

Marian Catholic ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



NOVEMBER 2022



Head of School Michael Brennan with Leslye and Tom Durilla ('65)



Advancement Director Erin Marek, right, with Maria Montero ('94), left, and Rachele Cuff ('94).



Charles ('59) and Mary Lou (Willing) ('57) Sproule with Michael and Susanne (Willing) Akins (both Class of '64) joined in the festivities at the "meet and greet." Mary Lou and Susanne are sisters.



Jim Sauka ('66) and Howie Tokosh ('63) discuss the good old days.



Mary Dakosty ('73), center, with Head of School Mike Brennan, son, Lucas, and Advancement Director Erin Marek.



Our chaplain, Rev. Bob George, seldom misses a game and was on hand for Homecoming.

FESTIVE HOMECOMING CROWD REUNITES, SEES COLTS WIN OVER SHENANDOAH

Marian Alumni and friends returned to our campus in Hometown in October when Homecoming 2022 was observed.

Congratulations go out to Taylor Ryba and Rawlin Melendez, members of the Class of 2022 and future alumni association members, on being selected Queen and King, respectively.

If you missed the great opportunity to join us at the various events held October 8, we're sorry for that, as the Homecoming festivities gave attendees the opportunity to see our volleyball, soccer and football teams in action, the highlight, of course, being our Colts' 36-0 win over Shenandoah Valley.

We also gathered at Basile's restaurant

in Hometown for a "meet and greet" in which graduates shared time together, recalling the great days of Marian's storied past.

As we move forward, we encourage Marian graduates to plan to participate in future events, as we're certain you will find the experience rewarding and enjoyable.

MARIAN WELCOMES NEW ADVANCEMENT DIRECTOR

Marian Catholic High School Head of School Michael Brennan has announced the appointment of Dr. Erin Marek, DPT, as the school's new Advancement Director.

She succeeds Kristine Evina who resigned the position last month to accept a new job offer.

Born and raised in a Columbia, Lancaster County, Marek is a graduate of Lebanon Valley College, where earned a bachelor of science degree in health science and a doctorate degree of physical therapy.



Advancement director Erin Marek with her future Fillie, daughter Adalyn, and future Colt, son Mason, attended their first Homecoming event.

While at Lebanon Valley, she met her husband, Scott, a graduate of Panther Valley High School, and, upon their marriage, they moved to the greater Hazleton area.

For 15 years, she practiced as a physical therapist throughout Carbon, Schuylkill and Luzerne counties, during which time she held multiple director positions that allowed her to grow her

skills in the areas of relationship cultivation, marketing, event planning and customer relations.

Dr. Marek, her husband, and their two children, Adalyn (12) and Mason (10), who will be walking the halls of Marian in the years ahead, reside in Drums. In her free time, Erin enjoys reading, spending time on her paddleboard on the lake in their community, hiking with her family and dog, and cheering on her children as they play the sports they love.

About her new position, she said, "As a prior student of Catholic education, and as a graduate of a very small high school, I have always felt the sense of community that grows within the walls of a small school cannot be compared. It thrills me to see the support our alumni offer Marian for years after they graduate. That's a true testament to the impact a Marian Catholic education has made on their lives."

She added, "Having been in the health care business since we moved to the area, and through personal relationships, I have had the opportunity to hear stories from both alumni and parents of alumni recalling their fond Marian memories. I'm excited to be a part of that story-writing now and to have the chance to help alumni create memories with special events and reunions to help them celebrate all that Marian Catholic was and continues to be to them.

"I'm very excited to be a part of the Marian Catholic family and to meet and get to know the people who have created and contributed to the wonderful legacy of the school. I encourage alumni to reach out any time I can be of assistance with any future events and reunions."

Dr. Marek can be reached at emarek@mariancatholic.org or by telephoning 570-467-3335, extension 115.

2022 MARIAN HOMECOMING



Members of the **2022 Marian Catholic High School Homecoming Court** included, front, from left, Jaclyn Guth, Taylor Ryba, Rebecca Boyle, Megan Paisley and Jenna Goff; and back, Joseph Walko, Alexander Cornmesser, Frank Valente, Rawlin Melendez and Matthew Zakrewsky. Melendez and Ryba were selected king and queen, respectively.



Homecoming King Rawlin Melendez.



HALL OF FAME INDUCTS ELEVEN COLTS AND FILLIES

Eleven former Colts and Fillies were inducted into the Marian High School Hall of Fame during a dinner program set for October 23 at Capriotti's banquet hall, Tresckow. Shown are, front, from left, Mary Dakosty, who accepted the plaque for her and Stan Sr.'s son, Stan Jr., Class of 2001, Angela Mazur Ferree, Class of 2000, Maria Poluka Serina, Class of 1999, Mary Horvat Vermillion, Class of 2002, and Erin Brady Miles, Class of 1999; and back, Vince Boyle, Class of 1962, Tom Hydro, Class of 1986, Jamie Ryan, Class of 2002, Jeff Markosky, Class of 1990, and Albert Donadi, Class of 2001. Also inducted was Jim Magda, Class of 1995.

REUNION FOR ALL CLASSES PLANNED WITH NEIGHBORING SCHOOLS

Victoria (Leskosky) Goodman and Marie D'Angelo, members of the Class of 1976, are serving as the Marian representatives for a reunion of all classes of several schools that is scheduled to take place next year.

All Marian graduates are invited to participate in the Northern Schuylkill County Class Reunion that includes graduates of Marian, Cardinal Brennan, Mahanoy Area, North Schuylkill and Shenandoah Valley high schools.

It's scheduled for May 28, 2023, from 4-10 p.m. at the Lakeside Ballroom and Winery, 40 Crystal Lane, Barnesville.

Tickets, priced at \$50, are on sale now and include dinner, soft drinks, entertainment and NSCCR memento.

Contact Vickie at vgoodman5@hotmail.com or by telephone, 570-573-8753. The committee also has a Facebook website at NSCCR.

IN MEMORIAM...

Marian Catholic alumni and friends are asked to keep in their thoughts and prayers the families of the following:

Joseph W. Baddick: 63, Tuscarora, passed away on Sept. 6, 2022. A son of Victor D. Baddick and the late Mary Patricia (Coleman) Baddick, he was a 1977 graduate of Marian Catholic High School.

Barbara A. Love: 79, Tamaqua, passed away on Oct. 28, 2022. She was the wife of Pat Love and the mother of 1987 graduate and Colt football All Stater and ex-NFL player, Sean Love, and his siblings, Terry and the late Deborah and Patrick.

Jacquelyn A. Mitchell: 60, Lansford, passed away on Sept. 26, 2022. She was the salutatorian of the Class of 1980 at Marian Catholic High School. "Jackie" taught at Cardinal Brennan High School for 18 years.

Mrs. Mary Jane Rudy: 80, passed away on Aug. 10, 2022. She was the widow of Joseph J. "Bepo" Rudy Jr. She was a 1960 graduate of Marian Catholic High School.

Patricia A. Schnitzius: 64, Mahanoy City, passed away on Oct. 30, 2022. A daughter of the late Catherine (Curley) and James Schnitzius, she graduated in 1976 from Marian Catholic High School.



Members of the Marian Colts' 1971 area championship team who were able to attend the reunion this past season commemorating the 50th anniversary of the title included, from left, Ed Kanick, Larry Cinicola, Terry Murphy, Rick Colancecco, Mark Sverchek, Jack Bargilione, Thad Kosciolek and Terry McElmoyle. Also attending was Bill Rowe.

COLT GRIDIRON TEAM OF '71, AREA CHAMPIONS, RETURN HOME

Members of the 1971 Marian Colt football team were invited back to Marian on Sept. 23 for us to acknowledge their great 8-2 season in which they captured the area football championship.

The reunion was set back to this year because of Covid concerns last year, but the goal of the event, sponsored by the alumni association, was to publicly observe the golden anniversary of the championship season

Coached by the late Joe Leonzi, the Blue and Gold recorded one of Marian's best-ever seasons to that point, defeating West Hazleton, Jim Thorpe, Pleasant Valley, Hamburg, Northwestern, Cardinal Brennan, Nativity and Weatherly.

The only blemishes on the Colts' schedule were losses to Lourdes Regional and Pius X.

Our Colts that year scored an average 29.1 points per game and allowed only 9.6 points per game to the

10 opponents. Gary Grant copped area scoring honors with 17 touchdowns and 13 two-point conversions for a total of 128 points that year. Others who hit the scoring column were Thad Kosciolek, Jack Bargilione, Bob Bydlon, Mike Murphy, Terry McElmoyle, Ron Carulli and Jim Stiely.

Team members who were able to attend were introduced at halftime and presented lifetime passes to all future home Marian sporting events by Michael Brennan, Head of School.

KEEP US INFORMED

Provide us your updated information. The success of our associatin is dependent upon membership and communications. We'd like to hear from you. An "Alumni – update your information" prompt is available on the alumni page of the school's website.

#GIVEBIGBLUE IS HERE! SUPPORT GIVING TUESDAY ON NOVEMBER 29

Marian Catholic Family, you will often hear chants and cheers at our school to **Go Big Blue**. This Giving Tuesday we are asking you to **#GiveBigBlue!**

Tuesday, November 29 is an exciting and special day for the entire Marian Catholic Family. On this day, Marian Catholic will kick off its **FIRST ANNUAL 24-hour #GiveBigBlue Giving Tuesday**. Together, let's make this the greatest day of giving in school history!

FOLLOW Marian Catholic on social media – Facebook, Instagram and Twitter – throughout November for inspiring and heartfelt messages from our grateful students!

It's easy to give. Here's how:

Follow Our Link

Go to our giving site – <https://boostmyschool.com/mariancatholic-giving-tuesday> or scan our QR code – specially created for this day of generosity!



Consider Your Own Gift

Lead by example and make your own gift early. It's much easier to ask your classmates, friends and family to join you in making a gift when you've already done so yourself!

Offer a Match or Challenge

Leverage your gift and encourage others to give via a match or challenge.



Share, Share, Share

There are built-in sharing buttons on the campaign page to instantly share this important information in various ways over a variety of platforms.

Share via Facebook, Twitter, email, text message, email, phone call, carrier pigeon... the sky's the limit!

Remember to use our hashtags **#GiveBigBlue** and **#BeMarian** in your sharing.

Who will live #GiveBigBlue the loudest?

We'll be tracking which class of Marian Catholic graduates has the loudest and proudest alumni! See which class has the most donors in our leaderboards!

Our current students will be battling it out as well. See which class will win our exciting incentive here at school!

Tell Your Story

Create a call to action for your classmates and post it to the Supporters page and to your social media!

After your donation, please share a Marian Catholic photo memory, favorite story, or how your Marian Catholic education has positively impacted your life on our Supporters page for all our page visitors to read.

#GiveBigBlue benefits The Marian Fund. 100% of all gifts directly helps to support our school's areas of greatest need and aids in funding tuition assistance for our students.



SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US

Our alumni are important to us! We want to know how you are doing! Share with us any important news or updates from our Marian Catholic Alumni that occurred throughout the year in 2022. Did you welcome a new baby into your family? Perhaps you got married in 2022? Did you obtain a new job or earn a promotion this year? Did one of our beloved alumni pass away this year? **Scan the QR code on the left to please share 2022 updates with us to be published in our Winter 2023 Magazine.** If you would like a photo to be included of your special 2022 event, please email the photo to advancement@mariancatholic.org. Thank you!

HELP US LOCATE YOUR CLASSMATES

Marian Catholic High School graduates can help us grow the association by volunteering to be a class representative. Because class members know their classmates better than anyone, and a lot have continued to keep in touch with each other, the alumni association seeks class representatives to help us grow the association. The role of a class representative is to help connect their classmates with the school by informing them about what is going on currently at the school and within the association and engaging them through events and reunions. For more information on the association and how you can help your Alma Mater, contact Alumni chairman Bill O’Gurek, Class of ’73, at alumni@mariancatholic.org.

BE A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

Because classmates keep in touch with each other, they can help us update our records. Class Reps connect their Marian Catholic classmates and alumni by informing them about what is going on at the school and within the Alumni Association. Class Reps engage alumni through events and reunions. For more info about the Alumni Association and how you can help, contact Bill O’Gurek, Class of ’73 and association president at alumni@mariancatholic.org.

