

# Vision

**ChaminadeJulienne**  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



WINTER 2024



Celebrating 50 Years of the Unification of Chaminade and Julienne

## #AllAreWelcomeCJ

- Students Achieve
- Perfect ACT Scores;
- Another Set to
- Graduate from CJ
- and College
- Recent Campus
- Expansion Presents
- Need to Create a
- New Plan

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL  
NOTRE DAME ACADEMY  
JULIENNE HIGH SCHOOL  
CHAMINADE HIGH SCHOOL  
ST. JOSEPH COMMERCIAL  
HIGH SCHOOL





Message from the President	<b>1</b>
Living the Faith - Jarnai Alexander '13	<b>2</b>
Living the Faith - Dan Mullins '97	<b>3</b>
#AllAreWelcomeCJ	<b>4</b>
CJ Celebrates 50 Years	<b>6</b>
10-Year Milestone for Senior Capstone	<b>7</b>
Students Shine on Global Stage	<b>8</b>
Academic Excellence	<b>9</b>
Fall Athletics Wrap Up	<b>10</b>
A Path to Citizenship	<b>12</b>
Video Showcase	<b>13</b>
Campus Expansion	<b>14</b>
Supporting Student Activities	<b>15</b>
Milestones	<b>16</b>
2024 Annual Fund Chairs	<b>17</b>
SGO — New Giving Opportunity	<b>17</b>
In Memoriam	<b>18</b>
Take 5 with Ellie Cronin '16	<b>20</b>
History Shared: Walter Federspiel '52	<b>21</b>
CJ's World of Social Media	<b>22</b>
CJ Named Best in Dayton	<b>23</b>
Reunion Weekend 2023 Recap	<b>24</b>
Alumni Lunches	<b>25</b>

# Many Opportunities to Engage in Prayer and Service Through CJ's Ministry and Service Office



The ministry and service office coordinated this year's Make a Difference Day with more than 200 students.

**On the cover:** members of Faith Leaders In God's Hands Today (FLIGHT), along with several staff members, prayed a blessing over the 13 students and chaperones who were ready to board their bus heading to the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis, IN. This three-day experience brought students together to share in a fun and uplifting celebration of their faith.

"Our students participated in a conference where they saw more than 13,000 other students from around the country come together and get excited to grow their faith," said Kelli Kinnear, director of ministry and service.

"It also exposed them to many different facets of our Catholic faith, some of which included amazing praise and worship music and musicians, Adoration, the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Mass, and many workshop sessions alongside of their peers. Any experience that gets our students excited about their faith is truly a blessing!" said Kinnear.

Ayriel Dickerson '25 was new to the experience. "What surprised me the most was how many people were there and how connected everyone was with everything we did. Everyone there truly wanted to be present in those moments. The biggest take away for me personally was the connection with God. I came broken and so lost in myself. I just wanted to be heard by someone and God heard me."

Bella Taylor '24 said her return trip to the convention helped her realize the closeness of God. "Before, I felt like we were far apart from God — like He was at the top of the

hill while I was at the bottom. This experience made me realize that He is right next to me, above me, behind me, and below me. He is everywhere I am."

The ministry and service office also coordinated this year's Make a Difference Day with more than 200 students, faculty and staff attending 19 different service sites during their fall break. CJ's participation in this community-wide event dates back to more than 30 years ago.

Clarissa Niebrugge-Andreu '25 got in touch with administrators at the YWCA to coordinate a service site for members of Eagle Pride marching band and color guard.

"Service is important to me because it is more about others than yourself and helping others really brings you into the reality of the world, making you more selfless," she said.

"I was inspired to provide this service for my Eagle Pride members because growing community through service creates a family that can be unstoppable. Leading the service was a way to help each other become better people."

And in preparation for the celebration of Thanksgiving, the ministry and service office hosted different activities during the school's annual Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. Along with bringing in canned goods, supplies and donations, students prepared sack lunches for St. Vincent de Paul. Faculty and staff also prepared lunches for St. Vincent; assembled personal med kits for Food for the Journey; and labeled food containers for Miami Valley Meals.

## Vision

Vision is published periodically by Chaminade Julianne Catholic High School for alumni, parents and friends. Comments and suggestions are encouraged and should be directed to: Communications Office, 505 South Ludlow Street, Dayton, OH 45402 | (937) 461-3740 x238 | [twagoner@cjeagles.org](mailto:twagoner@cjeagles.org). Copyright 2024 Chaminade Julianne Catholic High School.

### Nondiscriminatory Policy

Chaminade Julianne Catholic High School welcomes students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. CJ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.





## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I believe that we are profoundly blessed at Chaminade Julienne to be a people of hope, joy, and resilience. In fact, these traits are part of the long history of the school and an essential part of our faith since Jesus frequently told his disciples to “have peace in me.”

We learn peace and joy and resilience from the founders of our two sponsoring religious congregations, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and the Marianists. Both founders, Saint Julie Billiart and Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, began their religious movements in the aftermath of the French Revolution in which both of them were persecuted and sent into hiding — Saint Julie in Compiègne in France during the reign of terror (1793-1795) and Blessed Chaminade to Saragosa, Spain (1797-1800).

When the fighting and bloodshed settled, they witnessed a society and a Church devastated, and heard God’s call to rebuild the Church and remake society — Chaminade through the formation of faith communities of equals and Saint Julie through the education of girls. Their humble start, fueled by a vision each received from the Holy Spirit, attracted other people to their mission from the beginning and blossomed into the mission that we have inherited at Chaminade Julienne.

Since our mission and our work was formed out of challenge, out of chaos, out of despair, it has become part of our makeup and our heritage. We have the example from Blessed Chaminade and Saint Julie that we can and must be a source of joy, hope, and faith for our students, their families, and our community — and we must form young people with the knowledge, heart, and inspiration to make the world a better place. (The pictures on these pages represent more than 200 students who gave up a day off from school to go into their community in service to others, for example.)

Because, as in Chaminade and Julie’s time, there is no shortage of chaos, fear, and division in the world today: terror and war in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East; partisan bitterness and stalemates in our politics; growing mental health and substance abuse crises in our communities; division even within our own Church; desperation of migrants looking for a better life; and escalating patterns of violence in many of the most under-resourced neighborhoods.

**I have told you this so that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world.** JOHN 16:33

Schools across the country struggle to find new resources and new methods to help students address the social and learning disruptions experienced during the pandemic. Many families face pressures because of the impact of persistent inflation and an uncertain economy. High school students, who are transitioning from childhood to adulthood, strive to find their own voice, recognize their emerging gifts, build a supportive network of friends, and seek to understand how God is calling them to serve His people. Adolescence has never been easy; but it feels more challenging today in this age of social media, popular culture influencers, and declining religious affiliation.

Despite all of this, and maybe because all of this, the teachers, coaches and staff members at Chaminade Julienne must continue to help students learn to place their faith in God, in Jesus — to really listen to God’s call — and become the people who will do whatever He asks, as Mary, the mother of Jesus, directed the servants at the wedding feast of Cana. We must provide them with the framework to understand the world — nature, biology, history, culture, religion and philosophy, relationships, and virtues — so they can use their education and their faith to counter negativity, oppression, and fear. Then, if we have taught them to listen and given them the tools they need, we know that God will then use each of them, as He wants to use all of us, in ways that we cannot imagine to accomplish His work in this world.

You make this mission possible, those who established the traditions we work to uphold, those who support our work, pray for our students and teachers, and work in your own way to accomplish God’s work in the world. We are blessed to continue the work of Saint Julie and Blessed Chaminade to rebuild our world each day, striving to bring forth the kingdom of God. We are grateful to all who help to make this important work possible. May God bless you in great abundance.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Meixner '84  
President

**CJ TRUSTEES:** Marquetta Colbert; Sr. Kim Dalgarn, SNDdeN, secretary; Lainie Dean; Christopher Hogan '04; Andrew Horner; Elaine Lantz '70; Dr. George Lisjak; L. Tony Ortiz; Ellen Quintus, chair; Julie Roach, treasurer; Julie Sullivan; Stacy Schweikhart, Fr. Kyle Schnippel, Julie Sullivan, Jennifer Theibert, Esq. '92; Berta Velilla-Rosengarten; Amy Wagner, Kevin Weckesser '93 **SCHOOL LEADERSHIP:** Tim Henry, finance; John Marshall '86, development; Dan Meixner '84, president; Greg Mueller, principal; Brandon Meyer, admissions; Carlos Stewart, ministry & inclusion; Tina Wagoner, marketing & communications, Pat Wright, facilities **EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP:** Jama Badinghaus, counseling; Steve Fuchs, assistant principal; Patrick Rizer, student services; Anthony Turner '02, athletics; Kelli Kinnear, ministry & service; Greg Mueller, principal



# God is So Intentional

By Jarnai Alexander '13



Jarnai is grateful for the many people at CJ who played a vital role in her faith formation, including Ann Szabo '72.

As a middle schooler getting ready for high school, I'm sure I was more worried about what extra-curricular activities I would be part of, having a good group of friends, and attending various dances. Although those things can have a positive impact on the high school experience, those are not the memories that initially come to mind for me.

I know now that God placed me at Chaminade Julienne for such a time as this. As a student, I attended and led the freshman, sophomore, and junior retreats. Looking back, it was as if God was allowing me to grow a little bit each year, so that I would be able to take on the next assignment that He would place ahead of me.

My senior year, I joined FLIGHT and attended and led Kairos. Kairos gave me a glimpse...still to this day I can remember the impact that Kairos had on my spiritual journey. Kairos gave me a glimpse into who God was calling me to be, I just didn't know it yet.

My parents made sure that I attended church from an early age. So, I have grown up in the church, but I believe that it took certain environments, people, and circumstances to allow me to build a relationship with God for myself, and attending CJ played a vital role. I was surrounded by individuals that truly wanted the best for me and my future. Mrs. Szabo, Mrs. Ketch, Mrs. Kinnear, Mr. Hoendorf, and Mr. Brooks were among the many who so impacted my life.

After graduating from CJ in 2013, I attended Ohio University for my undergraduate degree. The staff and curriculum at CJ more than prepared me for what I would experience in college. It was by no means easy, but I had gained vital tools while attending CJ that would allow me to be successful in my studies. After graduation I started working in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. When I started my career as a NICU nurse, I was convinced that I would work for a couple years, become a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner, and eventually have a family of my own.

## But God had other plans.

Somewhere along the road, I found myself struggling with anxiety and depression. On the outside looking in, I seemed to have it all together. I was working my dream job, had a great support system, and was enjoying life. But on the inside, I was struggling and didn't want anyone to know. I believed that I had no reason to feel the pain that I felt, and that the best thing to do was ignore it and continue to move forward.

Throughout that time, I started writing poetry again. I honestly never wanted anyone to read the poems, I just needed an outlet. Earlier this year through various ways, God told me that it was time for me to heal and share what He has done for me.

After finding a therapist that I believe was sent directly from God and having tough conversations with my family and Pastor, I placed all my poems together in a document and placed them in the order that God instructed me to. I ultimately ended up having my first book published, titled, *The Release: Dare to Think Big with God*.

By God's grace, I am still learning, growing, and finding my way. I do know now that my life experiences were not by accident. God has tasked me to help free others from bondages that I have experienced personally and to testify to His mercy, love, kindness, forgiveness, and faithfulness.

### About the Author

After CJ, Jarnai Alexander '13 graduated from Ohio University and has worked as a registered nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for more than six years. She completed a master's degree in nursing at Cedarville University and plans to work as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. Jarnai's book, *The Release: Dare to Think Big with God*, can be found on Amazon or on her website: [www.theintentionalsound.com](http://www.theintentionalsound.com).

Jarnai attends In His Presence — World Ministries Dayton, and is a member of the dance ministry and the "Fullness of Joy" choir. She is passionate about helping and serving others, breaking the mental health stigma, and sharing the goodness of God.

In her free time, Jarnai loves plants, listening to music, praying, dancing, writing, and reading. Family oriented, she is constantly learning how to manage and grow in the gifts that God has given her and is eager to share them with the world.





## Today, more than ever, it's so important to keep faith alive.

By Dan Mullins '97

Keeping faith alive in my life comes down to being committed to three areas of focus: attending Mass; staying close to others who have a strong faith; and getting involved in my community.

For me, the abundance of blessings given and received by attending Mass goes way beyond the 60 minutes or so that it takes to be present. Compared to the length of time for one more hour of sleep, screen time or overtime at work — which gets plenty of time anyway — the return is immeasurable.

As the Church continues to experience a shrinking population, I consider even more that my local church belongs to “me.” It’s really a sense of ownership.

That’s what I have always enjoyed about attending Mass. You can’t really do anything wrong there: the people are in a different kind of community mentality; they’re more grounded; they’re more compassionate; and they love that children are there — the future of our church. I consider God’s house my refuge, and I encourage people to discover the same comfort by attending Mass and being part of a community that can quickly become their home as well.

I can only imagine how our Catholic church communities could begin to grow if people gathered again in this way, in support of one another. This blessing of Mass is open to anyone, at any time, wherever you are — whether you are in your own community or visiting another place anywhere in the world. In another country, you may not understand the language at first, but you will follow the holy service — and you will feel right at home.

With today’s distractive challenges, like money, status, stress, sin, war (just to name a few), I find that it’s even more important to discern priorities with God, and discuss with Him about who to spend time with.

In Ohio and now in Germany, I have found a quality group of guys who are always there for me; they’re an old Catholic organization called the Knights of Columbus. I joined the Knights in 2009 in Columbus, OH after my grandfather passed away. It was my calling to continue the brotherhood and work that the Knights are doing.

Following the events of September 11, 2001, the Knights were some of the first to bring direct relief to the victims, and they continue to support victims of

poverty and violence all over the world. If you have not gotten to know your local Knights, I would encourage you to do so — new friends in the making!

Serving others, as the Knights do, reminds me of my time at CJ when we were assigned a community service project. Our unexpected task was to figure out how we were going to help people in need in Dayton. I spent a couple days working at a soup kitchen off of North Main, and submitted my report diligently. What I didn’t realize was that ongoing need of others did not end with the completion of my assignment, and that I could continue to make a difference to someone else, always.

In that spirit, I organize regular donations to St. Vinzenztreff in Esslingen, Germany, along with my Knights council. The organization provides a warm meal, change of clothes, shower, and a wholesome positive environment for guests to meet and talk to others. Guests especially enjoy the “American stuff” that we get from the military base including canned goods, ground coffee and even Lay’s potato chips!

For me, time spent in prayer — alone with God, at Mass, with other people of faith, serving our brothers and sisters in this world — opens a whole new world of love, peace and joy. And who wouldn’t want a little more of that in their lives?

### About the author

Dan Mullins '97 is married with three children and has been living in Germany for more than 15 years and works as a mechanical engineer at Kärcher, “giving German engineers a run for their money,” and has four patents. He is also the financial secretary of the K of C Chaplain Major Charles J. Watters Stuttgart, Germany Council #8792, which supports local military chapels, the local German community, and overseas seminarians. Dan values maintaining his Catholic Faith, and connecting to his US-based friends, family and schools, and enjoys keeping up with CJ basketball.





# #AllAreWelcomeCJ



*As we move into the second semester of the 2023-2024 year, we continue to welcome our new faculty and staff members into the traditions of the school, and support them as they move through their year-long orientation program.*

The theme for the year, “#AllAreWelcomeCJ”, is amplified through the hearts and perspectives of the individuals beginning their CJ careers. Joined by over 200 new students, these educators have chosen to call CJ their home, each contributing to the rich narrative of a community where all are not only welcomed but celebrated. As these remarkable educators become integral parts of the CJ

community, their diverse backgrounds, experiences, and aspirations enrich the vibrant tapestry of #AllAreWelcomeCJ. These educators are introduced below and appear in the order in which they are pictured (l-r) above. CJ looks forward to finishing the school year with a shared commitment to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment.

## Lauren Tilton

A school counselor with a heart for student well-being, Lauren hails from Boston, MA, and sees CJ as an opportunity to build a second home in Dayton. She is not only excited about connecting with students and staff, but also getting to know the area. “CJ being located downtown allows for me to explore Dayton through the many community partnerships and businesses that are affiliated with and located around CJ. I feel very lucky to have landed here!”

## Jessica Kayden

Science enthusiast Jessica, originally from Springfield, IL, is thrilled to contribute her expertise to CJ. Rooted in faith, Jessica is excited to inspire students to begin asking questions about how science works. “I am looking forward to teaching students to think critically and doing different labs and activities with them.”

## Brian Carter

Transitioning from a social studies educator to a French teacher, Brian looks forward to new opportunities at CJ. He is a graduate of Miami University and is eager to interact

with a new group of students. “I’m excited to begin a new year in a new district and to engage with a fresh, new group of students who seem equally as excited as I am to begin the year!”

## Samuel Eckel

Formerly a DECA Middle School educator, Samuel brings his passion for math to CJ. He is captivated by the school’s culture and the enthusiasm shown by both students and staff. “I’m most excited about the culture here at CJ. The students and staff all seem to love it here. I’m also really excited by the faith life aspect of our school. I’m ready for a great school year, and most of all, Go, Eagles!”

## Timothy Hosford

As the assistant director of ministry and service, Timothy is committed to nurturing students’ faith. A recent graduate of Marian University, IN, he is excited about the opportunity to shape the spiritual journey of CJ students. “I’m excited to meet our students where they’re at, developing and challenging their faith by helping them encounter Christ in retreat and in their daily lives.”

## Elise Chandler

Elise, an English Learner instructor, is excited to work with students from Our Lady of the Rosary and CJ and the welcoming spirit that is conducive to growth and learning for all. “I am excited to be at CJ because of the welcoming environment it has for both students and faculty. I look most forward to growing and learning with my school. I am grateful to find my home.”

## Ella Marie

With experience as a science teacher in Cincinnati Public Schools, Ella will be working with both CJ and Our Lady of the Rosary students and is ready to inspire her students to embrace a holistic approach to education. “I am excited about leading students to be spiritually uplifted, academically focused, and culturally embraced each and every day.”

## Grace Dudley

As CJ’s health teacher, Grace comes with a background as a prevention coordinator for a non-profit domestic and sexual violence agency. Grateful to be part of a community dedicated to serving students, she looks

forward to a fantastic first year. "I am so excited to be at CJ and feel truly blessed to join an incredible group of educators dedicated to serving the student community."

### Mary Kate Morber

Working with both CJ and Our Lady of the Rosary students as an English teacher, Mary Kate's focus is on forming intentional relationships, reflecting the spirit of #AllAreWelcomeCJ. "I am looking forward to being a part of the CJ community this year. It has already been so amazing to begin forming intentional relationships with the students and faculty."

### Jenny Weinberg

In the business office at Founders Center, accountant Jenny is eager to be part of the CJ community. Her excitement stems from the warm and welcoming atmosphere at CJ that she is experiencing. "I am excited to be at CJ because I love the community here, and I am looking forward to getting to know everyone better!"

### Sherry Gabert

As a school counselor intern, Sherry is excited about her new work opportunities. She anticipates contributing to the CJ community through her role as an intern counselor. "I am excited to be at CJ learning new skills as an educator and working with the counseling department. I look forward to working with students as an intern counselor."

### Zachary Almeida

A math teacher, Zachary, comes to CJ from St. Louis, MO and is enthusiastic about the journey ahead. "I am excited about joining the CJ community and am looking forward to getting to know all the students and staff at CJ."

### Hannah Walton

As the physical education teacher for CJ and Our Lady of the Rosary students, Hannah aims to inspire students to lead physically active lives. Her focus on encouraging students both inside and outside the classroom aligns with the holistic approach to education at CJ. "I look forward to showing students an alternative and fun route to be-



As is tradition, student leaders announced the school's new hashtag for the year at the first all-school Mass held on August 30, which also kicked off CJ's 50-year anniversary celebration of the unification of Chaminade and Julienne High Schools.

"We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new hashtag for the year #AllAreWelcomeCJ. This powerful hashtag embodies CJ's values and our dedication to fostering an environment where every individual is not just accepted, but celebrated," said Kelli Kinnear, director of ministry and service. "We are reminded about the gift of community that we have here at CJ."

The hashtag was announced by student leaders from FLIGHT, and representatives from Students in Action, Eagle Ambassadors, and Student Council. These groups along with the faculty and staff all discussed how they would live out the hashtag in their roles at CJ. "With hearts full of gratitude, we invite each one of you to embrace the spirit of #AllAreWelcomeCJ and to celebrate our 50-year anniversary and the possibilities that lie ahead for our campus and community," Kinnear said.

come physically active in their daily lives. I hope to inspire some students to find a new love for a sport or activity that they would not have previously tried before."

### Maggie Rosenwald

Utilizing her Spanish skills, Maggie, a recent addition to CJ and Holy Angels Elementary School, is excited to create connections with her students. Her enthusiasm resonates with the CJ community, "I am so excited to be joining the CJ community, and I am looking forward to creating connections with my students this year! Go, Eagles!"

### Brian Mix

Brian, now a full-time social studies teacher, reflects on his time at CJ as a substitute teacher, emphasizing the values of community, faith, diversity, and family. Brian is ready to contribute to the vibrant culture that makes CJ special. "I have had the privilege of spending the past few years at CJ in various capacities, and what always stood out to me were the displays of community, faith, diversity, and family that are present here. Those aspects of the culture here made it a really easy decision for me when it came time to find a place to call home this school year and hopefully for many years to come."





Students exchange the sign of peace at opening Mass, where they also received a blessing for the anniversary year.



Greg Mueller, principal; Jama Badinghaus, counselor; and Bro. Justin Quiroz, SM, take a moment to capture the celebration fun to share on the principal's social media account.



## CJ CELEBRATES 50 YEARS SINCE THE UNIFICATION OF CHAMINADE & JULIENNE

Student tuition was \$375 a year and the annual salary for new teachers was \$6,366. Classrooms were filled with 40 students in a school building that was just steps away from, not one but, two bars. When Chaminade-Julienne opened its doors to its first class of students in the fall of 1973, it was a very different place.

While there were plenty of growing pains as the Julienne and Chaminade faculty, staff and students found themselves under one roof for the first time, the building blocks for success were there from the beginning.

Dan Meixner '84, president, shared the story of the merger with faculty and staff members as part of the all-employee retreat prior to the start of the school year.

"Fifty years is a testament to the planning and effort that went on before us and it's a milestone on this path that we're on going forward," said Meixner. "I see it as one long continuum of Notre Dame and Marianist education that we today are stewards of."

While CJ was, at the time, a "new" school, its connection to the past remained strong with both the Marianists and Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur retaining ownership and sponsorship.

"The fact that we had this rich history, shared history, in Dayton, Ohio of the Marianists and Sisters lends a strength to what we've experienced since then," Meixner said.

The selection of the current location was also a key to the school's success, although it was a source of contention during the planning process in the early 1970s. The central location has enabled CJ to recruit students from the entire region and positively impact the student experience.

"CJ made a commitment to stay down here and now, we've become an anchor downtown," Tony Ricciuto '74, said.

Ricciuto has a unique perspective as a current faculty member as well as a member of CJ's first graduating class.

For all the challenges, there were also significant successes including CJ's recognition as a National School of Excellence in 1989.

"After 15 years of wondering whether or not we were going to make it, to arrive at that pinnacle where we were recognized nationally as an outstanding school, those people who doubted what we could accomplish, at that point, finally stepped forward and said, clearly this is a success," Meixner said.

"We owe a lot to the people who made this possible," he said. "We get to carry this into the next 50 years because of the decisions that people made in 1971, 1972 and those teachers who figured out a way to make it work in that first decade."

Current faculty and staff are ready to continue the mission on the corner of Ludlow and Franklin Streets.

"As educators, we are called to continue the legacy and tradition of all former teachers, coaches, and staff who helped build a firm foundation for Chaminade-Julienne," CJ principal Greg Mueller said. "The task ahead, for the next 50 years, is to keep a bold vision for the future so CJ is ready to enhance and improve the educational experience as we face current and future unknown challenges with courage, faith, and grace."

### Celebrating 50 Years

*Among ways that CJ is celebrating its golden year:*

- At the employee opening retreat, Tony Ricciuto '73, social studies teacher; Peg Regan '73, retired CJ Spanish teacher; and Dan Meixner '84, president, shared their perspectives on Chaminade and Julienne merging — the challenges, joys and outcomes.
- The school-wide celebration was kicked off at the opening school Mass celebrated by Fr. Gene Contadino, SM, followed by sweet treats for everyone.
- Commemorative banners and t-shirts were created.
- Assemblies, events and sporting contests continue to recognize and invite all into the celebration.
- A special assembly for the school is planned during Catholic Schools Week.



# Senior Capstone Celebrates 10 Years of Putting Faith into Action



Now in its 10th year, Senior Capstone was first imagined by Molly Bardine, teacher, English department chair, Mission Integration Team co-chair, who wanted to move students from their service experience to understanding how their faith can inspire them to work for justice by combining their skills of research and the foundation of Catholic Social Teaching to making lives better through servant leadership.



For more than 10 years, more than 1,400 students have completed more than 400 projects addressing social justice issues throughout the Miami Valley, including schools and nonprofit organizations. The Chaminade Julianne Senior Capstone project has been making a difference on campus and in the community for a decade. From Five Rivers MetroParks and Catholic Social Services to SICSA and St. Vincent de Paul Dayton, CJ students – guided by their interests, faith, and personal connections – build on their years of service by completing a group social justice-oriented project.

“They are only limited by their own imagination,” said Molly Bardine, English department chair and Senior Capstone project coordinator. “Moving from service to social justice, they use the skills and lessons they’ve learned to make an impact.”

First introduced as part of a pilot program during the 2012-13 school year, students put the traditions of the school’s two founding orders – the Marianists and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur – into action by implementing projects that connect back to Catholic Social Teaching.

Seniors work in groups of two, three or four for an entire year to complete four phases of

the Capstone project including participation in the annual Stang Symposium.

Bardine has been at the helm of the program from the beginning, but it was a team effort as Kelli Kinnear, director of ministry and service, and Sr. Nicole Trahan, FMI, former campus minister, were instrumental in the capstone’s creation and development. Bardine was mentored by University of Dayton president emeritus Bro. Raymond L. Fitz.

“He helped me to really understand how to bring the message of what servant leadership is all about to our students,” Bardine said. “And how to inspire our seniors to see themselves that way.”

Fitz, also a professor of social change at UD, was on board from the outset.

“I was very supportive of the proposal for the Senior Capstone project,” he said. “It is very important for students to know the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. The Capstone project went beyond that, giving students the opportunity to reflect and plan how those principles can be applied to real issues of economic and racial justice in our Greater Dayton community.”

Beyond the community impact, the students’ culminating experience, in some cases, lays

the groundwork for future endeavors.

“We have alumni who have shared with me how their Capstone project formed them,” Bardine said. “I’ve heard former students who can pinpoint an experience that guided their future research or career path, grounded in servant leadership, and my eyes start tearing up.”

“Capstone provided an opportunity not only to explore and serve my local community, but it also instilled a passion for positive stewardship and change in the world around me,” said Omar Brown ‘19. “How I view the issues in my community, why I work towards pursuits of compassion, and the care I want to bring to those around me; these were all nurtured and empowered at Chaminade Julianne and through efforts like the Capstone project.”

The scope of Capstone has expanded beyond the CJ campus and even the community as McNicholas High School and the Miami Valley School both have a culminating Capstone-type program and Badin High School implemented its own Stang Symposium two years ago.

“I feel like it’s a vision realized,” Bardine said.

# Students Shine on Global Stage

## *Voices of Resilience*

Chaminade Julienne students and two staff members were invited to be featured panelists at the 2023 Social Practice of Human Rights Conference and the sixth International Conference on the Right to Development hosted by the University of Dayton. This was the first year that this international conference was hosted outside of the African continent. The conference marked a pivotal moment in the conversation surrounding decolonization and development, particu-

larly for Africa and people of African descent.

Gabe Lawson, CJ religion teacher, discovered this opportunity through

relationships he maintained during his time as a theology student at UD. Recognizing the potential impact of this venture, he enlisted the support of Carlos Stewart, CJ's director of mission and inclusion, to assist in making this experience possible.

Claude Kamden '24, Nana Osei-Obeng '25, Monique Njumashua '25, and Michelle Aniebo '26 were invited to be panelists for the event, each bringing unique perspectives shaped by their heritage, their families' journeys, and the challenges they faced coming to and living in a new country.

Dr. Novea McIntosh, UD adolescence to young adult coordinator, directed the panel and appreciated the students' openness to sharing their unique experiences.



Featured panelists at the International Conference on the Right to Development are (back row) Gabe Lawson, Claude Kamden '24, Nana Osei-Obeng '25, Carlos Stewart (front row) Monique Njumashua '25, Michelle Aniebo '26 and Dr. Novea McIntosh

*During the open discussion, their personal stories echoed the complex narratives of migration, identity, and resilience.*

"Chaminade Julienne Catholic High School's culturally and linguistically diverse students from immigrant families in the Dayton area shared their perspectives and rich narratives unpacking their identities as they navigate education in a dominant culture.

"The students articulated their passion for learning in an inclusive safe space at CJ where they feel a sense of belonging, bringing their own cultural funds of knowledge to the classroom in family spirit," she said.

According to McIntosh, Lawson and Stewart who served as moderators, "advocating for their students and giving them voice and agency as they, too, disrupted the status quo — a true example of education as a human rights imperative as we collectively decolonize the systems to amplify the voices of immigrant and refugee students."

### What Students Took from the Experience

"I really enjoyed being a part of this panel and this experience. I could tell that everyone who was there really wanted to be there, and I really enjoyed sharing my story." — **Monique Njumashua '25**

"Dr. McIntosh was really supportive and kind, and told us to be ourselves, be open minded, and if we didn't want to answer a question, we didn't have to. But all the questions were really great questions that helped educate the broader community about our experiences in Africa and our journey here.

"One of the questions asked was, 'How does CJ contribute to your positive experience as an immigrant in America? That question really stood out to me because CJ is playing a huge role in this new phase of my life. When I first came here and was trying to find a school to attend, CJ was the only school that wanted to meet with me because I was coming in halfway through freshman year. It was only CJ who extended a helping hand.' — **Mitchelle Aniebo '26**

### What Educators Took from the Experience

"This experience gave students an opportunity to fearlessly share their truth, and the opportunity to have a huge resume builder for college applications. Sitting on a panel at an international conference at a nationally known university is a pretty big deal. It was incredible to see these students do something that most college students don't do — that most people don't do. The head of the human rights department at UD was present, which was also really encouraging for the students — the people in charge wanted to come see and hear what they had to say." — **Gabe Lawson, religion teacher**

"I was thoroughly impressed by how our students expressed themselves. They displayed a true sense of authenticity and sincerity and were amongst the highlights of this great experience. It was more proof that our young people are champions and that the nuances of their diverse experiences make them assets to any space they choose to be in. I believe our students felt affirmed by the outpouring of love and the sense of community that was on display at the conference. They were well received and found a sense of belonging through fellowship and interacting with conference attendees, particularly those from their home countries. This was a truly memorable experience." — **Carlos Stewart, director of mission and inclusion.**



## STUDENTS SCORE PERFECT ON ACT EXAM



Two students received top recognition for their achievements on a national college readiness exam. Charlotte DeLong '24 and Keaton DePierre '24 achieved perfect scores on their ACT's. They attribute their success to a focus on strategy and personal care.

DeLong noted that while she purchased a ACT prep book, she never even cracked it open and used other strategies instead.



"I mostly studied through test-taking strategies," she said. "Instead of reviewing material that might be on the ACT, I focused on making sure I used methods like the process of elimination, time management, and careful question-reading. I made sure to use all of those strategies on the test, and they worked well for me."

DePierre took a slightly different approach and used practice tests to his advantage. Above all else, he states his success mostly came from a focus on eating right and getting plenty of rest prior to the test.

"Preparing for the ACT was a whole different world than preparing for a regular test," said DePierre. "Studying can only get you so far in a standardized test, so I knew that I needed to focus more on being well rested and well fed for the days leading up to the test. That was what would make or break my score."

Both students did a double take when they received their final ACT scores weeks later.

"One day, during English class, I saw an email that said my score was ready," said DeLong. "I logged on to the ACT website and just started laughing. My first thought was that it was a joke and there was no way the score could be real. I refreshed the page, but the score stayed the same. When it started to sink in that it was legit, I sent my parents an email right away, and my mom, also a CJ English teacher, came rushing down the stairs to congratulate me, which made me so happy."

"The feeling I got when I logged in and saw my score was unmatched," said DePierre. "I'd gotten a perfect score on a couple of the practice tests, but to make it on the real deal felt like a huge weight was taken off my shoulders and I was prepared for success."

DeLong and DePierre are both excited for what the future holds for them, with DeLong planning to major in genetics and potentially become a genetics counselor and DePierre planning to major in civil engineering.

"Getting a 36 felt amazing and I feel extremely grateful to have done so well," said DeLong. "I know it will afford me many scholarship and college opportunities in the future to help me pursue my dreams, and that makes me feel overwhelmingly happy and excited. To be honest, it still doesn't feel entirely real!"

## Senior to Graduate from CJ & Sinclair in May

On the brink of a remarkable accomplishment Makiya Keeton '24 is poised to not only graduate from Chaminade Julianne in May, but also from Sinclair Community College with an associate's degree in sociology. This dual graduation is a testament to her unwavering commitment and dedication to her education.



Keeton's journey towards this extraordinary achievement began in sixth grade when she and her mother happened to pass a booth for the College Credit Plus program. Her mother encouraged her to sign up.

"My mom always believed I could do more than what I thought I could do, and it really helped push me to succeed," she said.

Since then, she had skillfully juggled her high school coursework along with her college credits, creating a challenging yet re-

warding academic path for herself. The secret to her success was her ability to manage her time and keep herself organized.

"I try to get as much of my CJ work done at school during study hall or after classes end," said Keeton. "That way I have time after school to focus on my Sinclair work, extracurricular activities, and spending time with

my family and friends."

On top of managing two class loads, Keeton also is an active participant in the CJ community as a member of the tennis team freshman through senior year. She continues to serve as an Eagle Ambassador, showcasing her leadership skills by conversing with prospective families and supporting numerous CJ activities.

With great enthusiasm and the realization that she is about to double graduate, Keeton looks forward to her bright future. In early fall, she said that she "just started thinking like, wow, I'm going to graduate twice, that's a little insane!"

Once she has collected her two diplomas in the spring, Keeton's eyes are set on attending the University of Central Florida, where she plans to delve into her love for biology, focusing on the study of organisms, and ecosystems.

The College Credit Plus program at CJ began in 2016. Seven courses are currently offered through CJ, taught by CJ teachers during regular school hours.

"Makiya is a highly motivated student whose hard work and perseverance have made her successful," said Steve Fuchs, assistant principal. "She is a great testament to how participating in the CCP program while at CJ can help students get a head start to college."



# 2023 FALL SEASON WRAP UP

On the 50th anniversary of the unification of Chaminade and Julienne High School, CJ athletes were able to make season and career highlights. "Being part of the 50th anniversary and the growth of the school since the merger has been special to see and learn about," said Anthony Turner '04, athletic director. "The fall sports season was exciting as many of our teams competed for the GCL title and post-season play. All programs were able to see where they are currently versus where they want to be as a program. This season was all about growth. I am very proud of our athletic teams and I enjoy seeing them grow from the beginning of the season all the way to the finish."



Every member of the girl's varsity tennis team received All-Area honors from the Miami Valley Tennis Coaches Association. Pictured (l-r): Paige Harsman '27, Olivia Parisi '25, Mollie Juniewicz-Skill '25, Celeste Acuna '25, Maddie Musto '24 (accepting for Eve Palmer '24), Evelyn Powers '26, and Francesca Gongora '26.

## Girl's Tennis

The girl's tennis team had its best record in eight years at 15-3, finishing a very close second in the GCL and a very close third in all-area Division II rankings. Paige Harsman '26 (first singles) and Mollie Juniewicz '25 and Olivia Parisi '25 made first team all-GCL, while Francesca Gongora '27 made second team, and Evy Powers '26 made second team, and Celeste Acuna '25 and Eve Palmer '24 made honorable mention. The entire team received all-area honors from the Miami Valley Tennis Coaches Association:

**1ST TEAM:** Paige Harsman '26, Mollie Juniewicz '25, Olivia Parisi '25; **2ND TEAM:** Francesca Gongora '27, Evy Powers '26; **HONORABLE MENTION:** Celeste Acuna '25, Eve Palmer '24

## Team Awards from the MVTCA:

**ALL ACADEMIC AWARD:** Eve Palmer '24, Maddie Musto '24 **HONORABLE MENTION:** (Singles) Evy Powers '26 (20-4 record, mostly 3rd singles) **THIRD TEAM DOUBLES:** Celeste Acuna '25 / Eve Palmer '24 (9-4) **THIRD TEAM SINGLES:** Francesca Gongora '27 (14-10 at second singles) **FIRST TEAM DOUBLES:** Mollie Juniewicz '25 / Olivia Parisi '25 (11-3 at first doubles) **DOUBLES TEAM OF THE YEAR:** (Whole area) Mollie Juniewicz '25 / Olivia Parisi '25 First Team Singles Paige Harsman '26 (20-9 at first singles) **SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD:** (Whole Area) Paige Harsman '26

## Boy's Soccer



Kon Chan '24 holds CJ's boys soccer record for goals and points.

Boy's soccer had another successful season at 9-5-4 and finished as District Finalist for the second consecutive year. They also finished in 2nd place in the GCL with a final conference record of 3-1-1.

## Players earning all GCL:

**1ST TEAM:** Kon Chan '24, C.J. Kamden '24, Alex Rosengarten '24; **2ND TEAM:** Jonathan Cain '25, Philip Dix '25, John Palmer '26; **HONORABLE MENTION:** T.J. Petrovic '24.

## Players voted to the MVSSCA All Dayton Team:

**1ST TEAM:** Kon Chan '24; **2ND TEAM:** Philip Dix '25, Alex Rosengarten '24; **3RD TEAM:** Andrew Cannon '24, Jonathan Cain '25.

Kon Chan was also recognized as **2ND TEAM ALL STATE** with 46 career goals and 20 assists for 116 points. He is the school's all-time leader in goals and points.

## Girl's Volleyball

Girl's volleyball improved from the 2022 season, finishing in 5th place in the GCL CoEd League. Gabby Jones '24 hit a major milestone halfway through the season with 500 career kills and will be continuing her volleyball career at Lake Erie College where she's been admitted to the honors program.

## All-GCL honors:

**1ST TEAM:** Gabby Jones '24; **2ND TEAM:** Reese Thomas '26; **HONORABLE MENTION:** Sadie Lekan '25

## District 15 Awards:

**2ND TEAM:** Gabby Jones '24; **HONORABLE MENTION:** Reese Thomas '26, Katie Brown '26 **SENIOR ACADEMIC ALL STAR TEAM:** Ellie Feucht '24, Kiki Boehringer '24, Macayla Wilson '24, Nneka Archimalo '24

## Girl's Soccer

The girls' soccer team had a historic season. After moving up to Division I, the team posted the first winning season in 32 years, going 9-6-4. This included beating Alter for the first time since 2008, along with long-time rivals Oakwood and Kettering Fairmont, and finishing tied for third in the GCL CoEd league (2-2-1), the highest finish for the program since the formation of the GCL/GCL CoEd. The team set school records for goals scored and per game average and delivered the third best defensive effort in terms of goals per game average. The team was led offensively by Ava Peck '23 who scored 13 goals and 17 assists,





The varsity girls' soccer team set new school records for goals scored and per game average, and posted their highest finish for the Eagle program since the formation of the GCL/GCL Coed.

which tied the GCL Coed Season record, and Atuganile Mwamukonda '27 who finished the season with 15 goals and 3 assists. The Eagles season ended in a heartbreaking 2-1 loss in the second round of the playoffs at Sidney. Athletes earning GCL honors include:



**Ava Peck '23 tied the GCL Coed season record for goals plus assists and was named Co-Athlete of the Year for GCL Coed.**

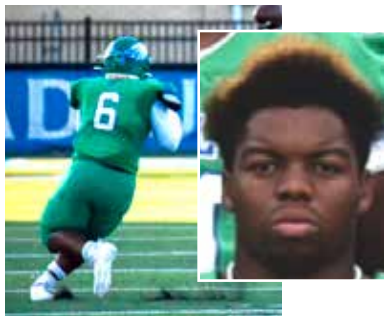
**1ST TEAM:** Ava Peck '24: Named Co-Athlete of the year for the GCL (Coed); Atuganile Mwamukonda '27; **2ND TEAM:** Kristin Wright '24, Bailey Hawkins '25; **HONORABLE MENTION:** Anna Weinel '24.



**Girls' soccer staff received top recognition this season: John Walusis (l) was named Sectional and District Assistant Coach of the Year, and Brent Lewis (r) was named Sectional and District Private School Coach of the Year.**

## Football

The football team finished 4th in the GCL with a season record of 7-5. This year the team increased their post season games from last year, making it to week 12.



**Nydrell Wright '24 was named GCL offensive Player of the Year.**

### GCL recognition includes:

#### GCL OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:

Nydrell Wright '24

**1ST TEAM OFFENSE:** Aiden Lowery '25, Nydrell Wright '25, William Robertson '24, **1ST TEAM DEFENSE:** Keegan Fowler '25, Zyon Woods '24, **2ND TEAM OFFENSE:** Elijah Berman '26, Charlie Kramer '24, Ethan Stacey '25, **2ND TEAM DEFENSE:** Mishaun Stevens '24, Joe Hudson '25, Dorian Carter '24, **HONORABLE MENTION:** Devan Donelson, Caelon Russell '25

### OHSAA All-State Teams:

**1ST TEAM:** Aiden Lowery '25, Nydrell Wright '25; **HONORABLE MENTION:** Will Robertson '24, Zyon Woods '24

## Boy's Golf

Boy's golf finished with a 10-7 record through our 9-hole events, placed 2nd in the GCL CoEd regular season and placed 2nd in the GCL tournament. Captain Luke Larreategui '24 finished 10th in the GCL with a scoring average of 40.2, and Ben Kolton '25 finished 11th with an average of 41.1. The Eagles qualified for the DII District Tournament for the

second year in a row, and placed 3rd in the Sectional Tournament with an 18-hole score of 332.

**1ST TEAM:** Ben Kolton '25; **2ND TEAM:** Luke Larreategui '24, Michael Cartone '26; **3RD TEAM:** Charlie Schinaman '25

## Girl's Golf

The CJ girl's golf team had a rebuilding season this year, welcoming three first-time players into the program: Eva Godbey '26, Julia Rains '27 and Yaneli Perez '27. Four-year letter winner and women's team captain, Kyrstin Schilens '24, led the team throughout the season with outstanding performances such as finishing in the top 10 at the season-opening Miamisburg Invitational, finishing top 5 at the Oakwood Invite, finishing 2nd place at the GCL Tournament, advancing to Districts individually, and completing the season with a scoring average of 43.89.

**1ST TEAM:** Kyrstin Schilens '24; **3RD TEAM:** Iliana Dann '26



**Charlotte DeLong '24, a four-year varsity letter winner, is a top 20 finisher for girl's cross country.**

## Cross Country

The cross country program saw continued growth this season, with both the boy's and girl's teams with new talent emerging in their varsity ranks. The girl's team

often improved as a whole each week and was led by Charlotte DeLong '24, who was named 1st Team All-GCL for a third time, and earned All-League Honors every season as an Eagle. She advanced to the OHSAA Regional Championships and placed 17th overall. Molly Schoen '27 also earned 3rd Team All-GCL, and the team as a whole advanced to the District Championship. The boy's team improved greatly by dropping two minutes overall from last year's average. The young team was led by Anthony Schneider '26 and Quentin Henderson-Jacobs '26 and were joined by Daniel Lehner '27, Noah Hauck '27 and Preston Goff '27 — finishing most weeks in the top 5 for the Eagles.



# Home in the US, Home at CJ.

## A Student's Path to Citizenship



Some students' journeys to Chaminade Julianne reach beyond the Dayton region, where the school continues to draw students from more than 50 zip codes to attend. In the case of Miakyambe "Debbie" Mitamba '24, the path to Ludlow and Franklin Streets transversed not only the state border, but the national boundary as well, starting all the way from the Congo of Africa. While Mitamba has called Dayton "home" for seven years — more than three of those years at CJ, her dream of calling the United States home was finally realized in November, as she became the first in her family to attain US citizenship.

### The journey has been challenging

CJ's EL office (English Learners) became part of Mitamba's support system when she first enrolled at CJ in 2020, but further became an incredible resource for her during the weeks leading up to her citizenship test. Faculty and staff, alongside her friends, rallied behind her, creating a nurturing environment for study sessions.

"When her EL peers learned that she was taking the citizenship test, they wanted to be involved and helpful," said Krystal Rosa, EL coordinator. "They all stepped in, helped her study using flashcards, and as soon as they all found out she passed, we celebrated for weeks."

Rosa along with Elise Chandler, EL staff member, and Dr. Tina Rodriguez, Cuvilly staff member, were on hand to witness the moment that Mitamba became a U.S. citizen.

"It is truly a blessing to work with English Learners, and seeing Debbie become a US citizen and knowing she has the same rights as anyone that was born in the states, it's something so beautiful it's hard to express with words," said Rosa.

Mitamba recalls being nervous preparing for the tests to become a citizen, which included US history, reading, and writing. Yet, in those anxious moments, she turned to prayer, "Right before the test, I took a minute and whispered, 'God, please be here with me,'" she said.

Prayer, her determination, and the unwavering support of her community saw her through, as she successfully navigated the citizenship test and passed on her first attempt.

"I have worked with Debbie since I started at CJ in January of 2021," said Rosa. "When I

Krystal Rosa (left) and Elise Chandler (right), EL Services staff members, and Dr. Tina Rodriguez, Cuvilly staff member, were present when Debbie Mitamba '24 became one of the newest citizens of the United States of America. "I was so honored and blessed to witness Debbie's naturalization, especially since I was not able to attend my mom's naturalization," said Dr. Rodriguez.

first began working with her, she was more quiet and shy because she was still developing English language skills. Once she started mastering the language, she started to become so talkative as she shared all about her culture, background, and knowledge."

Mitamba's newfound citizenship was more than just a personal achievement, it held the key to opening up a channel to her family still in the Congo. She can now travel freely, bridging the gap between her family still in the Congo and her family living in the US. She looks ahead with excitement as her plans are set on traveling, pursuing additional education, and saving for the future.

"I'm really grateful for the support I received at CJ," said Mitamba. "Ms. Rosa, Ms. Loeffler, and Ms. Chandler helped me so much. At CJ I have been supported in learning, not only English but many other things and I have become closer to God. When I am here, I feel God."



# “What More Can We Do for Our Students?”

The Question Drives Excellence at CJ, Now Showcased Through Video

For the people, programs, places and partnerships that elevate the educational experience for Chaminade-Julienne students continue to draw families from across the region who are looking to best prepare their students for graduation and beyond.

CJ’s one-of-a-kind experience based on the charisms of the Marianists and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur continues to evolve out of the school’s perennial question, “What more can we do for our students?” As a result, CJ continues to adapt for the times by preparing now for future generations.

### Reaching Families Who Should Know More About Their Options at CJ

For the past year and a half, CJ’s marketing and communications team has been developing a new approach to sharing those things that continue to set the school apart from other experiences. A video platform

was established along with a plan for directed content, branded styles, and a collaborative production process.

Since then, CJ’s website, social media, and digital outlets have featured the school’s newest content, with exciting results and increased recognition for the school.

“Our people, programs and campus are getting recognized out in the community,” said Tina Wagoner, director of marketing and communications. “We can see it in our increased viewership, and also hear it directly from people who come up to us and say that they’ve seen us.”

“Through the talented efforts of both our communications coordinator, Caitlin Pearn ‘13 and videographer, Ben Rivet, CJ has produced a library of videos to the level, quality and volume that I’ve not seen from any other high school,” she said.

“Videos range from featuring major school initiatives, inviting participation to events, and making announcements, to allowing viewers to get to know our people a little better. In some instances, viewers are getting a wonderful behind-the-scenes look at CJ, which we haven’t tried before. We are blessed in the fact that we have so many in the community who are willing to share their stories.”

The reach of the Internet combined with featured videos and a plan for distribution allows viewers from all parts of the region to gain a better appreciation for the many ways that make CJ so unique.

“Though nothing can substitute for the experience of being on campus, videos allow us to better capture school spirit and the sense of welcome that CJ is well-known for,” Wagoner said. “We are excited to reach new audiences, and invite more families into the experience and mission of CJ.”

Students, teachers and staff members help tell the story of CJ. View the videos here by visiting the #AllAreWelcomeCJ page on the school’s website: [cjeagles.org](http://cjeagles.org), or use the QR codes for immediate access.

Enjoy!.

Mission and Inclusion



CJ Educators: Libby Harbaugh



College and Career Planning



Bienvenidos a CJ



Meet Mykala Wilcox '24



Take a Virtual Tour of CJ



Be Present CJ



Class Scholarships



Working at CJ







**CJ will take a fresh look at its current campus master plan to take into account the properties purchased on Eaker Street over the last three years, including Founders Center (the former Taj Ma Garaj), and now the Terminal Cold Storage building.**

# CJ Takes Ownership of the Former Cold Storage Building

Videos also available at [www.vimeo.com/cjeagles](http://www.vimeo.com/cjeagles)



**Exciting news about campus expansion and what's next was announced by Dan Meixner '84 in August.**

**Take a look inside the Cold Storage building with John Marshall '86, director of development, and learn how it served the Dayton community in its time.**

## 1.3 Acres of Possibilities

The air was charged with excitement as Chaminade Julienne announced an exciting acquisition of 20-60 Eaker Street, the former Terminal Cold Storage/Dayton Frozen Solutions building in early August. An iconic landmark known fondly by many decades of alumni and the Dayton community as “The Ice House,” this milestone purchase marks a significant leap forward for Chaminade Julienne’s mission, vision, and future.

“This is exciting news for our campus and our mission, which was made possible through the continuing generous support of the CJ community, said Dan Meixner ‘84, president. “The acquisition of 20-60 Eaker Street opens new opportunities to enhance the educational experience of the students and families that we are proud to serve now, and in the years to come.”

To better serve students, CJ continues to look for opportunities to expand campus. This acquisition, just north of Emmanuel Church — the oldest Catholic church in Dayton — adds a fresh dimension, expanding the CJ footprint from 18.5 acres to nearly 20 acres and places Emmanuel Church, where CJ students regularly attend Mass, at the center of campus. The property will

open doors to new teaching and learning spaces that will shape the experiences of students for generations to come.

“Immediately, this acquisition helps secure the northeast side of our campus and provides space and square footage to allow us to dream about what the future of CJ could look like,” said John Marshall ‘86, director of development.

This acquisition comes 50 years after the joining of CJ’s founding schools, Chaminade High School, owned and operated by The Marianists, and Julienne High School, owned and operated by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. The 1973-1974 school year opened the doors of Chaminade Julienne Catholic High School on the corner of Franklin and Ludlow Streets.

This location in Dayton was home for the Sisters starting in 1849, then purchased by the Marianists in 1927 when the Sisters moved to the Five Oaks neighborhood. Fifty years after the schools came together, the CJ campus is set to expand yet again due to the forward-thinking decisions of our predecessors.

“Fifty years ago, our predecessors made decisions for the future of CJ that has gotten

us to this point and continues to fuel us,” said Marshall. “Today, we see the fruits of those decisions being further realized with the purchase of the Eaker Street property. We continue to remain forward thinking, just as our predecessors did, to set up the school for future generations to come.”

Given the nature of its construction and intended use, the building will not be repurposed for CJ’s use, but instead will be demolished as soon as funding is available to make space for many possibilities and opportunities. The development team is gaining funding through its “wrecking crew” project for clearing the space for fresh possibilities. Capital projects are funded through contributions and not through tuition dollars.

“We are excited for the opportunity to remove the current structure, improve the neighborhood, and more fully embrace Emmanuel Church as the focal center of our campus,” said Dan Meixner.

“We look forward to continuing the journey ahead which includes embracing change, directing progress, and building upon the CJ legacy that will span into the next 50 years and beyond.”



# Supporting Student Activities in Wonderful Ways

CJ is blessed by a community of people who want great things to happen for our students. Through the yearly gifts of many contributors to the CJ Annual Fund, essential school operations and tuition support are supported to ensure the vibrancy of the educational experience for students.

Additionally, the development office also seeks support in other ways to help fund capital projects, strategic initiatives and student activities.

"We are fortunate to have those among our community who are always there for us, and then ask 'what more can they do,'" said John Marshall, development director. "This is especially true when they see opportunities connected to things that they are also passionate about."



Eagle Pride colorguard team with uniform coordinator, Charis Weible.

## Eagle Pride Guard Uniforms

When the CJ band director, Debi Schutt, spoke with John Marshall '86, director of development about the desire of fresh uniforms and a new design for the Eagle Pride colorguard, Marshall knew who to call. Sam Rinehart '69 — a member of the "Marching 100" during his time in high school, has been a long-time and passionate supporter of CJ and of the marching band program. It did not take long for Rinehart to reply, "Absolutely, I would love to help!" Students helped with the design, and the outfits were delivered in time for the colorguard to debut its new look during the 2023 football season.



Ray Dysas '69 with wrestling coaches Joel Sanchez and Jeremy Valentine after the installation of the new mat.

## Wrestling Mats

Being a former wrestler for the Eagles in the 1980s, John Marshall, director of development, frequently attends school wrestling events, and thought to invite another former wrestler, Ray Dysas '69, to the Greater Catholic League tournament a few years ago. There, Dysas met head coach Joel Sanchez and offered that if an opportunity came up to support the team, that he would like to know. A year later, Marshall learned

through school budget discussions that the team's main mat needed to be replaced. He shared that with Dysas, and the two met to review the design and cost. Marshall explained that the school could fund the new mat in a couple of years, or the project could be advanced with the additional support from a benefactor. Dysas agreed to provide the support to advance the project, and this year's team benefited from the new mat at the start of this season.



## CJ Sponsorship Program

In order to help fund student activities and extra-curricular programming, all CJ families participated in the annual Patron Ad drive where students would either sell or buy an ad that would appear in the yearbook and student activities program.

That changed for the 2016-2017 school year when the development office eliminated the fundraiser obligation for families and, instead, instituted the CJ Sponsorship Program to help cover costs of student activities for sports and performing arts. The program saw early success up until the pandemic put a dramatic pause on the community's ability to gather.

Adrienne Green, alumni relations coordinator, took the opportunity to look at the program, and then relaunch it with fresh opportunities for sponsors, including the static panels on the scoreboards at Roger Glass Stadium - Home of the CJ Eagles as well as expanded advertising through CJ's Parent Weekly and over-the-mic sponsor acknowledgements at games.

**More details about the program, levels of sponsorship, and a listing of current sponsors can be found on CJ's website: [cjeagles.org](http://cjeagles.org) under the "Give" tab. Those interested in knowing more about the program can also contact David Cordonnier '10 at (937) 461-3740 x237, or [dcordonnier@cjeagles.org](mailto:dcordonnier@cjeagles.org).**

# milestones

## 40s

**Caroline Madden Hall '47** recently turned 95 and is still living in her home. She says that she is moving a little slower, but is overall doing well. She misses so many who have gone before her, including her son, John. She has four children, 11 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

## 50s

**Florence Kelble Beck '53** is still active in her church choir and prayer group music. She recently moved to Delaware Summit Retirement Community and is in charge of the monthly sing along.

**Barbara Seifert Reidy '55** writes that her husband, Tom, passed away in December of 2021. They were married 61 years.

## 60s

**Donald Bernard '61** and **Kathryn Bereda Bernard '59** are both retired. Their marriage is a second for both, as their previous spouses have passed away.

**John Mott '61** writes, "Everything is going good!"

**Marjorie Tepe Weldie '62** has been married to Harry Weldie for more than 57 years. They have two children and nine grandchildren, including one from Ethiopia and one from Ghana. The couple says that they enjoy their retirement with traveling and following their grandchildren's graduations and weddings. They took a cruise to Alaska and look forward to returning to Bermuda for the ninth time. "Life is good and all is well."

**Donald Honious '63** recently retired after 30 years at IBM and 10 years at General Dynamics.

**Thomas Mahle '64** is enjoying retirement, family, grandchildren, golf, bowling and lunch with the class of 1964 on the second Friday of every month.

**Louise Cramer Webb '64** is retired after 30 years of nursing. She is the grandmother of seven and mom to four. She shares that she is so proud of her family and likes to travel and support climate and environmental causes.

**Robert Overman '66** is enjoying retirement. He spends time with his two grandchildren and playing golf.

**Thomas Henehan '66** has been retired for nine years and married to his sweetheart, Lynne, for 53 years.

**Mary Fitzgerald Horning '67** is married to Mike Horning and has been a nurse for 53 years. She is working four days per week in pre-op, and says that she doesn't know when she will retire. She writes, "This is my ministry, so waiting on the Lord."

**John Seibert '68** is working part time. He has been at the same company for over 55 years!

## 70s



**David Blake '70** has a four-year legacy with the Great Cycle Challenge for Kids for Cancer, and rides in honor of his mother, Mary, who is currently battling lung cancer after over-

coming childhood polio and breast cancer. He says that his mother is resilient at the age of 89, and shares her words of encouragement, "Just because you have cancer, it's not a death sentence. You must continue to fight to live." David was captain for his cycling team, Team MPPAC (Miramar Pembroke Pines Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi), and cycled 137 miles, raising \$2,405 to help assist children with cancer.

**John Grismer '70** writes that his daughter, **Katie Grismer '16**, recently graduated from the University of Dayton with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy. She is employed by Premier Health in Dayton.

**Diane Treolo Couture '70** and her husband, Paul, moved to Phoenix, AZ 28 years ago and are celebrating 51 years of marriage.

**Barry Wabler '78** was recently appointed Chief Financial Officer of EOS Hospitality, a hotel investment and management company headquartered in New York City.

**Michael Buchanan '79** is enjoying retirement.

## 90s



**Jennifer Dalton Theibert '92** is an attorney, serving as vice president and general counsel for UC Health in Cincinnati. She and her husband, Matt, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in September and have two daughters, **Sydney '23**, who is a freshman at the University of Dayton, studying business and playing club lacrosse, and **Avery '26**, who is playing soccer and lacrosse for the Eagles. Jennifer has served on the CJ Board of Trustees and subcommittees since 2018. Jennifer and Matt are avid lacrosse and soccer fans, and can often be found cheering Sydney and Avery on from the stands. In their free time, they love to travel as a family to Europe, the Caribbean, and Florida.



# Relatives and Relationships

## Annual Fund Chairs Continue in Eagle Tradition



### Unique Gift Opportunity from January 1 through April 15

A positive way to direct your state taxes

Beginning January 1, 2024, gifts made directly to Chaminade Julienne can reduce your state tax liability through CJ's newly created Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO), the Chaminade Julienne Catholic Education Fund (CEF).

This exciting advancement gives everyone an opportunity to impact students at CJ and positively decrease their state taxes, by making a gift to the CJ CEF.

"By directing your tax dollars during this period of time, you receive full benefit of your donation while at the same time strengthen the Catholic educational mission at CJ," said John Marshall '86, director of development.

"New or additional gifts are always appreciated. Each gift given furthers our mission of educating the whole person in a diverse setting, giving them the greatest opportunity to become lifelong learners that are grounded in integrity and service. And if CJ's SGO can provide full benefit to donors and CJ, we want to make sure that people know about it."

#### Here are a few facts about the CJ CEF:

- An SGO is required to primarily award scholarships and prioritize those scholarships to low-income students.
- Through this fund, you will be able to receive a tax credit toward your state tax liability. For individuals, the maximum amount is \$750. For those filing jointly, the maximum amount is \$1,500.
- This tax credit is a dollar-for-dollar match.
- The deadline for a gift to impact your tax filing for 2023 is April 15, 2024. Gifts can be made up to that date, or until you have submitted your tax return.
- This process cuts out administrative costs giving through other SGO's outside of Chaminade Julienne.

**To learn more about this unique opportunity, contact John Marshall '86 at [johnmarshall@cjeagles.org](mailto:johnmarshall@cjeagles.org) or (937) 461-3740 x224.**

For generations, Chaminade Julienne has held a special place in the hearts of this year's CJ Annual Fund chairs, Ryan and Julie Sullivan. Members of CJ's alumni include Ryan's grandmother, Betty Gress Fitzgerald '46, who graduated from Julienne; his father, Ed Sullivan, Jr. '72; and younger siblings, Paul '98 and Edward '03. Both of Julie's parents, Joseph Lehmann III '56, and St. Joseph's graduate Charlene Herz Lehmann '56, are also members of the CJ legacy.

Both Julie and Ryan grew up hearing about the traditions and love for CJ. Ryan, experienced CJ through youth sports where he began to build lifelong relationships that flourished during his high school years. The tradition of the school was also ingrained into him through stories from his father's time at Chaminade.

An affinity for CJ has led them to serve within the CJ community in this role and others.

Professionally, Julie serves as the executive vice president of regional development at the Dayton Development Coalition, and is a member of the CJ Board of Trustees.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to take an active role on the Board of Trustees at the institution that will help shape my children's futures. It's a blessing to use my skill set to assist in the educational mission of CJ, the Marianists, and Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur," she said.

The couple has been involved in the community for years with their children. All three of their boys have been active in Eagle youth sports, just like Ryan growing up. The boys have begun to develop those same strong friendships over the years and led to the boys wanting to attend CJ; their oldest, Isaac '26, is a sophomore this year.

Ryan and Julie have an appreciation for how everyone who contributes to the CJ Annual Fund impacts students every year.

"Those sharing their treasures with CJ are giving students the opportunity to grow spiritually, academically, and find their best self. The generosity of the community has enabled us to invest in faculty and staff professional development, support various programs, and provide tuition assistance," they said.

"Whether it is the 50 years since the unification of Chaminade Julienne, or the fact that the Sisters and Marianists each have more than 170 years of educational service to the Dayton area, a community anchor like CJ doesn't have a history of excellence without tremendous support over the years.

"We are proud to be a part of that community and look forward to furthering the mission of CJ."



IN MEMORIAM

*Chaminade Julienne extends its **deepest sympathy** to the families and friends of CJ family members who have died.*

Jack Geis '41  
Charles Dorian '42  
Helen Albers Crotty '43  
Thomas Spitzig '44  
Mary Thill Cates '45  
William Blommel '46  
Mary Breig Giambrone '46  
Marillyn Behrer Knight '46  
Sara Call Woodward '47  
Mary Frazier Glisson '47  
Claire Boland Walter '47  
Mary Lou Brinkman Ware '47  
Judy Hartnett Geis '48  
John Porter '48  
Ellen Donahue Allender '49  
Robert Janning '49  
Carol Wagner Bernard '49  
Carolyn Alexander Miller '49  
James Tunney '50  
Joseph Matt '50  
Roberta Strickland Hickman '50  
Donald Payne '50  
Virginia Kramer Hanby '50  
Thomas Bowles '51  
Cletus Goubeaux '51  
Howard Honious '51  
Victor Vallo '51  
James Weidner '51  
Francis Ferdelman '51  
Chester Damuth '51  
Rose Kleismit Martin '51  
Donald Dugan '51  
Ida Zimmerman May '51  
Virginia Mauch Wade '51  
Dolores Tolle Bierlein '51  
Joseph Kelemen '51  
James Striebel '51  
Paul Wolf '51  
Maureen Kelly Koehler '52  
Helen Elsner Blakeney '52  
Barbara Nurrenbrock Spitzig '52  
Alice Bruetsch '52  
Clara Sucher Krisley '53

Lucille Grillot James '53  
Elaine Bruggeman Lewis '53  
Lawrence Mutschler '53  
John Beigel '53  
Catherine Ebert '53  
Dorothy Eifert '53  
Constance Martin Crosby '53  
Richard Bice '53  
Donald Turner '53  
Daniel Goetz '53  
Paul Thesing '53  
Robert Keyes '53  
Ronald Good '54  
Michael Laukhart '54  
Patricia Haggerty Fields '54  
Mary Moore Horstman '54  
John Froning '54  
Rita Vaitkus Shanesy '54  
Theodore Sloan '54  
David Placke '55  
Carol Becker '55  
Magdalena Maas Habodasz '55  
Carolyn Link Placke '55  
John Leitschuh '55  
Roberta Kirk French '55  
George Wehner '55  
Virginia Stoltz Frank '56  
Patricia Borst '56  
David Klingshirm '56  
Michael Greaney '56  
Nancy Dague Hery '56  
Sue Wolff McMakin '57  
Carl Schrader '57  
Elaine Wildenhaus  
Schommer-Makey '57  
Mary Jane Fecher Deis '57  
James Valentine '57  
Helen Dugan McAllister '57  
John Barnes '57  
Suzanne Geyer Reiling '57  
Charlene Uschold Robinson '58  
Edward Charnock '58  
Melva Crothers Pickle '58

Martha Schlosser Lairson '58  
Anne Malone Luebrecht '58  
Charlene Caserta Ireton '58  
Robert Brewster '58  
Ned Sifferlen '59  
Rose Frawley Heitzman '59  
Thomas Dickensheets '59  
Diane Cwiok Huth '59  
Thomas Cogan '59  
Vermilda Wessendorf Janning '59  
Mary Koepnick Janowski '59  
Cecelia Kramer Phelan '60  
James Goldschmidt '60  
Rodney Schwieterman '60  
Paul Jacobson '60  
Suzanne Thompson Dunaway '60  
Benjamin Hill '60  
Betty Glaser Hiebendahl '61  
Sandra Grillot Connell '61  
Kathleen DeBrosse Schamel '61  
William Hunter '61  
Theodore Senecal '62  
Edward Bochenek '62  
Robert Boeckman '62  
Michael Freeman '62  
Michael O'Connell '62  
Robert Buhrman '63  
Michael Gauger '63  
Dorothy Dyke Hall '63  
Marilyn Vocke Jergens '63  
James Lewis '63  
James Ivory '63  
Linda Flaughner Boyer '63  
Ann Burgess Goebel '63  
Carol Thomas Stroud '63  
Susan Pflaum Nordyke '63  
Laura Schopler Facciponte '63  
Linda Schlosser Miller '63  
Ken Calloway '63  
Daniel Watkins '63  
Nora Driscoll Bane '64  
David Hussong '64  
James McCartan '64

Frederic Heberling '64  
David Hoffman '64  
Mary Mueller Sowards '64  
Robert Kozlowski '64  
Dennis Schulke '64  
Edward Collins '64  
James Bujarski '64  
James Fischer '64  
Thomas Kavanaugh '65  
Thomas Rose '65  
Gregory Reed '65  
Albert Dix '65  
Robert Hamden '65  
Paul Wittman '65  
Thomas Long '65  
Catherine Buechele Oliver '66  
Kathleen Schultz Beck '66  
Gregory Campbell '66  
Carol Strutton Paradiso '67  
Cheryl Anderson '67  
Janice McCrink Daugherty '67  
Rita Ruef '67  
Steven Wells '68  
Karen Lengerich Kilroy '69  
John Ruf '69  
Robert Tangeman '70  
Madonna Burns Noland '71  
Ronald Millett '71  
Sharon Harless '73  
Vincenzo Ferraro '73  
Cheryl Buchholz Cunnagin '73  
James Robinson '74  
Donald Cooper '74  
Barbara Bussinger Gohmann '76  
Steven Balazs '76  
Mark Schirmer '81  
Megan Clements Clements '84  
Antoinette Cook '85  
Brian Spirk '92  
David Jang '94  
Michael Williams '97





Lessons on Life and Nature By Caitlyn Roach '23

# Unexpected Gifts from the Taos Mission Trip

Taos, New Mexico taught me many lessons in such a short period of time. The town centered around the talents of its people, sharing its appreciation for life and nature.

The trip opened new perspectives for me at the perfect time — I had just graduated from CJ and was heading to the University of Dayton in the fall.

## The Gift of New Friends

The group from CJ was mixed between grades, so a lot of us did not know more than a couple people when first beginning our journey. However, because of the many new experiences that we enjoyed together — even water gun fights, photo shoots, and making social media TikToks— we came home with great memories with new friends.

Our flight was at 2 a.m. from Cincinnati, and we arrived at Taos in the early afternoon. I have seen mountain ranges before, but Taos amazed me with its breathtaking views. There were little to no trees, so you could see for miles. It was beautiful.

Stewart and Hannah, a father-daughter duo, were our guides for the trip. Stewart leads this trip almost every time, and previously taught at a high school. They were both welcoming and interested in hearing about our high school lives. Our chaperones, Mrs. Stone and Mr. Eiser, did an amazing job of guiding us and making sure things went smoothly — they too, were appreciated more as friends than supervisors.

## The Gift of Being Welcomed

We began service in the morning all the way to lunch. We pulled weeds from the Red Willow Farm. The mountains there were beautiful. The workers there were kind and told interesting stories about how they made Taos their home. We also visited a youth building, and I got to paint an old photo-developing room from black to sky

blue. The ladies there were so welcoming and appreciative that we were enthusiastic to help. They even left us with homemade dream catchers.

## The Gift of Experiencing a Different Culture

We took two trips to the Pueblo Reservation. People who live there now, live as they did thousands of years with no electricity or running water. A kind couple allowed us to watch as they made traditional bread in huge clay ovens. I was engaged as they told us how they live and how everything they know is passed down from family tradition. The bread is just as delicious as it looks. It was the best bread that all of us ever had, with me enjoying seven slices!

The shops were in buildings all handmade out of clay and were run by the locals of the Pueblos. There I bought a few treasures to take home: handmade earrings and bracelets.

One of the workers from the Pueblo actually was in a group of brothers that do traditional drumming together. All the songs were sung in native language and it was beautiful to hear. They explained that none of the songs were actually written down, it was all passed down by mouth from their families. The brothers even compete in competitions sometimes. Each of us got the chance to play the drum, and we all got up and danced in a circle.

One of the most memorable nights was when Robert Mirabel and his daughter visited the lodge. Robert is a Grammy-Award winning flute player, native to Taos. He played alleviating music that I have never heard live before, which put me into a soothing, meditative trance. His instruments were one of a kind, and all handmade. His daughter has the most beautiful voice that almost made me cry while listening to it.

After our “private concert,” Robert and his daughter talked to us about life. Some of the things I noted were: “Fall in love with things,” “Don’t be held back from people who don’t have passports,” and “Google knows everything except for what is in your heart.”

## The Gift of Nature

Robert and his daughter revealed how important nature is, especially for the people in Taos. It can be easy for people who spend a majority of their time indoors surrounded by modern conveniences, to miss the experience of nature as part of their lives. People who now wake to smartphones as their “sun,” for example, miss out an amazing experience readily available to them on every low-cloud morning. My experience truly humbled me and reminded me to be more grounded in nature and in the little things of life. Our group even got up at 5 a.m. to watch the sunrise together as a lasting memory of this precious gift!

Each year, Chaminade Julienne ministry and service office provides students with opportunities to participate in different kinds of mission trips as close as Cincinnati and Indiana, and as far away as Taos, NM. Because of the value that these trips hold for our students, CJ is working to make mission trips a reality for all students who would like to participate.

“Benefactors are ensuring that students who would like to go on a trip, are able to participate. We are extremely grateful for that!” said John Marshall '86, director of development.

“Their generosity and the value of these trips are supporting us on an idea that we are exploring — that all students would have the ability to attend a trip at least once during their time at CJ. It’s a big idea, but the outcomes are enormous.”



# Take 5 with Ellie Cronin

## University of Dayton Head Coach for Women's Golf



From an enthusiastic 7-year-old hitting the course for the first time to a first-year college golf coach, Ellie Cronin '16 has come a long way.

A three-year letter winner at the University of Dayton, the Chaminade Julianne graduate is in her first year as head coach of the Flyers women's golf team. Cronin — who finished her UD career in 2020 with the program's all-time low scoring average of 76.26, after posting the squad's low scoring average each of the three seasons she competed with the Flyers — is hoping to continue her winning ways, now as a coach.

While much has changed since Cronin earned back-to-back GGCL Player of the Year recognition in 2015 and 2016, her competitive spirit remains as strong as it ever was.

### Is there an accomplishment you are most proud of?

"I have a few that come to mind, but it was probably my sophomore year after transferring to UD. I was nervous and didn't quite feel fully acclimated yet. I went out and won the first tournament individually that I played in a UD uniform. That one was special."

### What have you learned as a coach that you didn't think about as a golfer? Do you have a new appreciation for coaches?

"I think golf is such a complex sport for even the everyday golfer. As a high school and collegiate athlete, sometimes the hardest part was trying to play with a clear mind despite school, life, etc. being hectic. As a coach, it's much easier once you get on the course, but the prep work is easily way more difficult."

### Is it more challenging golfing or coaching?

"I think I was so naive to what coaches do. In golf, it's more of a person who can lift you up when your mind is playing tricks on you. It's someone who encourages you during moments of doubt. And most importantly, it's someone you can trust and lean on. I have so much appreciation for my coaches because they really took on the brunt of our teenage attitudes, our vent sessions, our poor play all while doing SO much work on the back end."

### Are there lessons learned at CJ that you carry with you today?

"Looking back on my time as a student athlete at both CJ and UD, what I remember most is not the accomplishments, the great rounds, the moments of excellence. It's the atmosphere, the culture, the people and the memories you make along the way. Teachers, coaches, peers and friendships have carried me through life and some of my greatest friendships were formed at CJ."

### What are some of your coaching goals?

"This is all so new to me that every trip feels like a brand new experience. I feel super blessed to be able to experience every road trip and ability to travel to really great places. I think there was some uncertainty when I initially took the position, but the thought of being uncomfortable is really appealing to me —being

uncomfortable provides growth. I'm really excited to take my success and apply that to coaching young women to be not only the best golfers they can be but be the best versions of themselves and to represent their university in the best manner possible. I hope to not just be a coach, but rather a mentor and a motivator to them much beyond the game of golf."





A HISTORY SHARED

# Returning to Class 70 Years Later



**Walter Federspiel '52 and his wife, Mary Anne '55, pay a visit to CJ just prior to Veteran's Day.**

W

Whenever social studies teacher Tony Ricciuto '73 learns of an opportunity to connect history with students beyond books and screens, he makes it happen. And it was through a long-time connection with a colleague at Stivers School for the Arts that brought Walter Federspiel '52 back to Ludlow and Franklin Streets to share his piece of history.

Ricciuto met Federspiel's daughter, Bridget Federspiel, a history teacher and JCOWA (Junior Council on World Affairs) coordinator at Stivers, more than 40 years ago.

"We've known each other since 1993, mainly through Holocaust studies, JCOWA, and grading the national exam for AP Euro," he said. "I learned that her father served in the Korean War after attending Chaminade."

Bridget introduced the two men, which led to Ricciuto welcoming the veteran back into the building where Federspiel attended high school more than 70 years ago.

This time, Federspiel was in front of the classroom and teaching from experience, rather than taking notes in a student notebook. He explained that after he graduated from high school, he made the decision to volunteer for the service instead of being drafted, and joined the Army in 1953. He completed eight weeks of basic training at Fort Knox, TN and moved onto Camp Rucker in Alabama for specialty training involving anti-aircraft machine guns. Once trained, Federspiel said that he was heading to Korea just as the war was ending. The armistice was signed on July 27, 1953.

"I had traveled 14 days by boat, from San Francisco to Japan (Yokohama) and trained



**Tony Ricciuto '73 welcomes Walter Federspiel '52 to social studies class.**

there to be in the transportation corp.," he said. "I spent eight to ten weeks there, and then shipped to Busan, Korea in open boats, standing up the whole time."

From Busan, Federspiel was stationed in Seoul where he directed and kept track of the trains used by the Army, checking the "GIs at each train station, and making sure that we didn't lose supplies enroute." He explained that at the time, rice fields were destroyed and people knew that food was being transported by rail.

In 1955 he ended his service as a specialist second class and used his GI Bill to attend the University of Dayton, and worked in the banking business.

He showed the class his Korean War medal and his dog tags from his time in the Army, saying that they carried each service member's name, service number, religious affiliate, blood type and date of joining the service. He shared that he later went on an Honor Flight (a special recognition for WW II, Korean and Vietnam Veterans) in 2018 to Washington D.C. with Bridget.



**As part of his presentation, Walter showed the class his dog tags and also his medal from the Korean War.**

Federspiel gave some advice to students who were thinking about joining the service.

"There's so much you can do in the military. If I could go back, I would have chosen the Air Force or the Navy as you don't have to be a pilot to join," he reflected, and shared a final thought, "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

Ricciuto was grateful to his guest for sharing his experience with the class, and said that he wasn't sure that students today could fully appreciate the memories of someone who served in war time.

"Mr. Federspiel was great!" Ricciuto said. "He spoke with great pride about serving his country and sharing intimate stories about soldiers he served with over in Korea. He has tried to reconnect with fellow soldiers, but at almost 90, it's pretty hard to do.

"Like most of his era, he was very modest about the experience, but definitely expressed how he grew up after his time in the war. He continues to hold a deep appreciation for those who served in a combat role."



# CJ'S WORLD OF

Visiting Chaminade Julienne can happen at any time through the school's expansive network of social media channels. Passionate faculty, staff members and students frequently post content as they share the heart and soul of the CJ community happening around them. Photos, videos and content highlight aspects of life at CJ coming from perspectives such as ministry and service, performing arts, athletics, school spirit and more. In the spirit of this year's school theme: #AllAreWelcomeCJ, all are truly welcome to join and follow the many CJ adventures on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter/X.



CJ's main social media accounts cover all aspects of the school and are found on: **Facebook: Chaminade Julienne Catholic High School and Chaminade Julienne Alumni;** on Instagram: @chaminade\_julienne; on Twitter/X: @cjeagles; and LinkedIn: Chaminade Julienne High School

**Other accounts include:**

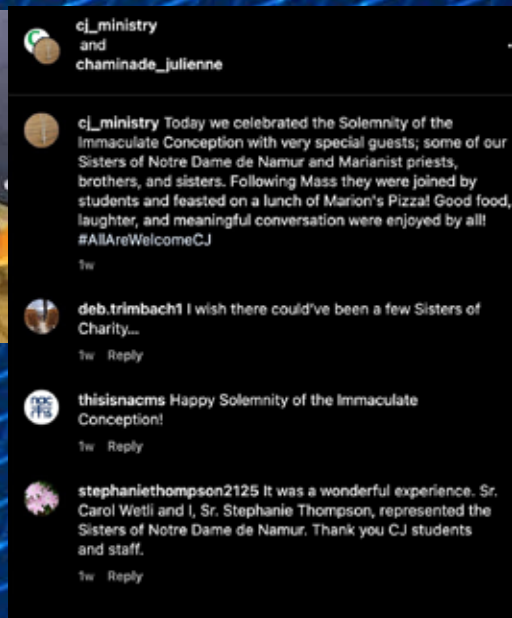
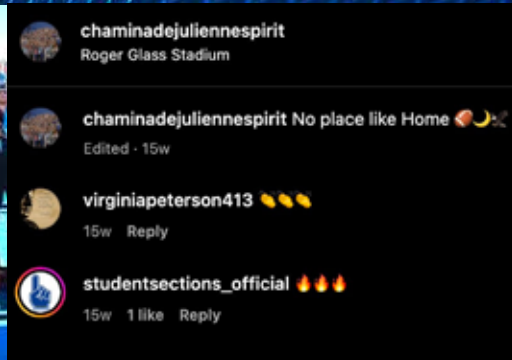
- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Instagram</b>     | Swim Team               |
| CJ Spirit            | Hope Squad              |
| Performing Arts      | CJ Eagle Messenger      |
| Ministry and Service | CJ Track and Field      |
| Principal            | <b>X/Twitter:</b>       |
| Cross Country        | Athletics Office        |
| Eagle Pride          | CJ Alumns President     |
| CJ Alumns            | Cheer                   |
| Cheer                | Men's Lacrosse          |
| Girls Soccer         | Baseball                |
| Boys Volleyball      | Men's Volleyball        |
| A Cappella           | Track and Field         |
| Tennis               | Strength & Conditioning |
| Girls Lacrosse       | Director of Development |
| Boys Lacrosse        | Principal               |
| Bowling              | Men's Basketball        |
| Gaming Club          |                         |
| eSports              |                         |

**You're a snap away from connecting:**





# S O C I A L M E D I A



As the school year began, CJ received exciting news: the school was being recognized by Niche as the area's top Catholic high school. The school was also recognized by *Dayton Magazine* as the Nonprofit of the Year winner for high schools, and also Best of Dayton for School Spirit. The magazine also recognized Dan Meixner '84, president, as one of Ohio's 500 Most Influential Executives.

**Other recent recognitions include:**

**2019-2023 Project Lead the Way School of Distinction**

**2023 Miami Valley Theatre Awards**

22 Awards, trip to Broadway

**2022, 2023 Spirit of Sister Dorothy Stang Award**

Karen Emmerich 2023, Caty Maga 2022

**2022, 2023 National Council of Teachers of English**

English Department members

**2021, 2022, 2023 Dayton Magazine: School Spirit Award**

Not for Profit - Secondary Education

**2019, 2022 Women in Business Networking; Woman of Impact**

Molly Bardine 2022, Judi MacLeod '88 2019

**2021 National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA)**

**Student Valor** Jeffrey Wall '23

**2020, 2021 Dayton Business Journal 40 Under Forty**

Brandon Meyer 2021, Greg Mueller 2020



SAVE THE DATE

2024 REUNION WEEKEND June 21 & 22

June 21-Taste of CJ  
June 22-Golden Eagle Luncheon, Tennis Hit Around & Milestone Reunions

VISIT CJEAGLES.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS.

# A Look Back at RW 2023



With appreciation to America's Packard Museum who opened up the museum to our guests.





# Taste of CJ Vendor Partners

*In gratitude to the Taste of CJ Vendor Partners*

Amber Rose  
 Baker Benji's  
 Dorothy Lane Market  
 Marion's Piazza  
 Rivertown Chili  
 Smales Pretzel Bakery  
 Sweet P's Handcrafted Ice Pops  
 Twist Cupcakery



# Golden Eagles Luncheon



# MONTHLY GATHERINGS



*1959 and 1961 graduates catch up at their August gathering.*

## You Are Invited!

Alumni create their own mini-reunions by enjoying lunch together, and extend an invitation to other classmates to join them. Contact the group representative listed below for more details.

### 1963 - St. Joseph & Julienne

*2nd Saturday of the month*

12 Noon

Geez Pub

Jane Friel: [ohpetunia@aol.com](mailto:ohpetunia@aol.com)

### 1964 - Chaminade

*2nd Friday of the month*

12 Noon

Kettering American Legion

Jim Dell: [dellji@yahoo.com](mailto:dellji@yahoo.com)

### 1960 - Chaminade

*1st Thursday of the month*

12 Noon

Milanos or Marion's Piazza

Bill Wabler: [Billwabler@juno.com](mailto:Billwabler@juno.com)

### 1950 - St. Joseph & Julienne

*2nd Thursday of the month*

1 p.m.

Geez Pub

Carol Koehnen: [ckoeh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ckoeh@sbcglobal.net)

*If your group would like to invite classmates to your gathering, please contact:*

*David Cordonnier '10 at [dcordonnier@cjeagles.org](mailto:dcordonnier@cjeagles.org), or (937) 461-3740 x237.*

# Vision



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CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

[cjeagles.org](http://cjeagles.org)



505 South Ludlow Street | Dayton, Ohio 45402

*Predecessor Schools*

- St. Mary's School (1850-1927)
- Notre Dame Academy (1886-1927)
- Julienne High School (1927-1973)
- Chaminade High School (1927-1973)
- St. Joseph Commercial High School (1945-1974)

# Save the Dates



# 2024

Mark your calendar for these favorite events. More details and ticket information are available on the school's website: [cjeagles.org](http://cjeagles.org).



Members of the Corpus Christi Fryers at the 2023 CJ Fish Fry.



## CJ Fish Fry

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16**

6 pm Dinner • 7 pm Games

Online presale: \$22

Enjoy games, silent auction and games on the big screen sponsored by CJ's Blue Green Club. Must be 21 or over to attend. Carry out is available.

## Performing Arts

Join us in the CJ Auditorium for:

**Spring Musical: Into the Woods**

Online presale: \$10

**FRIDAY, MARCH 8 • 7 PM**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9 • 2 & 7 PM**

Join us at Dayton Levitt Pavilion for: **Spring Pops Free Concert**

**THURSDAY, MAY 9, 7 PM**



## Reunion Weekend 2024

**JUNE 21 - TASTE OF CJ**

Online presale: \$40

**JUNE 22 - GOLDEN EAGLE**

Luncheon, Tennis Hit Around and Milestone Reunions

