



Class of 2013

Roanoke Catholic School

Fall 2013

Alumni Newsletter

Head of School/Principal's Message

Roanoke Catholic, Glorious is His Light, So Too The Success Achieved in His Name...

The school greets the start of our one hundred and twenty-fourth academic year poised to expand upon a tradition emphasizing faith in the Gospel message, familial values, and the aspiration for excellence as defining hallmarks of the learning community.

It is often said that past performance is a sound indicator of future success. Last year was a banner year for the school; we witnessed the spiritual growth and development of our students, faculty and parents. We welcomed over 70 new students to Roanoke Catholic School and we ended the year with a budget surplus which has allowed us to continue on our road to fiscal stability and growth.

The Roanoke Catholic School community respects traditional values. We believe that part of our success draws upon the strength of our foundational shoulders. So many have worked so hard to ensure the school's founding vision established in 1889. Our traditions, derived from a rich history and woven within our plan for the future, invigorates the school.

The school's "health indicators" make a clear statement of viability and strength. Student enrollment has been growing over the past several years, and we anticipate that the total school enrollment will reach 500 students in the next few years. The class of 2013 joined an impressive list of colleges and universities. These students received some \$2.1 million dollars in collegiate financial awards. Innovative educational offerings also compliment this new academic year. With the start of our Renaissance Program in 2010-11, we have seen an increase in a number of exciting programs including: dance, The National Parks Experience, and our participation in the Virginia Western Regional Academy for Advanced Technology.

During the 2012-13 academic year we completed a capital investment initiative that revitalized our beloved Lower School Building and Upper School Gymnasium. In total these projects generated in excess of \$750,000 in project costs and were paid for with cash. Through conscious and planned financial management efforts, along with monies raised by hundreds of generous friends and supporters, these historic buildings will serve our school community for decades to come. During the 2013-14 academic year, we will begin work to renovate our Upper School Building, in concert with the sound decisions made with the capital improvements completed during our previous academic year. New administrative software will be utilized that connects all departments on campus and allows parents and students time and location independent access to student performance data, along with a host of other community connection tools through our website and iPhone/Android 'apps'.

As a Catholic school we do not espouse elitism as a fundamental principle. Working hard to achieve academic success and self-discipline are central to developing the college bound student. We believe, however, that this preparation need not be achieved at the expense of other hard working and promising students. We will continue the school's tradition of nurturing a diverse academic and social community. Efforts to maintain affordability, thereby nurturing a diverse population, continue to be taxed. The challenge of this issue becomes exacerbated, as the demand for enriched programmatic standards continues to grow among our school families. The development of greater financial support from the broader community is of fundamental importance for maintaining the school's foundational population and its diversity. We are convinced that bolstering financial



Head of School/Principal's Message

reserves at RCS can be achieved and that this work will support our school's ministries.

Change that promotes synergy and establishes vibrancy, while drawing from the core traditions of the Roanoke Catholic School community, has been the driving force of our work over the past few months. While each new academic year brings many challenges, it also provides a commensurate basis for confidence in the future of the school. The Blessed Sacrament currently resides in our Chapel, and we walk by faith that our planning exemplifies the Light of Christ. Our Catholic school must be better because of its Catholicity and not exclusive in its ability to affect the lives of our youth. We welcome the challenge of the new school year and encourage you to continue to be an active part of the community.

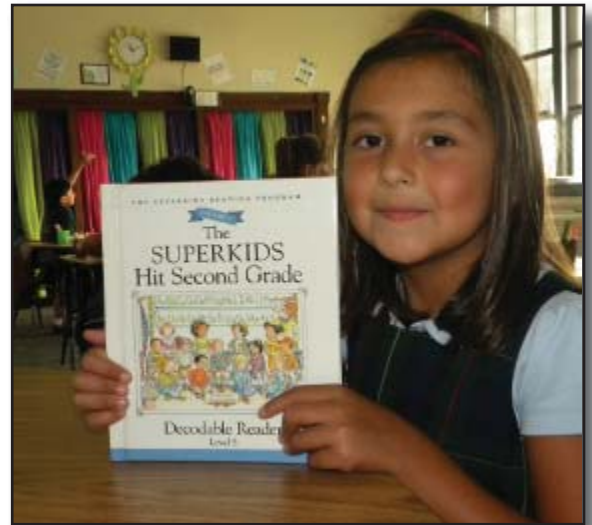
Patrick W. Patterson, Principal/Head of School

New Reading Program for early elementary students

The Superkids have arrived at RCS! Who are they? They are a group of fictitious students who help our kindergarten through second graders learn to read. Thanks to the help of our Home and Student Association, Roanoke Catholic has been able to purchase this wonderful new reading series. Superkids come from the nonprofit Rowland Reading Foundation, founded by Pleasant Rowland, an educator and entrepreneur, who is also the creator of the American Girl dolls. According to Ms. Rowland, "Teaching children to read in the primary grades is the most urgent task in education today." Our teachers here agree and are very excited to begin this new program.

An all encompassing language arts series, Superkids begins with the basic elements of phonics, introduced through one Superkid at a time and works through all the elements of reading, writing, grammar, and spelling, to produce fluent readers by the end of second grade.

The program uses a proven, research-based approach to learning to read. Our kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Mashburn and Mrs. Samsa, are particularly excited to learn of this program as it includes in one fabulous package all of the elements of teaching that they have been using for years, but now it is current to this generation of student - no more pictures of rotary phones! So the next time you see one of our early elementary students, ask them about a Superkid!



Julie Frost, Assistant Principal for Lower School

Mission Statement

Roanoke Catholic School is dedicated to excellence in education and to the spiritual development of youth within the framework of the Gospel and the tradition of the Catholic Church. Our fundamental task is the education of the whole person, blending learning with faith and faith with daily life. We strive to instill in our students a lifelong commitment to learning, to Christian values, and to community service. We are dedicated to achieving these goals in a supportive Christian community.

On The Hill

International Student Program

Enrollment Director, Sharon Harrilla, shares her personal experience

Twenty-five years ago my family hosted a student from Spain, and the experience opened up a whole new world for me. Three years after meeting her, I got on a plane by myself and made the trip abroad to stay with her family. We have kept in touch over the years, and my how times have changed! I remember mailing letters and packages to her that I knew would not get there for at least 10 days. Now, I can speak with her over Skype and be at her house the very next day! Three years ago, I again met up with her family in Bilbao, Spain. Even after twenty-two years, everyone looked much the same but the city was so much more beautiful than I had remembered. I looked at the city with the eyes of an adult and noticed things I did not see the first time around. When we last met face to face, we were beginning our journey to college. This time we talked about the possibility of our children someday meeting each other.



I am so happy to share that Roanoke Catholic is providing this opportunity for our students. Since 1995, RCS has been welcoming international students to campus, and this year we have fifteen students from around the world. These students are joining us from Korea, Japan, France, China, Cuba, Australia, Guatemala, and Vietnam! Many of these students are staying with host families within our Roanoke Catholic community. These students add much to the diversity of our RCS family. So, on your next visit to campus, feel free to brush up on your language skills! The students would love to show you around!

Did you know?

Is the pre-planning director you're working with local?

At Oakey's, when you speak with someone about prearranging funeral plans, you are speaking with an Oakey's employee who lives and works in the Roanoke Valley. This is a person who has ties to the community and understands your needs. Planning ahead frees your family from making tough decisions at a difficult time. It's nice to know that at Oakey's, you are planning with a professional, not a third party salesperson.

Oakey's has been here for over 100 years because we are dedicated to the families we serve.

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Funeral Service & Crematory
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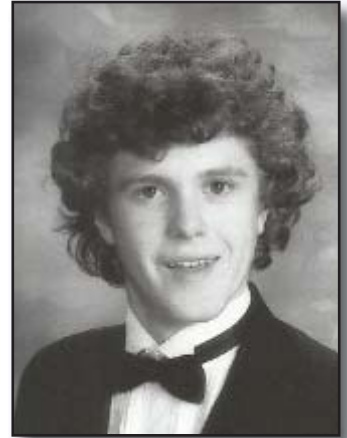
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ROANOKE, NORTH, VINTON, SOUTH AND EAST CHAPELS

Interview with Brian Schippers, Class of 2009

By Ann Clare Levy

For the past several months, Class of 2009 graduate Brian Schippers has been working overseas in the Holy Land for the Latin Patriarchate Schools. I was lucky enough to video chat Brian and ask him a few questions about his experiences in the Holy Land including how he came by this once in a life time opportunity.

Over a year ago, one of Brian's friends was talking about the difficulties the Christian population was facing in the Holy Land, mainly around Bethlehem. Christians had been leaving the area in droves, and Brian wanted to do something about it. He searched for mission opportunities, but all his searches came up dry. After a time, the prospect of going to the Holy Land slipped into the back of his mind. That was until early January when Brian attended the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) conference in Orlando, which revived his search. He discovered a program, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, and emailed Auxiliary Bishop William Shomali about his calling to serve in the Holy Land. On March 10, he was emailed back with a request for him to work in the English department of the Patriarchal schools. He is now located in the Jerusalem area, 25 minutes away from the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.



As Brian explained to me, he is in charge of everything English. He writes a monthly news bulletin and articles for the area about local schools and villages along with current news and administering everything English that goes in and out of the Patriarchal offices. In addition to his writings, Brian has also been assisting teachers in the Patriarchal schools with teaching English to the students. He will teach the 5th through 8th grade classes for two weeks as one of the teachers travels to Cincinnati for a presentation. Brian says that he is very excited to take over these classes even though it is his first time performing a job like this. He quoted Rev. Michael Beckwith stating, "God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called."

Being someone who has never left the country, I was very interested in what Brian had to say about his experiences abroad in one of the most diverse countries in the world. His stories did not disappoint. Brian told me a story about one of his first days in the Holy Land when he went to visit the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. As he was looking at the star embedded in the ground where Jesus' manger lay, he heard a group of Italians speaking behind him. He could not understand a single thing they were saying. That was until they began singing the Gloria. He joined in, and as he sang those familiar words, he realized what an amazing experience was occurring. An American, living in the Holy Land was singing a song in Latin with a group of Italians visiting the town of Bethlehem. Brian says that this moment made him realize just how internationally connected the Catholic Church is. Hearing this story, I wanted to know more about Brian's experiences with the international community, especially those who were now his neighbors. He told me about one of his new friends, Arib, who invited him in for a cup of tea while Brian was walking around Jerusalem for the first time. Brian learned that this man's name meant "eternal preacher" in Arabic, but as Arib joked, "Don't worry, I won't try to convert you to Islam." Brian sat with this man for over a half an hour drinking tea and getting to know each other. Brian told me that this is just one story that shows how cordial and welcoming these people are. As he puts it, "People are people no matter where they come from."

continued

Alumni Interview

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Lastly, Brian told me about the Christian faith life in the Holy Land. He explained that while many Christians are leaving the area for various reasons, the Christian base is still exceptionally strong in this area. They have a fierce pride in their faith and a true love for their God and Church. These are the original Christians, most of them being able to trace their ancestry back generations to those who personally followed Jesus while He was ministering on earth. "These people are 'living stones.' The people here are the rocks that hold our faith together."

Brian says that it is such a blessing that he is having the chance to work and live in the Holy Land, and that it is 100% the hand of God that has allowed him to be here. He hopes that he will be able to help for as long as possible and return again sometime in his life. "It's incredible what can be achieved just by asking," he told me as we were saying our good-byes. "God gives all of us opportunities to do great things; we just have to work a little to embrace these opportunities."

Alumni Profile

Cadet Mark Allman, RCS Class of 2011

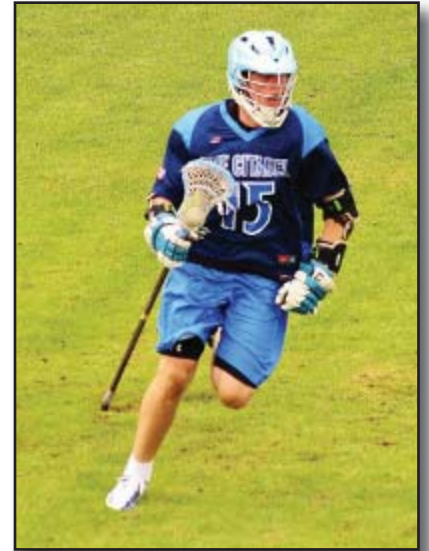
After graduating from Roanoke Catholic in 2011, I became a cadet at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina. Academically, Roanoke Catholic definitely prepared me for college. For example, Roanoke Catholic helped me earn college credits while I was still in high school which will allow me to graduate early. In addition, because of the level of classes at RCS, especially Spanish, I felt extremely prepared for college level courses. Roanoke Catholic provided me with the study techniques, research tools, and critical thinking skills needed to succeed in college. However, since The Citadel is a military college, there is much that Roanoke Catholic could never prepare me for.



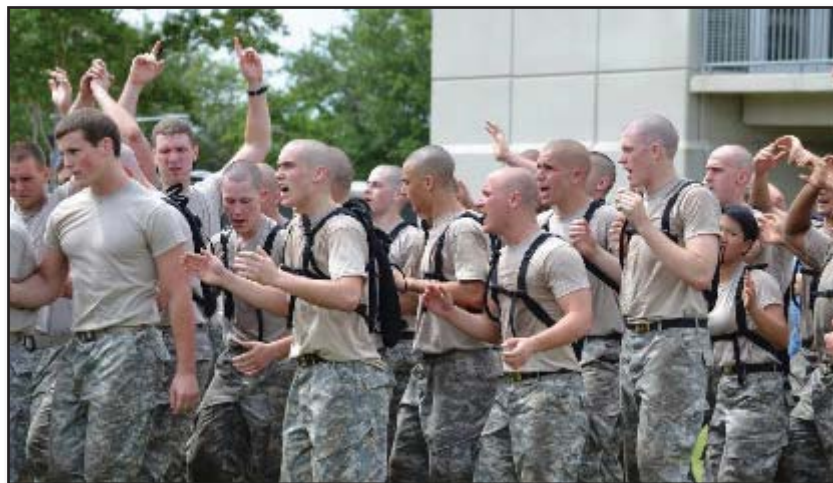
The first year at The Citadel is known as Knob Year due to the fact that we had our heads shaved resembling door knobs. Knob year is designed to break us down to nothing and teach us how to follow orders. That first year was the most difficult year that I have experienced thus far. As a knob, we were expected to be perfect, meaning that our uniforms were always clean and ironed, shoes and brass (belt buckle) were always shined, and we were required to master a plethora of answers to questions that upperclassmen might ask. Some "Knob knowledge" that we were required to know was all of the upperclassmen's names in our company (about 100 cadets), the next three meals that were to be served, the Cadet Prayer, the Alma Mater, all of the past presidents of the college, and much more. As a knob, my daily routine started at 6:30a.m. when I joined the other knobs in my company to sweep the barracks which would take us about 25 minutes to complete. After that, we went back to our rooms and shined our brass before going to breakfast formation where upperclassmen inspected our uniforms and ordered us to "pop off" or shout out required knob knowledge. After this we marched to breakfast where we were required, with proper posture, to sit on the front three inches of our seats. We were then served a small portion of food, allowed

Alumni Profile

only three chews before swallowing, while setting down our utensils after each bite. During every meal, etiquette was strictly enforced. After eating, we knob-walked at 120 steps per minute back to the barracks, and collected our books for classes. Classes were always a nice break from barracks life, but due to little sleep, it was difficult to stay awake during all classes. Luckily, I learned how to manage my time very well, earning a 3.17 GPA my first semester as a knob and then a 3.73 GPA my second semester. After classes there was more of the same: quickly back to rooms, shine brass, lunch formation, inspection, popping off, eat lunch, return to our rooms, and prepare for more classes. After classes ended in the afternoon, we generally had a little time to ourselves. During this time I tried to complete all of my academic work before another “sweep detail.” Following sweep detail I went to lacrosse practice, my favorite sport. After practice, I returned to the barracks for ESP (Evening Study Period) and completed my homework. Next I sanded out all the scratches my belt buckle accumulated throughout the day, shined my belt, shined my shoes, ironed my trousers and shirt and then reported to my senior mentor for additional tasks. At the conclusion of the day, we slept, woke and repeated the routine. At a school like The Citadel, it is very important to take everything one day at a time.



Now as a junior, knob year is a memory, but I still play lacrosse, the most therapeutic part in my day. It gives me a chance to relax with my friends and play a sport that I love. In the past two years The Citadel lacrosse team has made it to the Conference playoffs for the 1st and 2nd time in school history by beating our rival College of Charleston both times to make another 1st and 2nd for the lacrosse program. My knob year I was second leading scorer on the team and my sophomore year I was the leading scorer on the team and was #4 for most points in the SELC. I have achieved Dean’s List (GPA 3.2+) three times and Gold Stars (GPA 3.7+) once. Based on academic standing and credits earned, I have been able to join in two honor societies, Pi Sigma Alpha (National Political Science Honor Society) and Sigma Delta Pi (National Hispanic Honor Society). After graduating from The Citadel, I plan on attending Law school at either George Mason University or the Richmond University. All of this would not be possible without the firm foundation and guidance provided to me by my family and by Roanoke Catholic. For this, I am most appreciative.



Reunions: Class of 1993

Reunion Weekend

By Kathleen Yengst

Over the weekend of September 20, 2013, the Classes of 1993 and 1994 gathered to celebrate our 20th and 19th high school reunions, respectively. We kicked the weekend off with a pre-Homecoming game tailgate, where we were tricked into being filmed for Channel 10 news. We enjoyed cheering for the Celtics, despite the disappointing loss to Auburn. It was fun to reminisce about our school years and to visit with our former teachers who were also at the game.

On Saturday, we reconvened at the school for a tour and picnic. Roanoke Catholic has changed considerably since we graduated, and this was the first time many of us had seen the renovations. Debbie Stump led us on the tour and humored our requests to go into classrooms where we had the fondest memories. We even had an impromptu game of dodge ball in the Lower School gym. We wrapped up the fun weekend with a dinner at Billy's on Saturday night.



Several alumni catch up with former teacher Jane Cooper at the Alumni Tent during the Homecoming Game.



Following the picnic on campus the alumni enjoyed a tour of the school and stopped in the Alumni Room for a group picture.

Reunions: Class of 2003

Reunion Weekend

By Rachel Zuraw, Class of 2003 President

The ten-year reunion for the Class of 2003 was held on Homecoming Weekend, September 20-21. Friday night's Homecoming Tailgate took place at Vinyard Park, as the class gathered to watch the Celtics battle Auburn. The class received a very warm welcome from former RCS teachers, including Mrs. Futrell, Mr. Whitt, Ms. Cooper, Ms. Plante and Mr. Sweeney. Special thanks to Greg Szechenyi, Class of 2000, owner of Press Press Merch, for the customized class koozies and to Mrs. Stump for helping to make the event a huge success!

On Saturday evening, the class met for dinner at Schaal's Metamorphosis in downtown Roanoke. Christina Destefano Hallingse and Mary Dodson MacGibbon, members of the reunion planning committee, arrived early to fill the room with old photographs and memorabilia. Kyle White gave the keynote address, remarking upon the profound impact that Roanoke Catholic has made on his life. The class enjoyed a delicious buffet and class reunion cake, and closed the evening with dancing at Cornerstone Bar & Grill. The efforts of the planning committee and the attendance of all those present were greatly appreciated!



Catching Up



Stephen Niamke (formerly Jones) 1979 is a Mental Health Clinician at East Mental Health in Roanoke, Virginia. He is the President of the Melrose Rugby Neighborhood Forum and Chief Election Officer at Peters Creek precinct. His daughter, Stephanie, recently graduated from Radford University.

Mike Russell 1980 Former RCS Advisory School Board chair (2010-2012) enjoying the Homecoming festivities with his family. Kristen is 11 years old and a 6th grader at RCS and Kara is 9 years old and in the 4th grade at RCS. His wife, Ann, is a former HSA president (2010-2012).



Kevin Selfe 1991 On Friday, September 13th, we hosted our first Alumni Presentation for the 2013-2014 academic year. Kevin stopped by the school for a visit and talked about his music career. The students received a great message about being successful in life. Kevin sticks to three rules: "Be honest. Be on time. Be kind. Many doors will open if you keep these rules in mind."

Christopher Bailey 1993 is a detective with the Columbus Division of Police in Columbus, Ohio, as a technical crash investigator with the accident investigation unit.

Bridgette Rauch Eckerson 1993 is an attorney at Mozley, Finlayson & Loggins, LLP in Georgia. She is a breast cancer survivor. She is married to Will and they have two daughters, Marin, age 8 and Brynn, age 5.



Pete Landry 1993 "I currently reside in Charlotte, NC with my wife Jenn and daughter Emma, age 11. I work for Bank of America in their Consumer Banking Services group, specifically in the area of Insurance Services. Jenn is a school teacher working at Charlotte Latin School and Emma is a sixth grader at Charlotte Latin. Our family is actively involved in dance with Emma participating on a local studio's competition team."



Anastasia "Stacey" Broderick Richman 1993 "My husband, Todd, and I live in Washington, D.C. We have a 15-month-old son named Theo. I am a special education teacher, and my husband is an attorney. Theo keeps us quite busy these days!"

Catching Up

Mary Molinary Fawley 1994 is living in Chesapeake, Virginia with her husband, Nathan, and she is currently controller for a small company based in Chesapeake.

Mike Kolnok 1994 and Beth Nelson Kolnok 1995 Mike and Beth have a daughter, Allie Kolnok.

Ben Spichek 1994 Ben has a daughter, Emma.



Travis Burke 2003 "I recently married Alison Kernell Burke. I am still running the ice cream boat on Smith Mountain Lake; this makes thirteen summers. For the remainder of the year, I work for another family business, 4DD Studios (3-D signs and trade show booths and museum exhibits) in Roanoke."

Anne McNally Cooper 2003 married Matthew Cooper in July 2010 and is currently working for a software company in Richmond.

Sylvia Hanna 2003 "I graduated from Virginia Tech in 2007 with a B.S. in Psychology and then went on to complete my doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology in 2012 from Loyola University, Maryland. I am currently a psychologist at JMU's Counseling Center."

Elizabeth "Tuffy" Henderson 2003 "I graduated from Vermont Law School with a Masters of Environmental Law in 2009. I am married to Nicholas Gilbert, and we presently live in Asheville, NC, where I make guitars. I had the pleasure of making guitars for both veteran artist Doc Watson and contemporary artist Zac Brown."



Mark Kowalski 2003 "I just began my third year of seminary for the Diocese of Richmond at Theological College / Catholic University of America in Washington, DC."

Mary Dodson MacGibbon 2003 "My husband, Danny, and I welcomed our baby daughter, Mary Huff, on July 25, 2013. I am currently a nurse at Roanoke Memorial Hospital."

Kyle White 2003 works for an organic recycling company, McGill Environmental Systems. He is the account manager who covers the state of Virginia and northeast North Carolina. Kyle works with Parks and Recreation departments, the agriculture community and storm water management. Kyle and Eve Saba became happily engaged on July 6, 2013, at Nationals Park in Washington, DC -- home of the Washington Nationals. They live in Richmond with their two small Yorkies, Lylie and Sammie, and are looking forward to their wedding in May 2014. Kyle is a proud Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) grad.



Catching Up

Rachel Zuraw 2003 “I am currently working as a staff attorney for the 4th Circuit in Richmond, Virginia. Richmond has many good restaurants; however, my favorite is Dutch and Co. on 27th and Marshall near St. John’s Church where Patrick Henry gave his famous ‘liberty or death’ speech.”



Anna White 2005 “After graduating from RCS, I attended Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina.



While there I became a sister of the Chi Omega Fraternity. I graduated from Winthrop in August 2009 with a B.S. degree. Soon after graduating, I made the decision to go back to school at Roanoke College for a degree in business and accounting. I graduated from Roanoke College in May 2012, and I currently work at an accounting firm in downtown Roanoke. I am also working towards completing the CPA exam. I will be getting married in November 2013 to Brandon Bozard, who I met while at Winthrop.”

Emilee Meggers 2008 Emilee graduated from VCU on May 11, 2013 with a BS in Business Marketing. She is employed by Brown Greer Law Firm, Richmond, Virginia, in the Marketing Department.

Morgan Jessee 2009 “After graduating from Roanoke Catholic, I attended Virginia Western Community College, where I am currently studying Criminal Justice with hopes of becoming a Juvenile Probation Officer after I graduate. I have worked with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia for almost four years now as a member of the Youth Development Staff in the third grade. Working here, I have found a passion for working with underprivileged youth and their families. Recently, I have also become the Smart Smiles Coordinator with the Boys and Girls Clubs here in the valley, helping under-served club members attain dental care. In the summer of 2013, I worked for Catholic Heart Workcamp, driving around the country for six weeks with eight other college-aged students, putting on week-long mission trips for high school students. From Florida to Delaware, Indiana to New Jersey and back, I had a fun, faith-filled summer!”



Molly Lovell 2011 “I am in my last year at Virginia Western Community College, majoring in Fine Arts with a concentration in Museum Studies. My plan is to transfer next year to UNCC.”

Make sure to check out Roanoke Catholic’s home page. See students’ latest achievements, check out how our teams are doing, along with the latest RCS news. Don’t forget to click the Alumni tab on the side bar to visit the alumni page, where you can access electronic copies of past Alumni Newsletters and see interviews with some alumni who have stopped by for a visit.

Catching Up

Maureen Brady 2012 “After graduating with the class of 2012, I went on to study at Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. At Xavier, I am studying economics through the Williams College of Business. I love continuing my education at a Catholic university. The Jesuit ideals at Xavier always inspire me and keep me going. I never expected to end up in a business school, and it is a big change going from a class of 40 students to 1,000! Although, through keeping my mind open, I found everything I needed at Xavier. Along with my studies, I am an active member in Xavier Women in Business, Economics Club, Outdoor Club, and the Center for Faith and Justice. In these clubs, I learn how to be a better businesswoman, meet my fellow students at Xavier, and volunteer in the Cincinnati community. I am also the President of the Community Council of my dorm hall, and I get to schedule fun events for students living in the dorms so that my Xavier community can grow ever more.”



Go Celtics!

Julian Ferguson & Assoc., Inc.

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*President
Class of '67*

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Class of 2013



CLASS of 2013 with 100% College Placement

MEAN SAT DISTRIBUTION (35 students tested)

	CRITICAL READING	MATH	WRITING
National Average	496	514	488
Virginia	516	514	498
ROANOKE CATHOLIC	602	543	587

And our next destination is

*§ Alderson-Broaddus College § Christopher-Newport University §
 § College of Charleston § Elon University § James Madison University (2) §
 § ITT Tech § Lynchburg College § Mary Baldwin College §
 § Radford University (5) § Roanoke College (2) § University of Alabama §
 § University of Dallas § University of Kentucky §
 § University of Mary Washington (2) §
 § UNC at Wilmington § University of Tennessee §
 § University of Virginia (3) § Wake Tech Community College §
 § Virginia Commonwealth University § Virginia Military Institute §
 § Virginia Tech (4) § Virginia Western §*

With over \$2,373,202 in reported scholarships and grants

Recent Graduates

2013 Graduation Award

Knights of Columbus

Outstanding Male Athlete
Outstanding Male Scholar Athlete
Outstanding Female Athlete
Outstanding Female Scholar Athlete

Nick Nester
Patrick Macher
Ava Perez
Mairin Guilfoyle

School Board Leadership Award

Bianca Herrera Dos Reis

Faculty and Staff Scholarship in Memory of Ann L. Friel

Andrew Gillespie

Faculty and Staff Scholarship in Honor of Karen M. Mabry

Stefani Via

Patrick Thomas Rowe Memorial Scholarship

Mairin Guilfoyle

President's Award

Sarah Algino

Cy Brunner Memorial Scholarship

Maria Barrera

Camilla M. Buchanan Memorial Scholarship

Anna Barrera

William Gordon "Buck" Buchanan, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Alex Wall

Alumni Graduate

Laurie George

The Keyser Family Scholarship

Laurie George

Burke Family Scholarship

Stephen Rosendahl
Alex Sakalas

Marie Montano Scholarship

Sarah Algino
Anna Eapen

Nannie Varalli Scholarship

Claire Chewing
Faith Weatherman



Anna Eapen, Valedictorian
Faith Weatherman, Salutatorian
Graduation Day

Roanoke Catholic School extends a special thank you to our local parishes for their support of Catholic education.

St. Andrews

Francis of Assisi

St. Gerard's Catholic Church

Our Lady of Nazareth

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Resurrection Catholic Church

Church of the Transfiguration

On The Hill

Roanoke Catholic School Partnership with Virginia Western Community College

In partnership with Virginia Western Community College, Roanoke Catholic juniors and seniors have the opportunity to earn college credits in Engineering Career Studies, Advanced Technology in Mechatronics, or Culinary Arts. The Regional Academy for Advanced Technology is a career-pathways focused program designed to provide students who aspire to higher learning an interactive and engaging educational challenge. Interested students make application to the Academy in the spring of their sophomore year for classes that begin in the fall. This program is offered at no charge to our students. Roanoke Catholic has a total of eight students who have enrolled in this program in the past two years. These students have the opportunity to earn up to thirty-six college credits in this two-year program. After attending Regional Academy classes at VWCC in the morning, the students continue their academic day at Roanoke Catholic.

“The engineering program helped me to discover my interest in Industrial and Systems Engineering which I am currently planning on majoring in at Virginia Tech. The program contained many demanding classes, but they more than adequately prepared me for Virginia Tech engineering. Overall, the program was a challenging, but rewarding experience, and I am thankful that Roanoke Catholic and Virginia Western could provide me with the opportunity to participate in the program.”

Stefani Via, Class of 2013



“I cannot give the Roanoke Catholic-Virginia Western partnership enough praise. This was an extraordinary program that really helped me accelerate my math and engineering skills. The credits that I transferred to VMI also are allowing me flexibility in my schedule and courses that are not available to other students. To be honest, it was hard to juggle Virginia Western schoolwork and Roanoke Catholic schoolwork, but I can say it was definitely worth it. Having now completed five weeks at VMI, I can gladly say, as a result of participating in the program, I feel a step ahead of my classmates when it comes to the fundamentals and college readiness. The teachers and administrative staff, both at Roanoke Catholic and Virginia Western, are very helpful and work with the students so that they can excel at both schools. Overall, I would say that this is a program definitely worth considering for anyone interested in Engineering or a related field.”

Alex Sakalas, Class of 2013

Squires Chapter Reestablished at Roanoke Catholic School

This year the local chapter of the Columbian Squires is being reestablished at Roanoke Catholic School. The Squires is the youth program for the Knights of Columbus, and its function is as a service organization which develops friendship, character, and leadership in Catholic youth boys.



In May, the members of the Squires assisted the Knights of Columbus in their annual KOVAR fundraising campaign; standing alongside the Knights outside Kroger and offering tootsie rolls. More recently, officers within the Squires organization came to Roanoke to officially invest the local members into the Squires organization. A second investiture is taking place soon to add even more Squires to the ranks here at Roanoke Catholic. All of the members are looking forward to ending the year on a high note and hope to recruit many of the underclassmen to fill the places that will be left open when this year's seniors graduate.

Jon Reynolds, Class of 1998, US Government/Theology, Squires Faculty Advisor

Founding Students of FCA Are Seniors

By Matthew Gwin

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) has a strong presence on RCS' campus. The group, led by co-presidents Ann Clare Levy and Matthew Gwin and Vice President Aubrey Galbraith, has more than 100 members in the student body. Every month, the members attend a meeting with breakfast, an inspirational speaker, and sometimes music. In the past couple years, though, FCA has branched out to include more events such as a movie night, many service projects, retreats, and Holy Week activities. During this year's Homecoming Week, FCA sponsored "Minute-to-Win-It" games at break every day, gave away free cupcakes to the entire student body and had a tailgating tent at the football game.

Much of the success in recent years can be attributed to the activeness of many members, especially seniors. Five of this year's seniors have been with FCA since the beginning; Ann Clare Levy, Matthew Gwin, Aubrey Galbraith, Danielle Zipfel, and Catherine Doubles helped start FCA during their sixth grade year. Throughout their time with the club, the seniors have seen what the club needed to grow and helped provide it. Many seniors take an active role in promoting their favorite part of the club. For example, Danielle Zipfel is the leader of Crafts for a Cure, an FCA group that creates crafts and sells them to raise money to help cure childhood cancer; Aubrey Galbraith spearheaded the effort to have games at break during homecoming week.

With all the FCA sponsored events that take place at RCS, it is easy to see how successful the club is. Even after the founding members of the club graduate this spring, the club will remain in good hands with adult leadership by Mark Gwin and Kris Levy.

Athletics



Matthew Peck

Athletic Director Matthew Peck, Class of 1998

Roanoke Catholic School announces new Athletic Director: "After an extensive search, with candidates from around the Commonwealth, I'm pleased to announce that our Search Committee has selected Mr. Matthew Peck as our new Athletic Director. Matt, a 1998 graduate of Roanoke Catholic, has been an active member of our school and coaching staff over the past year and has made a tremendous impression on our school community. He holds a B.S. degree in Social Science and History from Radford University and a M.A. degree in Liberal Studies with a concentration in Social/Political Science from Hollins University. As a member of the School Leadership Team, Matt will be instrumental in helping determine future planning initiatives for our on and off-campus facilities."

Patrick Patterson, Principal

Matt shared his perspective at the Homecoming game when asked how his first few months are going. "It's wonderful to be back at Roanoke Catholic. I have a lot of great memories at this school and I look forward to many more. I don't think any amount of training or education could have truly prepared me for what being an Athletic Director entails. It's a job with a lot of responsibility that I welcome and embrace. The last few months have been incredibly busy, but I've learned a tremendous amount about the position. Roanoke Catholic athletics have always been a passion of mine, and I look forward to coming in to work and continuing to learn every day. I'm blessed to be back on "the hill" and I feel fortunate that I can say that I love going to work every day."

Matthew Peck, Athletic Director



Before



After

**Stop by the school and see our beautiful newly renovated gym.
Go to <http://www.rcsceltics.com/> for a schedule
of upcoming basketball games and join us at RCS.**

Catholic Historical Museum

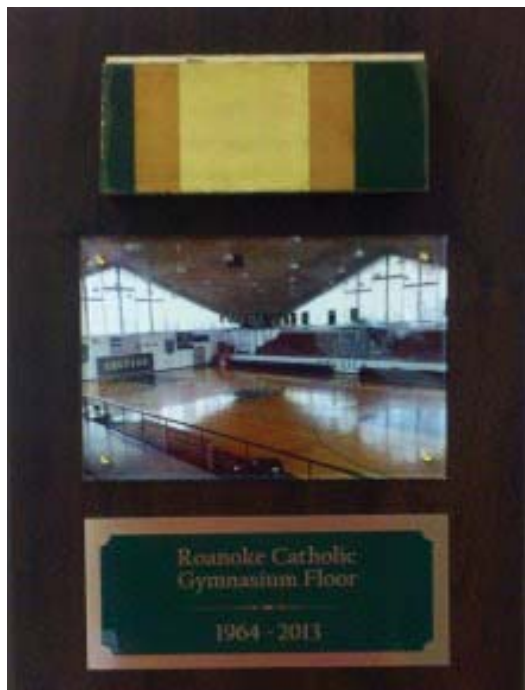


If you like hidden treasure adventures, we have one for you! This treasure is tucked away, but not buried, in a small space located at 400 Campbell Avenue in Roanoke, Virginia. The Catholic Historical Museum is the place to explore if you have not already discovered this treasure. Our current location seats fifty people for presentations, meetings, and educational programs for all ages. We have so many things to see; however, we are limited in display space. Therefore, plans to move to a larger location are in the near future.

Our mission is to educate current and future generations in the history of Catholicism by preserving and protecting the history and artifacts of the Catholic Church in the Roanoke Valley. One of our primary goals is to help develop a stronger sense of the Catholic community through history and

education. We are open every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. We welcome you for a tour and to use our library for research. Admission is free!

Also, at the Catholic Historical Museum, the gift shop hosts a variety of items for purchase. The museum is a non-profit; we operate solely by volunteers. Please consider becoming a member for only \$50.00 per year. Any donations are greatly appreciated.



OWN A PIECE OF HISTORY

Our students and alumni are enjoying the beautiful new gym floor! Stop by the school and take a look; it is beautiful. We have also preserved the old gym floor and are pleased to offer commemorative plaques with a piece of the floor attached, along with a picture. The cost per placard will be \$50 and all proceeds will benefit the RCS Athletic Program. Please join us in preserving this special piece of Roanoke Catholic history while also contributing to the RCS Athletic Program. These wonderful placards will not last long! To place an order please send your request to Matt Peck, Athletic Director, at mpeck@roanokecatholic.com.

Upcoming Events

The RCS Alumni Association presents *"The Great American Citrus Sale"*

Order your pink grapefruits, naval oranges and tangelos for your holiday gift-giving and enjoyment! The RCS Alumni Association sponsors this fundraiser every year. Proceeds support the Roanoke Catholic Alumni Scholarship Fund. Please visit the RCS website, click on the Alumni tab for an order form or pick up a form at the school.

Upcoming Reunion

The Class of 1973 will celebrate their 40 year reunion on March 15, 2014.



Class of '73, Class Officers



Class of '73, Senior Lounge

Want to stay up to date with RCS happenings? Make sure to check out the Roanoke Catholic Facebook page. Browse through countless photos and videos, read the latest news, keep track of how our teams are doing, be informed about upcoming events, and leave comments yourself. Don't forget to friend Roanoke Catholic for all of this and more.



Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits Program

The McMahon Parater Foundation of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond has become one of the first foundations to participate in Virginia's new Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits Program.

"This tax credit program is a great opportunity for donors to provide new access to families who want a faith-based Catholic education for their children," said Margaret Keightley, Executive Director of Advancement for McMahon Parater. Under the Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits Program, individuals and businesses will receive a state tax credit equal to 65 percent of the donation. In addition, donors will also qualify for any applicable federal tax benefits for the donation.

Roanoke Catholic is pleased to announce our first gift of \$25,000 from former RCS parents, he served as RCS School Board Chairperson, and she served as president of the Home and School Association.

Tax credits will be awarded by the Virginia Department of Education on a first come, first serve basis. The total amount of tax credits that may be granted in each fiscal year is \$25 million. For more information about making a donation, contact Debbie Stump, Development Coordinator, at (540) 982-3532 x2110 or dstump@roanokecatholic.com and ask about the Scholarships Tax Credits Program. Or visit <http://www.richmonddiocese.org/mpfe/ways-to-give/scholarships-tax-credits>.

A Grateful Honorary Graduate Plans to Give Back

Planned gifts play a very special role in the community of Roanoke Catholic School. These contributions place RCS on a stronger financial foundation and help ensure that we can continue to provide the best education for our students.

In his will, John Paul Blankenship, honorary graduate 1955, has included a bequest to establish a \$50,000 scholarship in memory of his mother. The interest from the scholarship gift will provide assistance for students to attend RCS. John Paul's mother was truly proud of her son and all that RCS represents. John Paul attended Jefferson High School and joined RCS students for religion classes. He said RCS nurtured his faith, and he felt more at home on the RCS campus than he did at Jefferson. He cherishes his memories of Roanoke Catholic. "The older I get, the more I realize all that RCHS did to bless my life, not to mention all the wonderful folks I met then and still count as friends today."

Please consider a planned gift to Roanoke Catholic. Review all planned gift options with your financial advisors and/or attorney to ensure that your gift will meet your philanthropic and financial goals. If you would like more information, please contact: Debbie Stump, Development Coordinator, 540-982-3532 x2110 or dstump@roanokecatholic.com

MIHI VIVERE CHRISTUS EST
For Me To Live Is Christ

Annual Fund

Together we make a difference
Thank you for all of your support

Our Annual Fund Supports RCS



Annual Fund

2013-2014 Goal \$275,000

Supporting a 124 year tradition of providing
quality education and instilling Catholic values

Please use the enclosed envelope for your Annual Fund donation.



Roanoke Catholic School

Annual Report

July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

Roanoke Catholic School Annual Report

July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

Roanoke Catholic School relies on the support of alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends so the school may continue to offer students outstanding facilities where they are able to learn in an academically challenging and faith-based environment. With your support, last year's Annual Fund campaign raised \$254,637. The school is grateful to the many alumni, families and individuals, for their support during the 2012-2013 academic year.

Thank you for your commitment to Roanoke Catholic School.

Unrestricted Annual Fund Gifts

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\$25,000.00 and up

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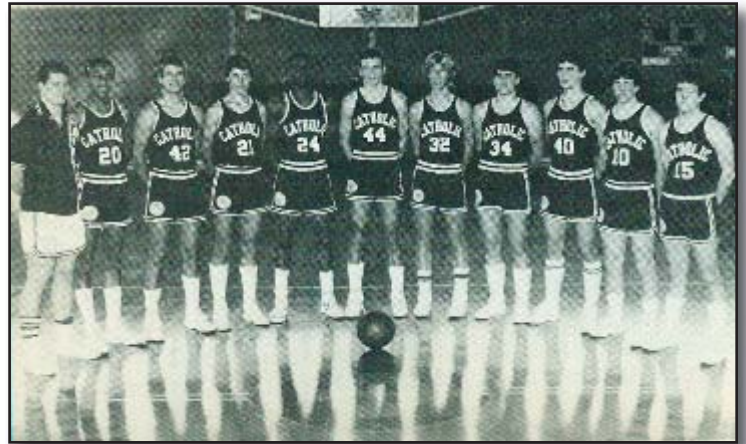
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Remember When....



1963 Varsity Cheerleaders: Becky Shedwell, Franny Surkamer, Eileen Giacobbe, and Head Cheerleader Sara Gillespie. "The loyalty of these girls has been with the football and basketball squads from start to finish. Bubbling with school spirit, their enthusiasm has been contagious."



The 1983-84 Varsity Celtics



Class of 1996 Making "Spooktacular" Pumpkins



Senior Powderpuff Team: Class of 2004



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