

BISHOP LUDDEN-GRIMES NEWSLETTER

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"Be transformed by the renewing
of your mind."
Romans 12:2

WELCOME TO BLG!

We are pleased to introduce ourselves as Bishop Ludden Grimes Jr/Sr high School! As we embrace this season of change, we are dedicating the pages of this newsletter to welcoming all of our students, parents, alumni, and communities of Bishop Ludden, Bishop Grimes, as well as our many newcomers.

In this issue of our first BLG newsletter, we would like to introduce our dedicated staff who will be providing the same quality education from the legacies of Grimes and Ludden, give an overview of our many club, activities, and athletic opportunities for students to join in the upcoming school year, as well as celebrate our joined alumni communities.

The BLG Newsletter is sent out to families following each month of the school year to showcase the many events, students, and staff that make Bishop Ludden Grimes a welcoming, accomplished, and faith-filled community. All newsletters may be accessed on our website as well as by opening the attachment sent via your email. Please do not hesitate to share with your family and friends!

If you ever have suggestions, comments, or questions about our newsletter, please contact our newsletter editor, Alexa Kulak (akulak@syrdiocese.org).

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair: Daniel T. Gilheny, CPA/CFE

Vice-Chair: John Corey

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Honorable James E. Baker

Eileen Conboy

Heather Lamendola

Carl Masterpole

Kristen Smith, Esq.

Father Dennis Walker





- STEM CAMP SESSION 2** AUGUST 11TH - 14TH
- BLG PICNIC** AUGUST 18TH
- FIRST DAY 7TH & 8TH** SEPTEMBER 3RD
- FIRST DAY 9TH & 10TH** SEPTEMBER 4TH
- FIRST DAY 11TH & 12TH** SEPTEMBER 5TH
- PICTURE DAY** SEPTEMBER 12TH
- MASS ON THE GRASS** SEPTEMBER 19TH
- 7TH GRADE RETREAT** SEPTEMBER 25TH
- MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT** SEPTEMBER 25TH
- PEER MINSITRY RETREAT** SEPTEMBER 26TH - 28TH
- SPIRIT WEEK** SEPTEMBER 29TH - OCTOBER 3RD

Travel With Us!







EUROPE TRIP UPDATE

Due to scheduling challenges, we are skipping 2026 and shifting focus to 2027.

INFORMATION ON THE **SPRING 2027** TRIP – INCLUDING
NEW DESTINATIONS - WILL BE RELEASED IN SEPTEMBER!

ENJOY THE SUMMER! IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ON THE EUROPE TRAVEL PROGRAM,
PLEASE CONTACT MIKE DUNHAM (315.480.6025 or miked5130@icloud.com)



STONEHENGE – SPRING 2024 TRIP







School Supply Lists

Please click [here](#) to access our 2025-2026 school supply list

Guardian Angel Society

Supporting Student Success

Founded by Father Joseph Champlin, the Society provides tuition assistance, mentorship, and tutoring to students in need across the Syracuse area, including those attending Bishop Ludden-Grimes.

Through generous community support, the Guardian Angel Society helps make it possible for families to continue choosing a Catholic education, even in challenging financial times.

We are proud to work together, fostering academic excellence and creating a future full of promise for our young scholars.

To learn more, please visit guardianangelsoc.org.

MEET THE STAFF

Before we start the new school year, get to know the faces at BLG and their favorite reads!

Administration



Principal
Steve Shoults



Assistant Principal
Dave Ringwood



**Assistant Principal/
Administrative Intern**
Marcus Ludwig



Dean of Students
Tim Schmidt



Administrative Assistant
Holly Wait



Athletic Director
Shaun Smith



Director of Campus Ministry
Monica Zallo



IB Coordinator
Lynn Reimer
A Wrinkle in Time



Director of Enrollment
Carmella Petrera



Director of Development
Kathy Gilheney
Trinity



Director of Tuition & Financial Aid
Maria Petrus



Director of Operations
Robin Mulpagano



Controller
Paula Gleason

Student Services



School Nurse
Megan Allen



Counselor A-L
Mary McCarthy



Counselor M-Z
Phoebe Weigand



Special Education
Kelly Casey



Library Media Specialist
Newsletter Editor
Alexa Kulak
Pride and Prejudice



Instructional Technology
Molly Hayden



Food Services
Cindy Burns



Food Services
Ellie Proper



Custodian
Anthony Dean



Custodian
Robert Plyter

MEET THE STAFF

English



7 & 8

Laura Sandroni



10 & 11

SAW

Sarah Blakeman



9 & 12

AP Lit

AP Lang

Mary Beth Kelley

My Antonia

To Kill A Mockingbird



IB English Lit

Tim Schmidt

Math



Math 7 & 8

Sam Gallager



Math 8

Algebra I

Fin. Algebra

Bethanie Fink

*Little House on
the Prairie*

Harry Potter

“still seeking a new favorite”



Math 7H

Algebra II

Geometry

Shawn “Skip” Philippon

*The Hitchhiker's Guide
to the Galaxy*



Pre-Calc

AP Stats

AP Calc

IB Math Analysis

Heather Hess

Gone With the Wind

Foreign Language



Spanish I

Eleanor Brown



French

Najet Gharsallaoui



Spanish IV

IB Spanish

Patti Ilzarbe

MEET THE STAFF

Science



Science 7 & 8
Earth Science
Nat. Disasters
Jackie Sudol



Science 8
Biology
Marnie Olt



Biology
IB Env Sys
William Ayling



Chemistry
Physics
Intro to Engineering
Susie Davis



IB Biology
Monica Zallo



Forensics
Food Science
Maxine Babcock

Social Studies



7 & 8
Peter Capponi



Global
P.I.G.
Economics
IB Global Politics
Tim Fandrich
The Men Who Lost America



US History
IB HOTA
Tim Miller



P.I.G.
Economics
Alex VanTassel



Steve James

Theology



7 & 8

Margie Kolinski



9 & 10

Regina Kulak
Little Women



10

Sr. Chris Pologa
Lazarus Come Forth



11 & 12

Alex VanTassel

Music



Concert Choir
Jr High Chorus
Danielle Carter



Guitar
Piano
Music Tech
Dave Majerus



Music Theory
Wind Ensemble
Jr High Band
Jason Kammerer

Art



Art 7
3D Art
Stained Glass Making
Jewelry Making
Ceramics
Theater Tech
Jeremy DiBello



Art 8
Drawing & Painting
Studio Art
IB Visual Arts
Rhonda Henderson
“Any book- I don’t play favorites”

Physical Education/Health



PE 7 & 8
Ryan Smith



PE 9-12
Health 7
Andrew Johnston



PE 9-12
Health 10-12
Liz Lance



IB Psych
Lynn Reimer
A Wrinkle in Time

Technology



Videography
Computer Concepts
Marketing & Media
Chris Tricase



SUPA Esports
Maxine Babcock



SUPA Esports
Alexa Kulak
Pride and Prejudice

Incoming Junior or Senior?

Consider adding IB classes to your course-load or pursue the complete Diploma Programme!

10 Reasons
why the IB Diploma Programme (DP) is ideal preparation for university

1 It increases academic opportunity
Research* shows that DP graduates are much more likely to be enrolled at top higher education institutions than entrants holding other qualifications.

2 IB students care about more than just results
Through creativity, action, service (CAS) you learn outside the classroom and develop emotionally and ethically as well as intellectually.

3 It encourages you to become a confident and independent learner
For example, the extended essay requires independent research through an in-depth study.

4 It's an international qualification
The DP is recognized globally by universities and employers.

5 Graduates are globally minded
Language classes encourage an international mindset, key for increasingly globalized societies.

6 The IB encourages critical thinking
Learn how to analyse and evaluate issues, generate ideas and consider new perspectives.

7 DP students have proven time management skills
Take good study habits and strong time management to further education and the working world.

8 It assesses more than examination techniques
Learn to understand, not just memorize facts or topics and prepare for exams.

9 Subjects are not taught in isolation
Theory of knowledge (TOK) classes encourage you to make connections between subjects.

10 It encourages breadth and depth of learning
You are able to choose courses from six subject groups and study subjects at different levels.

*Based on IB research - www.ibo.org/research
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QUESTIONS?



Contact Lynn Reimer
IB Coordinator
ltreimer@syrdiocese.org

Fall Sports

Final Forms is open!

The sports season starts August 18th for Varsity/JV Sports and August 25th for Modified Football. All other sports begin on the first day of school, September 3rd 2025

All students MUST have a Final Forms account and a physical within the last year.

Click [here](#) to access the form

QUESTIONS?

Contact Megan Allen
School Nurse



(315) 459-7160

HOLE-IN-ONE!



NICK BRUNGER

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025

HOLE #3 - 98 YARDS - GAP WEDGE

WITNESSED BY:

FINN CASEY

Sports Schedules

LET'S PACK THE STANDS
WITH FANS!

JV/Varsity season begins August 18th
Modified Football season begins August 25th
Modified season begins September 3rd

BOYS

Cross Country
Football
Soccer

GIRLS

Cheerleading
Cross Country
Soccer

Right to Life Club

Advisor: Gina Kulak

The Right to Life Club meets via Google Classroom and works to promote the respect for all human life. Some activities we have done in the past are: a dollar “Dress in Purple for Life Day,” which allowed us to donate over \$300 to Joseph’s House, the Mass and March for Life in Syracuse, monthly service trips to Joseph’s House, and a paper goods drive for Joseph’s House, and a baby bottle drive to benefit Birthright.

Micronation Club

Advisor: Tim Fandrich

This club meets once a month and functions like a pseudo model UN. In this, members will discuss current events and issues that the micronation of the Holy Empire of Greater Muskratia (AKA Muskratia) is dealing with and offer possible solutions. Members will also participate in club events, ceremonies, and contests. If you have questions or would like to join please reach out to Mr. Fandrich!

Gala Committee

Advisor: Rhonda Henderson

Involved with planning the junior and senior gala that occurs every June. If interested in joining, please talk to Mrs. Henderson!

Yearbook

Advisor: Rhonda Henderson

Involved with planning, photographing, and writing the pages of our yearbook. Please ask Mrs. Henderson for more information.

Math League

Advisor: Heather Hess

High school students participate in the New York State Math League. We compete in six monthly contests, October through March, here at the school. Contests take place after school from 3:00-3:30. Dates will be determined based on student activities. Listen for announcements or ask Mrs. Hess about details if you would like to participate. Snacks are always provided!

Book Club

Advisor: Alexa Kulak

BLG has three book clubs separated by grade level (7-8, 9-10, and 11-12) that meet during lunches twice a week. We read-aloud, engage in book-related activities, form a close-knit community, and eat occasional themed meals. No work, no commitment necessary--just come and hang out with us! Our opening picnic will be announced in September.

iStaff

Advisor: Alexa Kulak

Students looking to volunteer in the library and earn service hours may apply to the library iStaff in September. Students are assigned one of their study halls once a week to help check out books, make returns, organize shelves, and plan library activities.

Peer Ministry

Advisor: Monica Zallo

Students in grades 11 and 12 are welcome to join Peer Ministry. Students engage in meaningful retreats, aid in school masses, and spread the Catholic faith throughout the school through programs and activities.

Big Knights, Little Knights

Advisor: Monica Zallo

High school students are paired with an elementary school student from our feeder school, Most Holy Rosary, to aid with academics, form connections, and participate in fun group activities.

Student Government

Advisor: TBD

Students are elected by their peers to participate in making decisions that effect the student body.

National Honor Society

Advisor: TBD

Students in grade 11 may apply to join National Honor Society in May and participate during their senior year. National Honor Society focuses on engaging in the local community.

Robotics

Advisor: Alexa Kulak

We have two robotics age divisions through First Lego League: grades 7&8 and grades 9-12. Students meet during lunch three days a week to build, plan, and program Lego robots as well as complete a project for the competition which occurs in Dec/Jan. Our robotics team will launch in September.

Quiz Bowl/History Bowl

Advisor: Maxine Babcock

Quiz Bowl is an academic competition where two teams answer questions from a variety of subjects, relying on quick thinking and knowledge. In History Bowl these questions are all history-based. Teams compete head-to-head, buzzing in to answer toss-up questions and earning bonus points for correctly answering follow-up questions. Our teams practice during lunches and after school to prepare for regional, state, and national competitions. Last year our students traveled to the National Competition in Washington D.C.

Science Olympiad

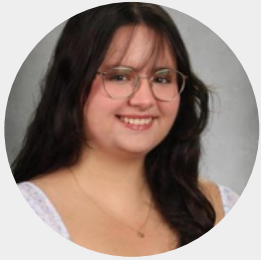
Advisor: Maxine Babcock

Science Olympiad consists of a series of tournaments where students compete in a variety of science-related events, encompassing both knowledge tests and hands-on, inquiry-based activities. We have two divisions: Science Olympiad B (grades 7-9), and Science Olympiad C (grades 10-12). We practice during lunches and after school to prepare for the regional competition to qualify for states.

CNY Rocket Team Challenge

Advisor: Maxine Babcock

We compete annually in June in designing, building, and launching model rockets, with a focus on rocket science, engineering, and teamwork.



MEET THE LIBRARIAN

Miss Alexa Kulak

akulak@syrdiocese.org

About Me

Hello, my name is Alexa Kulak and I have been the Library Media Specialist here for two years. I have a B.A. in English Creative Writing from Le Moyne and completed my M.L.I.S. at Syracuse University.

Library Info

The library is open for your child during their study halls as well as after school. While there is no assigned library class, our teachers will often take their students to a lesson in the library to expand and enrich the learning experiences of their classroom.

Each month I send out a "library menu" which informs the students of the different activities available and library schedule.

Please visit our website to view library policies, activities, and donate books and materials to our collection!

How can the library help you and your child?

Makerspace: Our makerspace table offers a different craft or "brain break" activity for students to engage in creatively. Past activities have included puzzles, Legos, Stick Together, painting, and fidget toys!

Book Displays: Every month the library offers different displays, including our book of the week, based on current events and holidays to encourage reading.

Writing Contests: Our writing contests give students the opportunity to share their creative writing and win prizes. We have a fall, winter, and spring contest.

Read-A-Thon: Our annual Read-A-Thon encourages independent reading among our staff and students as they compete to read the most in the month of April.

Technology Needs: The library has loaner Chromebooks, a student printing computer, and the librarian is available for any assistance with using different technologies.

Congratulations to the Bishop Ludden students who achieved high academic standing in their fourth quarter!

Principal's List

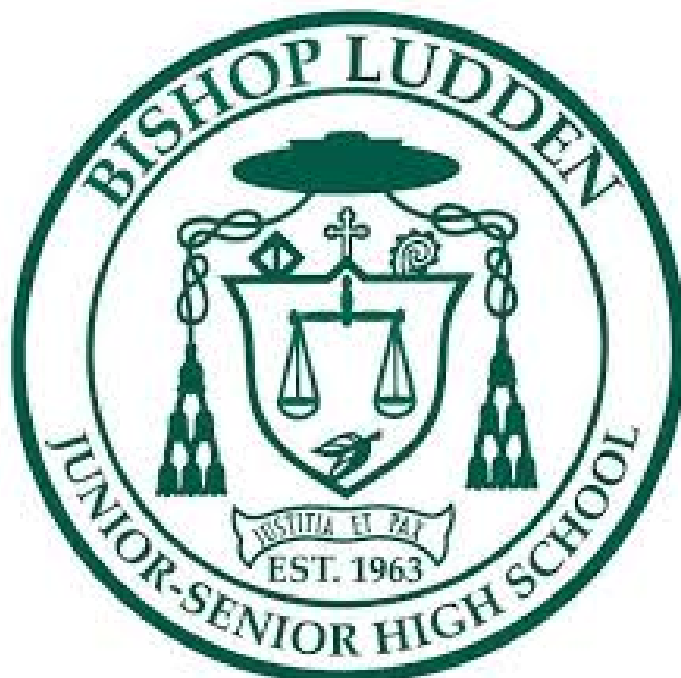
Mya Barnaba	Mary Jane Fallon	Charlotte Hsiao	Ashley Pawelczyk	Samantha Tkacz-Jimenez
Antonina Barraco	William Gannon	Riley Kreis	Meredith Pessirilo	Paige Townsend
Sloane Brunger	Elizabeth Gaughan	Maya Mancilla	Maggie Ranous	Lucian Waddell
Keegan Cain	Alexander Gentile	Brynn Marvin	Sophia Rivera	James Westers
Finnegan Casey	Benjamin Gentile	Jack Marvin	John Ruddy	Ava Wells
Sophia Chemotti	Beckett Genovese	Ainsley Mead	Luke Ruddy	Kate Young
Jonathan Colangelo	Aidan Glennon	Edward Middlestadt	Mia Scutari	
Caitlyn Coryell	Emmani Godwill	Riley Milczarski	Alexi Sheen	
Lorelei Craner	Lucy Haggerty	Noor Naveed	Brendan Smith	
Elaina Ellison	Isaac Harris	Alexis Netti	Kevin Smith	
Quinn Eskandar	Anna Hayes	Kimberly Nguyen	Molly Smith	
Alex Ewanyk	Grace Hilton	Grace Olivia	Vieyla Thatvihane	

High Honor Roll

Molly Ascioti	Laila Hudson	Blake Sheen
Sophia Azria	Asimwe Kabulete	Colden Sheen
Naomi Bergh	Nikolas Kunai	Jack Soyster
Maxwell Boyea	Ysabela Martinez-Vendetti	Saoirse Squillace
Tiffany Brizzi	Molly Masterpole	Natalie Testa
Alex Christodoulou	Abigail Mossotti	Max Townsend
Joseph-Wesley Calangelo	Clare Olivia	Jordan Tripp
Brady Davis	Hayden Parkhurst	Jace Waldrath
Natalie Davis	Melissa Pullano	Jack Young
Mary Detor	Olivia Quirk	
Joseph Dunham	Mikhayla Reyes	
Elise Ellison	Abigail Reynolds	
Haley Gilbertson	Dominico Rivera	
Aidan Grealish-Liquori	Madison Rushford	
Johnny Huddleston	Molly Russell	

Honor Roll

Brayden Adika	Dawson McCann
Evelyn Allers	Naibella Morris-Rodriguez
Danajsia Bullock	Andrea Natale
Kylyn Cain	Natalie Nojaim
Jackson Catalano	Adrianna Parker
Thomas Cervantes	Theresa Quigley
Trey Dennis	Aadon Scott
Emma Fogarty	Jayden Sheard
Tatum Gilbertson	Savannah Simmons
Henry Goulette	William Whittaker
Marissa Kennedy	Aidan Wicks
Ciara Kivlehan	Stephan Zubrzycki
Ivanna Kiziv	
Allyson Liddell	
Julianna Ligoci	
Antonio Marchiano	



IN THIS ISSUE...

Alumni Spotlight

- Kevin Roy

Reunions

pg. 18

- BL Class of 2005

Ludden Giving Day

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In Memoriam

pg. 21

- Patricia Zieschang,
BG '71

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE:
KATHY GILHENEY
(315) 579-0061

Welcome



Alumni!

Kevin Roy, Ludden Class of 2006



Kevin Roy, a Syracuse native, and his caddy JP Kellogg look on from the sixth hole during the final round of the John Deere Classic 2025 at TPC Deere Run on July 06, 2025 in Silvis, Illinois. (Photo by Andy Lyons/Getty Images)Getty Images

Kevin Roy shot a 6-under 65 in the final round of the John Deere Classic in Silvis Illinois to finish one shot back in a tie for third place.

It's the third consecutive top-20 finish the 35-year-old Roy, a graduate of Bishop Ludden, and his second-straight top-10. Earlier in the season he was tied for 18th place at the RBC Canadian Open, and was tied for eighth place in the Rocket Classic.

[Read the full article here!](#)

Ludden Class of 2005 20th Reunion



Ludden Class of 1975 50th Reunion



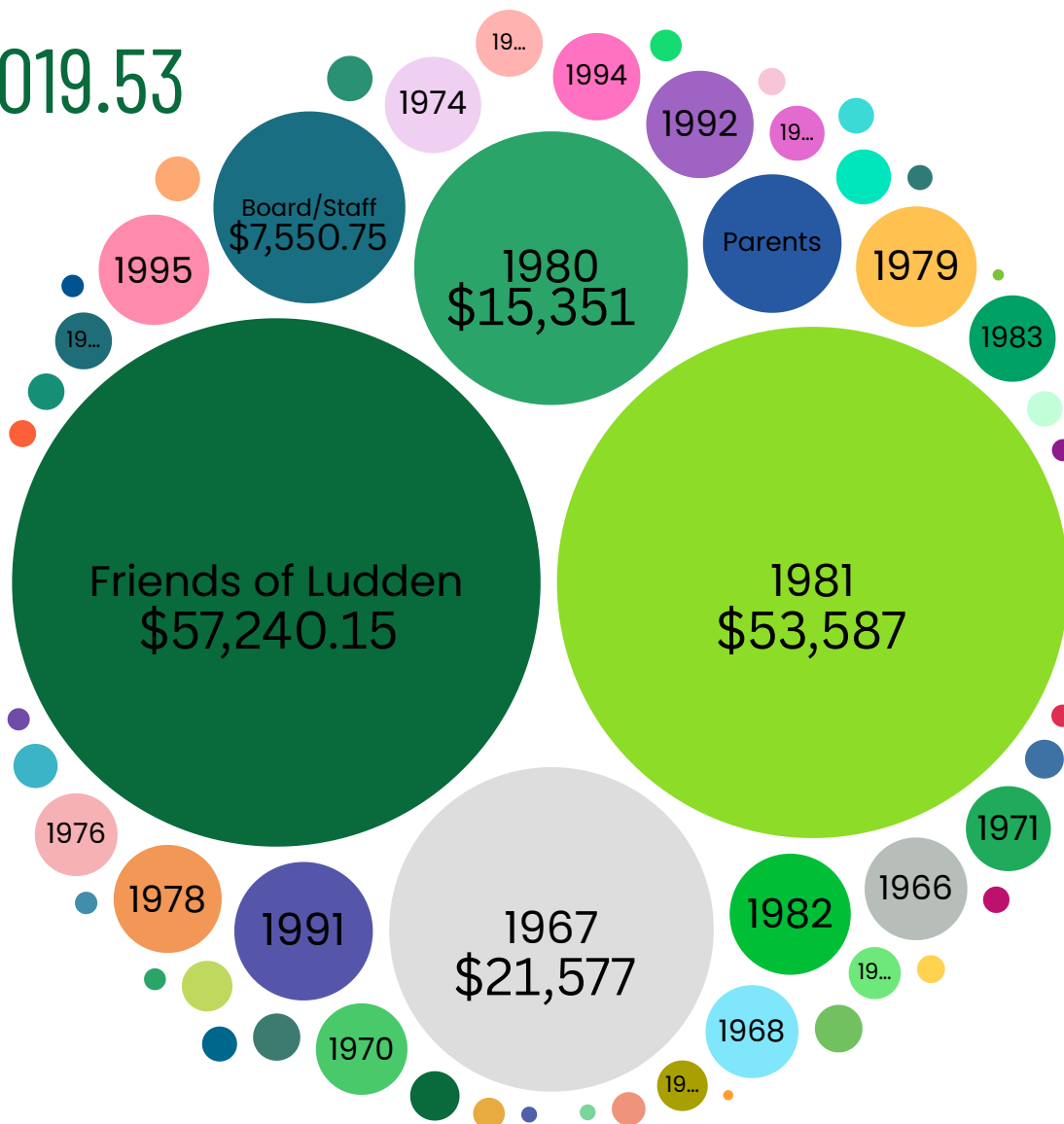
2025 Bishop Ludden Giving Day Summary

We did it! We raised \$200,019 and had 339 donors! We met both of our matching challenges and have more donors than we had in 2024.

A special thank you to Peter Cappuccilli, Mrs. Schoeneck and Father Dennis for their inspiring videos! Thank you to Jon Williams and his family for their very generous challenge gift of \$50,000 in honor of their wife and mother, Heather Gould Williams, our anonymous Friends of Ludden for their \$50,000 challenge gift, as well as our Board of Trustees for their 100% participation--thank you!

\$200,019.53

Raised



339

Donors

Given in Honor Of

“Our Mother” Chan Dan Ackerman Joe Aldrous’ Retirement Sarah Boyea Payton and Stephen Campbell Peter Cappuccilli Sophia and Alexia Chemotti Tony and Nick Creme Christian C. Day Gallagher Driscoll Quinn and Sammy Eskandar	Brian Farrell Mary Beth Fierro Dan and Kathy Gilheney Ms. Margot Grobsmith Monica Hanson Mrs. Henderson Ms. J Ms. Kolinski’s Career Molly Masterpole Jack, Brynn, and Theo Marvin Michael J. McLaughlin Fr. Dan Muscalino	Mr. and Mrs. P Olivia Quirk Coach Mike Rogers Molly Russell Ryan Skanes Molly and Peg Stroman Bailey and Ben Thieben Johnnexis V. The Chemotti Family The Endieveri Family The Fallon Family The Gettino Family	The Gustason Family Bishop Ludden Campus Ministry CSJ of Diocese of Syracuse Class of 1982 Class of 1990 Class of 2007 Class of 2018
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Given in Memory Of

”mom and dad” Kate Ackerman Anne Affleck Alf Awad RuthAnn Baumbach Darlene Bisesi Rosemary Caden Father James Cahill Brian Davis Len Dems Anita M DeSantis David D Didio Mary Kay Donnelly Patsy Drake Bob Duhoski	Steve Endieveri Tim Emmons Dr. Adeline M Fagan Brian Farrell Clare E. Gaffney Nicholas Gettino Jeff Gilheney Danny & Grace Grey Colleen Gridley Rev. George F. Hartnett Kitty Healy Cathleen Infanti Matt Jackson Delisa Kerwin Mark lacey	Pat Matthews Anne McCarthy Odette Misik Karen Spencer McFadden Austin J.and Mary B. McLaughlin Mike Murphy Erin Price Liz Rea Bridget Roche Joseph Rojek Michael Schoeneck Patty Schramm Jen Scutari John and Cassie Stanley Dr Joseph T Thornton	John Tremont Carolyn Ulrich Johnnexis V Wesley Valentine Stanley & Melanie Wadach Holly Ward Sr. Mary Jane Wilcox Heather Gould Williams Richard and Helen Yule Mariano Zallo The Fallon Family Our Deceased Classmates Deceased Members of Class of 1970 Deceased Members of Class of 1981 Deceased Members of Class of 1985
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Patricia "Gail" Zieschang, Grimes Class of 1971



Patricia "Gail" (Gromny) Zieschang, 71, of East Syracuse, passed away peacefully on July 9, 2025.

Born on August 11, 1953, in Syracuse, NY, Gail was the daughter of the late Joseph and Ethel (Guiles) Gromny.

Gail was predeceased by her parents, Joseph and Ethel Gromny, and her sisters, Marion "Mimi" (Gromny) Pfeiffer and Cheryl "Cheri" (Gromny) Rice.

She is survived by her brother, Joseph M. Gromny of North Syracuse; her niece, Erica L. Gromny of North Syracuse; and many dear friends who will miss her kindness, humor, and gentle spirit.

A private celebration of Gail's life will be held at a later date.

She grew up in Mattydale, NY, and graduated from Bishop Grimes High School in 1971.

A lifelong lover of books and science fiction, she found joy in stories that stretched the imagination. She also had a deep affection for cats and delighted in sharing stories about her beloved companions, Millie and Susie.

Prayer for Grieving

*In your hands, O Lord,
we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters.
In this life you embraced them with your tender love;
deliver them now from every evil
and bid them eternal rest.*

*The old order has passed away:
welcome them into paradise,
where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain,
but fullness of peace and joy
with your Son and the Holy Spirit
forever and ever.*

R/. Amen.

