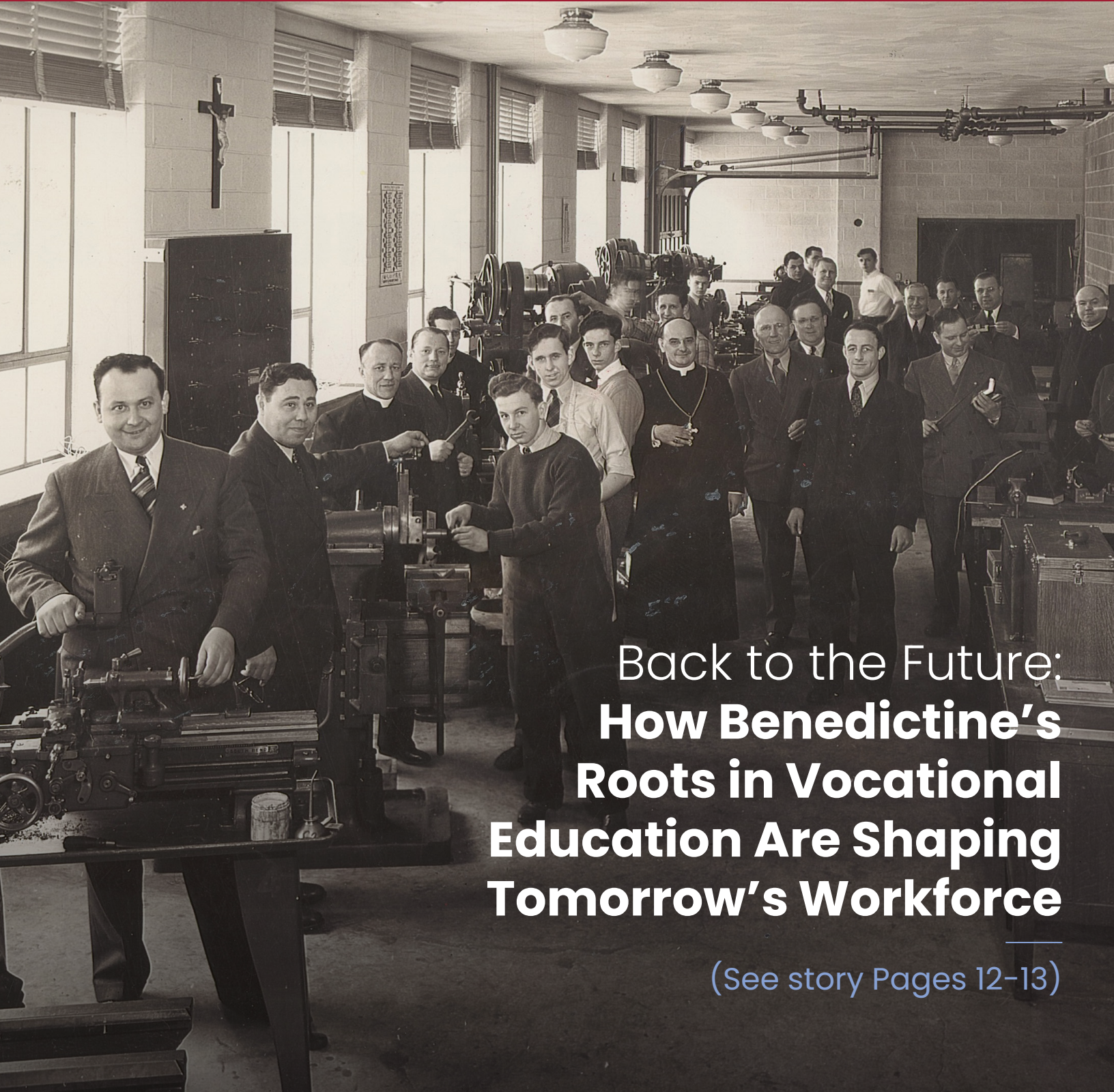


ORA ET LABORA



A publication of **Benedictine High School** and **Saint Andrew Abbey**

Fall 2025



Back to the Future:
**How Benedictine's
Roots in Vocational
Education Are Shaping
Tomorrow's Workforce**

(See story Pages 12-13)

GOD'S BLESSINGS AND PEACE TO YOU.

Have you ever wondered, "Why am I going through all this?" Perhaps you have been extremely blessed with God's graces and all you are doing is just living your life as you always do.

Alternatively, you may have wondered, "Why is God blessing me so much?". You may wish that some or all of these blessings could be given to someone else who is going through difficult times in their life, whether you know them or not. You accept the blessings God has imparted unto you and you offer a prayer for the other.

Perhaps right now you have been going through really challenging times. Maybe you have gone through a number of dark times in your life, feeling as if there is a cloud hanging over your head all the time, like the character Eeyore from the classic Winnie the Pooh series.

In seasons when the path ahead seems uncertain, and the world feels heavy with burdens we cannot carry alone, we are reminded of a profound truth: God is with us — even, and especially, in our dark times.

At Benedictine, we often speak of our Hallmarks — Community, Stability, Hospitality, Charity, and Conversatio. These are not just values etched in stone or printed in handbooks; they are living promises that we make to God and to one another. They are guideposts when the road is unclear, and anchors when the storms of life toss us about.

Community and Stability call us to remain rooted — to show up for one another and to draw strength from the bonds we share. You are not alone. Even in moments of silence or sorrow, your Benedictine family surrounds you in prayer, presence, and love.

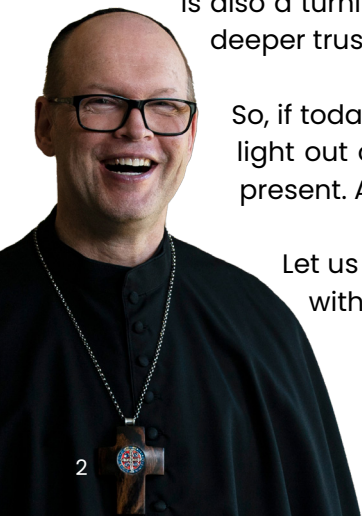
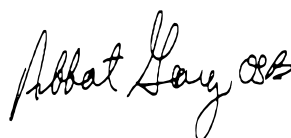
Hospitality and Charity urge us to open our hearts generously. When someone around us is struggling, it is our sacred call to be the light they cannot yet see. A kind word, a prayer offered, a meal shared — these are holy acts that carry the weight of Christ's own compassion.

And **Conversatio**, our commitment to ongoing conversion and growth, reminds us that every trial is also a turning point. When life feels uncertain, God may be inviting us into something new — a deeper trust, a humbler heart, a greater reliance on His grace.

So, if today you are weary, I urge you: do not lose hope. God who created the dawn still brings light out of darkness. Christ who conquered the grave still walks beside us, unseen but ever present. And we, your Benedictine family, walk with you as well.

Let us hold each other in prayer and continue to live the Benedictine way. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and know that together, with faith and fraternity, we will find our way.

Peace,
Abbot Gary, OSB '74



Dear Benedictine Friends and Family,

Summer is in full swing, and with it comes the excitement of preparing for our 99th consecutive year of operation this fall. That's right — **Benedictine High School turns 99!** As we welcome another incoming class of 90+ young men, we are also laying the foundation for a year-long Centennial celebration, details of which will be shared in the months ahead. Whether you're from the Class of 1959 or 2029, this is truly an exciting time to be a Bengal.

As I enter my third year serving as President, I'd like to share a brief reflection on the 20-year strategic vision I presented to our Board of Directors early in my tenure. That plan was structured around three phases: **Stabilization, Repeatability, and Transformation.** I'm proud to say that Benedictine has made significant progress in both stabilizing our operations and building sustainable, repeatable systems across key areas of the school.

We've invested in technology that unifies academics, admissions, counseling, and finance — streamlining the student and family experience. Our operational improvements have made us more effective and consistent in areas such as scholarship management, tuition assistance, and student services. At the same time, our campus has seen a variety of visible enhancements, generating enthusiasm among prospective families and long-time supporters alike. If it's been a while since your last visit, I invite you to come see for yourself what's new on the corner of MLK and Buckeye.

Now, in 2025, we turn the page to the next chapter: Transformation. This is the beginning of our journey toward ensuring Benedictine thrives for another 100 years. When I first asked, "How will Benedictine distinguish itself among the 21 Catholic high schools in Northeast Ohio?" — I already knew the answer. We will set ourselves apart by **preparing our young men not only for college — but for life.**

This belief gave rise to **Benedictine Pathways**, a comprehensive approach to student formation that builds on our rich tradition of academic excellence and brotherhood. Through Pathways, we are formalizing experiences that provide students with early exposure

to career opportunities, hands-on learning, and life skill development — whether they plan to attend college, pursue a trade, or enter the workforce directly after graduation.

Throughout this issue of The Ora, and in future communications, you'll see Pathways come to life. We're integrating our college-prep curriculum and wide range of extracurricular offerings with new programming in **career exploration, technical education, and project-based learning.** Life-readiness workshops will help students gain confidence in areas like financial literacy, time management, and professional communication.

Our students will grow in their understanding of traditional disciplines — literature, theology, science — while also building technical skills in **engineering, computer science, and applied mathematics.** We believe a Benedictine student should be able to analyze Shakespeare, change a flat tire, and file his own taxes. Likewise, we see value in a student experiencing the world of medicine, technology, manufacturing, or construction before he's asked to answer questions about his college major.

Our ultimate goal is to **redefine what it means to be college-ready.** A Man of Benedictine is not only prepared for higher education — he is prepared for life. That is our mission, and that is how we will continue to differentiate ourselves in the decades to come.

Thank you for your continued support of Benedictine High School. I hope you enjoy this edition of The Ora and find inspiration in how our 20-year vision builds on the enduring legacy of this incredible institution.

With gratitude,



Dave Schroeder '90



News from the Abbey



Group photo of Father Gerard, Father Anselm, Father Joachim, and Father Dismas

Fr. Dismas flew across the country to the west coast to deliver conferences on spiritual and emotional strategies to overcome addictions to the Benedictine monks of **Saint Martin's Abbey in Lacey, Washington** from May 12-16, 2025. **Abbot Marion Nguyen, OSB** sent a note of appreciation for Fr. Dismas' personal witness and conferences to Abbot Gary in which he wrote

"His presence among us has been nothing short of a grace. Through his honesty, his courage, and his fidelity to Christ, he opened space in our hearts for compunction, for healing, and for a deeper return to the inner dwelling where God waits for each of us."

On Wednesday, May 7, 2025, the monks made their monthly visit to confrere **Fr. Joachim Pastirik, OSB** at Regina Health Center in Richfield, Ohio. The late afternoon visit included praying vespers together and sharing pizza, fried chicken, and chocolate chip cookies. The photo from that visit shows four monks who are BHS alumni : (l-r): **Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB '71, Fr. Anselm Zupka, OSB '58, Fr. Joachim Pastirik, OSB '60** (seated) and **Fr. Dismas Boeff, OSB '66**. May 7 was also the day the cardinals of the Catholic Church began their conclave (not the movie) to elect a new pope. Fr. Gerard brought some old photos of Fr. Joachim dressed up like the late **Pope St. John Paul II** from the 1980's. When the new **Pope Leo XIV** was elected the next day and declared to be the first pope from the United States, Fr. Joachim had evidence to the contrary with the **"Pope Joachim"** photos. Fr. Joachim, now 83, welcomes visitors to **Regina Health Center which is located at 5232 Broadview Road**, Broadview Heights, Ohio 44286 or can be reached by phone at **330-659-4161**.



From the 1980's, when Fr. Joachim made frequent appearances dressed as the pope for abbey skits and at Slovak events.

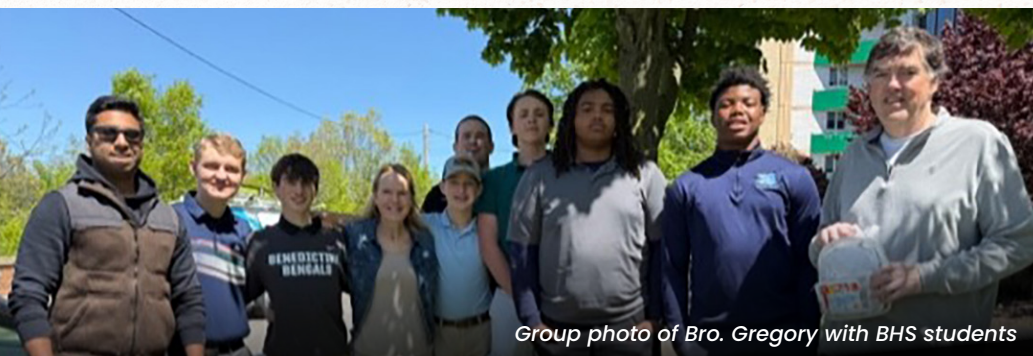
The annual monastic retreat for the monks of Saint Andrew Abbey took place from June 3-6 at Loyola Retreat House in Clinton, Ohio. The monks heard conferences given by **Fr. Michael Stalla**, a Cleveland diocesan priest who was named as the new pastor of **Saints Robert and William and Saint John of the Cross** as of August 15, 2025. His conferences focused on various aspects of the virtue of Hope. Fr. Stalla grew up in Westlake and graduated from Saint Ignatius High School. He and his family were members of **Holy Trinity Parish in Avon, Ohio** where he served Mass in grade school for Fr. Gerard, OSB who assisted on weekends at Holy Trinity Parish for 38 years.



Bro. Mario with his nephew

During the retreat, **Fr. Bede Kotlinski, OSB** was recognized for his 40th ordination anniversary

and **Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB** for his 45th ordination anniversary. At the closing Mass on Friday, Abbot Gary received the renewal of monastic vows of all the monks including **Brother Mario Parisi, OSB** who marked his **25th anniversary of profession**. A native from Buffalo, NY, Brother Mario graduated from Uniontown Lake High School in 1989. He later taught at Akron Archbishop Hoban High School before entering the abbey. He studied at Borromeo College and Saint Mary's Seminary in Cleveland and received his Master of Divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. After his profession, he taught theology at BHS and served as the guest master and assistant oblate director at the abbey. Before the abbey retreat, Bro. Mario joined his family for the ordination of his nephew, **Fr. James Parisi** as a priest of the Diocese of Cleveland on May 17.



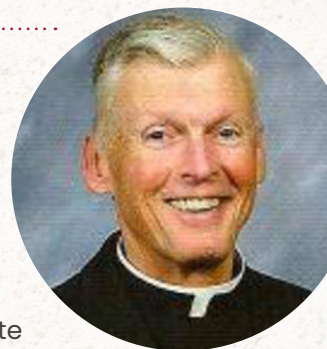
Group photo of Bro. Gregory with BHS students

Bro. Gregory Coyne, OSB and members of the **BHS Pro-Life Club** helped to distribute two large cases of baby supplies and gift cards collected by members of the Catholic chapel community at **Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base in St. Marys, Georgia** who heard about the efforts of Bro. Gregory and his uncle Dan Coyne to offer support to pregnant women who are considering an abortion at the Preterm facility on Shaker Boulevard.

Bro. Gregory's Pro-Life student helpers on the sidewalk on Shaker Boulevard (l-r): Ian D'Costa and BHS students **Paul Karboski, Dominic Heskamp, Cathleen Coyne (Bro. Gregory's sister), David O'Reilly, Bro. Gregory, Devin Kimbrell, Jalon Goode, Khaleef Ellison, and Bro. Gregory's uncle Dan Coyne**

From June 15-19, **Abbot Gary** and **Fr. Bede** attended the General Chapter of the 19 monasteries of the American Cassinese Benedictine Congregation that met at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota.

Bro. Gregory with boxes of donations



Finally, birthday greetings to **Fr. Anselm Zupka, OSB** who will celebrate his 85th birthday on August 28. He has reported to his classroom to teach German for the 2025-26 academic year as he has since **1964** making him the longest serving faculty member in the history of BHS. This summer, he also welcomed **Fr. Sean Ralph** as the new pastor of **St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Parma** where Fr. Anselm has assisted on weekends since his ordination in 1967. He has now served under all four pastors in the history of the parish and holds the record as the priest in the Diocese of Cleveland who has celebrated Mass continuously for the most years at the same parish.



Preserving the Slovak Institute into the Future

Written By: Father Michael Brunovsky

Did you know that the largest repository of reference materials on Slovakia is located right on the Benedictine Campus?

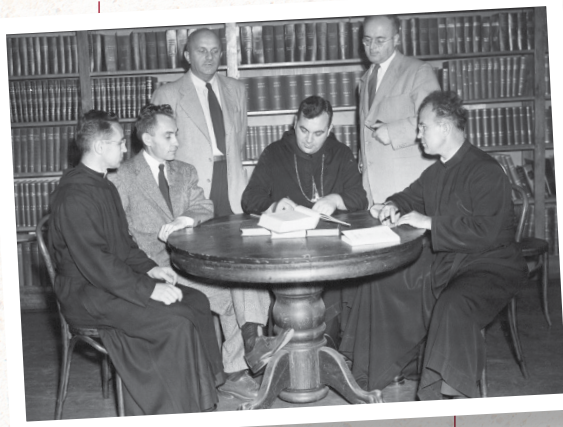
Well, it is absolutely true! Known as the Slovak Institute and Research Library, this institution has an international reputation. The beginnings of the collection go back to 1936, when members of the Academy of Slovak National Culture (Matica Slovenská) visited Cleveland and presented to the monastic community several hundred volumes of newly published Slovak literature. Over the years, this collection continued to grow and received a huge boost with the immigration of several Slovak intellectuals to the United States after the Second World War and the subsequent Communist takeover of Czechoslovakia in 1948.

In 1952, the Slovak Institute and Research Library was officially founded through the auspices of Abbot Theodore Kojis, OSB and Rev. Andrew Pier, OSB together with a handful of Slovak intellectual emigres that

made their home in Cleveland. These personalities were Dr. Francis Hrušovský, Dr. Joseph Cincik, Rev. Dr. Nicholas Šprinc, and Dr. Karol Strmen. The connections these men made cemented relationships with other exiled Slovaks throughout the world and created a repository for many Slovak literary, artistic, and religious works that were forbidden during the Communist regime.

In 2024, BHS President David Schroeder outlined a new plan for the renovation of several facilities on the Benedictine campus. Apart from re-purposing the abbey library, a proposition was made to renovate and rejuvenate the Slovak Institute. Apart from renewed and refurbished headquarters, plans also call for a re-assessment and re-cataloguing of the Institute's holdings with an eye to include digitization for online access and preservation of original materials,

many of which are aged more than a century. "Preservation of these materials is paramount," commented Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB, "therefore the maintenance and development of the Slovak Institute must be a priority if Slovak cultural heritage



Founding of the Slovak Institute, October 1952: Rev. Andrew Pier, OSB, Dr. Karol Strmen, Dr. Francis Hrušovský, Abbot Theodore Kojis, OSB, Dr. Joseph Cincik, Rev. Dr. Nicholas Šprinc.



Matica Slovenska, Representatives in Cleveland, 1936, creating the impetus for the Slovak Institute



Cleveland Mayor Ralph J. Perk with Fr. Andrew Pier, OSB and Andrew F. Hudak Jr., two directors of the Institute.



Director Konstantin Čulen creates presentation on Rev. Joseph Murgaš, early Slovak pioneer of radio telecommunication.



Directors and visitors to the Slovak Institute

is to be preserved in Cleveland." The Institute has become the repository of the personal libraries and papers of many Slovak intellectuals of the past century:

Dr. Francis Hrušovský:
journalist, pedagogue, and historian

Dr. Joseph Cincik:
artist and art historian

Dr. Karol Sidor:
politician, diplomat and Slovak nationalist

Rev. Dr. Nicholas Šprinc:
poet, author and literary critic

Dr. Karol Strmen:
linguist, polyglot and pedagogue

Rev. Dr. Gerald J. Sabo, S.J.:
professor, linguist, and literary critic

In addition to maps, travelogues, photographs, artwork, artifacts, and correspondence, the Slovak Institute has provided many materials to people the world over who have been interested in Slovak culture and heritage.

The Institute has been directed by some of Cleveland's most honorable Slovaks: Dr. Francis Hrušovský, Dr. Konstantin Čulen, Fr. Andrew Pier, OSB, Mr. Andrew F. Hudak Jr. and Joseph Hornack, and currently by Milan Kobulsky, who also directs the Slovak Radio Program in Cleveland.

Recognizing the needs of the Institute into the future, the current renovations will involve the following: 1) New security system to protect collections; 2) new entrance promoting better access for all patrons to the Institute; 3) makeover of the physical plant through refurbished floors, lighting, climate control, and new stack and conference facilities; 4) resources to care for the collections of the Institute and Library; and 5) resources to promote exhibitions of the Institute's holdings for



Rev. Dr. Gerald J. Sabo, S.J.



*Joseph Hornack,
BHS class of 1951*



*Current Director
Milan Kobulsky presents
at the Inauguration of
the Museum of Slovak
Immigration in Žilina,
Slovakia.*

educational purposes and digitalization of its most fragile collections.

Guests to the Slovak Institute come from all around the world. Researchers from Europe and especially Slovakia, as well as the United States and Canada visit and utilize the Institute's resources annually. Since the fall of Communism and the establishment of an independent Slovak Republic in 1993, the Institute has provided materials for the establishment of museums and exhibitions in Slovakia, especially those that chronicle the experiences of Slovak Immigration. Exchanges of resources between the Institute and Slovak cultural historians has increased in the last 25 years, which makes the preservation of its holdings all the more important for people interested in understanding Slovak culture and heritage.

Under the leadership of Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB and Dave Schroeder, President of Benedictine High School, the Slovak Institute is moving into a new and vital phase which is planned to preserve its relevance for all Slovaks, research historians, and students of culture and the social sciences. In a recent visit by Father Michael to the Embassy for the Slovak Republic in Washington, DC, Ambassador Radovan Javorcik expressed support on behalf of the embassy on this project and will work with the Slovak Ministry of Culture to assist in procuring the necessary funds to bring these plans into reality.

Please join us in this great cultural endeavor. Help support the preservation of the Slovak Institute into the future. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law and will be acknowledged on a donor wall in the refurbished Institute research hall. Donations can be sent to:

**Advancement Department
(c/o Slovak Institute)
Benedictine Order of Cleveland
10510 Buckeye Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44104**



*Fr Michael and Ambassador
Javorcik of Slovakia*



Baccalaureate, Awards, and Graduation



As the 2024-2025 academic year came to a close, we proudly celebrated the achievements of our students at the annual Awards Ceremony.

Mr. Benedictine was awarded to **Ryan Kehres**, who gave a heartfelt speech and honored fellow finalists Shane Hopkins, Jerrold Brazelton II, Joe Morse, and Will Misconish.

Awards in academic excellence were led by **Valedictorian Charles Koppitch** (GPA 4.75) and **Salutatorian Shane Hopkins** (GPA 4.73). Class leaders included Jeremy Ade (Juniors), Nathan Weaver (Sophomores), and Ryan Huggins (Freshmen). We recognized 149 Honor Roll students, including 48 with a GPA above 4.0.

National Recognition: **Shane Hopkins** was named a National Merit Finalist; **James Tangen**, a Commended Student.

Military and ROTC Honors: **Shane Hopkins** received his West Point appointment; **Alexander Herr** earned a \$200,000 Naval ROTC scholarship.



Scholarships & Awards

Cleveland Italian Scholarship Club Award	James Yane
Sonny Powall Award	Augie Rosalina James Yane
Heroic Futures Scholarships	Caleb Davis Amir Kabir Adam Jackson Jr. Nathan Majors Ryan Winterich.
Fr. Donald Baydik Award (Benedictine Publications)	Jacob Shean
Fr. Stephen Award (Speech & Debate)	David O'Reilly
Fr. James Award (Senior Scholars)	Ryan Kehres
Fr. Clement Award (Engineering)	Caleb Bartlett
Jack T. Hearn's Award (Music)	Aidan Spear
Fr. Timothy Award (Drama)	Jacob Shean Caleb Bartlett
Fr. Raphael Award (Science)	Nathan Majors
Santilli Award (Science)	Dominic Flauto
Vincent Award (Social Studies)	Cameron Huggins
Fr. Robert Award (Business)	Shane Hopkins
Christian Witness Awards	Were given to 12 students for exemplary faith and character.
Phi Beta Kappa Award	Charles Koppitch
ServeOhio Award	Braylon Rose for over 30 hours of community service
Notre Dame Club Book Award	Cameron Huggins
Kiwanis & Red Cross Scholarships	William Lloyd Joe Morse Mario Mastrandrea Patrick Maher
Governor's Merit Scholarships	Charles Koppitch Jacob Shean

OHSAA Honors

Scholar Athlete	Shane Hopkins
Sportsmanship	Alexander Herr Donovan Valentine
Courageous Student Athlete	Dylan Irelan
State Ethics Award	Coach Bob Kehres '91
Award of Excellence	Jerrold Brazelton II

Faculty & Staff Recognitions

The Smith Family Faculty Grant	Mr. Anthony Backowski
2025 Yearbook Dedication Honor	Dr. Ron Polderman
	Elizabeth Backowski (5 Years)
	Brian Devers '08 (5 Years)
	Rev. Thomas Sanders OSB (5 Years)
	Ken Traben '86 (5 years)
	Anthony DiGeronimo '08 (10 Years)
	Elizabeth Salem (10 Years)
	Michael Stircola '05 (10 years)
	Melissa Hopkins (20 years)
	Dave DiGeronimo '80 (40 years)

Service Awards

Congratulations

to all of our award winners for their incredible accomplishments this year!

Congratulations to
Ryan Kehres,
Mr. Benedictine 2025



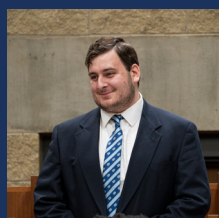
Benedictine High School proudly congratulates **Ryan Kehres** on being named **Mr. Benedictine** for the Class of 2025. This distinguished honor is given each year to a graduating senior who exemplifies the values of Benedictine through leadership, faith, service, and academic commitment.

At a recent alumni reception, Ryan was welcomed into a brotherhood of past honorees who have also carried this title with pride. Among them was his uncle, **Jim Kehres '90**, who was named Mr. Benedictine 35 years ago. Their shared legacy is a testament to the enduring impact of the Benedictine experience across generations.

Ryan's integrity, humility, and dedication to the Benedictine mission have made him a role model for his peers and a true Man of Benedictine. We are proud to celebrate him and the tradition he now carries forward.

Lighting the Way: Will Lloyd '25 Blends Tech, Theater, and Leadership

Written By: Lynne Schroeder



Growing up in Lyndhurst and later Highland Heights, Will Lloyd has always been drawn to taking things apart — literally. At a

young age, he and his dad would disassemble computers just to figure out how they worked. That natural curiosity turned into a passion for information technology and ultimately led him to serve as Benedictine's go-to student IT expert for three years.

Will's path to Benedictine wasn't guided by trophies or titles, but by a school that took the time to know him personally. "The focus was on me — my goals and growth — not just what the school had achieved," Will says. Benedictine's supportive environment pushed him to step out of his comfort zone and into new experiences that would shape his future.



One of Will's proudest contributions was helping bring Benedictine's Drama Club back to life. From learning the intricacies of stage lighting to working with Ms. Westfield on powerful performances like *12 Angry Men*, Will discovered a love for theater. That love was sparked, fittingly, by a bit of extra credit from Mr. Miller, who tied the play into his U.S. Government class.

Will's behind-the-scenes work has made a visible impact — literally. He helped upgrade the auditorium's sound and lighting systems and developed customized messaging for digital screens across campus. His role supporting Mr. Salem in the IT department helped streamline systems and strengthen Benedictine's professional image. That dedication even led to a summer IT position with Mr. Schroeder following graduation.

"I had Will in my Python class, where he stood out not only for his technical skills but for his willingness to support his classmates. It was clear even then that he had a strong work ethic and a collaborative spirit. Will was a dedicated team member who consistently went above and beyond. He volunteered with the IT department throughout both his junior and senior years, always focused on delivering excellent customer service and strengthening the reliability and security of our network. His contributions made a real difference, and he was a pleasure to work with."

- Richard Salem



Outside the tech booth, Will is a leader. He's served as NHS President, a tech advisor for the Bennet, BSNB

Broadcast team, a member of Key Club, and a player on the soccer team. Each role reflects his core belief: "Benedictine is what you make of it. Put in the effort, and you'll get a strong return — new experiences, friendships, and a solid education."

Will is headed to Saint Vincent College in the fall to study Management Information Systems with a minor in Business. He hopes to stay involved in drama, blending his technical skills with his creative spirit.

His advice to prospective Bengals and underclassmen is simple: "Get involved. Join the clubs. Try something new. Have fun — because these four years go fast."



History Repeats Itself

Vocational Education at Benedictine

Written By: Lynne Schroeder

During preparations for the centennial celebration of Saint Andrew Abbey in 2022, **Fr. James Flint, OSB**, the archivist of **Saint Procopius Abbey** in Lisle, Illinois, from where the Cleveland Benedictines came, provided a number of original letters from the 1920's between **Abbot Valentine Kohlbeck, OSB**, who was the abbot of St. Procopius Abbey at the time and the first monks he sent to Cleveland especially **Fr. (later Abbot) Stanislaus Gmuca, OSB** who served as the first superior.

In one letter dated December 28, 1923 (four years before BHS began), Abbot Valentine questioned Fr. Stanislaus about the viability of starting a high school in Cleveland because of the competition from existing Catholic schools. He wrote, *"It would appear to me that a high school would be more easily maintained in Youngstown than in Cleveland where it would (be in competition) with Cathedral Latin and St. Ignatius."* That was advice that was never heeded.

After he was elected abbot of the Cleveland monks in 1934, Abbot Stanislaus decided that Benedictine High School needed something to make it stand out as different from the existing Catholic high schools in Cleveland. After 15 years, the enrollment stood at **300** when the new main classroom building was dedicated in 1940. At the direction of Abbot Stanislaus, the new building included an **industrial machine shop, the only such department in any of the Catholic high schools in the diocese of Cleveland.** In September of 1940, the First Catholic Slovak Union donated \$13,000 at its national convention in Pittsburgh to Abbot Stanislaus to furnish and equip the BHS machine shop.

Thirty students made up the first enrollment in the new BHS technical department in September of 1940.

The two faculty members in the new vocation shop were **Mr. Clement Strohmeier**, an experienced machinist, and **Fr. Daniel Novak, OSB** who also had technical training. The machine shop was located in the main classroom building and, ironically, was able to enlarge its space after the famous November 1, 1940 boiler explosion because of walls that collapsed.

With the outbreak of **World War II**, it became difficult to buy new machines for the industrial machine shop. However, Mr. Strohmeier worked tirelessly to purchase and rebuild used machines and within two years, the school newspaper was able to write **"The BHS machine shop can now boast one of the greatest varieties of machines in the entire city."** The quality of work produced

by Benedictine's vocational students caused a large defense plant in 1942 to offer an actual contract to the school to aid in the nation's war effort. Benedictine

remained the only Catholic high school in Cleveland with a machine shop. Many seniors were able to get hired for part-time jobs by local manufacturing companies.



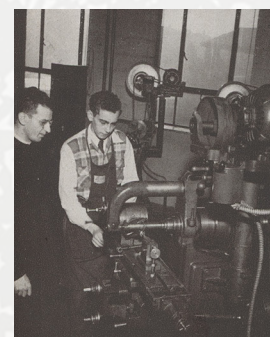
Upper left - A. Bariko, Mr. C. Strohmeier, Instructor, R. Arth, F. Uspcak, J. Ivanicky, F. Bud J. Sepich, Father Daniel, O.S.B., G. Matoschek, W. Wilk, J. Prokop, R. Stoffko. Lower right - Mr. Strohmeier, and the Rt. Rev. Abbot Stanislaus.

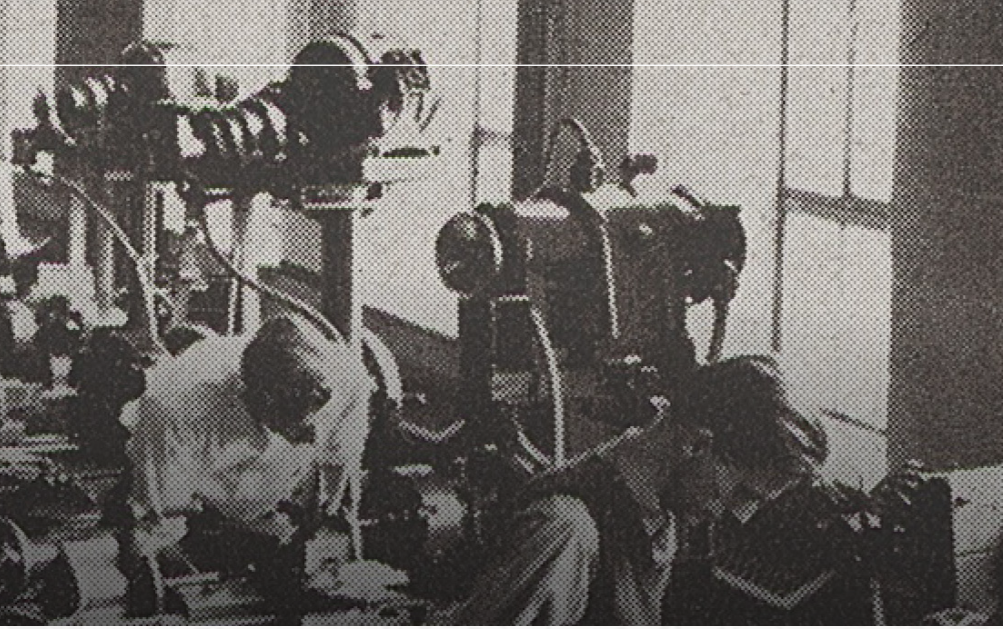
30 Enroll For Machine Shop

The technical department of Benedictine has begun instructions this semester for some thirty odd students who intend to take up the machinist's trade after graduation. Classes for the first week have been confined to lectures on the operation and mechanical makeup of the ma-

Badminton Ext Be Staged Mar

Come one, come a What? you ask. A bison tournament will in our gymnasium, 11. Such noted pla Atchinson, present and Di Leone, the "ard Nichols, who hold the present "ampionship; Wal "erward: Schroeder





SCHOOL MACHINE SHOP AIDS IN U.S. WAR EFFORT

Falling in step with the nation's war effort, the machine shop at Benedictine began this summer by receiving a contract from a large defense plant to make small parts for further assembly in the larger firm.

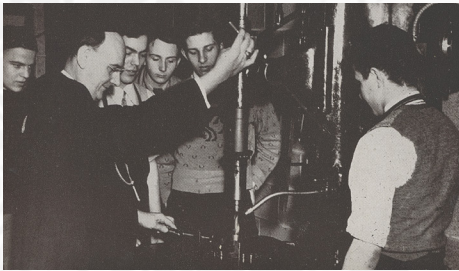
A number of machine shop students were hired to assist Mr. Clem Strohmeier and Father Daniel in completing the contract satisfactorily. Mr. Strohmeier insisted that a strict censorship be maintained regarding the tools produced.

This contract will provide and help supply the maintenance of the shop.

Its specifications were not revealed by either of the shop instructors.

The machine shop was introduced into the curriculum when the new school was built. Though it had a small beginning, it soon took gigantic strides towards building up its equipment and the quality of work produced.

Thus far, the machine shop can boast that not one injury to any of its personnel or students has been recorded, even though the school obtains releases before allowing boys to work.



Abbot Stanislaus's idea did make Benedictine unique among the Catholic high schools in the Cleveland diocese. **By 1948, the enrollment reached 1,000 students.** In 1952, a donation from Cleveland Archbishop Edward F. Hoban enabled BHS to expand the industrial arts building to to four times its original size and be centralized in one building. During the sixteen years of its existence, the BHS Industrial Arts Department included technical skills like electricity, woodwork, operating drill presses, lathes, printing, and welding.

Also in the 1940's a unique **aeronautics department** was started with classes taught by **Fr. Emeric Kovach, OSB** and **Fr. Gregory Oravec, OSB** both of whom earned their private pilot licenses. Classes included the theory of flight, meteorology, navigation, and plane maintenance.

In 1952, a **weather tower** was constructed on the northwest corner of the roof of the main classroom building. The technical expertise of the aeronautics program showed students how to forecast weather eight hours in advance. A workshop and laboratory were added to allow students to gain experience in radio navigation and aerodynamics. The U.S. government granted BHS the status of an official government weather reporting station.

By the mid-1950's a new emphasis in secondary education was put on the

need for **math and science** as the space race to land a man on the moon intensified between the United States and Russia. Technical programs receded as college prep curriculum grew. Benedictine dropped its machine shop in 1956, but the concept and compatibility of preparing students for the trades would find new life in the approaching decades of the new millennium.

As times changed, many schools pivoted away from trade programs in favor of a stronger emphasis on college preparatory curriculum. Benedictine certainly embraced academic rigor and expanded our college credit opportunities — but we never lost sight of the truth that not all paths look the same.

Today, we find ourselves at another pivotal moment.

The modern workforce is facing a growing demand for skilled laborers — electricians, machinists, computer technicians, builders, and more. These roles are essential to the infrastructure and innovation of our nation, and they offer stable, high-paying careers. Meanwhile, students and families are seeking options that reflect both their values and their vocational callings. Once again, the trades are not seen as an alternative to success — but as a path to it.

That is why Benedictine is reintroducing vocational education through the Pathways initiative which is part of the broader Beacon Program.

This new approach doesn't look like the woodshops of yesterday — though its spirit is just as hands-on. Pathways will include immersive, future-ready experiences such as virtual reality simulations, industry-specific certifications, and strategic partnerships with local businesses, unions, and training programs. Whether a student is drawn to engineering, digital design, construction, health sciences, or one of many emerging fields, he will be supported with a customized plan that prepares him for life after high school.



Benedictine High School remains committed to forming the whole person. That means nurturing spiritual growth, academic excellence, and practical skill. It means honoring tradition while embracing innovation. And it means recognizing that a Benedictine education must be nimble, responsive, and inclusive of all the gifts that the students of today bring to the table.

Benedictine's return to vocational education isn't a trend. It's a return to our roots — **a reaffirmation of the belief that all work has dignity when done with purpose, craftsmanship, and heart.** Like the vision of Abbot Stanislaus in 1940, these new curriculum initiatives are once again preparing young men to become the builders, thinkers, and leaders the world so urgently needs.

Past Mr. Benedictine recipients extend a heartfelt welcome to Ryan Kehres.



Reunion Weekend

Brings Over 150 Alumni Back to Benedictine

We were proud to welcome more than 150 alumni back to Benedictine during Reunion Weekend for a memorable Stag Night celebration.

This special evening honored milestone reunion classes ending in '0 and '5, bringing together generations of Bengals to reconnect, reminisce, and celebrate their enduring bond with our school. The energy, brotherhood, and shared pride in Benedictine's mission made for a powerful night that reminds us all — once a Bengal, always a Bengal.





Over 120 Gather to Celebrate 2025 Benedictine High School Halls of Excellence

More than 120 alumni, family, and friends came together for the 2025 Halls of Excellence Celebration, honoring this year's newest inductees into the Hall of Fame, Hall of Honors, and Hall of Distinction. Each honoree reflects the spirit of Benedictine — faithful, disciplined, and committed to leading lives of purpose and service.



Among those recognized were poet and Fulbright Scholar **James Shea '94**, NFL linebacker **Jerome Baker '15**, all-time basketball points leader **Cameron Wright '10**, standout athlete **Terry Modzelewski '78**, NASA engineer and global sports advocate **Dr. John P. Gyekenyesi '57**, and legendary educator and coach **Dr. Frank "Doc" Bossu '67**. Their diverse accomplishments represent the very best of the Benedictine tradition — excellence grounded in character and brotherhood.

We are proud to honor these Men of Benedictine and grateful for the enduring legacy they carry forward from the *Home of Champions*.



National Honor Society (NHS)

This spring, we proudly inducted **29 students** from the classes of 2025, 2026, and 2027 into our National Honor Society (NHS) Bennet Chapter.

NHS is founded on four core pillars — scholarship, service, leadership, and character — which serve as both a guiding standard for its members and an inspiring example for the entire student body.

We would like to thank our keynote speaker and NHS member, Mr. Joseph Rosalina '91, for speaking to our gathered family, faculty, staff, and Men of Benedictine. He encouraged these young men to continue to take on the mantle of leadership and to let the knowledge and ethics learned here guide them in their futures.

Please join us in congratulating the following students who were celebrated in Benedictine's 2025 NHS induction ceremony:

Class of 2025 Inductee(s):

Ethan Fliegel • Thaddeus Harris • Dylan Irelan • Bryce Meitin • William Misconish • Joseph Pomnean • Agostino Rosalina • Nicholas Tripodi • James Yane

Class of 2026 Inductee(s):

Luca Bucci • Luke Carlton • Lucas Dolan • Matthew Furst • Daniel Joyce • Maximus Loeser • Sean O'Connell • Nathaniel Queener • John Reed • Braylon Rose • Mason Rzepka • Patrick Shea

Class of 2027 Inductee(s)

Zachary Ade • Jacob Bales • Ezekiel Bartlett • Caleb Gianzero • Patrick Lloyd • Owen Slemc • Donald Stewart • Matthew Wilson

To be nominated for Benedictine's NHS, candidates must be either a sophomore (spring eligibility only), junior, or senior (fall and spring eligibility) and maintain the scholarship baseline of at least a 3.2 cumulative GPA. If invited to apply for membership, candidates must also:

- ▶ demonstrate leadership,
- ▶ participate in extracurricular activities
- ▶ participate in community service,
- ▶ participate in work (volunteer or paid).

Fall Enrichment

Open to all current 7th & 8th grade students!



Benedictine High School is offering English and math enrichment for current 7th and 8th graders this fall! Students will have the opportunity to work with Benedictine's English and math teachers to build upon foundational skills in each subject.



We are offering two sessions per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays until October 29th (15 sessions total). If you have any questions about the program, please contact our Beacon Program Director, **Brian Stephenson**, at stephenson@cbhs.edu.

Start Date: September 9, 2025
Time: 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm
Location: Benedictine High School
Registration: <https://forms.gle/gZvgurPyHacjNxnD6>

Cost: **\$100**

HSPT Prep I & II

Prepare for the High School Placement Test with High School Instructors

HSPT PREP I (3 Sessions)

Date: September 20, 2025
 September 27, 2025
 October 4, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

\$105 (prep Only)

\$125
(with HSPT on 11/12/25)

HSPT PREP II (3 Sessions)

Date: October 25, 2025
 November 1, 2025
 November 8, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

\$105 (prep Only)

\$125
(with HSPT on 10/11/25)

Registration: <https://forms.gle/gZvgurPyHacjNxnD6>

For questions, please contact our Beacon Program Director, **Brian Stephenson**, at stephenson@cbhs.edu.



SPRING SPORTS

RECAP

District Title: Jackson Stoltz '25, Jerrold Brazelton '25, and Joe Morse '25, celebrate a district title win over NDCL in Louisville, Ohio. Photo by Brian Devers '08.

Baseball

The Benedictine Baseball team had its most successful playoff run since 2019, advancing to the Regional Championship vs Perkins. They did it with pitching, defense, and timely hitting. They defeated NDCL to take the District Title in a 4-1 matchup with stellar pitching from **Robert Scoville '25** and **Ethan Haug '25**. They traveled to Bowling Green University a week later and defeated Napoleon 3-0 on the back of a Scoville complete game shutout and great defense and hitting from left fielder **Michael Grobelny '26**.

Jerrold Brazelton '25 and **Jaylen Brazelton '25** provided clutch hitting and solid defense throughout the playoffs

and both will play college baseball at Walsh University. Senior **Joe Morse '25** was key in the early playoff wins and provided run scoring and defense throughout the playoff run. **Jackson Stoltz '25** played a key role in centerfield, batted lead-off, and was dependable at the plate and on defense. The Bengals lost to eventual state runners-up in Perkins, 10-4, in the Regional Championship.

Thank you to seniors Scoville, Haug, both Brazeltons, Morse, Stoltz, **Shane Hopkins**, and **Mario Mastrandrea** for leaving your mark on Benedictine Baseball!

Regional Runner-up Team, From left to right: (1st Row):

Patrick Maher '25, Joe Morse '25, Jerrold Brazelton '25, Robert Scoville '25, Jackson Stoltz '25, Ethan Haug '25, Mario Mastrandrea '25, Jaylen Brazelton '25, Shane Hopkins '25, Coach Jason Prevesk '96, Elliot Traben '26, Patrick Lloyd '27, Coach Anthony DiGeronimo '08, August Swetel '27, Jeremiah Brassfield '27, Shepard Charlton '26, Coach Mike Stircula '05, Zachary Ade '27, Coach Frederick Brown '16, Jeremy Ade '26, Ben Schear '26, Michael Grobelny '26, Coach Zach Walker '12, Danny Joyce '26, Owen Slemc '27, Head Coach John Ellis, Anthony Vitantonio '27, Coach and Rick Stoltz '96



Track



Donovan Valentine '25, crossing the 100m finish line at a cold and rainy District Meet at Perry High School. Photo by Johan Serrano '25

The Benedictine Track and Field team saw mild success at Districts, with the 4x1 and 4x2 advancing to the district finals but ultimately sent no representation to Regionals. Thank you to seniors **Tito Wilson, Carmello Jones, Joseph Pomnean, Ryan Kehres, and Donovan Valentine** for your leadership and contributions to Track and Field.

Lacrosse

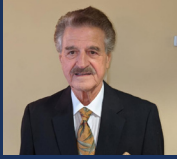
The Benedictine Lacrosse team showed improvement with some close results this season but finished with a 3-14 record. They earned a playoff win, 4-2, over Elyria Catholic, at home on Bossu Field but lost to Olmsted Falls the next round to end their season.

The Bengals graduated 14 seniors in this tight-knit group. **Antonio Torres '25, Athanasius Fischer '25** and **Thaddeus Harris '25** will go on to play lacrosse in college. Athanasius Fischer will play at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, PA, and coincidentally, Thaddeus Harris and Antonio Torres will play at the University of Mount Saint Vincent in New York City.



Senior Night, from left to right- Finn Titas '25, James Tangen '25, Johan Serrano '25, Will Hall '25, Thaddeus Harris '25, DeChaun Mathis '25, Dylan Irelan '25, Lex Herr '25, Ethan Fliegel '25, Gabe Heskamp '25, Michael Duckworth '25, Athanasius Fischer '25, Antonio Torres '25, and Noah Whisler '25. Photo by Brian Devers '08

Class of 1960



Joe Piazza '60 has been inducted into the 2025 National Barber Hall of Fame, honoring his 65-year career of innovation, mentorship, and leadership in the barbering industry. From opening his first barbershop at age 19 to pioneering industry standards, Joe credits his Benedictine education as the foundation of his success. Congratulations, Joe — your Bengal pride continues to inspire!

Class of 1963

Joseph L. Chabail '63 and his wife, **Anna Marie**, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in January 2025. Parents of four and grandparents to seven, with three great-grandsons, the Chabails have built a life centered on faith, family, and service. Joe coached youth sports, taught PSR, and spent a decade as a school principal. He retired from PSR ministry in 2024 but continues to serve in Bereavement Ministry, having earned certification through the Diocese of Cleveland. A Eucharistic Minister since 1972, Joe co-founded The Olive Branch Catholic bookstore and operated Cougar Pickup and Delivery Service until 2016. He also holds a Pastoral Ministry certificate from Notre Dame College. Joe remains devoted to living out his Catholic faith through lifelong service.

Class of 1971



Class of 1971 Keeps Tradition Alive — Rain or Shine! Though Mother Nature had other plans for the Class of '71's June golf outing — canceling the day's round at Gleneagles due to rain — it didn't

stop classmates from coming together. Members of the class gathered for dinner at Blue Canyon in Twinsburg on Saturday, June 14, enjoying great food and even better company. While not all the golfers made it to dinner, the camaraderie remained strong as the group met to reconnect and share stories. The next golf outing is set for August at Manakiki — they'll be hoping for sunnier skies!

Class of 2008



Anthony DiGeronimo '08 married Elizabeth George on December 27, 2024. Groomsmen in the wedding were also Mike Stircula '05, Matt Karpoff '08, Kevin Marcinick '08, and Nick DiGeronimo '14.

Class of 1978

Dr. Gregory Ward '78 was invited by the NFL Commissioner to speak to the NFL Players Association about his groundbreaking work using chess to aid in brain injury recovery. His lecture, "Checkmating Brain Injury," highlighted how strategic thinking and memory exercises from chess can support neuro rehabilitation for athletes.



Class of 1990



Matt Joyce '90 had the honor of ringing the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange with his HF Sinclair colleagues, celebrating 20 years of the company being publicly traded. As President of one of its global divisions, Matt helps lead efforts to supply products and ingredients to over 80 countries.

Class of 1991

Paul Tomko '91 serves as President of Cleveland Restaurant Management Group, working alongside Marc Glassman (of Marc's fame) and a team of seasoned restaurateurs to build one of Northeast Ohio's fastest-growing portfolios. Included are some familiar names such as Manhattan Deli in Willoughby, D'Italia in Westlake and Lopez 44 in Chagrin Falls. Tomko credits his leadership role to a collaborative spirit and deep business expertise.

Class of 1998

Walter Morris III '98 has been officially accepted into the Diaconate formation program for the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. With the support of his wife Melissa (Beaumont '95) and inspired by mentors from his Benedictine years, Walter is answering the call to serve. He credits his Benedictine foundation — and the guidance of Bishop Roger, Abbot Gary, and Fr. Michael — as instrumental on his path.

Class of 2013



Michael Cancelliere '13 is excited to share the news of his engagement to Lily Eisen of Shaker Heights. Lily is the daughter of Dr. Matthew Eisen and Dr. Terry Tobias. Michael is

the son of Mr. Blair Cancelliere and the late Jill Cancelliere, of blessed memory. Lily works in product licensing, and Michael is a real estate agent. The two met online and have enjoyed every moment together since their first date in person. They're looking forward to this next chapter as they build a life filled with love, family, and community.

Class of 2024

Deon Algee '24 was awarded the BRIDGE Reception Award by Drexel's LeBow BRIDGE program, recognizing his academic excellence, leadership, and commitment to building a strong, inclusive community. He also received LeBow's Rising Star Award, which celebrates first year students who demonstrate early leadership, active engagement, and a meaningful impact both in and out of the classroom.



Shean Legacy – A Brotherhood of Benedictine Men — Four brothers, one tradition. **Tyler '22, Jacob '25, Tim '17, and Joe '16** celebrated the youngest **Shean** brother's graduation from the Home of Champions.

Athletic Youth Camps



Benedictine's athletic youth camps are an exciting and growing tradition that welcome young athletes to campus year-round. These camps provide more than just skill development — they offer a first-hand experience of the Brotherhood that defines Benedictine. Led by our dedicated coaching staff and supported by current student-athletes, each camp is designed to build confidence, foster teamwork, and inspire the next generation of Bengals. They also serve as an important touchpoint for student recruitment, giving families a glimpse into the values and spirit that set our community apart.

One of the most anticipated events is the Jerome Baker '15 Youth Football Camp. Hosted by Benedictine alumnus and current Cleveland Browns linebacker Jerome Baker '15, this camp gives young players the rare chance to learn from a pro who once wore the same blue and white. Jerome's return to Benedictine is not only a homecoming — it's a reminder of the excellence that begins here and extends far beyond graduation. Whether it's a child's first time on campus or the continuation of a family tradition, these camps leave a lasting impression on all who attend.

In Memoriam

of alumni and friends of Saint Andrew Abbey
and Benedictine High School

Jack Coyne, 94, of the Class of 1949 passed away on Good Friday, April 18, 2025. Jack came to Benedictine from Parmadale Children's Village in Parma as a residential student who lived at the abbey for four years. He went on to earn degrees in both accounting and law from the University of Notre Dame. He practiced



law in Cleveland for over six decades specializing in banking, real estate, and estate planning. Jack helped to build one of the nation's largest parking companies, Coyne-Kangesser Parking. He was very active in Irish-American affairs. He was married to his late wife Mary for 67 years. His funeral Mass was celebrated at Gesu Church.

Eleanor Mae Smiley, 96, of Solon died on April 23, 2025. She was the beloved wife of Raymond for 73 years, whose career in accounting culminated as chief financial officer of Bearings, Inc. When Ray joined the Abbey Financial Advisory Board in the 1980's, he and Eleanor became acquainted with the work of Benedictine High School which they soon included in their generous financial support of Catholic education. They and members of their family have been particularly involved in the annual Blue and White Gala. Eleanor's funeral Mass was celebrated at the Church of the Resurrection in Solon.



Timothy Xavier Lang, 61, of the Class of 1982 died May 6, 2025 in Cleveland Heights. He was the husband of Jennifer and the father of Emily, Stephen, Owen, and Brendan. At Benedictine, Tim was a starting offensive guard on the 1981 State Championship football team. He worked as a Marketing Associate at Sysco. His funeral Mass was celebrated at Saint Ann Church of Communion of Saints Parish.



Edward L. Sanders, Jr., 63, of the Class of 1979 passed away in Plano, Texas on February 7, 2025 as reported in the Spring Ora. He was the first African-American valedictorian and Mr. Benedictine. Through a Naval ROTC scholarship, Edward attended the Massachusetts Institute



of Technology's Sloan School of Management. Over the years he worked at Procter and Gamble as a Process Improvement Specialist and later at Adobe Systems, Inc. and also taught part time at the university level. He was part of a team of engineers that developed Adobe Acrobat 1.0 and the PDF format in 1993. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Vanessa, and two daughters. His memorial service took place at Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church in Cleveland.

Anthony Matijevic, 50, of the Class of 1992, died on April 11, 2025. He was pictured in the previous issue of this magazine at his BHS classmates' annual get together in December. He is survived by his wife of 17 years, Sandy, his children Ava and Mia, and his parents. He served the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department as a detective and previously as a police officer for the City of Eastlake. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, he proudly served as a safety officer for over 25 years. His funeral Mass was celebrated at Divine Word Catholic Church in Kirtland, Ohio.



Edward J. Martin II, 86, of the Class of 1956 passed away on June 1, 2025. He was the husband of the late Maryellen and father of four. After graduating from BHS, he studied at Case Institute of Technology and the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he earned his doctorate degree. His career included work as a consulting environmental engineer and the author and reviewer of technical textbooks. In 1969, he served as the Director of the Clean Water Task Force for the City of Cleveland. His funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Helen's Catholic Church in Newbury Township.





Robert Kopco, 71, of the Class of 1971, passed away on March 31, 2025. He was the son of BHS alumnus Joe Kopco '40 and brother of William '74 and James '79. His wife Virginia "Dee" died in 2000. At Benedictine, he was a member of the band and played tennis. After earning a degree in Business from John Carroll University, he worked in retail as an auditor, in finance, and at the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota) retiring in 2022. He learned to play the drums in his father's polka band and for many years was a member of the Johnny Pastirik Combo. He was active in many Slovak organizations. His funeral Mass was celebrated at Assumption Church in Broadview Heights.

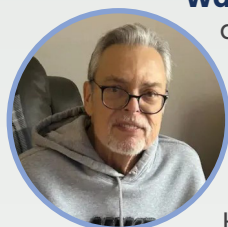


Michael Jeter, 69, of the Class of 1973 passed away on February 15, 2025. After graduating from BHS, he continued his education at Baldwin Wallace College and Howard Law School. He worked for the federal government for many years as an attorney for EEOC, Department of the Interior, Department of Justice, and Assistant United States Attorney. He also taught at Baldwin Wallace as an adjunct professor before opening his own law firm in Maryland. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Brenda and two children and 6 grandchildren.

Fr. (Charles) Edward Hawkins, 77, of Boca Raton, Florida died on May 8, 2025. A native of Youngstown, Ohio and an alumnus of Cardinal Mooney High School, he professed his first vows as a Benedictine monk of St. Andrew Abbey in 1974 and was ordained a priest in 1978. He joined the faculty of Benedictine High School and served as vice-principal and first Director of the Development Office. In 1986, he was released from his monastic vows and incardinated as a diocesan priest in the newly-created Diocese of Palm Beach, Florida. He served there as chancellor and vicar general and later as pastor at Ascension Church in Boca Raton where his funeral Mass was celebrated.



Wayne Bacik, 73, of the Class of 1970, died on May 14, 2025 in Roscommon, Michigan. Wayne was a standout athlete at BHS in baseball, basketball, and football and was elected Mr. Benedictine. Later he was inducted into the BHS Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019. He continued his academic and sports development at Hiram College where he met his wife of over 50 years, Janice Marie Kovar. For nearly 30 years he worked as a cost analyst at LTV Steel in Cleveland. He was also very involved with coaching CYO football teams. In the past two decades, Wayne and Janice both dealt with health problems. He is survived by his wife, his three children including son Todd, a BHS alumnus '97, and four siblings including Robert and Fr. Leonard Bacik.



RECENTLY DECEASED

The following members of our Benedictine Community have gone on to Eternal Rest between March 1, 2025 and June 27, 2025. May they rest in peace.

Class Of	Name	Deceased
1946	William McKinley	4/7/2025
1946	Ray Grasberger	5/5/2025
1948	Richard Riha	5/11/2025
1949	Jack Coyne	4/18/2025
1950	James Kvoriak	6/4/2025
1952	Robert Ponchak	3/17/2025
1953	Charles Suhay	5/24/2025
1954	Richard Cesen	3/12/2025
1954	Frank Semancik	4/29/2025
1956	Edward Martin	6/1/2025
1957	Raymond J. Martin	6/25/2025
1958	James Frijouf	5/16/2025
1960	Ellis Klenotic	5/2/2025
1961	Gerald Szweda	3/15/2025
1961	John Matuska	3/27/2025
1962	David Zubelik	3/19/2025
1962	John Hartman	5/20/2025
1962	Richard Gordyan	6/26/2025
1963	Philip Fulgenzi	5/4/2025
1964	Kenneth Kocab	4/28/2025
1970	Wayne Bacik	5/14/2025
1971	Robert Kopco	3/21/2025
1973	Michael Jeter	2/15/2025
1979	Edward L. Sanders, Jr.	2/7/2025
1982	Timothy Lang	5/6/2025
1992	Tony Matijevic	4/11/2025
2014	Matthew Whelan	5/16/2025
BHS Friend	Mary Buynak	3/3/2025
BHS Friend	Ronald Willkomm	3/15/2025
BHS Friend	Eleanor Smiley	4/23/2025
BHS Friend	Fr. Edward Hawkins	5/8/2025
BHS Friend	Marlene Nottage-Harvey	6/23/2025

If anyone knows of other recently deceased alumni or friends, please contact the alumni office at **216-421-2080 ext. 342** or **alumni@cbhs.edu**.



The 10th Annual Joe Marino Memorial Golf Outing was once again a success, despite some light rain throughout the day.

Bishop Roger Gries began the outing by leading prayer with Ally Marino beautifully singing the Star Spangled Banner. Many friends of the Marino Family and Benedictine High School came together once again to raise money for the High Top Scholarship, which sponsors our Marino Scholars.

After the golfing was completed, Principal Dominic Fanelli introduced some of the Marino Scholars to the gathered sponsors. The 8 Marino Scholars receive an annual scholarship thanks to the generous support of the attendees and sponsors of this event. The outing has raised over \$300,000 since the scholarship's inception.

Thank you to all who attended the Joe Marino Golf Outing!

SAVE THE DATE

Reunion Weekend 2026

June 12-13, 2026

We look forward to celebrating the 1's and 6's at Stag Night on Friday, June 12. To assist in the planning for your respective class, please contact alumni@cbhs.edu

2021

2016

2011

2006

2001

1996

1991

1986

1981

1976

1971

1966

1961

1956

1951

1946

Dear Benedictine Community,

We are filled with gratitude as we reflect on the tremendous philanthropic support Benedictine High School and St. Andrew Abbey has received over the past year. Your generosity and commitment have made a profound difference in the lives of our students, monks, faculty, and the entire school community. Thanks to your participation, we have experienced one of our most successful years yet in terms of giving!

The **Annual Fund** is the cornerstone of our advancement efforts and plays a critical role in every aspect of our mission, both at the high school and in the abbey. Contributions to the Annual Fund directly support academic programs, campus ministry, student financial aid, faculty development, athletics, and the ongoing maintenance and improvement of our facilities. Your gifts help us uphold the high standards of a Benedictine education while making it accessible to deserving students from all backgrounds.

And, for our monks, the gifts aid in daily living expenses, advancing in educational opportunities, healthcare, and retirement.

Beyond financial support, your participation sends a powerful message to our current students: that they are part of a larger, lifelong brotherhood and community that believes in the importance of their education.

As we are six weeks into our fiscal year and with another class of 90+ freshmen continuing to get acclimated to our rich tradition and history, we kindly seek your thoughtful consideration to invest in our young men and our important mission. Your gift to the **Annual Fund** will allow a current (and/or prospective) student to participate in an unmatched experience which ultimately will become life-changing.

I invite you to visit campus to see this firsthand. Please contact me at lorber@cbhs.edu to enjoy seeing our progression, as well as meeting with some of our students who benefit from your philanthropic spirit.

Yours in St. Benedict,

Mr. Chris Lorber '04
Chief Operating Officer



Make your annual gift to support the Benedictine mission here!



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benedictine
High School

Blue & White GALA

SATURDAY
MARCH 14TH, 2026
6:00 PM

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OH 44124

