes, one person in the U.S. is diagnosed with leukemia, lymphoma, or myeloma. Learning that blood cancer is so common, we instantly felt a deep interest in this organization. Being nominated by Mrs. Pettus to be team leaders in the Student Visionaries of the Year Program was our opportunity to make a difference. While none of us quite knew what to expect, the experience exceeded our expectations and has been one that we will cherish.



Our team, The Giving Gryphons, included approximately 40 passionate and dedicated students. Co-leading this group gave us a plethora of skills. Our work involved completing an array of tasks, such as organizing a team, providing members with information and assistance, attending meetings, asking friends and families for donations, and coming up with creative ways to raise donations, such as with a bake sale at a CYO game hosted at our school. Through doing this work, we were able to improve our self-advocacy and organization skills, as well as lead and motivate our team to reach our shared goal of making a difference in the fight against cancer. Aside from the work we did, one of the key factors that made our team successful was the excitement and enthusiasm of our members. It was their passion that invigorated our collective efforts as a team, allowing us to exceed our fundraising goal and reach an exceptional total of \$61,000, placing third in the whole campaign among the 20 other high school teams in the Westchester-Fairfield area. In March, we attended the Student Visionaries of the Year Gala, which marked the end of the campaign. We are grateful to have been granted this opportunity to participate in such an impactful initiative, and we look forward to continuing our work with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society next year.





SHARED PURPOSE, SHARED ESSENCE: Safeguarding the Mission of Holy Child Schools

By Dr. Zachary Kostopoulos, Religious Studies Chair

Over my seven-year tenure at School of the Holy Child, I have had numerous conversations with community members who agreed that being a part of this school “feels” distinctive or special. This shared sentiment has been expressed by different groups within our community, from students and fellow faculty, to parents and alumnae. Most agreed that this collective feeling was brought on less by a singular tradition or special event—though we have many—and more so from a greater sense of purpose embedded within the fabric of our institution.

Through my involvement in mission effectiveness at Holy Child, I've come to recognize this distinctive sentiment as encapsulating the essence of our mission itself. At its core lies a unique commitment to nurturing the spiritual, academic, and individual talents of each student—a hallmark of a Holy Child education. Guided by the visionary educational philosophy of Cornelia Connelly, founder of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus, our mission finds expression in familiar quotes adorning our walls, championing the development of “women of conscience and action” and fostering “joy in teaching and joy in learning.” Moreover, Connelly’s pedagogical insights have informed the articulation of the seven Goals of the Holy Child Network Schools.

Interestingly, my engagement in mission effectiveness has unveiled a surprising revelation: our school’s mission is not unique but shared among a network of sister schools across the United States and internationally. Engaging in discussions with counterparts from other Holy Child schools has evoked a sense of familiarity, underscoring the interconnectedness of our mission-driven efforts. Collaborating with members of our sister schools imparts a profound sense of purpose, akin to participating in a collective pursuit greater than oneself.

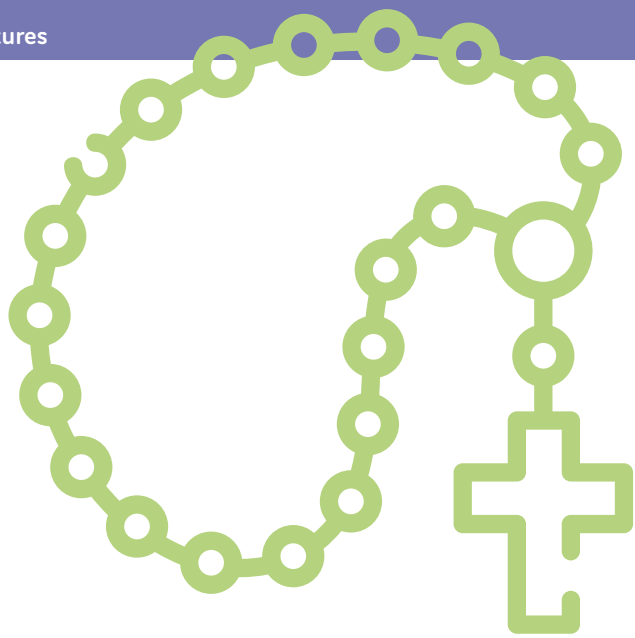
This realization highlights the paramount importance of safeguarding and perpetuating our mission within the community. To this end, we have established a dedicated Mission Committee comprising faculty, administration, and staff. Our collective efforts revolve around devising innovative initiatives to celebrate and



Sr. Eileen McDevitt (right), Director of the Holy Child Network of Schools, and Louisa Polos (left), Head of the Middle School, with a group of students during Sr. McDevitt's annual visit.

educate about our mission. Notably from this past year, one such endeavor was organizing an all-school scavenger hunt, where students enthusiastically raced to uncover mission-inspired goals cleverly concealed throughout the school—a vibrant embodiment of “joy in teaching and joy in learning.”

Additionally, the Board of Trustees has formed its own standing Mission Committee, entrusted with upholding our unwavering commitment to the Holy Child Mission and Goals. Much of the mission-oriented work, both within our school and across the Network, is rightfully driven by the adult members of our community, as Sr. Eileen McDevitt, the Director of the Holy Child Network of Schools, aptly emphasized during her annual visit. It is incumbent upon us, the adults in the community, to exemplify the mission in our actions and interactions, thereby ensuring its enduring integrity and preserving the distinctive essence of our community for generations of students to come.



WITNESSING THE SPIRIT: Student Leaders Share Their Journey in Campus Ministry

By Jayne Pickett, Religious Studies Faculty and Director of Campus Ministry

Over the past several years as Director of Campus Ministry, I have had the privilege of witnessing the Divine, or who I like to call Holy Mystery, animating, encouraging, empowering, and gently speaking to the hearts, minds, and spirits of the student-leaders in our Campus Ministry program. I see Holy Mystery most active in our student-led retreat program. Each year, upper school students brainstorm, create, practice, and deliver retreats to their younger middle school sisters. I guide and mentor them through the process, but on retreat day, it is all up to the student leaders and the Divine. I get to step back and watch, with great joy, the Spirit at work.

Springtide Research Institute recently published a survey about how and where young people (ages 13-25) identify the sacred in life. Their findings, published in the report, "The State of Religion and Young People," revealed "that when young people experience the sacred, they experience moments that are personal, relational, and extraordinary - moments that foster interconnectedness with themselves, with others, and with something larger than themselves." I believe our retreat program offers personal and relational moments for our students to encounter the sacred, especially within the campus ministry student leadership team. Recently, the team took time to reflect on where they experience the Divine in the retreat ministry work they are doing. They shared that they meet God through the smiles, joys, and bravery in each other, in the retreat participants, and by sharing their gifts and seeing themselves grow. You can see their reflections highlighted within these pages.

Since COVID, Catholic publications have reported on the decline of people in Church life, but especially of the decline of young people's involvement within the Church. However, from my perspective at Holy Child, young people's engagement in the Church is vibrant and active, just in a different way from parish life. Our retreat program gives witness and hope that the Spirit is alive in young people and that the Divine is working a plan for Church life, albeit different than what has existed in the past.



I find God in the peace and joy of the retreats, usually at unexpected moments. Whenever the students are completing an activity, and I see someone smile for the first time or talk to a new person, I see God. I see God helping us as leaders in the retreat by being present with us in spirit. The spirit is so strong on retreat day, and when you feel that spirit come alive, you know God is present.

- *Juliana Rachiele '25*

In the retreats I have led, I find God through the connections made amongst the students. As a leader, I oversee the events and often find myself gaining a sense of joy in the new bonds being made in the grade. I also find God in the sense of energy the grade gives off. Each grade has a different spirit to them that is embraced through these retreats.

- *Brooke Lugano '25*

I joined Campus Ministry in the 9th grade not knowing much about what the role entailed, but what I did know was that I wanted to share my faith with my school community. Starting out as a freshman Campus Ministry leader, I immediately began running retreats for the lower grades, which has been my favorite part of Campus Ministry. On each retreat, we have the opportunity to grow closer to the girls in the lower grades as well as practice our leadership skills while reading prayers and introducing each new activity. Being in Campus Ministry has taught me to find my voice and deeply strengthen my relationship with God. I see God in every aspect of every retreat I lead through my younger Holy Child sisters and through my peers. The people around me are the ones who teach me each and every day how to be a good person and how to grow closer to God through my every move.

- *Sara McMullin '25*

I find God in the retreats I lead through the peers I work with. The process of planning and executing a retreat requires quite a bit of effort, patience, and trust in one another. One particular moment that stands out is when we gather together to pray before the start of each retreat. It is a powerful reminder of the collective faith and spirituality that unites us on these retreats.

- *Becca Weigle '24*

I love leading retreats because I love getting to know the younger students and creating relationships with them. I learn a lot about different classes and the activities allow me to reflect on my life, which is extremely meaningful and special to me. Leading retreats allows me to see more qualities within myself and lets me grow as an individual.

- *Grace May '25*

Campus Ministry is all about being a part of a group with many welcoming peers who hold and share similar beliefs. During a retreat I am able to be a role model and set a good example for younger classmates, which is a blessing.

- *Bridget Kelly '25*

In both attending and leading retreats, I have seen God in the people around me. Every person is so unique, and, through our connection with God, we are able to appreciate each other's talents. One part of my junior retreat this year was visiting a rock climbing facility where we had the opportunity to connect and celebrate God in our own minds and bodies. In this retreat, I experienced joy in my classmates through their support. When I was struggling to complete a climb and too weak to continue, it was the cheering of my classmates that allowed me to keep going.

- *Maria Potenza '25*

I have found God in the laughter that I hear throughout the retreat. I love seeing students bonding and becoming closer. I see God through their eyes, being happy and enjoying each other's presence and company.

- *Sofia Zani '25*

Leading Campus Ministry retreats has taught me resilience and compassion while also teaching me how I can make a difference by connecting with others through the shared interest of Christ and community. Sometimes during retreats, things don't go as planned, and I have to think on my feet. Overcoming obstacles has taught me that God is always supporting and following me.

- *Sofia Davis '25*

Leading retreats grants me the opportunity to meet new people in other grades and work with a team of Campus Ministry leaders ranging from freshmen to seniors. The retreats have always demonstrated the power of the Holy Child community. During these retreats, I have seen students create friendships and gain a deeper understanding within themselves and their class. I have developed various skills from leading retreats, but one that I have found most valuable is my leadership skills. Becoming a Campus Ministry leader has allowed me to learn more about what it takes to be a leader and role model to the younger members of our community. I have learned that our actions truly reflect and influence others, and, in doing so, I have found great responsibility in my role as a leader on the Campus Ministry team.

- *Sophie Lynch '25*



JOYFUL LEARNING: Inside Holy Child's Winterim Week

Around the World: Food in NYC

By Louisa Polos, Head of the Middle School

Holy Child is known for embodying the words of Cornelia Connelly: “Joy in teaching, joy in learning.” When school is in session, joy and enthusiasm permeate the classrooms. Middle School students are up and moving, fully immersed in their work, led by a faculty who prides itself on experiential and project-based learning. We know and care for our students and create lessons that empower them to navigate unique learning journeys.



Joy isn't static; it's a response to learning and an approach to instruction. Holy Child's Middle School teachers are excited to try new things and flex their creativity and talent for collaboration. While the school year is jam-packed, the summer can provide opportunities to reflect thoughtfully and strategically about new approaches to instruction. Last summer was just that time for me. I was aware that other

schools offer special programs during a break between semesters. Whether called “Winterim,” “J-Term,” or “Winter Mission,” these programs offer a “pause” from the regular academic program and an opportunity to explore themes or topics that are typically

not offered through regular coursework. These programs are experiential and mission-aligned, and I was determined that the 2023-2024 school year was the time to make Winterim happen at Holy Child. It seemed a perfect fit.

When putting together the vision for the initiative, I considered the principles of experiential learning. The Middle School often refers to the definition provided by the Association for Experiential Learning, which reads: “Experiential education is a philosophy that informs many methodologies in which educators purposefully engage with learners in direct experience and focused reflection in order to increase knowledge, develop skills, clarify values, and develop people's capacity to contribute to their communities.”

Thus, Winterim courses would be created intentionally so that students in grades five through seven would get out in the world, meet new people, and gain exposure to new ideas and subject areas. Students would have opportunities to reflect. We wanted students to find meaning in direct experiences. We hoped students



Take Flight



Take Flight

would learn differently and be able to share the impact of this learning with the rest of the community.

When faculty and staff returned in August for opening meetings, I presented the idea, sharing the Winterim program's mission statement: "*Winterim*" is a four-day, mini-course designed for students and teachers to engage in experiential learning that challenges us to live our mission of 'joy in teaching, joy in learning.'" The creativity and collaboration in developing and delivering these courses foster individual growth and our community's growth.

It was no surprise that the faculty responded with enthusiasm, eager to get to work. Over the course of the fall, the faculty spent meeting time working together to collaborate on various courses that captured the talents of our teachers as well as the interests of our students. It was an incredible opportunity for faculty members to partner with colleagues with whom they are not normally able to work closely. Each faculty member thought carefully about how to build a four-day course, specifically including experiential components both on and off campus, incorporating the mission of "developing women of conscience and action," and designing specific objectives for the students to learn throughout the week. Ideally, students would come away with a project or projects that demonstrated their new content knowledge and skills. All of this work, of course, was in addition to planning a regular curriculum!

And, before we knew it, in December, we presented six courses to the students to choose from that would take place during the Winterim four-day period. These included *Around the World: Food in NYC*, *Broadway Bound*, *Game On!*, *Law and Order*, *Take Flight*, and *Spy School*. The students were abuzz as they enrolled in these courses, not knowing exactly what they were about to embark on but trusting the process. I left the theatre after the course announcements feeling the positive energy and the joyful giddiness.

After winter break, students returned to wrap up semester one, and they began their Winterim courses. Throughout the week, there were many highlights both on and off campus. After a big snowstorm, students in *Around the World* bundled up and headed to Arthur Avenue to learn about how food is made and sold in stores, markets, and restaurants in the Bronx's Little Italy. This trip was facilitated by fellow Holy Child families, which made it even more special. This course also took the students to Chinatown and, later in the week, the students made potato latkes on campus. Students in the *Broadway Bound* course saw *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* on Broadway as part of their study on the art form of theater and stage performance, specifically looking at stagecraft. They spent the rest of the week creating their own scenes and monologues. In the *Game On!* course, students learned about the history of board games, and they went to a game cafe in New



Game On!



Game On!



Spy School



Spy School



Law and Order

Joyful Learning Continued

York City to try a range of games as inspiration before developing their own. Our Law and Order students attended a trial at the New York State Supreme Court in downtown Manhattan and ultimately participated in their own mock trial with a jury of their peers. In the Take Flight course, students launched their own rockets in the snow, and they ended their week indoor skydiving at iFlight in Yonkers. This was all after an in-depth study of the history of aviation and the role of women in the development of aviation. Finally, our Spy School students started their week by taking on spy identities and could not be stopped from there, creating their own tools such as pinhole cameras for covert surveillance. They ended their week at the SPYSCAPE Museum in Manhattan. Needless to say, our students and teachers will not soon forget this week!

After reflecting on this experience, we are hopeful that Winterim will find a permanent home in the Middle School and will be a week that we all anxiously anticipate when we return in September. The students shared that they loved meeting new people, being actively engaged in their learning, seeing new places, and learning new skills and subjects. They enjoyed working with different teachers, expanding the strong sense of community at Holy Child. Furthermore, we are confident that this program will differentiate Holy Child from its peer schools, as we are living our mission and bringing learning to life.

Next year, we look forward to refining our program, offering some of the same courses and maybe even some new ones. There is no doubt Cornelia Connelly would be proud of the students and teachers at Holy Child in Rye. Joy abounds, especially during Winterim week!



Broadway Bound

A TAPESTRY OF WORDS: The Multilingual Journey of Zuzanna Golec

By Christina Saraceno, Director of Professional Learning

“I never thought English would be a useful language for me,” says Zuzanna Golec, languages faculty member and speaker of Polish (her native language), French, Spanish, and Russian. For many Americans, who take the ubiquitousness of English around the world for granted, this statement might seem comical, but for Ms. Golec, it was no joke. Her parents, born in Poland in the wake of World War I and coming of age during World War II, were passionate about their two daughters having the educational opportunities they did not have. They firmly believed that “if you are not fluent in another language, you are not educated.” The Austro-Hungarian invasion of Poland in 1914 meant that German was a logical choice as a second language; however, Ms. Golec chose a different path. Upon comparing the German and French words for commonplace objects, like “pen,” Ms. Golec chose French, a choice as much determined by the sound of the two languages as the allure of distinguishing herself from her sister. However, to command as many languages as Ms. Golec does is

MS. GOLEC CHARACTERIZES HOLY CHILD AS A PLACE WHERE “WE CAN FIND FULFILLMENT AS A PERSON, AS SOMEONE WHO BRINGS SOMETHING TO OUR TEACHING THAT IS IMPORTANT TO US.”

something she modestly attributes to the “linguistic genes in my family.” “It was an unconscious choice,” she explains. “I had this ability—once I heard a word, I would always remember it, so I was following my disposition.” It didn’t hurt that a passion for learning was also inherited from her parents—history from her father and literature from her mother. “My

mother was a formidable reader,” she says. “I remember, she took my hand. We walked to the public library. She would get her books, and then we walked upstairs for the children’s books, loaded our bags, and came back home and read.” French and literature came together to lead Ms. Golec to the study of French medieval literature; however, there was one roadblock: the best scholarship on medieval allegory was written in English. What else could a student with an insatiable intellectual curiosity and gift for languages do but enroll in English classes? It was at the British Consul in Kraków where Ms. Golec not only began her study of English, but where she also met her future husband. This led her, of all places, to a life in the United States

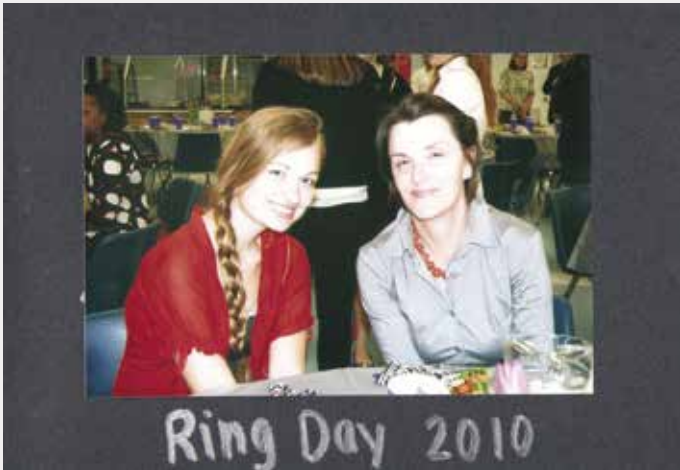


where her husband was completing his PhD in mathematics and teaching at the University of Texas in Arlington. English would, indeed, become useful.

This fall, Ms. Golec will begin her 29th year at Holy Child, where she has taught French and Spanish and served as the Classical and Modern Languages Chair. Before joining Holy Child, Ms. Golec was working on her PhD in French medieval literature at New York University and teaching French at the Pratt Institute and FIT. She put a life in higher education on hold while she raised her two children, Alex and Sophia ‘11. With characteristic pragmatism, she explains the decision, saying, “We didn’t need two PhDs in the house,” referring to her husband, Associate Professor of Mathematics at Fordham University, Janusz Golec. When a friend recommended teaching at a private school, Ms. Golec, who had never heard of private schools, took herself, where else, to the library. She looked up all of the addresses of Westchester private schools and submitted 20 applications. The ability to teach both French and Spanish meant she was a hot commodity, and she quickly received several offers. After a brief interview at Holy Child, she was hired on the spot.

While Ms. Golec could have taken her skills anywhere, she knows that what has kept her at Holy Child for the past 28 years are two goals of the Holy Child mission: the continuous development of one’s intellect and one’s spirit as two parts of a whole. Describing the academic experience for faculty, Ms. Golec characterizes Holy Child as a place where “we can find fulfillment as a person, as someone who brings something to our teaching that is important to us, whether it is French culture or something else.” “All of us,” she says, referring to her colleagues, “bring a lot to the classroom, [they] are so interesting, so engaging, so authentic as human beings.” For Ms. Golec, the appeal of a Catholic school was deeply personal. Her mother, orphaned by the Spanish flu in 1918, was raised and educated in an orphanage by Catholic nuns and attributed a great deal of her independence to the Felician Sisters who became her social network. The opportunity to bring her

A Tapestry of Words Continued



daughter Sophia to Holy Child (her son attended Fordham Prep) is an experience she describes as one of the “most fabulous things that happened” not only because of the time they spent together each day but because of what Ms. Golec sees as the “value of tradition” that is embodied in a Catholic education. “We are a Catholic family,” she says, and “attending a Catholic school helped my kids not become disconnected from the faith.” Nonetheless, Ms. Golec is quick to distinguish her own Catholic education from that of her children’s. “My Catholic upbringing,” she says, “involved Church law and dogma, whereas Sophia and Alex had more intellectual enrichment and could develop as individuals in relation to spirituality.” Her children have both followed the family’s passion for education and languages. Sophia, fluent in Spanish, French, and Polish, earned her medical degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio, and is a physician at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and Penn Presbyterian Medical Center. Alex Golec, fluent in Polish and French, earned his master’s in engineering from Columbia University’s Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science and is an engineering manager at Netflix.

This year, Ms. Golec will see a 14 year project come to fruition with the publication of a biography of her parents, *Wielkie schody*, which translates to “Big Stairs.” The book was written in Polish and published by Norbertinum, a Polish publishing house that specializes in writing from Polish émigrés. The project began, she explains, as a “portrait of my mother and father,” with the goal of making them “present for my kids, who never knew their grandparents.” While the intention may have been to tell the incredible story of her parents’ lives, particularly during World War II, Ms. Golec says that telling their story was ultimately therapeutic for her, writing the book over summer breaks and on vacations. She eloquently explains the book as the story of an immigrant’s life, “living with a sense of loss when we move from a place we love.” She explains the thrill of “finding words to describe even



tiny episodes.” But in the same breath, she says that she is “not a writer.” “I wish I had more discipline, but maybe I got what I got,” she modestly laughs. “We all get what we get; there are enough people writing around the world, maybe I don’t have to be the one doing it.”

As Ms. Golec’s book reaches publication, it marks not only the culmination of a 14-year endeavor but also a testament to the enduring power of language. From her Polish roots to her exploration of French medieval

literature and eventual mastery of English, Ms. Golec’s journey underscores how language binds us across generations. Through her linguistic prowess, she not only honors her family’s legacy but also bridges cultural divides, weaving a narrative that resonates with readers from all walks of life. Language, with its ability to transcend borders and time, serves as a timeless thread that ties us together, uniting past, present, and future in a tapestry of shared experience and understanding.





FROM LITERATURE TO LIFE: Exploring Cultural Traditions in Sixth Grade

By Lauren Poccia '07, English and Religious Studies Faculty, and Erin Morlock, Visual Arts Faculty

Diverse experiences enrich our lives. We created a highly collaborative sixth-grade unit that builds community while learning about other cultures and history. Through projects with overlapping content in the classroom and various hands-on, experiential learning moments, students are able to share and reflect upon how the past helps shape relationships in all of our lives.

During one of the first units of the year in Language Arts, students read *Paper Wishes* by Lois Sepahban, a work of historical fiction set during World War II. The main character, Manami, is faced with being forced to go to Manzanar, an internment camp for Japanese. While at Manzanar, Manami loses her voice but still has moments that bring her joy, such as when she participates in a Japanese tea ceremony and celebrates the Obon festival.

As educators who love to learn more about other cultures, we took the opportunity to bring these two traditions to life for our students. Discovering the meaning of each, creating the artifacts associated with each ceremony, and reflecting on the impact have become part of the content in Religious Studies, Visual Art, and Social Studies classes.

This dynamic way of learning brings joy to everyone involved; the participating faculty get to develop ideas, execute them with support, and see the fruits of that labor in what students make and take away from each experience.

It has been especially exciting to see the idea expand and grow in recent years. With the benefit of past experiences, we have found even better resources and parts of the festivities that work well. In just three years, one class activity has evolved into an immersive part of the sixth-grade experience, including traditional Sumi-e Ink art made by students, a field trip to the Japan Society in Manhattan, and the creation of paper lanterns for the spiritual journey of Obon, a festival that honors one's ancestors. Most recently, the scope of content has broadened to include dance, as students learn the traditional Tanko-Bushi dance, "coal miners dance," that is often a part of the Obon ceremony.

Through this collaboration, we continue to build our community. Learning about other cultures, history, and each other, we can reflect on our own traditions and points of view, and relate to each other in new ways.

The value these experiences bring to our middle school community is palpable and renewing, and we hope this model inspires others to try a new approach in the classroom and beyond.

"When it's time for this unit each year, I get excited to participate. I know the students feel that excitement too. It creates a buzz, and I find it hugely motivating and uplifting."

-Erin Morlock, Visual Arts Faculty





A JOURNEY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING: A Tale of Two Educators

By Christina Saraceno, Director of Professional Learning

Over the past two years, anyone visiting the Middle School might be surprised to see that one of the most enthusiastic math students in the building is the 25-year veteran Holy Child math teacher Emily Morgan. Ms. Morgan, who stepped back from full-time classroom duties in 2020, has remained an essential part of the HC community as a math support teacher for Middle and Upper School students. Two years ago, Ms. Morgan's path converged with another dedicated and talented math teacher, Kaitlyn McCloy.

Each has brought a wealth of experience and a shared passion for fostering student growth. Their collaboration, rooted in a mutual respect for each other's methods and an unwavering commitment to their students, has blossomed into a partnership that enriches both their professional and personal lives.

Ms. McCloy's journey into education began with a compelling plea from her college neurobiology professor for science majors to consider teaching, especially in high-need communities. As a first-generation college student and a woman in STEM, Ms. McCloy felt a strong urge to give back. After obtaining her certification in secondary biology education, Ms. McCloy spent two years teaching middle school biology in Baltimore City Public Schools. She then returned to her home state of New York, continuing to teach science in Harlem. Observing the significant gaps in her students' math knowledge, Ms. McCloy transitioned to teaching middle school math. Her initial approach to math instruction was procedural, reflecting the way she was taught. However, through professional development and collaboration with experienced math teachers, she embraced conceptual teaching methods that encouraged multiple problem-solving strategies and deeper understanding.

Ms. Morgan's journey at Holy Child began in 2000, transitioning from a 30-year career in computer programming and IT benchmark analysis to education. Inspired by a lifelong desire to teach and the positive influence of her children's teachers, Ms. Morgan embraced her new role with enthusiasm. Guided by Cornelia Connelly's quotes, "joy in teaching, joy in learning" and "what one is called to do, she is called to do with all her might," Ms. Morgan committed herself to nurturing her students' mathematical skills and their overall development as engaged learners.

Her teaching style evolved over the years, incorporating hooks to introduce new skills, dynamic instructional segments, collaborative exercises, and differentiated lab environments. Ms. Morgan's goal was to create a supportive classroom atmosphere where students felt motivated, engaged, and ready to learn.

The 2022-2023 school year marked a significant turning point in Ms. Morgan's teaching journey, as she began her role as a push-in teacher in Ms. McCloy's Pre-Algebra classes. Despite her extensive experience in teaching Pre-Algebra, Ms. Morgan found herself intrigued and challenged by Ms. McCloy's inquiry-based approach. Ms. Morgan's role as a support teacher transitioned into one of mutual learning. She observed the positive impact of Ms. McCloy's approach on students, noting their increased curiosity, engagement, and willingness to tackle challenging problems. "I saw first-hand the benefits of students arriving in a classroom knowing they were in a supportive environment," she says. "They were keenly aware of their

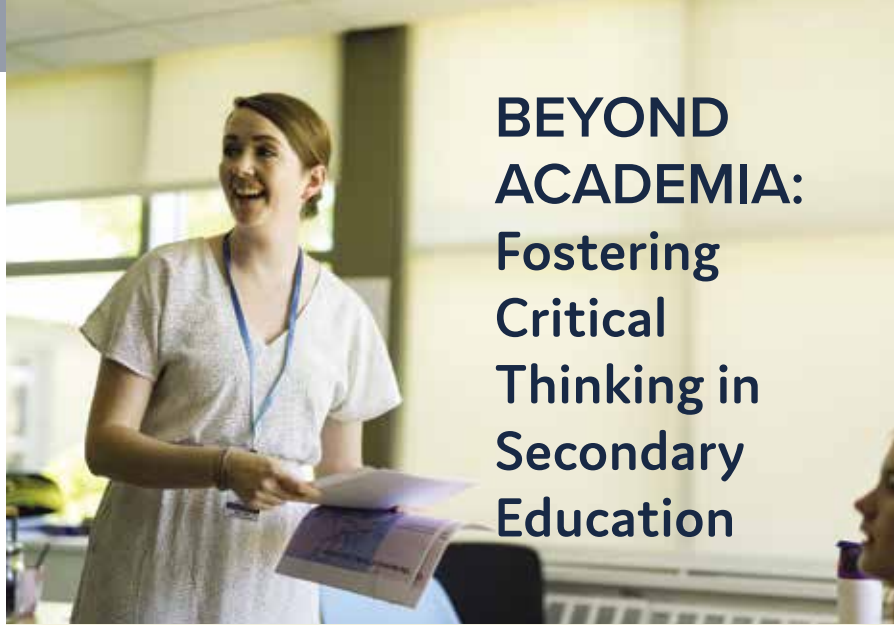
expectations as a student: they took ownership of their work, advocated for themselves, and were prepared to be challenged yet supported.” The students’ ability to articulate their thought processes and collaborate effectively with peers impressed Ms. Morgan, prompting her to integrate similar strategies into her own teaching.

The collaboration between Ms. McCloy and Ms. Morgan not only enriched their teaching practices but also deepened their professional relationship. “Explaining the how and why behind my lesson plan choices with Emily gave me a new excitement for the content I had been teaching for the previous five years,” Ms. McCloy says. Ms. Morgan’s traditional, structured approach blended with Ms. McCloy’s innovative, inquiry-based methods to create a dynamic learning environment for their students. They frequently exchanged ideas, refining their techniques to better support student learning.

Ms. McCloy’s classroom, characterized by clear routines and high expectations, focused on developing students’ problem-solving skills and conceptual understanding. Her motto, “Work hard and be a good human,” resonated with Holy Child’s value of “actions, not words.” “As Emily pushed into my classes to support struggling learners, she began participating in our mini-lessons,” Ms. McCloy explains. “Seeing her excitement for this new method of teaching math and seeing Emily have “ah-ha” moments about the content in my lessons gave me motivation to continue pushing students’ understanding for deeper connections.”

Ms. Morgan’s presence and support provided invaluable insights into students’ prior knowledge and strengths, enhancing Ms. McCloy’s ability to address individual learning needs. Together, they implemented middle school math labs, which allowed students to explore mathematical concepts collaboratively and develop flexible thinking. Emily’s participation in these labs not only reinforced her belief in the importance of student agency but also reinvigorated her passion for teaching. “The difference in this teacher collaboration experience is that I finished the year not just wanting to tweak my teaching style with a few add-ons,” says Ms. Morgan, “but knowing I needed to continue to learn more to find the best way to integrate many of Kaitlyn’s practices to help our students meet the demands of today’s math curriculum and bolster students’ confidence in themselves as mathematicians.”

Kaitlyn and Emily’s journey at Holy Child exemplifies the power of collaborative teaching and lifelong learning. Their combined efforts have created a nurturing and stimulating environment where students thrive academically and personally. Their story is a testament to the profound impact that dedicated educators can have on each other and their students, fostering a community of learners who are prepared to meet the challenges of the future with confidence and curiosity.



BEYOND ACADEMIA: Fostering Critical Thinking in Secondary Education

By Dr. Emily Cook, History Chair and Advanced Humanities Institute Faculty

Moving from higher education to teaching in a secondary school is often spoken of as a transition, a finite shift from one thing to another. In my opinion, it is more productively viewed as a process of metamorphosis, an ongoing change in nature both of oneself and of vocation. Whereas a scholar is always pushing forward, striving to be at the edge of knowledge in a particular niche, a teacher often has the opportunity to return to the moment when her interest in her broader field was first kindled and reevaluate the path of her education. There are opportunities to question not only what students learn, but also how and why they learn it.

Archaeology and research have taught me the incomparable beauty of discovery, and for me, the reward in secondary education is to be found in sparking and nurturing a love of discovery in students. In designing curriculum, I prioritize teaching a critical and reflective way of thinking that students will carry with them wherever their path may lead. In each of my classes, I challenge students to engage in the productive struggle of thinking through problems with no clear answer. Students undertake simulated archaeological digs and analyze their findings to better understand how historical knowledge can be created from material culture. As students learn the features of early civilizations, they interrogate the very definition of civilization and the biases implicit in its application solely to societies whose urban characters reflect modern nation-states. In an analytical and creative project, students consider the ways that popular media like TV, novels, and film (mis)represent antiquity; they demonstrate their understanding by collaborating with peers to craft a fictional ancient civilization based in reality and then argue persuasively how their modifications make their concepts marketable to a contemporary audience.

As a teacher, I may not be a scholar responsible for advancing a field of research footnote by footnote – although I enjoy the freedom to continue what research appeals to me – but my responsibility is one that arguably has a broader impact. To create an opportunity for students to feel an authentic sense of discovery, one must offer chances to engage meaningfully with the many and varied ways that history matters today. To challenge each student to become a critical consumer of history is to create a more thoughtful—and, in my opinion, better—world.

Celebrating Creativity: Digital Media Highlights Female American Artists

By Christina Saraceno, Director of Professional Learning

Cornelia Connelly was an artist who saw all forms of artistic endeavors as invitations to experience God, so it is no surprise that art is a hallmark of a Holy Child education. Cornelia was also a visionary who understood that education must “meet the wants of the age.” There is no doubt that she would have been fascinated by the development of art in a digital age.

This year, Holy Child’s Digital Media classes allowed students to develop their artistic skills and vision while delving into a diverse range of female American artists, spotlighting the work of Cindy Sherman, Carrie Mae Weems, Francesca Woodman, Imogen Cunningham, and LaToya Ruby Frazier. These artists have impacted photography and storytelling. Examples from these artists were carefully selected to serve as models for students and sources of inspiration as they study the myriad of ways women use their creativity to navigate the world.

Students begin their education in digital artistry with Digital Media I. The course serves as an introductory yet immersive experience, drawing from a gamut of methods, beginning with inspiration from darkroom techniques that get translated into Photoshop tools, enabling students to explore storytelling and character design. Students gain practical skills in studio lighting and collaborate to bring ideas to life with props and makeup. They learn simple and complicated methods of creating and capturing images, from straightforward documentary images to production-based character design.

Digital Media II focuses on advanced digital tools for editing photographs and creating layouts. But it is in this course that students truly find their creative voice, learning to critique and analyze artwork, studying the work of a wider scope of artists while still focusing on well-known female artists, including Shirin Neshat, Rineke Dijkstra, and Zanele Muholi. Students develop a sense of what components are needed for successful visual communication. They also begin to take ownership of what form their ideas should take, with the option to explore video, animation, and different physical iterations of their work in print, such as posters or books.

Both courses are integral in shaping the next generation of digital artists, grounding them in the legacies of trailblazing women while equipping them with the technical prowess and creative confidence needed for the future. The Digital Arts will have a home in the new Center for Inspiration, where it can expand and flourish, celebrating the power of female artistry and its profound influence on the digital landscape.

All featured images are the work of students in Digital I and Digital II.



CHICAGO

SETTING THE STAGE: Gryphon Players' Theatrical Triumphs of 2023-2024

As the curtain opened on the 2023-2024 theater season, the Gryphon Players captivated audiences with mesmerizing productions showcasing students' talent and creativity. With each production, the Gryphon Players pushed the creative boundaries. From thoughtful direction and inspiring choreography, to intricately designed sets and meticulously crafted costumes, every production was an unforgettable theatrical experience.

UPPER SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS

The Gryphon Players kicked off their fall season with a bang, presenting the classic murder mystery *Clue*, co-directed by Yulissa Hidalgo-Lopez and Tess Donohue. Set in the opulent confines of a mysterious mansion, the production transported audiences into suspense and intrigue. From the cunning Miss Scarlet, played by Maria Eberhart '24, to the bumbling Colonel Mustard, expertly portrayed by Lucie Holdman '26, each character came to life on stage, weaving a web of mystery that kept theatergoers on the edge of their seats until the final revelation.

In the spring, the Gryphon Players returned with an electrifying interpretation of the iconic musical *Chicago*. Set against the backdrop of Prohibition-era Chicago, the production, directed by Ms. Hidalgo-Lopez, music directed by Caty Cooper, and choreographed by Bryanna Vargas, sizzled with passion, betrayal, and all that jazz. With show-stopping dance numbers and powerhouse performances, the cast brought the sultry world of Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly (played by the dazzling Jackie Kaplan '24 and Maria Eberhardt '24) to life, earning standing ovations each night.





Newsies



BRINGING CREATIVITY TO LIFE: Jaime Costiglio

By Caty Cooper, Performing Arts Chair

Artist and self-described DIY'er Jaime Costiglio has helped brighten the spaces of Holy Child. Parent to Ava '22, Emma '24, and Andrew, Ms. Costiglio is no stranger to Holy Child—she is also the aunt of Grace '20 and Molly '23. Anyone who has visited Holy Child during the holidays is familiar with her work. You cannot help but notice the custom, life-sized Holy Child nutcrackers in formal uniform that grace our hallways that time of year.

Ms. Costiglio is a graduate of The College of the Holy Cross where she studied Studio Art. Since then, the Minnesota native has literally and figuratively carved out a creative life in between raising three children. From bathroom renovations to custom dining room tables to dollhouse furniture and customized backpacks, Ms. Costiglio has sewn, painted, and crafted a diverse array of creative projects.

At Holy Child, Ms. Costiglio's talents have made a particular impact in the performing arts. In collaboration with our performing arts faculty, Ms. Costiglio has spent countless hours designing, constructing, and painting sets for our theater productions of *Twelve Angry Jurors*, *Mean Girls*, *Clue*, and *Chicago*. Ms. Costiglio not only designs and builds the sets, but she also mentors the students who work on our stage crew. "Her compassion for our students on and off the stage, commitment to everyone's safety, and profound drive to improve upon her repertoire are inspiring traits," said Yulissa Hidalgo-Lopez, English faculty member and theatre director. As Ms. Hidalgo-Lopez explained, Ms. Costiglio takes the time to collaborate with the performing arts faculty to execute creations that go beyond the original vision for the production. "She is more than a colleague," Hidalgo-Lopez said, "she is an exceptional artist who values collaboration and process over product."

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Middle School actors took the spotlight with their spirited production of *Newsies*, a musical inspired by the real-life New York newsboy strike of 1899. Directed by Lilly Katz and Nick Roberto, and led by the charismatic actors Nicola Dechiaro '28 and Milly Gaspard '29, who split the role of Jack Kelly, the young newsies rallied against injustice and fought for their rights with infectious energy and unwavering determination.

With its uplifting message of unity and resilience, the production deeply resonated with audiences of all ages, leaving an indelible mark and sparking conversations long after the final curtain fell.

Upper School students managed the backstage portion of the production: Eleanor Hale '25 was the assistant director, and Lizzie Carriere '26 ran the lights. The production gave Upper School students a chance to learn the technical side of theater while helping the Middle School actors develop their performance skills.



Newsies



Newsies

HOLY CHILD ATHLETICS: Let's Fly, Gryphs!

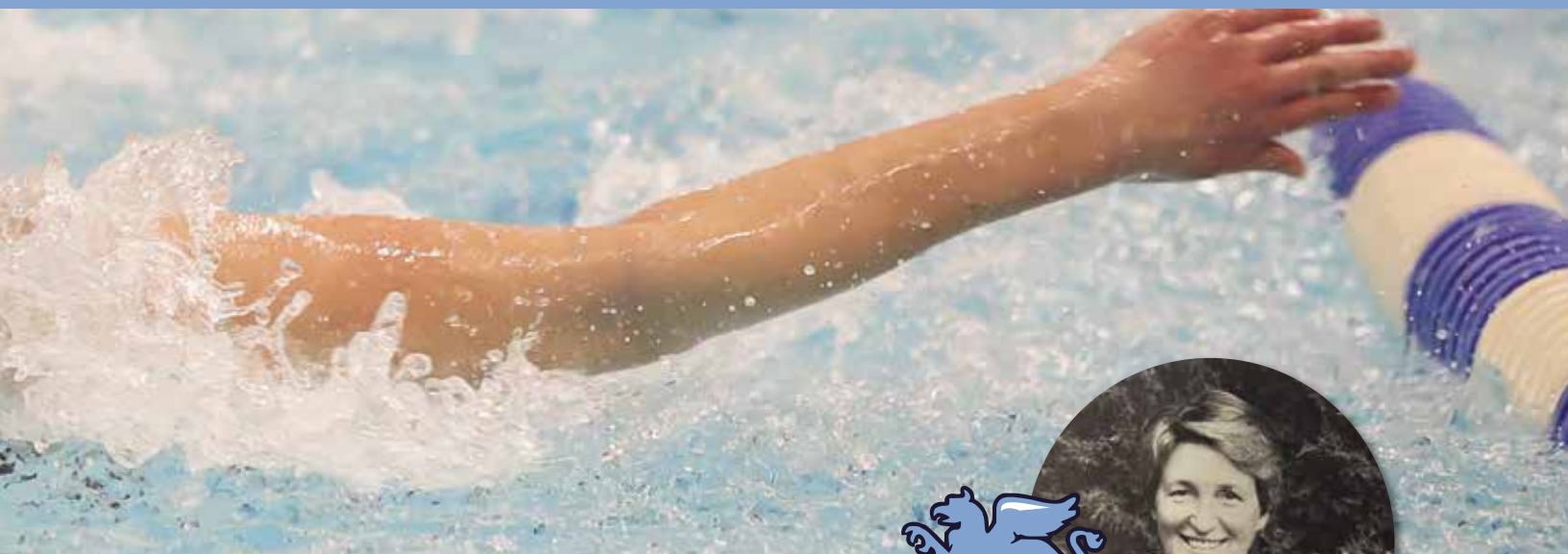
By Kim Angiolillo, Director of Athletics

The 2023-2024 athletics season was nothing short of tremendous. Our student-athletes left their hearts, drive, and dedication on the field, court, track, course, and pool. Holy Child is proud that 77% of the student body from the Upper School participated in the athletic program. This year, our Gryphons made eight Fairchester Athletic Association postseason varsity tournaments and the Holy Child Varsity Swim Team won their sixth consecutive NEPSAC Championship!

Our Our Middle School Gryphons took the athletic program by storm too! This was our second year including athletic offerings during the school day to encourage participation and ensure we are delivering a program that serves the developmental needs of our students. The Middle School athletics program allows students to learn sportsmanship, teamwork, perseverance, and commitment to a team or group.

Students participated in a variety of athletic and movement-based offerings including soccer, volleyball, cross country, field hockey, basketball, swimming, lacrosse, softball, track and field, GryFit, and dance and theatrical movement. Not only does the Middle School athletics program help to nourish the whole child, it also gets our Gryphons ready to play at the Upper School level. During the 2023-2024 school year, 14 Middle School student-athletes participated on varsity-level teams. Go Gryphs!





Going Back With the Gryphon

By Colleen Beirne '27

The Gryphon has long been a symbol of Holy Child, but recently, some members of the student body wondered just how long the Gryphon has been around. Introduced by Mrs. Cathi Wasilik '62, P '00 in the 1980s, the Gryphon emerged as Holy Child's distinctive symbol. Recognizing the need for a unique identity amidst neighboring schools, Mrs. Wasilik drew inspiration from Sarah Lawrence College's Gryphon, steering Holy Child away from conventional mascots. Over the years, the Gryphon's influence has flourished. In 2007, Holy Child's turf field was established and named "Gryphon Field." And in 2013, the Gryphon mascot costume was christened "Connie," selected by popular vote. A pivotal moment arrived in 2017 with the establishment of the Gryphon's official image and the rebranding of our logo. No longer confined to athletics, the Gryphon now represents the entire Holy Child community.

Remarkably, a Gryphon relief adorns the mansion's staircase, predating the school's establishment. Some view this as mere coincidence, while others interpret it as validation of Mrs. Wasilik's choice. Throughout her 37-year tenure, Mrs. Wasilik's dedication to Holy Child athletics left an indelible mark, earning her a place in the Westchester Sports Hall of Fame.

Though she passed away in 2015, her legacy endures through the Gryphon.





FAIRCHESTER ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION AND NEPSAC HONORS

Varsity student-athletes were recognized throughout the fall, winter, and spring seasons by the FAA and NEPSAC. The Holy Child Athletics Program had twenty-nine Gryphons recognized with First and Second Team Honors, Honorable Mentions, and special award recognition.

FAA SCHOLAR ATHLETES

These student-athletes were awarded the FAA Scholar Athlete Award for their display of excellence and superior achievement in both athletics and academics.

Aisling Boyd '24
Katherine Loughney '24
Rebecca Weigle '24

FALL SPORTS HONORS

All-NEPSAC Honorable Mention

Gracyn Finn '24, Field Hockey
Nora Ujkaj '27, Soccer

FAA Second Team All-League

Gracyn Finn '24, Field Hockey
Katherine Loughney '24, Field Hockey
Nora Ujkaj '27, Soccer
Samantha Winogradoff '27, Cross Country

FAA Honorable Mention

Josey King '25, Volleyball
Sofia Navarrete '25, Field Hockey
Rebecca Weigle '24, Soccer

WINTER SPORTS HONORS

NEPSAC Grace Robertson Award

Lena D'Alessandro '24, Swimming

All-NEPSAC

Reagan Adiletta '25, Swimming
Mary Cannon '27, Swimming
Molly Cosgrove '29, Swimming
Lena D'Alessandro '24, Swimming
Mary Fontanella '27, Swimming
Madeleine Ford '28, Swimming
Alex Ramoino '24, Swimming
Kailey Rodriguez '25, Swimming

FAA All-League

Molly Cosgrove '29, Swimming
Lena D'Alessandro '24, Swimming

FAA Honorable Mention

Mary Fontanella '27, Swimming
Sofia Verlezza '26, Basketball

SPRING SPORTS HONORS

All-NEPSAC

Aisling Boyd '24, Lacrosse
Anna Kelly '24, Lacrosse
Dana Rickens '26, Tennis
Milana Swann '25, Track and Field

All-NEPSAC Honorable Mention

Colleen Gillespie '25, Lacrosse
Bella Rodriguez '24, Lacrosse

FAA First Team All-League

Reagan Adiletta '25, Softball
Aisling Boyd '24, Lacrosse
Anna Kelly '24, Lacrosse
Lauren Kelly '26, Lacrosse
Angelina Squillante '26, Softball

FAA Second Team All-League

Colleen Gillespie '25, Lacrosse
Katherine Loughney '24, Lacrosse

FAA All-League

Dana Rickens '26, Tennis

FAA Honorable Mention

Caitlin Connors '24, Golf
Avery Lanuza '28, Softball
Leyna Schnetzer '25, Lacrosse
Milana Swann '25, Track and Field
Samantha Winogradoff '27, Tennis

ATHLETICS BY THE NUMBERS

203

Upper School Participants

4

Fall Sports

CROSS COUNTRY, FIELD HOCKEY,
SOCCER, AND VOLLEYBALL

8

Fall Teams

3

Winter Sports

BASKETBALL, INDOOR TRACK
AND FITNESS, AND SWIMMING

4

Winter Teams

5

Spring Sports

GOLF, LACROSSE, SOFTBALL,
TENNIS, AND TRACK AND FIELD

8

Spring Teams



HOLY CHILD COLLEGE COMMITMENT DAY: A Celebration of Student-Athletes



On Wednesday, May 22, the spirit of achievement and excitement filled the Kelly Gymnasium as Holy Child student-athletes, their families, and teammates gathered for the much-anticipated College Commitment Day ceremony. This event honored the dedication and hard work of the school's senior athletes who have committed to continue their academic and athletic careers at the collegiate level. It marked the culmination of years of effort and the beginning of new journeys.

Five remarkable student-athletes from the Class of 2024 were recognized during the ceremony, each committing to prestigious institutions where they will continue to excel in sports and academics:

- 1.** Nora Troy Afzali will attend Denison University, where she will bring her skills to the squash team. Nora has experience playing squash in international tournaments, and she looks forward to competing at the collegiate level.
- 2.** Aisling Boyd has committed to Bates College, where she will play lacrosse. Aisling's talent on the field and her leadership qualities have made her a standout player, and she is eager to contribute to her new team.
- 3.** Anna Kelly will head to Furman University to play lacrosse. Anna's dynamic playing style and strategic thinking have made her an invaluable player, and she is excited about the opportunities ahead at Furman.
- 4.** Katherine Loughney will attend Union College and join their lacrosse team. Kate's consistent performance and determination have been key to her success, and she looks forward to bringing her passion for the game to Union.
- 5.** Isabella Pedone has committed to the University of Southern California, where she will join the crew team. Isabella's strength, endurance, and teamwork have distinguished her as a top athlete, and she is thrilled to row for USC.

The ceremony was attended by coaches, family members, faculty, and fellow students, all of whom shared in the joy and pride of the moment. It was a time to reflect on the hard work and dedication that these athletes have shown, and to celebrate the bright futures that await them.



LocalLive: A Game-Changer in Community Engagement

Holy Child's decision to partner with LocalLive for live-streaming Masses, events, and games marked a pivotal moment in enhancing our outreach and fostering a more connected community. Through the generous gift of a donor and the support of the Parents Association, cameras were installed in the Kelly Gymnasium and on Gryphon Field just in time for the Fall 2023 season. The seamless integration of live-streaming technology allowed Holy Child to transcend physical boundaries and bring events directly to the screens of parents, alumnae, and supporters.

Once limited to the confines of the school grounds, athletic competitions have now become accessible to all Gryphon fans, thanks to live-streaming. Parents unable to attend their child's games due to work or travel commitments can now watch every goal, basket, or homerun in real-time, cheering on their young athletes from afar.

The live-streaming of our Masses has provided a profound spiritual connection for members of the Holy Child community, especially during times when physical attendance may not be possible. The ability of our community to participate virtually in the liturgical life of the school has strengthened the bonds of faith that unite us.

Events such as Ring Day have taken on new significance through live-streaming. For alumnae who may not have been able to return to campus for this cherished tradition, witnessing the joy and excitement of the newest class receiving their rings has been a gratifying experience. It serves as a reminder of the enduring values and traditions that unite past, present, and future members of the Holy Child community.

The impact of this LocalLive partnership extends beyond mere convenience; it embodies Holy Child's commitment to inclusivity and accessibility. By making events available via live-streaming, we ensure that all members of our community, regardless of location, can partake in the excitement and joy at Holy Child.



Scan the QR code to live-stream Holy Child's sports action, Masses, and events in the Kelly Gymnasium and Gryphon Field via LocalLive.

GRADUATION AND MOVING UP 2024

“I encourage you to embrace opportunities to explore new ideas, meet new people, and discover new passions. Challenge yourself to grow and to evolve into the person you were meant to be.

Navigate your journey with an open heart and you will discover new depths of courage, resilience, and determination.”

— DR. COURTNEY MARSHALL '07, Graduation Speaker



Graduation 2024

School of the Holy Child proudly commemorated the graduation of its Class of 2024 on June 1. The ceremony was a joyous occasion, marking not only the academic achievements of our graduates, but also their remarkable personal growth and readiness to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead. As we celebrated their accomplishments, we also recognized the resilience and dedication to service that have defined this exceptional class. Their commitment to making a positive impact serves as a testament to the values instilled by School of the Holy Child. At the heart of our mission is the belief in shaping young women of conscience and action. As our graduates step into the world, they carry with them the values of integrity, compassion, and purpose. We take pride in knowing that they are prepared to make meaningful contributions to society and pursue futures filled with endless possibilities.

GRADUATION SPEAKER: DR. COURTNEY MARSHALL '07

Dr. Courtney Marshall was recently honored with an endowed chairship and will be named as the Kresa Family Assistant Professor in Neuroscience this academic year at Wellesley College.

She received her Bachelor of Science from Davidson College before spending two years conducting intramural research as a postbaccalaureate fellow at the National Institute on Aging. Dr. Marshall next earned her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from Drexel University's College of Medicine, where she studied cognitive impairment in Parkinson's disease. She joined the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease Research at the University of Pennsylvania for her postdoctoral fellowship, where she began researching the underlying mechanisms of Alzheimer's disease. During her postdoctoral training, Dr. Marshall interned at University of Pennsylvania's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Learner Research office to support underrepresented minority scholars in the University's postbaccalaureate research education program. In 2022, she published her 9th peer-reviewed publication and was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the BrightFocus Foundation, a premier private funder of research on Alzheimer's, macular degeneration, and glaucoma. Dr. Marshall previously worked as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Biology Department of Haverford College, where she taught neuroscience courses and supervised senior research on Alzheimer's disease in her own laboratory.

Dr. Marshall's speech made clear that no journey is ever without struggle. "That pain that follows your failure is the emergence of steel in your spine. The adversity you will inevitably face – you can greet it with a smile." Dr. Marshall left the graduates with a powerful reminder, "You are women of Holy Child. You have remained steadfast in your commitment to excellence and your determination to succeed. I urge you to hold onto the spirit of resilience that has carried you this far. As you continue on your personal and professional journeys, remember that setbacks and challenges are a natural part of life."



Top: Graduation Speaker: Dr. Courtney Marshall '07
Bottom: Christine Ford, P '22, '26, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Courtney Marshall '07, Colleen R. Pettus, P '22, Head of School

Graduation Award Winners



Fiona James Rose Gallagher received her diploma from her mother, Denise Legarda Gallagher-Farricielli, class of '91.



Jacqueline Rose Kaplan received her diploma from her father, Trustee, Josh Kaplan.



Erin Gabrielle Meehan received her diploma from her mother, Maryellen D'Aleo Meehan, class of '99.



Khalisah Isabelle Sánchez received her diploma from her mother, Helwa Sánchez, class of '00.



Chloe Marie Stuart received her diploma from her mother, Leigh Nolan Stuart, class of '93.



The Cornelia Connelly Award for outstanding service and leadership in school and community was awarded to **Chloe Stuart**.

The Holy Child Award for earning the highest general academic average for four years at Holy Child was awarded to **Emma Costiglio**.

The Dede Ross Award, presented to the senior who has enriched the lives of all at Holy Child through her honesty, humility, quiet perseverance, and sense of humor, was awarded to **Luz Rico**.

The Sister Mary Basil Award, given by the graduating class to the one among them who has consistently shown Christ-like compassion, generosity, and concern for others, was awarded to two students this year, **Simone DiNota** and **Kit Cat Furman**.

Commended Students in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program



Emma Costiglio, Lucy Abecasis, Samantha Valente, Ana Lise Devery

These students have been recognized out of a field of over 1.5 million test takers nationally.

Award Winners



The Brenna Kelly '06 Award is given to a senior student-athlete who has overcome great adversity throughout her athletic career at School of the Holy Child. This award is presented to a student-athlete who embodies Brenna Kelly's spirit and perseverance, determination to succeed, and overall positive attitude. This year, the award was received by **Caelan Barker**.



The Herb Mulholland Award is given to a senior student-athlete who embodies the life of Herb Mulholland. The student has a passion for life, a demonstrated commitment to and love of sports, and a genuine concern for the well-being of those around her. This year, the award was received by **Kate Loughney**.



The Book Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Visual Arts over four years was received by **Alessandra Passarelli**.



The Book Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Performing Arts over four years was received by **Maria Eberhardt**.



The Rabbi Daniel Wolk Book Award is given to a senior student who demonstrates a love of learning, a global perspective, and a welcoming spirit. This student has shown an interest in Religious Studies and has a passion for social justice. This award was received by **Taylor Adams**.



"All of us, throughout our time here, have developed; no one is the same person who walked through those mansion doors on the first day of school. During that period of time, so many stories were written. Everyone's story is unique, but what we have in common, as we sit here in our white gowns with our red roses, is that we did it at Holy Child together."

- Kit Kat Furman, Student Government President

CLASS OF 2024 MATRICULATIONS:

American University
Amsterdam University College
Bates College
Baylor University
Boston University
Bucknell University
College of the Holy Cross
College of William and Mary
Denison University
Elon University
Fairfield University
Furman University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgetown University
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
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University of Texas at Austin
University of Washington
Villanova University
Wake Forest University
Washington University in St. Louis





To view all photos from the Graduation of the Class of 2024, scan the QR code.





“The Class of 2028 has so much to be proud of. They are a motivated and joyful group. They like to have fun, but they simultaneously take their academic assignments seriously. They are creative and compassionate, collaborative and confident. Cornelia Connelly, our founder, once said, “What one is called to do, she is called to do with all her might.” This class does everything with might. There is no doubt that they will move on to the Upper School with might, bringing excellence in so many arenas with them.”

- Louisa Polos,
Head of the Middle School

8th Grade Moving Up

The Holy Child Class of 2028 convened on June 4 for its Moving Up ceremony, marking a significant milestone in their educational journey as they transition from the Middle School to the Upper School. This symbolic event not only acknowledges the individual achievements and growth of each student but also underscores the enduring bonds and connections forged during middle school.

As these young women embark on the next phase of their academic and personal development, they join a tradition of excellence and purpose upheld by generations of Holy Child students. The transition to high school represents a pivotal moment in their lives, where they will continue to embody the values of women of conscience and action, making a positive difference in their communities and beyond.



“Although today is a day to look back and remember all of the memories that we have made, it is also a day to look forward to the future in the Upper School. We will explore new subject areas and special programs. We are excited to welcome new and friendly faces in the fall. We will make new friendships that will last a lifetime while also keeping the ones from these past four years. Remember that these friendships started us off, and as we create new memories, let’s never forget where we started.”

Avery Lanuza and Sienna Bruschi, Co-Presidents of the Middle School Student Government

Award Winners



The **Michele Ann Bonk '96 Award** is awarded to an 8th-grade student who, like Michele Bonk+, has demonstrated a commitment to her faith and religious values, the school community, public speaking, and athleticism. This award was received by **Jayde Lynch-Mensah**.



The **Sr. Anna Daly '43, SHCJ, Award** is earned by the student who has the respect of her peers for her creativity, humor, compassion, and wisdom. This award was received by **Sienna Bruschi** and **Avery Lanuza**.



The **Sr. Mary Campion, SHCJ, Award** is presented to the student who has exemplified the "Holy Child Spirit," has a keen mind and intellect, and shows maturity and integrity. This award was received by **Emma Wynne**.



Please use this QR Code to access a full album of photos from the 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony.



BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS: A Thematic Approach to Freshman Advising

By Kim Calhoun, Head of the Upper School

“The first year of high school is challenging for any student,” said Jayne Pickett, Holy Child Campus Minister and Grade 9 Lead Advisor. In her nine years at Holy Child and five years as part of the ninth-grade advising team, Ms. Pickett has seen it all. “Over the years, similar social, emotional, and academic concerns arise among our advising team about the freshman year experience and its challenges,” she said.

In her second year as the Grade 9 Lead Advisor, Ms. Pickett and her colleagues spent the summer of 2023 trying to get ahead of those concerns by creating a new approach to the freshman advisory experience. “The hope in developing a stronger Grade 9 advising curriculum was to proactively and intentionally address some of these concerns,” said Ms. Pickett, “and then help students develop the skills to better manage the issues that arise.”

This goal was the central reason that Ms. Pickett, along with Katie Collins, Upper School Counselor, and Jennifer Hlentas, Science Faculty and coordinator of the Health and Wellness curriculum, spent the summer focused on building a thematic approach to the grade advisory program for the 2023-2024 school year. To help students grow as individuals, friends, and learners, the team focused first on issues that seemed to arise each year. Themes such as belonging, goal setting, creating appropriate boundaries, and navigating friendship issues quickly rose to the surface and helped define the key areas the advising sessions and team would address throughout the year. Using these themes to develop focused topics for advisory sessions helps to ensure that students have an outlet to process and discuss issues they are currently facing. More importantly, it helps students build the tools they will need to think through and better prepare for issues that may come up in the future.

Through exercises, guided activities, and conversations led by a team of seasoned advisors, students are able to reflect on their actions and decisions, role play, look ahead, and discuss scenarios that may arise at some point during their high school experience and beyond. “This work has given common purpose and direction to our advising team and advisor groups. There is a real sense of collaboration and teamwork among the group,” Ms. Pickett said. She added that working with the Health and Wellness faculty has also been incredibly helpful in building a curriculum that furthers the work started in Health and Wellness classes. “For example, we just completed a lesson extension on boundaries that was started in health class and then continued in advisory. It allows more time for these important topics.”

As with all new programs, rolling out the updated advisory curriculum was not without its challenges. Ensuring that appropriate time is allotted to each topic remains difficult. “We do so many important things in each school day, but time can be hard to come by, and we always wish we could extend the advising period to fully implement a lesson with ample time for reflection,” said Ms. Pickett. Additionally, maintaining student engagement and buy-in on some topics can feel challenging: “Sometimes it takes a great deal of creativity.” But Ms. Pickett and the team are undeterred in their efforts to continue reworking the programming to ensure that Holy Child continually seeks ways to improve the freshman year experience and better meet the needs of our students through the Upper School advisory program. In fact, Ms. Pickett, Ms. Collins, and Ms. Hlentas are already making plans for 10th-grade advisory programming.

Fresh Perspective: Colleen Beirne '27 Reflects on Freshman Advisory

This year, the Class of 2027 were the beneficiaries of a team effort by faculty to reboot the freshman advisory program. Ninth-grade students' advisory meetings were organized around topics typically important to high school students. In the fall semester, my classmates and I focused on getting to know ourselves with units such as goal setting and friendship. Our advisories have also collaborated with the health classes to focus on boundaries and other important topics. Ms. Pickett, our lead advisor, said that one of the main reasons for creating these themes was “to make the transition for the freshman class easier and to help each student feel like they belong in the Holy Child community.”

By and large, the freshman class feels that the topics are helpful and engaging. Freshman Erin Arnegger said, “I like how they give you something to focus on, and it helps us accomplish more.” Advisory themes have also been incorporated into peer mentor lunches, when freshmen have lunch with their senior peer mentors. Along with the topics, the freshman advisory team continuously incorporates journaling as a way to explore one's identity and reflect on the year. Ninth-grade Class President Audrey Finn said, “I think the themes have benefitted our grade by letting us comfortably share our thoughts and feelings with each other and come closer together and bond.” Ms. Pickett is excited about the work that has been accomplished and what is to come. She says, “So far, I have seen the spirit of the ninth grade as joyous, respectful, and kind, and that was our hope.”



A highly-anticipated and cherished tradition in the life of every Holy Child student — Ring Day is a day filled with symbolism, camaraderie, and celebration. For juniors, it marks the moment they receive their class rings, signifying the enduring bond they share and their emerging role as leaders in the school community.

Ring Day 2024

On April 5, 2024, the Class of 2025 took the first step in the transition to becoming alumnae, as they received the rings that become treasured mementos, serving as a joyful reminder of their formative years at Holy Child. The Ring Day ceremony captures the essence of this significant occasion, brimming with class spirit. The Class of 2025's color is purple, so the campus was adorned in the royal color all week, from streamers and ring warmers to crowns and balloons.

One of the reasons the ceremony is so special is the presence of alumnae mothers, sisters, aunts, cousins, friends, and neighbors, who gather to “ring” a special junior in their lives. This year, the occasion was graced by the attendance of two alumnae mothers, Darcy Sandleitner Adiletta '86 and Kellie Walsh May '92. Over 40 alumnae returned to campus for the festivities, adding to the sense of community and legacy that reaffirms the enduring connection that unites past, present, and future generations of Holy Child women.

At the ceremony, Julia Karl, Lead Advisor for the Class of 2025, read the name of each member of the junior class as they were

called forward to receive their ring. Ring Day brings together the entire community, but equally important, the ceremony gives every member of the junior class a moment to shine, as each member of the class is celebrated!

Junior Class President, Sophie Lynch, reflected on her class saying, “I am so proud to call myself a member of this class, a collective group of intelligent, compassionate, strong, and courageous women.”

Finley Hood, a member of Madrigals choir, performed her version of “Slipping Through My Fingers” by ABBA, which brought many people to tears!

Additionally, Stephen Powell, a junior advisor, gave a reflection on the occasion in which he said, “[Your] actions bind you to something bigger than yourself; today you joined an extensive network of women who, like you, have agreed to be women of conscience and action... let the ring on your finger be a constant reminder to walk the walk, not just talk the talk. The choice of what to do is in your heart and your brain, both of which you have fine-tuned in your time at Holy Child.”



Julia Karl



Sophie Lynch with
Kathryn Langstine Gazzo '94



Finley Hood



Stephen Powell





ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT

**OLIVIA
PECINI '12**



Olivia Pecini is an illustrator/ animator based in Los Angeles. Currently, Olivia is a background painter on Disney's *Big City Greens*. Previously she has background painted on shows such as *Tuca and Bertie*, *Fairfax*, *Mulligan*, and *The Midnight Gospel*. Though she specializes in backgrounds, Olivia has also worked as a storyboard artist, story revisionist, and color designer. She is an active member of the Television Academy.

What did you study after Holy Child and how did it help lead you to what you are doing now?

After Holy Child I went on to study at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and majored in Animation. I had a wonderful experience there. During that time, I also concentrated on illustration and took courses at Brown University, which neighbors RISD. I graduated in 2016, moved to LA, and started a job at Cartoon Network. From there, I went on to work at numerous animation studios, working in both color and story departments. Currently, I am a background painter at Disney. Generally speaking, the role of a background painter is to design color/light into a line art illustration.

Which projects have you been most proud of in your career so far?

Apart from the shows I've worked on, I am very proud to be a member of the Animation Guild (part of the IATSE union) and an active member of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

What is it like to collaborate with other artists and professionals?

A big part of any art job is working with people who may not have a background in art. It's important to know how to communicate effectively and kindly.

What are you looking forward to in your career and in your personal life?

I had my first solo show at The Animation Guild in May. The gallery show displayed my colored pencil drawings. I've participated in many group art shows, but this was my first time having a solo show.

What advice do you have for Holy Child students who are interested in pursuing a career in graphic design, animation, or visual art?

If you're passionate about art, don't let anyone or anything extinguish that fire. There will be many people who tell you an art career isn't a viable way to make a living, but anyone who says this is simply mistaken. Take your art seriously, or no one else will.



Olivia Pecini



Check out Olivia's full website by scanning the QR code.

ALUMNA REFLECTION

HEIDI LEE-KOMAROMI '92

reflects on finding one's way in the art world



I fell into the art world shortly after moving to Manhattan in the early 2000s. I was living on the Lower East Side, which was bristling with creative energy, long before luxury condos were being built by developers. I was quickly drawn to the emerging art scene, where I met many wonderfully talented new artists. I often schlepped up multiple flights of stairs to visit their amazing studios. So inspired by the artists, soon after the tragic events of 9/11, I made the bold decision to change career paths and follow my passion for art. I landed a job at VIART, the first art advisory firm to manage art collections for Fortune 500 companies. I knew I had found my niche in the art business as a conduit for creatives and collectors.

Twenty years later, as an art advisor and appraiser specializing in modern and contemporary art, I help art collectors and businesses build their collections by sourcing and managing quality works of art. My clientele ranges from private collectors to large multinational corporations looking to acquire the most inspiring, beautiful works of art by emerging, mid-career, and established artists. Based on their interests and goals, I advise clients on which artists and works of art to acquire and how to protect and care for their art to maintain value in the long term. I am deeply grateful for my clients who have trusted me with their art over the years, and I feel incredibly fortunate to do what I love.

I place works by artists of all backgrounds and nationalities across all mediums. Artists inspire me deeply. They are courageous and daring because they take great risks to question norms, push boundaries, and offer new perspectives that inspire others to think differently and see the world in a fresh light. Art has a unique way of communicating complex ideas, emotions, and experiences in ways that transcend language and cultural barriers. I believe art can open one's world to explore new frontiers and discover new ideas.

I have been incredibly fortunate to build art collections of all sizes for my clients. The most gratifying feeling is when a client falls in love with a work of art I helped source. I have placed rare and exquisite paintings by artists such as Mark Rothko, Agnes Martin, and Anselm Kiefer, which have been meaningful in my career. I have also curated and appraised art for boutique hotels, world-class resorts, and multi-office businesses, including The Standard, Refinery Hotel, One and Only, Marina Bay Sands, Exxon, Kearney, and Harris Beach PLLC. Each project was a special experience.



Currently, I am curating works of art for the permanent collection of a top-ten global financial institution.

For Holy Child students who may be interested in the art industry, I suggest they look, look, and look some more. Make a habit of going to see art every week. Plan a Saturday gallery hop or a day trip to a popular art destination. Pour through the art news outlets and gallery listings for current and upcoming exhibitions; pick exhibitions that interest you. Dedicate your free time to see as much art in person as you can to develop your eye. Visit local museums, galleries, and auction houses to preview upcoming sales. If not already free to the public, most cultural institutions offer student discounts. Sign up for gallery newsletters and art publications like Artnet News or The Art Newspaper. Grab an art buddy or go solo! Visit artist studios and attend art fairs. Internships are also instrumental in learning about the ins and outs of the business.

Whatever it is, if it's art-related, put on comfortable shoes and go for it! The art world has so much to offer and continues to expand in incredible ways where curiosity and innovation will be rewarded to those willing to put in the time to listen and learn.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention that my time as a student at Holy Child was incredibly instrumental to my personal and professional development. The tight-knit school community and camaraderie amongst my female peers gave me a sense of support and belonging. I loved competing in Track

and Field races, the One Act plays written by Colleen Aitchison '92, the annual father-daughter dance, and of course, the Senior Prom. My teachers also played a pivotal role in laying the foundation for my success. They invested their time and energy by providing me with gentle guidance and constructive instruction. Mrs. Annalea Ricci, Dr. Penny Ryan, Mrs. Jane Fehrs, Ms. Marie Harrison, and so many others all had a great impact on my academic studies and on me as a young woman trying to find my way through the world. These relationships helped build my self-esteem and self-confidence. Holy Child provided me with the nurturing environment that I needed to thrive during my college years.

After graduation, I attended American University in Washington, D.C., where I majored in International Relations, largely inspired by a course I took senior year with Ms. Harrison. I later interned on Capitol Hill and worked at the Organization of the American States. I am confident that Holy Child's legacy of excellence and community will continue to ensure that generations of young women enjoy such memorable and positive experiences as I had.

Check out Heidi's full website by scanning the QR code.





A PATHWAY TO INSPIRATION: The Campaign for the Future of Holy Child

At Holy Child, our mission is to educate women of conscience and action, ensuring our school thrives for generations to come. This spring marked a significant step in our path forward through the start of construction on our new academic center, with the working title of “The Center for Inspiration.”

As a Catholic, independent, all-girls school, it’s essential to continuously plan and fundraise for the future. Our capital campaign, “A Pathway to Inspiration: The Campaign for the Future of Holy Child,” will create more opportunities for our students to learn and grow in a new academic center.

Since the fall of 2023, we have secured \$1.8 million in commitments, bringing our total to \$7.1 million towards our goal of \$8.9 million. As a result of these generous contributions and intentional planning, we are on track for a September 2025 opening. Our collaboration with Perkins Eastman architectural firm and AP Construction has resulted in the design of an 8,000-square-foot academic center that is mission-focused and embodies Cornelia Connelly’s vision “to meet the wants of the age.”

A campaign should never be solely about a building; it should focus on what happens in the space that makes campus improvements transformative for students. The new academic center will give prominence to our students’ keen interests and abilities in the STEAM fields while providing a space for them to live and share their commitment to their faith and service work.

The opening of the 2024-2025 school year will bring an opportunity to celebrate this impactful project with a formal blessing ceremony. At that time, the official name of the center will be unveiled.

To learn more or make a gift, please contact Samantha Hanley, Director of Institutional Advancement, at 914-967-5622, ext. 290, or via email at s.hanley@holychildrye.org.





THE CENTER'S DESIGN HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Two large, flexible classrooms to support technology-based classes for grades 5-12 and our Engineering, Architecture, and Design for the Common Good Signature Program for grades 11-12.
- A fabrication lab will allow students to bring their creations to life in real time on Makerbot, 3D printers and laser cutters.
- Spaces for digital arts and communications, featuring an editing suite, soundproof audio booth, and a photography and video production studio.
- A multipurpose space supporting our faith identity, campus ministry initiatives, and service work, adaptable for various school community activities.
- An outdoor learning area with pathways for educational and faith-based experiences.

THANK YOU TO OUR Pathway to Inspiration Donors

As we work towards bringing our new academic building to life, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the individuals and organizations listed below. Their support drives this transformative project forward. Join us in celebrating their dedication, as they stand as leaders of inspiration and catalysts for change.

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ALUMNA IN FOCUS

MOLLY SCHAUER '10

takes the field as the Alumnae Board President

By Alina Troya '00, Religious Studies Faculty, Associate Director of Alumnae Engagement

Molly Schauber '10, the youngest of four sisters who attended Holy Child, fondly remembers her first foray into athletics as the unofficial “ball girl” during her sister Kristin’s soccer games. Molly followed in her sister’s footsteps and went on to participate in athletics at Holy Child, serving as the captain of the soccer, basketball, and softball teams. She even played on Gryphon Field when the original turf was inaugurated in 2007. Molly was a scholar and leader at Holy Child. She was in the National Honor Society, served as a Peer Leader, and was co-president of the Social Life Club, no doubt paving the way for her role in helping to plan events for the Alumnae Association. After graduation, Molly attended Georgetown University where she studied history. In 2014, she began work at Willis Towers Watson, a global insurance brokerage in New York City. She is currently the Director for Health and Benefits, advising clients on their healthcare and employee benefit programs. Molly also serves as a leader on the community service board of WTW’s New York office and acts as a mentor to a group of 20 junior colleagues.

Since graduation, many members of the Class of 2010 have kept closely in touch with one another—to this day, some of Molly’s best friends are from her class and see each other regularly. Because of her enthusiasm for attending alumnae events and gathering her friends to come, Molly was invited to join the Holy Child Alumnae Board in 2019. She served as the Vice President of the Board from 2021-2023 and became the President in 2023. Molly loves attending alumnae events, whether officially sponsored happy hours or impromptu alumnae basketball games!

As a member of the Alumnae Board, Molly has enjoyed being back on the school campus and interacting with current students, faculty, and staff. “I am constantly impressed,” she says of her visits to campus. Alumnae Board meetings typically offer members a chance to hear from a guest speaker who represents a part of the community. Molly’s main goal as President of the Alumnae Board is to encourage active alumnae engagement with the school through growing attendance at events, encouraging annual giving, and promoting Holy Child’s mission in the surrounding community. “I hope my fellow alumnae take advantage of opportunities to see how the school has grown and improved since our time there,” she says. “I encourage all to read and learn about the school’s expanded Global Programs, Arts, and programs that emphasize girls in STEAM.”



Pictured left to right is Molly with her sisters, Carolyn Schauber '09, Elizabeth Schauber '06, and Kristin Schauber Bianculli '04.



Left to right: These Class of 2010 alumnae, from the Summer of 2019, are still the best of friends: Carrigan Henderson, Mary Clare Condon, Erin Callahan, Katie Hill Lim, Molly Schauber, Meghan O'Neill, Tricia Marren, Katie Amodio Courage, and Alex Thomas.

CLASS NOTES

1951

Margaret Martin Bryant celebrated her 90th birthday at home in Raleigh, North Carolina, with her six children and grandchildren. Margaret is photographed below with her sister **Nora Martin '55**.



1977

Susie Marren Whelan (second from left) and her family celebrated the christening of her granddaughter, Mary Catherine, on June 2, 2024, in St. Walburga's Chapel at Holy Child. Mary Catherine is the daughter of Diana and Patrick Whelan.



1978

Long time friends and members of the Class of 1978, **Liz Iadavaia** and **Barbara Ross Landzberg**, along with Joel Landzberg (Barbara's husband), and friends, father and son, Diamond and Johnathan Kongoletos, embarked on a hiking trip along a 110-mile leg of the Camino de Santiago in Spain. The Camino de Santiago (the Way of St. James) is an extensive network of ancient pilgrim routes stretching across Europe that come together at the tomb of one of the Twelve Apostles, St. James the Greater, in Santiago de Compostela in northwest Spain. The five friends joined a small tour of 15 people and hiked from Leon, Spain to Compostela, stopping nightly at small manor accommodations or conventional hotels, sometimes with private chefs cooking local Galician food. The hike

was followed by a car excursion of an additional 53 miles to the western-most coast of Spain on the Atlantic, Finisterre and Muxía, medieval Europe's "End of the World," where pilgrims typically go after arriving in Compostela. For Liz and Barbara, hiking the Camino was the trip of a lifetime, which continues to reveal insights and treasures gathered along the over 500-year-old pilgrimage route with its steep climbs and wanderings through fragrant forests, ancient towns, and working farms; the Camino is a metaphor for life...and certainly so when shared with dear Holy Child friends.



1998

Kelly Plunkett and **Kristen McKeegan McDermott '00** shared Christmas cheer and old memories at a Christmas party at the Sleepy Hollow Country Club in 2023.



1999

Renée DiResta recently wrote a book titled, *Invisible Rulers: The People Who Turn Lies into Reality*. Published by PublicAffairs, her book is a "powerful, original investigation into the way power and influence have been profoundly transformed [and] reveals how a virtual rumor mill of niche propagandists increasingly shapes public opinion." It is a must-read for anyone interested in decoding power dynamics in our media-driven, technological world. Renée works

as a technical research manager at Stanford Internet Observatory, a cross-disciplinary program of research, teaching, and policy engagement for the study of adversarial abuse in current information technologies. Renée has been featured in *Forbes* for her work as well as other prominent publications. Renée is married and has three children.



(Headshot by Bill Wadman.)



You can find her book and more information by scanning the QR code.

2000

Helwa Sánchez and her daughter **Khalisah Sánchez '24** went on a road trip to D.C. this past spring and visited some Holy Child classmates on the way! They stopped to see **Nadine White** in Alexandria, VA. Nadine lives in Maryland and works as an engineer for The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). Helwa and Khalisah then went on to visit **Stephanie Deutsch** and her five children in Voorhees, NJ. Stephanie works as the Medical Director of the Nemours CARE Program in Wilmington, DE. She practices as a forensic pediatrician, assessing child abuse, neglect, and fatality cases.





Benefit Honoring Catherine Curran Souther '77

On April 19, Holy Child celebrated its 35th Annual Benefit. This year, the honorees included alumna and Religious Studies Faculty and Director of Service Learning, **Catherine Curran Souther '77**.

Formerly a law Associate and still serving as a Scarsdale Town Justice, Catherine has spent the last 18 years as a member of the faculty at Holy Child. She is a well-known promoter of social justice and Catholic Social Teaching as well as an advocate for all at Holy Child and in the larger community. She has worked to build relationships with our local partners for service-learning, and she is a constant supporter of our students, helping them to learn from their experiences both in and out of the classroom. Catherine is a fun-loving friend who brings together her peers from the Class of 1977. Whether it's for dinner or a special event, Catherine will also whip up a batch of her famous cookies to celebrate the occasion! Catherine was also recognized in 2022 with the Sr. Jeanne Ronzani, SHCJ, Distinguished Alumna Award, named for her former principal and great friend.

Catherine celebrated the honor at the Benefit with her husband Tom, their children and their spouses, as well as Sr. Jeanne Ronzani, SHCJ, and her friend and colleague **Toni Santangelo Archibald '76**.

She and her 1977 classmates and others also had fun on the dance floor! Catherine is pictured with **Lizzie Kelly '22** and classmates **Peggy Parlatore Kelly, Susie Smith Joyce, Cathy Donahue Fugazy, Angela Ingrao, and Cate Cleary Sposato. Helen Carey McConnell** was also present to celebrate Catherine.

In all, over 40 alumnae were in attendance at the Benefit.



2005

Allison Gray Blumenthal and her husband Alex had their baby, Lane, baptized in St. Walburga's Chapel at Holy Child on October 29, 2023. Pictured here is the whole family, including CJ and Madi Gray, Alex, Allison, Charlie, Reese, and Lane Blumenthal, **Catherine Ann Gray '12, Caroline Gray Baum '09**, Kevin Baum, Welles Baum, and Ann Marie and Christopher Gray.



Dana Sceppaquercia Paolini and her husband Joe Paolini had the most unforgettable wedding on April 27, 2024 in New City, NY. Dana's sister, **Cara Sceppaquercia-Moore '08**, and **Diana Shusterhoff** were the Matrons of Honor. The bridal party also included **Diana Attina** and **Amanda Gentile. Sheila Hughes** also flew in from Ireland to celebrate the magical day with the happy couple!



2008

Desiree Gordon-Famuyiwa and her husband Dami were so happy to welcome a new addition to their family. Now a party of three, their son Isaac Famuyiwa was born on November 3, 2023 weighing 7lbs, 9oz.



Eileen "Lee" Beck Desjardin and her husband Dylan welcomed a baby boy, Jackson James Desjardin, on January 23, 2024.



2011

Nicole "Nikki" Black graduated on May 18, 2024, from Fairfield University with a master's degree in Nursing (MSN). She has accepted a position at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN.



2010

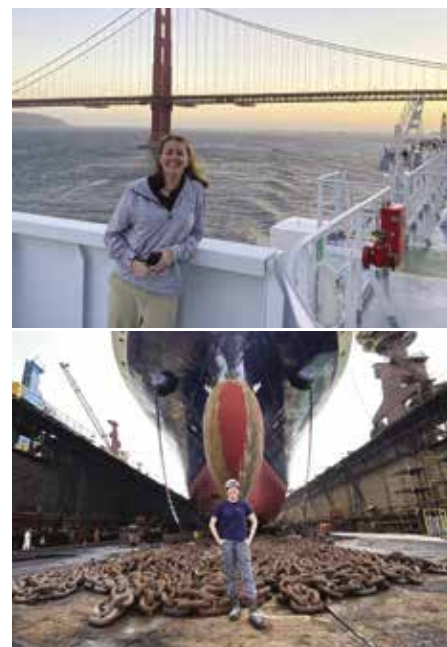
On December 9, 2023, **Katie Amodio** married Jack Courage at Westchester Country Club in Rye, NY. Many Holy Child alumnae were in attendance, including (left to right) **Patricia Marren, Erin Callahan, Katie Hill Lim, Carrigan Henderson, Meghan O'Neill, Mary Clare Condon, Alex Thomas, Molly Schauber, and Nell Davis.** Katie and Jack reside in New York City where Katie is a second-grade teacher and Jack works in finance.



April Ruiz was married to Michael Neto on October 28, 2023, in Poughkeepsie, NY. Holy Child alumnae in attendance included **Bridget Beck '08** and bridesmaids **Chidera Amilo, Victoria Siciliano Manolidis, Lee Beck Desjardin, Catherine Rinaldo, and Alecia McCarthy.**



Captain **Bridget Cooney** is currently sailing as Master of the roll on/roll off ship, the M/V "Liberty Promise." As Captain, she is in command of and responsible for the safety of the vessel, crew, and its cargo. Bridget is thankful for the foundation her Holy Child education gave her, as it has enabled her to have the confidence to reach the top of an industry comprised of less than 2% women.





Senior Project work with Alumnae



As part of her final project in the Leadership Institute in Finance program (LIF), **Caitlin Connors '24** interviewed two alumnae in her podcast series, "LIF is LIFE: Profiling Successful Professionals in Finance."

Cece Hylton '18 and **Annette LiPuma '18** spoke with Caitlin about their work and experience in the financial industry. Making connections with people in the field is part of experiential learning in the LIF Signature Program, and there is no one better to learn from than our alumnae, who sat in the same seat as Caitlin just a few years ago.

Cece is a Multi-Asset Graduate Trainee at Schroders, an asset management firm in New York City. As part of the Schroders' graduate training program, Cece is doing three, eight-month rotations over two years to gain experience and work with mentors in the investment management industry.

Cece shared this bit of wisdom in her interview: "It is awesome to see young women and women of all ages in the field because we really provide a diversity of thought that is valued. I feel that being a woman in a historically male-dominated industry is only added value." She also mentioned that her math classes at Holy Child were beneficial in her studies at the University of Rochester, where she was a business major with a concentration in finance.

A graduate of the McIntire School of Commerce at the University of Virginia, Annette is working as an Investment Banking Analyst at Deutsche Bank in New York City.

Annette shared the following advice: "You don't need to know exactly which sector you want to work in, but it is really important to start networking and expressing your interest in learning, and clarity of what career is really calling to you comes through that." She added, "Holy Child provided a really good foundation to learn how to represent yourself, and it also gave me a lot of confidence around being able to have those conversations."

Caitlin commented on the project, saying, "Interacting with Cece and Annette was an amazing experience! It gave my project the perspectives of young business professionals and helped me learn about the long-lasting impact a Holy Child education has on character development and career preparation."



Scan the QR code to listen to the "LIF is Life" Podcast series.

2012

Amanda Brauer married Joshua Eisfeller on November 3, 2023, in Kittery Point, Maine. Both attended the University of New Hampshire at the same time, but they met after graduation. The couple lives in Dover, New Hampshire. Amanda works as a high school English teacher and academic mentor for student-athletes at the University of New Hampshire, and Joshua works in nuclear engineering.



Helen Brosnan was married to Maria Lowe on September 23, 2023. Helen's sister, **Charlotte Brosnan '17**, and her good friend and classmate, **Isabelle Despins**, were in attendance.



Crystal Cordasco married TJ Scrivo on Saturday, November 11, 2023, at the Church of the Resurrection in Rye, NY. The ceremony was followed by a reception at Westchester Country Club. Standing with Crystal and TJ are her brother-in-law Zach and sister **Jess Cordasco Gray** and her parents, Rosemary and Louis Cordasco.



Jessica Cordasco Gray and her husband, Zach Gray, held the Baptism for their baby boy, Hudson William Gray, at Holy Child in the Chapel on March 16, 2024. Zach's brother Josh Gray (far left) and Jessica's sister, **Crystal Cordasco Scrivo** (far right) were the Godparents.



Ariana Simone recently graduated from the Berkeley Haas School of Business with a master's degrees in Business Administration (MBA) and Public Health (MPH). During her time in the program she led Q@Haas, the LGBTQ+ association. Ariana has accepted a job with McKinsey & Company post-grad in the San Francisco Bay Area.



2013

Claire Holleran married Kevin Sypek on September 9, 2023 at the Church of the Most Holy Trinity in East Hampton, NY. The reception was held at Montauk Downs in Montauk, NY. Many of Claire's Holy Child friends were in the bridal party, and others were in attendance for the occasion, including (front row, left to right) **Caroline Holleran Thompson '07, Betsy Holleran MS '05, Kaitlin Kelly Mara '07, Emma Kvaale, Kathleen Driscoll Mangan, Quinn Cambria, Ally Corbi,** (back row, left to right) **Tori Almeida, Ellen Lautenbach, Emily Baird Cawley '07, Erika Hantho Waesche, Jess Ciaccia, Rosie Regan '11, Mary Henderson, and Margot Lemone.**



Mac Joseph Viger, son of **Molly Cacase** and Joey Viger, was baptized in the St. Walburga Chapel at Holy Child on May 4, 2024. Also photographed with Mac, Molly, and Joey are (left to right) Jack Cacase, Tim Cacase, Ann Cacase, **Julianna Capasso '15,** and Timmy Cacase.



2014

Sally Smith Beam was married to Andy Beam at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Atlanta on August 12, 2023. **Carly Pace** and **Sarah Magarelli** were two of Sally's bridesmaids. Sally and Andy live in Atlanta, GA.



On April 11, 2024, **Lianna Gangi** successfully defended her dissertation at Columbia University's Cellular Engineering Laboratory on "synovium structure-function relationships and sex-based differences in cartilage tissue engineering." Lianna invited her friends and family to the event, including her mom, Joan Gangi, former Holy Child faculty, her sisters, Daniella Gangi, former student, **Jillian Gangi '16**, and her former English teacher, **Kathryn Langstine Gazso '94**. Lianna graduated with her PhD in Biomedical Engineering from Columbia University in May 2024. Dr. Gangi will begin her work as a life sciences consultant at Lumanity in Boston in September.



2015

Abby Andrews recently moved back to New York City from California. Last summer, she defended her PhD in Civil Engineering at Stanford University. She then started a Post-Doctoral position at Rutgers's Center for Urban Policy Research. Her dissertation and current research focus on data-driven methods to evaluate urban decarbonization potential and to push forward equitable building decarbonization.



2016

Anna Liddy married Nick Cancar on September 8, 2023, at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Brooklyn, NY. Anna and Nick live in Brooklyn.



Arnell Stewart was accepted at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business with a full fellowship. Arnell will be part of The Consortium for Graduate Study in Management as she earns her MBA.



2017

This group of sisters and friends gathered for a fun weekend in Cape Cod this summer! Seen here are (left to right) **Grace Ryan, Lila Pfohl, Catherine Bryceland '19, Victoria Hanley '18, Caroline Bryceland, and Kayla Hanley '20**.



2018

Caroline Beit married the love of her life, Josh Beale, on April 6, 2024, at Christ Church in Rye, NY. The couple spent the past year living in Houston, TX, doing research. They are moving to Maryland this fall as Caroline is pursuing an MD at Johns Hopkins University, and Josh will be working on his PhD there as well.



Taylor M. John recently graduated from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University where she received a master's degree in Public Health. Her major was Global Health and Sexual and Reproductive Health. Pictured is Taylor and her mom, **Karen Wood '92**, at her graduation ceremony.



Francesca Serrano released an original piano piece called "Flurry" on Spotify in March. She professionally recorded the piece at The Smooth Spot. Writing and publishing her own music was a goal of Francesca's for a long while, and she is excited to share her music.



Scan the QR code to listen

2019

In April 2024, this group of friends spent a weekend together in Hobe Sound, FL. All college graduates, they are still making time to hang out with their favorite people from Holy Child! Pictured (left to right) are: **Giulia DeVita, Maggie Scala, Lillian Mahamedi, Kristy Pagnani, Caroline Gillespie, and Martina Garate-Griot.**



2020

In March, **Arianna Bertolotti** attended the 2024 National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Emmy Awards as an Emmy-nominated journalist. While reporting for the University of South Carolina's broadcast news station, Carolina News, she reported on the fentanyl crisis in South Carolina. This story highlighted a family that lost their son, and it served to educate and bring awareness to the epidemic raging throughout the state. Arianna's story was nominated by the NATAS Southeast chapter under the Serious News category and competed alongside four other journalists. Arianna graduated in May with a degree in broadcast journalism and is pursuing a career in the news industry.



Mary Statue Dedication

On October 12, 2023, Holy Child dedicated a new statue of the Blessed Mother Mary on our campus. Just outside the mansion building near the Alumnae Garden, this gorgeous marble Mary stands in a "grotto" of her own. The statue was a gift from **Cate Cleary Sposato '77** and her husband Peter, and was given in memory of her parents, **Thomas and Betty Cleary**, and her brothers, **Brian and Kevin Cleary.**

Maureen Cleary Colligan '80 and **Patty Cleary '82** participated in the dedication, along with their brothers Tom Cleary and Chris Cleary.

Cate gave a tribute to her parents and brothers during the ceremony. She reflected on the deep devotion her mother, Betty, had for Mary, the Mother of Jesus. What a fitting honor it was to give the gift of this statue to Holy Child.

Many of Cate's friends from the Class of 1977 were in attendance at the dedication ceremony. Pictured with Cate at the statue are **Gay Prizio, Stephanie Asphar Prior, Peggy Parlatore Kelly, Courtney Hogan Godbolt, Cathy Donahue Fugazy, Catherine Curran Souther, and Angela Ingraio.**

The Cleary family and alumnae friends gathered at Holy Child once again for a new celebration of an old tradition, the May Crowning! On May 1, 2024, our 5th-grade students and their prayer partners from the 11th-grade BLAZE group gathered together with family, faculty, and alumnae to pray and crown Mary with roses, a Catholic ritual that will take place each year at our new statue.



2022

Naiya Rookwood has worked on shows with various theater clubs on campus at Fordham University. She is the Vice President of Fordham Experiential Theater (FET) and worked as the assistant director of a production of *The Wolves* for the Theatrical Outreach Program (TOP). Naiya also had a principal role in *Disaster!* with the Mimes and Mummers, Rose Hill's main stage theatre company.



Naiya is featured at center.



Naiya is shown at left.

In April 2024, **Molly Trickett** and **Jenny Okon '23** ran the Holy Half, a half marathon at the University of Notre Dame, where they are both students. Molly and Jenny were both on the cross country and track teams at Holy Child, and are thrilled to continue their passion for running! This year, students and community members who participated in the Holy Half raised \$50,000, which was donated to three charities.



Faculty News

Donald Devine, Chief Financial Officer at Holy Child, is pictured here at a Devine family wedding in February 2023 in Estes Park, Colorado. Pictured are **Kit '16**, Mary, Ed, Sydney, Don, and **Cedar '14**.



In May, Michael Hammett, Religious Studies Faculty, graduated from Columbia University with a PhD in Religion. His dissertation was in the area of early modern theology and was titled, "A Creative Tension: Anthropocentrism and the Human-Nonhuman Boundary in Christian Europe, 1400-1700."



There was a lot of celebrating for the Hanley family this spring! **Kayla '20**, daughter of Samantha Hanley, Director of Institutional Advancement, graduated magna cum laude from the University of Mount Saint Vincent with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Sports Management. Kayla is continuing her education and pursuing her MBA at the University of Mount Saint Vincent and will play a final season of collegiate basketball. Sam's son, Matthew, graduated from Archbishop Stepinac High School as a three-sport student-athlete. He and the Varsity Lacrosse team closed out the year by bringing home the CHSAA "AA" State Championship title. Matt will attend Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, where he plans to study business and play on the lacrosse team.



Jackie Ciaccia Henschel '06, Director of Enrollment Management and Communications, and her husband, Chris, welcomed their second son, Francis ("Frankie") Burke on January 13, 2024. JJ (2) loves being a big brother! Francis Burke was baptized on June 9, and the entire family was there to celebrate, including **Stefanie Ciaccia Veneruso '08** with her husband Stephen and their son Nico (left), **Jessica Ciaccia '13**, and Sue Ciaccia and Dom Ciaccia, both former trustees.



Kathleen Glatthaar Lozano '08, History Faculty, and her husband, Joe, welcomed a baby girl! Natalie Kathleen Lozano was born on September 7, 2023. She already has lots of Gryphon pride! Natalie was Christened in St. Walburga's Chapel on October 25, 2023. Pictured (left to right) are Justin Lozano, Joseph Lozano, Father Timothy Wiggins, Natalie, Kathleen, and **Michele Glatthaar '12**, and Michele with her goddaughter.

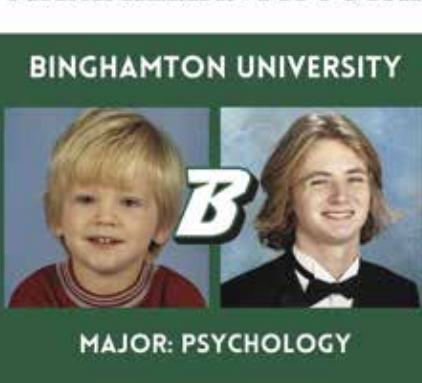


Laurie Naughton, Holy Child's Associate Director of Digital Communications, recently celebrated her son Dillon Muldoon's graduation from the Shiley Marcos School of Engineering at the University of San Diego with a BA and a BS. Dillon's academic journey will continue as he pursues a Master of Mechanical Engineering at San Diego State University.



English Faculty member Maurica Pitocchi's son Max graduated from New Rochelle High School on June 26, 2024. While a student at New Rochelle High School, he was a member of the National Honor Society, the PAVE music program with a concentration in percussion, and ran for four years on the Varsity Track & Field team. He will attend Binghamton University this fall.

MAXIMILLIAN PITOCCHI



MISSION EFFECTIVENESS VISITS

In April 2024, Kristine Budill, Director of EAD and LIF, and Information Technology Chair, visited our sister school, Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac, MD. Kristine was on the Visiting Committee, which is the culmination and celebration of the school's Mission Effectiveness process. While there, she met with Holy Child Rye alumna, Jackie Smith McCarthy '08 (pictured at right with Kristine), who is Dean of Students at the Connelly School.



Also in April, **Lauren Poccia '07**, English & Religious Studies Faculty, Grade 5 Team Leader, and MS Student Life Coordinator, was on the Visiting Committee for Holy Child Academy in Drexel Hill, PA. While there, she reconnected with two of the sisters of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus who used to live on the Rye campus. Lauren (center) is pictured with Sr. Nancy Callahan '51, SHCJ (right), and Sr. Jane Roach, SHCJ (left). The sisters live at the Holy Child Center in Rosemont, PA.



Trisha Baca Romano, Upper School Dean of Students and Language Faculty, and her husband Robert baptized their beautiful baby, Soraya, in St. Walburga's Chapel at Holy Child on November 4, 2023. Soraya wore a gown created from Trisha's wedding gown by Trisha's Godmother.



In the Summer of 2023, Lila Smith, Holy Child School Nurse, and Nicolas Smith, P '21, celebrated their 50th birthdays and 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to Tanzania. Upon arrival in Tanzania, Lila and Nicolas went on safari, after which they hiked to the peak (19,341 feet) of Mt. Kilimanjaro. Mt Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa and the highest free-standing mountain above sea level in the world. The couple summited in seven days and hiked for a total of eight days. After the hike, they traveled to Zanzibar to relax on the white beaches of the Indian Ocean.

Lila said of her experience, "It was incredible being in Tanzania and being exposed to the people and their culture. I learned some Swahili phrases and songs, but certainly, we would not have had a successful summit without the help and support of our guides and porters, all local Tanzanians. It was wonderful getting to know them and hearing about their lives and families as we were all together for the entirety of the hike. As a science enthusiast, I also really enjoyed encountering and learning about the five major ecological climate zones that make up Mt. Kilimanjaro. We spent several days to hours in each of the zones: the Cultivation Zone, Forest Zone, Heather-Moorland Zone, Alpine Desert Zone, and Arctic Summit climate zones. Each climate zone has its own unique characteristics in terms of vegetation and animal life. When we made it to base camp, ready to hike to the summit, it happened to be July 4 and a full moon. We left camp at 11:30 p.m. and hiked all night with the full moon lighting our way to the summit, which took six

hours; we were the first group to make it that morning. We watched the sunrise and took photos. The last hour was very challenging due to the altitude and lack of oxygen, but we made it! This was a once in a lifetime trip for my husband and me, and I will cherish and remember every moment."



On October 7, 2023, Olivia Patricia, daughter of Kevin Soravilla, Religious Studies Faculty, and his wife, Shirley, was baptized by Fr. Tom Marciniak, SJ, at Holy Child in St. Walburga's Chapel.



In March 2024, Gemma Viskup, Language Faculty, passed the U.S. Naturalization Interview and Test. On April 19, 2024, she took the Oath of Allegiance and officially became a U.S. Citizen!

Reflecting on the experience, Gemma said, "Becoming a U.S. citizen has been my biggest accomplishment this year. The past few months have been a roller coaster of emotions, but I haven't been alone. My husband, my family and friends, and my Holy Child community have been holding my hand, and they believed in me when I doubted myself. I will never forget when my students tested me using citizenship flashcards, and I'll always remember their excitement when they learned I passed the test. Thank you, Holy Child, for making this adventure such a memorable experience! I am ready to enjoy the rights of being an American and to exercise the responsibilities that come with it. I hope to become a citizen of conscience and action!"



Stephanie Wesson, Religious Studies Faculty, was married to John Roman on June 22, 2024, in the chapel of St. Patrick Church in Philadelphia, PA.



In Memoriam

Alumnae

Gina Vuolo Brewer '83

Hannah Dougherty Clayton '72, sister of **Sara Dougherty Marquis '69** and **Nora Dougherty Smith '74**

Barbara Britton Crowley '72

Marie Lucien Kenney '78, sister of **Melissa Lucien '81**

Joan Carroll Kolakowski '51

Sr. Rosemary McCarthy '40, SHCJ

Kathleen Granville Woods '46

Members of the Holy Child Community

Douglas Brickel, husband of **Naomi Hickey Brickel '87**

Theodore A. "Burt" Burtis, Jr., father of **Christine Burtis-Gerrity '80** and grandfather of **Bridget C. Cooney '11**

Myra Cacsire, sister of **Eileen Cacsire '16** and **Ginny Cacsire '18**

Robert Michael Campbell, husband of **Patsy Foristel Campbell '67** and brother-in-law of **Susie Wooters Campbell '67**

Daniel T. Condon, father of **Mary Clare Condon '10**

Enrico Corbi, father of **Ally Corbi '13** and **Sam Corbi '15**

Jeanne Morio Cozic, mother of former faculty member **Christine Coté**

Raymond Crane, father of **Georgia Crane '12**

Dr. Joseph De Stefano, father of **Lila Smith**, School Nurse, and grandfather of **Shelby Smith '21**

Arnold Diaz, father of **Casey Diaz '14**

Daniel Doherty, son of **Mary Katherine Greenslade Doherty '76**

Mary Lee Eastman Hurley Egan, former Holy Child Administrator, mother-in-law of **Megan Hurley**, Trustee, and mother and grandmother of **Michael Hurley** and **Lily Hurley '18** and **Charlotte Hurley '20**

Alfred F. Kelly, Sr., father of **Alfred F. Kelly, Jr.**, Former Chair of the Board of Trustees, father-in-law of **Peggy Parlatore Kelly '77**, and grandfather of **Kaitlin Kelly Mara '07**, **Maggie Kelly Cifarelli '09**, and **Lizzie Kelly '22**

Mary Lou Curran Kingsbery, sister of **Catherine Curran Souther '77**

Eileen Lundberg, mother of **Sue Ciaccia**, Trustee, mother-in-law of **Dom Ciaccia**, former Trustee, and grandmother of **Jackie Ciaccia Henschel '06**, **Stefanie Ciaccia Veneruso '08**, and **Jessica Ciaccia '13**

Mary Jane McAteer, mother of **Christine Ford**, Chair of the Board of Trustees, and grandmother of **Lizzie Ford '22** and **Maddie Ford '26**

Mary Thompson McGrath, grandmother of **Caitlin Panarella '16**, **Emily Panarella '20**, and **Mary Adair Panarella '23**

Pietro Mercatali, husband of **Elissa Spidalieri Mercatali '76** and brother-in-law of **Andrea Spidalieri '80**

Celeste Morningstar, mother of **Grace Morningstar '04**

Mary Jane Murray, mother of **Mary Jane Murray Creamer '80**, and predeceased by her daughter, **Margot Murray Leary '78**

Marie Louise Perrotta, Former English Faculty and Administrator

Brenda Pica, mother of **Gianna Pica Cuoco '08**

Ann M. Pike, mother of **Lauren Pike Peek '07**

Jeanne M. Ryan, mother of **Amy Ryan Wynkoop '72**, **Megan Ryan Ziminsky '74**, **Nora Ryan Golterman '76**, and **Sally Ryan '80**

Anthony J. Scala, Jr., grandfather of **Ali Scala '29**, and the uncle of **Maggie Scala '19**, **Lizzie Scala '21**, and **Molly Scala '24**

Thomas Patrick Smyth, father of **Ciara Smyth Bisceglia '00**

A. John "Jack" Steinthal, former Trustee

Katherine B. "Kitty" St. Onge, mother of **Irene St. Onge Briganti '02**

Terence "Terry" Toal, father of **Anne Toal Kaufmann '92** and **Elizabeth Toal '00**, and husband of **Jane Toal**, former Trustee

Jeffrey Wilkie, father of **Blair Wilkie '07**



CALLING ALL SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS AND ENTREPRENEURS IN OUR COMMUNITY!

The Holy Child community is home to many small business owners and creators of unique products and services. The School would like to gather information on these businesses from our alumnae, parents, and family members so we can create a Directory and Gift Guide to share during the holiday shopping season and beyond. We will feature locally-owned and online stores as well as business-related services such as financial, legal, health and wellness, design, art and photography, and more!



If you have a business you'd like us to include, please scan the QR code to submit your information.

HOLY CHILD ALL HER MIGHT.

CONVERSATIONS WITH WOMEN OF CONSCIENCE AND ACTION



“All Her Might,” the new student-driven podcast hosted by Taylor Adams '24, introduced the Holy Child community to happenings on campus and included engaging discussions with women of conscience and action.

“What one is called to do,
she is called to do with all her might.”

-Cornelia Connelly



By scanning the QR code, you can listen to exclusive interviews with SHCJ -- Sr. Eileen McDevitt, SHCJ, Director of the Holy Child Network of Schools, and Head of School Colleen R. Pettus.



As alumnae, our legacy lives on in the traditions that endure and the celebrations that remind us that we are always welcome at Holy Child. The Office of Alumnae Engagement invites you to Reunion 2024, with events taking place on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, November 1, 2, and 3. All alumnae are welcome to attend the exciting events we have planned, and we will celebrate the anniversary class years ending in 4 and 9 in a special way.



Stay tuned for more details and contact Alina Troya '00, Associate Director of Alumnae Engagement, at a.troya@holychildrye.org, with any questions or to volunteer as a class representative. Scan the QR code to register!

PHILANTHROPY at Holy Child



IMPACT
Report 2024



WITH MANY THANKS...

In this issue of the Impact Report, you will read about the steadfast philanthropy that anchors Holy Child and the vital work that we do. The collective strength of our community should never be underestimated.

This past year has been remarkable for Holy Child with nearly \$4 million contributed to our annual giving efforts. We continue to experience growth in the Annual Fund for Holy Child and our signature advancement events. Your contributions to our capital campaign, "A Pathway to Inspiration," have kept us on track for a September 2025 opening of our new academic building, "The Center for Inspiration." The generosity of our parents, alumnae, and friends has been instrumental in shaping an environment where the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and innovators can thrive.

We send special thanks to our donors and volunteers for their continued loyalty and support. Together, we honor the School's Mission to educate young women of conscience and action.

Samantha Hanley

Samantha Hanley, P '18, '20
Director of Institutional Advancement



Holy Child Institutional Advancement Team

2023-2024 Financials



Tuition 89%

Annual Fund, Benefit,
and Other Contributions.....9%

Other Income2%



Salaries and Benefits..... 56%

Financial Aid and Scholarships 16%

Plant (includes Depreciation)..... 11%

Instruction, Student Activities, and Auxiliary..... 11%

Other6%

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL GIVING



Annual Fund Total	\$718,811
Unrestricted	\$634,440
Restricted	\$84,371
Benefit and Other Fundraising Events Total	\$745,573
Benefit	\$574,065
Library Luncheon	\$99,275
Gryphon Classic	\$72,233
Capital Campaign Cash Received	\$2,391,106
Annual Giving Cash Total	\$3,855,490
Capital Campaign Update	
Capital Campaign Total	\$7,111,651
Capital Campaign Cash	\$4,808,064
Capital Campaign Outstanding Pledges	\$2,303,587



A Tradition of Giving

In 1956, the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus acquired the Tudor-style mansion and its surrounding property in Westchester County, where Holy Child now resides. The campus has expanded to accommodate a growing student body and evolving educational needs. This is a testament to Cornelia Connelly's vision of "meeting the wants of the age" and to the generosity of our supporters. Over the years, countless families, alumnae, and friends have answered the call to support Holy Child's Mission, allowing us to fulfill our promise to provide a transformative and holistic learning environment.

The impact of philanthropy is evident in the transformation of our campus, from the establishment of the Maureen Alison McGrath '78 Memorial Library to the creation of the Chapel and Alumnae Garden. These spaces showcase a dedication to academic excellence and spiritual growth. Projects like Gryphon Field have also provided modern facilities for our athletes, fostering a culture of competition as well as health and wellness.

Ten years ago, Holy Child embarked on a campus renaissance funded through a restricted capital campaign that culminated with the completion of the Field House and Theatre. These spaces made possible through the support of donors, have enhanced our ability to compete



For 120 years, the tradition of philanthropy has been deeply woven into the fabric of School of the Holy Child's identity. From its inception, the spirit of giving has always been at the heart of our community, shaping our values and guiding our mission to educate young women of conscience and action.

athletically and enriched the performing arts experience of our students to remain at the forefront of the educational landscape.

Our current restricted capital campaign, "A Pathway to Inspiration," marks a pivotal moment in Holy Child's story. This ambitious, entirely donor-funded project represents a bold step forward in providing a forward-thinking, innovative hub that will inspire students to explore new ideas and pursue their passions.

Our commitment to philanthropy extends beyond restricted capital campaigns and projects. Donations to Holy Child are categorized as restricted and unrestricted support. Restricted donations are for a specific purpose, like the aforementioned capital projects. Unrestricted donations allow the School to use the money where it's needed most, whether it's for day-to-day operations, financial aid and scholarship, professional development opportunities, or other enhancements to the student experience.

The Annual Fund for Holy Child, the cornerstone of our unrestricted fundraising, supports virtually every aspect of school life. The Annual Fund bridges the gap between tuition revenue and the actual cost of a Holy Child education, ensuring that all students have access to a transformative learning experience.

The Annual Fund is not just about financial support; it demonstrates a shared sense of responsibility to sustain Holy Child's Mission for future generations. It enhances academic, co-curricular, and extracurricular programs, funds merit scholarships and financial aid, and supports faculty recruitment, retention, and professional development.

As we look to the future, the importance of philanthropy cannot be overstated. With 30% of our students receiving financial aid, the need for unrestricted annual support is ever-present. The Annual Fund and other yearly fundraising events like the Library Luncheon, the Benefit, and the Gryphon Classic ensure that Holy Child continues to serve as a conduit between who students are and who they will become.

Historically, our unrestricted annual fundraising initiatives (the annual fund and signature advancement events) raised an average of one million dollars annually; however, during the past five years, this figure has impressively risen to an average of \$1.4 million annually. This represents a 40% increase since 2019.

This substantial increase in our fundraising efforts highlights the relentless dedication of our donors, who continue to champion Holy Child's Mission with passion and conviction. Their steadfast support has enabled us to meet our financial goals and empowered us to expand our programs, enhance our facilities, and provide more comprehensive resources for our students and faculty.

This show of support clearly indicates the trust and confidence our community places in Holy Child. Together, we will continue to fortify this community, safeguard our Mission, and honor the enduring tradition of philanthropy for the betterment of our students and the continuation of our legacy.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Farewell and Welcome

Holy Child bids farewell to Susann Ciaccia, P '06, '08, '13, Susan Driscoll, P '09, '13, Cecelia Greco Ryan '84, P '17, '18, and Kristin Twomey Hopkins '04 as esteemed members of the Board of Trustees.

Their steadfast leadership has steered us through challenges and opportunities, guiding us with wisdom and vision. They have navigated the waters of governance with skill and dedication, always mindful of our Mission. With gratitude for the contributions of our outgoing Trustees and excitement for the journey ahead, we remain united in our belief in the Mission of Holy Child.

Susann Ciaccia, P '06, '08, '13

Throughout Sue's tenure, she demonstrated exceptional leadership on all committees she's served. As the Chair of the Governance Committee, she introduced potential members and helped to ensure robust governing practices. Her commitment also extended to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, where she played a pivotal role in creating an enriching environment for student development. Sue's passion is reflected in her dedication and unwavering commitment to all things Holy Child.

Susan Driscoll, P '09, '13

As Chair of the Institutional Advancement Committee, Susan's guidance in our fundraising efforts helped to drive our success. In particular, her dedication and commitment to the capital campaign, "A Pathway to Inspiration," ensured our continued progress, even amidst the challenges of a global pandemic. Thanks in part to her efforts, construction has begun, and we are on track for a September 2025 opening. Her expertise was also crucial on the Finance and Investment Committees, where she enhanced financial oversight and strategic investment.

Cecelia Greco Ryan '84, P '17, '18

Cece's devotion to Holy Child was evident through her work on the Board. She initially made her mark by serving on the Institutional Advancement Committee. Cece helped to drive our alumnae fundraising forward and worked to enhance our communication and marketing initiatives. She later transitioned to the Governance Committee and assisted in identifying potential members and furthering our mission with her insight.

Kristin Twomey Hopkins '04

Kristin's perspective on Holy Child as an alumna offered valuable insight during her time on the Board. She brought her expertise to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, helping to create a nurturing and enriching environment for our students' growth and success. Her unwavering commitment to our institution and its values has been essential to our ongoing excellence.

We warmly welcome new members of the Board and invite them to join us in stewardship and service.



Kimberly Carriere, P '26

Kim is the Chief Administrative Officer of Somnia Inc. She has twenty years of healthcare experience, having previously served as Senior Vice President of Operations and Revenue Management at Somnia and Senior Administrator at Garnett Health in Middletown, New York.

Kim was Chief Operating Officer of Scarsdale Medical Group/ White Plains Hospital for six years, overseeing a staff of 200 and handling all practice operations. She graduated from Western New England College and received her MBA in Healthcare Administration from Sacred Heart University. Kim and her family, her husband Bill and daughter Elizabeth '26, reside in Port Chester.

Kim has been part of the Parent Association since Elizabeth started at Holy Child in 5th grade. Kim was a PA Co-President and served and led several committees for the PA, including her most recent position as co-chair of the Annual Benefit Committee.



Peter McMullin, P '25

Pete has been professionally involved in the fixed-income capital markets for the past 30 years. His career began with a 15-year run at Greenwich Capital Markets as a Managing Director on the fixed-income trading desk. Pete has also been affiliated with a family office over

the past 15 years and has extensive investment experience in the commercial and residential real estate sectors. He has most recently spent the last 12 years as a Capital Markets Advisor to One Main Financial, a NYSE public company. Pete is married to Trish, and their story began at Fairfield University, where they met in 1988 and have been together ever since.

Pete and Trish are the proud parents of two children, Ryan and Sara '25. Ryan attended Fairfield Prep and graduated from the University of Loyola Chicago in 2020 (go Ramblers!). Sara '25 came to Holy Child in 5th grade, so the McMullin Family is part of the "Lifer Group." Trish has been actively involved at Holy Child as a parent representative and brought the BLAZE Middle School Bible Study program to Holy Child. Pete previously served on the Board of Greenwich Catholic School and as the Chair of the Finance Committee at St. Leo Parish in Stamford. for the past 13 years, where the family has been members for 25 years. He currently serves as a member of the Holy Child Capital Campaign Committee. Pete is thrilled to be joining the Holy Child Board of Trustees and to have the opportunity to give back to the Holy Child community.



Laura Molen, P '18, '22

Laura is a transformational leader known for her strategic vision and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). She has led large sales teams to exceed revenue goals, delivering over \$5 billion at NBCUniversal. Laura played a crucial role in launching Peacock, UPN, Spike

TV, and Telemundo's World Cup coverage, and she developed marketing strategies for major brands like VH1, Univision, and Peacock.

At NBCUniversal, she served as President of Advertising Sales and Partnerships, overseeing sales across various divisions and supporting DEI efforts. Her leadership roles included Executive Vice President at Univision and VH1, where she led successful sales and marketing operations. Laura's accolades include being named to Ad Age's Women to Watch list and Adweek 50. She graduated from Syracuse University S. I. Newhouse School of Public Communications.

Laura's daughter, Francesca '18, graduated from Pennsylvania State University in 2022 and currently works at Paramount. Gigi '22 is a rising junior at Pennsylvania State University. Laura and her husband, Tom, reside in Stamford. Her marketing expertise, strategic leadership, and familiarity with Holy Child will significantly benefit the Board.



Raul Navarrete, P '25

Raul is a seasoned professional with a distinguished 27-year career at Bristol-Myers Squibb and Pfizer. In 2016, as Director of Field Force Effectiveness for LATAM and Emerging Markets at Pfizer, he led initiatives across 57 countries, including Brazil, the UK, Germany, and

Mexico. His strategic leadership extended to the Asia-Pacific region, where he implemented transformational management processes in Hong Kong, India, and Dubai. Raul's extensive experience managing sales teams and product portfolios underscores his ability to drive performance and adapt to evolving healthcare markets globally.

Born in Madrid, Spain, Raul holds an MBA in Marketing from IE in Madrid and a Bachelor of Commerce in Finance and Marketing from McGill University in Montreal. Fluent in English and Spanish, with colloquial French, he has lived in South Africa, Canada, and states across the U.S. He currently resides in Stamford, CT, with his wife, Dr. Sausan Hilmi, and their children, Sofia '25 and Jacob. Raul enjoys skiing, biking, soccer, swimming, traveling, and reading. His professional and personal journeys have fostered many experiences and relationships worldwide.

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



Among other projects, gifts to Holy Child have enabled the administration, faculty, and staff to:

INSPIRE

curiosity and creativity through experiential learning opportunities.

Holy Child offers a wide array of experiential learning opportunities that go beyond the traditional classroom setting. These hands-on experiences, like Winterim and the Daffodills Project, allow students to take a break from their regular academic schedule and immerse themselves in new and exciting topics.

ACQUIRE

portable performance risers and a stage to ensure the audience can hear every voice and see every face.

These versatile additions are invaluable for various events, including school Masses, concerts, presentations, and the Middle School Moving Up ceremony. With these enhancements, we are fostering an engaging environment where every community member can shine.

EMPOWER

the future with scholarship and financial aid support.

Scholarship and financial aid support are pivotal in making our high-quality education accessible to students who might otherwise face economic barriers. These contributions fund education and unlock opportunities, shaping a future where every student can thrive, regardless of financial circumstances.

PHILANTHROPY AT HOLY CHILD

Philanthropy touches every aspect of the Holy Child campus. We are immensely grateful to the donors listed in this report for their generous contributions to the Annual Fund for Holy Child, our signature fundraising events, and our capital campaign, “A Pathway to Inspiration”.

From the inspiring spaces where students learn and grow to our success in attracting and retaining exceptional teachers and students, Holy Child thrives as a vibrant, joy-filled institution thanks to the unwavering generosity of alumnae, parents, and friends. Your support empowers us to nurture the next generation of courageous and compassionate leaders.

CORNELIA CONNELLY (\$50,000+)

Susann and Domenick Ciaccia, P '06, '08, '13
Catherine and Steven Clemens, P '19, '22
Linda and Michael Davidoff, P '28, '30
Megan and John Gillespie, P '19
Michelle and Thomas Girard, P '20, '22
Barrett and Andrew Golden, P '28
Katherine and Aaron Hood, P '25
Margaret Parlatore Kelly '77 and Alfred Kelly, P '07, '09, '22
Sydney and Rob Kindler
Keelin and Christopher Pye, P '27
Alicia and Christopher Scala, P '29
Mary Ellen Scala and Anthony Scala+
Sheila and Cary Stier, P '18, '21
Ciara and Andrew Trickett, P '22, '30

HEAD OF SCHOOL (\$25,000+)

Anonymous
Michele+ '96, Pauletta+, and Peter M. Bonk
Melinda and Brian Carroll, P '25
Maria Luisa and John De Cicco Jr., P '27
Julie and Mark Hogan, P '22
Megan and Michael Hurley, P '18, '20
Lauren and John Julian, P '30
Lisa and M. Toby King, P '25
Erika and Michael Lee, P '26, '28
Victoria and John Linnartz, P '18
Patricia and Peter McMullin, P '25
Jane Turley, P '79, '84

MAYFIELD (\$15,000+)

Ellen and Charles Bryceland, P '17, '19, '19
Dalia and Brian Flanagan, P '30
Lisa and David Hooper, P '27
Nathan Sevilla, P '24

Ellen Fahey-Smith and Christopher Smith, P '08
Catherine Curran Souther '77 and Thomas Souther

ST. WALBURGA'S (\$10,000+)

Cristen Willer Abecasis and Goncalo Abecasis, P '24, '26
Tiffany and Vincent Briganti, P '28
Noreen and William Cadigan, P '27
Jennifer McCabe and Mark Davis, P '25
Katherine and John Doyle, P '20
Christine and Patrick Ford, P '22, '26
Heather and Thomas Gillespie, P '23, '25
Patricia and Thomas Glatthaar, P '08, '12
Leah and Josh Kaplan, P '24
Gabrielle and Shawn Lese
Beth and Philip Moyles, P '27
Susan and Alexander Winogradoff, P '22, '27

FIDELITY (\$5,000+)

Cynthia Adams, P '24
Virginie Lemay-Alarcon and Ariel Alarcon, P '29
Kim and Jon Baumstark, P '24
Marguerite and Thomas Bausano, P '24
Linda Goldschmidt Becker '85 and Jeffrey Becker
Kristine Budill and James Walsh
Kimberly and William Carriere, P '26
Rozlyn and Joseph Carvin, P '21, '23
Jacqueline Ciaccia '06 and J. Christopher Henschel
Moya McManus-Devery and Gerard Devery, P '24
Nomita and Michael English, P '21, '27
Vanessa and Christopher Gunther, P '25, '25
Laura and Tyler Hale, P '25

IN THEIR OWN WORDS: HONORING HOLY CHILD CHAMPIONS

DANIELLE RIVERSO '12

“Holy Child has always held a special place in my heart, and my positive high school experience often comes up in conversations with my students, family, and friends. As a teacher and alumna, I see the impact of our community's support firsthand. Contributing to Holy Child means providing students with the same joyful learning experience I had, along with more growth opportunities.

Philanthropy in education is crucial for creating equitable opportunities. Supporting diverse backgrounds builds a compassionate and productive society. A culture of giving opens pathways for students to discover their skills and leadership abilities, which I deeply value.

Two experiences reaffirm my commitment to Holy Child: an 8th-grade algebra project where students creatively demonstrated their knowledge through music videos, and an 11th-grade retreat activity where students wrote heartfelt letters to peers. These moments highlight the joy, determination, and empathy our students exhibit. This is why I will always support the Holy Child mission.”

Samantha and Matthew Hanley, P '18, '20
Beth and Benjamin Harvey, P '22
Catherine and Robert Holdman, P '26
Mary Lou Curran Kingsbery+
Dianne and Alexander Lanuza, P '28, '30
Megan and Sean McIntyre, P '21, '24
Tracey Marren Mumford '02 and Kyle Mumford
Sausan Hilmi and Raul Navarrete, P '25
Jacqueline and Philip O'Shea, P '19, '21
Colleen and Steven Pettus, P '22
Mary Clare and Sean Reilly, P '27
Katie and James Robinson, P '21
Cecelia Greco Ryan '84 and Jeffrey Ryan, P '17, '18
Barbara Santangelo, P '76

**IN THEIR OWN WORDS:
HONORING
HOLY CHILD CHAMPIONS**

**KATHYRN
LANGSTINE
GAZSO '94, P '26**

“What inspires me to support Holy Child through my philanthropic contributions is the incredible students, faculty, and staff. Every day, I am astounded by this vibrant and energetic community. The Mission—to develop women of conscience and action—sits at the center of everything the School does, whether in the classroom, on stage, on the athletic fields, or through its service learning programs. Supporting the school means being part of this energy and Mission, now and for years to come.

Philanthropy is vital, especially in education, because investing in a child's future is both simple and imperative. The generosity of donors allows schools like Holy Child to provide unique opportunities that educate students in and out of the classroom.

There isn't just one moment that reaffirmed my commitment; there are too many to count. However, my commitment is reaffirmed daily by my daughter, Ava, who has been at Holy Child since fifth grade. Every evening, she recounts with tremendous excitement and passion what she learned in her classes that day, whether it's about the Dutch in World History or 'por' vs. 'para' in Spanish. When your child exhibits a genuine joy in learning, you know that the School and its teachers are doing something special.”

- Jaclyn and William Shanahan, P '30
- Tracy and Steven Shekane, P '25
- Kristin and Richard Sherwin, P '27
- Claudia and Ken Smith, P '20, '23
- Cathleen Cleary Sposato '77 and Peter Sposato
- Carolyn Walters
- Susan Marren Whelan '77 and William Whelan
- Kara and Scott Wynne, P '26, '28

CONSCIENCE AND ACTION (\$2,500)

- Toni Santangelo Archibald '76
- Kimberly and Jonathan Burkan, P '26
- Vanessa and Frank Calabro, P '26
- Noël Caraccio '69
- Claudine and Michael Connors, P '24
- Margaret and Daniel Conroy, P '26
- Jaime and Mark Costiglio, P '22, '24
- Aimee and Matthew Dimiero, P '29
- Deirdre and Damien Donaghy, P '25
- Emma Donahue '16
- Susan and Justin Driscoll, P '09, '13
- Heidi and Jason Fortin, P '25
- Marie and Robert Gibson, P '28
- Joseph Harrington
- Holly and Charles Hesse, P '31
- Amy and Edward Hogan, P '25
- Benetta Barnett and Keith Kahrs, P '24
- Elisa and James Kelly, P '25
- Fiona Kelly and Patrick Kennelly, P '08
- Barbara Mahoney
- Louise Manganello
- Denise and John Mara, P '01, '04, '08
- Kellie Walsh May '92 and Michael May, P '25
- Jane and James McCarthy, P '27
- Gabrielle and Donald McCree, P '08
- Amy and Donn McNamee, P '26
- Patricia and Christopher Mosher, P '21
- Catherine Needham '80 and Timothy J. Donahue, P '16
- Rebecca and Christopher Novak, P '27
- Rebecca and Michael Pedone, P '24
- Jennifer Solimine and Richard Pelosi, P '26
- Gay Prizio '77
- Danielle Rivero '12
- Alina Troya '00 and Anthony Aquilato
- Jacqueline and Andrew Vanover, P '26
- Eva and John Walsh, P '16, '18

WISDOM (\$1,000+)

- Rachel and Darryl Adams, P '30
- Darcy Sandleitner Adiletta '86 and Mark Adiletta, P '25
- Rachel Bell Ahmed '90
- Shahnaz and Farouq Ahmed
- Nancy and Abdallah Al-Omoush, P '26, '28
- Carol and Robert Altomare, P '16, '17
- Mabel and Federico Balestra, P '27
- Allison and James Barker, P '24
- Antoinette O'Neill-Brocklebank and Erik Brocklebank, P '23

- Nicole Locher Brown '91 and William Brown, P '21, '23
- Ted Burdick
- Kimberly and Ward Calhoun, P '26
- Susan and James Cannon, P '27, '27
- Jackie and Paolo Cardarelli, P '27
- Camille Carlin, P '07, '10
- Sharon and Anthony Carpenito, P '29
- Susan McGettigan Carroll '73 and Richard Carroll
- Crista and Vincent Castelli, P '23, '25
- Deirdre and David Christiansen, P '27
- Margaret Kelly Cifarelli '09 and Jerome Cifarelli
- Patricia and Michael Cosgrove
- Barbara Curran, P '77
- Sarah and Laurence D'Amico, P '28
- Happy and Craig Daily, P '26
- Katsuho and Alan Dechiaro, P '27, '28
- Mary and Antonio Diaz-Albertini
- Daniela DiBiase '94 and Richard Ortiz, P '27, '30
- Shannon and Anthony DiNota, P '24, '27
- Alyson and Parker Drew, P '17
- Christine and Peter Duncan, P '09, '09
- Carole Edelman, P '93
- Patricia and Robert Fink, P '15
- Adrienne and Thomas Flanagan, P '14
- Lia and Jake Fogliano, P '25
- Soldi and Bradley Foster, P '24
- Tina Marie and Richard Gannalo, P '27
- Kathryn Langstine Gazso '94 and Paul Gazso, P '26
- Leslie Turley Gibbons '79
- Nicole and Theodore Granata, P '29
- Rachael and Stephen Grimm, P '25
- Marguerite and George Hajjar, P '23
- Kristen and Brian Harvey, P '27
- Michael Hay
- Nina and Craig Henderson, P '29
- Eileen and Edward Hillenmeyer, P '27
- Kelly and Stephen Hodulik, P '19, '22
- Jennifer Schwarz Horne '78 and Robert Horne, P '18
- Nancy and Charles Howe, P '18
- Amie and Matt Hughes, P '28
- Elizabeth Iadavaia '78
- Kerry and James Jacobs, P '26
- Krystal and Adrian Jones, P '13, '20, '25
- Mary Ellen Gardner Kavanewsky '77 and Stephen Kavanewsky
- Elizabeth Kelly '22
- Cheroxie and James King, P '18
- Katherine and Jordan Klein, P '24

Mary and John Leitner, P '15
 Caitlin and Alexander Levine
 Olivia Linnartz '18
 Yasmeen and Reginald Livingston, P '26
 Cheryl Lopez and
 Ricardo Lopez Chavez, P '29, '29
 Mary and Daniel Loughney, P '24, '27
 Evelyn and Richard Lovisolo, P '26
 Lauren and John Lugano, P '23, '25, '28, '30
 Xiomara Gordon-Mahon and
 Marlon Mahon, P '22
 Diane and James Mannello, P '26
 Kaitlin Kelly Mara '07 and Sean Mara
 Kathleen Rooney Mara '77
 Claudia and Dominic Marchese, P '19, '24
 Barbara Turley Marr '84
 Elizabeth Marren '73
 Paulette and Whitner Marshall, P '25
 Kathryn Surin Martin '67 and
 Thomas Martin, P '95
 Keelin and John McCormack, P '25
 Joan and Philip McCorry, P '21, '23, '26
 Julie and Damien McGlynn, P '28
 Missy and Alan McKenzie, P '22, '26
 Laurissa Martire Michael '94 and
 Justin Michael, P '29
 Constance McGillicuddy Mills '77 and
 Jonathan Mills
 Alexis and Brendan Morgan, P '30
 Danielle and Michael Morris, P '26
 Kathleen Lynch Moynihan '76 and
 Timothy Moynihan
 Jennifer and Felix Mullen, P '29
 Kristen Parrott Mulvoy '91 and
 Mark Mulvoy, P '22, '23
 Tricia and Vincent Murray, P '27
 Laurie Naughton
 April Ruiz Neto '10 and Michael Neto
 Holly and Daniel Noone, P '25, '29
 Margaret and Kevin O'Callaghan
 Charity and Christopher Ononye, P '29
 Amanda Ortiz, P '27, '29
 Kathryn and Keith Pagnani, P '14, '19
 Anne Marie Doty Paine '64 and
 C. Lawrence Paine
 Gabriela and Joseph Paladino, P '25
 Kathy and Jason Pallett, P '27
 Richard Poccia, P '07, '12
 Mary and Michael Potenza, P '25
 Elaine Thurman and Stephen Powell
 Megan Brown Powers '78 and
 Christopher Powers
 Mollie and Joseph Ragusa
 Amy and Robert Reid, P '27

Annalea and Kenneth Ricci, P '98
 Elaine Cheah-Richert and
 Lindley Richert, P '28
 Danielle and Alfred Ricotta, P '26
 Andrea Hooper Robert '91 and
 Jackson Robert, P '28
 Edwin Rodriguez, P '24
 Julia and Jon Rogers, P '22
 Sr. Jeanne Ronzani, SHCJ
 Sandra and Kevin Rooney, P '22
 Julia and Craig Ruckman, P '30, '30
 Helwa Sánchez '00, P '24
 Kristine and Andrew Sargeantson
 Kerry and Christopher Scala, P '19, '21, '24
 Molly Schaubert '10
 Lea and Charles Schnetzer, P '25, '28
 Suzanne and Jeff Shannon, P '29
 Suzanne Slattery
 Jessica and Benjamin Stewart, P '30
 Pamela and Fredrick Stoleru, P '30
 Lysanne and Juraj Szabo, P '30
 Nicole and Brent Taylor, P '30
 Jennifer Tracey and Ned Corona
 Stefanie Ciaccia Veneruso '08 and
 Stephen Veneruso
 Siobhan and John Verlezza, P '26
 Alison and Aurelio Vetrini, P '27
 Barbara and Theodore Vittoria, P '91
 Erin Wade '07
 Christine and Brent Walsh, P '26
 Richard Welch
 Lisabeth Rehm Wooster '77 and
 Richard Wooster

CONFIDENCE (\$500+)

Rosanne Onorato Anderson '72 and
 Steve Anderson
 Anonymous
 Patricia and Joseph Barranco, P '29
 Catherine Fugazy Bave '03 and
 Sean Bave
 Rita Jakeway Bigelow '78, P '18, '22
 Mary Kate and Francis Bistran, P '24
 Alexandra and John Bonanno, P '21
 Joanna Broda
 Erin Mara Brooks '08 and Avery Brooks
 Claire and Timothy Brosnan, P '12, '17
 MariaAnna and Kenneth Burgess, P '27
 Joan and Noel Burke, P '21
 Jack Caffrey, P '18
 Kaitlan and Shane Cantwell, P '27, '29
 Joan Carney
 Sally Cassidy '63 and Joel Goldberg
 Madeline Devaney Choquette '62



Dolores Cipollone
 Fr. Thomas Collins
 Kathy Cosgrove, P '29
 Joan Kane Coughlin '64 and
 Thomas Coughlin
 Katy Cvitanich
 Suzanne and Robert Dailey, P '22
 Suzanne and Kevin Delane, P '18
 Tara and Neal Denning, P '23
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**IN THEIR OWN WORDS:
HONORING
HOLY CHILD CHAMPIONS**

**NOËL
CARACCIO '69**

"I attended grade school, Holy Child for high school, college, and law school, but Holy Child is the one institution that not only gave me a wonderful education and a love of learning, but also helped cement my moral and ethical values. Those qualities need to be supported by contributions so they can be passed on to future generations of young women. We are all pulled in many directions, especially when it comes to making donations to worthy causes. A proven entity like Holy Child, providing a quality education, needs to be supported. As a student at Holy Child, I realized the importance of girls learning to be in positions of leadership rather than being subordinate to boys and men. Holy Child gives girls the chance to learn how to lead and to lead."

Raffaella Sinopoli-Hasfal and
Donovan Hasfal, P '19

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**IN THEIR OWN WORDS:
 HONORING
 HOLY CHILD CHAMPIONS**

**JEANNE
 RIPP SHRIVER '83**

“I love how Holy Child educates young women! Cornelia Connelly's philosophy of educating the whole child is timeless, allowing students the freedom and structure to become their best selves with confidence and joy. This approach is as unique today as it was 120 years ago. While there are many worthy organizations in need of financial support, I firmly believe in investing in our female leaders of tomorrow.

Holy Child prepares young women to be leaders in their fields—whether in business, healthcare, law, or politics—by providing a foundational education grounded in faith, intellectual challenge, character development, and principles of peace and justice. As an alumna, I learned the importance of giving back to the community. Holy Child has been a sustaining community in my life, enriching the lives of my sister, Patricia '82, my daughters, who graduated from the Connelly School of the Holy Child in 2016 and 2023, and myself, through education, mentorship, and friendships. It feels only natural to support the mission of the school.”

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Diane and James Mannello, P '26

Deanna Martino '08

Stefanie Ciaccia Veneruso '08 and
Stephen Veneruso

**Margaret Cosgrove Donohue
McDermott '41, P' 72**

Tracey Marren Mumford '02 and
Kyle Mumford

Leda C. McNally

Lisa Marrano O'Connor '76 and
Roderick O'Connor, P '03, '08

Heather McSpedon

Mary and John Leitner, P '15

Ellen Mambrino Perley '78

Catherine Donahue Fugazy '77, P '03

Marie L. Perrotta

Joanne Armstrong Brandwood '77 and
Robert Brandwood

Maureen Bresnahan McCarty '77 and
Patrick McCarty

Catherine Curran Souther '77 and
Thomas Souther

Wendy Loughlin Zelazny '77

Kimberly Mullen Schaeffer '85

Linda Goldschmidt Becker '85 and
Jeffrey Becker

Dina Razzetti Clemmer '85 and R. Clemmer

Laura Fischer Earles '85

Claire Greco Kelly '85 and Timothy Kelly

Mary Chalmers Zakaluk '85 and
Graham Zakaluk

Margaret Papa Sherwin

Kristin and Richard Sherwin, P '27

Sargent Shriver

Jeanne Ripp Shriver '83 and Mark Shriver

Virginia McSweeney Stuart '66

Ann Lazzari Beccue '66

Leigh Stuart '93, P '24

Irene Swartz

Pamela and Fredrick Stoleru, P '30

Lindsey Whalen '12

Margaret Fitzwilliam '12

Patricia and Thomas Glatthaar, P '08, '12

Michele Glatthaar '12

Mrs. Wilson, Headmistress

Paula Lynch, P '28

IN HONOR OF**Lucy Abecasis '24**

Cristen Willer Abecasis and
Goncalo Abecasis, P '24, '26

Taylor Adams '24

Cynthia Adams, P '24

Joseph Amaturo

Carolyn Walters

Toni Santangelo Archibald '76

Sara Archibald

Molly Cacase Viger '13 and Joey Viger

Carolyn Walters

Paige Blanding '27

Katherine and Alex Blanding, P '27

Peter M. Bonk

Samantha and Matthew Hanley, P '18, '20

Alannah Brocklebank '23

Antoinette O'Neill-Brocklebank and

Erik Brocklebank, P '23

Kristine Budill

Victoria and Matthew Donovan, P '25

Katelyn Mancini '23

Sydney Burgess '27

Salvatore DiSanto

Katherine Caffrey '18

Jack Caffrey, P '18

Kim Calhoun, P '26

Jessica Ciaccia '13

Class of 1963

Gail Dillon Wahn '63

Class of 1984

Ann Smith Konopka '84 and Lee Konopka

Class of 2008

Maria Stenger '08

Class of 2013

Claire Holleran Sypek '13 and Kevin Sypek

Class of 2015

Colleen Fink '15

Class of 2021

Alexandra and John Bonanno, P '21

Class of 2022

Ashley Clemens '22

Class of 2023

Meredith Gillespie '23

Katelyn Mancini '23

Class of 2024

Laura Chmielewski and
Herman Eberhardt, P '24

Julie Troy, P '24

Suzanne Daria

Helwa Sanchez '00, P '24

Elena De Cicco '27

Maria Luisa and John De Cicco, P '27

Ann Devaney '70

Madeline Devaney Choquette '62

Barbara Devaney '65

Madeline Devaney Choquette '62

Coach Mickey Duignan

Mary Kate McErlean '11

Colleen Flynn '24

Francine and Sean Flynn, P '24

Kate Foster '24

Soldi and Bradley Foster, P '24

Fiona Gallagher '24

Denise Legarda Gallagher-Farricielli '91 and
Joseph Farricielli, P '24

Laura Gerkis '12

Agathy and James Gerkis, P '12

Meredith Gillespie '23 and**Colleen Gillespie '25**

Heather and Thomas Gillespie, P '23, '25

Mary Gould '68

Madeline Devaney Choquette '62

Misha Guerrino '30

Shahnaz and Farouq Ahmed

Victoria Hanley '18 and Kayla Hanley '20

Samantha and Matthew Hanley, P '18, '20

Yulissa Hidalgo

Helwa Sanchez '00, P '24

Charlotte Kahrs '24

Benetta Barnett and Keith Kahrs, P '24

Julia Karl

Kelly and Edward von Hoene, P '24

Diana Kehoe, P '30

Geraldine Robergeau, P '24

Zachary Kostopoulos

Katelyn Mancini '23

GiovannaNicole Lacerra '26

Patrizia Raimo-Lacerra and
Nicola Lacerra, P '26

Julia Lane '21

Tracy and Patrick Lane, P '21

Natalie Lozano

Patricia and Thomas Glatthaar, P '08, '12

Kathleen Glatthaar Lozano '08 and
Joseph Lozano

Aine McIntyre '24

Megan and Sean McIntyre, P '21, '24

Fallon Minnich '27

Gail Fiero

Aida Noel '24

Geraldine Robergeau, P '24

Grace Noone '25 and Addie Noone '29

Ann Noone

Samantha Novak '27

Rebecca and Christopher Novak, P '27

Colleen Pettus, P '22

Ellie Pettus '22

Lauren Poccia '07 and**Elizabeth Poccia '11**

Richard Poccia, P '07, '11

Annalea Ricci, P '98

Catherine Fugazy Bave '03 and Sean Bave

Danielle Rivero '12

Victoria and Matthew Donovan, P '25

Sr. Jeanne Ronzani, SHCJ

Catherine Curran Souther '77 and
Thomas Souther

Khalisah Sanchez '24

Helwa Sanchez '00, P '24

Kat Sanford

Alexis and Brendan Morgan, P '30

Helwa Sanchez '00, P '24

Barbara Santangelo, P '76

Joseph Harrington

Maggie Scala '19, Lizzie Scala '21, and**Molly Scala '24**

Kerry and Christopher Scala, P '19, '21, '24

School of the Holy Child Faculty and Staff

Julie Duignan '11

Rebecca and Eytan Hammerman, P '26

Maria Montiel-Rico and
Carlos Rico, P '24, '29

Christine Seaman

Marguerite and Thomas Bausano, P '24

Maddy Simon '24

Carolyn Simon, P '24

Lila Smith, P '21

Alexis and Brendan Morgan, P '30

Lucy Smoltz '24

Elizabeth and Kenneth Smoltz, P '24

Catherine Curran Souther '77

Rosemary and Stephen Schmelkin

Antonetta Tavalilla

Isabella Morello '20

Hailey Thompson '24

Sarah and William Thompson, P '22, '24

Alina Troya '00

Joan Carney

Shoshana Riss

Helwa Sanchez '00, P '24

Carolyn Walters

Kate von Hoene '24

Kelly and Edward von Hoene, P '24

Carolyn Walters

Paige LaBella Guerin '08 and Chris Guerin

Samantha and Matthew Hanley, P '18, '20

Katherine Maas '08

Taylor Messiter '08

Stefanie Ciaccia Veneruso '08 and

Stephen Veneruso

LAURENTIA SOCIETY

The Laurentia Society is named in honor of Mother Mary Laurentia Dalton, 1920, SHCJ, the first American member of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus to be sent to West Africa in 1930, as well as the first American Superior General after Mother Cornelia Connelly. We thank members of the Laurentia Society who have chosen to include School of the Holy Child in their wills or estate plans. Below are the current members of the Laurentia Society:

Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc.

Helen Teti Arthur 1919[†]

Maureen Bandelli '54[†]

Beatrice Covell Barry 1927[†]

Helen Lee Binschoff 1919[†]

Therese McLaughlin Bolchoz '44[†]

Michele '96[†], Paulette[†], and Peter M. Bonk

Estate of Helen Coleman, P '61

Eleanor Gibbons Coyle 1920[†]

Estate of Albert R. Devlin

Kathleen Daly '44[†]

Janet Deland '74 and Christopher Schwarzer

Dorothy Gromann Delaney '43

Marguerite Duffy[†]

Ann Samuels Fabrizio '64 and Richard Fabrizio

Helen Brady Fitzsimmons '36[†]

Mary Jo Frere '44[†]

Margaret Raub Hackett 1915[†]

M. Elizabeth Hurlbert 1932[†]

Joseph Ingrassia[†]

Eric Kantor

Mary Lambert '70 and Lance Knox

Barbara Lyons '51[†]

Alexandra MacDonald '58 and Kathleen Stevens

Elizabeth Marren '73

Marie Marshall McConnell 1929[†]

Kathryn Brassil McKnight 1924[†]

Patricia and Mark Mulvoy, P '88

Mary Schratwieser Roberts '71 and Joseph Roberts

Gladys Ruton 1918[†]

Jeanne Marie McCarten Scott '52 and John Scott

Esme Wedgwood 1927[†]

Did you know that if you are 65 or older, you can start enjoying the fruits of your generosity immediately? Some of the most transformational gifts an institution receives are legacy gifts such as a will provision or a retirement plan beneficiary designation.

BEQUESTS

Donors who wish to remain in control of their assets during their lifetime can designate Holy Child as a beneficiary in a will or trust.

RETIREMENT PLAN DESIGNATION

A retirement plan designation allows donors to continue to withdraw in their lifetime and donate part or all of their unused retirement assets to help further our mission.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

Charitable gift annuities allow donors to receive an immediate income tax deduction for the value of their gift, guaranteed income that is partially tax-free, and favorable treatment of capital gains if they donate appreciated securities.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

Donors who choose to do a charitable remainder trust will receive an immediate income tax deduction for the value of their gift, a flexible source of income for life or a term of years, favorable treatment of capital gains tax if they donate appreciated securities, and the ability to make additional gifts as their circumstances allow.

All planned giving conversations are confidential. Donors should always consult their financial planners, as circumstances and implications vary regarding legacy gifts.

We want to honor you! If you have included Holy Child in your estate plans, please contact Samantha Hanley, Director of Institutional Advancement, at s.hanley@holychildrye.org or 914.967.5622, ext. 290.

SIGNATURE ADVANCEMENT EVENTS



Celebrating Generosity and Dedication: Head of School Reception

On October 4, Holy Child celebrated the generosity and dedication of cherished donors and volunteers. The Head of School Reception was an inspiring and heartwarming event that brought together a community committed to making a lasting impact.

The evening began with a warm welcome from the Head of School, Colleen Pettus, whose inspiring words set the tone for the night. Associate Director of Alumnae Engagement, Alina Troya '00, then led a meaningful prayer, honoring St. Francis of Assisi and touching the hearts of all those present. Director of Institutional Advancement, Samantha Hanley, shared a heartfelt reflection, underscoring the immense impact of the donors' contributions. It has been said that giving is not about making a donation, it's about making a difference. Thank you for making a transformative difference and being champions of our mission. Together, we will continue to inspire our students to become women of conscience and action and to be the next generation of bold, courageous, and compassionate leaders.

A captivating speech by Simone DiNota '24 followed, showcasing the perspective of a student deeply influenced by the School's strong sense of community. "Our community has truly been an invaluable force in my life— pushing me to be my best, while also offering me the support required to do so." Simone's words demonstrate the transformative journey that students undergo at Holy Child and affirm donors' role in making a journey like hers possible.

The evening reached a crescendo with a mesmerizing performance of Bruno Mars' "Count on Me" by The Madrigals, which left the audience in awe. The song entertained and served as a reminder of the unity and trust that defines the Holy Child community.

This unforgettable night would not have been possible without the donors' incredible generosity and belief in the school's mission. Their contributions, in the form of time, talent, or treasure, play a vital role in empowering the students of Holy Child.



Maureen Alison McGrath '78 Memorial Library Luncheon and Boutique

Holy Child's Maureen Alison McGrath '78 Memorial Library Luncheon and Boutique transformed The Apawamis Club into a bustling hub of holiday joy, grossing nearly \$100,000 in support of the School. The sold-out event, attended by 280 guests, featured a boutique with an array of small, local business owners, where attendees indulged in Christmas shopping, from mittens and jewelry to cookies and sangria.

The day's highlight was a captivating speech by guest speaker Annabel Monaghan, a best-selling author and Rye resident, adding an extra layer of inspiration to the festive atmosphere. Annabel, known for books like *Nora Goes Off Script* and *Same Time Next Summer*, left a lasting impression.

As the luncheon concluded, there was a collective gratitude for the Holy Child community and the joyous start to the holiday season. Cheers rang out to celebrate the successful event, which highlights the spirit of togetherness that defines the Holy Child experience.





Giving Tuesday Student Feature: Olivia Jones '25

On Giving Tuesday, Holy Child's budding artist, Olivia Jones '25, shared the inspiration behind her passion for photography. Motivated by the love for art her sister Tiffany '20 shared with her, Olivia found a calling in capturing the natural beauty of the Holy Child campus through her lens.

Her favorite photograph, taken on a picturesque day while strolling with a friend, features a scenic path at the back of the school. Olivia believes that the campus embodies art, shaped by the collaborative efforts of the entire community, creating a beautiful environment.

In addition to honing her skills, Olivia appreciates the strong sense of community and support at Holy Child. Eager to continue exploring her craft, she remains excited about the creative journey ahead. Olivia's story exemplifies the artistic spirit flourishing at Holy Child, showcasing the unique talents that contribute to the vibrant tapestry of the school.

When you support Holy Child, you're not just investing in our academics; you're fueling the spark of creativity in students like Olivia. Your generosity empowers budding artists to capture the beauty around them, turning ordinary moments into extraordinary ones. Your contribution doesn't just fund education; it fosters an environment where inspiration is ignited and young minds are encouraged to explore, create, and flourish. Thank you for being the catalyst behind the boundless creativity at Holy Child.

Giving Tuesday

In a remarkable show of support, the Holy Child community rallied together on Giving Tuesday, exceeding expectations and setting the stage for a year of inspiration. We are so grateful for the collective support demonstrated on Giving Tuesday, with a special nod to our dedicated Board of Trustees, faculty and staff, and the vibrant students of the Class of 2024 for 100% participation. Their dedication to Holy Child was both heartening and inspirational.

There was much excitement throughout the day with the Connie Challenge, a spirited competition among parents. The Grade 6 parents emerged victorious, claiming bragging rights and a delicious ice cream surprise for the girls.

The numbers tell a compelling story, with contributions totaling \$478,000 from all members of the Holy Child community. The impact of these funds will resonate across campus, touching every student, teacher, and academic program at Holy Child. Beyond the numbers, Giving Tuesday showcased the power of individual stories. Maria Potenza '25 shared a behind-the-scenes look at a typical day for Holy Child students, highlighting how the support received on this day directly fuels dreams and passions.

As we reflect on this day of giving, we recognize that supporting Holy Child is not a one-day affair. The spirit of generosity ignited on Giving Tuesday will continue to inspire and shape the future of our beloved school. Thank you for making Giving Tuesday an extraordinary success.



Scan the QR code to see A Day in the Life of Holy Child Student Maria Potenza '25

35th Annual Benefit: Ignite the Night!

The Holy Child community ignited the night on April 19, raising nearly \$600,000.

At the heart of this success was the diligent work of the Annual Benefit Committee, led by Co-Chairs Lisa King, P '25 and Kim Carriere, P '26. Their dedication and tireless efforts were instrumental in creating a memorable and impactful evening for those in attendance. Central to the celebration were the evening honorees: Catherine Curran Souther '77 and Sheila and Cary Stier, P '18, '21. Their contributions to the Holy Child community were celebrated with heartfelt tributes, highlighting their commitment to the School's mission.

We are so pleased to share that nearly \$90,000 will support experiential learning initiatives at Holy Child. Experiential learning is crucial in enriching students' educational experiences by providing hands-on opportunities for exploration, discovery, and growth. The students' engagement in real-world, learning experiences fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity.

Thank you to all those who attended or supported this year's Annual Benefit.



3rd Annual Gryphon Classic

On June 17, 2024, the Holy Child Alumnae Association hosted its third annual Gryphon Classic, a summer golf outing which, this year, added tennis and pickleball. A great success, the event brought together over 120 members of our community for a day of fun, food, friends, and fundraising for Holy Child.

We are grateful for the numerous individuals, businesses, and organizations that purchased sponsorships or donated raffle prizes and silent auction items to support the Gryphon Classic.

The Holy Child Alumnae Association will continue to host the Gryphon Classic in the future. We hope to see you there in the future!



The Gryphon Classic is a day of fun, food, friends, and fundraising for Holy Child. It is a great opportunity for members to enjoy the outdoors and support our community.

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tem que sumq... on the golf course, tennis courts, and in the clubhouse. They brought a lively spirit and boosted the positive vibe at this event, which has quickly become a much-anticipated annual tradition. Save the date for next year's Gryphon Classic on Monday, June 16, 2025!



Raise Your Hand in Support of The Annual Fund for Holy Child

Every hand raised and gift made is a step towards excellence at Holy Child. By contributing to our Annual Fund, you are investing in the future of our students, providing them with the resources they need to succeed and thrive.

Your support enriches their education, enhances their experiences, and opens doors to new opportunities. Join us in our mission to educate young women of conscience and action. Raise your hand and make a difference.

Donate to The Annual Fund for Holy Child today by scanning the QR code:





HOLY CHILD

EDUCATING YOUNG WOMEN OF CONSCIENCE AND ACTION

2225 WESTCHESTER AVENUE
RYE, NY 10580

