

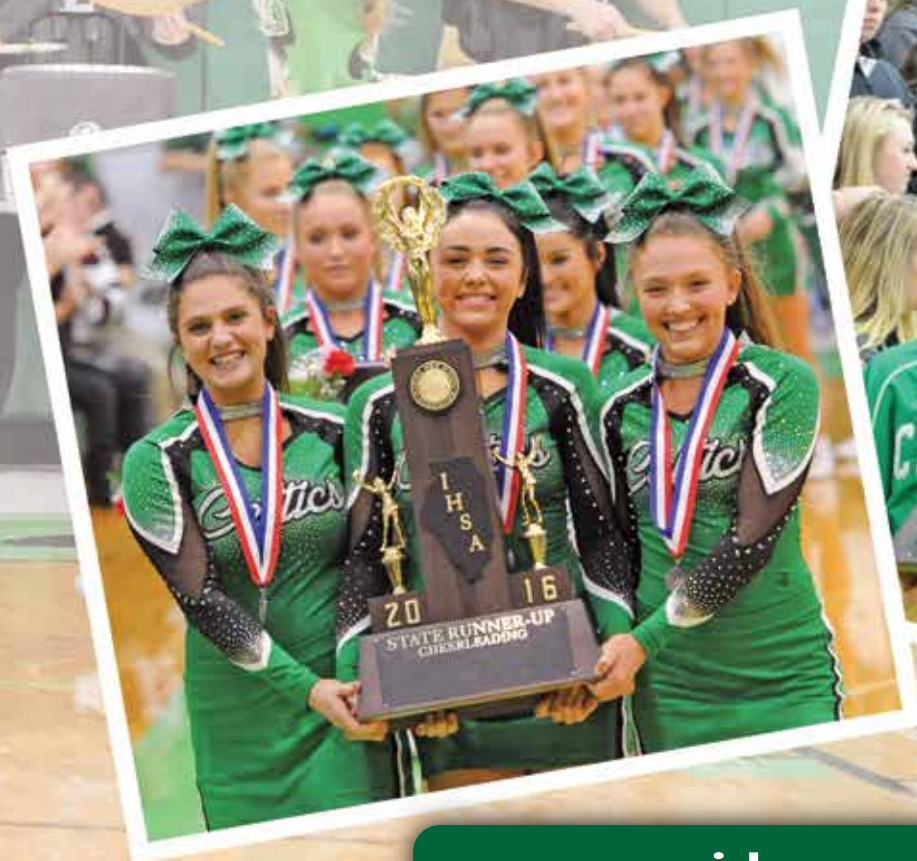


PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC NEWS

A NEWSLETTER FOR FUTURE CELTICS

MARCH 2016

Celtic Cheerleading & Wrestling Teams Bring Home State Trophies



www.providencecatholic.org

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COVER STORY

Celtic varsity cheerleaders and wrestlers earn State trophies. Read full stories on page 4.

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 Photographs by*Burns Photography*
Jamie O'Brien

RESPECT LIFE PILGRIMAGE

For the past 43 years, hundreds of thousands march from the National Mall to the Supreme Court building to voice their pro-life stance. This year, thirty-seven members of the PCHS Respect Life Club joined the annual March for Life. The pilgrimage began with a fourteen hour overnight bus ride to DC. Students shared their personal stories about why they are club members and feel it is important to show mercy to those impacted by abortion. The first stop was the Basilica of the National Shrine of Immaculate Conception, where Cardinal Timothy



Above, Emily Huguelet '16 (New Lenox), Mary Schultz '16 (Tinley Park) and Brittany Jackson '16 (Monee) display a #iStand4Life sign during their pilgrimage to Washington DC.

Dolan celebrated Mass. The next morning, students caught an early morning metro to a youth rally and Mass. Unfortunately, because of the impending snow storm, the trip was cut short, and the buses headed back to Illinois. It was disappointing for those who looked forward to the opportunity, but they still treasured the chance to part of the group. Theology teacher and club moderator, Amy (Tryner) Potempa '93 led the pilgrimage and oversees the Respect Life Club.

TOP OF THE CLASS OF 2016

Providence Catholic's Colin Brankin '16 (Orland Park) was recently named Class of 2016 Valedictorian and Patrick Connelly '16 (Tinley Park) Salutatorian. "Both of these young men are not only academically gifted, but leaders among their peers. We wish them the very best in their future endeavors," said Dr. John Harper, PCHS Principal.

Valedictorian Colin Brankin, son of Patrick and Susan Brankin of Orland Park, is a graduate of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Catholic School and a parishioner at St. Elizabeth Seton Church. Brankin plans to major in Chemical Engineering, but is still considering his college selection. The honor roll student is a National Merit Finalist, an officer in the school's National Honor Society, Vice President of the Student Council and a member of the Augustinian Youth Ministry and Spanish National Honor Society.



Colin Brankin '16 and Patrick Connelly '16

see **TOP OF THE CLASS** Page 7

CELTIC CHAT CELTIC CHAT CELTIC CHAT



Abby Ragusa

What do you like most about PCHS?

Abby "I like the overall environment most; students and teachers are so kind and helpful."

Brian "I like the family environment, the school spirit and how everyone is kind to each other."

Providence Catholic High School freshmen Abby Ragusa of Joliet (St. Paul the Apostle) and Brian Donlevy of Orland Park (Century Junior High) had this to say...

What influenced your decision to attend PCHS?

Abby "The incredible academic and athletic programs had the most influence on my decision to attend Providence."

Brian "My shadow day visit, the strong athletic programs and many of my family members attended PCHS."

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

Abby "I would say YES! I am very happy with my decision to attend this school."

Brian "Yes, everyone fits in and it is easy to make friends."

Describe the all school Masses.

Abby "PCHS Masses are very relaxing, rejoiceful, and prayerful."

Brian "The Masses are spiritual and enjoyable. They show that we are part of a really close community."



Brian Donlevy

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 the remaining Shadow Days that are open to 7th & 8th graders for the 2nd semester:

- Friday, April 15
- Friday, April 22

Visit the PCHS web for the most current information. To participate in a Shadow Day, please contact Mrs. Ellingson at (815) 717-3160 or email rellingson@providencecatholic.org (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...

Century Junior High School said... "I loved getting to know the students and teachers better. It was great to see how everyone gets along so well."

St. Mary (Mokena) said... "The teachers were so fun and it was awesome how they included me and made me feel welcomed in each class."

Minooka Junior High School said... "I love that the students pray together before each class and as an entire school over the intercom. That is something I will remember."

St. George said... "The environment was so positive. I can't wait to be a Celtic!"



CHEERLEADERS TAKE 2ND AT STATE

The Varsity Celtic Cheerleaders earned a 2nd Place trophy in the Large Varsity Division at the 2016 IHSA State Cheerleading Championship Finals in early February. In the Preliminary Round at State, the Celtics had the highest score of the day, which advanced them to the State Finals Round. During an all-school assembly, the cheerleaders performed their award-winning routine and were awarded their State medals by Mr. Doug Ternik '89, Athletic Director.



Team Members

- Allison Bebar '16 (Joliet)
- Sera Cummings '16 (New Lenox)
- Bridget Fudala '16 (Homer Glen)
- Nicole Glynn '16 (Lemont)
- Carson Sineni '16 (Homer Glen)
- Lauren Bird '17 (Tinley Park)
- Cara Cox '17 (Mokena)
- Amy Jensen '17 (Tinley Park)

- Sarah Kaley '17 (Tinley Park)
- Rosie Lagone '17 (Mokena)
- Hailey Radakovitz '17 (Tinley Park)
- Alyssa Reeves '17 (Joliet)
- Samantha Sharkey '17 (Mokena)
- Natasha Tuminello '17 (New Lenox)
- Lexi Vennetti '17 (Orland Park)
- Madison Watson '17 (Frankfort)
- Macie Agnich '19 (New Lenox)
- Isabella Andreano '19 (Shorewood)

- Brooklynn Parker '19 (Shorewood)
- Fiona Rowe '19 (Homer Glen)
- Lilly Smith '19 (Mokena)

Coaches

- Laura Duesing (Head Coach)
- Peggy Jensen
- Beth Rachanski
- Adam Sunderhaus
- Ashley Vennetti '11

WRESTLERS WIN 4TH PLACE STATE TROPHY

The Varsity Celtic Wrestling team placed fourth in Class 3A division at the IHSA State Wrestling Competition in Bloomington, Illinois in late February. The wrestling team was awarded their State medals by Mr. Doug Ternik, Athletic Director at a recognition assembly. Head Coach Keith Healy expressed his appreciation

to everyone who supported the team and thanked them for helping him reach his 500th career win this season.

Team Members

- Mason Heimlich '16 (Elwood)
- Chad Tracy '16 (Frankfort)
- Alex Wojciechowski '16 (Plainfield)
- Tom Younker '16 (Tinley Park)
- Dominic Ferraro '17 (Plainfield)
- Josh Lambert '17 (Homer Glen)
- Dominick Ambrose '18 (Tinley Park)
- Logan Anderson '18 (Frankfort)
- Ben Emery '18 (New Lenox)
- Tom Farley '18 (Mokena)
- Jakob Magurany '18 (Mokena)
- Matt Pirc '18 (Elwood)
- Cole Smith '18 (Channahon)
- Juan Bazaldua '19 (Bolingbrook)

- Andrew Bejarano '19 (Plainfield)
- Jimmy Cannon '19 (Tinley Park)
- Ross Heimlich '19 (Elwood)
- Jacob Lindsey '19 (Oak Forest)
- John Nowak '19 (Shorewood)
- Josh Ramos '19 (Plainfield)
- Antonio Tuminello '19 (New Lenox)

Coaches

- Keith Healy (Head Coach)
- Ben Gerdes
- Mark Augle '08
- Martin Murphy '07
- Vince Ambrose '13
- Tom Lenahan '99
- Josh Ditzler '99
- Titus Thompson
- Tom Anstead



At left, Cole Smith '18 wins his match in mid-December wrestling tournament. Both Smith (152) and Jacob Lindsey '19 (106) earned All-State Honors and placed 5th at the IHSA Individual State Wrestling Tournament in late-February.

BASEBALL HONOREES

IHSBCA Class 4A named Head Baseball Coach, Mark Smith '88 "Coach of the Year" for the second consecutive year and Mike Madej '16 (Manhattan) "Baseball Player of the Year". The two were honored at the Annual Hall of Fame Banquet in late January.



Season of Giving



Head Basketball Coach, Tim Trendel (above right) and his team gathered this winter to pack meals for a Jamaican orphanage. Each package contained six meals and included vitamins, rice and vegetables.



PCHS students, families and alumni donated toys to families in need at a Celtic Hockey Toy Drive in late December.

HOCKEY HIGHLIGHTS



The varsity hockey team finished their CCHL regular season with a 20-2-0 record, which earned them the top seed in the playoffs. Congratulations to the four players who were selected to the All-State team (pictured at above) Ryan Iaciancio '17 (Tinley Park), Jake Vennetti '17 (Orland Park), Michael Altobelli '16 (Tinley Park) and Jake Rott '17 (Orland Park). In addition, Jake Rott was the first Celtic varsity hockey player to earn the CCHL regular season Scoring Title with 21 goals and 31 assists for a total of 52 points.



ALL-CONFERENCE



Allie Hernandez '16 (Homer Glen) and Claire Paciga '17 (Orland Park) proudly display their All-Conference Honors certificates that they received in the Red Division of the Girl's Catholic Athletic Conference.

Register Today! 2016 Youth Summer Camps

PCHS Youth Summer Camps serve nearly 1,000 students each year and provide quality interaction between campers and their dedicated coaches and instructors. PCHS will offer a variety of camps for students in grades 1-9. For details, including date, time and fee, please visit PCHS online at www.providencecatholic.org (click on the "Summer Camps" button on the main page).

ATHLETIC CAMPS

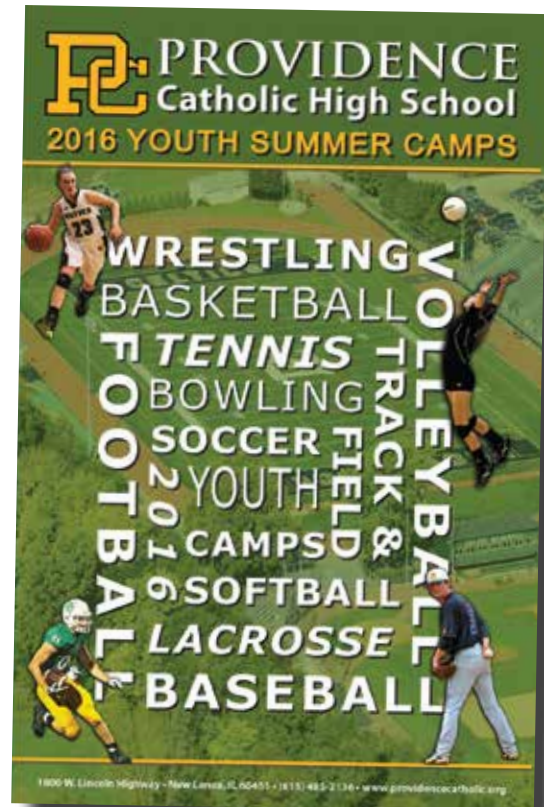
- Baseball
- Boys' Basketball
- Coed Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Coed Bowling
- Freshmen Football
- Youth Football
- Boys' Lacrosse
- Coed Soccer
- Softball
- Coed Tennis
- Coed Track & Field
- Boys' Volleyball
- Girls' Volleyball
- Wrestling

ACADEMIC CAMPS

- Art
- Robotics
- Science
- Spanish Language

PLEASE PARDON OUR DUST

The Sacred Heart Gym (SHG) will have several improvements made to its facility this summer. Therefore, all indoor athletic camps that normally take place in the SHG will be held in the school's Immaculate Heart of Mary Gym (IHMG). Campers should enter through door #14 (cafeteria entrance).



CARNEGIE HALL



Claire Diamond '17 (Lockport) earned first place in the 15-17 year old division of the highly competitive American Protégé International Vocal Competition. In mid-December, she performed in a recital at New York's Carnegie Hall (pictured above) along with other talented singers from the United States, China, Ireland, India and Canada.

MUGS FOR HUGS DRIVE

In January, TJ Quinlan '17 (Orland Park), pictured at right, spearheaded "Mugs for Hugs Drive" at PCHS for the second consecutive year. Nearly 200 mugs were collected, filled with instant cocoa packets and delivered to the Joliet Daybreak Shelter. "Providence has played a huge role in my commitment to serve

others; it has allowed me to run this mug drive and reach many of my peers. The Providence community has come together as a family for the past two years and helped to make this drive so successful," said Quinlan.



MARCHING BAND SUCCESS



Providence Catholic Marching Band had a great season. They finished 4th in Class 2A for their performance at the State of Illinois Marching Band Championships at Illinois State University. The band is under the direction of Mr. Lawrence Rogers who came to PCHS in the spring of 2015. Mr. Rogers teaches courses in Instrumental Music, Marching Band, Honor Band, Concert Band, Cadet Band, Music Appreciation and Jazz Band. He is also the coordinator for the Fall Guard and Winter Guard Programs at PCHS.



Top photo from left: Peiwen Wei '19 (Frankfort), Natalie Schaefer '18 (Mokena) and Mr. Lawrence Rogers. Bottom photo from left: Cameron Aurelio '17 (Orland Park), Abby Schaefer '18 (Mokena) and John Compagno '16 (Orland Park).



Did You Know . . .

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 2 ½ 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)
- Little Learners (ages 30 - 36 mos.)

WHY PCCA?

- Half/Full-Day Kindergarten
- Half/Full-Day Options for PS & PK
- 2-Day Little Learners Class
- Before/After School Care

**Limited Openings
2016-17 School Year**

CONTACT

815.485.7129 • wearepc.org

TOP OF THE CLASS from Page 2

Brankin is also a Student Ambassador, Sacristan, Eucharistic Minister, Retreat Leader and Peer Tutor. He has been a member of the Math and Scholastic Bowl teams for the past four years and the Mock Trial team for the past three years. Brankin has been a member of the Celtic Volleyball team for his entire high school career.

Brankin has received many prestigious awards including the AP Scholar with Distinction award, numerous PCHS academic subject

awards and was named PCHS Student of the Month four times. He was also a 4-time State Qualifier for the school's Math Team and took 1st place at the Masonics and IHSA Regional Scholastic Bowl competitions in 2015.

Salutatorian Patrick Connelly, son of John and Heidi Connelly of Tinley Park, is a graduate of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Catholic School and a parishioner at St. Elizabeth Seton Church. Connelly plans to major in Computer

Science, but is still considering college selection.

The honor roll student is a National Merit Commended Student, a member of the National Honor Society, Band, Theatre Club, Computer Club and Strategic Games Club. Connelly has received many prestigious awards including the Kazma Family Foundation Scholarship, AP Scholar with Honor award and numerous PCHS academic subject awards.

Providence Catholic High School
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Address Service Requested



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facebook.com/Charlie.Celtic

Follow Providence Catholic on its official Twitter page

twitter.com/PCHS_Celtics



SAVE THE DATE

SPRING MUSICAL

**PCHS THEATRE CLUB
PRESENTS...**



@ Bicentennial Theater

PERFORMANCE DATES

Thurs. 4/21 @ 7 pm

Fri. 4/22 @ 7 pm

Sat. 4/23 @ 7 pm

Sun. 4/24 @ 3 pm



**REGISTER TODAY!
YOUTH
SUMMER CAMPS**

**Check out details
on page 6**

