



Nazareth Academy Grade School

OUR MISSION IS FAMILY

The Class of 2012

Stepping Out as a Witness to Our Faith



The Class of 2012 Graduation Liturgy celebrated by Rev. Mark G. Swope, was held on June 4, 2012. Speaking on behalf of her classmates, Lauren Preski, '12, opened the ceremonies by explaining their chosen theme. Lauren stated, "Lord, as we prepare to end our journey here at Nazareth Academy Grade School, we pray that you be with us. For the things we've been taught during our years here help us to know that although we are now parting, we will never truly grow apart as a family. We pray that no matter what course our lives may take, we can look back on this night and know that the choice we made to work to the best of our abilities started us on our road to success. We've been traveling along this road for a while now and even though we still have a long way to go, we should be eternally grateful for the help, care and guidance of our parents and teachers during the past eight years. Along with God, they have given us the power and strength to make it this far. We should never forget the numerous things that they have done for us and also show our gratitude to them for making it possible for us to attend a school that not only has superior academics but a true sense of family. It is our turn now though. When we graduate from Nazareth Academy Grade School and begin a new chapter in our lives, it will become not only our responsibility but our duty as witnesses of our faith to carry on in the paths of our mentors by spreading the good news in all aspects of our lives. Now as we step out into this world, let us all be true examples of faith and change the world through our actions."

We recognize and celebrate the many accomplishments of the Class of 2012 and pay tribute to their parents and teachers for their efforts in helping shape responsible, compassionate and faith filled young adults. We could not be prouder of our graduates who have been awarded \$170,000 in high school scholarships and grants. (See page 18 for additional graduation news.)

The Class of 2012, above, Row 1, seated left to right: Dallas Livingstone, Shaun Buggy, Caitlyn Sullivan, Rachel Macauley, Madeline Pontarelli, Darby Showers, Emily Moy, Emily Sokolowski. **Second row, standing:** Mrs. Maura Fox, 8th Grade Teacher; Sarah Rucci, Angela Rynkiewicz, Victoria Hughes, Jasmine Kelly, Michael Fluehr, Gabrielle Khmelevski, Emilee Miller, Catherine Driscoll, Sr. Mary Ann Allton, CSFN, Principal. **Third row:** Lauren Preski, Julia McPhillips, Gina D'Andrea, Alexa Dema, Natalie Santucci, Nichole Gutarra-Ramirez, Erin Campbell, Ava Roberts. **Last Row:** Michael Varley, Gabriel Doherty, Eric Kasperowicz, Nicholas Thompson, Dante Palantino, Ryan Schneider, Kevin Sheppard.



Farewell Message



On June 10, 2012, the school community bid a bittersweet farewell to Sister Mary Ann Allton, as she stepped down from her role as Principal. The Nazareth Academy Grade School Parents' Association hosted a brunch to honor Sister Mary Ann for her outstanding leadership and efforts in upholding the mission of the school.

Parents and students greeted Sister Mary Ann and offered their heartfelt thanks and good wishes for her future. Following the brunch, Sister Mary Ann listened along with Sister Martin, Sister Yvette and Sister Anita as students read a selection of letters from each class. The letters, thoughtfully written with sentiment and humor, touched Sister Mary Ann and will long be a remembrance of her bond with the students.

Sister Mary Ann stated, *"I have often said that I have been the luckiest principal in the world because I had the greatest faculty, staff, students and parents to work with. The secret ingredient to our success has been openness to God's grace and ability to work together in partnership. I have no doubt that you will enjoy the same success with Sister Mary Ellen Gemmell as your Principal, using the very same ingredients. I will treasure the many beautiful memories I have and assure you of my continued love and prayers for you and ask you to remember me in yours. May God bless you and your families always and in all ways!"*



Board of Trustees Appoints New Members

The success and quality of a NAGS' education is a result of the dedicated efforts of our faculty, staff and parents. The support of the Board of Trustees, established in 2005, is also instrumental to the growth and continued success of our school.

The Nazareth Academy Grade School Board recently appointed two members, bringing the Board to eight members total.

Each of the two new members of the Board comes from a unique professional background. **Amanda (Smith) Binczewski, '90**, is currently a high school mathematics teacher in the Colonial School District. Ms. Binczewski graduated from Lehigh University and received her Masters in Education at Saint Joseph's University. She is the daughter of former 8th Grade teacher Kathleen Smith, who passed away in February, 2011.

Charles Kueny, Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager of Beneficial Bank, brings his 36 years of experience in finance and community development to the board.

Board Chair Sr. Brendan O'Brien, CSFN, is pleased that the board continues to grow and evolve with the needs of the school. The new board members join Edwin S. Moore, III, Vice Chair; Sr. Doloretta Dawid, CSFN, Phyllis Wolf Gallagher, Ed.D; Francis E. Kelly, and Sr. Aurea Stroik, CSFN,



Photos by Lou Farinella

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Nazareth Academy Grade School

Sr. Mary Ellen Gemmell, CSFN, Principal

Patricia McGarvey, Development Director
Writer, Editor & Designer, Newsletter

To submit articles, updates and photos, contact:
Pat McGarvey at 215-637-7777, Ext. 206 or e-mail: nagsalumni@aol.com

Photos in this issue by Pat McGarvey, unless otherwise noted.

We're on the web! E-mail this publication to your family and classmates. Go to:

www.nazarethacademy.net

We are in need of yearbooks from the following years: '79-'80, '82-'83, '84-'85, '85-'86, '86-'87, '87-'88.

FAMILY, FAITH, FUTURE.

The Commission on Elementary Schools MIDDLE STATES SELF STUDY

Nazareth Academy Grade School has been fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools since 1992. The chief purpose of the accreditation process is the improvement of education for youth by evaluating the degree to which a school has attained goals set by its own staff and community. This is accomplished by periodically conducting a comprehensive self-evaluation of the total school. Through the accreditation process, the school seeks the validation of its self-evaluation by obtaining professional judgment from impartial outsiders on the effectiveness of the total school operation.

Last fall, NAGS began a rigorous process to complete a Middle States Self-Study. Leading a Steering Committee consisting of faculty members and parents are Chairpersons and faculty members Marie Maddox and Sarah Unger. The generosity of time and interest that the committee has given in formulating this study has been abundant.

The 210-page Self-Study and School Improvement Plan, entitled "Family, Faith, Future," details an in-depth review of Nazareth Academy Grade School's:

- Philosophy
- Mission
- Community
- Student Oriented Services
- Activities
- Program of Study
- Resources
- Leadership and Organization



About Accreditation

An accredited school must not only meet the rigorous Middle States Standards, but it must also demonstrate that it is committed to continuous improvement through strategic planning. The Self Study will enable the school to build upon our current Strategic Plan, with specific focus on Honors English, Science and Physical Education.

An accredited school is devoted to a mission and operates from an examined vision of services to students, family, and the community. Nazareth Academy Grade School demonstrates a continuing capacity to increase quality, student learning, and instructional effectiveness. As with all accredited schools, Nazareth is student oriented and its philosophy of education is focused on the development of the whole child with an emphasis on academic performance.

With the "Family, Faith, Future" Self-Study now complete, the Nazareth Academy Grade School community looks forward to the arrival of the Middle States Visitation Team scheduled for October 29 - 31, 2012. Further information regarding the Middle States reaccreditation process will be posted online at www.nazarethacademy.net.

WE'RE #1 !

~ GEO Bowl ~ ~ PA Mathematics League ~ ~ Philadelphia Reading Olympics ~

We salute our students and faculty for their recent successes at several local competitions:



Eighth grade teacher Molly Fox travelled to West Catholic High School with four Nazareth students for a **Geo Bee** competition sponsored by the Geographical Council of Philadelphia and the National Geographic Society.

To prepare for the **Geo Bee**, students study United States and World Geography and participate in an in-house competition organized by Mrs. Fox.

We are thrilled to announce that our NAGS team placed *First* and brought home a \$500.00 prize for the school's Social Studies program! We congratulate the NAGS team, pictured above, left to right: Ava Roberts, Grade 8, Chloe Roberts, Grade 6, Stephen Pons, Grade 7 and Anthony Pantalone, Grade 5. (Photo by Julia Roberts)

The **Pennsylvania Mathematics League** is a competition offered to all students in Grades 4 through 8. Under the direction of Math teacher Maribeth Kane, students compete by solving problems from different areas of Mathematics. NAGS placed *First* in the Philadelphia County for Grades 6 and 7. At right, Samuel Hellings, Michele Anzabi and Zachary Vittorelli display their plaque for Grade 6. Below at right, Breanna Brophy and Emily Yost hold their *First Place* plaque for Grade 7. Congratulations to the students and their Math teachers Mrs. Kane, Mrs. Culp and Sister Martin!



Twenty-one students in Grades 5 and 6 competed in the **Philadelphia Reading Olympics** at Holy Family University in May. Upon their return to school, we learned that they had earned two *First Place* ribbons! The students' commitment to read the required books is to be commended and celebrated! We also

recognize the efforts of Mrs. Dang in encouraging the students the students to expand their reading horizons!

Also, at a previous Reading Olympics competition at Temple University, the NAGS team from Grades 7 and 8 earned a *Second Place* ribbon for their successful reading endeavors!



Class Notes



1952 Communion Class

Joseph Tomkiewicz, '58, located the above photograph in his mother's photo collection and shared it with the NAGS community. Students identified in the fourth row from top, right to left: **Stan Goodniak, Thomas Smylie, Joseph Tomkiewicz, Thomas Milson, Joseph Smith, Joseph Devine and Walter Paczynski**. **Walter Zodeiko** is in second row behind **Thomas Milson**. **Zodeiko and Tomkiewicz** forged a life-long friendship and were each other's best man and godfathers to their first-born. Bishop Francis Hyland is seated at left and Father Francis Urbanovich is seated on right. Following Joseph Tomkiewicz's graduation from Nazareth, he attended LaSalle College High School, Drexel for his BSBA degree and Temple University for a graduate degree. Thomas currently resides in North Carolina with his wife Cathy.

1956



Blast from the Past! Gloria (Bradley) Portner recently shared a photo of her classmates from the Class of 1956!

First row, seated, left to right: Elaine Kaminsky, Frances Smith, Barbara Sliwinska, Joan Garvey, Lorraine Jent, Anita Ginglend, Leona Zacharka, Carol Rojasca, Eva Barbara (Basia) Stefanowicz, Joann Conca, Susan Crosby, Mary Frances Tirrachia, Joyce Schnell

Middle row, standing: Dolores Dubeck, Maryann Paczynska, George Kulikowski, Eugene Pasykowski, John McCann, Julius Loweski, Richard Gregory, Stanley Blaczak, Edward Karpen, Tom Wilkowski, Daniel Kasprzak, Colette Simone, Gloria Bradley

Last row, standing: Elaine Stefanowicz, Pauline Paczynska, Kathleen Steinbach, Diane Lyons, Richard Bochinski, John Secoda, John Burczynski

1962

Phil Gutierrez, '62, checked in to say hello to NAGS and his former classmates. Phil reminisced about attending school in the "barn" and recalled shattering his wrist in gym class!

1967



Above: **Albert Ayes, '67**, and his wife Maureen at the annual Auction on April 28, 2012. Mrs. Ayes will spearhead the new Honors English program beginning in September, 2012.



1977

Lisa Miller, '77, and her brother **Matthew Miller, '80**, enjoyed reminiscing throughout the school during their recent visit.

1986

At the Walnut Street Theater's current production of "God of Carnage," **Julie Czarnecki, '86**, plays a one of four characters in the one-act comedy. After landing leading roles at Nazareth Academy High School, Julie received her master's degree in theater from Villanova University. In addition to the Walnut Street Theater, she has performed at the Arden Theater New City Stage, Villanova Theater and Wilma Theater.

1990

Amanda (Smith) Binczewski, '90, gave birth to her third child on February 9, 2012. Brooke Kathleen, 7 lbs. 12 oz., joins siblings Violet Kathleen and Lenny.

1992

On April 21, 2012, **Maggy Culp, '92**, married Doug McCay in Bristol, Pennsylvania.



1994

Cynthia Francis Strosser, '94, married Josh Hanley on October 1, 2011.

Together the couple has three dogs and a rescue rabbit. Cynthia is Manager of Communications at Children's Literacy Initiative and volunteers

at Animal Care and Control Team (ACCT) in Philadelphia where she is a member of the Dog Behavior Team. For information on adopting a special rescue animal, go to www.acctphilly.org.

1995

Congratulations to **Edward Szczypiorski, '95**, and his wife Hilary who announce the birth of their daughter, Londyn, who was born on April 25, 2012.

1997



Paul Durrant, '97, Chief Photographer at the CBS affiliate in Tucson, Arizona, was honored in Pasadena, California with a *Mark Twain Award* from the Associated Press. The award was for excellence in feature editing. He also received his third Emmy Award in October. Currently, Paul is working on

directing and producing another independent film on immigration and violence on the US/Mexican border.

1998

Emily (Culp) Brzycki, '98, and her husband Brian just celebrated their first wedding anniversary! The couple was married on July 23, 2011.

1999

Ashley Brogan, '99, graduated from Temple University School of Medicine in May 2012. We wish her much luck as she begins her Medical Residency at Boston University Medical Center.

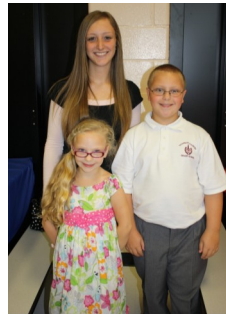


2004 and 2006

University of Virginia softball superstars sisters **Giannina Cipolloni, '04**, and **Erica Cipolloni, '06**, were recently featured in the college's "Cavalier Insider" news edition. The duo enjoyed playing two seasons together and celebrated when Giannina's speed helped her break UVA's record for stolen bases! (Photo: *Cavalier Insider*)



Capri Mancino, '04, re-visits NAGS with siblings Dominic, Gr. 6 and Isabella, Gr. 2.



Brian Bateman, '04, recently graduated from the Boston Conservatory. Brian is currently on staff as an entertainer on an Alaska cruise liner.



2009

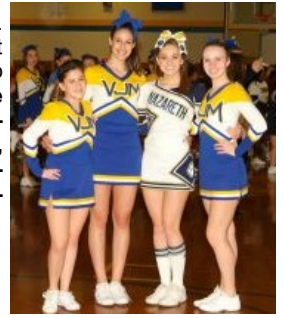
Andrew King, '09, entering his senior year at LaSalle College High School, is studying for a career in Information Technology. At right, Andrew takes a moment to greet **Mrs. Sally (Gaughan) Unger, '81**, NAGS Athletic Director and Teacher's Aide.



2009

At a B.A.L. Cheerleading Competition, NAGS

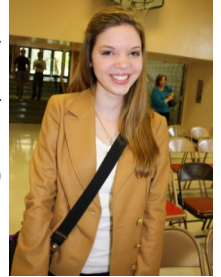
alumni reunited. Pictured next column are (left to right) **Nicolette Wons, '11**, **Marisa Poncia, '09**, **Alexandra Varley, '09** and **Caroline Cacchio, '11**.



2010

Kevin Kerr, '10, was chosen to compete on Team USA on the US Youth Olympic Ice Hockey Team in Innsbruck, Austria.

Saint Basil Academy announced the third Quarter Honors students: Congratulations to **Sarah Fox, '10**; **Taryn Neals, '10** (pictured at right) and **Maureen Rankin, '10**, for achieving High Honors!



2011

Danielle Talbot, '11, participated in the National Youth leadership Conference in Medicine in June at Villanova University.



Above: In the midst of their freshman year at NAHS, several alumni visited the Sisters. From right to left are: **Dana Doherty, '11**, Sr. Anita, **Regina Duesler, '11**, **Mary Frances Driscoll, '11**, their NAHS classmate and Sr. Martin Duffy.



Above: At a May visit are **Colin Murtha, '11**, **Samantha Simon, '11**, **Maureen Rankin, '11**, **Andreanna Manto, '11**, **Mary Frances Driscoll, '11**, and **Regina Duesler, '11**.

2012

In July, **Alexa Dema, '12**, headed overseas with *People to People* for a whirlwind tour of Italy, France, Switzerland and Austria!

Class Notes



NAGS has a long list of academic and extracurricular achievements over its 71- year history, but now we can add "matchmaker" to that list!

In February, **Sean Dawes, '00**, brought a blindfolded **Jamie Smith, '00**, back to NAGS where the two met when Jamie transferred to the sixth grade. Once safely in the building, Jamie's blindfold was removed to reveal not only the NAGS lobby but the sight of Sean down on one knee! After Jamie said "yes!" to the big question, several of our students who had stayed after school for singing practice were there to congratulate them on their engagement. Although the couple began dating after high school, we are proud to have played a small part in making the connection!

Jamie, a neonatal intensive care nurse, will finish her Nurse Anesthetist studies at University of Pennsylvania in one year. Sean is the owner of *Rocket Dove*, which provides online marketing and web analytics for online retailers. Congratulations to the newly engaged couple! We wish them much happiness as they plan their September 2014 wedding.



"We are happy to say that NAGS has not only shaped our lives intellectually but also personally, as without having attended the school, we would not have met each other."

~ Sean Dawes and Jamie Smith, Class of 2000

Remembering Jennifer (Culp) Roman, '87



"The memory of a good person is a blessing."

~ Proverbs 10:7

As many of our alumni will recall, the month of May is heralded by the Crowning of Mary. This year, the ceremony took on a special meaning with the dedication of a Rose of Sharon tree in memory of **Jennifer (Culp) Roman, '87**, who passed away last summer.



Following the crowning ceremony by the first grade class, the fourth grade students filed outside and formed a circle of love around their classmate, Michael Roman and his grandmother, Mrs. Kathy Culp. After a prayer of dedication, Michael sprinkled holy water on the new tree. The tree was purchased through the efforts of the Tobler Family.



Following the blessing in the Mary Garden, Michael and his father, sister and grandmother, helped with the placement of engraved hearts bearing Jennifer's name in the classrooms above new accordion doors that had recently been installed.

Sr. Mary Ann stated, "At the time of Jennifer's death, the Roman family designated that funds be sent to NAGS in her memory. In addition to the tree purchased by the Tobler Family, eight sets of cloak accordion doors and several Multipurpose Room tables and benches were purchased in Jennifer's name."

Please join the school community in remembering our beloved departed.

Teresa Coia - Grandmother of Eric Lorenzo, Gr. 8, and Samantha Lorenzo, Gr. 7. Mother of Pat Tedeschi, Hot Lunch Volunteer

Madeline Doyle - Grandmother of Suzanne Trotter, Music Teacher

Paul Gibel - Class of 1979

Ramon Lozada - Grandfather of Aidan Lozada, Gr. 3

Alex Malishka - Class of 1995

Regina Pearse and Ernest Pearse - Grandmother and Grandfather of Deanna Stephens, '09. Parents of Maintenance Supervisor Dean Stephens.

Helen F. Primus - Sister-in-law of Mrs. Helen Primus, school secretary

Walter Sobolesky - Father of Maggie (Sobolesky) Hyland, '80

Faculty News

Barnes & Noble Names Teacher of the Year

Fifth grade teacher Mai Dang was named the local Barnes and Noble Teacher of the Year at a recent ceremony at the Neshaminy Mall location. The winning contest entry was an essay written by Victoria Fabianski, Gr. 5, which detailed how Mrs. Dang has influenced her life. Based on the essay at right, Mrs. Dang won for being a caring, attentive and fair teacher. In addition to an award, Mrs. Dang received a set of Barnes & Noble illustrated classic series books. Congratulations Victoria and Mrs. Dang!



"My Favorite Teacher: Mrs. Dang"

By Victoria Fabianski

Mrs. Dang is my favorite teacher. As you can see, it's my title! Anyway, I can't think of a single word that describes her. There are so many words, I can't even choose one. So I'll start from the beginning.

The first day of school I was nervous and when I saw a new teacher standing by the door I was even more nervous. When I approached her I got butterflies in my stomach. I came right by her and I heard a kind, "Welcome to the fifth grade." I felt so relieved at that moment. She also had this warm smile on her face. I came in and unpacked and when I was finished I listened to my new teacher talk about herself. It was very interesting. I just knew that she was the best teacher ever. Just like that feeling when "you just know it."

When our class is not behaving, Mrs. Dang always asks us to quiet down. She never yells most of the time. When we forget to get a paper signed, she gives us an extra day. When we do poorly on a test, she lets us re-take it. Sometimes when Mrs. Dang gives us too many warnings, she threatens to give extra homework. Mrs. Dang always has good ideas and fun activities. She inspires me in many ways. She also has great taste in fashion.

During class, she makes us laugh and smile. When we are in a bad mood, she always says, "Don't be all huffy puffy." That just makes me smile especially when I'm in a bad mood. She always makes the best of it. I always enjoy her classes. I think everyone does. At the end of every day, we play a game of "Bop It" or "7UP." When we are leaving Mrs. Dang is by the door saying "good night" or "good bye" with another big warm smile.

As the year of fifth grade passes by, I will always remember that first day she smiled at me. Mrs. Dang isn't one of those teachers that just come and go. She is one that stands out from all the rest. For everything you ever did for me Mrs. Dang, I only have two words for you and they are: "Thank you!"



Mrs. Bobbie Streff, center, retired from her Hot Lunch Manager position in May.

Mrs. Streff will surely be missed by our students who gave her many compliments stating that she always greeted them with a smile, understood when they forgot their lunch money, and always took care of them when they left their lunch on the bus!

We wish you all the best in your retirement Mrs. Streff!



Third grade teacher Kristy Cusick wed Jeff Nober in sunny Siesta Key, Florida on May 18, 2012. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Nober!

A July reception was held to celebrate their union with family, friends and NAGS faculty.



With graduation over, Patrick Fox enjoys some time at the end of the year with his mom, 8th grade teacher Molly Fox.

Could Patrick be a member of the Class of 2025?!



Congratulations to **Erin Ricca** and her husband, Thomas, who are expecting their first child in late August. Mrs. Ricca, who taught technology, is looking forward to spending time with her newborn as she works from home.

We begin each day as a new adventure, creating different paths for reaching goals. Always open to discovery, excited for new experiences, and driven to explore what's behind the horizon.

ABOVE & BEYOND



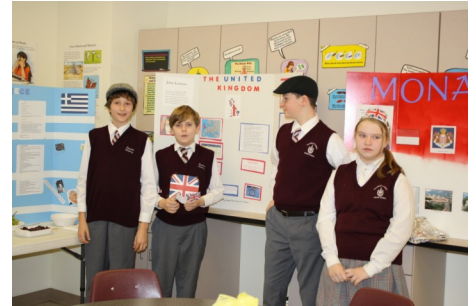
Manya Perel, a survivor of multiple Nazi concentration camps, brought her compelling story of courage and faith to our eighth grade students.



Sixth grade students Samantha Lorenzo and Chloe Roberts display their First Place certificates from the George Washington Carver Science Fair. Samantha, on left, also received the Naval Science Award from the Office of Naval Research.



Fifth grade students are intent on learning a new melody with choir chimes. The chimes are similar to hand bells but are easier to play. They are basically a tuning fork with a small attached mallet and ring with the flick of a wrist!



"Cheerio from the United Kingdom!" Sixth graders spanned the globe and presented projects on their designated countries. Historical figures, customs, population, food and dialects were among the many subjects explored with Mrs. Maureen Ayes.



Following a moving presentation of the Stations of the Cross, the Class of 2012 marks the occasion with a group photo. Thanks to Music teacher Mrs. Sue Trotter and the eighth grade parents for their commitment in continuing this Holy Week tradition.



Jessica Scipione, Gr. 5, attended a program at Sterling Forest State Park coordinated through Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth and NYU's School of Medicine, Department of Environmental Medicine. Jessica conducted a DNA genetic experiment, examined a fresh water pond ecosystem, experimented with bacteria, learned about air pollution, and visited the shells of 20th Century iron mines. It was a rewarding weekend which culminated in a presentation of "diplomas" by NYU's Director of Environmental Medicine. Jessica, pictured above with her bacteria experiments, stated, "I learned a lot about science, as well as about potential future careers that are available for individuals with a science degree."



Diana Sherman of the Southampton Puppy Club Chapter of the Seeing Eye Puppy Raising Program helped Chloe Roberts, Gr. 6, demonstrate training commands with her puppy Gere. Students learned about the program, the cost of training a Seeing Eye dog and varying levels of blindness.



Feed the birds! Bird feeders were constructed by third grade students in conjunction with a Science lesson taught by their teacher, Mrs. Kristy Nober.



NAGS parent Julia Roberts introduced an engaging educational experiment provided by the Merck Company. Above, sixth grade students dissect owl pellets which revealed digested materials, small skulls and bones!

Service learning experiences, besides being community-oriented, enrich students' learning and enable them to develop personally, socially, academically and spiritually.

The classroom must become more closely connected to the outside world, and service learning makes that connection. We are proud of our efforts in helping students develop the key components of citizenship, caring, community building and active learning.

The month of April is traditionally celebrated as **Autism Awareness Month** throughout the United States. The sixth and seventh grade students seized the opportunity to raise not only funds, but awareness about the complex neurological disorder. All the students proudly wore their multi-colored ribbons to do their part in raising awareness. In addition, a **"Faces of Autism"** wall was created by our students to honor people they know who were born with the disorder.

Mrs. Hujber and Mrs. Kane, sixth and seventh grade teachers, encouraged their students to make treats for a bake sale and the funds were added to the proceeds from an **Autism Dress Down Day**.

We congratulate the students for raising not only autism awareness but \$700.00 for the **Autism Speaks** organization! Mrs. Kane stated, "The funds we raised will help fund global biomedical research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism."

The **St. Frances Inn** in Kensington continues to benefit from our Brown Bag Program on the first Monday of every month during the school year.

Aid For Friends was the recipient of over 250 breakfast bags for the homebound and elderly clients of the program.

The sixth grade students went on the road to bring cheer and music to the Sisters at **Mount Nazareth**. In addition to singing songs, several students entertained the Sisters by playing their musical instruments.

A Coat Drive, organized by the Student Council, was a huge success to benefit **St. Benedict's Thrift Store** located on Old Kensington.

NAGS continues to partner with **SEPTA** in their **"Stop Hunger at Your Station" Food Drive for Philabundance**. NAGS is grateful to Board of Trustee member Fran Kelly for facilitating the school's involvement and SEPTA bus pick-up. Mr. Joseph Casey, SEPTA General Manager, stated, *"The opportunity to visit Nazareth Academy and make our first collection from your generous students and families has become an eagerly anticipated part of the food drive. Your students outdid themselves again this year and inspired SEPTA's riders and employees to match the high bar they have set. I cannot thank you enough for your student's generosity and caring spirit—they are exceptional role models for their peers and the greater community."* Pictured below, center: Fran Kelly and his niece, Madison Pristera, Gr. 7.



America the Beautiful

AUCTION



"America the Beautiful" was the chosen theme of this year's Parent Association Auction held at the Maltese Room. With the efforts of a hardworking and dedicated committee led by co-chairs Jim and Julia Roberts, pictured at left, the major fundraiser exceeded our expectations in generating funds and fun for our families and friends.

Sr. Mary Ann Allton stated, "The warm welcome and heartfelt hospitality encountered was an instant guarantee that the evening would be a most pleasing and enjoyable one."

Naturally, red, white and blue finishing touches prevailed among the baskets, décor and table centerpieces. The creative crafts made by each class stood out among the auction items that included unique gifts, Phillies tickets, sports memorabilia and restaurant certificates. As Master of Ceremonies, Fran Kelly

skillfully kept the Live Auction moving as he simultaneously entertained and encouraged lively rounds of bidding.

It was an event worthy of Team USA as so many lent their support, time and efforts. We recognize the generosity of our sponsors, donors, faculty, participants and volunteers. In particular, we salute Jeani Grady and Lisa Varley of *Catalano Studios* for helping create, as well as donate, the individual class photographs and one-of-a-kind eighth grade portrait. Many thanks to Rich Pristera for the donation of services in the printing of invitations and program books. In addition, we thank our Class Ambassadors for organizing class donations to benefit the auction that included many imaginative gifts including an outdoor patio set, an autographed apron and cookbook, and beautiful stained glass.

Congratulations to the Parent Association Board and members for their efforts that netted a \$30,000.00 profit to benefit the academic needs of our students!



The Nazareth Academy Grade School

Parents' Association

extends their sincere gratitude to our

"America the Beautiful"

Auction Sponsors:

MOUNT RUSHMORE

Catalano Studios

Nazareth Academy High School

Joe Santucci Original Square Pizza

YELLOWSTONE

Kevin Cook

Flynn & O'Hara

SHENANDOAH

Betz Mechanical

Bozarth Family

Burns Funeral Home

Cippco Inc.

On Demand Print, Pack, & Ship

Preski Family

Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

GRAND CANYON

Alpha House Home and

School Associations

Cerquetelli Family

Chadwick Service

Delia Family

LaCorte Family

Anne and John Lubinski

McMahon Automotive Group

YOSEMITE – Sponsor a Sister

AFLAC/Staci O'Brien

Burns Funeral Home

Delia Family

Duesler Family

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Durrant, Jr.

Paul J. Durrant

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Koszarek

Monteith Family

Trush Family

All - American

DANCE-A-THON

The sounds of Zumba music invaded NAGS for an exciting Dance-A-Thon that was held on June 6, 2012! Zumba is a combination of many dance styles, such as cha-cha, salsa, belly dancing, mambo, meringue and newer urban styles such as hip-hop. The high impact pace and fun music make the Zumba dance program very popular with people all over the world.

The event, held in place of the annual Walk-A-Thon, was a fun-filled event that featured a Zumba dance teacher. D.J. **Stephen Duzinski, '07**, who was assisted by **Anna Duzinski, '09**, and Sara, Steve's girlfriend, pictured at right. We sincerely thank the Duzinski Family foundation for their donation of prizes and props!



Our students moved, line-danced and mamboed for over two hours as Zumba instructor Dara directed dance moves to keep up with the frenetic pace of the music.

The fundraiser was the kick-off for the 2012 Annual Fund to support our Music and Arts Program with the purchase of recording equipment, choral performance risers and a Smart Board for the Art Room.

Students obtained sponsors and pledges from family and friends that totaled \$3,300.00. **We acknowledge the generosity of all of our donors and especially thank our Sponsors:**



AWARD SPONSOR

The Burns Family

REFRESHMENT SPONSOR

The Bozarth Family

Marne Brown

Michael Roman & Family

The Sullivan Family

R.F. Design & Integration





FORENSICS

Now We're Talking!

Public speaking is the act, art, or process of making effective speeches before an audience. The ability to speak in public forums is a valuable skill that can reap rewards far past our students' academic careers. We extend our sincere appreciation to Forensics Moderator Julia Roberts, for her leadership in organizing the program this year. Thanks are also extended to **Stephen Purcell, '09**, and the countless number of parents who volunteer their time to ensure that our program continues to thrive at Nazareth.

The results from the 2012 tournament schedule are as follows:

January 21, 2012 ~ St. Joseph's Preparatory School

Chloe Roberts - 1st in Poetry	Rachel Macauley - 4th in Prose
Ava Roberts - 1st in Declamation	Michele Anzabi - 6th in Declamation
Samuel Hellings - Semi-finalist in Poetry	Dallas Livingstone - 6th in Impromptu

March 10, 2012 ~ Ancillae-Assumpta Academy

Michele Anzabi - 2nd in Declamation	Chloe Roberts - 3rd in Poetry
Ava Roberts - 3rd in Declamation	Caitlyn Sullivan - 4th in Prose
Rachel Macauley - 3rd in Prose	

April 14, 2012 ~ Archbishop Ryan High School

Michele Anzabi - 3rd in Declamation	Caitlyn Sullivan - 5th in Prose
Julia Halas - 3rd in Dramatic Interpretation	Marne Brown & Paige Cudeyro - 3rd in Duo Interpretation
Matthew Rueter - 3rd in Impromptu	John Duesler - 7th in Dramatic Interpretation

April 28, 2012 ~ Holy Ghost Preparatory School

Chloe Roberts - 1st in Poetry	John Duesler - 5th in Dramatic Interpretation
Michele Anzabi - 4th in Declamation	

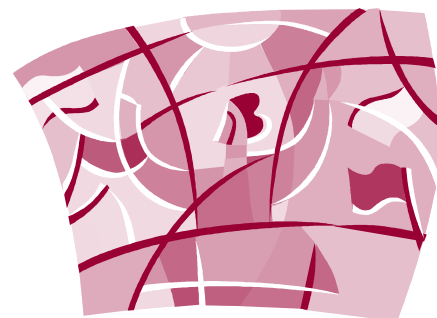


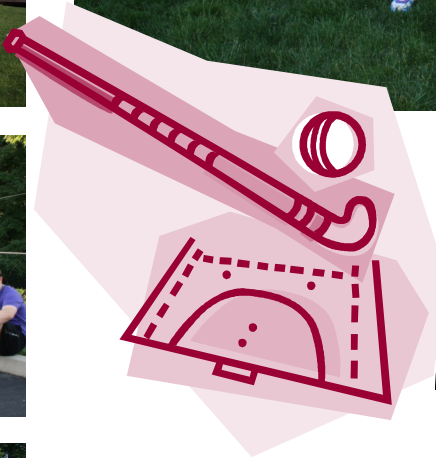
Top left: NAGS students at St. Joseph's Preparatory School tournament. Above: Students with their 3rd Place Trophy for Team Sweepstakes at St. Joe's.

May 12, 2012 ~ LaSalle College High School

Ava Roberts - 1st in Declamation	Emily Sokolowski - 5th in Original Poetry
Chloe Roberts - 1st in Poetry	Michele Anzabi - 6th in Declamation
Caitlyn Sullivan - 4th in Prose	Rachel Macauley - Semi-finalist in Prose
Kevin Sheppard - 5th in Extemporaneous Speaking	Emily Beck & Molly Fluehr - Semi-finalist in Duo Interpretation

Out of 16 participating schools, NAGS had 4th highest points for School Sweepstakes!





Field Day Fun



One of the most anticipated activities planned for every school year is Field Day. Organizing the event is Gym Teacher Terry Vaccarino who customizes fun and challenging activities every year for our students.

The spectacular weather and the schools' beautifully maintained grounds were the perfect setting for the team competitions. Prior to the scheduled event, students are divided into teams consisting of all age groups. The students and faculty took their designated team colors very seriously and prepared for the event by wearing color-coordinated hats, headbands, decorated t-shirts and socks. A rainbow of color moved throughout the campus as teams competed at various stations featuring hockey shots, ball roll, fruit balance, basketball hoop, and Frisbee toss, just to name a few!



The many parent and grandparent volunteers who directed activities, recorded scores and assisted in providing refreshments helped keep the event running on track. When the final buzzer sounded to signify the end of the competition, scores were tabulated as the students anxiously waited the outcome in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Congratulations to all the students on their wonderful display of sportsmanship and team unity. Each team member was awarded a participant ribbon but it was the BLUE Team, pictured below center, who victoriously claimed the championship title!



CELEBRATING OUR ATHLETES

The annual Athletic Award assembly honored our volunteer coaches and all the students who participated in the 2011-2012 sports program. Individual athletes were recognized with a certificate and special awards for extraordinary sportsmanship and service were also presented.

Pictured at right: The **Ed Wolf Award** was presented to Eric Kasperowicz. Ryan Schneider was chosen for the **Louis Cacchio Award** and Vicki Hughes was the recipient of the **Sandra Michael Award**.

We gratefully acknowledge coaches Karen Barnes, Cheryl Cantwell, Kristy Cusick, John Duesler, Brian Hughes, David Kasperowicz, Marie Maddox, Kristin Malak, Rachel Merryman, Tracy Morton, Moira Murphy, Mike Rynkiewicz, '74, and Joseph Santucci. Without their generous gift of time and talent our sports program could not be offered. We also salute Athletic Director Sally Unger, '81, who does a tremendous job all year organizing the entire program!



A math joke

Q: What did the zero say to the eight?

A: Nice belt!



ADVENTURES IN MATHEMATICS

Mastering addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts needs to be an evolving process which carefully extends previous knowledge and constantly lays a solid foundation for future knowledge. In addition to a strong Math curriculum, our teachers continually encourage **First in Math** participation and introduced the following fun activities to reinforce basic concepts:

In March, Grades 3, 4, and 5 participated in **March Multiplication Madness** and crowned a champion and runner-up in each grade.

Thirty-four students participated in the annual **St. Jude Math-a-Thon**, sponsored by St. Jude's Hospital. Math teacher Maribeth Kane organized the fundraising effort which raised \$2,453.00 to assist with research and to support children suffering from chronic diseases. Over the years, NAGS has raised \$33,682.00 for St. Jude's Hospital!

Pictured at left, Mrs. Kane moved her classroom to the kitchen for a lesson in fractions. As each team of students made their own pizza pie, they discussed the whole unit that would soon be divided into halves, quarters and eighths.

Other Mathematics activities involve **World Math Day**, **Pennsylvania Mathematics League** (featured on page 3) and **Pi Day!**

FINE ARTS PROGRAM FLOURISHING

All students benefit from the opportunity to learn about and experience the arts. Multiple independent studies have shown that increased art instruction positively correlates with higher SAT verbal and math scores. Overall, study of the arts in its many forms is increasingly accepted as an essential part of achieving success in school, work and life.

As arts funding is reduced or eliminated in many schools, the arts program at Nazareth Academy Grade School continues to flourish! The annual Spring Concert, Student Art Exhibit and School Recital showcase our students' musical, dance and artistic talents. These exhibitions reflect the creativity and commitment of the students as well as the dedication of their instructors.

We recognize the amazing group of creative teachers who bring out the best skills in our students: Sue Trotter, Music and Piano; Maria Sheehan, Art; Peter Devine, Guitar; Sonny Facenda, Jazz Band; Tony Hilinski, Band & Jr. Band; Martin Knoblauch, Strings and Piano; Linda Monari, Dance; Carol Greco, Theater; and Linda Campagna, Summer Dance Program.



RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENTS

Great and small

"The reward for a thing well done, is to have done it."
 ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson



The annual Awards Ceremony for grades one through seven was held on June 7, 2012 to reward our students' hard work and recognize their accomplishments throughout the school year. Many proud parents and family members were present as faculty members distributed awards for academic achievement, extracurricular involvement as well as Music Participation, Perfect Attendance, First-In-Math and Summer Birthdays.



As in the past two years, the **Joseph Brancato Alumni Memorial Scholarship** was presented to a seventh grade student who displays excellent moral character and leadership, good citizenship, perseverance, determination and initiative. The award was made possible by the generosity Joe's classmates in the Class of 1981, NAGS alumni and his wife Christine. We are pleased to announce that the 2012 recipient was Mary Kate Gould. *Congratulations on your efforts, Mary Kate!*



At the conclusion of the ceremonies, seventh grade students anxiously awaited the Student Council Election results. One by one, Mrs. Mai Dang, Student Council Moderator, announced the officers for the 2012-2013 school year.

Please join us in congratulating the Student Council officers, pictured at left, (right to left): Delancey Showers, President; Donald Vittorelli, Vice President; Stephen Pons, Treasurer; and Marne Brown, Secretary.

Top: Santina Cerquetelli, Gr. 3, displays her summer birthday certificate. Middle: Mary Kate Gould is surprised with the presentation of the scholarship. Above: Sr. Mary Ann, **Patti (Gaughan) Gould, '78**, Mary Kate Gould, Meaghan Gould and Michael Gould.

MAKING AN IMPACT

The school administration is grateful for the strong support of our families throughout their child's grade school years. Parents continually make time in their busy schedules to support the school's efforts to achieve our goals from year to year. Since 2006, the Sister Martin Award for Service has been presented for extraordinary efforts of parents who will leave their mark at NAGS.

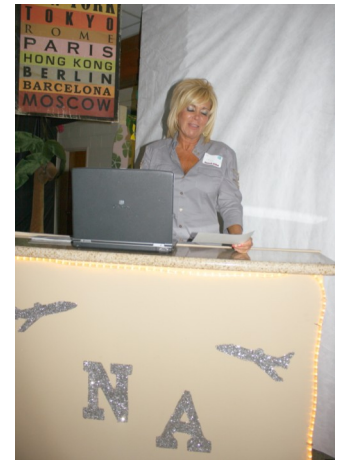
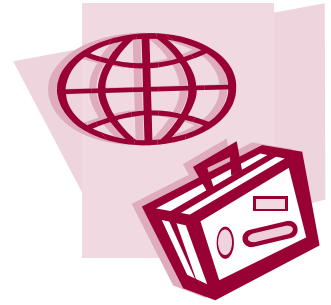
On June 7, 2012, Sister Martin Duffy, CSFN, recognized the long-term support and involvement of three families. Pictured below (left to right) are 2012 recipients:

- Vince and Patrice D'Andrea**
- Joseph and Nadine Santucci**
- Donald and Lisa Varley**



NOW BOARDING!

DESTINATION: HIGH SCHOOL



Transforming the multi-purpose room and lobby into a themed party setting for the Graduation Dance is no small feat but our parents and students team up to make it happen year after year. The seventh grade families chose an exciting "Around the World" theme that welcomed our graduates with a full-size airplane at the entrance, an airport lobby and an array of countries depicted in the multi-purpose room.



After Mrs. Tina Cudeyro "checked in" all the special guests, they were amazed at the scenic display that awaited them. The Swiss Alps stood tall, complete with sparkling pine trees and chair lift. Graceful bamboo trees framed China along with silk screens and ping pong table. France featured "Moulin Rouge" and a towering Eiffel Tower was created with balloons and lights. A beautiful working fountain welcomed the graduates to Rome and Monte Carlo featured a roulette wheel.

A photo booth provided mementos of the occasion and a surprise fireworks display lit up the night sky. It was truly a memorable evening for the eighth graders as well as the seventh grade students and their parents who bonded during the decorating process.

Sr. Mary Ann Allton stated, "I would like to thank and congratulate the 7th grade parents and students for the wonderful job they did with their theme for the dance and reception as well as the countless surprises they gave the graduates and their parents during those two events."





***DESTINATIONS:
Flight 2012***

Shaun Buggy	Nazareth Academy High School	Emily Moy	Nazareth Academy High School
Erin Campbell	Saint Basil Academy	Dante Palantino	LaSalle College High School
Gina D'Andrea	Villa Joseph Marie High School	Madeline Pontarelli	Nazareth Academy High School
Alexa Dema	Nazareth Academy High School	Lauren Preski	Villa Joseph Marie High School
Gabriel Doherty	Saint Joseph's Preparatory School	Ava Roberts	Nazareth Academy High School
Catherine Driscoll	Nazareth Academy High School	Sarah Rucci	Nazareth Academy High School
Michael Fluehr, Jr.	Saint Joseph's Preparatory School	Angela Rynkiewicz	Villa Joseph Marie High School
Nichole Gutarra-Ramirez	Villa Joseph Marie High School	Natalie Santucci	Villa Joseph Marie High School
Victoria Hughes	Villa Joseph Marie High School	Ryan Schneider	Holy Ghost Preparatory School
Eric Kasperowicz	Holy Ghost Preparatory School	Kevin Sheppard	Holy Ghost Preparatory School
Jasmine Kelly	Villa Joseph Marie High School	Darby Showers	Nazareth Academy High School
Gabrielle Khmelevskaya	Nazareth Academy High School	Emily Sokolowski	Nazareth Academy High School
Dallas Livingstone	Villa Joseph Marie High School	Caitlyn Sullivan	Villa Joseph Marie High School
Rachel Macauley	Nazareth Academy High School	Nicholas Thompson	Archbishop Wood High School
Julia McPhillips	Nazareth Academy High School	Michael Varley	Holy Ghost Preparatory School
Emilee Miller	Villa Joseph Marie High School		

Graduation 2012

*"And surely I am with you always,
to the very end of age."*

~ Matthew 28: 20

With their elementary school years complete, the Class of 2012 solemnly entered Nazareth Academy High School Chapel on June 4, 2012 for the Graduation Liturgy.

Following the Eucharistic Celebration, Mrs. Maura Fox, 8th grade teacher, announced the graduates as they accepted their diploma from Sr. Mary Ann Allton. With one swoop of their tassels the graduates marked their passage into the ranks of Nazareth Academy Grade School alumni.

Many awards were presented to recognize individual achievements and accolades but in particular, we celebrate the following awards :

A **First In Math Achievement Trophy** was presented to **Jasmine Kelly, '12**, for her extraordinary efforts in being ranked 10th in the nation, 4th in the State of Pennsylvania and 1st in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. (Jasmine is pictured above on left.)

The **Jennifer Culp Roman Memorial Award**, sponsored by Jennifer's sisters Maggy, Kate and Emily in memory of their sister. At right, **Emily (Culp) Brzucki, '98**, and **Kate (Culp) Knowski, '96**, present the 2012 award to **Julia McPhillips, '12**.

The **Ali Award**, in memory of **Alexandra Duzinski** of the **Class of 1995** was presented to **Madeline Pontarelli, '12**.

Meredith LaSalle-Tarantin, '05, at right, was in attendance to announce the recipient of the Sara LaSalle-Tarantin Memorial Award, sponsored by Jack Tarantin in memory of his wife. The award is given to a former student of Alpha House. **Sarah Rucci, '12**, was the recipient.

Accepting the **2012 Distinguished Graduate Award** was **Patricia (Gaughan) Gould**. Patricia graduated from Nazareth Academy Grade School and Nazareth Academy High School in 1974 and 1978 respectively. She continued her higher education at LaSalle University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Communications. Patricia is the founder of PG Gould Communications LLC and is also Senior Executive Producer at Boco Digital Medial LLC in Newtown Square, PA.

Patricia, pictured below on left, explained that she personally knows several individuals who have received the Distinguished Graduate Award and was humbled in being named to the field of honorees. To the graduates, she stated, *"When a child lives and learns in an environment of love, they will grow to reach or exceed their greatest potential. The teachers laid the foundation and have given all you need to succeed in the coming years. Remember the Sisters and faculty who guided you with faith, courage and grace and prepared you for this journey. Be certain that you remain in the hearts and prayers of the Nazareth Academy Grade School family."*

Pictured at far right, **Daniel Marcel, '07**, announced award for **The Kathleen Smith Memorial Award for Excellence in Forensics**. The award is sponsored each year by Mr. and Mrs. Henri Marcel in memory of former 8th grade teacher Kathleen Smith. The 2012 Excellence in Forensics Award was presented to **Ava Roberts, '12**.



Lighting Up the Mind With the Arts



2012-2013 Annual Fund

Spark an Imagination and Light Up the Mind

Nazareth Academy Grade School is proud of its reputation as a school where high academic standards prevail. Since its founding in 1941 by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, the school continues to grow to accommodate the needs of our students and community. We are pleased to announce that the 2012-2013 curriculum has expanded as resources have been provided for Honors ELA and Science Lab instructors. These objectives will help our program of study rise to the learning levels of our students. Rounding out the program of study are extensive Specialized Arts programs and extracurricular activities.

As the school continues to meet the challenges of our school community, our need for your support grows as well. The Annual Fund is your opportunity to *help create a spark and light up a mind!* The participation and support from families, grandparents, alumni, faculty, staff and friends help continue the legacy of excellence, spiritual growth, leadership and character development critical to the education of our students. Tax-deductible donations provide every student with the exceptional education resources required to showcase their academic, artistic and athletic talents.

Strong Arts Education Promotes the Skills Children Need to be Successful

Today more than ever, the arts are needed by our young people as a forum for self-expression, communication, exploration, imagination and cultural and historical understanding. The arts are fundamental to learning and are on equal footing with other rigorous courses of study. Creativity and innovation utilized in the artistic process will be highly valued by U.S. employers in the coming years as we continue to shift into a global economy.

Lighting Up the Mind:

The Arts Provide Balance in the Educational Experience

Arts education strengthens student problem-solving and critical thinking skills, adding to overall academic achievement, school success and preparation for high school and beyond. Studying the arts contributes to the development of better reading and math skills in young children, vocabulary acquisition, written elaboration and verbal communication.

Teachers are the first to point out how creative arts programs have strongly influenced their students' self image and increased their academic success in the areas of math, science and the language arts. They become a shared link, the glue that shapes our understanding of how we see ourselves and each other.



The Specialized Arts Program at NAGS is flourishing! Students are given the opportunity to explore their talents by participating in extensive Art, Music, Dance and Theater Programs directed by creative and passionate faculty and staff members.

Please join us in ensuring that the Annual Fund continues to be part of the script upon which our students will create their educational masterpiece!

Help Empower Our Students Through the Arts

Donations will fund the purchase of:

- **Digital recording equipment**
- **Three-step choral risers**
- **The purchase and installation of a Smart Board in Art Room**
- **Instructional materials throughout the curriculum**

We are grateful to the many hard-working men and women who continue to support the school financially and donate their time to NAGS. We hope that each and everyone will support this important Annual Giving initiative.

GIVING BACK HAS NEVER BEEN SO EASY!

Each gift, combined with the gifts of others, will make an immediate impact on the life of today's students.

Donations can be made securely online at: www.nazarethacademy.net. Click "Development" and "Donate Now."

We invite our entire community to participate in the Annual Fund and become members of the following giving levels:

- Blessed Frances Siedliska Society* \$5,000 and above
- Pope John Paul II Society \$2,500 to \$4,999
- Family Circle \$1,000 to \$2,499
- Principal's Circle \$500 to \$999
- NAGS Club \$100 to \$499
- Maroon and Gray Club \$1 to \$99

* Perpetual membership

Name: _____

If alumna, Maiden Name: _____

Class of: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

DONATION: \$ _____ Check Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to "NAGS" or bill my  or  :

Name on card: _____

Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Optional - This gift is given in memory of, or in honor of:

My/Spouse's company will match this gift. The matching gift form is enclosed.

Employer: _____

Employer Address: _____

Please make checks payable to "NAGS" and mail to:

Nazareth Academy Grade School, ATTN: Development Office, 4701 Grant Avenue, Phila., PA 19114

While contributions may be outright gifts, there are other options in donating to Nazareth Academy Grade School. For more information, contact: Patricia McGarvey, Development Director, at 215-637-7777, Ext. 206, or email: nag-salumni@aol.com.

Nazareth Academy Grade School is a non profit (c) (3) organization listed in "The Official Catholic Directory" under Elementary Schools, Private, Archdiocese of Philadelphia.





**NAZARETH ACADEMY
GRADE SCHOOL**

4701 Grant Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19114

215-637-7777

Summer 2012

www.nazarethacademy.net

Email: nagsalumni@aol.com

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 9/5/12 First Day of School
- 9/7/12 First Friday Liturgy
- 9/9/12 Families' Liturgy & Reception
- 9/13/12 Parents' Association Meeting
- 9/15/12 Car Wash
- 9/24/12 Grandparents' Day
- 9/24/12 NAGSPA Monster-Mini Golf
- 10/26/12 Halloween Party
- 10/29/12 Middle States Team Arrival

Bienvenida **TO OUR NEW PRINCIPAL !**

Please join the school community in welcoming **Sister Mary Ellen Gemmell, CSFN** as Principal of Nazareth Academy Grade School. Sister Brendan O'Brien, CSFN, Board of Trustee Chairperson, stated, "Indeed we are grateful to Sister Mary Ellen for willingly placing her gifts at the disposal of such a valued sponsored ministry as Nazareth Academy Grade School. Sister Mary Ellen is a long-time educator and school administrator whose expertise and experience include ten years as Associate Superintendent for Religion and Pastoral Services in the Archdiocese of San Juan, Puerto Rico and as a three-term Commissioner for Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools among other professional appointments and responsibilities held throughout her career in education."

In June, Sister Mary Ellen eagerly met members of the Board, the students and later enjoyed a luncheon with faculty.



Deseandole lo mejor en su nueva posicion en NAGS!

¡Que Dios la bendiga!

(We wish you all the best in your
new position at NAGS! God bless you!)