

NEW CATHOLIC APP NOTES

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Cathedral High School
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Featuring an editorial
in Spanish

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MEGAPHONE

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Corrections and Clarifications

A story in the most recent issue of the Megaphone about locations for students to receive tutoring and academic help contained errors that failed to make the distinction between the Learning Commons and the Learning Resource Center.

Mrs. Sheila Roberts is the director of the Learning Resource Center, not the Learning Commons, as was stated in the article. The Learning Resource Center, which is located in Room 2314 on the second floor of Loretto Hall, is open to all students and provides additional help in math, writing, time management skills and organization skills.

Math teachers also are in the Learning Resource Center during periods C, D and F. The article included information that math teachers were in the Learning Commons during these periods, but this is not the case, as all tutors in the Learning Commons are students.

Roberts is available to assist students in the Learning Resource Center, as is Mrs. Lisa Finn, who provides additional support with Algebra I and geometry as well as all levels of English. Roberts noted that the Learning Resource Center moved this year from the first floor of Loretto to the second floor.

On the front cover

Government and economics teacher Mrs. Jill Twilleager teaches in the We the People class. To encourage civic engagement, Twilleager organized a mock election for national and state offices. President Trump won the school election.

Photo by Ethan Marasco.

On the back cover

The girls soccer team huddles together for a pep talk before the game deciding penalty kicks.

Photo by Grace Straley.

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Election anxiety

Teachers, first-time voters put the results of the Presidential election in perspective as they note that we all have a higher calling.

BY TORY BASILE

The events of this year have left a looming sense of anxiety lingering within the American people in response to the massive losses and conflicts suffered throughout 2020.

The inevitable stress induced by the presidential election is no different. Since the origins of President Donald Trump's administration, the American political climate has been intensely and uniquely polarized, making this election feel especially pertinent to many voters across parties.

To model this election, social studies teacher Mrs. Jill Twilleager conducted a school-wide mock poll on Nov. 3. President Trump won with 52% of the student vote.

However, this timeliness was reciprocated on a national scale, but of course, the entire nation had a few more ballots to count.

After waiting for months as the election dwindled forward, feeling overwhelmed by debates and nervously checking poll numbers during spare moments, Americans have held their breaths as they waited for the election results to be announced. Four days later, they were.

Election feelings

Social studies teacher Mr. Craig Blanchet described the election in one word as "stressful."

"One of the things (voters) are anxious about when it comes to an election is that their voices will be heard. I think the most important thing to calm anxieties or reduce stress is for us to make sure that the process is fair," he said.

Several other social studies teachers, including Young Democrats moderator Sr. Mary Ann Stewart and Young Republicans moderator Mr. Mark Noe, shared these sentiments. Stewart said she was shocked at how "passionate" and "anxious" this year's voters were, while Noe said he considered the entire election to be largely "chaotic" due to massive voter turnout and Covid-19 complications.

According to Blanchet, a majority of this election chaos is rooted in uncertainty and challenges with modern media. He said, "Uncertainty and not knowing results, especially for the American citizen, who's used to instant results, is really a large part of what adds to people's stress."

Blanchet cites this accustomization to immediate information as being a result of the nature of our modern news cycle, he said, "It's really difficult for the average citizen to be able to discern fact from fiction, and I think journalists could help

that citizen do a better job."

Noe reiterated this concern, saying many media outlets have played what he called a "monstrous role" in the election. As a Republican leader, Noe feels that several publications are "very biased" toward left-wing politics, saying, "We've always been very divided. I think the media fuels it though."

Politics at Cathedral

Indiana has historically held a staunchly Republican reputation. From 1964 to this year, only two Democratic candidates for President, Lyndon B. Johnson and Barack Obama, carried the state.

Blanchet said that he would describe the school's political environment as being "classically Republican," as a large portion of the student body comes from conservative families. Because of this, he and several of his colleagues were unsurprised by Trump's win in the school election.

Many students and families are passionate in their support for President Trump. For example, senior Jack Kleck, leader of the Young Republicans, said, "No one has done better for the economy" than the current President. Kleck said this year was his first time voting, and though he is "disappointed that (Democratic voters) seemed to just neglect" economic issues he deems essential, he said he is mostly "just glad that this year's election was one of record turnout in the U.S. I hope that becomes a trend for the future."

These thoughts were echoed by Noe, who commended Trump, saying, "Everyone's retirement plan, even with Covid, has gone up 32% in the past four years." Furthermore, though many consider the school to foster a Republican majority, Noe guessed that the population was "80% progressive and 20% conservative," favoring liberals.

While Sr. Stewart believes that the student body is mostly Republican, she and the Young Democrats represent a liberal perspective within the school. For Sr. Stewart, this election year is especially pressing because "the cost of healthcare is so incredible at this point." She said, "I like Biden a great deal. To me healthcare is a right to life issue. Right now, especially with Covid, that is the Number-1 issue. It's really what I voted on."

She went on to say "I don't consider either party to be pro-life" from a Catholic perspective; for Sr. Stewart, advocating a pro-life stance goes beyond abortion legislation and includes healthcare and prison reform as well.

Furthermore, Sr. Stewart reflected on the ways that political polarization has affected her daily life. "It is a very divisive time," she said, "I've seen it within my family. I think one half of the country can't understand how the other half could support a particular candidate, and I'm sure (the other side is) saying the same thing."

Bridging the gap

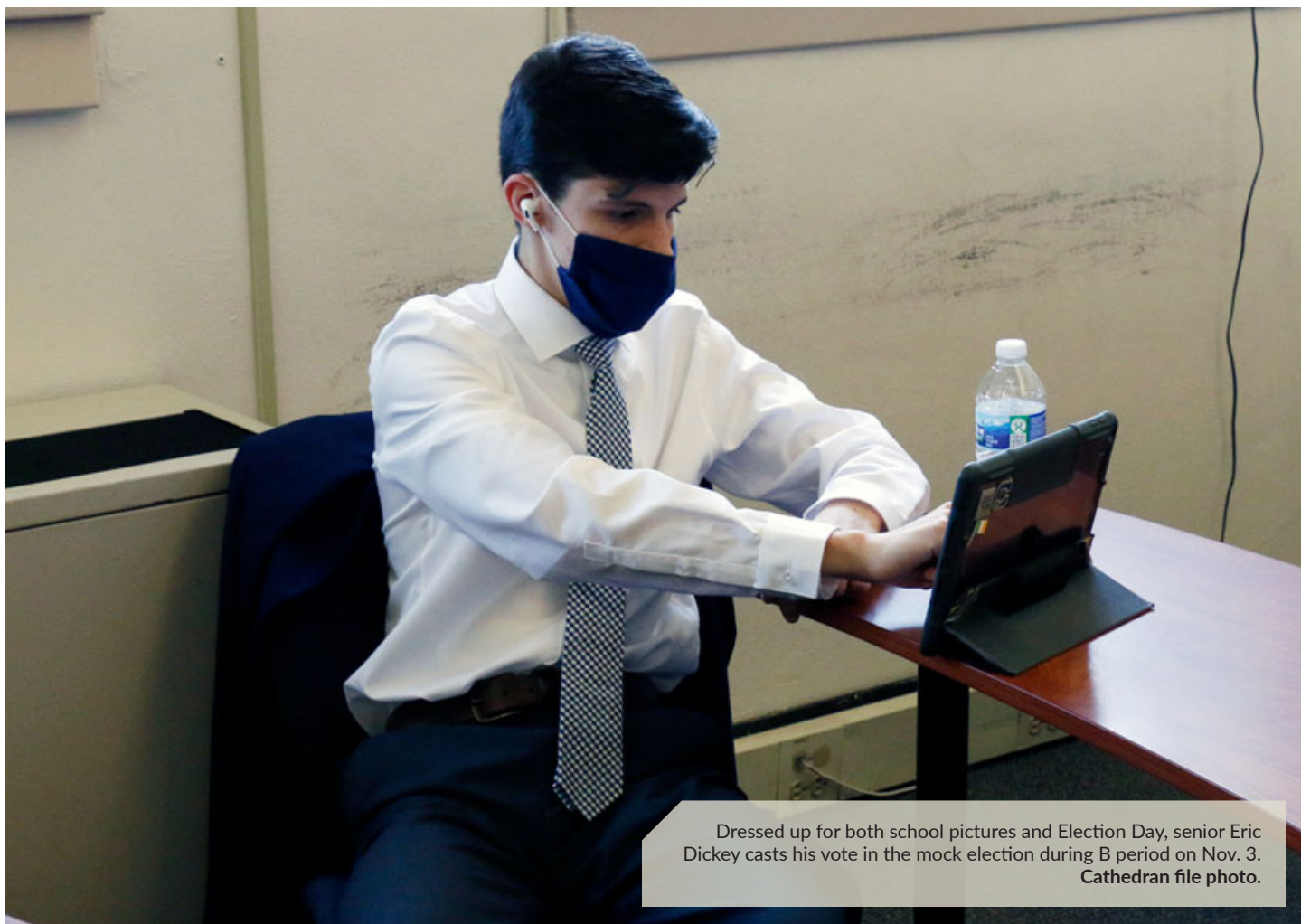
The conflicting political climate has only amplified election stress and interpersonal tension, and has an inevitable potential to leave the student body feeling disenfranchised. To combat this, Blanchet said he wants students to remember "your vote doesn't totally define you. It is part of being a responsible citizen."

For students, he said, "You also have to know when you're walking the hallways around Cathedral, you never are on a

political island. We truly walk and talk to a higher calling than politics."

For the school's future, and the country's, Blanchet said he was optimistic. He concluded by saying that to come together, people should rise above the pettier parts of politics. "I think you guys are better about doing what's in front of you for the day, and understanding what you value in your friends and in your colleagues."

"Sometimes we like to say that as we get older we get wiser, but we also sometimes get more set in our ways. I think you guys should use your open mindedness, your kindness, and your Christian core belief to be able to process something that's not everything, but that's just a part of the world. Politics are just a part of the world. I think you guys are actually in some ways better equipped to deal with that than older people."



Dressed up for both school pictures and Election Day, senior Eric Dickey casts his vote in the mock election during B period on Nov. 3.
Cathedran file photo.

Headed to State

We the People team spends most of the day on Nov. 7 participating in its first competition of the school year, taking on other schools' teams via Zoom.

BY LIAM EIFERT

Based on results of the Regional on Nov. 8, the We the People team has qualified for State competition on Dec. 7 and 8 again this year. The team finished among the top two teams in the Regional, coming in second behind Hamilton Southeastern but ahead of Fishers.

Team members seniors Abygail Dravis, Ethan Marasco, Kieran McCauley, Annabella McGinley-King, Isaac Michael, Chloe Miller, Morgan Vukovits, Whitley Walton and junior Mary Kuckelman arrived on campus at 7 on the morning of the Regional to make final preparations for the competition, which took place over Zoom from 9 a.m. to noon.

Vukovits said, "We were definitely prepared, but there's still nerves because all of the judges were esteemed judges, lawyers, (professors) at universities."

Each unit presentation had its three members present pro and con opinions with their peers regarding the issue at stake. Unit 5, which earned the unit award out of the six units and consisted of Marasco, Michael and Vukovits, deliberated the Bill of Rights, among other topics.

As the team prepared for its first competition of the year, McCauley said, "We've had so many controversial conversations with each other," and she and her teammates listed some of the points of contention in the group.

Vukovits, however, was quick to add that "even though we disagree on things in our unit, we're still friends. I still respect (an opponent's) opinion and his beliefs because he has a justified reason for it and he respects mine."

The team members expressed different reasons for joining We the People, but they all seemed to agree with McCauley when she said, "It's really fun, and even though half of us weren't friends before we did this, now we're all so close with each other that it's like a family."

Social studies teacher Mrs. Jill Twilleager, who coaches the team, helped members prepare 25 hours of review and practice each week, including class time. That time went into "six hours of practice time individually (within their specific units) a week and then on Sundays the team comes together as a whole and does a full-class practice and that full class practice really looks like a scrimmage," Twilleager said.

Twilleager elaborated on the competition process. She said, "The format is actually a mock Congressional hearing," comparing it to the confirmation hearing for the now-justice Amy Coney Barrett. The students in groups of three called units (each student participates in two units), answer one question for which they

have prepared a response beforehand and then follow-up or question-and-answer for which they have to answer impromptu questions from the judges.

Twilleager said she has been associated and coaching We the People for 20 years. She said she was introduced to the program as a student in college by a professor. Twilleager said, "My very first year teaching I started a (We the People) program."

Just as every team or club has had to do, We the People team members this year also have had to adjust to Covid-19. Twilleager said, "We've had to find these clear masks because they're open and the voice would be able to project more." Twilleager said she and the team decided to use the same clear masks that the foreign language teachers use."

A week before the competition, which took place in Kelly Hall, dividers in between were added to allow team members maintain social distancing six feet apart but to be closer to the camera during Zoom competitions.

Taking an extra precaution, Twilleager added, "We want to make sure that the kids are safe when they're together. The clear masks are only for competition. They immediately switch out (for cloth masks) so that they can move about."

Twilleager stressed that she and the other coaches "try to do everything that we can as coaches to create a family environment and that it's not just about coming in and competing."

Referencing the team talking amicably in the background and winding down from the Regional competition, Twilleager said, "This collective, this talking, this collegiality and family, this is more important to us than the results of the competition."



Seniors Whitley Walton and Ethan Marasco with Junior Mary Kuckelman competed in the regional competition.
Photo by Liam Eifert.

By the (fewer) numbers

Massive Math League meetings change in order to keep participants safe during these competitive academic events.

BY ELLIE SCHNUR

Math League, one of the most popular activities offered on the Hill, looks very different this year in light of Covid-19.

The need to prioritize safety has led those in charge of Math League, like math teacher Mrs. Lisa Ford, to change procedures and implement restrictions that assure the preservation of health and compliance with Covid-19 protocol.

Indiana Math League is a year-long statewide competition consisting of six contest dates each with six questions. Each year, the school submits its top five scores to the League to be compared with those of other high schools. Noting the school's success, Ford said, "We are proud to have been Regional champs — our region is composed of schools in Hamilton and Marion counties — several times."

The next two Math League competitions are scheduled for Nov. 17 and Dec. 8 in rooms 4104, 4106, 4108.

Typically, Math League attracts ample numbers of participants and is a widely attended activity within the school. For many students, eagerness to join was because of a special incentive: extra credit in math class.

In years past, both attending Math League and scoring numbers of points on each test equated to varying amounts of extra

credit toward your math grade. However, the extra credit component of the Math League competition was dropped for this school year.

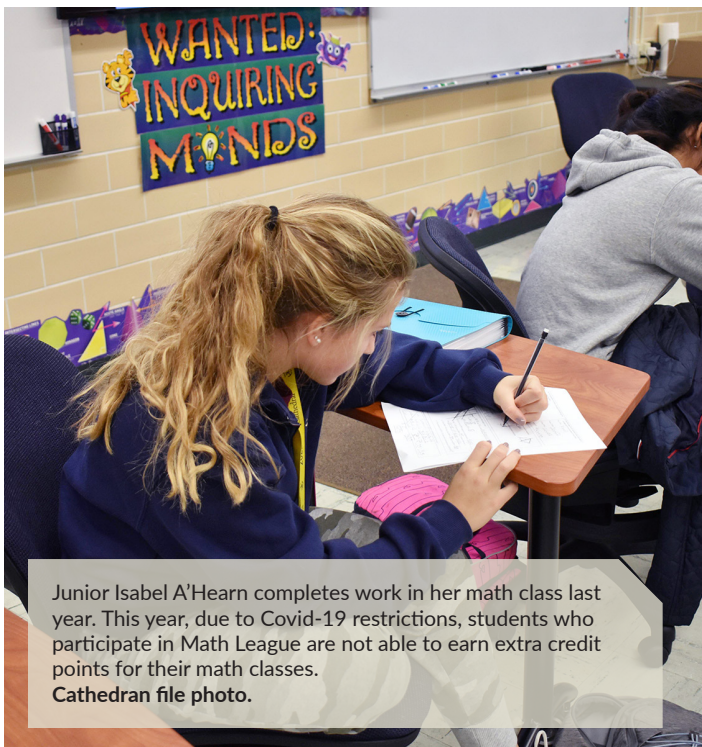
Ford said, "Due to the virus, we cannot have big groups of students gathered. We didn't want to eliminate the competition totally, but we needed to limit it to just the students who really wanted to do it."

This change has accounted for participation dropping to about 60 students, which Ford said is "about 10% of past participation." This is drastically lower than totals of years past, but nevertheless, Math League remains active on the Hill.

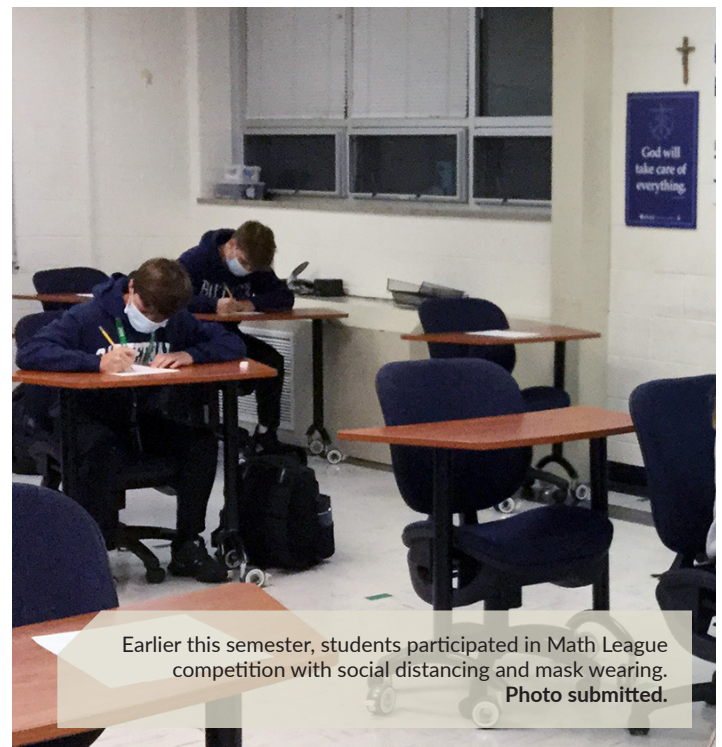
As surprising as it may seem to students who consider math to be simply an academic requirement, Ford explains, "There are actually students in our school who love math and who love academic competition. They signed up for the same reason that people sign up to go to concerts or play a sport, it's fun."

While there is no extra credit provided this year for Math League, Ford said, "We are very proud of the students who do it for the joy of math and not for an artificial incentive."

As of Nov. 2, the students at the top of the Math League leader board are senior Isaac Michael, junior Sara Wojtalik and sophomores Liam Eifert and Cade Johnston.



Junior Isabel A'Hearn completes work in her math class last year. This year, due to Covid-19 restrictions, students who participate in Math League are not able to earn extra credit points for their math classes.
Cathdran file photo.



Earlier this semester, students participated in Math League competition with social distancing and mask wearing.
Photo submitted.

Behind the scenes

Custodian discusses her staff's essential role in keeping the school safe, healthy and clean in the midst of a pandemic.

BY ANDREW DE LAS ALAS

The frontline of the Covid-19 pandemic is a fairly familiar one.

Doctors and nurses have spent long hours assisting patients through an unfamiliar disease with varying levels of supplies and have been celebrated across the world for their adaption and grace under pressure. Recently, teachers have been recognized as individuals fighting back against a viral threat by continuing to deliver education to a generation disrupted.

But there is another profession that is directly responsible for people's safety, but might go unnoticed.

Custodians and janitors have been labeled as essential workers since the beginning of the pandemic in March, and the cleaning crews walking the halls dressed in burgundy are no exception to the necessity for flexibility.

Mrs. Betty Graham has "been in the business for years," she said, and added that she is well versed in sanitization. At the beginning of the year, she and her colleagues received paperwork from their employer, Executive Management Services, that detailed new instructions on measures to be taken to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

The cleanings performed every class such as wiping down desks, markers and other surfaces students and teachers come in contact with are only the beginning. "We sanitize everything. Door handles, doors, floors. We use a sanitized floor mop," Graham said. She said that, referring to the school's more than 1,000 students, "everything you all touch" must be cleaned, including weight room equipment and even the walls.

The adoption of Mission Mondays allows for more in-depth cleaning over the weekends. Graham said, "We can do extra stuff on Mondays since you all aren't here." A significant decrease in the amount of bodies in the building allows for everything to settle while the professionals can clean bathrooms, take out the trash and go over high contact surfaces.

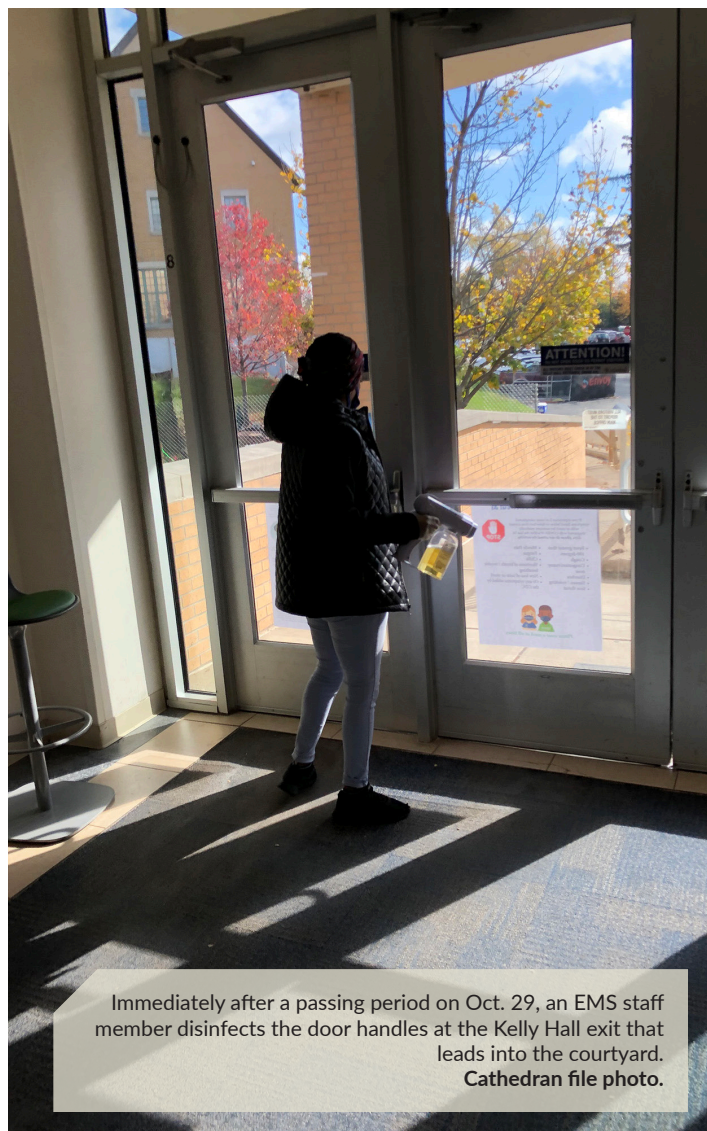
Additionally, with a smaller window of time to congregate in an enclosed area, the virus will hopefully not spread as quickly through the student and faculty body. "It's a lot more work," said Graham.

Graham said that she believes the cleaning measures adopted this year are sufficient and appear to be working so far. "I don't hear about a lot of people getting it at school so we must be doing something right," she said. The sanitization protocols are reassuring to Graham, even if they take more time to complete, because, she said, "I don't get sick and neither do my workers. They can come in and do their job."

The work is important for the well being of the school. Graham said, "I feel pretty good about it. We can make sure kids don't get sick. I don't want anybody to get sick so they can't do their duties, learning, working, teaching. The teachers need to be here to teach the children."

Students can do their part as well. Aside from following proper mask protocol and utilizing the five-minute cleaning break, Graham said, "The only thing for students is to keep hands washed and sanitized."

Remember, 20 seconds goes a long way. That time might not only protect you, but your friends, teachers and the professionals who work to keep the entire campus safe and clean.



Immediately after a passing period on Oct. 29, an EMS staff member disinfects the door handles at the Kelly Hall exit that leads into the courtyard.
Cathedran file photo.

All in the family

For one member of the Class of 2024, having her mother on the Hill every day has many advantages, according to Reilly Gilmore.

BY ELLIE MOORES

Many say to keep work and family separate, but for these two members of the Irish community, working together works for them.

Starting this year, science teacher Mrs. Dawn Gilmore is no longer the only person in her family on the Hill each day. She now comes to school with her daughter, freshman Reilly Gilmore. As one might suspect, there are some significant benefits to having your mom at school. "It's more comforting that she's here in case I need anything or I'm just not feeling great. I can just come to her and tell her that," Reilly said. Students can attest to the process of having to go to the nurse and attempting to contact their parents if they aren't feeling well.

But for Reilly, her mom is never more than a building away.

Reilly also said that she was nervous about starting her first year of high school, but knowing her mother would be here made her less anxious. Having her mom nearby during those first weeks of freshman year definitely made adjusting to a new school easier, she said.

But being a teacher's child also presents challenges. As the daughter of a faculty member, Reilly said she feels that people have what she called "high expectations" of her and that she must maintain a good reputation.

From a parental point of view, Mrs. Gilmore said that she likes having Reilly at the same school as her. "I think when you're a parent and your kid is at school, you question different things. And so I don't ever have to question those things because I know the answer already."

It's important for parents to know that the school they send their child to provides them with a good education and fosters a safe environment. As a member of the faculty for 10 years, Mrs. Gilmore never has to doubt the academic rigor or encouraging community that the school offers students like her daughter.

About her relationship with her daughter, Mrs. Gilmore said, "Overall we have a really good relationship; we do talk a lot and she shares a lot with me." Teaching at or going to the same school has made this mother and daughter closer than ever, and not just in proximity. "I feel like it makes us closer so I feel like I can tell her more things," Reilly said.

Even though most people know the two are related, both mother and daughter have established their individual identities here on the Hill. Students recognize Mrs. Gilmore as a chemistry and forensic science teacher. Reilly has her own interests at school. Not only is she a member of the volleyball team, but she also plans on playing lacrosse in the spring.

Although being a teacher's daughter has positives and negatives, Reilly said she enjoys having her mom nearby during the school day. The same is true for Mrs. Gilmore; knowing her daughter is safe and learning from dedicated teachers is comforting to her as a mom.

Both Reilly and Mrs. Gilmore said they look forward to spending the next few years together on the Hill.



Science teacher Mrs. Dawn Gilmore and freshman Reilly Gilmore spend some time together outside of school. The Gilmores noted the advantages of being at school together.
Photo submitted.

New kids on the block

Two teachers who joined the Irish family at the start of the new school year provide their perspective on a successful first quarter.

BY NICK BOZZELLI-LEVINE

The freshmen are not the only new members of the Irish family to have survived the first grading period of the Covid-affected school year.

Several new teachers joined the faculty at this quite tumultuous time amidst construction and a pandemic. However, social studies teacher Mr. Cole Hepp and English teacher Mr. Frank Karczewski said they believe that the new teachers had a successful first quarter and expect the future to be even better.

Hepp said he felt that his first nine weeks ran surprisingly smoothly. "I've had a great first quarter. I felt welcomed right into the Cathedral family," Hepp said. In addition to teaching his classes in world history and government, Hepp was able to get involved helping with Irish sports. "This fall I actually had the opportunity to help with the tennis team," Hepp said. "I was able to jump in (and) help out with boys' tennis. That has been a great blessing as well."

For some, the challenges this year has presented might seem burdensome. But Hepp and Karczewski view these obstacles as opportunities. "I think the first quarter for everybody's been a

huge learning process," Hepp said. "I've learned personally how to balance a classroom full of students, and also students on Zoom."

Karczewski said, whether face to face or over a digital call, he wants to become more familiar with his students in order to make the classroom experience both enjoyable and successful. "Knowing both my students and how they learn will help me make lesson plans that are engaging and exciting," Karczewski wrote in an email. Hepp and Karczewski want to make sure that everyone's included in the classroom, virtual or in-person.

Although Hepp said he believes the first quarter went well, he offers some advice for the next few months. "One thing I look forward to is having students in the classroom and at home on Zoom work more and more together," Hepp said. He also wants to find what he called "more creative ways to engage the students in the classroom with great discussions."

Looking back on the first quarter, Karczewski said, "I would advise new teachers to bring energy every day, be consistent from the beginning, and to admit mistakes early."

The most crucial part of these new teachers' success is the efforts of the students and staff.

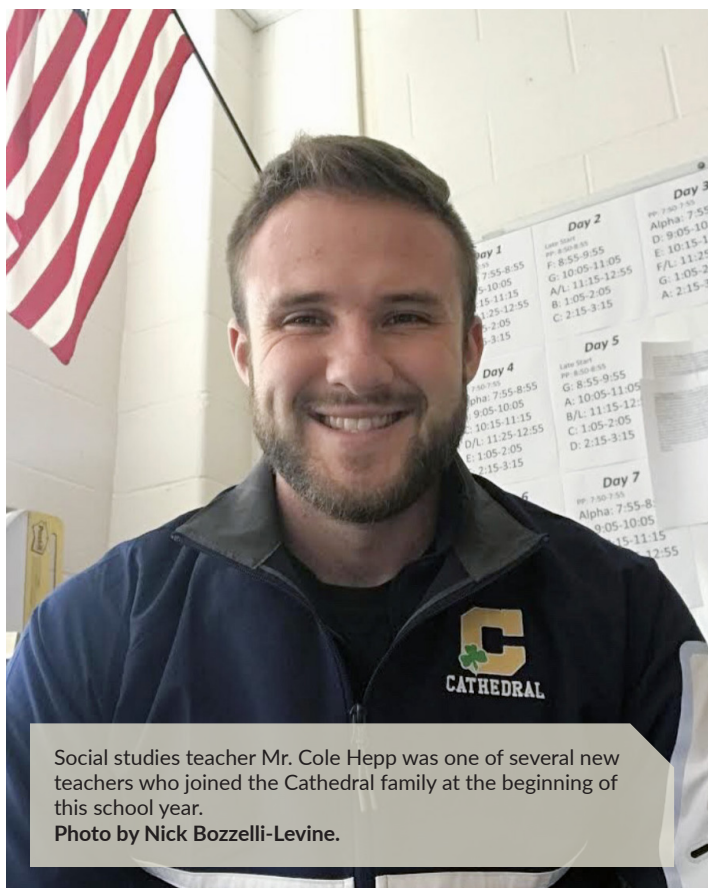
Before coming to the Hill, Hepp was a student teacher at a Catholic school in Dayton. "In some ways it's similar because you do have an urban and diverse population," Hepp said.

However, Hepp said that there's something unique on the Hill unlike other schools. "Cathedral's a great school with a rich tradition and a rich history, but it really is the people that seem to make the place so special."

Karczewski had his first teaching experience at a high school this quarter and he agreed with Hepp that the relationship between the students and the staff is an integral part in the new teachers well being. Karczewski said, "It has been a blast to be a part of this dynamic culture that still shines through, despite the cloud over 2020." He added, "I loved teaching at my previous schools, but the trust between students and educators is something that is new and special to me."

Overall, Hepp and Karczewski said they are proud of the accomplishments achieved in their first quarter. Against all sorts of forces, whether it's maintaining social distancing guidelines or adjusting to construction, these new teachers have found their way on the Hill.

Hepp said, "To be part of that school community is something special, and I don't think it's something we should take for granted."



Social studies teacher Mr. Cole Hepp was one of several new teachers who joined the Cathedral family at the beginning of this school year.

Photo by Nick Bozzelli-Levine.

No planes, trains or automobiles

School nurse says families will have a difficult decision to make regarding travel for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

BY SALLY BRADSHAW

The tradition of gathering with all the relatives in one place for Thanksgiving is an event that families will have to carefully consider this year due to Covid-19, according to the school nurse.

School nurse Mrs. Marianne Vogt '83 wrote in an email, "Traveling over Thanksgiving, or even having big family gatherings locally, is going to be a hard decision for families to make. Any gathering of a large group of people increases the chance of being exposed to Covid right now, with no vaccine, it is not recommended to have a gathering with anyone who does not live under the same roof."

While Vogt acknowledged that each family must decide what is best for themselves, she wished to notify all students and staff that any international travel over break will require travelers to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival back to the United States.

Students may also be at risk traveling to other states. Vogt wrote in an email, "The CDC lists a daily chart of the states and countries that are at high risk to travel to according to their Covid statistics for the week. It is a good idea to check those areas before making a decision that might put you at higher risk

If a student's family plans to travel, Vogt advised them to be wary of Covid risks posed by certain methods of transportation. Vogt said, "Traveling on an airplane is higher risk if you are seated with strangers and just from the number of people you are exposed to in an airport."

But staying home for Thanksgiving doesn't have to put an end to holiday celebrations.

Although festivities this year may have to be smaller than in the past, Vogt wrote in an email, "Having a smaller Thanksgiving might actually be fun and everyone can stay in their pajamas all day."

Vogt also reminded that if they do partake in large family gatherings, they are encouraged to practice social distancing, wear masks, try to keep the windows open if possible or to hold celebrations outside (weather permitting), wash their hands and use cleaning products to sanitize frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs and railings.

Vogt offered some words of comfort to students: "However you choose to celebrate, just remember that this will get better, and once we have the vaccine available to everyone, things will get back to normal again."



Boarding a plane, especially if you are seated around people other than those who live in your house, may be a more risky way to travel during Thanksgiving, according to the school nurse.
Photo by Ethan Marasco.

Thanksgiving plans

Thanks to Covid-19 and the recommendation not to gather in large groups, holiday celebrations are expected to look a little different this year.

BY ASHLYNN BAKEMEYER

Typically on Thanksgiving, families gather from all over the country, visit and travel to celebrate.

But the rise of Covid-19 cases and the safety risks involved have caused countless families to set precautions and alterations in place for the upcoming holiday festivities.

Freshman Aolani Cannon's family is just one of the many that have had to work around Covid-19 for their Thanksgiving plans. Cannon said, "My family is planning on just staying at home. We'll probably cook and invite our (immediate) family over."

Although Cannon said her family had not been planning to travel for the holiday, she did add that the pandemic had forced her grandparents to stay home. "My grandparents live out of state, so they aren't going to be able to come to our house for Thanksgiving like they usually do." Cannon said her family was planning to take all of the precautions necessary to avoid contracting Covid-19 during the holiday.

There are also those who still have plans to travel safely and cautiously during the holiday. Junior Abby Rotz and her family intend on going to Anna Maria Island in Florida. "We were supposed to go last year during spring break, but Covid-19 starting hitting really hard, so we had to cancel the trip."

Rotz added that her family had already paid for the rental house in Florida and they could not get a refund, so "in order to not lose all of that money," she said they made plans to go during the Thanksgiving holiday. "We're going with another Cathedral family, but we're still being really cautious around the pandemic," she said.

Rotz added that both families were aware of the rising coronavirus numbers both in Indiana and Florida, so if there was a ban or a staggering amount of cases, Rotz said that they would probably have to rethink their Thanksgiving plans. "We're going to wear masks, bring hand sanitizer, social distance on the beach and do anything possible to avoid getting or spreading Covid-19," Rotz said.

With the uncertainties surrounding Covid-19, Cannon and Rotz are just two of the numerous people who have to rethink and adjust their annual Thanksgiving festivities. Whether it is reducing the sharing of food, socially distancing or cautionary traveling, the Thanksgiving holiday is expected to look much different than past years.

Rotz said, "We just have to be extremely cautious and aware around the pandemic because anything could change at any time."



Freshman Aolani Cannon and her family plan on having family over for the Thanksgiving holiday, keeping Covid-19 precautions in mind. Photo submitted.

Common App change

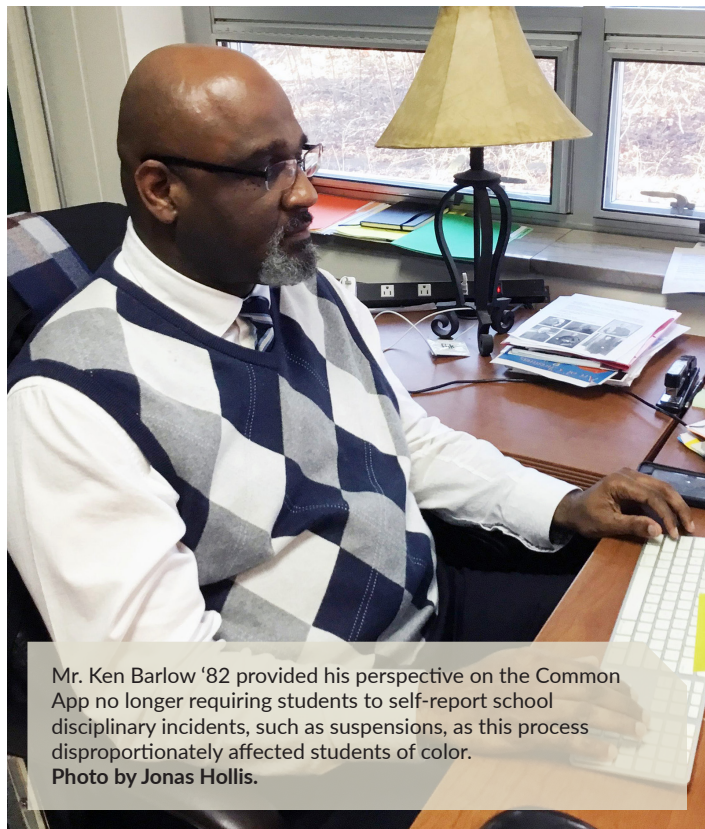
Diversity and inclusivity vice president and school counselor discuss their thoughts on the adjustment that no longer requires students to self-report school discipline incidents. **BY AVA AMOS AND ASHLYNN BAKEMEYER**

Common App, what students use to apply to most colleges, has made a significant change to its application process.

Since 2006, students have had to self-report prior disciplinary actions whether that be detentions, suspensions or expulsions at the request of 900 colleges and universities. Now, Common App has removed that section because, according to commonapp.org, "We want our application to allow students to highlight their full potential. Requiring students to disclose disciplinary actions has a clear and profound adverse impact. Removing this question is the first step in a longer process to make college admissions more equitable."

Common App data found that Black applicants and other students of color self-reported their disciplinary records at twice the rate of their white counterparts, and students who do report are less likely to apply to college.

Vice President for Community Relations and Diversity Mr. Ken Barlow '82 said, "I think it will benefit everybody, because if you're having an issue that people aren't self-reporting, then you're really not capturing the data you really want to capture to make a fair assessment of who is admitted and who's not admitted."



Mr. Ken Barlow '82 provided his perspective on the Common App no longer requiring students to self-report school disciplinary incidents, such as suspensions, as this process disproportionately affected students of color.
Photo by Jonas Hollis.

"So I think taking it off would eliminate that disparity that you guys have shared that the majority population of students aren't self-reporting, and if the minority population are or students of color are reporting then you're receiving applications that aren't showing you a clear picture. Taking it off would be helpful or there needs to be a system to really background check further."

He said he agrees that if a college representative sees that more of the Black applicants have their disciplinary history cited than do the white applicants due to them not self-reporting, it can add to the stereotype of people of color.

Barlow said, "It's kind of like the news, so you have to ask yourself, 'The news that we watch, is it balanced?' If we're being fed information all the time that the Latino people are the bad people or the Black people are the bad people, then we formulate a stereotype or we formulate an implicit bias that we don't even recognize sometimes," Barlow said.

He added that based on the data that Black students self-report more than their white peers, "You can develop a stereotype saying 'Oh, it's just those (Black) kids that get in trouble.'"

School counselor and director of counseling Ms. Gretchen Watko '00 said she believes that Common App made a good decision to make this change. "Common App learned that the data showed a disproportionate amount of schools not disclosing discipline history. So you have a rising number of disadvantaged applicants not completing the application for fear of their discipline history negatively impacting their opportunities when the majority of secondary schools aren't disclosing that information anyway," Watko said.

She said that it's difficult to tell right now if the change will significantly alter students' chances of getting accepted. Watko said, "This has been a strange year so far. We are being asked if more students will have more opportunities due to more schools going test optional. We haven't seen that unfold yet. It will be interesting to see how this change to the Common App plays out once the question is removed."

"I trust that Common App will continue to follow data, and it is my hope that the data shows more disadvantaged students completing the application process and that it gets us closer to closing in on and addressing the opportunity gaps that currently exist."

When asked if he would like to see any more changes of the Common App that would promote inclusivity and diversity, Barlow said, "Not only inclusivity and diversity, (but) a big word that I like to use is equity. Equity is being intentional to make sure that everyone is being treated on the same field."

Welcome home

Exchange student Ann Zhou takes a circuitous route from China to Cambodia to South Korea before finally making it back to the Hill.

BY ZOHEY JOHNSTON

Right now, it's challenging to attend school with the current state of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, for exchange students, it's even harder to get back on campus.

Senior Ann Zhou is an exchange student from China. She initially left Indiana to return home at the end of April last year. Typically, she goes home at the end of the school year for summer break, but she wanted to get home before travel restrictions kept her from leaving.

After staying in China all summer, the new school year began. Since it's her senior year, she said she really wanted to finish high school on the Hill. However, this meant she'd have to travel back to the United States during an international pandemic.

At first, she participated in her classes on Zoom from China for about a month. Then, at the end of August, she began her journey back to the Hill.

She stayed in Cambodia for two weeks before making her way to America. The U.S. government doesn't allow people who've

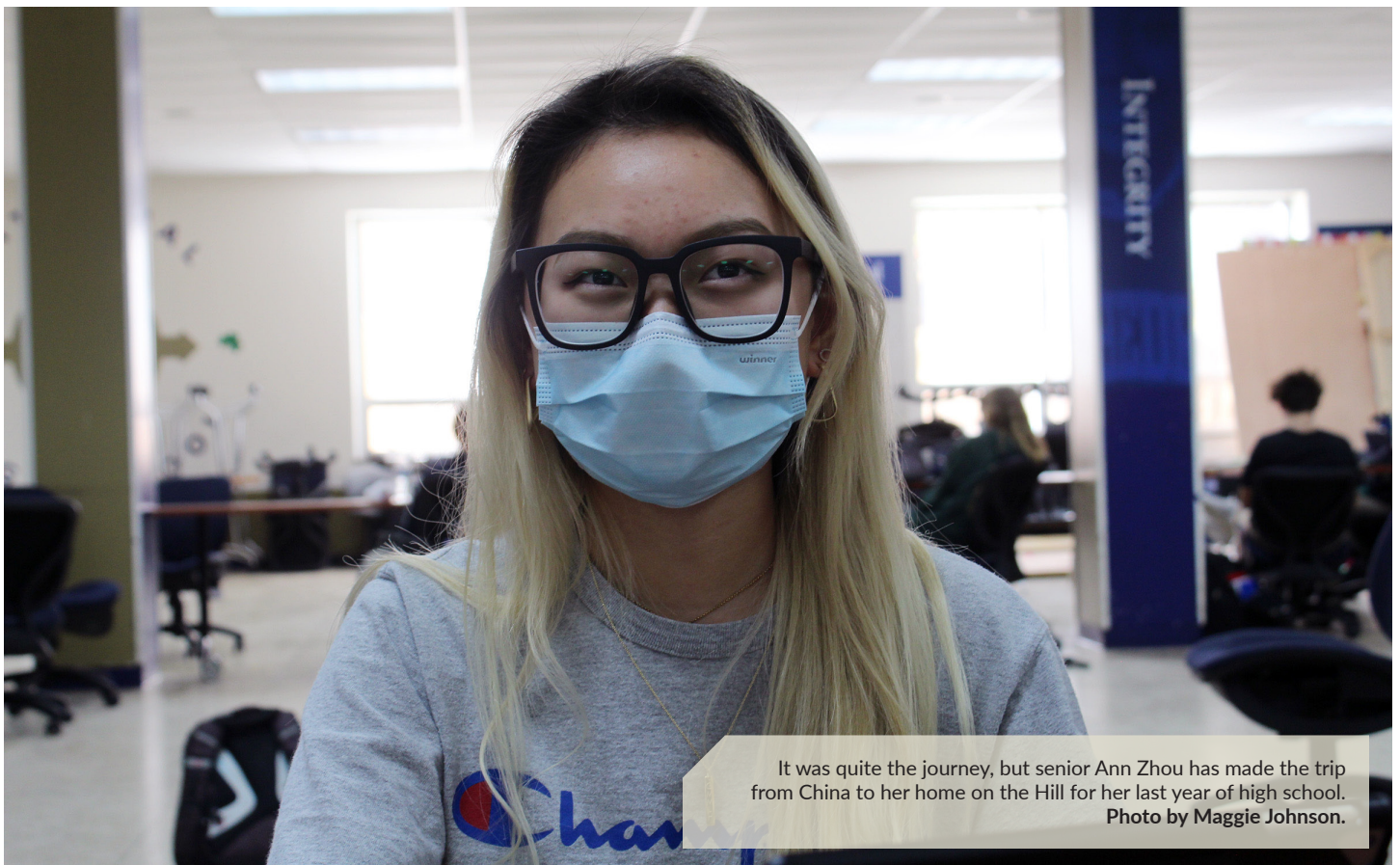
been in China within 14 days of their visit into the country. This is because China was a hotspot and the source for the coronavirus, and this policy helps lower the chances of the virus spreading.

While in Cambodia, Zhou said she had to stay in a hotel and do Zoom classes from there. She said, "Cambodia's not the safest place for teens to be at for a long time, but I just stayed in the hotel the entire time." She didn't know anybody in the area, but a friend of hers was also staying in Cambodia. They hung out fairly often to kill time.

Once her two weeks of quarantining in Cambodia were done, she had to stop in South Korea because of more travel restrictions, and then she finally arrived in America.

Currently, she's staying with her host family, and she's attending school in person. She said she is very happy to be back on the Hill in time for the rest of the year.

Zhou said she feels very safe at school. She said, "Cathedral's one of the only schools open right now. It's one of the best schools in Indiana (when it comes to dealing with Covid)."



It was quite the journey, but senior Ann Zhou has made the trip from China to her home on the Hill for her last year of high school. Photo by Maggie Johnson.

Making connections

Director of technology shares how he and his team fixed the printing and connectivity issues that students and teachers have encountered this year.

BY CAROLINE SCHILLING

On campus, WiFi and printing have been a problem since the beginning of the year. Now, new companies and new resources have been found to fix these problems.

Director of Technology Mr. Brian Haselby, along with the rest of the tech staff, has worked on fixing these issues. They have seen numerous problems ranging from eLearning to WiFi and printing.

Some problems have been resolved, while others are still in the process of being fixed.

"There's WiFi issues and there's printing issues. The WiFi issues started out as one problem and turned into a different problem. The printing issues were caused by the fix from the vendor for the WiFi issue," Haselby said. The WiFi vendor that helped fix these problems is Brookfield Group and the company that helped with printing is PaperCut.

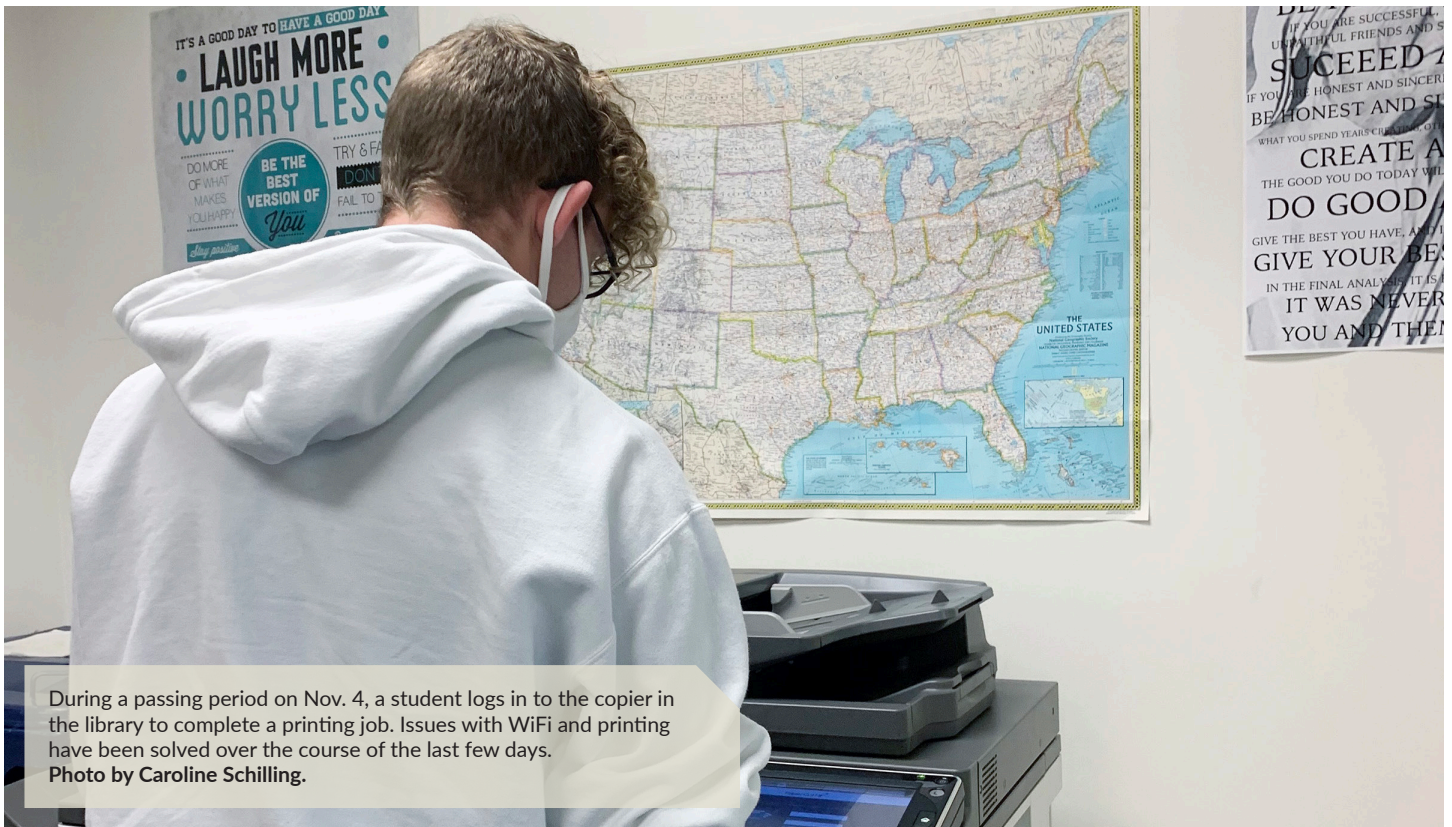
Teachers have said that they have had problems with AirPlay being glitchy, which was the cause for the need to fix the issues. There were difficulties pairing iPads, so a WiFi vendor upgraded the school WiFi. "All of the WiFi issues we had after that related to what the WiFi vendor was trying to do to help us fix the printing problem," Haselby said.

Before these complications occurred, virtual learners and teachers experienced troubles with the streaming network, EduStream. Technology officials and other school officials spent their time this summer setting up EduStream to ensure that it was smooth for the school year. Although there were issues with EduStream, Haselby said these issues have been resolved.

"I think we have been struggling with it going on three weeks now," Haselby said at the end of October. Solutions to these problems will allow for students and teachers to use the WiFi and print again.

In the midst of fixing the printing issue, technology set up direct printing devices in the teachers' lounges to allow for educators to directly connect their devices to allow them to print. Haselby said, "Printing was available, it was just not as easy as it was before."

Students are now able to use the campus printing more efficiently and the WiFi has also become more advanced. Haselby said, "What we came up with for the solution to solve printing on campus is now more efficient than the old way that we used to print. Not only does it solve our problem that we had, it makes us run better."



During a passing period on Nov. 4, a student logs in to the copier in the library to complete a printing job. Issues with WiFi and printing have been solved over the course of the last few days.
Photo by Caroline Schilling.

Safety first

After a successful opening of the new school year, task force members continue their work to make sure all Covid-19 protocols are followed on campus.

BY AVERY STUCKEY

The safety task force, which includes Ms. Kathy Saum, vice principal for student conduct and attendance, said the group worked all summer to ensure a safe opening of the school, and that work continues as the semester progresses.

Saum said, "We purchased all the cleaning materials and found the best ones, we designed the one-way hallway systems and changed bus and assembly seating." Along with these changes the safety task force has limited the number of students allowed in a classroom to 22.

The safety task focuses on keeping students and educators healthy and safe and stays up to date with protocols. "(The task force) was made up quickly in March consisting of administration, teachers, staff and parents," Saum said, who noted that the task force includes the school nurse.

Saum said that the group continues to monitor county and state guidelines and can change procedures from more strict to less as needed. "With the dimmer switch we can lock down and get stricter or get more relaxed," Saum said, referring to on campus instruction not as either completely on or completely off, but more like a switch that be dimmed or brightened.

Saum said, "I am grateful as a task force and administration because of how we've taken this crisis and been able to work together to stay open."

Chief Operating Officer Mr. Rolly Landeros serves as the chairperson of the task force. Other members include Mrs. Julie Barthel, Mrs. Sara Greene, Officer Tabby Emenaker, Mr. Tyler McClure '08, Mr. Brian Haselby, Mr. Ken Barlow '82, Ms. Gretchen Watko '00, Mr. Rick Streiff, Mrs. Maribeth Cloud, Mrs. Shannon Braun, Mrs. Angela McGruder, Dr. Lindsay Weaver and Dr. Christopher Weaver.



With her mask safely in place, a member of the EMS staff begins her work day in Kelly Hall, helping to ensure a clean environment for students and staff.

Photo by Andrew de las Alas.

Learning Commons spotlight

Come visit the learning commons in Loretto Hall 2210. You can also visit them online.

Every day: During school hours

Late start: Before school (7:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.)
After school (3:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

The Learning Commons offers math tutoring during every class period and after school at cathedral.xroadsed.com/nexus.



TUTOR SPOTLIGHT

Corinne Melloh, Senior

Hobbies

Shopping and hanging out with friends.

Plans

Attend college with an end goal of becoming a physician's assistant

What excites you about tutoring?

I love to help out others and tutoring is a great opportunity for that. I also enjoy meeting new people.

TUTORS

SOPHOMORES

Nolan Stiffler

JUNIORS

Ollie Devera
Paige Emkow
Haleigh Kolosso
Louden Maciag
Hagan McClelland
Hudson Miller

Gabriel Rodriguez

Victory Sampson
Reese Sanders

SENIORS

Megan Cerar
Jesus Contreras
Mick DeWeese
Lisa Fallouh
Claire Fenwick

Madeleine Fenwick

Nathan Fiedeldey
Claire Griffin
Ben Hanchar
Anne Marie King
Jack Kleck
Reece Koehler
Rhiannon Ludes-Braeger
Kimberleigh Mattingly
Kieran McCauley

Corinne Melloh

Kate Moore
Lloyd Sage
Miriam Santos-Leon
Rachael Vavul
Terrin Wagner
Erika Weed



MEGAPHONE
Sports

Winter sports previews

COMPILED BY JAKE LANGDON

Men's Basketball

Head coach: Mr. Jason Delaney

Assistant coaches: Mr. Ryan Gold, Mr. Demetrik Jones, Mr. Matt Jones, Mr. Michael O'Bryan '95, Mr. Sam Neighbours, Mr. Aundrey Wright, Mr. Donald Yates

First official IHSAA-allowed practice: Nov. 9

Last year's varsity record: 18-6

Preseason honors: Both junior Tayshawn Comer and junior Peter Moe are ranked in the Top 100 players in the state, according to Delaney.

Key returning athletes: Along with Comer and Moe, Delaney listed senior Jalen Johnson, guard; senior Vincent Brady, guard, senior Nick Bremer, guard; junior Jaxon Edwards, guard, junior Jaiden Malichi, forward; sophomore Jake Davis, guard; sophomore Jaron Tibbs, guard; sophomore Xavier Booker, forward; sophomore Sincere Germany, guard; freshman Dhani Flannigan, guard.

Season opener: The Irish are scheduled to open the season on Nov. 24 in the WAC against Bowman Academy

Key games during the season: The team will play Cincinnati (Ohio Woodward) in the Ohio Valley Hoops Classic on Nov. 28, will participate in the Brownsburg Sneakers for Santa tournament on Dec. 5, playing Bolingbrook (Illinois) at 4:45 p.m. and will travel to Warren Central on Dec. 11 for a 7:30 p.m. varsity tip off.

From Coach Delaney: "We are extremely excited about this season because of the mixture of players that we have. We have players who want to be coached and pushed that are determined to keep the program moving towards the championship goal. The Sectional will be as hard as ever because of offseason moves, but we are confident in this group of young men."

Women's Basketball

Head coach: Mrs. Lisa Finn

Assistant coaches: Mrs. Linda Bamrick (varsity assistant), Ms. Allie Griffith (JV head coach), Mrs. Megan Schmidt (program assistant coach), Ms. Sarah Burch (freshman coach), Mr. John "Doc" Marosky (volunteer assistant)

Date and time of your first official IHSAA-allowed practice: Oct. 19

Last year's varsity record: 15-10

Last year's honors: The team was runner-up in the City tournament and seniors Courtney Fields and Clara Lee were named to the all-City team.

Key returning athletes: The varsity roster includes Fields, Lee and junior Katie Bremer, forward; senior Mia Finn forward; senior Caroline Cline, forward; senior Nyla Bingham, guard; junior Darryn Ely, forward; sophomore Cat Madden, forward; and sophomore Kendal Bolen, sophomore, who transferred from Roncalli. Cline, Fields, Finn, Lee and Bingham will serve as team captains.

Season opener: The team opened the season on Nov. 3 with a 63-59 win at Covenant Christian.

Key games this season: The home opener is Nov. 5 against Brownsburg, with Senior Night on Nov. 10 against Warren Central. The Irish host crosstown rival Bishop Chatard on Nov. 25.

From Coach Finn: "The Irish return five seniors who have all played varsity for four years. The Irish will look to better their 15-10 record from last season. With the loss of some major scoring to graduation, the upperclassmen will have to step up in the scoring category this season. Courtney Fields will be a big asset on offense and is the returning leading scorer from last year with 12 points per game. As always, our schedule will be quite challenging, but necessary to prepare us for our postseason. We are excited about the positive energy we've had in the gym since July. I am also excited for Hall of Fame member and former women's basketball Head Coach Mrs. Linda Bamrick to join our coaching staff as my varsity assistant."

Wrestling

Head coach: Mr. Sean McGinley '88

Assistant coaches: Mr. Anthony Bill, Mr. Jeff Brown, Mr. Mo Gunn, Mr. Tony McGinley '99, Mr. Brian Seltzer, Mr. Michael Venezia '12

Last season's highlights: The team tore through the season with a perfect 20-0 record and won the State team championship on at Bankers Life Fieldhouse. Junior Zeke Seltzer won the individual State title his weight class. Other returning State qualifiers are junior Evan Dickey and senior Johnny Parker.

First official IHSAA-allowed practice: Nov. 2

Key matches this season: McGinley listed dual meets against Lawrence Central on Nov. 24 and at home against Perry Meridian on Jan. 13.

From Coach McGinley: "Look for the Irish to lean heavy on returning State champ Zeke Seltzer and returning State qualifiers Evan Dickey and Johnny Parker along with seniors David Guhl, Ulrik Uraskey and Andrew Wilson. Like always, look for the Irish to be in the hunt for a State title come February."

Men's Bowling

Head coach: Mr. Mark Noe

Assistant coach: Ms. Keely Schneck

First official IHSAA-allowed practice: Oct. 20

Last year's varsity record: 4-6

Last year's highlights: The team placed sixth in the Sectional and Jye Johnson '20 qualified for the Regional.

Key team members: Senior Will Teasley, junior Nicholas Rodecap, sophomores Isaac Alerding, Antonio Arroyo, Hunter Browning, Alec Irwin and Charlie Schenck.

Team captains: Schenck and freshman Jules Hollis will serve as team captains this season.

Season opener: The team opened the season on Oct. 26 with a loss to Lutheran.

From Coach Noe: The team is competing in a new conference this season. "Our goal is to show improvement every week, work on difficult shots at practice and build our team unity. We will have a lot of fun."

Men's Swimming and Diving

Head coach: Ms. Ashley Hill

Assistant coaches: Mrs. Meg Ahnert, Ms. Bella Bunting '20, Mr. Daniel Saunders

First official IHSAA-allowed practice: Nov. 9

Last year's highlights: City champions, seventh-place finish at Sectional

Key returning athletes: Seniors Michael Carnes and Jacob Carlson, juniors Max Timberman and Nolan Clark, sophomores Ayden Fahey, Andrew Michael and Ben Dravis

Team captains: Carlson, Carnes, senior Nate Hillenburg, Timberman, Clark and Dravis

First meet of the season: Nov. 23 at 6 p.m. at Brownsburg (Brownsburg, Cardinal Ritter, Brebeuf Jesuit)

Season highlights: The City meet will be Jan. 12 at 6 p.m. at a venue to be determined; the team will travel to Lebanon on Jan. 12 at 6 p.m. for a dual meet; Senior Night is scheduled for Jan. 19 against Roncalli.

From Coach Hill: "We are excited about this season. We have some great returning speed and some key newcomers to watch. It is our hope that we can repeat as City champions and make a run at the Top 3 at Sectional."

Women's Swimming and Diving

Head coach: Ms. Ashley Hill

Assistant coaches: Mrs. Meg Ahnert, Ms. Bella Bunting '20, Mr. Daniel Saunders

First official IHSAA-allowed practice: Oct. 26

Last year's highlights: City champions, sixth-place in Sectionals, tied for 27th at the State meet; Sophie Mernitz placed eighth at the State meet and set two school records in diving; Bella Bunting finished third at Sectional and set a school record in 100 breaststroke

Key returning team members: Senior Abygail Dravis, junior Samantha Klug, sophomore Sandra Granados

Team captains: Abygail Dravis, Annabella McGinley-King, Lindsey Huntzinger, Erika Weed, Bailey Johnson, Samantha Klug and Gabby Hill

First meet of the season: Nov. 23 at 6 p.m. at Brownsburg (Brownsburg, Cardinal Ritter and Brebeuf Jesuit)

Season highlights: The City meet will be Jan. 12; the team will travel to Lebanon on Jan. 12 and Senior Night will take place Jan. 19 against Roncalli.

From Coach Hill: "We are excited to be training right now and to have practice together. We are hopeful to get to compete this winter, and our goal as a team is to have the entire team make Sectionals finals. If we achieve this goal, we will be able to stay in the top grouping of Sectional."



Evan Dickey is one of the three State wrestling qualifiers from last season who returns to the team this year.
Photo by Anne Marie King.

Sports photo of the week



Sophomore Kate Phillips kicks the ball across the field during the State championship game against Bishop Dwenger.
Photo by Grace Straley.

On to Regional

What their head coach calls “a special group of young men” to take on Whiteland in the next round of the Class 5A football tournament.

BY WILL MAYER

Another week, another tournament game for the Fighting Irish.

During an interview via Zoom on Nov. 8, Head Coach Mr. Bill Peebles '88 provided his outlook on the Class 5A Regional game on Nov. 13 against Whiteland.

Before the Sectional, Peebles and his team planned to get their feet back under them with the week off before their State tournament run. The Irish have been hot throughout the tournament thus far. Peebles said, “The two games that we’ve played, we’ve had running clocks in the second half. I think our defense has played outstanding football both weeks, and offensively we were optimistic in using the defense’s turnovers to capitalize on them and score after the turnovers.

“I do think we can play better offensively than we have in the last two weeks and we have to this week vs. Whiteland.”

And the Irish must play good football because Whiteland has put up a tremendous amount of points throughout their tournament run, beating their first Sectional opponent 66-0 and handling New Palestine 48-13.

Everybody remembers the heartbreaking loss to New Pal in the Regional last year, as the Irish came up short at the end of the game with a lead going into halftime, as three big turnovers changed the outcome of the game. Peebles plans not to let another Regional loss happen again this year.

The coach said, “It’s just like we’ve said all year, that each week as we prepare for our opponents, in reality, we’re preparing against ourselves and to play with the best of our ability. One thing, if you look at the New Pal game last year, we had three turnovers in the second half. We were up at halftime. So really, this week is going to come down to the team that turns the ball over and makes mistakes is the team that’s going to lose.

“From our perspective, we just have to play a really clean game, play fundamentally sound and not turn the ball over,” Peebles said. The Irish played that really clean game against Decatur Central on Nov. 6, with only one turnover in the second half on a fumble by senior Jake Langdon. The Irish won the Sectional title game 42-7.

The Irish have put into play the mentality of competing against themselves every week. Peebles said, “We are still going to continue to carry this mentality not just this season but as long as I’m here because in reality, you have a certain amount of talent on each team, and each year, it’s going to be different. We have a talented team, so we just have to play within ourselves and make sure we play to the best of our ability. And if you play to the best

of our ability, the chips might just fall where they may.

“We played a really good game against Center Grove. We didn’t turn the ball over. We weren’t able to move the ball well, but we played safe and our defense made some big plays. We played really great against Center Grove and we came up a little bit short against a great team. We had opportunities to win. You can walk out of that game with your head high. So as long as we’re playing to the best of our ability, we’ll expect a good outcome.”

The Irish have played exceptionally well throughout the tournament, but there have been some standout players that Peebles said he thinks can really make a difference in the Regional.

Peebles said, “Zane Hill, our senior defensive back, played an unbelievable game. He caught two interceptions. One of them was absolutely spectacular. Really our defense only gave up 30 yards of rushing to a team that likes to run the ball. We played really stout up front, our line-backing crew has played well, and the ball is falling into our DB’s hands.

“So defensively I think we’re hitting on all cylinders right now. (Senior quarterback) Nate McCahill had a really fine game, too. He had 300 yards of total offense, 100 yards rushing and over 230 passing yards with four touchdown passes.”

And McCahill, who has been named the City Player of the Year, cannot have any of these stats without his Pitbull Security, the offensive line. Peebles said, “The offensive line play has continued to improve. They’re going to be tested this week because this is going to be one of the better defensive lines that we play all year. We’ve faced some good ones. I wouldn’t put their D-Line in the Center Grove category, but I’d put them up against anybody else that we’ve played. They’re stout, athletic and well-coached.”

The key in this Regional game is who can score the most without turning the ball over. Everybody knows that you can’t win a game with turnovers. The Irish have a common opponent with Whiteland, and that is Decatur Central. The Irish obviously handled the Hawks but Decatur Central handled Whiteland pretty well. Both teams are coming into this game with only one loss.

When it comes to turning the ball over, Peebles said, “This is something I’m going to have to tell our guys. Decatur Central turned the ball over five times vs. us, which equated to a big win. Whiteland turned the ball over four times against Decatur Central, which led to a DC win. It is about us and not turning the ball over and not making mistakes and doing all the things that they’re taught to do

“It really comes down to just that because we have some

equally talented opponents, and if we turned the ball over this past Friday, Decatur Central gets momentum and it's a whole different ball game. This game really comes down to us not making mistakes."

Peebles says Whiteland is a very talented squad with some solid players. "They have a really good team. They are a big and strong football team. They rush for over 400 yards a game they obviously put up 40+ points on New Pal, and they won their previous game 66-0. This team is a really good football team. They're big and strong up front, they have two talented running backs, a tight end who's also a defensive end who's a D1 kid. They have a lot of really good players and were going to have to play really well against them."

Covid-19 can still knock the Irish out of their playoff run as well. When it comes to the pandemic, Peebles said, "I think our players have done a good job adhering to the protocols. Obviously I don't know what they do when they go home, but we have to trust them to do the right thing in their situations. It's worrisome, in fall break and Halloween, the numbers have gone

up. It's just the bottom line.

"And I know the school's number of cases has gone up, whether it be the students or the staff, we have more people on quarantine right now than we've probably ever had. This stuff spreads fast. There were multiple games that were canceled this weekend where a team had to forfeit because they were unable to play because of Covid. We have to just take it day-by-day and be smart about what we do."

Peebles encouraged fans, students, parents and alumni to pay attention to this historic season that the Irish are putting on and support the team. Peebles said, "If you can't get to the game, please listen or watch the game. Our guys have been outstanding this year. They're a special group of young men and I hope that our fans, students and alumni can still enjoy what these guys are doing whether it be online, which I'm sure they are going to broadcast our game, or on the radio like it is each week.

"So listen to the game and support our guys even if you may not be able to get there."



Senior Zane Hill catches a pass during the Sectional game against Decatur Central.
Photo by Grace Straley.



MEGAPHONE

Opinion

Our opinion

As we approach Thanksgiving, there is much for which we are thankful, but our ultimate appreciation should be for Christ's saving grace.

This year, a year in which the unexpected has become expected, quarantine has locked up everyone for months upon end and horrible things worldwide seem to be happening left and right, has become somewhat of an icon in and of itself.

While Covid-19 likely will still last through most if not all of 2021 and the inevitable bad will happen, 2020 has become a year in a league of its own. And yet as Thanksgiving nears, there is still much to be thankful for as a Cathedral family. The opportunity to come back to school is a large part of a lot of what has been good about the past year when one is looking on the positive side.

The first part of the year took away the latter half of many seniors' final school experiences, namely athletics. Whole seasons didn't even start, and those who were fortunate got a few games and practices in. And so while teams have still had struggles here and there, State championships are being played, proving many wrong that we did get sports at Cathedral and in Indiana so far.

A significant part of the Cathedral experience is athletics, as more than 80% of students are involved in a sport. The ability to play and compete at high levels has been a blessing many schools have not been able to do, some in Indiana, and many in other states.

Even with quarantine taking out stretches of teams' competitive seasons, the Fighting Irish are still standing and competing every weekend, with football still playing and winter sports getting ready to begin. With a blessing in the form of opportunity, as always, the Irish have been taking the advantage.

Masses and gatherings have long been a critical part of the Cathedral family coming together. Seniors last year missed many closing experiences in the form of Masses and school assemblies, so being able to start the year with different gatherings to welcome freshmen, promote school spirit with the school's first female leprechaun and participate in Mass has been more than expected.

Despite needing to be outside, the amazing Cathedral staff, faculty and student planning groups have and continue to do

a phenomenal job with turf field assemblies. The coordination that the school has had this year as a body, evidenced by Homecoming week, would make one think that nothing has changed. The hard working leadership of many has enabled the year to be as exciting as possible, an aspect of the year that all can be thankful for.

Inclusivity has been a huge part of the Cathedral scope, and with a pandemic taking away many people's comfort to feel safe putting themselves or their family at risk, the age we live in is enough to be thankful for.

Years ago, a pandemic of this level would have shut down schools as nobody would be able to participate from home. Thanks to increased coordination and technological advantages, our school has been able to include not only in person but at-home students who have chosen to do so for a variety of reasons, with many staying home for classes so they have a better chance to practice and play sports.

A year in which some students have to stay home, reasonably so, and therefore could not learn with their peers who have the ability to attend school, would be an education developmental mess. Thirty years before, everyone likely would have halted the thought of school due to the differences it would cause it leaning among peers. Cathedral hasn't only been blessed to continue educating its students, but it has been able to do so providing the same top of the line teaching that it has become known for.

As we near Thanksgiving, we can also remember the parts of life unaffected by Covid-19 that still are blessings, and that we might take for granted. In a world where sin inflicts poverty, deceit and more, the opportunity, or gift, Christ calls us to accept is the ultimate thing we should be thankful for.

The gift of salvation is something that can impact a life unlike any education, vehicle, device, or anything tangible in this world that can be received. To go through the day thanking God for passing one's math test is the right attitude, but there is the idea of never forgetting the offer Christ gave to us when he died on the cross that is magnitudes more important.

The chance to come together as a Cathedral family, whether in person or at home, and share in the joy and thankfulness of Christ's saving grace every day, whether through Mass or through honoring His word, is what makes it all the more sweeter.

Nuestra opinion

A medida que nos acercamos al Día de Acción de Gracias, hay mucho por lo que estamos agradecidos, pero nuestro máximo aprecio debe ser por la gracia salvadora de Cristo.

Este año, un año en el que lo inesperado se ha convertido en algo esperado, la cuarentena ha encerrado a todos durante meses y cosas horribles en todo el mundo parecen estar sucediendo de izquierda a derecha, se ha convertido en algo así como un ícono en sí mismo.

Si bien es probable que Covid-19 aún dure la mayor parte, si no todo, de 2021 y sucederá lo malo inevitable, 2020 se ha convertido en un año en una liga propia. Y, sin embargo, a medida que se acerca el Día de Acción de Gracias, todavía hay mucho que agradecer como familia de Cathedral. La oportunidad de regresar a la escuela es una gran parte de lo que ha sido bueno durante el año pasado cuando uno ve el lado positivo.

La primera parte del año eliminó la segunda mitad de las experiencias escolares finales de muchos estudiantes de último año, a saber, el atletismo. Las temporadas enteras ni siquiera comenzaron, y los afortunados tuvieron algunos juegos y prácticas. Y mientras los equipos todavía han tenido dificultades aquí y allá, se están jugando campeonatos estatales, lo que demuestra que muchos estaban equivocados de que hicimos deportes en Cathedral y en Indiana hasta ahora.

Una parte importante de la experiencia de la Cathedral es el atletismo, ya que más del 80% de los estudiantes participan en un deporte. La capacidad de jugar y competir a altos niveles ha sido una bendición que muchas escuelas no han podido hacer, algunas en Indiana y muchas en otros estados.

Incluso con la cuarentena eliminando tramos de las temporadas competitivas de los equipos, los Fighting Irish siguen en pie y compitiendo todos los fines de semana, con el fútbol todavía jugando y los deportes de invierno a punto de comenzar. Con una bendición en forma de oportunidad, como siempre, los irlandeses se han ido aprovechando.

Las misas y las reuniones han sido durante mucho tiempo una parte fundamental de la unión de la familia Cathedral. Los estudiantes del último año del año pasado se perdieron muchas experiencias de cierre en forma de misas y asambleas escolares, por lo que poder comenzar el año con diferentes reuniones para dar la bienvenida a los estudiantes de primer año, promover el espíritu escolar con la primera duende del colegio y participar en la misa ha sido más de lo esperado.

A pesar de la necesidad de estar al aire libre, el increíble personal de la Cathedral, la facultad y los grupos de planificación estudiantil han hecho y continúan haciendo un trabajo fenomenal con

las asambleas de campo de césped. La coordinación que ha tenido la escuela este año como cuerpo, evidenciada por la semana de Homecoming, haría pensar que nada ha cambiado. El duro liderazgo de muchos ha permitido que el año sea lo más emocionante posible, un aspecto del año por el que todos pueden estar agradecidos.

La inclusión ha sido una gran parte del alcance de la Cathedral, y con una pandemia que les quita la comodidad a muchas personas para sentirse seguras y las pone en riesgo a ellas mismas o a su familia, la edad en la que vivimos es suficiente para estar agradecidos.

Hace años, una pandemia de este nivel habría cerrado las escuelas ya que nadie podría participar desde casa. Gracias a la mayor coordinación y las ventajas tecnológicas, nuestra escuela ha podido incluir no solo a los estudiantes en persona, sino también en el hogar que han elegido hacerlo por una variedad de razones, y muchos se quedan en casa para las clases para tener una mejor oportunidad de practicar. y practicar deportes.

Un año en el que algunos estudiantes tengan que quedarse en casa, razonablemente, y por lo tanto no puedan aprender con sus compañeros que tienen la capacidad de asistir a la escuela, sería un desastre para el desarrollo educativo. Treinta años antes, es probable que todos hubieran detenido la idea de la escuela debido a las diferencias que causaría en la inclinación entre sus compañeros. Cathedral no solo ha tenido la suerte de continuar educando a sus estudiantes, sino que ha podido hacerlo proporcionando la misma enseñanza de primera línea por la que se ha hecho conocida.

A medida que nos acercamos al Día de Acción de Gracias, también podemos recordar las partes de la vida que no se vieron afectadas por Covid-19 que todavía son bendiciones y que podríamos dar por sentado. En un mundo donde el pecado inflige pobreza, engaño y más, la oportunidad o el regalo que Cristo nos llama a aceptar es lo máximo por lo que debemos estar agradecidos.

El regalo de la salvación es algo que puede impactar una vida diferente a cualquier educación, vehículo, dispositivo o cualquier cosa tangible en este mundo que se pueda recibir. Pasar el día agradeciendo a Dios por aprobar el examen de matemáticas es la actitud correcta, pero existe la idea de no olvidar nunca la oferta que Cristo nos hizo cuando murió en la cruz, que es magnitudes más importantes.

La oportunidad de reunirse como familia de la Cathedral, ya sea en persona o en casa, y compartir el gozo y el agradecimiento de la gracia salvadora de Cristo todos los días, ya sea a través de la Misa o honrando su palabra, es lo que lo hace aún más dulce.

Face off

With December just around the corner, the classic Christmas debate has once again come up: When is the appropriate time to start playing Christmas music?



It's not too early

BY ELLA BUNDY

Christmas is the time of year where children wait impatiently in their beds for the footsteps of Santa Claus. Parents desperately attempt to set up presents in a way that will seem most magical and family gatherings for celebrations are planned. It's a time of joy, a time that typically lasts around a month until the tree is taken down and

the holiday spirit fades away.

However, it's not too early to start celebrating with the Christmas spirit. While Halloween pumpkins languish and Thanksgiving is just around the corner, it should be time to start listening to Christmas music.

Everyone knows that some of their most exciting childhood memories come from Christmas. Sure, the holiday can be very overwhelming with trying to get everything just right, but that's why we should start now. Before all the panic sets in.

Christmas music takes you back to your most nostalgic memories, whether that be about getting your dream bike when you were 5 or opening a new phone when you were 14. Christmas music is often joyous and upbeat, and many studies have shown that your mood changes with the type of music you're listening to. We all hate that feeling between Thanksgiving and Christmas, where you're desperately rushing around trying to get everything done, but there's nothing fun to do except for waiting.

Christmas music will keep you in a festive mood and remind you to get that one gift you've been forgetting about or to start planning what you'll be doing for the holidays.

Studies have also found that listening to Christmas music for longer periods of time can help strengthen your memory, your attention span, and your positivity. Music therapy is a practice where music is used to make people happier and help them to get over some of their issues.

So why be a Grinch and say no to early Christmas music when you can make yourself a happier and more productive version of you?

It's too early

BY ZOEY JOHNSTON

The Christmas season is one of the most jolly times of the year. From decorations to presents, everything about the season is full of cheer. Christmas music is very important when getting in the holiday mood. However, some people like to argue that Christmas music should be played at the start of November, but it shouldn't.



Christmas music has a time and a place. After Halloween, there's a month and a half until Christmas. It seems people just forget entirely about November and jump straight to the jolly festivities of December. Instead of skipping right to Christmas, we should go from one holiday to the next.

November is the month for Thanksgiving. It's the next holiday after Halloween, and it, instead of Christmas, should be celebrated during November. There's great food, decorations and fun festivities (at least pre-Covid) all over the country. Every month has its own thing, and Christmas is for December, not November.

Also, playing Christmas music too early can irritate people if it's played too loud and too early in the year. It's usually the same songs over and over again every year. "Jingle Bells," "Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer" and "All I Want For Christmas Is You" are great examples of overdone Christmas classics. I hear these songs way too many times during the holiday season, and even though they may be classics, it's a little much having to listen to them during November.

Furthermore, Christmas music is a reminder that you'll have to buy presents and have people over. People react to that by making impulsive decisions and going shopping too early. That's why select retailers play Christmas music after Halloween: it makes you think you need to buy gifts, which helps their sales go up.

If you want to listen to Christmas music before the actual holiday, do it during the actual Christmas season, and not at the start of November. People don't like to be reminded of the obligations that come with the holiday season, and you can't just forget about Thanksgiving. Listen to it during December instead of right after Halloween.



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