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W E A R E O N E

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SPRING 2022

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# MARIST

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Vol. 13 No. 2 • A Magazine for Alumni, Parents and Friends of Marist Catholic High School • Eugene, Oregon

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Synod** and **charism** — two potentially unfamiliar words that have been part of Marist's growth this past year, enlivening our school in a remarkable fashion.

**Synod** comes from the Greek words for "together" and "way." Although sometimes translated as "meeting," synods are much more than that. Synods are a process of journeying with and listening to each other, walking together in deep conversation, just as Jesus did with the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Synods have power. The earliest synods, mid-2nd century, struggled with the very nature of Jesus and what books to include in the Bible. During the mid-19th century, many Christian churches held synods to organize for the purpose of evangelizing the frontier, ministering to recently arrived immigrants and responding to injustice. Perhaps the most famous recent synod was Vatican II, whose dramatic changes ushered in the contemporary Catholic Church.

Along with the entire Catholic community throughout the world, Marist is taking part in the Church's current synod, called by Pope Francis to provide an opportunity for everyone to share their concerns as well as hopes for the future. Marist provided both staff and students an opportunity to participate in both listening sessions and artistic interpretations. Dr. Rick Martin's article, the aptly named "Synod on Synodality: How We Journey Together As Church," describes the many ways the synod came to life at Marist.

**Charism** shares the same root as charismatic. The word charism itself refers to any number of invaluable gifts from the Holy Spirit. Father Michael Fones, O.P. visited Marist this spring and spoke to a Christian Leadership Class about their personal charisms, to be used for the good of the world, which could be considered their own "superhuman powers."

People have charisms, but so do entities. Our charisms — family spirit, fidelity, justice, zeal and calling — are a legacy of our Marist Brothers, an inheritance that is both vibrant and productive. On page 10, you can learn more about how a new club, Justice Action at Marist, is animating our charism of justice.

Recently, Andy Oldham and I had the chance to stay with several Marist Brothers in the Bronx before attending a Marist Brothers sponsored retreat in Esopus, New York. We returned enlivened by their humble and down-to-earth recognition of each person's invitation to share in the work of the church and inspired by a charism that feels so familiar. In the past year, four other staff and 19 students have traveled to various retreats, summer camps and conferences sponsored by the Marist Brothers. Just like me, they have returned inspired by the Brothers and the Marists of Champagnat as well as the experiences and ideas from other Marist staff and youth who participated. Even more opportunities for staff and students to engage with the Marist Brothers are in the works for next year and I look forward to sharing the impact it makes on our school and community.

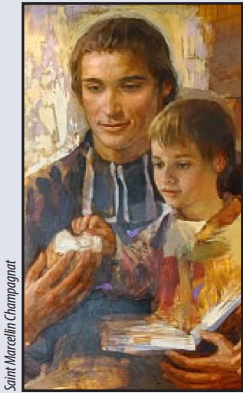
**Charism** and **synod** — God-given gifts shared with each other along the way. I thank each of you, members of the Marist community, for generously sharing your own gifts and being part of the Marist journey.

We Are One.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Welch". The signature is fluid and cursive.

David Welch



Saint Marcellin Champagnat

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## ON THE COVER:

The 2022 girls track team celebrates their second place finish at the OSAA 4A State Meet this May at Hayward Field.

Photo by Toni Cooper

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Marist Magazine is a publication of Marist Catholic High School, ©2022 MCHS.

This magazine is published two times a year (Fall and Spring/Summer) and is the product of contributions from staff, students, alumni and friends of Marist. Views expressed on these pages do not always represent those of the Marist administration.

**Magazine Website:**  
[marisths.org/marist-magazine](http://marisths.org/marist-magazine)

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# MARIST MAGAZINE

VOL. 13 • NO. 2 • SPRING 2022

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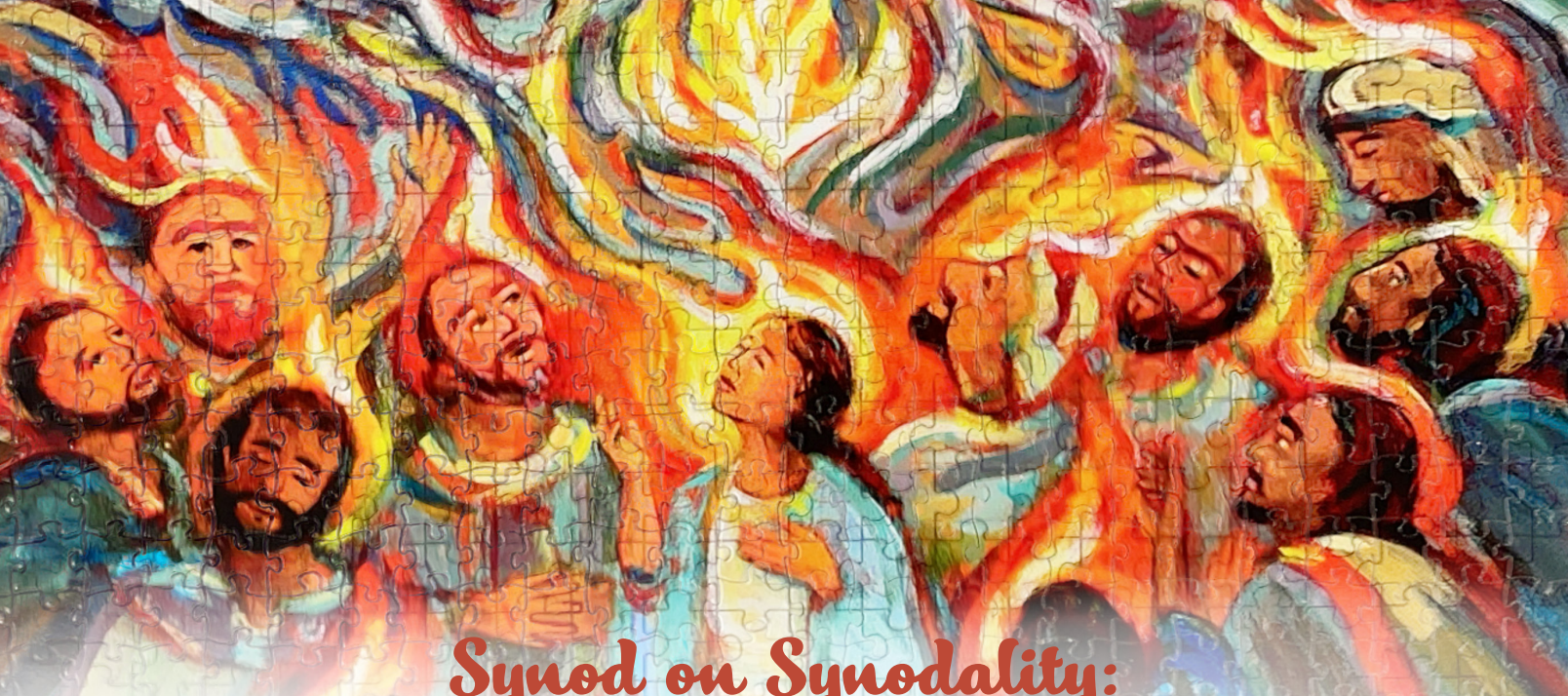
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"Pentecost" by Jen Norton.

# Synod on Synodality: How We Journey Together As Church

Listening to the experiences of the people of God  
By Dr. Rick Martin, Director of Campus Ministry and Formation

There is little in a young person's life that connects more powerfully than being truly listened to; that deep kind of listening when you know your partner is intensely curious, truly wants to know what you think and what your experience is, and is eager to honor the life depth that you reveal in those moments of encounter.

This is what the Catholic Church's 2021-2023 Synod on Synodality is all about: listening deeply and with compassion to the experience of its people and all who encounter the Catholic Church.

Our young people are too often overlooked, underestimated and unseen. Marist's participation in the worldwide synod has been this kind of moment for our students and for our staff: a moment of sincere and deep listening to their experience of Church with the hope that we can learn from their experience in order to better serve them. This hope reflects the Church's purpose in launching this synod.

This year, we Marists have traveled a path of reflection as our contribution to this worldwide invitation of Pope Francis. Some of our juniors and seniors created personal works of art reflecting on the Purpose of the Synod and on the Synodal Prayer, four of which are displayed on the next page. These pieces of art guided our staff in a labyrinth prayer meditation introducing these works to prompt their initial thinking on the synod. We then placed these works of art and paired text from the synod in the ARC for students to view at their leisure.

These works of art set the stage for a series of listening sessions. On March 4, our staff engaged in small-group listening sessions, hearing from one another our experience of being Church, whether here at Marist or in parishes. Similarly, our

students were invited to join listening sessions on March 16. Over 100 students chose to participate, leading to rich and instructive stories and sharing.

What did we hear? While the adult perspective largely reflects that of our students, we will share here a portion of our student voice. In summary, our students told us:

- *To the extent that we have experienced a welcome, inclusive, familial community that knows, cares about, and loves each other at Marist and in our Church communities, we have been blessed.*
- *Our faith-based education, times of retreat, and acts of service for the poor give our lives a clearer sense of purpose, connecting faith to our real world.*
- *When we are encouraged to freely take ownership of our faith, we step into our future world of responsibility for our own lives, choices and purpose.*
- *When these practices are absent — when we experience judgment, exclusion, religion that is forced or when our questions are not welcome — we feel like we do not matter, we do not belong and our faith dries up.*

In the simple act of listening, both our staff and our students walked away sharing a lightness, a sense of honor and dignity because they were heard with compassion and with appreciation.

With the synodal prayer, we offer our experience of one another in this global project with gratitude and trust in the holy presence of God: "We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it." ☩

# Prayer of the Synod

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

# For What Purpose

To inspire people to dream about the Church we are called to be.

To make people's hopes flourish.

To stimulate trust.

To bind up wounds.

To weave new and deeper relationships.

To learn from one another.

To build bridges.

To enlighten minds, warm hearts and restore strength to our hands for our common mission.



## To Make People's Hopes Flourish

Madeleine Hopkins '22

We can all find strength within the Church to help us achieve what we want in life. God works through us, allowing for all of our hopes and wishes to come true. As we focus on what the purpose of the Church is, we can see that one of the most important things we can do is encourage each other to flourish. When we come together as a community, all of our hopes and aspirations are not only possible but in the palm of our hands.



## Teach Us The Way We Must Go and How We Are to Pursue It

Kellen Burggren '22

This represents the division between heaven or hell, good or evil, and union with God or separations from him. The figure in the forefront of the picture is set to the left of the intersection because we are all pulled to evil because of temptation and the ease of choosing the wrong path. However, the split of the path illustrates that there is a choice in choosing our relationship with God.



## My Journey

Amelia Watts '22

"The hour is coming, in fact has come, when the vocation of woman is being achieved in its fullness, the hour in which woman acquires in the world an influence, and effect, and a power never hitherto achieved."

(Pope Paul VI)



## The Guidance of Jesus

Elli Clark '22

Created with the inspiration of the words of the synod prayer: "With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts." This art aims to show how every person needs the guidance of Jesus to walk the right way through life. Our aim is to get to Jesus, and eventually to heaven.

# Celebrating the Class of 2022

How 113 Spartans conquered their senior year

By Madison Fuller '22





6

1. Seniors Alexander Johnston, Jackson Light and Ben Proulx cheer on the football team during a state final game. 2. Seniors Ryan Cary and Kaiden Ayoma don their crowns for Homecoming Week. 3. Senior Madison Fuller smiles for the camera after getting a second place team trophy at state. 4. Senior Alya Samy holds up the Jerusalem Cross necklace given to retreat team leaders. 5. The seniors gather in the courtyard for their Class of 2022 picture. 6. Seniors Will Ficek, Justin Guzman and Tessa Woodrum amp up the crowd with pom poms during a home football game. Photos by Toni Cooper, Jason DePaoli '19 and Alya Samy '22

When people look at the seniors graduating in 2022, a lot of the time they have the tendency to feel bad for us. They say that we missed out on a year and a half of high school — that we didn't get the proper experience of moving through the ranks of Marist. However, it should be noted that while we did not get the traditional high school experience, we did receive something special: an opportunity.

We had the opportunity to grow not in spite of, but because of our special circumstances. We seniors were lucky enough to plant our roots in the Marist traditions our freshman year — or perhaps wet our feet through the kissing of the M — and were introduced to all of the Marist traditions like the Lock-In, Homecoming, hours of homework and a full year of athletics and clubs in full swing.

However, in the spring of our sophomore year, just as we were

getting ready to become active participants in these activities, we went home for a two-week break. That two-week break turned into a month break — then a year break. COVID uprooted us. We missed many of the opportunities to jump into and own the traditions as 50+ classes before us had done. However, when we returned as the de facto school leaders this year, we seized those opportunities and jumped in with enthusiasm — even if that included some trepidation.

But we were ready. Ready to get back to academics, ready to get on the fields without masks, ready to see our friends, ready to be fans, ready to break dress codes (a little), ready to be present again, but truthfully, maybe not quite ready or sure of how to be... seniors.

Something else that comes to mind when thinking about the Class of 2022 is the word “hungry.” After Zooming our classes from home for our sophomore and junior years, with very

few extracurricular activities, we were hungry to be seniors and do the things that seniors get to do. So when we got to come back to school this fall, we were all in. Clubs, sports, service and other activities flourished once again — even restoring the streak of seniors winning the coveted class dance competition while decked out in neon.

And by March when the masks came off, we were invested ... at last. Invested in the traditions that Marist had to offer: we had become retreat leaders, we went on our Metanoias, we cheered from the front row, we led the Freshman Lock-In and we became captains and club leaders. We had hope that our senior year would more closely resemble that of the Class of 2019, the seniors that we looked up to our freshman year, and it was starting to feel that way.

We took over the reins on the Marist traditions and even started a few new ones.

*Continued on Page 6*



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1. The Mr. & Ms. Spartan team pumps up the crowd during the pageant with their opening dance. 2. Seniors Issac Tsang, Ethan Nguyen and Theo LengKong take a selfie with their awards from the Oregon Science Olympiad. 3. Encounter leaders, seniors Duncan Yozzo and Kellen Burggren goof around with the freshly fallen leaves at St. Benedict's. 4. Seniors Amelia Watts, Stefan Schroffner, Isla Waddell, Talon Larson and Jillian Thompson soak up the sun on the deck of St. Benedict's while on their Metanoia. 5. Seniors Emilie Nelson, Sydney Clark and Amelia Watts goof off during the Winter Women's Encounter. 6. The student section at a home football game, decked out in yellow to support senior Ty DePaoli's battle with cancer, throw yellow chalk into the air. 7. Seniors Sofia James and Sandhya Vaikuntam hand out snacks at the annual NHS blood drive. 8. Senior Jack Hudson celebrates after the seniors are crowned the victors of the class dance competition. Photos by Toni Cooper, Zac Oldham '14, Drew Prickel '23 and Alya Samy '22

Continued from page 5 ...

We returned to St. Benedict's this year after a one-year COVID hiatus. We arrived for the Encounters as senior leaders and learned on the fly how to lead a three-day retreat that was so different than our own Zoom and classroom Encounters. We bravely faced the challenges of keeping alive the traditions and were successful thanks to our adult leaders.

After a two-year hiatus of the Mr. and Ms. Spartan Pageant, we spent hours of hard work returning the program to its former glory. We celebrated the return of the pageant with a creative new take: a variety show style that would eventually crown a pair of Spartans. The time-honored and highly-anticipated return was well-received by the Marist community and

we raised over \$40,000 for the babies!

We led the new STEM club: a collection of students passionate about math and science who set aside many mornings before school to take part in self-guided explorations of their STEM interests. Some of us even competed in a rigorous state competition this spring and took third place!

We saw our peers in need and created two new in-school retreats to help our younger classmates experience community. And we continued to develop REACH, a program with a focus on the mental health of Marist students. We planned and held a blood drive on campus again with 48 students helping Lane County increase its life-

saving blood supplies.

We were hungry to have a traditional high school experience, one that had been taken from us, and now, finally with the opportunity to do so, we have flourished.

We have become more social again, more engaged and a tighter class. There has been so much growth within our class, in such a short period of time, that wherever we decide to go with our next chapter of life, we will take the growth that we started at Marist and bring it to new communities.

In the last few months of our senior year, we have finally grown into our name — seniors. ☩

# PRESENTING THE CLASS OF 2022...

Kimberly Aguirre-Cerrato  
Jose Manuel Alvarez Sanchez  
Toraja Ames  
Alexandra Angelastro  
Kaiden Ayoma  
Wolfgang Betts  
Nicholas Braun  
Emma Bringham  
Kellen Burggren  
Antonia Canosino  
Ryan Cary  
Alexander Charbonneau  
Conner Chase  
Elli Clark  
Sydney Clark  
Jack Conway  
Griffin Crowe  
Mary Culver  
Natasha Cutler  
Marshall Brit Dannen  
Ty DePaoli  
Ella Dugan  
Nicolas Elliott  
Natalie Englet  
Mathilde Espinosa  
Cecelia Faulkner  
Willem Ficek  
Reese Fitzpatrick  
Lucas Franssen  
Boston Frey  
Madison Fuller  
Emily Funk  
Madison Gamble  
Carter Greene  
Maxwell Griffin  
Justin Guzman  
Madilyn Haga  
Ethan Hakala

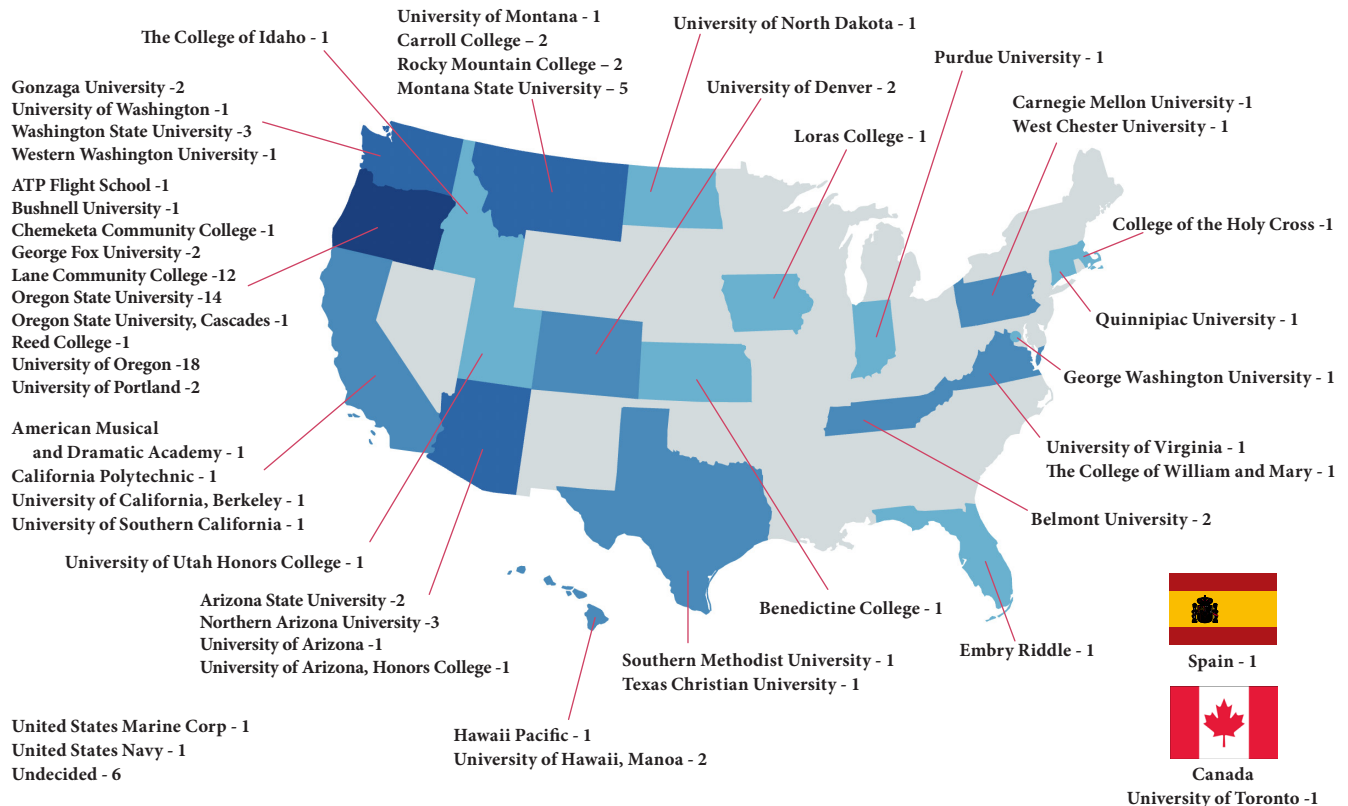
Taryn Hanes  
Isaiah Hannah  
Haley Haskins  
Brendon Hauck  
McKenna Henderson  
Kylie Hescok  
Madeleine Hopkins  
Jack Hudson  
Alexandru Hutanu  
Quang Minh Huynh  
Kayla Iverson  
Sofia James  
Alexander Johnston  
Kaila Kealoha  
Tess Kim  
Bree Kosinski  
Monroe LaCoste  
Talon Larson  
Theodore LengKong  
Jackson Light  
Jacob MacPherson  
Myla Mahoney  
James Martin  
Samantha Mattox  
Madeline McLaughlin  
Owen McOmber  
Trent McQuaid  
Jeffrey McWhirter  
Jackson Meyers  
Mia Michel  
Juan Molina-Gomez  
Moises Molina-Gomez  
Diego Montes-Michel  
Brooks Montoya  
Emilie Nelson  
Ethan Nguyen  
Nikolas Norby  
Ezra O'Connell

Jasmine Ochoa Tolento  
Kale Paslay  
Travis Peal  
Claudia Pelayo  
Sienna Pendleton-Rowden  
Elizabeth Perez  
Taylor Phelps  
Aaron Piña  
Benjamin Proulx  
Allison Randol  
Tanner Relling  
John Riley  
Joshua Rodriguez Horizon  
Kaitlin Roth  
Logan Ruckwardt  
Chelsea Rustik  
Alya Samy  
Stefan Schroffner  
Chase Schweigert  
Hayden Shoemaker  
Tim Taylor  
Jillian Thompson  
Peace Todd  
Jennifer Tsai  
Isaac Tsang  
Lucas Tuski  
Cole Tyner  
Jada Unruh  
Sandhya Vaikuntam  
Hayden Vaughan  
Isla Waddell  
Amelia Watts  
Anna Watts  
Ellise Williams  
Malia Williams  
Tessa Woodrum  
Madison Wooten  
Duncan Yozzo



# AND WHERE THEY'RE HEADED!

*The Class of 2022 is venturing to 45 different schools, 21 states and 2 other countries next year!*



## AWARDS & HONORS



**Ethan Nguyen**  
Valedictorian  
Medalist



**Mia Michel**  
Salutatorian  
Medalist



**Conner Chase**  
Thomas Kerns Award For  
Excellence in Boys Athletics



**Malia Williams**  
Gloria Schreiber Award For  
Excellence in Girls Athletics



**Elli Clark**  
Most Reverend Francis P. Leipzig Award  
For School Involvement



**Duncan Yozzo**  
Monsignor Edmund Murnane Award  
For Christian Development



**Emilie Nelson**  
Monsignor Edmund Murnane Award  
For Christian Development

# IN THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE

Marist club tackles issues facing our community through education and action

By Natalia Zreliak '15



Junior Alex Chavez leads a J.A.M. meeting during lunch. Photo by Austin Murray '24

**W**e Are One: three words that follow a Marist student throughout their four years on campus. It's printed on sweatshirts, painted on walls and chanted at games. Our motto is a large part of our identity as a Catholic school and influences all areas of the school's life and function. We Are One also succinctly describes one of our school's charisms.

A charism is a spiritual gift that is given away in service to others; it's a unique way that a group lives out the gospel. It's through our charisms — family spirit, fidelity, justice, zeal and calling — that Marist's mission is brought to life. One of the five charisms, justice, feels more prominent than ever on our campus thanks to a new club, Justice Action at Marist.

After transferring to Marist in 2020 for her sophomore year, current junior Alex Chavez felt that there was a unique opportunity to start a social justice-oriented club at Marist. Reaching out to fellow juniors Henry Gonyea and Rachel McConaghie, whom Chavez had attended O'Hara with, they started tossing around ideas and thus, J.A.M. was created. Its mission statement says that its ultimate goal is "to educate the Marist community and open up discussion on prominent issues that marginalized groups face in our communities and seek to establish positive change."

Reunited for their sophomore year, Chavez, Gonyea and McConaghie enjoyed discussing issues they saw on the news and felt that there must be other students who shared their

concerns. "Rachel and I had more inside knowledge of how a club like this could help bring new perspectives to Marist," said Gonyea after finishing their freshman year at Marist. They felt like there was room at Marist to talk about current social justice issues, Chavez added, and the idea was born.

The club's moderator, theology teacher Julie Ferrari, recalls getting an email from Chavez the summer before she transferred. "I was very excited because, for a long time, I've wanted to invest more in justice stuff, especially in terms of campus ministry," Ferrari said.

Among the dozen or so clubs at Marist, J.A.M. has been one of the more active over the last two years. Even during the period of remote learning, the club managed to draw students to its virtual events around chosen topics. "We've done a lot in our two years, and I'm really proud to be a part of it, especially when I'm not the driving force. It's the students who are responding to issues that they see are important, or that they hear from other club members are important, and just trying to increase justice here and in our community. It's good stuff," said Ferrari.

One of the more popular events over COVID was a presentation of *We Are Your Neighbors*, a thirty-minute play depicting real stories of immigrants from Eugene and Springfield, which was followed by a debrief and discussion.

Participation in J.A.M. ramped up as Marist returned to in-person learning and they could go on excursions or run in-person events. In May of last year, the club helped Marist



*Juniors Rhysa Huffman, Avery Carlin, Reeve Helvoigt, Alex Chavez, Henry Gonyea, Rachel McConaghie and club advisor Julie Ferrari run a bake sale to support the Red Cross' relief efforts in Ukraine. Photo by Madison Holmes '24*

take part in FOOD for Lane County's Food Fight Against Hunger. Led by J.A.M., the student body brought in 2,150 pounds of food, equal to 1,653 meals for local families in need. This year J.A.M. hosted a clothing drive for Hosea Youth Services, met with local judge, The Honorable Mustafa Taher Kasubhai, to discuss inequities within the justice system and most recently held a bake sale to raise money for the relief effort in Ukraine.

"Seeing the involvement within the Marist community and seeing the turnout for things like our bake sale and donations for our food and clothing drives makes it feel like real change is being made," McConaghie said.

Some students are initially drawn to the club's service opportunities but continue their involvement after learning about new issues. "I'd like to think that there's a hunger for it. Our students are often idealistic and they want the world to reflect that," Ferrari said.

On Sunday nights, Chavez, Gonyea and McConaghie get together, whether in-person or on Facetime, designing PowerPoints and brainstorming new educational topics for the club. "One thing I really like about the club is that it's very much about awareness and is education-driven," said Ferrari. "There's been a focus on information that hopefully will be transforming."

Every Wednesday around noon, you'll find anywhere from 20 to 30 students willing to give up their lunch after being in class all morning to talk about issues ranging

from income inequality to climate change. This may seem surprising to some, but with Gen Z on track to be the best-educated generation yet, according to the P.E.W. Research Center, it displays this generation's desire to create change and gain understanding.

"It's not necessarily a religious-focused club but it's all about Catholic social teaching," said Ferrari. You can tie any of J.A.M.'s service projects or informational sessions to at least one key theme of Catholic social teaching, if not multiple, based on our fundamental understanding of human life. "It's about the life and dignity of all people. It's about raising awareness and educating on issues that marginalized populations face," said Ferrari.

In their pursuit of justice, J.A.M. continues to keep the idea of a welcoming community at its center. Every meeting, fundraiser and volunteer opportunity is another step towards becoming more welcoming. "In order to live out We Are One, I think everyone has to be treated the same and given the same opportunities, and what we're doing with J.A.M. feels like a step towards equality," Gonyea said.

Sometimes it can feel like it is impossible to make a difference in the world, but when driven individuals come together to form groups like J.A.M., a glimmer of hope emerges. "Maybe individually it feels like you can't make a difference, but together it feels like we can begin to make a dent," Chavez added. ☩

# If At First You Don't Succeed...

*Maclain O'Leary '16 shares insights learned through sports*

**F**ailure. It's funny we are all so preconditioned to fear failure. It keeps us up at night as we toss and turn at the notion of a failed test, a messed-up presentation, a lost game.

We can become so obsessed with the concept of success that sometimes the benefits of failure are lost on us. Not that it's wise to become complacent and accept failure at every obstacle, but there is only so much you can learn from winning — like how to work hard and how to do it better. And these are, of course, undeniably important lessons to learn.

Through failure, you learn how to persevere; to look adversity and disappointment in the eye and say, "It's okay, I will get it right next time." In my short 25 years, some of the best and most valuable lessons I learned in my life were from times when I didn't succeed. From times life put me on the ground and I had to learn how to navigate getting back up.

Sometimes we learn these lessons even when we don't realize it. Sports did that for me. They taught me lessons as well as the skills I used on the court or field. I recognize now that huge parts of who I am and how I handle adversity are from things that I learned outside of the classroom. Many of them were right here when I was a student at Marist.

Through football, I learned the meaning of team. I learned that while your successes and wins are because of your teamwork and comradery, so are your failures and losses. We learned to hold each other accountable, to make each other better and that losing can light a fire under you like nothing else can. We learned as a team to accept what happened has happened, but we would also do what it takes to not let it happen again.

I am competitive by nature, and I cannot tell you in quantifiable terms how many times in my life I have said, "Just one more time, one more try, one more rep." That thought of, "I failed, but I have learned" is what took me to practice on Monday with a drive that could only be satisfied with the taste of redemption.

That is not to say that there were not times I contemplated quitting, taking the easy way out. I think back to my junior year in particular. The season was not going particularly how I wanted it to go. I wasn't playing as much as I wanted to. I was being beaten out by guys who were physically bigger than me, faster than me. I was frustrated, I felt I was wasting my time. I told my Dad I wanted to quit the team, end the season early. He would not let me. He told me I had an obligation to that team and to myself

and I would finish out that obligation.

So, begrudgingly I finished the season. And looking back, these years later, I am glad I did. It taught me that life may not be working out the way I want it to, but I need to work through that and give 100% to what I can effect. I couldn't change the size and skill of the other kids around me, but what I could change was my attitude. And that attitude drove me to work as hard as I could, so that at the end of the day, if things weren't going my way, it was by no means any fault of my own. I had tried!

Failure is often a solitary journey. While going through it with teammates, friends or family yields its own lessons, we can often discover even deeper about who we are through our times of solitary crucibles. I ran track in my last few years at Marist, specifically the 300M hurdles. Talk about a great metaphor for life — running and jumping over barriers that are in your way.

In one of my final races as a senior, I was running the best time of my life. I was seconds ahead of the rest of the competition, and at the final hurdle, I fell. My steps got off, I nicked my back foot off the top of the hurdle, and the next thing I knew, I felt hard turf against my face. Hundreds of people were there for the meet, hundreds of pairs of eyes watching as I (very ungracefully) fell. I wanted so badly at that moment to quit. To get up, run off the track, and never run again. But what good would that do? I picked myself up and limped my way across the finish line.

There have been a few times as an adult that I have found myself in situations like this and I can't say it ever gets easier. There is always that feeling of wanting to run away and give up. It may have been in a college class that seems unpassable. It could be a denial of a job you wanted, maybe the ending of a relationship. All of these I have experienced and in all of these instances, I have felt that sense of failure. The difference was that I knew how to deal with it. How to pick myself up off the ground and keep moving forward.

While scores and personal records are important, they are also, for most of us, ephemeral. As an adult, I can not remember a single score or time from my time here. But what sticks in my head are the lessons I learned along the way that have greatly shaped who I am today.

The truth is we will fail more in our lives than we succeed. That is how we learn. We just need to recognize the lessons as they come. Success does not come without failure. ☘

# MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



*Save the Date*

## ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

**Friday, October 14, 2022**

**Join us as we celebrate  
the 3rd Class of the Athletic Hall of Fame**

**For more information visit  
[athletics.marisths.org/hall-of-fame](http://athletics.marisths.org/hall-of-fame)**

### *Every Gift Tells a Story*

A planned gift is a meaningful way to impact future generations and leave a legacy.  
Join these members of the Legacy Society at [maristfoundation.org](http://maristfoundation.org)

**Jon & Terri Anderson  
Brad & Teresa Copeland  
Fr. David Cullings  
Magnhild "Sue" Gallagher †  
Vicky Hanson  
Cory Howard '99**

**Steve & Kathryn Hutchinson  
Steve '85 & Marie Lilley  
Ben Salm '77  
Jerry Thenell '54 †  
Jack Tucker '68**



**The Marist High School Foundation**  
Rebecca Larson  
[rlarson@marisths.org](mailto:rlarson@marisths.org)  
541-686-0251



Photo by Jackson Anderson '23



Archbishop Alexander Sample anoints the new altar with the assistance of sophomore Lexie Heckel and Father Ron Nelson.

## New Altar Anointing

This January, Archbishop Alexander Sample made a special trip to Marist to dedicate the new altar for the chapel, created last year by a local artist. Jack Thornton '21, former Marist chaplain Fr. Theo Lange and Campus Ministry worked with the artist to create an altar that echoed the colors, texture and style of the chapel's existing crucifix made by former Marist math, woodshop teacher and theater director Bob Devereaux. The Archbishop blessed the altar with holy water and incense before setting the altar stone that contains a saint's relic — although which saint's relic is unknown due to lost records from its original church.

Photo courtesy of Ryan Elliott



Members of the STEM club and their advisors pose for a photo with their awards.

## Having Fun with Science

Marist placed third place overall in its first-ever time at the Oregon Science Olympiad held this April at the Lane County Fairgrounds in Eugene. The Marist students competed against 14 other schools from around the state in a total of 23 events. Seniors Mia Michel, Isaac Tsang, Theodore LengKong, Ethan Nguyen and Alexander Charbonneau; sophomores Austin Murray, Micah

Hugo, Jimmy Smythe and Sheppard Brown; along with freshman Elias Michel were all members of first place teams. The students were a part of Marist's new Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Club which evolved this year from three or four smaller science clubs to become a weekly time for students to follow their passions in self-directed STEM projects.

Photo courtesy of Steve Barth



Junior Zane Watson and freshman Jada Zeedyk prepare for the Speech & Debate State Championship.

Marist's Speech and Debate team members, junior Zane Watson and freshman

Jada Zeedyk, both earned their way to the 2022 OSAA Speech and Debate State Championship held at Western Oregon University this April. Watson competed in the Original Oratory Event after placing first in the District 5 Championships, with what his coach Steve Barth called a "compelling speech" about defining what art is. Zeedyk competed in Oratory after placing second at districts with a speech discussing the importance of schools being accepting of students with disabilities.

Photo by Toni Cooper



## The Return of the Pageant

The 2022 Mr. & Ms. Spartan team.

Over \$40,000 was raised for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Sacred Heart Medical Center in this year's much-anticipated return of the Mr. and Ms. Spartan Pageant this past April. Seniors Jackson Meyers and Kaitlin Roth were co-crowned Mr. & Ms. Spartan. After a two-year COVID hiatus, the pageant returned with a few changes, eliminating the talent section and replacing it with some game-show style competitions between the eight sets of senior competitors. The Spartan Team also held a fund-raising dance, a trivia night and a bowling activity to raise money for the babies.

Photo by Toni Cooper



## Being Slovakia

The 2022 Model United Nation club.

Four Model United Nations students led by history teacher Jon Nuxoll represented the nation of Slovakia at the 2022 Oregon MUN Conference this April in an all-virtual event. Seniors Amelia Watts, Mathilde Espinosa, Isaac Tsang and junior Maddy Miller acted as representatives of Slovakia while working in committees to implement resolutions to unresolved global issues through diplomacy. The students prepared for the conference by researching their country's stance on selected issues and were required to argue in alignment with their country's real-life policy positions.



Photo by Toni Cooper



## Meet Mr. Fraley

Incoming principal, Bob Fraley, passes out ice cream and introduces himself to Marist students.

New Marist principal Bob Fraley is trading the hot Los Angeles weather for the cooler Oregon climate in his move to Eugene this summer. Fraley comes to Marist from Cantwell-Sacred Heart in Montebello, California where he began as a computer science teacher before transitioning into a technology instructional role that helped transition the school to iPads prior to becoming

the vice principal and eventually the principal. He has also coached basketball, baseball and football while at Cantwell. Fraley has visited Marist several times and is looking forward to getting involved in the school community and activities. He is especially looking forward to attending the sporting events when the stadium is full of cheering Spartans. "I have a ton of fun being involved in athletics and going to plays or activities so I'm really excited about that," Fraley said. Fraley said he seeks to implement the word of Christ into his everyday life and values how faith is implemented into the real world. "I think the most important aspect of Catholicism for me is the Gospel message of how we should treat each other. I think that's something that we can put across to young men and women which is beneficial to the kids and to society," Fraley said.

Photo by Austin Murray '24



## Rising Spartan

A Marist family walks through the courtyard with Boys Lacrosse coach Joseph Bongcayao.

On May 24, the incoming class of 2026 was invited to Rising Spartan, an event to welcome them to campus for the first time as registered students to learn more about the community, sports, activities and get familiar with their classmates. "The highlight of the evening for me was watching all of the kids in Marist t-shirts playing in the courtyard, making new friends and being excited about their future at Marist," said President David Welch.

Photo by Toni Cooper



## Live Theatre Returns

The cast of the 2022 production of *The Imaginary Invalid* takes a bow after their first performance.

Live theatre returned to Marist this January with *The Imaginary Invalid*, an adaptation of a 1673 Moliere play. Its small cast of 12 perfectly suited the intimate 150-seat Bob Devereaux Theatre. One might think three-century-old French humor wouldn't stand the test of time, but the human idiosyncrasies featured in Marist's winter production of *The Imaginary Invalid* are just as humorous and relevant today as then. Theatre Club director Zach Hammond '08 set the scene for Moliere's

comedy in Paris in the 1960s. Junior Avery Carlin playing Angelique, the romantic lead. Senior Liz Perez was the outspoken maid (who doubled as a doubtful doctor) caring for Angelique's hypochondriac father, the "imaginary invalid" played by newcomer senior Amelia Watts. Freshman Piper van Buskirk gave a hilarious performance as a suitor who was no competition for Angelique's true love played by junior Isaac King. This cast created the first live-theatre performance since the fall of 2019.

## Senior Earns Civil Air Patrol Award



Brooks Montoya '22

This spring, Marist senior Brooks Montoya was awarded the Billy Mitchell Award that honors exemplary cadets in the Civil Air

Patrol cadet program who have undergone extensive training. The cadet program is set up like the Air Force with more than half a dozen ranks and each cadet works their way up the ranks, learning new dynamics about the Air Patrol along the way. Montoya has an interest in the Air Force and felt this was a good program to be a part of, especially for leadership.

Photo by Bill Ferrari



## Marist Youth Gathering

Marist students attend a Sunday morning prayer service on the Hudson River in New York.

This past Memorial Day Weekend, Marist Eugene again sent a delegation of eight students to the annual all-Marist event at the Marist Brothers Center in Esopus, New York. Our delegation, chaperoned by long-time teachers Bill and Julie Ferrari and supported by senior Sofia James, engaged with 100-150 high school students from around the United States, Canada and Mexico. It was a unique opportunity to experience a wider world of our Marist family; these students will now create a project next school year from their experience. The students attending were juniors Zach Hagengruber, Avery Hedden, Madison Holmes, Ava Light, Honora Mathisen-Lund, Paige Meador, Alecia Skinner and Camryn Sydow.

## Sophomore Writes for Life

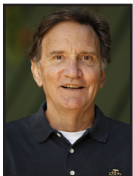


Sophomore Ava Konrady

“Choose life for those who can’t choose it for themselves,” sophomore Ava Konrady wrote in her award-winning essay for the Oregon Write to Life Contest sponsored by the ORTL Education Foundation. ORTL provides K-12 students the opportunity to create in a way that inspires excellence and lifelong pro-life advocacy. Her essay won first place and \$40 in the Lane County contest and third place and \$150 in the state competition.

## Teachers Retiring

Walt Fox



History teacher Walt Fox has decided that 20 years in sportscasting and 22 years in teaching is just the right amount and will start his retirement this June! Walt began teaching at Marist in 2000, and he and his wife, Kris, put two children, David '02 and Caitlin '06, through Marist. Fox said he will miss the daily interactions with students but not his alarm. “Teaching is hard work, a lot harder than I thought it was going to be. But it is also a chance to make a difference in someone’s life and hopefully, make the world a little better place,” Fox said.

Chad DePaoli



Chad DePaoli is moving on from teaching and running retreats after 25 years, but will still be around Marist as an assistant boys basketball coach. He is not technically retiring; he is just moving on to his other career as a health insurance broker and Medicare plans specialist. His youngest son, Ty, graduates this year and watching him kick at his senior night football game, after kicking cancer, is one of his best memories. His older son, Jason, graduated in 2019. “I look forward to the next stage of my life, but will miss the daily contact with the Marist community,” DePaoli said.

## Winter Sports

Photo by Toni Cooper



### Swim

Junior Kyler Lajoie starts his 100yd backstroke race at the state meet this winter.

In February, the boys were 5th and girls tied for 10th at the OSAA 4A/3A/2A/1A State Swim Meet in Beaverton. The top state finishers were 3rd place finishes by the boys 200yd Medley, the boys 200yd Freestyle Relay and senior Sofia James in the 200yd Freestyle who was also 4th in the 100yd Backstroke. There were many 5th place finishers: junior Jackson Anderson in the 200yd IM, junior Kyler Lajoie in the 100yd backstroke and senior Trent McQuaid in the 100yd freestyle. The week before state, the boys team won the Special District 3 Championships and the girls were 2nd. Many Spartans were crowned district champs: all three boys relay teams, McQuaid in the 100yd and 200yd freestyle and Lajoie in the 50yd backstroke in a race where he broke a 55-year-old Marist record in the event with a time of 57.89.

Photo by Toni Cooper



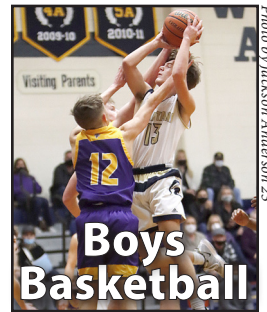
### Girls Basketball

Junior Paige Doerr at the state tournament this winter.

The girls basketball team finished 6th at the 4A State Championships. The girls beat Mazama in the consolation semifinals with clutch free throws from senior Malia Williams but lost to the Baker Bulldogs 48-57 in the consolation finals. Junior Paige Doerr was named to the First Team All-Tournament as well as being named to the First Team All-State along with junior Madison Holmes.

The boys won their OSAA 4A Play-In game at home before closing out their season with a loss to the No. 2 seeded

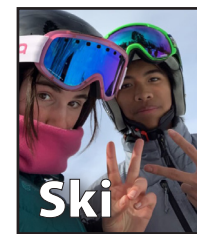
Cascade in the first round of the OSAA 4A State Tournament. As the 3rd place finisher in the Sky-Em, they finished their season with a 6-4 league record and were 16-9 overall.



### Boys Basketball

Senior Boston Frey goes up for a layup at a home game.

Photo by Jackson Anderson '23



Juniors Reeve Helvoigt and Kai Villano have fun on the slopes.

### Ski

Eight Marist Spartans took to the slopes to compete in Oregon Interscholastic Ski Racing Association’s alpine ski racing division on a combined ski team with Sheldon, Churchill and South Eugene. They finished their season at the OISRA State Championships held at Mt. Hood Meadows where the boys team placed 4th and junior Colby Malpass placed 15th individually.

## Spring Sports

Photo by Madison Holmes '23



### Girls Golf

The girls golf team celebrates their 2nd place at state.

The girls golf team took second at the OSAA 4A State Championship at Eagle Crest in Redmond on May 16-17. They shot a two-day combined score of 702. Sophomore Esha Reddy tied for 4th and senior Sandhya Vaikuntam placed 6th individually. The team placed second at the District Championships held in Bandon where Marist shot a team total of 730. Vaikuntam was the District Champion with a two-day score of 152 and she and Reddy both made First Team All-League. The team took

# CAMPUS NOTES

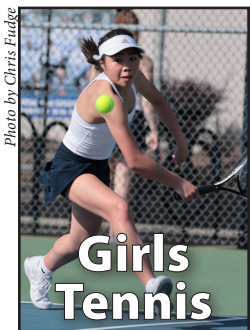
first in seven of their nine tournaments throughout the season.



*The varsity boys golf team at state this May.*

The boys golf team took fourth at the OSAA 4A State Championships on May 16-17 at Quail Valley in Banks. The team shot a two-day total of 674. Senior Ben Proulx lead the team, placing 11th. Seniors Jack Hudson, Talon Larson and freshman Nick Hudson all tied for 20th. The team placed first at the Sky-Em District Tournament which was held at Tokatee. Marist shot a two-day total of 648 beating Cascade by 21 strokes. Proulx was the district champion with a combined score of 153. Larson was 4th, Jack was 7th and freshman Christian Guerrero was 9th.

The girls tennis team, coached by Jeff Priske and former player Ellie Cross '18,



*Sophomore Christina Nguyen at a home match.*

finished their season at the 1A/2A/3A/4A State Championships at Oregon State's Tennis Pavilion on May 20-21 after recording a 6-11 season.

Sophomore Christina Nguyen made it

to the singles quarterfinals, but lost to Philomath. The doubles pair of senior Maddie McLaughlin and sophomore Haley Ross also made it to the quarterfinals and juniors Tyler Harding and Reeve Helvoigt lost in the first round to the No.1 seed. At their District Tournament the week before, Nguyen was second in singles and McLaughlin and Ross were second in doubles. Harding and Helvoigt were third.

The boys tennis team, who went undefeated all season up to state, took second at the OSAA 4A State Championship on May 19-20 at OSU's



*Senior Lucas Franssen competes at home in April.*

Tennis Pavilion in Corvallis with some impressive performances. The junior/sophomore duo of Jack Kiefer and Peyton Tyner placed second in doubles after a two-and-a-half hour battle full of exciting tie-breakers and come-back-win sets. Junior Sam Thornton and senior Ethan Hakala lost in the quarterfinal match against the eventual state champions and junior Henry Gonyea and senior Alexander Charbonneau won their consolation final match. Junior Kai Villano won his third-place singles match after losing in the semifinals, freshman Andrew Forsyth lost in the singles consolation finals and Lucas Franssen lost in the quarterfinals.

At the district tournament on May 17-19, senior Lucas Franssen won the boys singles title and Villano took second and Forsyth was third. On the doubles side, Kiefer and Tyner won the district doubles title, Thornton and Hakala took third and Gonyea and Charbonneau were fourth.



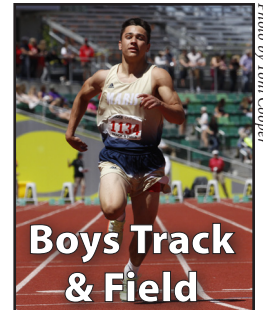
*Senior Jennifer Tsai finishes strong in her state championship 800m performance at Hayward Field.*

The Marist girls placed 2nd at the OSAA State Track and Field Championships held at Hayward Field on May 20-21. In an exciting race, senior Jennifer Tsai finished first by .14 seconds in the 800m to become the 4A state champion. Tsai was 2nd in the 1500m earlier in the day, an event in which she

set a new Marist school record (4:45.89) earlier this season. The girls 4x100m relay team of freshmen Piper van Buskirk and Kate Firth, senior Monroe LaCoste and sophomore Sarah Triadou were also crowned state champions in a time of 50.48. Triadou placed 2nd in the 100m with a blistering time of 12.59 seconds and was 3rd in the long jump. The 4x400m team of freshman Ella Braunger and seniors Reese Fitzpatrick, Madison Fuller and Emilie Nelson placed 4th in a season best time of 4:12.64. Junior Avery Hedden ran a personal best 10:41.31 to take 4th in the 3000m and she took 5th in the 1500m the next day. Freshman Avy Roundy placed 4th in the 300m hurdles.

The Marist boys sent two competitors to the OSAA 4A State Track and Field Championships

at Hayward Field on May 20-21. Junior Drew Salnas showcased his speed in the 100m by taking second with a personal record 11.17 and junior Luke Shah also



*Junior Drew Salnas finishes second in the 100m at state.*

set a personal record in his 7th place 800m performance. The week before state, the Marist boys team placed 6th at Sky-Em Championships held at Junction City. Salnas was 2nd in the 100m and Shah was 3rd in the 800m but still fast enough to earn him a place at state. Sophomore Sam Keen placed 3rd in the javelin and junior Josiah Jarvis was 3rd in long jump.



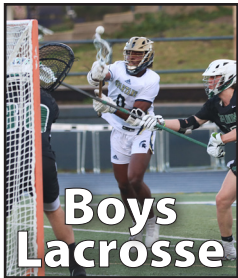
*Senior Elli Clark catches the ball on her home field.*

The Marist girls lacrosse team ended their season 6-6 including victories over larger schools like Roseburg, West Albany, Thurston and Churchill. Senior

## CAMPUS NOTES

Sydney Clark led the team in scoring. The team graduates five seniors.

The Marist boys lacrosse team lost to Hood River 9-14 in the semifinals of Oregon High School Lacrosse Association's Cascade Cup Bracket. They beat Ida B. Wells 18-13 in the quarterfinals and Ridgeview 11-4 in the first round. They finished their regular season 2-4 in league and 8-5 overall. Helping the team with their success were multiple players from North Eugene that did not have a team this year.



Senior Lucas Tuski takes a shot at a home game in April.

### Boys Lacrosse

Photo by Toni Cooper



Senior pitcher Malia Williams throws a strike at a home game in April.

### Softball

Sky-Em League with a 15-0 record and are now 25-3 overall with two of those losses from highly-ranked 6A schools. Senior Malia Williams and her team have recorded 17 shutouts and have outscored their opponents 324-31. The Spartans also earned Academic All-State honors with the highest GPA of 3.79 for all 4A softball.

## ALUMNI NOTES

**The St. Francis Class of 1967** will celebrate their 55th reunion on Saturday, Aug. 20 at the Harbert residence. For more information, contact **Joe Harbert '67** harbert5708@comcast.net.

**The Classes of 1970 and 1971** will be holding a joint reunion on Friday, Aug. 19 and Saturday, Aug. 20. Friday night will be a social at the Knights of Columbus and Saturday night there will be a Mass and BBQ at Marist. For more information, Class of 1970, contact **Pat Brown '70** 1patrickbrown@gmail.com or **Lex Schmidt '70** schmidtlex@aol.com or **Jim Kerr '70** jpkerr@me.com. Class of 1971, contact **Jeremy Starr '71** jeremystarr@bhhsnwrep.com or **Steve Andreasen '71** stevefandreason@gmail.com.

**The Class of 1972** is celebrating its 50-year reunion Friday, Aug. 12 and Saturday, Aug. 13. Classmates are invited to a no-host pizza party at Roaring Rapids Pizza on Franklin Blvd on Friday. On Saturday, the class will gather (with the Class of '77) at Marist for Mass at 4 p.m. followed by the Class of '72's social hour at 5 p.m. and a catered BBQ at 6 p.m. For more information check out the Marist '72 Facebook page or contact **Bud Everts '72** 408-390-6422, **Colleen Keith '72** 360-904-3202 or **JoAnn (Macke) Steininger '72** 907-209-8545.

**The Class of 1977** will celebrate their 45th reunion at Marist on the weekend of August 12-14. Mass will be celebrated on campus Saturday, August 13 at 4 p.m. with

## ALUMNI NOTES

the Class of '72 followed by the Class of 77's social hour and BBQ. Classmates interested in assisting with planning and logistics, or to RSVP, please contact **Tom Chambers '77** 503-881-7679 or mmirayman@aol.com.

**The Class of 1982** will celebrate their 40th reunion the weekend of August 19- 20. Friday night's venue is TBA; Saturday evening's event will take place at the 6th Street Grill. Send contact info for more details to **Roberta (Palmer) Kellis '82** grkellis@gmail.com, via text at 541-954-9131 or mail to 4854 Donald Street, 97405. Follow our progress at www.facebook.com/groups/MaristHS1982.

**The Class of 1992** is planning their 30th reunion for this fall. Stay tuned for more information or contact **Ryan Harbert '92** ryan.harbert@countryfinancial.com.

**The Class of 2012** is planning on celebrating their 10-year reunion the weekend of Aug. 27-28. Event details are in the works so check our Facebook page or contact **Ryan Whalen '12** or **Margaret Quartararo '12** spartanspearof2012@gmail.com for updates or information or to help.

If you are interested in planning your reunion this summer, please contact **Rebecca Larson** at rlarson@marisths.org.

## IN MEMORIAM



**Sephra Oare '91** passed away on May 27, 2021.

Douglas Whittaker passed away on October 16, 2021. His sons are **Marcus Whittaker '88** and **Christopher Whittaker '94**. His grandsons are **Max Whittaker '19** and **Jackson Whittaker '21**.

Charlotte DuChateau passed away on November 2, 2021. Her daughter is **Paula DuChateau '81** and her grandchildren are **Aaron DuChateau '03** and **Tristan DuChateau**.

Jeannette Schmitz passed away on November 2, 2021. Her children include **Linda (Schmitz) Chrones '70**, Mark Schmitz, **Thomas Schmitz '73**, Kurt Schmitz and Lynette (Schmitz) Reichert.

**Mary (Jacobs) Weber '53** passed away on November 10, 2021. Her children include **Paul Weber '74** †, Lucy Weber,



Junior Kaden Starr pitches in the 4A state quarterfinals.

### Baseball

The No. 5 ranked Spartan baseball team beat Newport 4-3 in the first round of the 4A state playoffs and then lost a heartbreaker at La Grande 4-10 in the quarterfinals. The boys finished first in the Sky-Em with a 13-2 record and finished 19-9 overall. Junior Kaden Starr was selected as the Sky-Em League Pitcher of the Year and multiple Spartans were chosen as Sky-Em First Team selections: junior Kaden Starr (pitcher), senior Carter Greene (catcher), senior Jack Riley (outfield), junior Nick Biagi (1st Base), and junior Cooper Mullens (infield). Second Team All-League selections include senior Conner Chase (infield) and senior Brendon Hauck (outfield).

The girls softball team entered the OSAA 4A playoffs as the No. 1 ranked team and made getting to the 4A State Championship game look easy. They beat Stayton 6-0 in the semifinals, Henley 8-0 in the quarterfinals and Baker 10-0 in the first round. They will now meet Cascade in the final game on June 4 at the University of Oregon's Jane Saunders Stadium. The team finished first in the

## IN MEMORIAM

**Anton Weber '80, Mary Ann Weber '84** and **Domenic Weber '96**. Her grandchildren include **Nicole Weber '03, Amanda Weber '06, Anthony Weber '07, Halie Weber '12** and **Tachina Weber '12**.

**Barbara (Vacca) Furrer '51** passed away on November 13, 2021. Her husband was **Robert Furrer '49 †** and her brother and sister-in-law are **Richard Furrer '54** and **Joann (Furrer) Rissberger '60**. Her children include **Kathleen (Furrer) Medford '72, Pam Furrer '73, Robert Furrer '77 †, Thomas Furrer '80** and **Julie (Furrer) Waters '83**.

Cindy Solari passed away on November 30, 2021. Her son is **Corey Solari '15**, the head water polo coach at Marist.

Anne Olsen passed away on December 5, 2021. Her son is Fr. Ken Olsen, former Marist chaplain.

**Gerald J. "Jerry" Thenell '54** passed away on December 9, 2021. Jerry served on the Foundation board as a member and as president, chaired the Auction and was a faithful supporter of Marist.

Br. Tom Petite FMS passed away on December 17, 2021. Br. Tom was an English teacher at Marist in the late 60s.

Craig Miller passed away on December 24, 2021. His son is **Paxton Miller '12**.

Alden Wolfe passed away on July 2, 2021 and Eloise Wolfe passed away on December 24, 2021. Their sons are **Michael Wolfe '72** and **Mark Wolfe '75**.

Robert Donnelly Jr. passed away on January 2, 2022. Robert was a former Marist Foundation Board member.

William Murphy passed away on January 5, 2022. William was a substitute science teacher at Marist during the 80s.

Dick Keith Meigs passed away on January 14, 2022. His son Ben is the head girls lacrosse coach and the assistant coach for girls soccer. His granddaughter **Elizabeth Meigs '20** is the assistant coach for girls lacrosse.

Helen "Pat" Fahey passed away on January 16, 2022. The Fahey Family Scholarship was established in 2018 to support Marist students.

David Chronister passed away on January 21, 2022. His son is Marist history teacher Mark Chronister.

Jack Courtemanche passed away on January 22, 2022. His grandson is **Jack R. Courtemanche '18**.

Barbara Moore passed away on January 29, 2022. Her children are **David Moore '93** and **Kevin Moore '95**. Barbara was the Business Manager at Marist from 1988-95.

**Craig Nau '83** passed away on January 29, 2022. His brother is **Michael Nau '80**.

Ronald Brown passed away on January 30, 2022. His wife is **Christine (Breedon) Brown '69** and his brother-in-law is **Thomas Breedon '65**.

Samuel Burke passed away on February 2, 2022. His granddaughter is **Caitlyn Craviotto '13**.

Br. Ernest Beland FMS passed away on February 8, 2022. Br. Ernest taught English at Marist in 1969.

George Lester passed away on February 28, 2022. His stepdaughter is counselor and long-time volleyball coach Shari Pimental.

Joseph Stacy passed away on March 4, 2022. His siblings include **Robert Stacy '62, Eileen (Stacy) Podhasky '68, Richard Stacy '70, Janey (Stacy) Henley '74, John Stacy '79** and **James Stacy '81**. His sister-in-law is **Julie (Free) Stacy '80**. His nieces are **Kristen Stacy '01, Shannon Stacy '04, Jessica Stacy '05** and **Brenna Stacy-Temple '09**.

**Brian Bronson '55** passed away on March 17, 2022. His children are **Barbara (Bronson) Ford '77, Ann (Bronson) Coghill '79, Katherine (Bronson) Cosgrove '82** and Peter Bronson †.

Yvonne O'Herron passed away on March 29, 2022. Her son is **Mike O'Herron '67**.

Kelli Schwab passed away on March 29, 2022. Her husband was Rick Schwab †, a former Marist teacher and football coach from 1973-78.

### Remembering Loved Ones

If you know of an alumnus, family of an alumnus or friend of Marist who is in need of prayers due to the passing of a loved one, please let us help. Email us at [alumni@marisths.org](mailto:alumni@marisths.org).

*Although care has been taken to ensure the accuracy, completeness and reliability of the information provided, we sometimes make mistakes. If any information in this publication is inaccurate, please let us know at [alumni@marisths.org](mailto:alumni@marisths.org).*



## Nikola Michael Sušec

2001 - 2022

**Nikola (Niko) Sušec '20** beloved son of former Marist theology teacher Heidi Sušec and her husband, Josip; sibling of **Bene '21, Martina '24** and Tatjana; former member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Cottage Grove; lively classmate, gifted writer, and lover of life passed away March 16, 2022 in a tragic accident in Zagreb, Croatia.

Niko was on his way from his university, where he was studying philosophy and Croatian Studies, to his part-time job teaching English, when he climbed atop a railroad car and was killed when the power in the high-voltage wires arced downward.

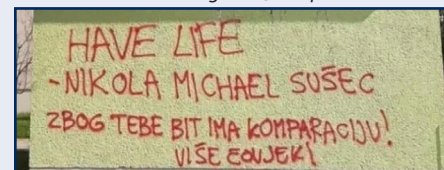
The Sušec family had moved to Croatia in the summer of 2021 to live near Josip's hometown and to give the kids a chance to know their extended Croatian family.

"Such a big-hearted, energetic young man, gone too soon. May the Lord comfort his family and all those who grieve his loss. Rest In peace and rise again in glory, Nikola!" wrote his former teacher Ryan Baker.

Niko radiated goodness and light and attracted friends wherever he went as evidenced by the hundreds of people who attended his funeral in Croatia. He had become an active member at his parish in Sveti Ivan Zelina and had made many friends at his university, at his job, and at every bus stop or storefront on the way to where he was going.

The last poem he published on Instagram was "Have Life" and in the comments, he wrote: "I know whence life comes." That was his last message to all of us. His family posted a response: "Yes he knows. And wants us all to know. Be well, all of his dear friends. You helped him truly experience life here on earth with your friendship. He carries your love with him to eternity. Thank you. From, his family."

*Niko's poetry can be found at [nikopoem.blogspot.com](http://nikopoem.blogspot.com) and on Instagram @nikopoem.*



*Note by university students in Zagreb*



# take 5

Erin Cramsey '14  
answers five questions in five minutes

*Erin Cramsey's '14 journey after Marist has kept her close to home as a cardiac and pulmonary exercise specialist and around the country as a nationally-ranked timbersports athlete. Erin takes five minutes to reminisce about Marist and share some advice with our current students.*

## Q What did you want to be when you were little and how did Marist help prepare you for your career?

When I was really little, I wanted to be a singer. In high school, I had no idea what the dream was but I knew it would have nothing to do with science or math — seems I didn't know what I was talking about! After a year and a half of attempting graphic design at OSU, I changed my major to the vastly different field of kinesiology. I ended up doing an internship in cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation and was hooked. I really shouldn't be surprised, though, as I loved taking June Miller's Anatomy and Physiology at Marist. Marist prepared me with those classes specifically, but also with a lot of miscellaneous skills and tools, like how to research and manage my time better with heavy workloads.

## Q What was your favorite class or who was your favorite teacher at Marist and why?

Favorite class is a tough one. Favorite teacher though... there are a few top contenders but if I had to pick one it would be Mr. Oldham. I may have been biased with stories from my brother and being friends with his son Zac '14, but Mr. Oldham lived up to all of it. His class was hard, don't get me wrong, but he always had a phenomenal way of making everything fun and understandable. He could connect with almost everyone and always seemed to know where I was at with studies and life and what I needed to hear. I think he did that with most of us. I remember once in his class we were reading *Hamlet* and he gave us a while to read a passage. I read it (truly, I did!) and retained absolutely nothing. So of course he calls on me and asks me to explain what happened in that part. My response started, "Well..." and as panic set in, knowing I probably couldn't swing anything of substance, I said, "It seems like *Hamlet* is being kind of a spud." Mr. Oldham just stopped and looked at me, "A spud ... Yamlet." He just knew how to balance getting the education down but also treating us exactly like the people we were and meeting us in the middle.

## Q Marist is noted for rigorous academics, thoughtful retreats, leadership/service opportunities and fun athletics/ activities. What resonated most with you?

Honestly, I really didn't take Marist up on a lot of the opportunities and extracurriculars. I did do Rock Band as an elective, though. I learned a lot in that class and concerts and figured out where I lacked some confidence. It was also at Marist that I learned that not all math is scary. JRo's (current teacher Jeanette Hero) Contemporary

Mathematics class was a good shock to the system for me. Previously I neither enjoyed math, nor did I think I was any good at it. But that class ... that class made sense. Next thing you know I'm explaining things to my classmates during free periods and lunches!

## Q How did you get involved in... throwing axes?

I am a professional timbersports athlete. Think lumberjacks, think woodcutting, think axe throwing. My dad and mom both competed. There are great stories about my mom throwing axe at a competition three days before I was born! It's definitely a family affair for us. My brother Sean '11 competes too. There are a lot of events within the sport, not unlike track and field, but I much prefer the ones where you're sturdy and on the ground. At this point I do crosscut sawing, both by myself and with a partner, two chopping events, axe throwing and stocksaw, which is making a cut or two with a regular chainsaw. It has been a wild experience to go from being someone very uncoordinated and who did not at all enjoy any sports or P.E. to someone who has a great appreciation for movement and exercise and being and feeling strong. It seems giving me a sharp object to swing around was all I was missing.

## Q What advice would you give to today's students?

Find activities you enjoy and stick to them — something you can do with a community, and another for yourself. Something that keeps you moving and another that keeps you still. Cheesy as it sounds, balance is important and if for some reason something falls through, it's better to have other things you can do that will still bring you joy.



*Erin and her dad, David Cramsey, on the saw at a timbersport event with Trevor Baker as their second. Photo courtesy of Erin Cramsey*

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## ALUMNI UPDATES

Scan the QR Code to update your contact information. Thank you!

## Upcoming Events

### AUGUST

15 First Day of Fall Sports

### SEPTEMBER

6 Welcome Back Day  
6 Freshman Orientation  
6 First Day of School  
12-16 Welcome Week  
16 Mass of the Holy Spirit  
17-19 Formation Retreat

### OCTOBER

1 Freshman Lock-In  
3-7 Homecoming Week  
14 Athletic Hall of Fame  
22-24 Fall Men's Encounter

### NOVEMBER

1 All Saints Day Mass  
5 Preview Marist  
16 Fall Music Concert  
19-21 Fall Women's Encounter



### Calling all Gaels, Saints and Spartans!

Together St. Mary's, St. Francis and Marist Catholic High Schools represent more than 100 years of Catholic education in Lane County. Today we work hard to maintain and grow an ever-changing database of more than 12,500 spanning more than 80 plus years from the early 1940s to 2021 — but to be effective, we need your help.

Please send us your most current contact info and encourage your classmates to do the same. And don't forget to update us with any changes in your life as we are always looking for alumni news and story ideas at [alumni@marisths.org](mailto:alumni@marisths.org).  
**We Are One!**