

The Mercian



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MERCY NEWS

Mercy Day Tradition

One of the most beloved traditions at Mercy High School is the annual Mercy Day celebration.

The event honors the day that the founder of the Sisters of Mercy, Mother Catherine McAuley, opened her house in Dublin. It is a day when Mercy alumnae, friends and family around the world show their Mercy pride—engaging on social media, gathering together for a comfortable cup of tea, sending well wishes to the school and more. On this day, seniors perform a play educating other students about McAuley's life. A highlight of the program is the unveiling of the seniors who portrayed McAuley. This is considered one of the biggest honors students can receive and

is voted on by the senior class.

For the first time ever, the play was streamed live on Mercy's Facebook and close to 12,000 Mercy faithful watched the video.

This year's four Catherine McAuleys depicted three virtues in Catherine's life—humility, advocacy and hospitality. There was also a focus on the younger Catherine.

Lauren Ramaekers illustrated Catherine's life of humility. Highlighting Catherine's life of advocacy, a time when McAuley

took her vows and started her missions, was Abigail Jones. Her sister Erin graduated from Mercy last year and also portrayed Catherine McAuley, her younger sister, Clara, is a freshman and her mom, Kathy Daley Jones '88, is Executive Assistant to the President. Portraying the virtue of hospitality was Anne Jandrain. Her two older sisters, Christine '07 and Mary '16 graduated from Mercy. Mary also portrayed Catherine McAuley. Molly Bartek-Miller portrayed the younger Catherine. Her sister Clarice graduated in 2015.

At the end of the play, the Class of 2018 issued an invitation to all Sisters of Mercy and Mercy High School graduates in the audience to come to the front of Franey Hall to sing the Suscipe of Catherine McAuley.



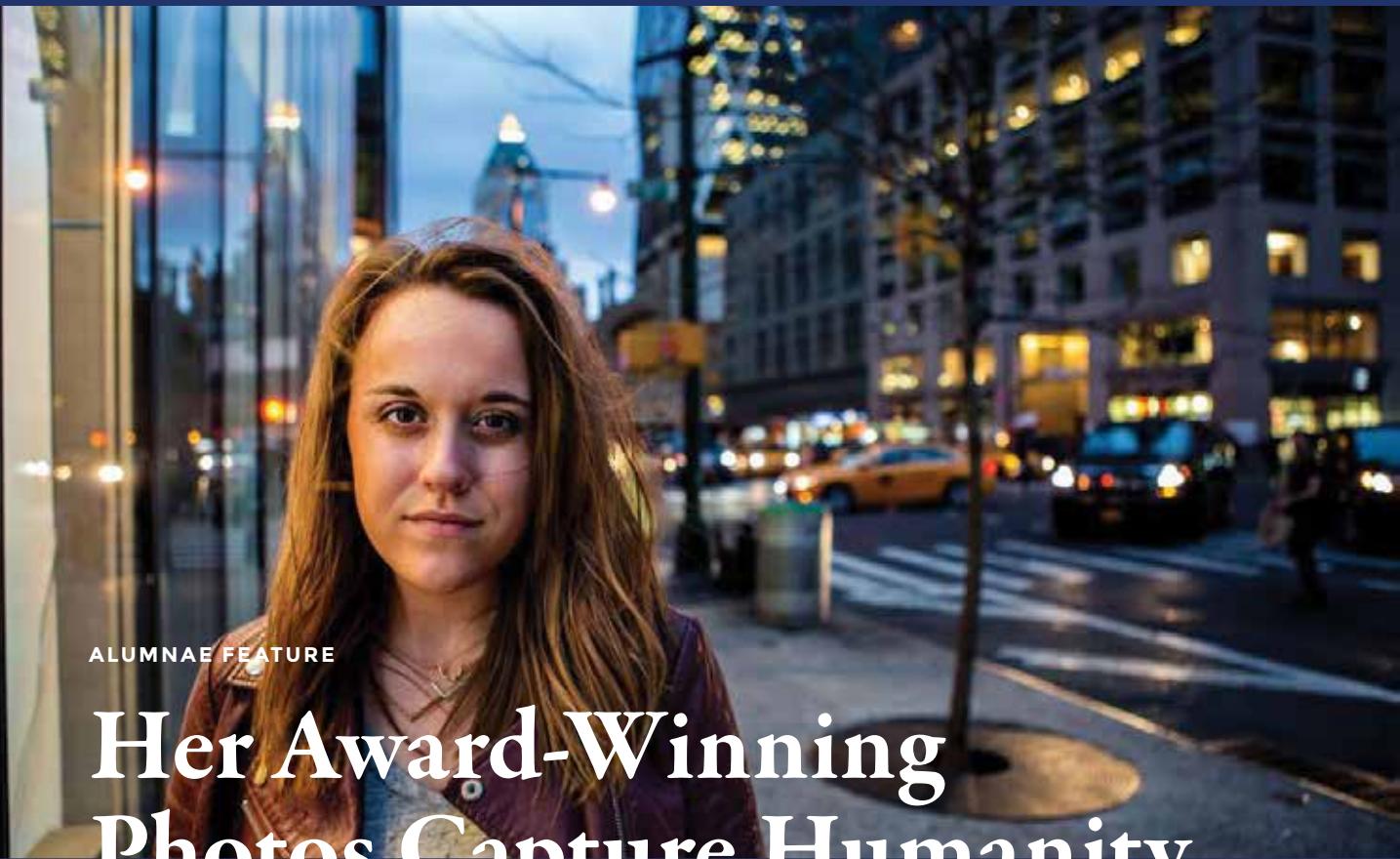
Photography:

Main left: Students serenade residents of the Sisters of Mercy Villa at the end of Mercy Day festivities.

Above top left: At the end of the Mercy Day play, seniors invited Mercy graduates to come to the stage and sing the Suscipe.

Above top right: Portraying Catherine McAuley in the Mercy Day Play were left to right: Lauren Ramaekers, Abigail Jones, Molly Bartek-Miller and Anne Jandrain.

Above: Putting on the habits properly for the Mercy Day play were left to right: Sr. Johanna Burnell, RSM, three Mother McAuley students and Sr. Jeanne O'Rourke, RSM.



ALUMNAE FEATURE

Her Award-Winning Photos Capture Humanity

Robert Frank, one of the most famous American photographers once said, “There is one thing the photograph must contain, the humanity of the moment.”

At a young age, Calla Kessler '14 has captured moments of humanity and has had outstanding success taking award-winning photographs while still in college. Although she may have inherited some of her talent-- her father is an architectural and freelance photographer-- she has always loved to take pictures. She credits Mercy for giving her a strong foundation for success by exposing her to a student body reflective of the real world, encouraging her to express herself and pushing her to go above and beyond.

“At Mercy teachers believe in you. You learn confidence, and that helps you approach life positively outside the walls of the school,” she said.

While at Mercy she was President of the Student Council, a member of National Honor Society, a soccer player and the recipient of the American History Award from the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society.

She received a Regents Scholarship to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL) and got involved in photojournalism.

One of her class projects reported on the situation in Whiteclay, Nebraska. The project, *“The Wounds of Whiteclay: Nebraska’s Shameful Legacy,”* delved into the issues and impact of alcohol sales in the small town of White Clay. The project and its students won the prestigious *Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Journalism* grand prize. It was the first time in the event's 49-year history that the top prize went to a college group.

Calla has also received other awards. They include an award of excellence in the sports feature competition from the 71st College Photographer of the Year competition, an invitation to the 4th Annual New York Times Portfolio Review in 2016 and first place awardee in the 2017 Hearst National

Photojournalism Championship.

Along with that success came other opportunities. She has interned at the *Lincoln Journal Star*, *Omaha World-Herald*, runs the social media accounts of a *National Geographic* photographer, and has secured a photo internship for two consecutive summers at the prestigious *Washington Post*. She has covered the White House, taking photos of President Trump and political events; she photographed a portrait of The Edge, a musician from U2; the Kentucky Derby; and the white supremacists rally in Charlottesville, where she was even pepper sprayed.

"Mercy provided me the tools to succeed not only academically, but socially and to approach situations empathetically," she

added. I entered college with AP credits I earned at Mercy, which will allow me to graduate in three and half years, taking a semester off to intern in Florida without any hiccups or time restraints," she said.

"Mercy provided me the tools to succeed not only academically, but socially and to approach situations empathetically."

This fall, she had an internship at the *Palm Beach Post* and was able to photograph daily news and work on a long-term project to benefit families in need throughout the county.

This spring, she will finish her last semester of school, then move back to D.C. to

start her second summer with *The Washington Post*.

Photography:

Left main: Calla Kessler '14 has become an award-winning photojournalist.

Below: A photo from Calla Kessler '14 award-winning White Clay project.



MERCY NEWS

Branding Refinement

We have exciting news! Last spring Mercy embarked on a strategic branding process to position itself in a very competitive marketplace to attract students and supporters to the school, and to develop and communicate powerful distinctions between our offerings and others.



The summer was spent doing qualitative research including stakeholder interviews and focus groups conducted by Celann LaGreca, a branding consultant. Those findings led to recommendations on brand messaging and refinement of visual brand elements. No doubt, some of you have started to see some of these changes.

Spearheaded by Deborah Daley, Communications Director, and Leanne Prewitt '97, Board member and Creative Director, Ervin & Smith, the school will start using a new slogan and a refined logo in its marketing materials. They are working with

Oxide Design on visual elements.

Faith in her Future, the new slogan, will be used to help convey Mercy's brand promise. It was chosen because for outside audiences it:

- Makes a strong statement on the empowerment of women.
- Has a double meaning of "faith" and implies intelligence.
- It's inherently religious but not exclusionary to any other faith.
- Serves as a rallying cry and point of pride.
- Works for all audiences.

The refined logo reinforces

Faith in
her future.

the brand qualities and makes a bolder statement about the school. The logo colors are strong and vibrant with a defined blue and gold. The Mercy Cross is now a distinctive element from the script focusing attention on this as an image, reinforcing it as a symbol of faith and aspiration.

Photography:

Main: The newly refined logo

Above: Our new slogan

Alumnae News



Shadow Day, Events Engage Alumnae, Students

In a new alumnae event, almost half of Mercy seniors had the opportunity to job shadow with alumnae throughout the Omaha area. Students indicated the jobs or careers they were interested in and they were matched with alumnae in those fields.

The event was the brainchild of Katy Butts '03, Alumnae Relations Director and Events Manager and Kristi Wessling '88, Assistant Principal for Academics.

As one student put it, it was the chance to "test the water and find out about a career before college." For alumnae it was "an opportunity to give back to Mercy which holds such a special place in their hearts."

Two girls shadowed at Streck, Inc., an ISO-certified biotech company. Both girls want to pursue STEM careers. The visit was arranged by Streck President and Mercy alumna Connie Ryan '70 and was featured on WOWT.

Gabbi Caito, who wants to be a biomedical engineer, reflected on her experience.

"I loved getting to experience what a day as an engineer is like! Everyone was so helpful and welcoming and answered any questions I had about the career," she said.

"I loved Mercy and the community that it provided."

Audrey Huse shadowed at the legal clinic at Creighton University's School of Law with Katelyn Cherney '04, a staff attorney there.

Cherney said, "I was grateful for the opportunity to participate and to connect with a current Mercy girl."

Physical therapist Anne Proulx '03 hosted Bridget Schroll at Methodist Hospital.

"I loved Mercy and the community that it provided. I also think it is great they are having seniors shadow so that they can get an idea of what they might want to study in college," she said.



Planning for next year's Shadow Day will begin in the spring. If interested in hosting contact Katy Butts '03 at buttsk@mercyhigh.org or call 402.553.9424.

There were numerous other alumnae activities including Memorial Mass, Appreciation Night at Volleyball and Fall Musical, the Golden Guild Tea and more

Photography:

Top left: Maureen McGrath '57 gets ready to share her prayer intention at the Golden Guild Tea.

Top right: During Alumnae Shadow Day, Streck personnel show Mercy seniors Gabbi Caito (left) and Emily Herout (right), some of their laboratory functions.

Below right: More than 200 people attended the Memorial Mass, remembering loved ones who passed away during the year. Sr. Camilla Verret, RSM does the second reading.



ALUMNAE FEATURE

Judge Shares Passion with Students

She may have been the only girl cut from the freshmen basketball team; but it's okay because she found her passion in journalism, which led to her career as a judge.

Now, Francie Riedmann Weis '81 is also sharing her talents with other Mercy girls by being one of the coaches of Mercy's Mock Trial Team.

"It took me years to realize that being cut from that team was really a blessing. I ultimately majored in Communications in college and use my writing skills every day in my judicial opinions," she added.

While at Mercy, she was class President her senior year, editor of the newspaper junior year, editor of

the yearbook her junior and senior year, and an Outstanding Senior.

After graduation she went to college, first studying at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and then on to Kearney State College (now the University of Nebraska at Kearney). She worked as an assistant news director at a radio station in Kearney and then went on to paralegal school in Denver. Eventually she went to Creighton Law School and worked as an attorney for 20 years. She was appointed to

the Court of Appeals in 2012.

"I spend my days reading trial transcripts, researching legal issues, and writing opinions. In the last few years I have judged mock trial competitions and was impressed with the skills involved. These students have the ability to analyze a problem, think on their feet, articulate a position, and respond to the unexpected," she said.

As a result of those experiences and with her daughter, Emma, attending Mercy, she was inspired to start a Mock Trial Team at Mercy. She met with Brooks Humphreys, Social Studies Chair, over the Christmas holidays in 2016, continued discussions in early 2017, and held information meetings this fall. Twenty-four students expressed interest and she knew

she would need additional help.

"I persuaded my nephew, Michael Mollner, to coach. His sister, Anne Mollner Stanley '05, is a Spanish teacher at Mercy. Mike had competed in Mock Trial at Creighton Prep and was on the Creighton Law School Mock Trial Team," she said.

"It's especially rewarding to watch them improve."

The girls had to start from scratch, not only reading through all the case materials but also trying to learn the ins and outs of trial work—the legal jargon, objections, rules of evidence, direct examinations, cross, opening statements, closing arguments, and more.

"We told the girls early on

that we were not in it to win, but rather to expose them to the legal field and help them develop some public speaking skills and build their confidence," she said.

Mercy entered two Mock Trial Teams in the Nebraska State Bar Foundation's Mock Trial Competition this year. The teams improved at every competition and one of the teams competed in the regional quarterfinals—only eight teams advanced out of 25.

"Every girl can do something better than she did when she started. It's especially rewarding to watch them improve. The last night of the preliminary round the girls asked if we were doing this again next year. Hearing

that desire to do it again was just as rewarding as having a team advance," she said.

Francie encourages other alumnae to be involved because working with the girls is so rewarding and by volunteering you supplement the opportunities for the students.

Photography:

Left main: Judge Francie Riedmann Weis '81 helped coach Mercy's Mock Trial Team.

Below: Mock Trial Coach Francie Riedmann Weis '81 poses with student members of Mercy's Blue Mock Trial Team.



MERCY NEWS

New School Year

As our alumnae understand, students learn how to reach their full potential by participating in a diverse, supportive and academic-centered community. We do so in a welcoming and innovative atmosphere, supported by traditions and the passionate teachers who empower students.

a student's healthy body, it can also improve academic performance. By using the latest in technology, the school has embarked on an effort to improve health-related fitness by monitoring heart rate. The program uses Interactive Health Technologies (IHT) Adidas Zone heart rate monitors generously donated by Blue Cross and

outcomes. I knew if we could find the resources to purchase the technology, we could implement a program at our school," said Chris Dunn, Health/Physical Education Teacher.

She worked with Jim Pogge, Vice President of Advancement, to identify a possible donor for the equipment. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska, a lead provider of health insurance and supporter of health-related fitness, was pleased to step in.

"Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska seeks to support innovative, effective programs in health and wellness and education," said Marjorie Maas, Director of Corporate Social responsibility for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska. "The use of these heart rate monitors alongside Mercy's physical education curriculum is unique, and we believe it'll help students better understand their bodies and how to get and stay fit."



The fall term started with Welcome Day with close to 100 new students entering the doors of the school for the first time. The diverse student body includes young women from every residential zip code, socioeconomic level and ethnicity. Welcome Week, Mercy Day, Spirit Week and Nocturne provide fun-filled traditions that students enjoy.

Teachers are incorporating technology and new approaches to curriculum. The school understands that physical fitness not only is a key to

Blue Shield. The Adidas Zone Monitors ensure that students are spending adequate time in their target heart rate zones when participating in Physical Education classes.

"I attended the Nebraska Society for Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) conference last fall. I was able to participate in workshops that detailed the new national and state physical education standards, as well as how incorporating new technologies in the curriculum could help students to achieve the standards and improve

How it Works

Dunn has programmed key heart zones on individual student monitors based on optimum heart rates for various activities. As the student undertakes each activity, the wrist monitor lights up in colors based on heart rate zones: blue—indicates a low impact activity; yellow—indicates moderate cardiovascular activity which will improve aerobic fitness, stamina and endurance; red—indicates vigorous or anaerobic activity which improves sport performance, speed and power. The goal is to stay in



each zone for a designated percentage of the class period depending on that day's activity.

Dunn is able to track each student's progress and map entire classes data and trends.

"This technology increases students' engagement and enjoyment. They can truly improve health outcomes and increase academic achievement," Dunn added.

In the Convergence with Digital Media class, students received practical experience in flying drones and supporting social media through Instagram and Twitter. In Art, students are working with 3-D computers to create Golf Fest trophies. During the solar eclipse, Theology, Math and Science faculty were able to use this "once in a lifetime" experience to provide insights to students.

Service Learning

Service learning was also integrated into fall activities. During the month of October, Student Council promoted the Lift Them Up campaign. Each \$20 donation purchased one bra for an African girl to "support" her quest for an education by inspiring the confidence needed to attend



school. People donated \$860 (43 bras). In the spring other Mission Week activities will take place to support educational efforts in Africa.

Students also supported the Negotiated Tuition Program by selling nearly \$62,000 in products at the annual Food Sale.

Athletics

Many students also participated in fall sports including Cross Country, Golf, Softball and Volleyball. There were many bright spots for all Monarch Athletics. The softball team was able to improve every time they stepped on the field of play and showed a desire and tenacity to compete against any opponent under first year head coach Sean Maddigan. Five Monarchs earned All-Conference Honorable Mention for Softball: Michaela Cosgrove, Haley Gann, Amanda Placzek, Hailee Placzek, and Katherine Wurtz.

Golf had an amazing year with many golfers breaking personal bests each time out. Grace Gonka was able to earn All-Conference Honors with a top 10 finish in the River Cities Golf Tournament.

Cross Country also did well



with Senior Maggie Moyer ending her Cross Country season with a 3rd consecutive trip to the state tournament.

The Volleyball Team played with a no quit attitude, and fought all season amongst stiff competition. Many girls took big steps forward under first year coach Molly Doughtery Rose '07.

Photography:

Previous page: Current students welcome new students on their first day with cheers and signs of welcome.

This page, top left: Sophomore Gabbi Zuerlein, reviews her heart rate with Mrs. Dunn as part of her Physical Education class.

This page, top right: Freshmen receive their "greenie" hats as part of Welcome Week traditions.

This page, below right: Junior Emilee Baker gets ready to serve the volleyball at a match this season.

Announcements

ACT Prep For All Students, for Four Years

Mercy High School will be one of the first high schools in the Omaha area to offer ACT preparation for all students in every grade for four years. Thanks to a grant from American National Bank, OnToCollege with John Baylor will be offered at the school. To jumpstart the program, juniors will participate in ACT prep in the spring with the full program rolled out to all classes starting in the fall of 2018 for the next four years.

"Mercy is committed to college-preparation, academic excellence and assuring that any deserving student can attend our school no matter her financial means."

One of the biggest stepping-stones to the future is preparing students to take standardized tests, like the ACT. These tests are not only key factors for college admissions, ACT scores are used for merit-based scholarships and financial aid. Many studies show that students who go on to college get more opportunities for better paying jobs and career choices. However, ACT prep is costly and time consuming, a roadblock for some families whose daughters still want to go to college. With over a third of Mercy families qualifying for free and reduced lunch, higher scores on the ACT not only makes college possible—it will lower the ultimate debt that young women will have after college.

"Mercy is committed to college-preparation, academic excellence and assuring that any deserving student can attend our school no matter her financial means. This new effort echoes that commitment assuring that excellent ACT test prep is available to everyone," said Sr. Delores Hannon, RSM, President.



The OnToCollege program was chosen not only because it typically sees a 1-3 point increase in average school-wide scores, it has a flexible delivery system which allows for differentiation in learning, and a progressive, four-year approach that produces results within the daily school schedule. The program also provides study skills and college counseling modules—vital support for students who are transitioning into Mercy where there is a rigorous academic curriculum.

Providing the funding for the program is American National Bank, an institution whose mission closely aligns with the school—both focusing on the betterment of the community and its citizens.

"American National Bank believes in Mercy's educational philosophy of inclusivity and is privileged to provide all students—including those who

might not have the financial resources—the opportunity to reach their higher education goals," said Wende Kotouc, Executive Co-Chairman.

Golf Fest Breaks Records

The school's 26th annual Driving for Excellence Golf Fest broke several records on September 11. The event had the most golfers ever, 204, raised the most money ever, \$70,000, and the event had more sponsors/patrons than ever at 57. The money will be used to support the Negotiated Tuition Program that provides tuition assistance to students based on each family's unique needs and income.

Leadership Receives Awards

Several members of Mercy High School's leadership received prestigious community awards recently.



Holly McCoy, Assistant Principal for Student Life, was named the Archdiocese of Omaha's Administrator of the Year and was honored, along with other Educators of the Year, at the Archbishop's Dinner for Education in September 2017.

During her 40 years at the school she has taught science, physical education, and math,

coached, and served as the school's Athletic Director for 38 of those years.

President, Sr. Delores Hannon, RSM, and Board member, Larry Good, were recognized at Creighton Preparatory School's Loyola Dinner of Honor and Distinction, in October.



Sr. Delores received The Sword of St. Ignatius, an honor given to a person who strives to demonstrate exemplary service for the Greater Glory of God (AMDG). The sword symbolizes the unique spiritual virtues associated with St. Ignatius of Loyola--courage, loyalty, and service to the Catholic Church.

Larry Good, Mercy Board member, a 1969 graduate of Creighton Prep, and President of P.I. Midwest, received the Alumnus of the Year, an award given to an individual who embodies the values Prep aspires to instill in its graduates through a commitment to living a life devoted to serving others.

Officers, Board Members Appointed

Officers were elected and four new Board members were appointed by the Sisters of Mercy, Midwest Community, to the Mercy High School Board of Trustees in September. Mercy is a sponsored institution of the community.



Mercy's Board officers are: Nicole Hahn Jesse '80, Co-Owner, LaCasa Pizzeria, President; Bob Conderinger, Attorney, Croker, Huck, Kasher, Dewitt, Anderson & Conderinger, LLC, Vice President; Frank Mihulka, Attorney, Woods & Aitken, Treasurer; and Sr. Corrine Connolly, RSM '58, Sisters of Mercy, Secretary.

Joining the Board were Daniel Padilla, Independent Consultant for Non-Profits; Theresa Franco '74, Vice President Cancer Center Clinical Operations & Radiology Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center; Larry Good, Owner/President, P. I. Midwest; and Leanne Prewitt '97, Creative Director, Ervin & Smith.

Mercy Hosts Educators Conference

More than 160 Mercy educators and administrators from the Americas—Belize, Philippines, Jamaica, Guam, Argentina, Honduras, and the United States—descended on Omaha in October. The event, whose theme was “Mercy Responds, Who is My Neighbor,” was hosted by Mercy High School, and featured a keynote speech, breakout sessions and an evening at the school.



Photography:

ACT Prep For All Students, for Four Years:
Representatives from American National Bank (ANB), GoToCollege with John Baylor and Mercy administration join with several students to celebrate the ACT announcement. Back row, pictured left to right are: Patti Kahre, ANB, Principal Sarah Regan, Wendy Kotovc, ANB, Joni Woodruff, OnToCollege, Sr. Delores Hannon, RSM, President and Jacquelyn Vinci, ANB. The students in the front row are: Sophomore Carina Muse, Junior Uyen Nguyen and Senior Abigail Jones.

Leadership Receives Awards:
Holly McCoy was named Administrator of the Year by the Archdiocese of the Year.

Leadership Receives Awards:
Sr. Delores Hannon, RSM, and Larry Good, Board member, were honored at the Creighton Prep Loyola Dinner.

Officers, Board Members Appointed:
Daniel Padilla (top), Theresa Franco '74 (left), and Leann Prewitt '97 (right).

Mercy Hosts Educators Conference:
Mercy students “butterfly” an educator from the Philippines.

ALUMNAE ITEMS

(PHOTOS FOLLOW ARTICLE)

1950s

Mary Rae Metz Gibbons '58 enjoys cycling and shares a photo after a 13.5 mile trip.



1970s

Mercy alumnae from the class of 1972 met at Brother Sebastian's in August.



Front row, left to right: Joanie Caniglia Sanders, Peg Gorham Carney, and Betty Johnson Verch. *Second row, left to right are:* Meg Nanfito Jones, Sue Huntzinger Connolly, Denise Ritzdorf Grubbs, Cinde Caylovic Blake, Susan Franco Finley, Mary Sue Zadina Ryan, and Becky Schendt. The woman in the purple top between the 1st and 2nd row is Patti Pluta Anderson.

Mercy alumnae from the 1973 and 1974 class met in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, last summer for a friendship adventure.



Front row, left to right: Lisa Tosone '74, Connie Mangano '73, Mikki Crosby Burns '74, and Mary Lincoln French '74. *Back row, left to right:* Sarah Ruma '73, Necce Bowyer '74, Theresa Miklas Ryan '74, Theresa Franco '74, Maggie Milone O'Donnell '74 and Mimi Fenton '74.

1980s

Nicole Hahn Jesse '80 and her family took a trip to Iceland this past year. Her daughter **Genevieve '14** is in the middle and daughter **Madeleine '12** is on the left.



Daena Schweiger '87 recently directed the fall musical at Creighton University.

2000s

The Class of 2002 recently held their reunion.



Front row, left to right: Bethany Palma Gutridge, Melanie Smith, Emily Neneman Krebs, Justine Ferzely Distefano, and Alicia Porter Frizzell. *Second row, left to right:* Cathy Novak, Lizzie Bellino Lehn, Anna Mulcahy Magdanz, Jessie Wozniak, Courtney Britt Rudnicki, Julie Pentis Link, Rachel Weiss Lepert, and Cari Formico Horton. *Third row, left to right:* Katie Johnson Schill, Nickie Lee, Jenna Adkins Kessell, Erin Talcott Griesman, Jackie Lee, Emily Lage Martz, Nati Hernandez Andresen, Kristen Taylor Hughes, Alyssa Danze Norman, Brittany Cash-Baker, Carli Cominoli, Beth Kowal, Rachel Murphy, and Shelley Van Moorleghem Lidolph.

Brittany Cash-Baker '02

was sworn in October as a graduate of the 146th Foreign Service Specialist Class. Her title is Diplomatic Security Service Special Agent and she is currently working in Washington, D.C.

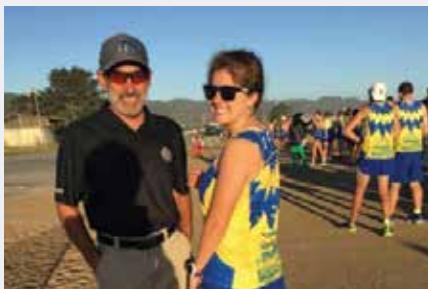
Gathering at Mercy and making mulligan cookies for Golf Fest.



From left to right: Christine Gonderinger '12, Anne Griffith '12, Emily Gonderinger '09, Roz Parr '09 and Rose Vankat '12

2010s

Mike Sortino, Rachel Sortino's '11 father beat cancer three times and is the reason Rachel took up running in 2012.



Erin Artz '13 graduated from St. Norbert College in May 2017 after earning NCAA All-Academic Honors for the seventh time during her career at St. Norbert College as well as earning the St. Norbert Female Student-Athlete of the Year award. She also won a third consecutive Conference championship this spring, to cap off a cross country/track and field career that included 13 All-Conference accolades, 9 NCAA championship meet appearances, and one NCAA All-American honor. She is attending Creighton Law School.



Bridget Blessie '13 was awarded Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association Conference First Team Soccer Honors. She plays for Missouri Western University Women's Soccer team.



Bridget O'Connell '13 received a Fulbright Scholarship at Doane College and is part of the Teaching Assistant Program in France (TAPIF) and taught this fall in France.

Erin Dabbs '14 received the 2017 Marian Ivers Leadership Award from the Womens Fund this year. Erin is a senior in the College of Business Administration at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO).

Maria Mendick '15 is studied in Ecuador last semester. Her majors are Spanish and Education. She will be taking classes at a university in Cuenca. She is staying with a host family.



Maria Cihacek '17 earned her Diamond Clover designation, one of the highest honors a 4-H member can earn. She did a project called "Mercy Monarch Butterfly Garden." She created a butterfly garden on the grounds of the Mercy Villa in Omaha.

Weddings

Sarah Brandeau

Charnquist '05 married Timothy Charnquist on September 22, 2017 in Plattsmouth, Neb.



After meeting at and graduating from Creighton University, **Lauren Pogge**

Hinton '10 married Tyler Hinton on September 15, 2017. The couple lives in the Omaha Metro Area and both have marketing careers.



Births

Kayleen Colson '10 welcomed Emerson Patton Brablec on September 3, 2017.

In Memoriam

We extend sympathy to the families and friends of those alumnae whose deaths were communicated to the Advancement Office from June 1, 2017-October 31, 2017. We try to make this list as accurate as possible. Please inform Naomi Chambers at chambersn@mercyhigh.org if we missed anyone.

Catherine C. Hinckley, SJ '36

Tressa "Patty" McCarthy
Leoni, SJ '42

Katherine Cook Nelson, SJ '44

Mary Margaret Lanning
Wiles, SJ '45

Geraldine Kearney
Hennessee, SJ '47

Alice M. McGowan, SM '47

Sadie Houlton Traynor, SJ '48

Rita Kraniewski Wolff, SM '49

Nancy Marron Fell, SJ '51

Prudence Tynan Knowles, SM '51

Dorothy Stolinski Moore, SM '52

Gertrude Pound Tighe, SM '52

Eileen Anderson Kinsel, SJ '53

Frances J. Eden, SM '53

Martha Kubat Gartin, SJ '54

Jacqueline Kennedy
Fennimore, SJ '55

Rosemary Sorys Meier, SM '55

Kathleen Rynaski Caldwell '56

Mary Denham Liebentritt '56

Susan Haley Guinotte '58

Patricia Bezousek Shepherd '58

Carol Tenczer Zoucha '59

Karen Keating Ihrig '64

Cecilia Fitzsimmons
Centretto '67

Kathleen Brennan Hogelin '69

Lori Mathouser Wagner '94

Abigail Behr Hagen '09



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Mercy *the gold standard*

Saturday, February 17, 2018

La Vista Conference Center

12520 Westport Parkway

Reserve your tickets today at Mercyhigh.org

You are encouraged to wear cocktail attire.