



PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC NEWS

A NEWSLETTER FOR FUTURE CELTICS

DECEMBER 2016



***Tis the Season
to be Giving***

***NEW SCHOLARSHIPS
UP TO \$10,000***

DETAILS ON PAGE 7

TIS THE SEASON TO BE GIVING

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ON THE COVER

Celtic seniors sport their "Ugly" Christmas sweaters at the annual Christmas dance in early December. Back (l to r) Nina Schulte (Channahon), Zachary Pell (Joliet), TJ Quinlan (Orland Park), Kailey Zych (Monee), Blake Jensen (Frankfort) and Frankie Mata (Joliet). Front: Molly Hallberg (Tinley Park) and Caroline Murphy (Tinley Park).

EditorJamie O'Brien
 Photographs byBruce Burns
 -Jamie O'Brien



Members of AYM display some of the many toys donated to children in the hospital. Left to right are Mark Cachey '17 (Tinley Park), Olivia Duggins '17 (Palos Park), Payton Craig '17 (Lemont), Anthony Prucha '20 (Mokena), Alejandra Botello '17 (Monee), Matt Crosse '18 (Tinley Park) and Anastasia Cokinos '18 (Orland Park).

The season of giving was prosperous at Providence Catholic. In October, students, faculty members, alumni and parents of students donated nearly 60 units of blood at the Augustinian Youth Ministry's (AYM) annual Blood Drive. AYM also hosted the annual Thanksgiving Food, Toy and Gift Card Drives. They collected several hundred non-perishable food items that were donated to local food pantries and gifts for children at the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation. This year's Toy Drive was in memory of Matt "Laz" Lulinski, Class of 2012. All toys were donated to children in the hospital. Furthermore, members of the Student Augustinian Values Institute (SAVI) have been meeting monthly for "Sandwich Patrol," where student volunteers prepare sandwiches and deliver them to Morning Star Mission, a homeless shelter located in Joliet.

SIX STUDENTS EARN NATIONAL MERIT DISTINCTION

Providence Catholic seniors Jessica Baldys (Mokena), Mark Cachey (Tinley Park), Meghan Howat (Plainfield), Michael Massaro (Homer Glen), Isabel Rossi (Naperville) and Cecilia Spesia (Joliet) were recently named commended student by the National Merit Scholarship Program. The National Merit Scholarship Program is an annual academic competition for recognition and college undergraduate scholarships. More than 1.5 million students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program each year. Approximately 16,000 of the 1.5 million students are named semifinalists.

Standing (l to r) Michael Massaro, Cecilia Spesia and Mark Cachey. Sitting (l to r) Meghan Howat, Jessica Baldys and Isabel Rossi.



CELTIC CHAT



Jenna Spreitzer

What do you like most about PCHS?

Jenna "I love the family atmosphere. It feels like everyone around you is always there to support you."

Luke "I love the welcoming and amazing people that attend PCHS."

Providence Catholic High School freshmen Jenna Spreitzer of Shorewood (Minooka Junior High) and Luke Pell of Joliet (St. Joseph, Lockport) had this to say...

What influenced your decision to attend PCHS?

Jenna "Every time I visited Providence, I had a great feeling about the atmosphere. I was surrounded by faith and everyone was so welcoming."

Luke "My brother really influenced me because he came home everyday saying all these great things."

If a grade school student asked you if they should attend PCHS, what would you say?

Jenna "I would say ABSOLUTELY! I had a choice of what high school to attend and Providence was by far the best choice."

Luke "I would say they should attend PCHS because everyone is so nice. Providence isn't just a school, it's a family."

Describe the all school Masses.

Jenna "The Masses are amazing and give me the greatest feeling as we come together to sing and offer each other the sign of peace."

Luke "The Masses are my favorite part about Providence as everyone comes together in unity to worship our Lord."



Luke Pell

SHADOW DAYS

Are you a 7th or 8th grade student who is considering PCHS for your high school? Shadow Days are held on select days throughout the school year. You will be paired with a current Providence Catholic freshman so that you can experience a day in the life of a Celtic! Come meet our students and faculty, experience some classes and enjoy lunch in the cafeteria. Visits must be scheduled by 2:30 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding the visit. Below are Shadow Days that are open to 7th & 8th graders for the 2nd semester:

- Friday, January 13
- Friday, January 20
- Friday, January 27
- Friday, February 3
- Friday, February 10
- Friday, February 17
- Friday, March 10
- Friday, March 17
- Monday, March 27
- Monday, April 3
- Monday, April 10

Visit the Shadow Day page on the PCHS website for the most current information or to schedule a visit. Questions? Contact Mrs. Ellingson, Enrollment Director at rellingson@providencecatholic.org or call (815) 717-3160 (limited to the first 40 students).

Shadow Day "Shout Out"

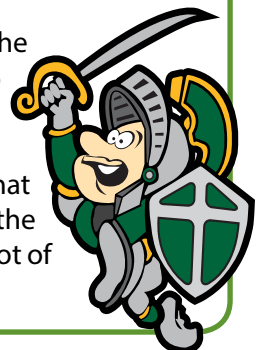
What do "Shadow Day" visitors have to say about their PCHS experience? A student from...

Minooka Junior High School said... "The prayer before each class was new to me, but I really liked it."

Noonan Academy said... "I was nervous before coming to my Shadow visit, but within the first minute of arriving, I was made to feel so welcome and really had a great experience."

Homer Junior High said... "The students and teachers were so friendly and made us feel welcome."

St. Mary (Mokena) said... "I love that students can use technology in the classroom. The teachers used it in a lot of different ways!"



HOMECOMING 2016 FESTIVITIES

Homecoming festivities were held in early October at Providence Catholic. The students enjoyed fun-filled activities that showcased their school pride. The dress code was relaxed for the week and the students were encouraged to wear themed attire each day.

During the Homecoming Assembly, seniors Richie Warfield (Orland Hills) and Rosie Lagone (Mokena) and were crowned Homecoming King and Queen. The court included King nominees Brad Baldys (Mokena), Chris Kaminski (Frankfort), Mark Cachey (Tinley Park) and Colin Martin (Orland Park). Queen nominees included Josie Marron (Mokena), Sarah Kaley (Tinley Park), Caroline Murphy (Tinley Park) and Mallory Jatis (Homer Glen).

The Celtics played Brother Rice at the football match up. The week's festivities concluded with the Homecoming Dance, which had the theme "Under the Sea".



2016 Homecoming Court

WORLD LANGUAGE IMPLEMENTS MOBILE LABS

Providence Catholic's World Language Department now features four Mobile Language Labs that provide students with a differentiated classroom experience to acquire a second language. The versatile labs are able to be moved from classroom to classroom and shared amongst the Spanish and French classes throughout the day.

"Instead of having a dedicated classroom with specialized equipment and encountering difficulty with scheduling seven different teachers' classes for use of that one space, we thought it would be great to have the labs come to the individual classrooms. This allows many more students to benefit from this great asset," said Mrs. Katie Pavur, World Language Department Chairperson.

The four labs consist of tablets, headsets and styluses; the interactive process allows students to use their language skills individually, with partners, and small groups.

The school's exceptionally fast Wi-Fi connection provides students with the versatility of convenient tablets and the content delivery of a traditional language lab anywhere in the school.

The Mobile Language Labs give students the opportunity to practice the four components of a language: reading, writing, listening, and speaking, with the most modern software and applications available.

"The labs are awesome! We use them all the time and it allows us to hear and speak the language at our own individualized pace. You can go back and forth for clarification, which has really made a big difference in my ability to learn the language," said Claire Barrett '18 (Tinley Park).



Spanish 4 Honors Teacher Mrs. Katie Pavur (centered with glasses), assists Billy Griffiths '18 (Mokena) during Language Lab

PCHS NOW OFFERS COLLEGE DUAL CREDIT

The PCHS Technology Department is now offering five courses as Dual Credit with Moraine Valley Community College (MVCC). Students may earn up to 15 hours of college credit, which can be transferred to other colleges.

In addition to getting a head start on college credit, students gain confidence by taking college level courses from college approved instructors. The Providence Catholic Technology Department is committed to providing students with the computer skills needed for high school, college and beyond. Even freshmen have the opportunity to earn 3 hours of dual credit in the required Introduction to Technology course.



Mrs. Alice Hartel, Technology Teacher, oversees the work of Mary Ann Wilson '17 (Joliet), while Luke Wennlund '17 (Lockport) work diligently on his design project.



Mr. David Devine, Technology Teacher, shows Joshua Ramos '19 (Plainfield) and Josephine Marron '17 (Mokena) some helpful tips in his Graphic Design dual credit course.

Mr. David Devine, PCHS Technology teacher, first established contact with MVCC two years ago. "In addition to providing college credit, our program confirms that we have always had a college-level curriculum in the Technology Department," said Devine. He and fellow technology teacher Mrs. Alice Hartel have worked to complete the MVCC certification requirements and are now qualified college instructors. "I needed to adapt my course curriculum, but only slightly since it was already designed to provide students with the computer application skills they need for not only high school, but college and career as well," stated Mrs. Hartel.

For more information about our Technology courses and dual credit, visit the Providence Catholic website and search "dual credit".

CELTICS PERFORM AT IMEA MUSIC FESTIVAL

Ingrid Schwartz '17 of Joliet (soprano), Abby Schaefer '18 of Mokena (soprano) and Brendan Slota of Homer Glen '20 (trumpet) were selected to perform at the District 1 IMEA Music Festival, which took place at Elmhurst College in mid-November. The audition process was highly competitive; more than 3,000 students auditioned and only a small number were selected. In addition, Savannah Baker '19 of Plainfield (soprano) and Elise Persicketti '20 of Manhattan (alto) were nominated to perform in the 9-10 District 1 Honors Chorus at the Music Festival.



Standing (l to r) Abby Schaefer, Brendan Slota and Ingrid Schwartz; Sitting (l to r) Elise Persicketti and Savannah Baker

THEATER CLUB PRESENTS CHARLIE BROWN MUSICAL

PCHS Theatre Club performed *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* at Joliet's Billy Limacher Theatre in late October. The musical comedy was based on the comic strip Peanuts by Charles M. Schultz with book, music and lyrics by Clark M. Gesner and produced by arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc. The musical was directed by Dr. Stacy Eckert with assistance from Mrs. Ann Waldron, Director of Music; Mrs. Rosie Knezz, Director of Choreography; Mr. Ben Barrera, Scenic Designer; Mrs. Tracy Baldys and Mrs. Melissa Pierce, Producers; Mrs. Tammy Bernecker, Props and Mrs. Cynthia Schwartz, Costumes.



Jessica Baldys '17 (Linus Van Pelt) and Abby Schaefer '18 (Snoopy).



SAVE THE DATE...SPRING MUSICAL



PERFORMANCE DATES

Thurs. 4/6 @ 7 pm
 Fri. 4/7 @ 7 pm
 Sat. 4/8 @ 7 pm
 Sun. 4/9 @ 3 pm

Billy Limacher Theater

GREEN MAIN CAST

- Brad Baldys '17 (Mokena) Charlie Brown
- Jessica Baldys '17 (Mokena) Linus Van Pelt
- Claire Diamond '17 (Lockport) Lucy Van Pelt
- Devin Evans '18 (Mokena) Sally Brown
- Will Karabel '17 (Homer Glen) Schroeder
- Abby Schaefer '18 (Mokena) Snoopy

WHITE MAIN CAST

- Brad Baldys '17 (Mokena) Charlie Brown
- Christina Muraskas '19 (Palos Park) Lucy Van Pelt
- Katie Saunders '18 (Frankfort) Snoopy
- Lizzi Stack '17 (Tinley Park) Linus Van Pelt
- Will Karabel '17 (Homer Glen) Schroeder
- Bailey Stajura '17 (Lockport) Sally Brown

ENSEMBLE

- Sara Bernecker '19 (Orland Park) Clara
- Sam Bosko '18 (Lemont) Royanne Hobbs
- Allie Boyer '18 (Lockport) Frieda Rich
- Ashley Cairo '20 (Mokena) Dolly
- Emma Eckenstein '18 (Homer Glen) Patty
- Chase McCool '18 (Plainfield) Peppermint Patty
- Clara McKendry '18 (Orland Park) Peggy Jean
- Mary O'Brien '19 (Manhattan) Marcie
- Olivia Pandolfi '20 (Joliet) Evelyn
- Ellie Persicketti '19 (Manhattan) Molly Volley
- Hailey Pierce '19 (Rockdale) Shirley
- Corrin Remiasz '18 (Channahon) Truffles
- Mary Santschi '18 (New Lenox) Eudora
- Gwen Savino '18 (Lockport) Charlotte Braun
- Tori Sojka '20 (Mokena) Mimi
- Celine Stroup '17 (Shorewood) Violet Gray
- Grace Wheeler '19 (Homer Glen) Lydia
- Olivia Whittle '18 (Homer Glen) Naomi

CREW

- Logan Bartecki '19 (Lockport)
- Rhiannon Burczak '19 (Homer Glen)
- Sean Costello '18 (New Lenox)
- Nora Czupek '18 (Mokena)
- Cameron Korhorn '20 (Plainfield)
- Mikalya Kozol '20 (Lemont)
- Jack Kraus '17 (Elwood)
- Jessica Kwasneski '19 (Palos Park)
- Mary Grace McGrath '20 (Joliet)
- Gracie Pecho '20 (Manhattan)
- Kathleen Sears '20 (Minooka)
- Ingrid Schwartz '17 (Joliet)
- Carlos Venegas '18 (Crest Hill)
- Anthony Waldron '18 (Plainfield)
- Frances Webster '18 (Homer Glen)

PIT

- Andrew Kay '19 (Orland Park) Bass Guitar
- Grace Mackay '17 (New Lenox) Clarinet
- Robby Pierce '17 (Rockdale) Percussion
- Sinclair Roechner '19 (Joliet) Flute
- Justin Tomaselli '17 (Shorewood) Sax
- Anthony Waldron '18 (Plainfield) Percussion

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS UP TO \$10,000

PCHS has implemented a **NEW** academic scholarship program that will tremendously impact the incoming freshmen (Class of 2021) who enter PCHS in the Fall of 2017. The scholarships range from \$6,000 to \$10,000 and are available to all students who place in the Top 10% on the school's **Placement Exam on January 14** (see details on PCHS website).

Below is a breakdown of the scholarship awards based on where a student scores on the Placement Exam:

- Celtic Scholar with Distinction Award (Score 95%-99%)**
 \$10,000 (\$2,500 per year at PCHS) | Must maintain a 3.5 GPA
- Celtic Scholar Award (Score 90%-94%)**
 \$6,000 (\$1,500 per year at PCHS) | Must maintain a 3.25 GPA



SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

The total amount of Need Based Grants, Aid and Scholarships awarded to PCHS students in 2016-2017 EXCEEDED \$1.5 MILLION.

More than 25% of Providence Catholic families qualify and are awarded Need Based Aid. Need Based Scholarship Applications are available to all students who take the Placement Exam.

Providence Catholic families who feel they may qualify are encouraged to apply for Need Based Aid through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment. The deadline is March 1 of the previous school year. There are two sources of aid:

1. PCHS Student Need Based Aid (all families may apply).
2. Catholic Education Foundation Need Based Aid (only those families who are registered parishioners in the Joliet Diocese will be considered).

Through scholarships, endowments and the generosity of the Catholic Education Foundation, Providence Catholic is able to provide a quality college preparatory education to many students at an affordable price. Listed below are the scholarships available to freshman students and financial aid opportunities for those who qualify.

- Augustinian Service Scholarship
- Celtic Leadership Scholarship
- Celtic Scholar Awards (NEW details above)
- Chase Academic Achievement Scholarship
- Kazma Family Foundation Scholarship
- Stanley and Adele Guz Memorial Scholarship



Providence Catholic High School has a preschool located on its grounds?

Providence Catholic Children's Academy (PCCA) was founded in 1992 by Rev. Richard J. McGrath, O.S.A. Under the Diocese of Joliet, PCCA serves the religious and educational needs of young children between the ages of 3 and 6. PCCA provides a nurturing environment by professional teachers who help develop the social, emotional, cognitive and physical skills of students in a loving Christian atmosphere.

CLASSES INCLUDE:

- Kindergarten (age 5)
- Pre-Kindergarten (age 4)
- Preschool (age 3)

WHY PCCA?

- Full-Day Kindergarten
- Half/Full-Day Options for PS & PK
- Before/After School Care

Children's Academy
OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29
 10:00 am - 12:30 pm
 815.485.7129 • wearepc.org

Providence Catholic High School
Advancement Office
1800 W. Lincoln Highway
New Lenox, IL 60451

Address Service Requested

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www.providencecatholic.org



CALLING ALL 8TH GRADERS PLACEMENT EXAM

Saturday, January 14
8:00 am - 11:30 am

Choosing a high school is one of the **most important decisions in your life**. Your future plans and goals, and even how you mature as a person are all affected by your choice of high school. Taking the Placement Exam is the first step to becoming a Providence Catholic student.

CHECKLIST

- Bring two #2 pencils**
- No Calculators**
- Arrive at PCHS between 7:30 am - 7:45 am**
- Bring \$25 check payable to PCHS (Test Fee)**
- Completed Student Information Form***

Placement Exam Next Steps and Test Preparation Tips

* Please visit www.providencecatholic.org/placementexam/ for more information and to complete the student information form.

