



THE HOLY HERALD

Holy Nativity Episcopal School - Spring 2021 Issue 8 - Since 2014

Cynthia Fuller - Head of School Fr. Steve Bates - Chaplain Heather Creel - Dean of Students Jan Dykes - MS Coordinator

Cynthia Fuller Begins Head of School Career During Global Pandemic



It was apparent in March 2020 that we were going to be facing a challenging time in our school and nation's history. Information was changing every day about COVID19 and the precautions that needed to be in place to keep people safe. I formally started as Head of School at the beginning of July but knew there would be no way to put everything in place in the timeframe needed to hold school safely. It was essential to begin working with numerous people and organizations well before that date in order to ensure a healthy head of school transition during a once-in-century pandemic. With the help of many, the school began planning for the challenges of the upcoming school year in April. There was continuous monitoring being conducted through the *Centers for Disease Control (CDC)*, *Bay County Health Department*, *Florida Health*, *Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS)*, *National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES)*, *Florida Department of Education (FLDOE)*, *Occupational Health and Safety Health Administration (OSHA)*, and *Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)*. All of

the organizations outlined information that directly impacted the requirements made to welcome our students and employees back to school.

To adequately address each of these areas, the HNES Communications Team was assembled in May at my request. This team consisted of Audra Resler-5th Grade Teacher, Kathy Mills-Director of Finance, Kelly Muller- Front Office, Lori Morgan- Executive Coordinator, Heather Creel- Dean of Students, and Jan Dykes-Middle School Coordinator. We also called upon our Technology Director-Lyn Morris, and Facilities Department- Andrew Jeffery/Gaila Scanlan, to help on topics in their specialized fields. Additionally, we had several consultants that helped in formulating the school's overall back-to-school plan. Amy Darnell-Hurst - *Bay County Health Department*, Casey Rogers - *Infection Control Director at Emerald Coast Behavioral Hospital*, Dr. Pamela McAllister, DO - *Emergency Medicine Specialist*, Walter Fuller - Architect with 40+ years of exp., Barbara Hodges - President of FCIS, Dr. Adam Gaffey- Head of School at Robert F. Munroe Day School in Tallahassee, Bill Husfelt - Bay District Schools Superintendent, and Doug Smith - Chancellor HNES Board of Trustees. It truly took an all-hands-on-deck approach in formulating the best possible plan that allowed us to open our doors safely to serve our students in person as well as continually educate students attending HNES@home.

At the beginning of this school year, the school had 38 students out of 276 who were attending HNES@home due to various health circumstances. The school was able to welcome back all of our students at the beginning of April 2021. Additionally, as of April 2021, the total number of positive COVID cases on campus this year was 12, with 55 having to quarantine due to direct exposure. In

March 2021, the Bay County Health Department praised Holy Nativity Episcopal School as having the lowest percent positive rate in any other school setting in the entire county.

That is a monumental feat when comparing our COVID numbers to other schools here locally. Communication with our families is vital in normal school years, but even more critical during a pandemic. Since being named Head of School, forty-five email updates have been sent, not including the school's **Happenings** email updates. Additionally, seventeen COVID email updates were sent as of April 2021. Our families are our school's lifeblood and ensuring that everyone has access to the latest information helps us work together to educate your child.

In May 2021, FCIS will conduct its accreditation visit, making for another monumental milestone in our school's history. Natalie Godwin and Audra Resler have worked as our accreditation team for nearly three years. (A typical timeframe would be one year for planning and preparation.) However, due to Hurricane Michael and COVID, our visit was twice delayed. This will be Holy Nativity's 28th year as an accredited private school through the *Florida Council of Independent Schools*. This prestigious accreditation body sets us apart from any other school in this region of Florida, and their high standards are highly valued. We look forward to welcoming our in-person and virtual accreditation team. Our school has flourished in a time of great pain. This fact is not lost on me as I type this letter with a humble and grateful heart. We were one of the only independent schools in a small percentage to see an increase in enrollment rather than a decrease. This is truly a testament to our faculty and staff.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13)

Unforgettable Graduation Ceremonies Held in 2020

July 16, 2020 ~ 8th grade graduation



May 22, 2020 ~ Kindergarten graduation

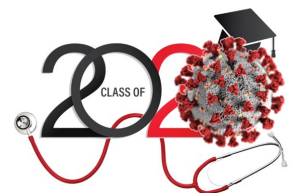
May 28, 2020 ~ 5th grade graduation



COVID demanded that a lot of creativity go into the 2020 year-end graduations. Kindergarten celebrated first on May 22nd followed by 5th grade on May 28th. While kindergartners celebrated by wearing the traditional cap and gowns, both groups participated in a joyful parade around the school campus in their decorated cars and golf carts. Photographer & friend Matt Cole captured each scholar with Father Steve and his/her teacher. A special photo yard marker was presented to each to mark the special day. + And finally our 8th grade class. On July 16, a full ceremony was held in The Holy Pavilion. Each family sat at their own table and recognitions were given for: Highest GPA (Lauren McAllister), Outstanding Student Athlete (Zamiyah Hill), "Lifers" (Sam FitzSimons, Isaac Grabner, Flint Haligas, Zamiyah Hill, Mario San Juan, & Carmen Shuler); Legacy graduates (Sam FitzSimons, son of alumnus Bo FitzSimons and Kirstin Arnold, daughter of alumnus Eric Arnold); Graduating Families (Channing Abernathy, Reece Casady, Arianna Czubaj, LilyBelle Dalton, Sam FitzSimons, Slade Flint, Isaac Grabner, Flint Haligas, Olivia Hammack, Zamiyah Hill, Daniel Himes, Mario San Juan, Carmen Shuler, & Tripp Syfrett), & the Weller Scholar Winner (Carmen Shuler). Two special treats were the Graduating Message from SGA President, Arianna Czubaj & the presentation of the class gift by Carmen Shuler - an Elm



Tree in the front school yard as permanent thanks to retiring Head of School Judy Elms Hughes.



Team HNES Follows COVID Health & Safety Protocols for Unprecedented 2020-21

The 2020-21 HNES Operations Team of **Cynthia Fuller, Heather Creel, Jan Dykes, Kathy Mills, Lori Morgan, Lyn Morris, Kelly Muller, Audra Resler, Gaila Scanlan & Andrew Jeffery** met regularly during summer 2020 to stay up-to-date on the requirements and suggestions from the Center for Disease Control, the Bay County Health Department, the State of Florida Mandates, FCIS, NAES, OSHA, and EEOC to keep our students, faculty & staff as safe as possible from the COVID-19 virus.

- Families and employees will be asked to complete an Assumption of Risk form.
- Lunches will be packed at home or ordered through the school lunch program. (Drop off lunch allowed after December) Outdoor lunch ● Field trips will not be planned until further notice. ● Parents to remain in their vehicles during drop-off & pick-up. ● Faculty & Staff training on all health and safety requirements. ● Students with a Confirmed Case of Covid-19 may return to school when:



● Symptom/fever free for 10 days from the onset of initial symptoms. Stay home when sick: The school will instruct and enforce that anyone (students or staff) who is sick (any fever, respiratory, or gastrointestinal symptoms) or believe they might have COVID-19 should stay home and separate themselves from other people in the home as much as possible. ● Household members and people who have been in close contact with someone who has had symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home for 14 days, monitor themselves for symptoms, and consult with their doctor. ● Limit staff to one room with one group of children. ● Chapel - will take place outside. ● Additional services will be scheduled to reduce gathering size. ● Four large commercial grade fans will be used to help with airflow. ● Classes - Students will remain within a core group to avoid exposure and cross-contamination. ● Special area classes will be planned strategically, taking advantage of outdoor spaces ● Recess times will be scheduled to avoid cross-contamination. ● 6ft between student seating will be provided or plexiglass dividers will be used. ● Middle School - Students will be part of cohort groups in core subjects & special MS enrichment classes. ● MS cohort classes will be assigned to a "home" classroom. Teachers will rotate to classrooms to deliver instruction and facilitate student learning. ● 1:1 devices - students are asked to bring devices from home (i.e. Chromebooks, laptops, or tablets rather than cell phones) ● Students will have mask breaks, recess time, and lunch in their outdoor spaces. ● To reduce student movement and gathering in the hallway, lockers will not be used (until March 22) School supplies will be stored in cohort classrooms, and backpacks will be allowed in classes. ● Online Learning - Includes a blend of online learning and hands on instruction via live instruction & teacher-directed Virtual accommodations will help to ensure @home students continue to receive a rich HNES experience. ● Increased project based learning and cooperative group time ● Built in whole group, small group, and individual support time ● Thoughtfully planned social time ● Traditional grading scale ● Donations of PPE are welcomed! face masks, face shields, gloves, and gowns are all appreciated.



DO YOUR PART TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick.

Students started the year by choosing between our on-campus option or our HNES@home option. On-campus students will see: ● Staggered drop off and pickup times ● Temp checks each morning using thermo scanners (through August) ● Frequent hand washing opportunities ● Daily cleaning methods including UV light ● Face coverings utilized for 1st-8th ● Plexiglass shields for offices and small table spaces ● Dedicated personnel to respond to sick student/staff ● iWave Ion ventilation systems on every AC unit ● ozone-infused Tersano cleaner & sanitizer ● School supplies simplified for easy cleaning



● Water-fountains used only as bottle fillers ● Hallway distancing marked every 6 feet ● No visitors allowed. Only students, employees, and other essential personnel permitted in school buildings.

Teachers will rotate to classrooms to

Dear Ones,

Hurricane Michael hit on a Wednesday; chapel day. A couple of days after the storm when it was safe for teachers to get back into the school to salvage what they could, Amy Moody sent me a picture of the white board in her room. On the board was the Bible verse for chapel on October 10th. It's from Mark's gospel, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." I don't know if that was a God thing or a coincidence or maybe there's no difference between the two. But what I do know is that's how many of us began our journey over the last year and a half of incredible challenges. I find myself once again being reminded of the power of that piece of scripture.

I want to commend the HNES Operations Team and their diligent work is providing a framework that will enable us to come back to our beloved

school. I cannot wait to see your children. They are a highlight of my ministry over the past 14 years. I understand the anxiety some may feel as we approach this bold step in regaining some normalcy in our lives. I share that with you. But I take comfort in the fact that I know as much as I've ever known anything, that the moment your children enter those doors that they are loved and that everything possible is being done to keep them safe. I know that because I know that the teachers and staff of our beloved school view what they do not merely as a job but as a ministry; a ministry where with God, all things really are possible.

Part of the Christian journey is being made free to allow God to do what we cannot do for ourselves by trusting in his promises. As I told my congregation yesterday, God longs to be a part of what

wears us down, of our anxiety and fears and uncertainties. And maybe that's a beginning to how all of us address the unprecedented challenges we face. As we look to the beginning of a new school year, I take comfort in the fact that I know decisions being made and precautions taken have all been put in place after thoughtful and earnest prayer. I hope that provides some comfort for you as well. In the meantime, remember, "Life is short and we haven't much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So, be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain up on you this day and forevermore." For me, this is not merely a blessing or a slogan. It is a way of life. God love you all,
Father Steve+

First Days of School Look Different in 2020, But Still Feel Like Home



When HNES alumni parents Larry and Pam Perry offered Holy Nativity the opportunity to participate in a ZOOM visit with Holocaust Survivor Irving Roth, it was truly the chance of a lifetime for students and faculty. (Many sources declare that there are less than 400,000 survivors alive today. (www.economist.com Jan 2020



“Racing to Identify Every Holocaust Survivor”) Prior to Mr. Roth’s virtual visit in November, Larry & Pam bought every student and

faculty member a copy of Mr. Roth’s memoir *Bondi’s Brother*. In addition, the Perrys made a generous contribution to the Holocaust Resource Center in the name of Holy Nativity.

Mr. Roth’s story was shared by Rose Weldon - February 21, 2021
www.theislandnow.com

“Born in Kosice, Czechoslovakia, on Sept. 9, 1929, Irving Roth grew up with his parents and brother Bondi in the city of Humenné in modern-day Slovakia. In a 2019 interview with Julia Swerdin of the *Horizon* newspaper at Lynbrook High School, he described his early years as being defined by playing soccer, swimming and ice skating, as well as attending public and Hebrew school. But in 1938, at age 9, Roth began noticing changes in his city following the Nazi invasion of western Czechoslovakia. At school, he told Swerdin, his class was told to chant the German national anthem every morning, and in 1939, signs appeared near his local public park stating, “no dogs, no Jews.” By the end of that year, Roth wasn’t allowed in public school at all, and his father, an accountant and owner of a lumber business, was forced to hand over his business to a non-Jew. Roth’s parents moved their family to Hungary in 1943, and the pair left to work in Budapest and wait out the war, leaving the boys, with family members. The next spring, 14-year-old Roth, his brother, his grandparents, aunt and 10-year-old cousin were captured by the Nazis and herded onto a cattle car bound for Auschwitz.

Roth recalled that he and Bondi were made to work in gravel pits, in fields, and caring for horses while living on 400 calories a day. He added that he would supplement his food with sugar beets that were meant to feed horses.

Early in 1945, with the Russians closing in, the Roths and thousands of their fellow prisoners were made to march from Auschwitz to the Buchenwald concentration camp in a freezing Polish winter. Not long after arriving at the overcrowded camp, Bondi and Irving were separated, with Bondi shipped to the Bergen-Belsen camp.

“My brother and I were separated there,” Roth told the *New York Daily News* in 2011. “I never saw him again.” Months later, as Roth and the other prisoners were lined up, fearing a death march, an air raid by the American forces began nearby, and the Nazi officials ordered them to their barracks. The next day, on April 11, 1945, around 3 p.m., a Black G.I. stepped into Roth’s barracks and began handing out chocolate.

“I had never seen a Black person before,” Roth said in the *Daily News* interview. “I tell people, you may not know what the Messiah looks like, but I do.”

Roth and thousands of prisoners at Buchenwald had been liberated by General Patton’s Third Army. The 16-year-old was 5’8” tall and weighed only 75 pounds when rescued.

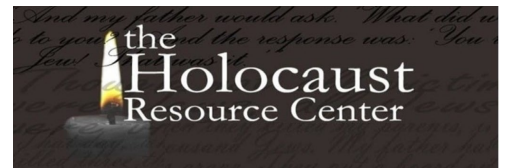
Following the liberation, Roth briefly returned to Humenné and reunited with his parents, who had survived the war by hiding in Budapest.

In 1947 the three emigrated to Brooklyn, NY. Roth entered high school as an 18-year-old, where he graduated in three semesters and became captain of his school’s soccer team.

In 1950, Roth was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Korean War and spent two years in radio communication school, becoming an instructor at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He attended



Polytechnic University in Brooklyn on the G.I. Bill, earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in engineering.



After retiring from a career in electrical engineering in the early 1990s, he was named Director of the *Holocaust Resource Center* at Temple Judea of Manhasset. He taught students, trained teachers, and developed educational programs implemented in NY and around the world. Mr. Roth created the Adopt-A-Survivor program. Students would meet and interview a Holocaust survivor about his/her life and experiences in order to tell that survivor’s story in a public venue in the year 2045, 100 years after the liberation of Auschwitz.

Mr. Roth published two books, *Bondi’s Brother* and *Saved by Psalms: The Story of Irving Roth*.

Mr. Roth died on February 2, 2021. His visit with Holy Nativity students was one of his last.

Mr. Roth asked our Holy Nativity students to promise two things:

1. if you see something that is wrong, you MUST do something,
2. you must tell your own children about the Holocaust - NEVER FORGET!



In Memory

We often receive gifts to our school in memory or in honor of someone special.

Thank you to Sheila White, HNES School Secretary, who recognizes & records each memorial received!

If you'd like to make a tax-deductible donation to HNES, you may mail a gift to:

**205 Hamilton Avenue,
Panama City, FL 32401**

Or you may visit our website:

www.HolyNativitySchool.com

and click "SUPPORT"

Thank you for considering a gift to our school.

In addition to those pictured below, these names listed here were celebrated with a donation to Holy Nativity Episcopal School

(March 2020-March 2021)

Deborah Beard
Whilden Blackwell
Ida Bloomfield
Case Bodiford
Dolores Bonebright
Jim Carroll
Mary Ciesielski
Chloe Clements
Jason Clutch
Father of Greg Cratty
Harold Crocker
Toni Drummond

William Charles Hall
Betty L Jarmon
Morris Jarmon, Sr.
Larry Lee
Aviva Mallary
Jimmy Marshall
Albert Mathis
Melissa Mitchell
Maria Montoya
Bobbie Jean Murphy
Stephen Myers
Shirley Polan
Regina A Porter
Voncille Adams Ramirez
Mrs. Robbie Davis Rowland
Letitia Ann Wells
Sharon Wolfrom



Charlotte Battin
1933-2020



Charles "Bo" Berry
1952-2021



Larry A. Bodiford
1939-2021



Sue Bright
1950-2020



Rowlett Bryant
1936-2020



Jerome Burg
1950-2020



Lina Castellano
1966-2004



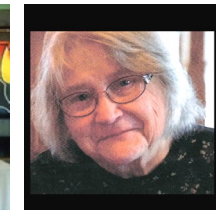
Jesse Cobb
1945-2020



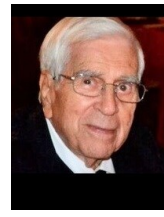
Christ Cordon
1965-2020



Paul Cordon
1936-2020



Suzanne Eddleman
1942-2020



John L. Fishel
1925-2020



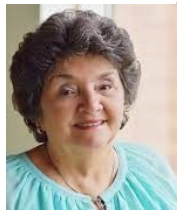
Jimmy Gainer
1937-2020



James Godwin, III
1947-2019



Philip Griffiths
1945-2020



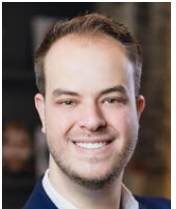
Leonor Hallmon
1939-2020



Patrick Jinks
1978-2020



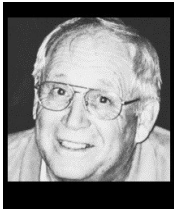
Paula A. Johnson
1938-2021



Tyler Jones
1990-2021



Eugenia Lloyd
1941-2020



John K. Locke
1944-2020



D. W. Smith
1949-2020



Lynn Smith
1928-2020



Shaun Smith
1967-2021

My friends, life is short, and we haven't much time

To gladden the hearts of those who travel with us,

So be quick to love and make haste to be kind;

And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

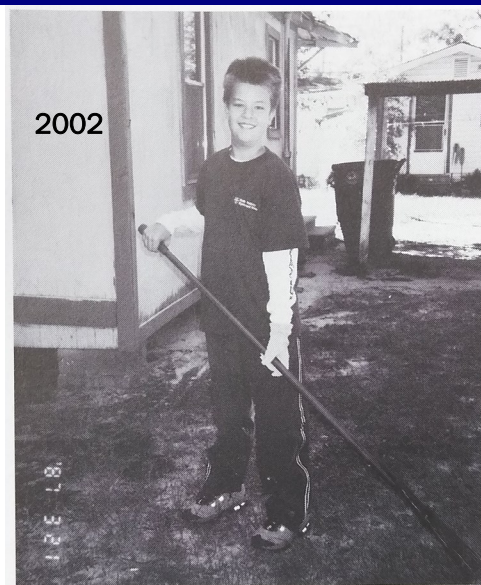
Be with you and remain upon you always. *Amen*

Father Steve's Benediction



“On January 19th, 2021, the man whose smile could light up a stadium, Tyler Compton Jones, passed away after a courageous battle with complications from COVID-19, at just thirty-years old. Tyler’s legacy will be one of joy and laughter, as those are the gifts he brought to all that met him. Tyler was born on July 14th, 1990, to Neil and Teresa Jones, who survive him. Tyler was a man who truly loved and honored his parents and considered them some of his best friends. He deeply treasured the adventures he had in nature with his parents, hunting and fishing, and traveling around the world while young. Tyler was baptized at Emerald Coast Fellowship, where he was a member. His faith remained strong throughout his entire life. Tyler grew up and attended Holy Nativity Episcopal School from kindergarten through 8th grade where he made lifelong friends. He was a member of the HNES c/o of 2004. He graduated from Bay High School and Florida State University – Panama City with a degree in Business Administration. However, he made it clear to friends and family he was a Florida Gator fan. Tyler finally landed his dream job in commercial real estate, working alongside his father at Resource Realty Group. Real estate was not only Tyler’s career but a passion and hobby.

Along the way, he met his wife, Nicole, and they were married on April 9th, 2016, on a beautiful spring day. Tyler brought the utmost joy to Nicole’s life and the life of his son, Walter – a four-year-old West Highland Terrier. He loved the family he married into, and treasured his father- and mother-in-law, Carlos and Vanessa Ramos, and his little brother, Alexander Ramos. He enjoyed the new adventures visiting Puerto Rico, frequenting Shell Island, and attempting to speak in Spanish. Tyler and Nicole enjoyed almost five years of a beautiful marriage, in which Tyler would greet Nicole every morning with a cup of espresso and a smile to brighten her



Tyler Jones is serving with gladness!



day. She lives now, reflecting that every memory of her marriage was a happy one. Tyler is preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. M.E. Rexrode, and his paternal grandfather, Mr. Leo Jones. Along with his parents and wife, he is survived by his Grandmother, Ms. Clara Jones, along with his aunts and uncles, Mitchell & Ellie Rexrode, Frank & Rita Jones, Pat & Kay Jones, and Annette Jones, and numerous cousins. Many dear friends also survive him. Tyler loved his friends and stated that he had all he needed in his friendships and was fine if he never made another friend because the friends he had were

just that good. Due to COVID-19, a private graveside ceremony was held. A celebration of life will be held this summer on Shell Island, as his final wish was for everyone to have one last great beach day in his honor. The date will be announced at a later time. At the suggestion of Barbara Haag and the Book Club friends of Teresa Jones, the *Tyler Jones Holy Nativity Educational Scholarship Fund* was established. Donations may be made at www.holynativityschool.com Donations may also be made in Tyler’s name to the *American Kidney Fund*. Giving is available online at www.kidneyfund.org. As a two-time living transplant recipient, one from his father, and one from his wife, Tyler was passionate about giving back and donating to investing in new technologies and protocols that could alleviate the backlog of those waiting for a kidney transplant from a deceased donor. He is forever loved and will be forever missed, but the joy he brought to all will never be forgotten.”

From Tyler’s obituary, written by his beloved wife Nicole Ramos Jones



Who's Here in 2021?

Look who's here this year in order of longevity:

Historian & YB Publisher: **Lynn Ferren** (39th year)

BASE: **Martha Jo Cooper** (32nd year)

Maintenance Volunteer: **Dick Hebert** (24th year)

Director of Finance: **Kathy Mills** (21st year)

Maintenance & Facilities: **Gaila Scanlan** (21st year)

Art Teacher & Dance: **Hope Simmons** (21st year)

Admin Assistant: **Wendy Mowat** (20th total year)

Maintenance & Facilities: **Paul Smith** (20th year)

Trustee Representative: **Judy Hughes** (19th total)

2nd grade: **Janet Fiser** (19th year)

MS Math & Dir of Dev. **Amy Moody** (17th total year)

4th grade: **Bridget Granducci** (16th total year)

Chaplain: **Father Steve Bates** (15th year)

Admissions Specialist/Registrar: **Terry Duke** (15th)

School Secretary: **Sheila White** (14th year)

School Receptionist: **Kelly Muller** (14th year)

Librarian, MS LA, & Marketing: **Lauren Presser** (13th)

4th grade: **Natalie Godwin** (10th year)

1st grade: **Kim Lovchuk** (10th total year)

Teaching Assistant: **Tracey Mason** (10th year)

Head of School: **Cynthia Fuller** (8th year)

MS Math: **Nancy Lloyd** (8th year)

MS Social Studies & Exec. Coord.: **Lori Morgan** (8th)

Dir. Of Technology: **Lyn Morris** (8th year)

3rd grade: **Lara Provencher** (8th year)

1st grade: **Linda Warren** (8th year)

MS part-time Math: **Jane Perry** (7th total year)

5th grade: **Audra Resler** (7th year)

2nd grade: **Ekco Baker** (7th year)

Facilities Director: **Andrew Jeffery** (7th total year)

MS Science MS Coordinator: **Jan Dykes** (6th total year)

BASE: **Taylor Connatser** (6th year)

Kindergarten: **Summer Himes** (6th year)

BASE Director, Student Care Personnel: **Darcey Sinicrope** (6th)

8th grade Social Studies: **Caroline Smith** (6th year)

1st grade **Tammy Timmerman** (6th year)

6th grade Social Studies: **Johnny Vallas** (6th year)

3rd grade: **Michelle Cool** (6th total year)

Dean of Students: **Heather Creel** (5th year)

Pre-K & Music: **Liz Ward** (3rd year)

5th grade TA: **Amanda Greggs** (3rd year)

MS Language Arts: **Becca Flohre** (3rd year)

Jr. Pre-K: **Casey Cole** (3rd year)

Kindergarten: **Lindsay Mitchell** (3rd year)

BASE: **Stacy Shramek** (2nd year)

Music: **Leigh Gladden** (2nd year)

Spanish: **Heyling Aguilar** (1st year)

BASE: **Jenny Goostree** (1st year)

Pre-K: **Dany Lam** (1st year)

Jr. Pre-K: **Debbie Middleton** (1st year)

Asst. Business Manager: **Whitney Mims** (1st year)

BASE/Maintenance: **Todd Smith** (1st year)

6th grade Science: **Catherine Churchill** (1st year)

PE: **Jonathan Hammond** (1st year)

Music: **Kim Jacobson** (subbing for daughter **Leigh Gladden**)

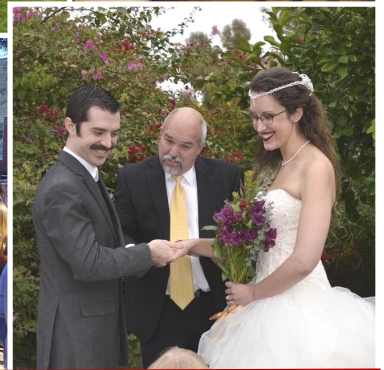
MS Sub Teacher in 20-21: **Marsha Southall**



PHOTO BY MATT COLE 2020

Faculty & Staff Celebrations

What an exciting year for members of our Faculty & Staff — (clockwise from top) Alumna **Catherine Churchill** (HNES c/o of 2012) came on board in the spring to teach 6th grade Science. 3rd grade teacher **Michelle Cool** and husband David celebrated the wedding of their daughter **Courtney** (HNES alumna) to Jason McAfee. Music teacher **Leigh Gladden** & husband Greg welcomed son Everett in February. Big sister Presley had been a fantastic co-teacher with her Mom before the start of maternity leave. MS Language Arts teacher **Rebecca Flohre** & husband Blake, made this school year even better by bringing new son **Elliott** (born August 2020) to school with her each day. School Receptionist **Kelly Muller** & husband Bryan were delighted with the Christmas Eve wedding of their daughter **Courtney** (HNES c/o 2007) to Teddy Cogley. PE Coach **Jonathan Hammond**, who also serves as the coach of the Arnold High School Boys' Soccer team, celebrated the Marlins STATE CHAMPIONSHIP with HNES fans and was named Bay County Soccer Coach of the Year! Alumnus **Matthew Smith** (HNES c/o 2005) filled a huge need by offering to start our year as our all-grades PE Coach.



Former Music Teacher Stacey Holliday Has Historic Day as Kamala Harris Stand-In

Former Holy Nativity Music Teacher (School years 2012-2016), Stacey Holliday of the US Air Force *Singing Sergeants*, was asked to serve in a very special role in preparation for Inauguration Day 2021.

On January 18, 2021, Sgt. Holliday was asked to be a stand-in for Vice President-elect Kamala Harris in the Inauguration Day Rehearsal Ceremonies.

On Facebook, Sgt. Holliday wrote, *"Today I had the honor of playing the role of Vice President-elect Kamala Harris for the 59th inaugural rehearsal. It was truly one of the best experiences so far in my Air Force career. Riding in the motorcade, raising my right hand to swear the oath, and paying respects at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier are all moments I will treasure forever."*

"On the other hand, sheltering in place due to an external threat and seeing the rows of cots (some occupied by our brave National Guardsmen) lining the walls of the Capitol building also made quite an impression on me. We've come so far as a

country and I look forward to seeing and experiencing how much farther we'll go." We love our Sgt, Holliday and we are so proud of her!

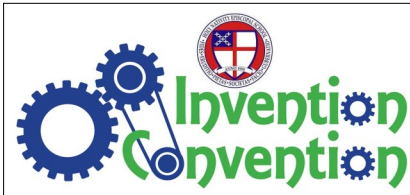


Middle School Recognitions



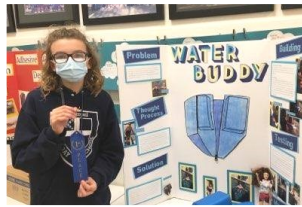
Like other school activities this year, the annual MathCounts competition went to an online format. Using the website www.artofproblemsolving.com, up to 15 students from each school participated in three online practice competitions prior to the Bay County MathCounts competition on February 5th. Many thanks to Bay District Schools who paid the \$450 registration fee for HNES (and all other Bay County schools) to participate in 2021. + 2020-2021 Math Team: 8th grade: Jordan Tackett, John

McLoughlin, Victoria Lithway, and Brody Fuller 7th grade: Treysen Villegas, Kyle Carrier, Aiden Nowak, Collin Scott, Caleb Jeffery, Olivia Heiser, Deion Stanley, Alexander Stewart (FLVS); 6th grade: Cruz Mcleod, Mbongta Awantang, Bailey Melzer, John Moore, Lauren Berry, & Sawyer Baker. Congratulations to **John McLoughlin & Jordan Tackett** (Pictured with MathCounts coach **Amy Moody**). Jordan & John scored in the top 20% of Bay County students: Jordan (placed 2nd overall) & John (placed 3rd overall) and they both qualified for the NATIONAL CHAPTER INVITATIONAL on February 25th. + In the National Chapter Competition, Jordan Tackett (placed 2nd overall) advanced to the STATE COMPETITION on March 25th. + In the STATE competition, Jordan scored in the TOP 75 of all participating Florida mathletes!

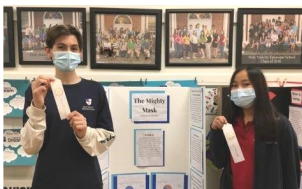


Bay District Invention Convention Results: (PHOTOS JAN DYKES)

- 1st Place-Agriculture, Pets, and Animal Care-Natalie Latham "RepFile"
- 1st Place-Government/Public Safety-Aiden Nowak and Olivia Heiser "Mighty Mask"
- 1st Place-Health and Medical Technology-Paizly Torres "Water Buddy"
- 1st Place-Home Tech, Smart Homes, Appliances-Brayden Little Dog "Doggie Doobot"
- 2nd Place-Sports, Games, Entertainment, & Toys-Greg Rohan and Evan Cox "Cycle Fish"
- 3rd Place-Sports, Games, Entertainment, & Toys-Grady Oenbrink "Splash Stik"
- 3rd Place-Technology/Wearables-Jonathan Gaither "FreeMe"
- NOAA Environmental Stewardship Award-Brayden Little Dog
- Florida Institute for Human & Machine Cognition-Autonomous Systems Award-Brayden Little Dog
- GCSC Entrepreneurship Program-Best Social Enterprise Award-Jonathan Gaither
- GCSC Entrepreneurship Program-Best JR Prototype-Paizly Torres



The following projects are recommended to continue to the National Innovator Challenge in June: Natalie Latham "RepFile"; Aiden Nowak and Olivia Heiser "Mighty Mask"; Paizly Torres "Water Buddy"; Brayden Little Dog "Doggie Doobot"; and Gregory Rohan and Evan Cox "Cycle Fish."



Congratulations to 8th grader **Jacey Nelson** (pictured with History Teacher, **Lori Morgan**) who advanced to the Bay District Schools History Fair and placed 2nd for her website creation "The Underground Railroad."

8th grade History Fair Individual Winners:

- 1st place: **Sophie Gunter** - *Elusive Espionage*
- 2nd place: **Brody Fuller** - *The Importance of DSN (Deep Space Network)*
- 3rd place: **Neela Hernandez** - *Flappers*

8th grade Group Winners:

- 1st: **Rob Sale, Jake Stevenson** - *The Cuban Missile Crisis*
- 2nd: **Boyd Faison, Braxton McElheney, Ryan Tamim** - *The State of the Union*

6th grade History Fair Individual Winners:

- 1st **Austin Haligas**: Communication with Spoken Language - An Unbreakable Navajo Code

Written by 8th graders:
Neela Hernandez & Marina Hoyt

This year's Holy Nativity Episcopal School robotics team, the Robo-Bolts, is made up of all rookies that had little to no experience in the realm of programming. However, this didn't stop us. Our resilient team never gave up and faced all challenges headfirst with teamwork and persistence.

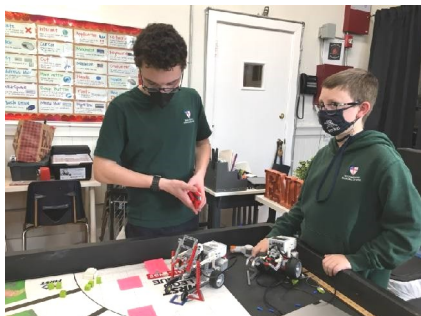


The Robo-Bolts: Brody Fuller, John McLoughlin, Mrs. Dykes, Marina Hoyt, Ryleigh Torres, Neela Hernandez, & Natalie Branham



From judging sessions over ZOOM to quarantined teammates, we still pursued our main goal: having fun. Along the lines of having fun and staying safe, our team has a new tradition where we have dinner together every time there is a Doolittle Institute ZOOM meeting. You're probably wondering what that is. A Doolittle Institute ZOOM meeting is where all the teams in our region can join and share information about their project, robot, and other robotics related things. Although we had a rough start, we still managed to win our FIRST LEGO League pre-qualifier and qualifier tournaments, which has now brought us to

regionals. However, we didn't do it alone. Our team had help from many people such as our science teacher/Robotics coach **Mrs. Jan Dykes**, and our mentor, **Mr. Bryan Muller**. We also had copious amounts of help from people we reached out to such as **Mr. Nathan Creel** from Proper Fox Consulting, **Dr. Robbie Hysong**, a local therapist, **Mr. Darren Haligas** from Key Data, HNES PE Coach **Jonathan Hammond**, and even other students from our school. Long story short, we couldn't have gotten where we are now without the help of others. As a team, we worked together to ensure



everyone had a place and understood what we were working on at the time. For instance, we split our team into groups to accomplish more at once. Then, we would come together and discuss what we had done and what we could improve on. As part of the competition, we were challenged to come up with an innovative solution that would help people be more active. We created an app called Co-Sport. This app connects adolescents that are learning a new sport or fitness activity. Through this connection, they can provide



each other with support and encouragement. In terms of our progression in coding, we learned from one another mostly. We taught each other that you must not get frustrated in difficult situations. Instead, you should remain calm and share what the problem is to your other team members to find a solution. As a team, we have made so many amazing memories and we wouldn't change a thing.

HISTORY FAIR Continued



History Fair Winners were recognized in chapel: (L to R) Ryan Tamim, Mrs. Lori Morgan, Jake Steverson, Austin Haligas, Sophie Gunter, Boyd Faison, Braxton McElheney, Neela Hernandez, Jacey Nelson, & Rob Sale



Congratulations to our Patriot's Pen Essay Winners: 7th grader **Caleb Jeffery**, who placed 2nd and 8th grader **Ava Hilton** who placed 3rd at the Post level.

This year's theme was "What is Patriotism to me?"

We are so grateful for this opportunity

provided annually by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and VFW Auxiliary #10555.



Have You Considered an ANNUAL GIFT to Holy Nativity Episcopal School? These Friends Have!

Thank you so very much to all of our friends who have contributed to HNES in 2020-2021.

Won't you join us this year? YOU COULD BE RECOGNIZED ON THIS PAGE in 2022.

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NOW is a Great Time to Make a Tax Deductible Gift to Holy Nativity

You can make a donation online at www.HolyNativitySchool.com or detach this section and mail with a check to HNES ~ 205 Hamilton Avenue Panama City, FL 32401

For questions, please contact Amy Moody amood@hnes.us or (850)747-0060 THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Name as you'd like it to appear in our recognition _____

Would you like to make your gift "in honor of" or "in memory of" someone? _____

Lifesavers > \$10,000, Head of School Circle \$5,000-\$9,999, Holy Hands \$2,500-\$4,999, Cove Columns \$1,000-\$2,499, Day School Legacies \$500-\$999, William's Friends \$200-\$499, Bricks & Psalms \$100-\$199, Oaks & Palms < \$99

Would you prefer your gift to be anonymous? Yes or No

Address where we may send a letter of thanks _____

When we became parents, Proverbs 22:6 was ever so on the forefront of our minds. Naturally, in all ways did we want to be the best parents for our children and we knew that keeping our Christian faith in the center of that personal promise and goal would be paramount in trying our best. Panama City was not our hometown and we had no history or pull towards any particular school. Not long after our first child was born, one of the first families we met in Panama City proudly proclaimed that Holy Nativity Episcopal School is THE BEST school to choose AND that it was important to begin in 3K. I was amazed at how fast those first three years flew by and soon we were enrolling in the 3k class of 2012. Nine years later and time is still passing us by quickly. We are now the proud family exclaiming to new parents of infants that “Holy Nativity is THE place to be!”

We have a 6th grader, Lauren Berry, and a 3rd grader, Carson Berry. So many of our children’s “big moments” have revolved in and around HNES. Teachers and staff have become family. Friends through the years have allowed us to start the journey of creating life-long friendships. Our school family celebrates our highs and hugs us during our lows. When our children have little boo-boos needing the countless number of band-aids and hugs or big boo-boos requiring crutches and casts, our school family is there. Everyone.



At any time. The love is felt through the halls and within the classrooms. This love that has been shown to our children and to us as parents is a feeling that no parent can ever replace. “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it” is practiced through God’s love and the Christian guidance and continual instruction on how to live life and is taught through daily examples from peers and every adult in our school. Having the connection to Holy Nativity Episcopal Church with Father Steve’s continuity is an added bonus to the rigorous but encouraging curriculum taught. The church-school affiliation is ideal for our family. Sometimes you don’t realize how valuable and irreplaceable something is until you are unable to have it within your reach. Hurricane Michael’s destruction

and COVID-19 shutdowns more than dampened our chances of being in a familiar place together. But it did not keep us down. Nor did it take away the school spirit, pride, resolve, and love that our family felt without being inside the halls of 205 Hamilton Avenue. But it was a reminder of how important this loving place is to our family and how important it is to invest our time and money when possible. The preparation of our children for their future and the future of our community and country cannot be taken for granted nor sacrificed. The Berry family is grateful to be part of such a wonderful foundational institution of Christian learning and we proudly support it any time and way that we can. May God continue to bless our loving school and her families as it practices Proverbs 22:6. We are grateful for every moment. Eric and Tricia Berry

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1:

Our teachers taught while balancing the needs of students that were in-person and online. I would like to think of them as a conductor of an orchestra, and their music could be felt in every heart on campus. The music our teachers make is pure magic and echoes through our hallways! As a mother of two Holy Nativity

children, I am well aware of the sacrifices that our families have made this year. The past two years have been filled with challenges that we all have overcome with strength and courage of heart. The future of Holy Nativity Episcopal School is looking brighter than ever before. We are all looking forward to the day when we can put these past two years in the rearview mirror. However, I would like to think that our

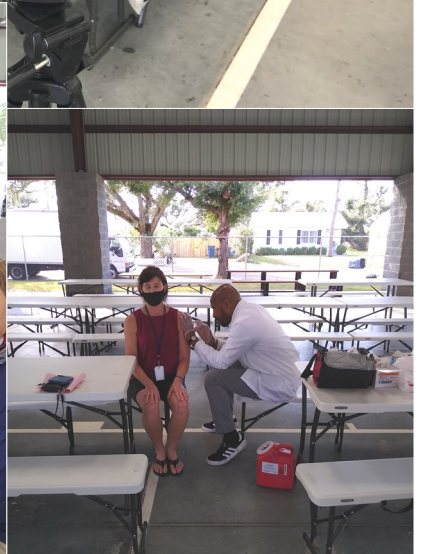
challenges make our faith stronger, and through faith in God, all things are possible. Thank you to all of our administrators, faculty, staff, and families for the continued support of our school. God Bless, **Cynthia Fuller**
“Be strong and courageous the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go.”—
Joshua 1:9



Holy Pavilion Celebrates 4th Birthday by Serving as one of our Most Important Spaces in 20-21



We are so grateful to all who invested in the 2016 Holy Pavilion. In the 2020-21 school year, this facility was home to: our four weekly services, our daily lunchroom, the site of faculty/staff flu vaccination day, the practice space for the Panama City Youth Orchestra, the theater for the Christmas Eve performance of Holy Nativity Episcopal Church, an assembly area and additional classroom for all grades, and even a pavilion for PE activities!



5th Annual Weller Scholar Award Winner is Carmen Shuler, HNES class of 2020



Holy Nativity is faith, education, hope, and love. I am proud to have called Holy Nativity my school for the past 11 years. Holy Nativity Episcopal School has shaped my character into who I am today, was crucial to my strong academic progress, and has taught me the key to a happy and successful life. "Love God and love your neighbor." I know that these six words will carry me to future destinations, and this incredible school has prepared me for not only high school but for all of my future endeavors. Holy Nativity has taught me that we can do anything through God. This place is not merely a school but a sanctuary. At Holy Nativity, we have the privilege to pray to "Our Father" and attend a chapel service every Wednesday. At this holy place, students of all races

are treated equally and our freedoms are supported. Holy Nativity sustains you. Without the wonderful and highly compassionate teachers and staff, I would certainly not be where I am today. With their help I have flourished. I have developed intellectually and grown into my character. Our teachers are here for the students. The teachers at Holy Nativity go out of their way to encourage and help their students excel in everything they do. We have a strong bond between student, mentor and teacher. Furthermore, the teachers at Holy Nativity do so much more than just give us a long lasting education. They offer us light in an otherwise dark time.

Through the devastating hurricane and this insufferable pandemic, they stood by us and gave us the things we needed most: comfort and normalcy. Everyone was affected differently after the hurricane.

Regrettably we all lost something. Whether it was a treasured keepsake, a home, or even a loved one, we all were in pain. Holy Nativity knew that the students needed everything to feel normal again, so they diligently worked for two straight months so that we could

return to school, albeit a portable one. Sure at first we were crammed in hallways, and scattered around a church campus, but we were together and that was all that mattered. With this pandemic we can't be together, but HNES@home has allowed us to interact with our friends and visit with them virtually, continuing our bond as an HNES family.

The vast difference between Holy Nativity and other schools is the individuals inside of it. Without the teachers and staff, the school would be without love and support. Without education we would be ignorant and silent. Without hope and a light at the end of the tunnel, we would not have made it through the dark times. Without God we would be nothing. Holy Nativity has taught me to be helpful and kind, to help others especially when they need it most, be the light at the end of the tunnel, always show love and support, and with God's help we can do anything.



Many thanks to our Fishing Tournament Chair **Chris Stamps** & his Tournament Committee for their work on the 23rd Annual event.



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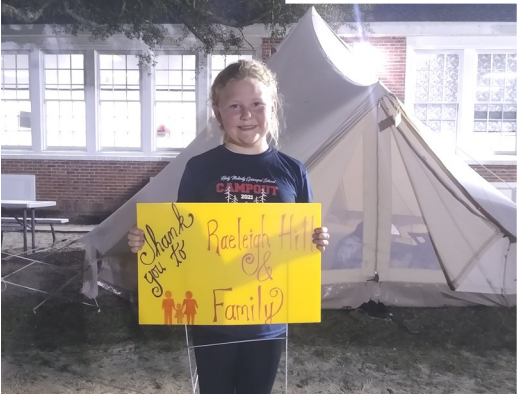
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THANK YOU,
LORI MORGAN,
CAMPOUT CHAIR



Thank you, **Raeleigh Hill & Family**,
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2021 Campout on William's Field.



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Bay County Courthouse is the site of 19th Annual HNES 5K Run on Easter Saturday

Thank you to these sponsors:

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(Aunt to Cecilia & Carmen Shuler)

EASTER EGG = \$100

The Panama City Racquet Club - Coach Laura Dobbins
In memory of my brother - Jim Carroll - Mrs. Lynn Ferren
Tammy Timmerman



HNES FANS = \$50

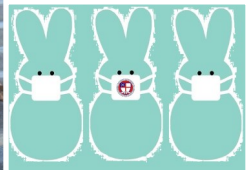
Lisa & Jim McLoughlin, Vicki Hammack
Rachel Warrell, Nancy Lloyd,
Heidi Fowler, Jane Perry

SPECIAL REC:
Julie's School of Dance
Team

VOLUNTEERS:

Jan Dykes, Cynthia &
Michael Fuller, Alice Allen,
Vicki Hammack
Coach Jonathan Hammond,
Beverly McAllister-Brown,
Maggie Shuler, Doug Smith,
Terry Duke, Lynn Ferren,
Andrew Jeffery, Gaila
Scanlan, Lauren Moody
THANK YOU,
AMY MOODY,
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IT'S YOUR RACE
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What an Unforgettable First Year for Mrs. Fuller!



It's the 9th Annual St. Francis Blessing of the Pets on William's Field



1. Anna Wibberley with Max & Ruby 2. Bonnie & Banks Brown & Mom Beverly McAllister-Brown with Dino
 3. Alyvia Allon & Mom Kimberly Patton Allon with Honey 4. Nolan Adams with Krono.

Father Steve Brings Ash Wednesday to Every Student, Faculty, & Staff Member



1. Leo Rohan (left) & Benjamin Creel (Pre-K) 2. Charlie Kyle (4th grade)
 3. Alex Baker (left), Grady Oenbrink, Jonathan Gaither, & Kodi Sunseri (7th grade) 4. Mrs. Liz Ward (Pre-K)

Thank you to our 2020-2021 Board of Trustees

PHOTO by Terry Duke



What a time to be a Board of Trustee member for Holy Nativity Episcopal School! Our eternal thanks to these faithful friends who committed to serving our school with their leadership and decision-making courage during a global pandemic! Board of Trustee Officers:
 President: Brent Faison
 Vice President: Will Cramer
 Secretary: Drew Jernigan
 Treasurer: Mary Kathryn San Juan
 Vestry Reps: Dick Hebert & Chris Stamps
 Chaplain/Church Rector: Fr Steve Bates
 Foundation Rep. Carolyn Cramer
 Head of School: Cynthia Fuller
Not pictured here: Jennifer Burg, Dr. Patrick Tamim, Ann Leonard, Tyson Elmore

Back row: William Cramer, Brent Faison, John Moore, Christ Stamps, Jason Smith
 Front row: Cynthia Fuller, Mary Kathryn San Juan, Amy Cotton, Dick Hebert, Drew Jernigan, Cheryl Flax-Hyman

Cove School Windows Get New Lives as Family Treasures

Following damage from Hurricane Michael in 2018, all of the windows in the Bill Lloyd Building were removed and replaced with new energy efficient Marvin windows. This meant that the original Cove Schoolhouse windows (and the window sash weights) were available for sale to school friends and families. Friends shared their completed projects as pictured below: **Dick Lovejoy** stands with the cabinet he built for **Amy Moody**. **LeAnna Miller** decorated her window to perpetually enjoy at Christmastime. **Lisa & Grant Davis** constructed this unforgettable window greenhouse. **Natalie & James Godwin**, along with sons **JD, Chris, & Thomas**, painted a beautiful symbolic oak tree on their collector window.



Middle School Students Enjoy Sports at District Schools

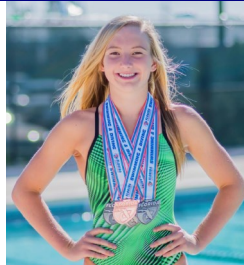


Since 2013, Holy Nativity middle school students have tried out and participated on sports teams within Bay District Schools. In 2020-21, our student athletes (pictured left to right): **Ellery McElheney** - Mowat Volleyball; **Kennedy Harrison**, Surfside volleyball; **Maggie Smith** - Mowat Volleyball; (PHOTO Susan Harrison)

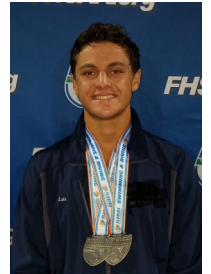
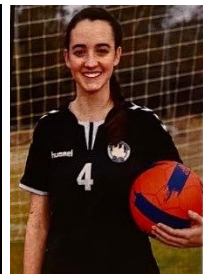
JD Godwin, Treysen Villegas - Jinks Track; (PHOTO Natalie Godwin) **Alex Baker** - Rutherford School Baseball; **Boyd Faison** - Mowat Football; **Bailey Melzer, Lauren Berry, Alex Parker, Mbongta Awantang** - Mowat Track;
Not pictured: **Natalie Latham**, Jinks Soccer; **Margot Provencher**, Jinks Soccer
Ryan Tamim, Surfside football



HNES Alumni Student-Athletes Continue to Make us Proud - Share Your Good News With Us



Eliannah Anderson & teammate **Isabel Ceydeli**, both Rutherford c/o 2021, captured the Bay County Doubles Championship title (1st Seed) this spring, Isabel was also crowned the County Singles Champion (1st Seed); **Lily Bradford**, Mosley c/o 2021; Mosley record holder for women's 100 yard backstroke and women's 400 yard freestyle relay; Panama City Swim Team record holder for 100 yard backstroke, 200 yard backstroke, 400 yard freestyle relay, Bay County record holder for women's 100 yard backstroke, **Lily Dalton**, Mosley High c/o 2024 finished 2nd in the 110 weight class at the Bay County Weightlifting meet; **Ashley Doran**, NBH c/o 2021, 1st Team All-County Soccer, **Christopher Fussell**, NBH c/o 2023, 1st Team All-County Soccer, **Flint Haligas**, Bay High c/o 2024, 1st Team All-County Soccer; **Myles Higby**, Arnold High c/o 2021, Bay County Weightlifting Champion (129-139 weight class), District Champion, Regional Champion, 270 lb. bench press, 285 lb. clean and jerk, headed to State Championships; **Zamiyah Hill**, Mosley c/o 2024, Bay County 400m Champion, Bay County 4x400 Team Champion, 1st Team All-County Soccer; **Gracie Mae Hundley**, Arnold High c/o 2021, State Soccer Semi-Finals Lady Marlins Player of the Game, 1st Team All-County Soccer; **Jack Hundley**, Mosley c/o 2022, Bay County Golf Team Champions (PHOTO *The News Herald*, Fender), Bay County Tennis Singles Champion(4th Seed); **John Lloyd**, Mosley c/o 2023, Bay County Tennis Singles Champion (5th Seed); **Elijah Pollock**, Mosley c/o 2023, Bay County Champion Team 4x800m Relay (PHOTO Mosley Track & Field) ; **Cecilia Shuler**, Rutherford High c/o 2021 Soccer team captain & named to the All Academic Team by the FACA (Florida Athletic Coaches Association), selected as WMBB *Student Athlete of the Week*; **Luke Station**, NBH c/o 2021 competed in the FHSAA Class 2A Swimming Championships in Stuart, advanced to the State Finals for the Men's 100m Backstroke, swam his best time, and placed 15th overall.





time, and are current high school seniors, are invited back for a special reunion. Parents, grand-parents, and guests are also asked to come along to the school for cake and punch, and fond reminiscing. Favorite faculty and staff members will be there too! If you are a part of this "2017 Class," make sure you are here on May 2nd to catch up with old friends before you head off to the next stage of your life.

The Annual Senior Reunion Day at HNES will be on Sunday, May 2nd from 3:00—5:00 p.m. on the school grounds. Students who attended Holy Nativity Episcopal School at any

Did you receive your invitation? Any questions may be directed to Mrs. Moody amoodu@hnes.us or call (850)832-5582 See you soon!

HNES 8th Grade Class of 2021 Looking Forward to High School

What a time to be at Holy Nativity Episcopal School! This year's 8th grade class lived through Hurricane Michael, spent time on our portable campus at HNEC, learned via ZOOM during COVID season, and heads off to high school as nationwide vaccinations begin. We celebrate our 8th graders and look forward to all they will accomplish in their futures. Congratulations to these students bound for high school:

STANDING L to R:
Margot Provencher,
Brody Fuller, Jai Patel,



Maggie Smith, Ryleigh Torres, Braxton McElheney, Ryan Tmair, Boyd Faison, Neela Hernandez, Joycelyn Green, Rudra Patel, Victoria Lithway, Kennedy Harrison. ON BENCHES: Charlotte Rohan, Jordan Tackett, Marina Hoyt, Natalie Branham, Lacy Miller, Sophie Gunter. SITTING BACK: Evan Cluxton, Ava Hilton, Peyton Lam, John McLoughlin, Jake Steverson, Rob Sale, Jacey Nelson, Mason Reed. SITTING FRONT: Cody Hill, Landyn Adamcryk, Sullivan Thomas, Jake Turner. The annual graduation ceremony will take place at The Holy Pavilion on Tuesday, May 28th at 5:30 p.m. All friends are welcome to attend!

Alumni Good News ~ Send Us Yours!



Congratulations to alumna **Lily Bradford!** (left) She is the Valedictorian of the Mosley High School Class of 2021.



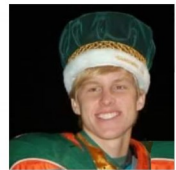
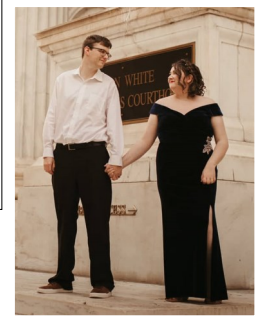
Many thanks to **Sam Gramling,** (c/o 2011) of 30A *Nightscares* who donated lighting for our Weller flagpole.



Kelsie Dyell (c/o 2011) a graduate of Washington State University, has developed the gold-winning *Lindsay Creek Estate Reisling* at the *San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition*.

Congratulations to alumnus **Jon Mason** and his Lady Titans on their Class 6A District 8 2021 Basketball Championship. Coach Mason is in his first year as Coach at *Tampa Bay Tech High School*.

Michael Pozen, (c/o 2020) is a Cadet Chief Master Sergeant with the Civil Air Patrol in Jacksonville. Michael is standing with his Dad Lt. Colonel Jeff Pozen.



Congratulations to alumna **Katy Perry** (HNES c/o 2017) on her selection as Homecoming Queen at Rutherford High this past fall. She joins HNES "royalty": **Joseph Chapman** (c/o 2006), **Barry Murray** (c/o 2009), **Brandon Jackson** (c/o 2008) & **Alexander Lovchuk** (c/o 2014).



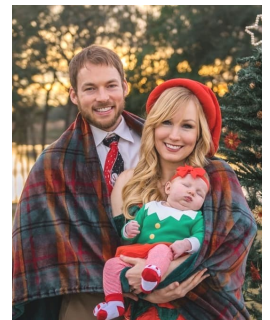
Newlyweds

Congratulations to **Trevor Madden** (c/o 2010) & **Jessie McNeelen**; **Nicholas Richards** & **Catherine Windham** (c/o 2008).



New Babies!

Starting at left, **Lindsay & Nathan Williams** (c/o 2005) with son Lukas; **Michael & Kendall Lovchuk Keller** (c/o 2010) with daughter Charlotte; **Kassidy Stringer** (c/o 2014) & **Connor MacLean** (c/o 2010) with HNES "double legacy" son Greyson; **Chris Jinks** (5th grade c/o 1990) & Allison with daughters Catherine, Riley, & Elizabeth; **Chase Smith** (c/o 2007) & wife Melisa and son Jackson; Thompson sisters: **Molly Sostheim** (c/o 2008) with daughter Lyla & **Megan Willingham** (c/o 2006) with son Greyson. The Thompson cousins were born less than two weeks apart! **Michael & Danielle Bauman Hennessy** (c/o 2005) with daughter Amelia who was born with a very rare form of a Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia (CDH). She had an ectopic kidney located in her upper right chest cavity. Female babies born with this condition are 1 in 10 million. She was flown to Shands Hospital and operated on at 5 days old. She set a record at Shands for the fastest discharge time for a CDH case, and was referred to as a miracle baby.



Holy Nativity Episcopal Church opened Holy Nativity Episcopal Day School in 1959 as a program for kindergarten children. The school expanded quickly, adding 1st grade and during the 1960s, expanding up to 6th grade.

The school became known locally for its mission of educating children in a Christian environment, and the enrollment flourished.

In the early 1970s, programs for 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds were added, as well as an expansion of special areas.

Additionally, more buildings were acquired at the church campus. The 1980s were years of perfecting the programs and increasing the enrollment of Holy Nativity, and along the way, the name was changed to our current Holy Nativity Episcopal School.

Even today, however, "The Day School" continues to be used fondly by older residents of our area.

In 1988, Beverly McDaniel became the Headmistress of HNES. Under her leadership, Holy Nativity aspired to become accredited by the Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS), which was accomplished in 1993. Momentum was growing to expand HNES through 8th grade. In 1997 the Holy Nativity School Foundation was formed, and then, in 1998, the Foundation was able to negotiate a property trade and acquired Cove Elementary School from Bay District Schools.

The renovation and restoration of one of the oldest schools in Bay County took several years of daily dedicated work led by Foundation members, most of whom had fond memories of attending Cove School. In recognition of his leadership, devotion, and daily labor to this renovation project, in 2010, the main building was dedicated to and named "The Bill Lloyd Building."

Due to the work of the Foundation, Holy Nativity Middle School began August 1999 with 6th and 7th graders attending school in the original 1937 north end of Cove School, which was the first section renovated. HNES thus became a two-campus school for the next ten years, with the original as Lower Campus and the new called Upper Campus. After adding 8th grade in 2000-2001, Holy Nativity held her first 8th-grade graduation in 2001.

At that same time, the field behind Cove School was designated "William's Field," dedicated to the memory of a 2nd grader who was lost in a watercraft accident. As HNES expanded in the 2000s, the school's enrollment appeared stable, but a troubling trend was developing.

Between 2003 and 2008, enrollment decreased by 30 students, mostly in the pre-school population. A "Great Recession" had begun in 2007. At this same time, after 20 years devoted to the success of the school she loved, Mrs. McDaniel retired at the end of 2007-2008.

With a new Head of School, the "Great Recession" became a full-blown issue in 2008. Combining with that, the first charter school opened in Bay County. Faced with a decision that some believe may have saved Holy Nativity Episcopal School, the new Head decided to combine the campuses during the summer of 2009 and move the entire school to the Upper Campus at Cove School.

A flurry of activity saw some major restructuring of the facilities, and every 3K-2nd grade teacher moved to the new location in a matter of months. Beginning the school year 2009-2010, Holy Nativity Episcopal School was once more on one campus.

With the "Great Recession" now in full force, in April 2010, our area suffered the tragic BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico. It was a massive environmental disaster that also impacted the income of a significant portion of our families. The first two years for a new Head of School, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010, were hard. Offered a different opportunity overseas, our Head of School resigned and Amy Moody was asked to serve as Acting Head of School during the search process. In April, the Board announced they had hired Judy Hughes as the Head of School, to begin June 1, 2011. In 3 years, enrollment had dropped from 359 during Beverly McDaniel's last year 2007-2008 to 240 students by the end of 2010-2011.

Then there was good news. From 2011-2012 the enrollment increased to 252, and until the next disaster, Hurricane Michael, the 2018-2019 enrollment high point had moved up to 289 students, an increase from the low of 240 to a high of 289 in 8 years, or 20%. Our last FCIS accreditation visit was in the spring of the school year 2013-2014. To say that was a lifetime ago is not an exaggeration. Our school was proudly prepared in 2018-2019 to host our FCIS team. We loved what we had done in the 5 years since our previous evaluation, how we had grown both professionally and enrollment-wise, and we were eager to share our story. We had scheduled the entire school to be closed in November 2018, so everyone on our faculty and staff could travel to

Jacksonville for the FCIS convention. We had buses chartered and rooms rented. It was the year we would be recognized at the convention as a school with 25 years of FCIS accreditation. We didn't make it to Jacksonville.

On October 10, 2018, Category 5 Hurricane Michael devastated Panama City and heavily damaged Holy Nativity Episcopal School. Since that time, beginning in October 2018, our teachers and staff have restarted school 3 times in 3 locations in one year, 2018-2019; they have hurried to move out of a destroyed school and worked hard to furnish a temporary location, and then rushed to move back to our beloved campus; they did without school phones, without reliable technology nor a classroom to call their own for almost a year. Just as it was looking like "normal" would happen, we entered March 2020. Like those in schools all over the world, in a matter of days—our teachers and staff were called back from a desperately needed Spring Break— together, everyone at Holy Nativity had to learn a new way to teach...in 5 days...with inadequate supplies...plus how to survive this deadly pandemic. And the 9-year Head of School, Judy Hughes, who had already postponed her 2019 retirement due to the destruction and demands of hurricane recovery, retired June 30, 2020.

With an entire school to "invent" and lead, the new Head of School, Cynthia Fuller, faced a task many would have described as impossible. But she has strength beyond understanding and has reinvented every single aspect that needed to be addressed so that our students could attend school safely in person for 2020-2021 while also protecting the well-being of every individual employed at HNES.

What a first year to remember. It is 2021. We know what is important, and we know it is not material things. We know we are each stronger than we ever imagined we could be. We know that we love Holy Nativity and treasure the indescribable closeness we developed during Hurricane recovery. We know that when we were in need, we were showered with overwhelming love and donations that made it all possible. We know when COVID disrupted our lives, we could count on each other. We know we will never doubt that God is there every step of the way.



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**Since 1959,
Celebrating Learning, Leadership, & Love**

**HOLY NATIVITY
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL
Mission Statement**

*It is the purpose of
Holy Nativity Episcopal School
To provide a nurturing
Christian environment where
students with promise
receive challenging academics,
enriching opportunities, and a
solid foundation for
developing their potential as
good, caring and
responsible citizens.*



Thanks K Mills

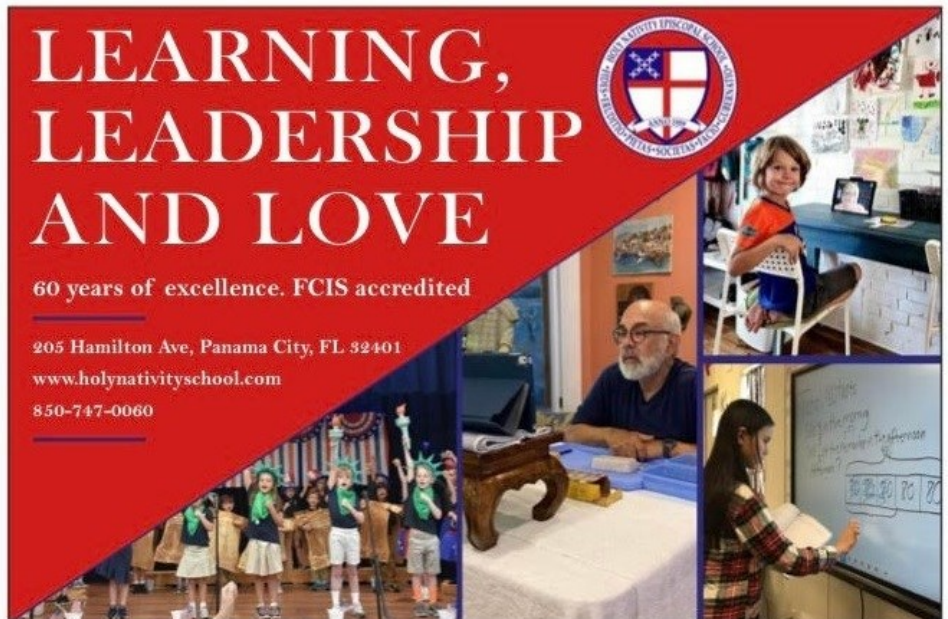
Holy Nativity Episcopal School admits students of any religion, race, creed, national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. Holy Nativity Episcopal School does not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, creed, gender, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, financial aid programs, or athletic and other school-administered programs.

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