

Roanoke Catholic School
Celtic Newsletter
Spring 2014



Cover Art by Eva Kuehler

Head of School & Principal's Message

Dear Friends,

I trust that all of you are doing well and are looking forward to summer break. I know our students, parents, faculty and staff certainly are! Last year at this time I had an opportunity to update you on the capital initiatives in our Lower School and main gymnasium. We are enjoying some tremendous energy savings with these renovations in addition to the aesthetic appearance these improvements have made to our campus.

This year - in just a few short weeks -we will begin a \$500,000 exterior renovation project for our Upper School building. Updates include a new entrance, windows, exterior doors, a new cap on the roof to match the Multi-Purpose Building and energy efficient building material called EIFS. We anticipate some tremendous energy savings once this project is completed in mid-August. The updated look to this building will also be a blessing! Thanks to the generosity of our current and past parents, numerous donors and alumni, in addition to a most generous gift from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hardie, this project - in concert with all recent renovations - will be paid for with cash, not loans. We are truly blessed by your generosity and by your commitment to our school community.

I wanted to share with you some news about a former and a current student that has struck a chord with many in our community. Some of you will remember **Mirenda Gwin, Class of 2011**. Mirenda recently completed her "third year" at the University of Virginia, and she continues to amaze all of us with her loving and giving spirit. In January, Mirenda contacted me about a project she was working on for children's cancer research. The project is called St. Baldrick's Foundation, and as Mirenda said "This cause is particularly close to my heart, as RCS student **Anna Lucas** was one of my friends who passed away in 2010 from cancer. She was a beautiful, vibrant soul, and I, along with every person who knew her, miss her every day. I wanted to do this in her memory and to show the Lucas Family that while Anna is gone, she will never be forgotten." Mirenda asked for the support and prayers of the RCS community as she worked to raise money for this worthy cause. However, there was one other item she shared with me - the culminating activity of Mirenda's challenge would be for her to shave her head as part of this fundraising initiative! Indeed, on March 27, after raising money to help conquer childhood cancer, Mirenda shaved her head. Check out her project at <http://www.stbaldricks.org/participants/mypage/672401/2014>.



Along the same lines - but not quite to the same extreme, we have a similar story from **sophomore Natalie Lucchini**. For years, Natalie has been growing her hair so that she would be able to donate to Locks of Love. This organization makes wigs for children who lose their hair due to medical conditions. In March, Natalie was able to make that donation! Great jobs, Natalie and Mirenda! We are all so humbled by your loving and giving spirit and we celebrate your tremendous accomplishments.

As many of you know, in March we lost a beloved champion of Roanoke Catholic School with the passing of **Dr. Robert L.A. Keeley, Class of 1938**. An incredible husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Dr. Keeley was a true friend to those of us who knew him. Dr. Keeley represented everything great about RCS, and he lived his life in service to others. Always giving of his time and talents and sharing his love of God, "Papa" Keeley was a man to be admired and respected. Since his passing I have found myself thinking a lot about Dr. Keeley and the impact he has had on my life. There is no question that I am a blessed man for having known him, and there is no question that we must make sure others get to know about this incredible man and his work. I'm pleased to announce the Dr. Robert L.A. Keeley Memorial Scholarships. Staff, family, and friends of Dr. Keeley plan to fund these scholarships in his honor, beginning this year. We feel this is a fitting tribute to a man who gave so much to this school community and to the entire Roanoke Valley. We will make sure that Dr. Keeley's memory lives on for decades through the work and community service of these scholarship recipients.

Blessings,

Patrick W. Patterson

Kuehler Family Profile

Our children have now attended Roanoke Catholic for two years, and their enrollment here at RCS rates as one of the best family decisions we have ever made. I had to relocate the family for work during the summer of 2012, and we had the luxury of choosing anywhere in Virginia or North Carolina to live. By early 2012, we had narrowed down our choices to either Greensboro, NC or Roanoke. It was the school day our children spent at Roanoke Catholic toward the end of the 2011-2012 school year that tipped the balance and made the decision an easy one.



Getting a proper and Catholic education has always been one of our top priorities, and we have been overwhelmed by the atmosphere of Roanoke Catholic School. It has been beyond all of our expectations, not only with regard to the fantastic education our children receive, but also the community of students and parents we have had the privilege of knowing since we arrived. Each member of our family has had the great fortune of meeting some of the finest people we know. Roanoke Catholic School has become a very important and very enjoyable part of our lives in every respect. It has been such a relief to us, as parents of a large family, to know that our children are being exposed to such an exceptional community.

Joe and Teresa Kuehler, RCS Parents

In Loving Memory of Dr. Robert L.A. Keeley, Class of 1938



On The Hill

Robert Hardie, Class of 1983, and his wife Molly, make a commitment of over \$1.25 million to Roanoke Catholic School, the largest individual donation in the school's history.

Four specific areas will directly benefit from the Hardie's generosity as their gift supports our Lower School Renovation Campaign, Upper School Renovation Campaign, Annual Fund Campaign and the Mary Gillespie Hardie Scholarship. Two scholarships will be awarded annually, providing a full scholarship for a Lower School student and a full scholarship for an Upper School student, each of whom demonstrates service, academic achievement, and leadership.

To honor their generosity, Roanoke Catholic will name the Lower School Building in honor of Mary and Jack Hardie, after Robert's parents. A sign will be attached to the existing Lower School sign in front of the building and a plaque recognizing the contributions of the Hardie family displayed in the lobby.

Please join us in thanking Robert and Molly Hardie for helping make Roanoke Catholic School the best it can be! We are indeed blessed to have the support of so many who believe in our mission. The strength of the school's future is built upon the legacy of previous generations.



Robert, Class of 1983, his wife, Molly, and their family



Mary Gillespie Hardie, Class of 1950 and husband, Jack Hardie



Students Ross Clark, senior (left) and Maddie Shroades, fourth grade (right) were the 2013 recipients of the Mary Gillespie Hardie Scholarship.



Upper School Renovation

The Upper School Renovation Campaign provides opportunities for the entire Roanoke Catholic School community to participate. As part of the campaign, naming opportunities will be available. The name of our sponsors will appear permanently on a plaque attached to each individual window and/or door. Recognize a teacher, celebrate a graduate, honor a family member; you may choose to give your gift in honor or memory of someone special. For more information please contact, Debbie Stump, Development Coordinator at 540-982-3532 x2110 or dstump@roanokecatholic.com.



Rendering of renovated Upper School building



Patrick W. Patterson, Principal & Head of School and Debbie Stump, Development Coordinator thank Tim Shelton, Class of 1974.

We extend a special thank you to the Shelton brothers, Dallas, Andrew, and Tim, Class of 1974, for their leadership gift of \$33,600 for our Upper School Renovation Project. Their generous gift will enable the Upper School entrance to be dedicated in honor of their parents, Dallas and Agnes Shelton.



Sample Window Plaque



Thank you to the Hypes family for sponsoring a window. Mary Driscoll-Hypes with her children, Jonathon, seventh grade and Nicole, tenth grade

Windows are still available for sponsorship at \$1,000 each!

On the Hill

24th Annual Shamrock Hill Run

A wee bit of sunshine and cool temperatures made the 24th Annual Running of the Shamrock Hill 5K and 10K races a great way for Roanoke and RCS to start off St. Patrick's Day celebrations. Four hundred runners dashed (or puttered) down the hill and out into Roanoke, testing their luck, their green, their kilts, and their stamina on the city streets. A number of RCS students, staff, teachers and alumni were among the runners with three teachers (Tim Carlin, Erin Levering, and Sara Plante) and three students (Caleb Amstutz, Matthew Saville, and Jessica Via) winning medals in their respective age groups.



Sara Plante, RCS Upper School Science Teacher

The race would not have been possible without our sponsors (New River Electrical Corporation, Oakey's, Outdoor Trails, and Valley Bank) and the help of numerous RCS students, staff and family members who supplied food, handed out water, stopped traffic, and cheered these runners to victory. Every runner, no matter how fast or how slow, felt that sense of accomplishment crossing the finish line which was made all the more spectacular by the towering spires of St. Andrew's Catholic Church.

We are already looking forward to March 14, 2015 when we will celebrate the 25th Annual Shamrock Hill Run. Mark your calendars and come join your RCS family in one of the oldest road races in Roanoke. We hope this will be the best run ever!



Tim Carlin, RCS Fifth Grade Teacher



A special thanks to all the runners!

Ancient Order of Hibernians St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Silent Auction

Thank you to those who joined us at Roanoke Catholic School for a wonderful St. Patrick's Day Irish Dinner and Silent Auction on March 15th. The event was sold out! This event was sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians who have been very generous to our students and school community for decades. Many of our current students have received scholarships from this organization that promotes Irish Heritage and Culture. Congratulations to the Nagy Family for winning the drawing for \$1,500 towards next year's RCS tuition!

The AOH is pleased to announce that the Father Lynch Division 1 of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, will continue to support Roanoke Catholic

School at the lower school level, with the Joseph R. Donnelly Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500. They are also pleased to announce another scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, to be awarded at the upper school level. The awards were presented at the honors ceremony on June 5, 2014.



Patrick W. Patterson, Principal & Head of School, and David Bowers, Mayor of Roanoke

Congratulations Graduates!

— from —

MATT O'HERRON

and

TURBITT, O'HERRON, & LEACH P.L.L.C.

PERSONAL INJURY AND INSURANCE LAW

Alumni Profile



Christopher J. Foley, Class of 2005, an engineer in training with AECOM of Norfolk has been chosen to receive one of the 2014 Rising Star Awards, presented by ACEC Virginia, the state's largest engineering membership organization.

The Rising Star Awards recognize the up and coming, outstanding young professionals working for Virginia engineering firms. The award can be presented to professionals in a variety of capacities including engineers, planners, environmentalists, IT, Communications, Human Resources, project management, administration, scientists, etc. Those chosen for the Rising Star Awards have less than 10 years of experience, have become key players within their firms and hold the promise of future leadership in the Virginia engineering profession.

Christopher Foley has been working with AECOM since his graduation from the University of Virginia in 2009. His area of expertise is in movable tunnel and bridge engineering.

In his role with AECOM, Foley has been involved in design and repair of tunnels and bridges, has performed bridge and tunnel safety inspections, facility assessments, inspections for repair/upgrades and construction engineering inspection services. He has served as task manager for a risk assessment at all major state-owned bridges and tunnels in Virginia as well as the Baltimore Harbor Tunnel and the Fort McHenry Tunnel in Baltimore. In addition, he has presented findings of tunnel evaluations and assessments to the VDOT Statewide Tunnel Oversight Executive Committee and led numerous presentations related to risk assessment of movable bridges.

Foley is a Friend of the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials T20 Committee for Tunnels, a member of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society of Highway Engineers, and is a training liaison officer for AECOM for the American Society of Civil Engineers and the primary AECOM contact for the Norfolk Branch of ASCE.

"From Mr. Foley's first day of work with AECOM, he has demonstrated a passion for engineering and a desire to learn. He has a positive attitude and an exemplary work ethic. These attributes make him a very valuable member of the AECOM Team," said Steven J. Chapin, Virginia Market Director with AECOM. "His résumé of involvement in some of the most significant transportation infrastructure in Virginia and Maryland is a testament to his capabilities and aptitude."

*Picture taken from Firms Rising Stars Diverse, Versatile
Excerpt taken from Rising Stars Point to Engineering's Future Leaders
By American Council of Engineering Companies of Virginia*

Alumni Profile

Dick Hammerstrom, a local news editor for *The Free Lance-Star* in Fredericksburg, VA, is a 1964 graduate of Roanoke Catholic High School. Hammerstrom played football and basketball at Roanoke Catholic and served as president of the Student Government Association during the 1963-64 school year.

Hammerstrom has been a career journalist, working as a reporter or editor at *The Roanoke Times*, *The Charlotte News* and the *Martinsville Bulletin* before joining the staff of *The Free Lance-Star* in 1997.

Earlier this year, he was awarded the George Mason Award by the Virginia Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. An article was published recognizing his outstanding accomplishment in *Virginia's Press*, the publication of the Virginia Press Association. The following is a link to an article by *Times Dispatch* about his achievement. http://www.timesdispatch.com/news/state-regional/hammerstrom-honored-with-george-mason-award/article_e9e7b4a6-0089-5c3f-b6c0-bac990dc8bf4.html



Did you know?

We are a locally owned, family run business, so we can make our own decisions, not decisions based on corporate policy.

This comes into play often when we have requests that are out of the ordinary or if a family has special circumstances. We will never turn a family away. We treat everyone with dignity and compassion — which after all is **our** corporate policy.

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



SAMMY G. OAKEY, PRESIDENT • WWW.OAKEYS.COM • 982-2100
ROANOKE, NORTH, VINTON, SOUTH AND EAST CHAPELS

Reunion Class of 1973

The RCHS Class of 1973 held its reunion with a dinner at Mama Maria's Restaurant on March 15, 2014 and a brunch the next day at the Roanoker Restaurant. Thirty-nine guests attended dinner; twenty-five of our remaining forty classmates were present with several spouses and special guests David and Karen Hardie, Jim Buffey, and David Alderman. We were grateful to have this time together, to reconnect, and to catch up with each other's lives. We plan to continue efforts to stay in touch by meeting for dinner on a regular basis starting June 7th at 5:30 p.m. at the Roanoker.



Members of the Class of 1973 enjoyed a tour of their school as they strolled down memory lane.

Cathy Canary Stewart, Tom Eckert, Theresa Wright Scott, and Robin Lucki Watts



The Class of 1973 enjoyed a weekend of reminiscing and making new memories.



In loving memory of our classmates

Upcoming Reunions

Class of 1978, 1979 and 1980

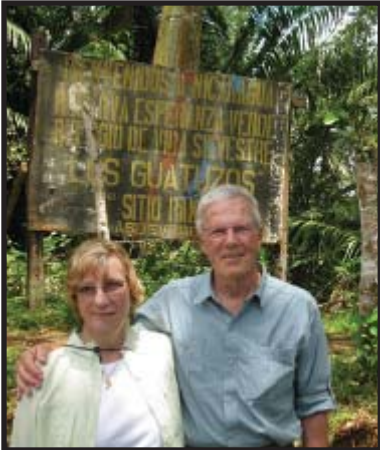
We invite all of our classmates and teachers to join us the weekend of June 27th & 28th for a casual gathering of classmates and spouses to be held at Roanoke Catholic from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Enjoy local barbeque, music from the 1970's and catch up with old friends. Bring your own beverages. Come see all of the major changes that have taken place at the historic elementary school and our infamous gym, with renovations to the high school beginning this summer. Yes, we will have to say a fond farewell to the old turquoise windows as the school is brought into the twenty-first century!

On Saturday, we will dress up a bit and enjoy cocktails and delicious cuisine at Hunting Hills Country Club from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. A disc jockey will provide an array of music while we catch up with our fellow classmates and teachers.

Please contact Laurie (Collins) Hart for more information. 540-354-3702

Catching Up

David Thomas, Class of 1956, and Joan Stinnett Thomas, Class of 1956, "We are retired with two sons, David, Jr. and Danny, and five grandchildren. We agree with retirement. We hope and pray that all the alumni are well and happy."



Jerry Eubank, Class of 1957, "I am living in Myrtle Beach, SC with my wife and two dogs. We play golf and enjoy the beach environment. Staying active is our key to staying young; we take ballroom dance classes and fitness classes. We love to travel and cruise at least once a year. As you get older you do not take things for granted, and I am thankful for the years I spent at Roanoke Catholic as a student, teacher, and coach. My best to all my friends who are still there."

Father James Goode, Class of 1959, "Love and blessings from the Class of 1959."

Karen Meador Mabry, Class of 1967, former Head of School (1987-2002) and her mother, Dorothy Greeley Meador, Class of 1935, recently stopped by for a visit. Dot was a freshman when the now Lower School Building opened as the "new" St. Andrew's High School in 1931. Dot's father, her three siblings, her three children, and three of her grandchildren all attended school on "the Hill."

After her days at the helm of RCS, Karen returned to Roanoke County Schools as a teacher and principal and retired "early" in 2010. She volunteers in schools, sharing her love of reading with children, and spends fun times with her mom. Both Dot and Karen feel that their time on "the Hill" has guided and blessed their lives!



Mark Cummings, Class of 1969, "I am a practicing trial lawyer in Northern Virginia. A charitable foundation that my law partner and I direct recently received an award from the National Capital Philanthropy Association. We were nominated by the Arlington Pediatric Center as the "Outstanding Foundation Partner" in recognition of our work over the years supporting children with special needs in the Arlington community."

Catching Up



Yvonne Wheby, Class of 1976, and Rosie (Souma) Hagen, Class of 1976, long-time friends, cousins, and classmates spent a week hiking in the Alps in October 2013. Their adventure took them into Switzerland, France, and Italy. The steep climbs (sometimes in up to three feet of snow) were challenging, but the views were spectacular! Rosie is a CPA and lives in Roanoke with her husband, John. Yvonne is a Project Manager and lives in New York City.

Father Joe Metzger, Class of 1980, "I had the wonderful opportunity to concelebrate mass with Pope Francis, and my mom attended as well, at his 7 a.m. mass on Monday, 17 February. After mass, we had a very nice chat. He is a wonderful person; what you see is what you get!"



Jeffrey Willard, Class of 1984, "I still live here in Roanoke with my wife and son. My wife works at Roanoke Memorial Hospital, and my son is 14 and attends school at Cave Spring Middle School. Right now I am unemployed and have been looking for work. Anyone who has been in my shoes knows how tough it is. I am a fourth member of my family to graduate from Roanoke Catholic; my grandmother was a graduate of the Class of 1923, my mother, Class of 1949, and my aunt, Class of 1950. I am very proud of my time on the Hill. I like to read about sports and history, in particular the War Between the States, and to travel."

Kirstyn Montgomery, Class of 2010, graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in English from Radford University. Kirstyn plans to take a year off before returning to Radford to get a second degree in Art, then move on to get a Master's Degree. While at Radford, Kirstyn discovered her love for photography. She has worked with digital, film (35mm, medium format, and large format), and alternative photographic processes (cyanotypes, anthotypes, van dyke browns, and gum bichromate) while at Radford. Kirstyn appreciates digital photography, but has realized she is definitely a dark room printing kind of girl. She plans to build a darkroom in her basement next year. While working on her Master's Degree she plans to have her photography business (named Living Years Photography in memory of her father) up and running. Following graduation she wants to get a job teaching photography on a college level.



Catching Up

Savannah Montgomery, Class of 2010, "Since I graduated from Roanoke Catholic in 2010, I have been studying secondary math education at Radford University. After completing my student teaching at Radford High School teaching Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, and tutoring in Algebra, I graduated May 2014 with my teaching license. I have recently been hired for a teaching position at Benjamin Franklin Middle School in Franklin County, but of course my dream job would be teaching math at Roanoke Catholic. I could not see myself anywhere else. I graduated Summa Cum Laude with a GPA of 3.86, and I am also part of Phi Kappa Phi Honors Fraternity and Kappa Delta Pi Education Fraternity. Following graduation, I plan to return for graduate school and earn a Master's in mathematics education. I am also involved with some organizations on campus, and I am currently on the student leadership team for Ukirk Radford, the Presbyterian campus ministry. When I am not making lesson plans or organizing meetings you will find me in the game room shooting pool, for which I found a love in college. Otherwise, I am hanging out with friends and looking forward to summer break!"



Anna Marie McGuire, Class of 2011, graduated Saturday, May 10, from James Madison University with a major in Political Science and a minor in Environmental Studies, and she accomplished this in just three years. She has also been accepted for fall 2014 to the University of South Carolina School of Law in Columbia, one of the top 100 law schools in the nation.

Patrick Macher, Conner Tait and Alex Wall, Class of 2013, came by for a visit while they were home from college for the Christmas holiday. Even though the train made them late, they stopped by the school dressed in complete RCS uniform! They also found time for a picture with our Athletic Director, **Matt Peck, Class of 1998**. That is true Celtic spirit!



Catching Up

Alumni Return to Campus

Alumni *Christine Hanna, Class of 2009*, and *Forrest Spencer, Class of 2009*, return to campus as substitute teachers.



Christine helps Upper School Spanish students during class.



Forrest helps Upper School art students with making a grayscale self portrait.

Former RCS Teachers



Larry Fischbach, former Upper School theology teacher 1997-2009, "After retiring from my teaching duties at Roanoke Catholic in 2009, I served as the Senior Pastoral Associate at Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Rocky Mount, Virginia. Having served there for nearly four years, I retired a second time in 2013. Now my wife, Wanda, and I are volunteering with several not-for-profits and at Our Lady of Nazareth Catholic Church. I am always pleased to see how my former students are doing, and I stay on Facebook just to see how you all are doing."

Carol Wall, past RCS parent and former Upper School English teacher 2002-2004, celebrates the success of her first book, *Mister Owita's Guide to Gardening, How I Learned the Unexpected Joy of a Green Thumb and an Open Heart* (Penguin/Amy Einhorn Books, March 4, 2014, Australia/New Zealand Random House AU, March 4, 2014, Holland, May 15, 2014, Brazil (Portuguese), and Norway, later this year). She has been reviewed in *Good Housekeeping*, *People*, *USA Today*, *New York Times Book Review*, and *Oprah.com*. She was also featured in the *Sydney Morning Herald*. For additional information about the book and an interview with Carol Wall please visit, www.carolwall.com The trailer on the website was filmed by *Phil Wall, Class of 2002* (Williams College, 2007). His website is www.philwallproductions.com



Remember When



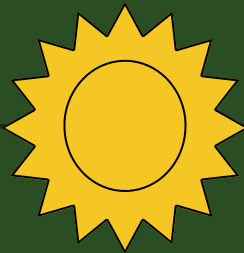
1963 George Simpson recites "perfect" Latin I as Sister Helen Maureen and the class observe his "perfection."



Senior Superlatives 1980
Most Academic: Karen Kolmstetter, Joe Metzger, Adele Wheeler.



The 2000 softball team celebrated at Burger King after beating Timberlake 16-15. Left to Right: Jessica Bigoney, Jackie Shanebrook, Lauren Clatterbuck, and Stephanie Klik.



Go Celtics!

Julian Ferguson & Assoc., Inc.

(Lighting Sales & Applications)

G. (Pat) Simpson

*President
Class of 1967*

40 Cedar Avenue
Vinton, Virginia 24179

Phone (540) 985-0569
Fax (540) 985-0623

e-mail: psimpson@jferguson.us
website: www.jferguson.us

Science Department

"Science can purify religion from error and superstition. Religion can purify science from idolatry and false absolutes."

- Pope John Paul II

The goals of the science department are to empower students to use critical thinking skills and methods of inquiry to address scientific issues, to develop within students an appreciation and respect for all of life and our Earth, and to prepare students to be successful after high school. We have worked hard to add new courses and improve our existing courses in order to accomplish these goals.

Our Advanced Placement (AP) program is thriving. The College Board recently revised both AP Biology and AP Chemistry. These classes now have a more pronounced emphasis on inquiry, with several inquiry based labs required in each course. Our students have been working hard to learn all of the required information in order to excel on this May's AP exams. Next year, we are hoping to add AP Physics to our curriculum to further enhance the learning opportunities for our students.

Two new electives were added this school year. Anatomy and Physiology is a popular choice for many students. The students are currently dissecting cats and learning how to cope with its distinctive smell. The entire Upper School can easily tell when a dissection lab is in progress! The National Parks Experience course is now in the body of the school day. Having a full class period to learn about the history, geology, and ecology of the park is invaluable and truly enhances the learning experience as the students spend time in the park. Some of the students in the class had a successful trip to the Virgin Islands National Park in St. John during January. The remaining students enjoyed their trip to Yosemite National Park in April.



Big Pine Trout Farm has partnered with Roanoke Catholic and Trout Unlimited to provide our Trout in the Classroom Program. Students have the opportunity to care for brook trout from eggs to fingerlings and release them into a mountain stream.

The introductory classes: earth science, physical science, environmental science, biology, and chemistry, continue to prepare students well for the advanced classes that follow.

Of great importance to all classes is the laboratory component. We have been blessed in the last two years by an anonymous donor that has given two very generous contributions to our program. We used these contributions to replace several old microscopes, purchase a set of labs for the AP Chemistry class,

improve our safety equipment, and upgrade some outdated equipment. We are very grateful for these donations!



Science Department



Our alumni consistently report back to us that their level of preparation for their college science courses was excellent. The faculty regards this as the greatest measure of success and strives to continue this record of excellence.



Science Starts in the Lower School

In our Lower School, science in the first grade encourages students to explore and use their imagination. Hands on activities allow them to create and discover while learning how the world around them works. Projects from buoyancy to watching eggs develop into tadpoles and then toads provide students opportunities to dig in and expand their learning.



Mrs. Algino's first grade class with their tadpoles.



Mrs. Barnard's first grade class with their tadpoles.



Fourth grade student lending a helping hand during an experiment.



Just exactly how far away are those planets? Fifth grade pace out the distance of the planets through downtown Roanoke.



First grade in their lab coats completing an experiment in the science lab.

Campus Ministry

Lenten Season at RCS - a time of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer

"Lent is to adjust life, to fix life, to change life, to draw closer to the Lord."

Pope Francis, 18 March 2014

Fasting:

The Roanoke Catholic School tradition of hosting a Bread and Broth Day continues each Ash Wednesday to help our community live out our Catholic faith. No food is served at Upper School break and the cafeteria offers only a simple meal of freshly baked bread and vegetable broth at lunch. However, regular price is charged for the lunch, and the money collected is donated to RAM House (Roanoke Area Ministries).

Almsgiving:

Pro-Life Club sponsors Baby Bottle Campaign

In the fall of 2013, to the excitement of Roanoke Catholic School, the Pro-Life Club received a \$3,000 matching grant from the Center of Marriage, Family, and Life of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond. For every dollar RCS collected during Lent for the Blue Ridge Women's Center (BRWC), the diocese matched up to \$3,000. The Baby Bottle Campaign was a tremendous success. We proudly announce we exceeded our goal by collecting a total of \$4,224 and therefore received the full matching gift. What a beautiful witness of God's love and providence to those in need in our community.



For information about BRWC please see
<http://www.blueridgewoman.org/who.html>

American Red Cross Club Holds Lenten Clothing Drive

New on campus this school year, the American Red Cross Club collected gently used clothes for those in need in the Roanoke Valley, especially those made homeless by the numerous house fires this winter. Mr. Fallon, the faculty advisor, stated that the community collected six to eight large boxes or bags of clothes. The success of this drive reinforces the generosity of our community.

Key Club Collects Canned Food for Feeding America SWVA

For the second year, the Key Club has collected canned food for the Feeding America SWVA, a local food bank. The school collected 1020 pounds in just four days! Feeding America SWVA in turn donated the food to St. Francis House. This is an amazing example of how blessings are multiplied!

Prayer:

Holy Thursday Retreat

The Holy Thursday Retreat is an RCS tradition in which all students participate in a retreat that helps deepen their understanding of Holy Week, especially the Triduum. The Mustard Seed Group, a group of parents and seniors lead by Kris Levy worked tirelessly planning and executing

Campus Programs

the Lower School (LS) Retreat. The LS students experienced a Seder meal, prayed the Stations of the Cross, saw a puppet show and made a craft related to the Triduum. The Middle School (MS) students experienced a full Messianic Seder meal, meditated on Christ's hands on the Cross and played games focused on developing Christian values. As part of the games, the seniors gave short witness talks on how a Bible verse lesson directly affected them when they were in MS. Melissa Boday and seniors led this part of the retreat. The Upper School (US) retreat, centered around Matt Maher's Holy Week videos, was planned and executed by the Class of 2014. Each video was followed by a discussion or activity to bring out the deeper meaning of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. The MS and US students then moved their retreat to St. Andrew's where videos, contemporary Christian music led by Chuck Frost and witness talks by seniors Ross Clark, Andrew Silek and Josh Frost drew us into prayer. The LS students joined the school in the church for the culminating event...the annual Stations of the Cross performed by members of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



Experiencing the Holy Thursday Retreat is amazing and powerful. However, watching how the Holy Spirit uses the gifts and talents of the RCS community to deepen our understanding of the three most holy days of our year is truly humbling. As a community RCS is blessed by the talent and gifts each one of us contributes to building God's Kingdom.

RCS Library

This has been an eventful and successful year in the library, and it seems that some of those successes came by twos. We held two movie nights that were well attended and two book fairs that generated a great deal of excitement. The book fairs, especially, represent both the library's largest source of income and also one of the students' best sources of books they will treasure for a lifetime. I would like to thank all the parents, grandparents, teachers, and volunteers who make these events go smoothly time and time again. A special thanks also to our cafeteria manager, Peter Radjou, who prepared wonderful meals for our Family Night events.

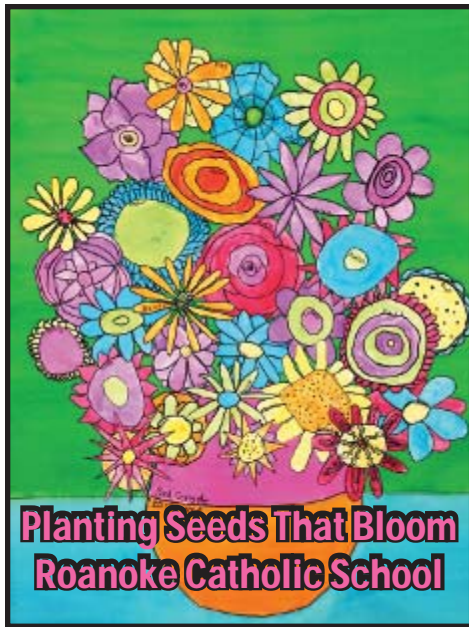
As we go forward, my goals for the library also come in a pair. First, I continue to try to make the library a more user-friendly and congenial place for our community. At the beginning of the year, the Home and School Association aided in the purchase of a chess table and chairs, which have proved a popular addition. I am hoping that next year we will be able to start a chess club, if I can find a volunteer to sponsor it. In addition, the library's closing time will increase next year from 4:00 to 5:00. Second, I am looking to slightly remodel the space to reflect the changes we've been experiencing in technology, which means streamlining our collection and the shelving that houses it, and adding another counter to hold additional computers.



Kurt Axt, Librarian.

Spring 2014 18

Art Department



Collaborative painting created by our Third Grade students.

Each student created one blossom to add to a beautiful bouquet based on the "Sunflower" series by Vincent van Gogh.

If you happen to be walking down the hallway near the art room at the beginning of an art class you will hear the students exclaiming enthusiastically from Psalm 118:24 "This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!" Starting each class with this verse and a prayer helps remind students of the greatest creator of all, GOD, and reinforces the importance of putting Him first in all things.

As part of my role as a teacher, I look for ways to help students make the connection between God, the church, and themselves. I introduce students to this through studying the master works of great artists such as Michelangelo Buonarroti, sculptor of "David" and "Pieta," painter of the Sistine Chapel frescos and chief architect of St. Peter's Basilica. It is his short prayer below that follows the above exclamation before we begin our time together. It is equally important to provide opportunities for students to discover their own Catholic identity through art projects that reflect and reinforce the teachings and beliefs of the Church.

At any given time, the school gallery is full of their accomplishments. Students understand that communicating belief, thoughts, and feelings can be accomplished through both words and pictures. Kindergarteners learned all about proper facial proportions and how to move beyond stick

figures by drawing self portraits of themselves in their school uniforms. The third grade students created their own Madonna and Child paintings to celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas. Keith Haring inspired figures using symbols and words reflect what it means to "dance like Christ" at the beginning of the school year to inspire others.

There is an old African proverb that states, "It takes a village to raise a child." Here at Roanoke Catholic, I am a part of that "village" of teachers and staff members working together to cultivate and nurture each little seedling. We encourage them to become a meaningful part of something much bigger than themselves; we watch as they grow up to "blossom" into that unique and beautiful person God created them to be.

Kim Spencer, Art Teacher

"Lord, make me see thy glory in every place."
Michelangelo



Mother & Child
By Sydney Aaron
Third Grade

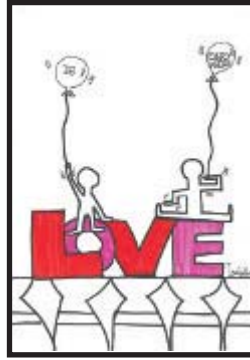
Have you danced like Christ today?



Clara McDaniel
Fifth Grade



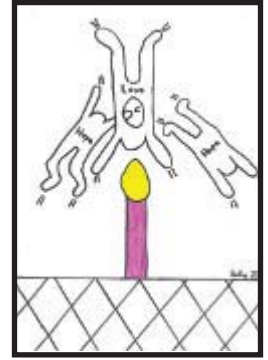
Frank Andes
Fifth Grade



Isabella Sorrentino
Fifth Grade



Jenna Alouf
Fifth Grade



Sofia Hernandez
Fifth Grade



Left: Dandi Chin Self Portrait
Kindergarten

Right: Natalie George Self Portrait
Kindergarten

Below: Mrs. Spencer demonstrates to a class of kindergarten students the proper painting techniques to use for their self portraits.



Campus Programs

Dance Program

The Dance Program continues to help students develop their dance skills, provides entertainment for many, and gives back to our school community. Dance classes are held once a week throughout a large part of the school year. Classes offered are based on the student's grade level, and there is no extra cost for students to participate in the program. We now have mirrors in our classroom! Our company includes a dance captain, dance assistants, dance helpers, almost forty dancers, myself, and many volunteers. We enjoy dancing and performing together throughout the school year.



Some of the dancers traveled with Mr. Parham and me to Our Lady of the Valley and the Salem Veterans' Administration Medical Center where we performed patriotic dances along with the Roanoke Catholic School choir.

Our Christmas performance at OLV was a special event for all involved. It is encouraging to watch all of the parents and dancers walk over to the nursing home together.

In March, we performed the opening and closing numbers at the school talent show, "Be Yourself." We danced to Katy Perry's "Roar" and "Let it Go" by Idina Menzel. RCS teachers, Courtney Keeley, and parents entertained the audience with "The Fox" dance. Nicole Hypes (Elsa) and Courtney Keeley (Anna) dressed like the characters from the movie *Frozen* and performed a duet, and then they were joined by the entire cast of dancers and talent show participants. The Lower School Dancers wore light blue and pink costumes for "Let it Go," and they were beautiful!



This year's talent show was dedicated in loving memory of Dr. Robert L. A. Keeley. A very special man, he is missed by many. He had a passion for life and lived to the fullest; he made everyone around him feel special. With many talents, gifts, and interests, education and the arts were near and dear to him. He was highly involved with Roanoke Catholic School and was our first Alumni performer in the school talent show a couple of years ago. He received a standing ovation for his rendition of "St. James Infirmary Blues!" We will cherish those memories and never forget him.

In the spirit of giving back to the school community, the Dance Program donated a red maple tree in remembrance of Dr. Keeley. The tree will be planted in the near future.

I hope you have been able to see our performances or that you will soon. Please remember we thank you for your continued support of the Dance Program and look forward to sharing more of our activities with you.

Mitzi Keeley, Director of Dance



Student Achievements

Seniors Matthew Gwin and Eva Kuehler have been named Commended Scholars in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program. About 34,000 Commended Scholars throughout the nation are recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended students place among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who enter the 2014 competition by taking the 2012 PSAT Qualifying Test. In the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program, two additional RCS Celtics, Ryan Gerstemeier and Sam Welch, will receive National Merit consideration based on the 2013 PSAT Qualifying Test. Roanoke Catholic recognizes their hard work and celebrates their accomplishment.



Each summer the American Legion Post 3 sponsors one delegate for Boys State and one delegate for Girls State. Two juniors will attend these week-long leadership training programs focusing on the operation of government at the state and local level. The week of June 15, attending Girls State at Longwood University will be GiGi Vaccaro and attending Boys State at Radford University will be Nick Fittz.

Senior Ann Clare Levy, daughter of Larry and Kris Levy, has been a Celtic for six years. A member of the Celtic Cross, representing the top four students of the class, Ann Clare will next make her mark at the University of Virginia. Her legacy at

Roanoke Catholic is inspirational. President of the Class of 2014, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the National Honor Society, Ann Clare also serves as Executive Director of U.S. Kids Care (USKC), a youth run service organization which she helped found with her sisters Beth (Class of 2008) and Katie (Class of 2010). A true servant leader, she has garnered local, state, and national recognition for her selfless service to others. This year, in addition to the Better Business Bureau Student of Integrity Scholarship, the Mary Terry Goodwin Kuyk Scholarship, and the National Honor Society Scholarship, Ann Clare has also earned recognition as Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation finalist. An AP Scholar with Honors, she was also a Jefferson Scholar semifinalist and Harry F. Byrd Jr. Leadership Award state finalist. An engaged citizen of her church community, Ann Clare is an altar server, altar minister, lector, Sunday school teacher and currently serves on the St. Andrew's Parish Council. We wish Ann Clare continued success in all her endeavors.



Zach Bowyer, son of Rick and Teresa Bowyer, will attend the Hayes School of Music of Appalachian State University where he will study Sacred Music and Organ Performance. There are truly many facets to Zach. A member of the National Honor Society and elected treasurer of the Student Government Association, his leadership within the school is also apparent as he serves as editor-in-chief of the school newspaper as well as assistant editor of the school yearbook. Zach has also maintained perfect attendance his entire high school career. In addition, he has studied pipe organ at Raleigh Court United Methodist Church where he also sings in the choir, plays in the hand bell choir, and plays trombone in the brass ensemble. Skilled with the pipe organ, digital organ, and piano, his reputation within the community grows. Asked to perform at various school functions such as induction ceremonies and liturgies, Zach willingly shares his gifts. Since seventh grade, Zach has been the piano accompanist at the Roanoke Catholic honors, Baccalaureate, and graduation ceremonies; for the past three years, as the seniors processed in and left as graduates, he has been the organist at graduation. We thank Zach for his many contributions and look forward to his return at next year's ceremonies.



Athletic News

Roanoke Catholic is pleased to announce that Josh Cunningham, our Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach for the past three years, has been named our new Varsity Head Basketball Coach. Coach Cunningham brings with him the respect of his current and former players, parents, alumni, school leadership, faculty, and the community. Coach Cunningham is a graduate and former basketball standout at William Byrd High School in Roanoke. In high school, he was voted the team MVP, named first team all-district, and first team all-tournament his senior year. Coach Cunningham went on to play four years of college basketball at Emory & Henry College, where he was a two-time recipient of the coach's award, a three-time member of the All-ODAC academic team, and named co-captain of the team his senior year. Since graduating from Emory & Henry, Coach Cunningham has been a respected faculty member at Roanoke Catholic School and a champion of all students during his tenure. Roanoke Catholic has developed a wonderful reputation in the athletic community over many decades, and we look forward to having Josh Cunningham direct our basketball program for many years to come.



The Roanoke Catholic Athletic Department recently hired Forrest Spencer as Varsity Track Coach. Coach Spencer is a 2009 Roanoke Catholic graduate. He competed on the RCS cross country team, indoor track team, and outdoor track team during his time in the Upper School. Part of two State Catholic and two Virginia Independent State Championship cross country teams, Spencer still holds the RCS record for the boys 4x800 in indoor track. He earned all-conference and all-state honors and also received the Cy Brunner Award at his graduation from RCS. Coach Spencer recently graduated from Roanoke College where he obtained a Bachelor's Degree with a major in biology and also competed on the Maroons' cross country team. Already Coach Spencer has made a tremendous impact on the track team; we look forward to a successful future with him leading the way.

MIHI VIVERE CHRISTUS EST
For Me To Live Is Christ

Thus far this year, both the RCS varsity volleyball and the varsity wrestling teams have won state titles. The volleyball team won its third straight Division III title by defeating Westover Christian (Danville) in the state title game. The Celtic team was led by a great group of seniors, including Anne Deer, Danielle Dorman, Zoe Doubles, Sam Edge, and Nat LeDonne. Coach Aaron King has been the varsity volleyball coach at RCS for three years and has won the state championship every year! The Celtics look to be a tough team again next year, as they attempt to win their fourth state title in as many years.



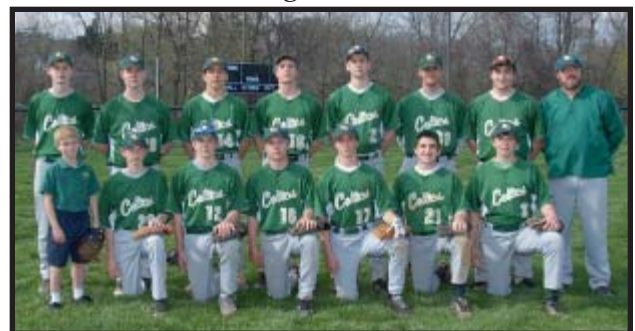
The varsity wrestling team won its third straight Division III championship. The Celtics, led by coaches Robin Leonard and Dave Burns, competed in tournaments all over Virginia and in several other states. Led by seniors Matthew Gwin and Nick Ruble, the team also had four Roanoke City middle school champions, so the future looks bright as the varsity wrestling squad sets its sights on winning another championship next year.



In other news, Roanoke Catholic has new Lower School basketball goals. The previous goals, several decades old, were removed and brand new goals with tempered glass backboards and the ability to be adjusted for various age groups have been installed. These new goals will give our younger student-athletes the opportunity to play and participate in basketball in ways they could not with the former 10-foot-tall goals.

Thank you all, the parents, the Celtics Athletic Booster Club, and the RCS administration, for helping make this greatly needed equipment a reality!

This spring saw a Middle School lacrosse team fielded and the return of varsity baseball. Undefeated this year, the Middle School lacrosse team has made its presence known in the world of Roanoke Valley lacrosse. Coached by Frank Guilfoyle, the team has beaten opponents from Roanoke City, Roanoke County, and Charlottesville, as well as twice beating our cross-town rivals



North Cross. Hopefully, the Middle School lacrosse team can become a feeder system for our varsity lacrosse squad in the years to come. With increased interest, Roanoke Catholic fielded a varsity baseball team of thirteen. Coached by Scott Liptrap, and with senior leaders Josh Frost and Matt Gwin, the team currently has three wins on the season, over Roanoke Valley Christian, Virginia Episcopal School and VIC opponent Fishburne Military Academy.

Development

Tax Credits Program Investing in Catholic Education for the Leaders of Tomorrow

According to Virginia's new Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits Program, donations to approved foundations will provide scholarships for low-income new students at Virginia non-public schools. The McMahon Parater Foundation for Education (MPFE) is one of only fifteen foundations approved by the Virginia Department of Education to receive donations under this program. MPFE provides scholarships to students attending Roanoke Catholic School and the other twenty-eight Catholic schools in the Diocese of Richmond.

When using the Tax Credits Program to make a donation to Roanoke Catholic, individuals or business donors then qualify to receive Virginia TAX CREDITS equal to 65% of the donation. Virginia has allocated \$25 million in Tax Credits for each program year (fiscal year). The Virginia Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits program will continue until January 1, 2028.

Who can benefit from these tax credits?

- Individuals can use the Tax Credits against their Virginia personal income tax liability.
- Businesses can claim the Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits against:
 - Virginia Corporate Income Taxes
 - Virginia Bank Franchise Tax
 - Virginia Insurance Premiums License Tax
 - Virginia Public Service Corporations Tax
 - Personal Income Taxes via pass-through entities such as S-Corporations, LLCs and Partnerships

IMPORTANT: Donors should consult their tax advisors to determine their specific tax savings.

This Frequently Asked Questions Sheet shows some specific examples of just how tax-advantaged a donation can be. For a brief overview, please view the Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits Brochure.

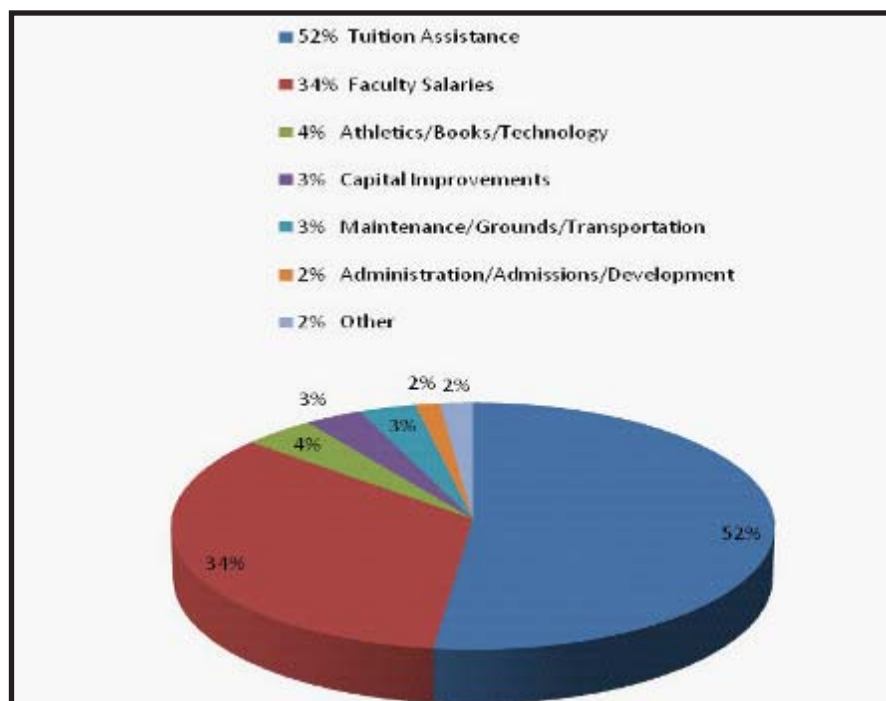
<http://www.roanokecatholic.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/EISTC-Donor-FAQ-3-14-Roanoke.pdf>

Please email Debbie Stump today or call at 540-982-3532 x 2110 for more information about this incredible opportunity to help more children in your community afford a Roanoke Catholic School education.



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

Our Annual Fund Supports RCS



Campaign ends June 30th

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.

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROANOKE, VA
PERMIT NO. 495

 Check us out on the RCS Facebook Page

