

ORA ET LABORA



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

Fall 2026



*Benedictine
High School
graduating
class of 1934*



*St. Andrew's
Monks ~ 1933*

**A Century Of Tradition.
A Future Of Innovation.**

bhs100
1927 - 2027

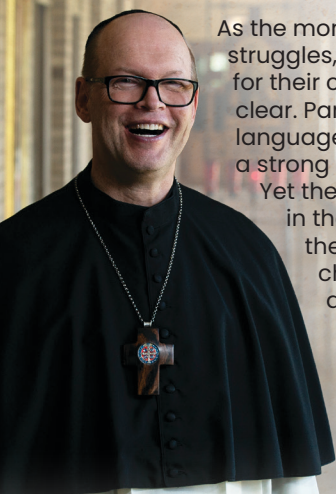
EVERY JOURNEY OF FAITH BEGINS WITH A CALL

Throughout Sacred Scripture, God calls ordinary men and women to accomplish extraordinary things. Abraham left his homeland without knowing where the journey would lead. Moses returned to Egypt despite his fears. The prophets trusted God's promises even when the future remained uncertain. Peter stepped from the safety of the boat only because Christ invited him to come.

Each journey began the same way—with God's call and a person's willingness to respond. The Benedictine story also began with God's call.

More than one hundred years ago, a small group of Benedictine monks heard God's invitation to begin a new chapter of monastic life in Cleveland. They left behind the familiar rhythms of their established community at St. Procopius Abbey in Chicago, Illinois, not because that life lacked meaning, but because God was asking them to help begin something new in Cleveland, Ohio. They could not foresee all that God would accomplish through their generous "yes." They simply trusted that the Lord who had called them would continue to guide them.

As the Benedictine community became established in Cleveland, the monks devoted themselves to serving the Slovak immigrant families who had entrusted themselves to their pastoral care. Many of these families had left behind their homeland, loved ones, familiar customs, and all that had once given shape to their daily life.



As the monks came to know the hopes, the struggles, and the dreams these families held for their children, one need became increasingly clear. Parents wanted their sons to learn the language and culture of a new country, receive a strong education, and prepare for a better life. Yet they also wanted them to remain rooted in the Catholic faith that had sustained them through sacrifice, hardship, and change. Young men needed more than an education. They needed formation.

Looking back after a century, it becomes clear that the story of Benedictine is not simply the story of buildings constructed, educational

programs developed, or milestones celebrated. At its core, it is the story of God's faithfulness lived through ordinary men and women who trusted God's call and responded with generous hearts. Their trust became the foundation for a Benedictine mission that would take root in Cleveland and, in time, bear fruit in ways they could never have imagined.

Just as the first Benedictine monks could not have imagined all that God would accomplish through their generous "yes," we cannot fully see what God has prepared for the generations yet to come. While we do not need to know every step of the journey, we need to remain faithful, attentive to the needs before us, and confident that God will continue to guide those who seek His will.

As we give thanks for the blessings of the past century, we also look toward the future with confidence and hope. God, who began this good work, continues to walk with us, inviting each new generation of monks, faculty, staff, students, parents and guardians, alumni, benefactors, and friends to share in the Benedictine mission.

This is why a centennial is more than a celebration of the past. It is a renewal of our "yes." Just as the first Benedictine monks gave their yes in faith, generations after them have done the same. Now we are invited to give our yes in faith by living what has been entrusted to us.

Together, as the Benedictine family, we give thanks for the blessings of the past, renew our commitment to live our Benedictine charism faithfully in the present, and entrust our future to God. May Christ, who has guided every generation before us, continue to lead us today and guide every generation yet to come. And may our response to God's call bear fruit for the good of others, the glory of God, and the life of the world.

Peace,

Abbot Gary, OSB '74

Living the Mission

What has Benedictine meant in your life?

As we celebrate one hundred years of Benedictine High School, we invite you, as a member of the Benedictine family, to reflect on what Benedictine has meant in your life and share a brief positive memory, witness, or reflection on how Benedictine has helped shape your faith, character, brotherhood, service, or sense of mission.

Your reflection may be about a teacher, monk, coach, classmate, prayer experience, athletic team, service opportunity, family connection, or a moment when you recognized the lasting impact of Benedictine in your life.

Please submit reflections through centennial@cbhs.edu and include your name and contact info.

**Selected reflections may be shared in future centennial publications and may be edited for length and clarity.*

Message From The President

Dear Benedictine Friends and Family,

One hundred years, thousands of *moments*. It is a number that invites us to stop, look back, and then lean forward with even greater resolve.

As I reflect on where we have been and where we are headed, I keep returning to a simple truth: Benedictine High School has never been just a school. It has been a faithful, purposeful response to the *moment* in front of it.

Our story began humbly in 1927, when a small community of monks planted a flag of faith and education on the east side of Cleveland. From those early years, Benedictine grew into something the city could count on. By the post-war years of the late 1940s, the school was answering the call of a community rebuilding by offering young men a rigorous academic foundation rooted in the Rule of St. Benedict alongside practical, skills-based programming that helped prepare them to lead and contribute in a transformed America.

This school has always known how to meet its moment.

And when the *moment* got difficult, Benedictine stayed put. As neighborhoods changed and families moved to the suburbs in the late 1970s and 1980s, other schools followed or closed their doors entirely. Benedictine did neither. In that *moment*, we remained rooted, resolute, and open as a Catholic, all-boys school standing exactly where it started, serving exactly the same mission it was founded to serve. That decision was not passive. It was a statement of faith in this city, in this community, and in the young men who needed this place most.

The instinct to hold tradition and transformation together is not a new idea. It is, in fact, the oldest idea we have. ***Ora et Labora***. Prayer and work. The motto has always understood that a life well formed by the “*moments*”, is a life both anchored and active.

In this *moment*, as we welcome the Class of 2030 and prepare to mark our Centennial in 2027, I am proud to share that we have officially launched ***BHS 100: A Century of Tradition, a Future of Innovation*** — our Centennial Campaign to ensure that the next one hundred years of Benedictine are as transformative as the first. This campaign is about more than a milestone. It is about building on the foundation that generations of monks, educators, families, and alumni have given us, and investing in what comes next.

And what comes next is already taking shape. Our enrollment is growing. Our campus is being renewed. With Benedictine Pathways, we are once again doing what this school has always done; preparing young men not just for a diploma, but for life. Whether a student leaves here bound for college, a trade, the military, or the workforce, his time on the corner of MLK and Buckeye will have shaped him in mind, body, and spirit.

What has made Benedictine endure is not any one era, one singular program or even one *moment*. It is the diversity of young men who have walked these halls. Students from every corner of Northeast Ohio, from every background imaginable, who found here a common identity as Men of Benedictine. That brotherhood, forged in the grit of this city and grounded in the spirit of St. Benedict, is the thread that ties 1927 to today.

I want to close with a personal ask. Take a *moment* and think back to your own time at Benedictine. Maybe it is a teacher who saw something in you before you saw it in yourself. A monk whose quiet example stayed with you longer than any lesson. A coach who pushed you past what you thought you were capable of and smiled when you got there. Those *moments* did not happen by accident. They happened because someone chose to give their best to this place.

Now it is our turn. Whether you support the BHS 100 Campaign, or simply come back to campus to see what is happening on the corner of MLK and Buckeye, your connection to this school matters more than you know. The story is not finished. In many ways, the best chapters and *moments* are still ahead.

We are not simply celebrating one hundred years, we are standing on them.

Bengal Proud,



Dave Schroeder '90

President, Benedictine
High School



News from the Abbey

Personnel changes are usually made during this time of year and the abbey is no exception. Long-time freshmen theology teacher, **Fr. Finbar Ramsak, OSB**, has been appointed pastor of Assumption of Mary parish in Broadview Heights, Ohio. He succeeds **Fr. Justin Dyrwal, OSB**, who served as pastor for nearly 25 years. Fr. Justin has taken the reigns of pastoral ministry at Holy Family Hospice Care in Parma, Ohio, where he will also be in residence. Former associate at Assumption, **Fr. Louis Carey, OSB (BHS '88)**, has been reassigned to the abbey, where he is working in library science and spearheading the combining of the abbey and school libraries and reading collections.



Fr. Finbar



Fr. Justin



Fr. Louis

Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB (BHS '74) and **Fr. Michael Brunovsky, OSB** attended the 53rd Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU Financial) held in Greenville, South Carolina the third weekend in June. Fr. Michael served as a delegate for Branch 24 at all convention sessions and they both celebrated Mass for the convention attendees. The FCSU recently gave a \$100,000 donation for the renovation of the Slovak Institute and Library housed at the abbey. Fr. Michael also served as a delegate for the National Slovak Society (NSS) Convention held the week before at Sawmill Creek. He also provided daily Mass and opening prayers for all convention sessions. **Mr. Robert Katricak**, brother of **Fr. Kenneth Katricak, OSB** is national vice-president and invited Fr. Michael to be a delegate and to minister at the Convention.



Clergy at FCSU Financial Convention

Fr. Thomas Sanders, OSB substituted for **Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB (BHS '71)** at the Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base in mid-June and then the two of them cruised the Bahamas for a little vacation while in the South. **Fr. Anselm Zupka, OSB (BHS '58)** did the same in late July when Fr. Gerard preached a retreat for the Carmelite Sisters in Alhambra, California.

Celebrating the **250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence**, the monastic community had a steak roast on July 4th during the noon hour. Potato salad, sautéed onions and mushrooms, and corn-on-the-cob were featured sides and favorite beverages. It was a fitting tribute to our nation's birthday.

Fr. Michael Brunovsky, OSB witnessed the wedding of **Joseph Matz (BHS 2014)** to **Carolina Kane** on the sweltering afternoon of July 3 at St. Gabriel Parish in Concord Township, Ohio. Joe is a maintenance engineer at Carto Flight, a subsidiary of Kucera International Aerial Imaging, and Carolina is a faculty member at Lake Catholic High School. The couple now live in Chardon.

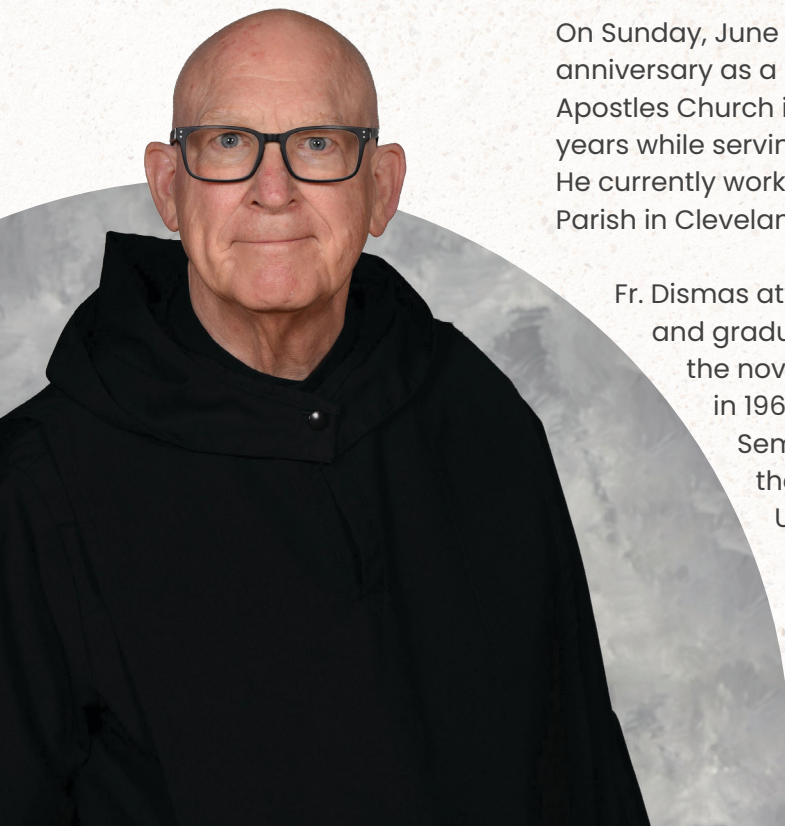


Fr. Dismas Boeff, OSB '66 Celebrates 50th Anniversary as a Priest

On Sunday, June 14, 2026, **Fr. Dismas Boeff, OSB '66** marked his 50th anniversary as a priest with a Mass of Thanksgiving at Mary, Queen of the Apostles Church in Brook Park, Ohio, where he resided for a number of years while serving as the Catholic chaplain at Southwest General Hospital. He currently works with addiction counseling and assists at St. Adalbert's Parish in Cleveland on weekends.

Fr. Dismas attended St. Francis de Sales Elementary School in Parma and graduated from Benedictine High School in 1966. He entered the novitiate of Saint Andrew Abbey and professed his first vows in 1967. He attended John Carroll University and St. Mary's Seminary and was ordained a priest on June 12, 1976. He then pursued studies in Criminology at Sam Houston State University in Texas, earning a master's degree.

He worked as a chaplain at the Cuyahoga County Jail and later at the federal level at Leavenworth Prison in Kansas. He then turned to hospital ministry for nearly two decades before returning to the abbey. In the past year, he has been a speaker on the topic of dealing with addictions to various Benedictine communities nationally.



Sister Helene Skrzyniarz, SSJ-TOSF, former recent member of the Benedictine High School Board of Trustees is now residing at Light of Hearts Villa in Bedford, Ohio. A member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis (Marymount), Sister Helene served as superintendent of two school districts in New England before returning to Cleveland to work as a certified lay ecclesial minister at St. Monica's Parish. She became involved both at BHS and at the abbey assisting Fr. Michael in various projects.





Baccalaureate, Awards, and Graduation



As the 2025-26 academic year came to a close, we proudly celebrated the achievements of our students at the annual Awards Ceremony.

Mr. Benedictine was awarded to **Braylon Rose**. Delivering his acceptance speech, Braylon was both humble and grateful, giving thanks to those who have supported him along the way, including teachers, family, and friends. He also honored fellow finalists Jeremy Ade, Luca Bucci, Lucas Dolan, and Michael Grobelny.

Awards in academic excellence were led by **Valedictorian Cameron Huggins** (GPA 4.71) and **Salutatorian Jeremy Ade** (GPA 4.64). Class leaders included **Nathan Weaver** (Juniors), **Nathan Majors** (Sophomores), and **Bryce Lang** and **Brennan O'Connell** (Freshmen).



Scholarships & Awards

Cleveland Italian Scholarship Club Award

Sonny Powall Award

Lucas Dolan

Fr. Donald Baydik Award (Benedictine Publications)

Cameron Huggins

Fr. James Award (Senior Scholars)

Ryan Winterich

Abbot Clement Award (Engineering)

Jeremy Ade

Jack T. Hearn Award (Music)

Ryan Kehres

Fr. Clement Award (Engineering)

Caleb Bartlett

Jack T. Hearn Award (Music)

Cameron Huggins

Fr. Timothy Award (Drama)

Lachlan Bobes

Fr. Raphael Award (Science)

Rafael Koonce

Vincent Award (Social Studies)

Nathan Weaver

Fr. Robert Award (Business)

Devion Coffin

Phi Beta Kappa Award

Cameron Huggins

ServeOhio Award

Braylon Rose

Notre Dame Club Book Award

Donald Stewart

Kiwanis & Red Cross Scholarships

Daniel Joyce
Ryan Winterich
Lucas Dolan
Zachary Ade
Santino Arrietta

Alpha Omega Foundation Awards

Ryan Huggins
Sincere Wilson

Governor's Merit Scholarship

Jeremy Ade
Cameron Huggins
Sean O'Connell

OHSAA Honors

Scholar Athlete

Jeremy Ade

Sportsmanship

Matthew Furst
Micah Smith

NFHS Award of Excellence

Michael Grobelny
Sean O'Connell

Faculty and Staff Recognition

The Smith Family Faculty Grant

Mr. Matt Falk

2026 Yearbook Dedication Honor

Mr. Anthony Backowski

Diocesan Service Awards

5 Years

Paul Gambon
Rev. Thomas Sanders
Ken Traben

10 Years

Dr. Elizabeth Salem

15 Years

Steven Miller

20 Years

Melissa Hopkins

30 Years

Richard Salem

Service Awards

5 Years

Dax Bolden
Gregory Boldware
Dominic Fanelli
Michael Girolamo
Matt Hamburg
Suzanne Less
Steven Miller
Robert Vuraich
Hannah Westfield
Br. Gregory Coyne

20 Years

Fran Alfien

Special Award

Mr. Mark Hall
(30 years of service and Happy Retirement)

Congratulations

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

Congratulations to **Braylon Rose '26** *Mr. Benedictine 2026*



Being named **Mr. Benedictine** is the highest honor a student can receive during his time at Benedictine. Chosen by the student body from a group of outstanding senior finalists, the award recognizes the young man who best exemplifies the values of a Benedictine education through academic achievement, leadership, involvement, character, and service. This year, that distinction was awarded to **Braylon Rose '26**, who became the school's 74th Mr. Benedictine.

Braylon's selection reflects the respect and admiration he earned from his classmates throughout his high school career. As a finalist, he met the rigorous standards for academics, extracurricular involvement, and conduct before ultimately being chosen by his peers as the student who best embodies what it means to be a Man of Benedictine. Following his election, Braylon addressed the

student body at the annual Awards Ceremony and again during Graduation, joining a distinguished tradition that spans generations.

During Reunion Weekend, Braylon was officially welcomed into the fraternity of past Mr. Benedictine recipients at a special reception celebrating the award's rich legacy. Surrounded by previous honorees—including the second-ever Mr. Benedictine, Bishop Roger Gries '54, the 73rd recipient, Ryan Kehres '25, and many others—Braylon experienced firsthand the lifelong bond shared by those who have received this prestigious recognition. The evening served as a reminder that while decades may separate each recipient, the Benedictine brotherhood continues to connect, support, and celebrate its members across generations.



Fr. Marc Shekells, OFM, Abbot Gary, Dr. Andrea Ferraro, and Fr. Michael at the Retreat House



Monks enjoy a reflective lunch during their retreat; Br. Gregory is reading from the spiritual literature during the meal



What is the MONASTIC RETREAT?

Every June, following the end of the school year, the monks of Saint Andrew Abbey make their annual retreat. This year's retreat was from **June 2 to June 5**. All the monks of the abbey are expected to attend the retreat unless excused by the abbot for a good reason. For many years, the annual retreat took place within the abbey with an outside retreat master brought in each day. However, since the abbey accepted sponsorship of Loyola Retreat House in Clinton, Ohio, in 2012, the monks have traveled there for the annual retreat.

During the days of retreat, the monks are not supposed to do their assigned jobs, nor go off the property. It is a time of reflection, silence, rest, and spiritual renewal. This year a new approach was used for the role of the retreat master. Since 2026 is the 800th anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi, **Fr. Marc Shekells, OFM**, a Franciscan friar and priest who taught theology at BHS this year, and **Fr. Michael Brunovsky, OSB**, prior of the abbey, shared the duties of retreat master. Fr. Marc delivered the morning presentation and Fr. Michael gave the afternoon conference. The theme was a comparison of **St. Benedict** and **St. Francis of Assisi** as **"Pilgrims of Hope and Brothers of Peace."**

The first day focused on how building **fraternity and brotherhood** were essential efforts for both saints in their spiritual movements. Fraternity is not a side effect of holiness, it is one of the primary places where holiness happens.

It is where forgiven men learn how to love slowly. It is where Christ keeps returning in disguise. "Love one another as I have loved you."

The theme of the second day was how Benedict and Francis resisted the restless spirit of the world. Benedict answers with his unique **vow of stability** – remaining with the same religious community, at the same location in most cases, forever. Francis calls his followers to **embrace poverty**. Both stability and poverty can help individuals experience a deeper freedom. They are ways of saying **"God is enough."**

The third day presented the idea of renewal and the **courage to always be willing to begin again**. Benedictine monasteries are not to be places that just preserve traditions of the past, but places that **radiate hope** for the future. Francis heard Christ speak to him through the crucifix and say **"Rebuild my Church"** and he did.

The monastic retreat includes evening Eucharistic adoration, confession, daily Mass, and communal chanting of the Liturgy of the Hours. Both religious and lay people alike find Loyola Retreat House to be a good place to step back from their busy lives and find spiritual renewal. We encourage and invite you to check out the retreat offerings on the website, www.loyolaretreathouse.com or contact **Andrea Ferraro**, Executive Director for more information.

The History of Benedictine High School

Part One
(1927 – 1947)



In his books *The American Miracle* and *God's Hand on America*, author **Michael Medved** provides numerous examples of a pattern of unbelievable coincidences that offers evidence of God's Divine Providence in the formation of the United States of America.



Front of the school in the old St. Mary Institute building.



First day of classes in 1927 – with Fr. George and Fr. Celestine

It is interesting that our country is celebrating its 250th anniversary in 2026 as **Benedictine High School** begins its **centennial year** this fall and concludes a year from now. There was a similar pattern of coincidental relationships that came together in the early part of the 20th century that seems to reflect a Divine plan that led to the first day of classes at Benedictine High School on **September 8, 1927**.

Many who have been closely associated with BHS, probably would be surprised to find out that this educational institution in Cleveland, Ohio had its complicated origin in **Pennsylvania, Illinois, Colorado**, and even **Europe**. As we begin this historical journey through the ten decades of Benedictine history, it is important to recognize key

individuals at key moments who were influential in the unfolding of the story of the Home of Champions.

Between 1899 and 1915, a half-million **Slovaks** immigrated to the United States with 52,368 coming in the peak year of 1905. More than half of these Slovak immigrants settled in **Pennsylvania** because of coal mining and steel mill jobs. Pastors of Slovak Catholic parishes saw an important need to provide educational institutions to preserve the faith and culture of the sons and daughters of these immigrants. In 1903, a 19 year old Slovak immigrant named **Jan Vaniscak**, who was working in the steel mills of Johnstown, Pennsylvania was urged by his pastor to enroll at St. Procopius College in Lisle, **Illinois**.

In 1885, German Benedictine monks from **St. Vincent's Archabbey in Latrobe, Pennsylvania** had established a monastic community in Chicago to serve the spiritual and educational needs of Czech Catholic immigrants. Jan Vaniscak soon joined St. Procopius Abbey and received the religious name of **Fr. Gregory**. Before he was ordained a priest in 1914, he became the leader of a nucleus of young monks of Slovak descent in Lisle who shared his dream of establishing a Slovak-American Benedictine Abbey and high school for boys.

One of those young monks was **Fr. George Luba, OSB**. Born in Hungary of Slovak parents in 1897, Stephen Luba and his family immigrated to the United States in 1902 and settled in **Pueblo, Colorado**. Hearing of the Czech and Slovak background of the Lisle Benedictines, Stephen enrolled in their high school and college. Joining the abbey, he received the religious name of **Fr. George**. After his ordination as a priest in 1923, he was appointed Dean of the Department of Slovak Studies at St. Procopius College. In 1927, **Abbot Valentine**

Kohlbeck, OSB sent Fr. George to join the new St. Andrew Priory in Cleveland that St. Procopius Abbey had established in 1922. Fr. George organized **Benedictine High School and served as its first principal** from 1927-29 and again from 1932-34. He would later return to the faculty for 28 years.



Pioneer monks: Frs. Celestine, Leo, George, & Stanislaus

In **1914**, the leaders of the **Slovak Catholic Federation**, representing various Slovak Catholic organizations, began discussing the establishment of a Catholic high school for the sons of Slovak immigrants. **Prior Procopius Neuzil, OSB** of St. Procopius Abbey contacted **Fr. Stephan Furdek**, founder of the **First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota) in Cleveland, Ohio** and suggested that instead of establishing a new school, the Slovak leaders could work with St. Procopius High School to increase its Slovak courses and activities. On February 28, 1914, at their convention in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, the Slovak Catholic Federation supported this idea as promoted by Fr. Furdek.

This would have prevented the establishment of Benedictine High School in Cleveland if it wasn't for the interference of World War I in Europe (1914-18). The resulting Treaty of Versailles (1919) established a new country called **Czecho-Slovakia** from the defeated Austro-Hungarian empire. Because of their common Slavic background, language, and culture, delegates to the Paris Peace Conference felt that Slovaks and Czechs could form a new country

together. However, tensions soon developed between the minority Slovaks and the majority Czechs and these difficulties caused the Slovaks in the United States to desire their own high school for boys independent of St. Procopius High School and College. It seems that Divine Providence was at work again.

The Slovak Catholic Federation returned to their original idea and began to explore how to establish the high school for boys in **Cleveland** which also had a large Slovak immigrant population. In 1921, Fr. Gregory, serving as a pastor in Chicago, wrote to Abbot Valentine and told him that **Bishop Joseph Schrembs**, who had just coincidentally arrived as the new Bishop of Cleveland had indicated to the Slovak Catholic Federation that he supported a new Catholic high school in his diocese. Fr. Gregory saw this as another intervention of Divine Providence.

Ironically, Abbot Valentine and Bishop Schrembs had attended classes together at St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe. Bishop Schrembs offered

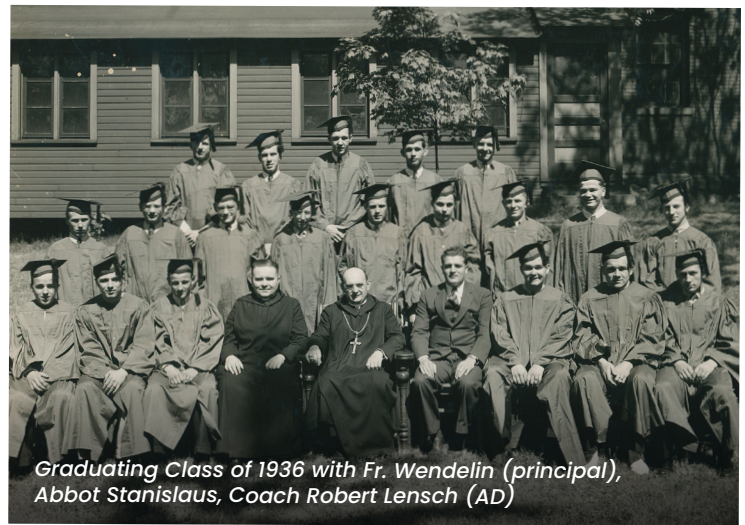
Abbot Valentine **St. Andrew's Slovak Parish on East 52nd Street and Superior Avenue** as the base for a new Slovak Benedictine monastery and eventual high school. This was approved by the monks in Lisle and **Fr. Stanislaus Gmuca, OSB** was sent to Cleveland in February of 1922 to organize the new dependent priory.

Five years later, **Fr. George** would arrive and start **Benedictine High School** at St. Andrew's Parish. Earlier in 1923, Abbot Valentine wrote to Fr. Stanislaus and suggested that he consider **Youngstown, Ohio** as a better location for the high school since there were several Catholic high schools already established in Cleveland. Once again, Divine Providence intervened and the idea was dropped. **Benedictine High School opened on September 8, 1927** with 26 freshmen located in two classrooms above St. Andrew's Church. St. Andrew's Elementary School occupied the other classrooms. **Superior Avenue was the first location for both the monastery and Benedictine High School, sharing a crowded church/school combination building.**

In the meantime, Fr. Stanislaus came upon a 15 acre plot of land near **East**

116th Street and Buckeye Road that he felt would be excellent for a new location for the monastery and the high school. The land was occupied by **St. Mary's Institute**, an orphanage run by the **Sisters of Notre Dame**. Bishop Schrembs got involved and negotiated for the monks to purchase the property and building for **\$119,000**. In 1929, the **Slovak Catholic Educational Foundation** spearheaded a nationwide fundraising drive to help the Cleveland Benedictine monks purchase the property to expand their monastery and new high school.

Fr. Gregory finished his term as a pastor in Chicago in 1928 and was sent to Cleveland as the first **Conventual Prior** of the new Benedictine community. He helped to convert St. Mary's Institute into a combination priory for the monks, classrooms for the high school, and dormitories for boarding students who came from Slovak families in various states. So, in its third year of



Graduating Class of 1936 with Fr. Wendelin (principal), Abbot Stanislaus, Coach Robert Lensch (AD)

existence, **Benedictine High School moved to its second location on Buckeye Road.**

In 1931, the first graduating class of BHS received their diplomas. Among the 32 graduates were Valedictorian **Andrew Novotny** (who later became **Fr. Cyril**, a 43 year member of the faculty in the Science Department); **Andrew Slimak** (who became **Fr. Bernard**, served as a chaplain in World War II and taught English for many years); **John Podobnik** (who as **Fr. Thomas** taught 40 years in social studies and mechanical drawing); and **Peter Jenco** (who became **Fr. Aloysius** and a member of the faculty until he was killed in a car accident in 1964 at the age of 51).

The decade of the 1930's, despite the economic ravages of the **Great Depression**, would see Benedictine continually expanding. Principal **Fr. Ivan Kramoris, OSB** (1930-32) obtained the charter from the State of Ohio for BHS as a four year high school in 1931. The enrollment increased from about **100 to 300 students** by the end of the decade. In addition to Fr. Ivan, **Fathers Wendelin Kravec, OSB** (1934-37) and **Andrew Pier, OSB** (1937-41) also served as principals of the young school. The student body grew more diverse with more nationalities besides Slovak-Americans. In 1934, **Robert Derritt** became the **first African-American** to enroll and graduate from Benedictine.



Servers Student Club in the 1930's with Fr. Matthew as moderator (Frs. James Forgac, Gregory Oravec, and Placid Pientek are in this pictures as students)

The college prep curriculum was enhanced by the opening of the Art Department in 1931 by **Mr. George Krispinsky**. Also in that year, **Fr. Andrew** initiated the first school newspaper called "Benedictine." The basic sports were football, baseball, and basketball. The football team began fielding a team in 1929 and struggled to make a name for itself against the established football traditions of city schools. **An upset victory over St. Ignatius High School in 1934** marked the start of a Benedictine football tradition which would grow steadily through the coming years.

In 1934, the monastic community grew large enough to become an abbey. **Fr. Stanislaus Gmuca, OSB** was chosen as the first abbot and would serve in that important role for the next 12 years. He also became the **President of Benedictine High School** and immediately began planning to build a new high school building that would be separate from the abbey. The handsome, yellow brick structure was completed and dedicated in the fall of 1940 with a future-looking capacity of 1000 students. However, a near tragedy struck on **November 1, 1940**. A **boiler explosion** caused \$75,000 damage to the new structure, yet miraculously claimed no fatalities since classes were not in session for All Saints Day.

After 15 years of enrollment remaining around 300, Abbot Stanislaus decided that BHS needed a program that would differentiate it from the other established Cleveland Catholic high schools for boys. In 1940, at the direction of Abbot Stanislaus, the new high school building included an **industrial machine shop**, the only such department in any of

the Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Cleveland. **Mr. Clement Strohmeier** and **Fr. Daniel Novak, OSB** directed the machine shop. The new department began to draw more students from all parts of the city and by 1948, the **enrollment of BHS reached 1000**.

More innovation would come to the



curriculum with the development of an **Aeronautics Department** begun in 1941 by **Fr. Method Granchie, OSB**. It was authorized by the U.S. government as a ground training school. The successful program lasted 15 years and provided students with extensive theoretical knowledge and actual experiential opportunities in the art of flying. Later, **Fr. Emeric Kovach, OSB** and **Fr. Gregory Oravec, OSB** both earned their pilot licenses and taught related classes.

Principal **Fr. Armand Gress, OSB** (1941-44) organized the first

marching band in September, 1942 with **Mr. Jack Hearn** as the band director. Earlier a student orchestra had been functioning under **Mr. Frank Suhadolnik**. Within three years, the new marching band earned recognition as the top band in the city. A **Glee Club** was formed in 1944. **Mr. Leonard Pchola** reactivated

dramatics with the **Footlights Club** in 1940. **Frs. George** and **Cyril** later took over the direction of the **Drama Club** and drew audiences of over 900 for several popular productions during this decade. In 1945, principal **Fr. Louis Hudak, OSB** (1944-46) organized the **Dads' Club** as the first parental school organization. Beginning in 1947, the Dads' Club sponsored very successful **yearly indoor bazaars** which significantly assisted the financial development of BHS for a number of years.

Mr. Joe Rufus joined the Benedictine sports program in 1945. He would become one of the legendary figures in BHS history remaining involved with the school as teacher, and athletic director until his retirement in 1987. In 1946, the school won its first city championship in basketball.

By 1948-49, the Bengal teams in football, basketball, and baseball all won city championships and earned BHS the nickname "**Home of Champions**."

New leadership took over in 1946 as **Abbot Theodore Kojis, OSB** was elected to succeed Abbot Stanislaus. Abbot Theodore would guide the remarkable growth of both the abbey and the high school for the next 20 years.



Former Mr. Benedictine recipients welcome and congratulate the 74th Mr. Benedictine, Braylon Rose.



Class of 1986



Class of 1956



Class of 2001



Class of 1971

Reunion Weekend

at the Home of Champions ~ June 12/13

Friday's Stag night was a tremendous success as we celebrated alumni from classes ending in '1 and '6.

More than 180 alumni returned to campus, gathering in the new Student Commons, to enjoy great food and drinks, reconnect with classmates, share memories, and tour the exciting new space on campus. It was a memorable night of fellowship, tradition, and Bengal pride.

Saturday welcomed the celebration of Benedictine High School's Halls of Excellence. More than 140 alumni, family and friends gathered to honor this year's newest inductees into the Hall of Fame, Hall of Honors, and Hall of Distinction. The Halls recognize accomplishments in the field of sports, in one's contributions to the school, to their profession, to the Church, or to the community, and finally, achievement of excellence in one's profession, advancing the world and society in the tradition of St. Benedict.



14 Class of 2016



Halls of Excellence Honorees left to right: Dr. Greg Mack, Mr. Najee Goode, Mr. Papis Joh, Mrs. Ginny Russ, Mr. Art Bortnick, and Mr. Tony Musso

Among those recognized were **Mr. Art Bortnick**, 2-Time State Champion Head Coach in Football, **Mr. Papis Joh '01**, a multi-time State Champion in Track, **Mr. Najee Goode '07**, a former NFL player and Superbowl Champion, **Dr. Greg Mack '63**, an accomplished Orthopedic Surgeon and Navy Captain, **Mr. Tony Musso '64**, a military veteran and successful construction entrepreneur, and **Mr. Tony Russ '66**, posthumously inducted for his 44 years of service to Benedictine High School.



We are proud to honor these Men of Benedictine for their character and accomplishments and are grateful for the impact they continue to make as representatives of the **Home of Champions**.



National Honor Society (NHS)

This past April, we proudly inducted 15 students from the classes of 2026, 2027, and 2028 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. Joe Sweeney '98, for speaking to our gathered family, faculty, staff, and Men of Benedictine. Mr. Sweeney is our Board Chair and a Managing Director at Deloitte and Touche LLP. He spoke to the gathered Men of Benedictine on the four pillars and how applicable these pillars are to any success he's seen in his life. He connected those pillars to the Benedictine motto, Ora et Labora, prayer and work. Mr. Sweeney spoke on how it's not just one or the other – it's both, working together, that create the complete men we need to be in this world.

Please join us in congratulating the following students who were inducted into the Bennet chapter of National Honors Society!



Class of 2026 Inductee(s):

Emmanuel Johnson • Zaire Lyons • James Marrone

Class of 2027 Inductee(s):

Santino Arrietta • Max Roulet • Chinja Scott
• August Stromann • Josh Vogley • Gabriel Dolan • John Paul Hatgas • August Swetel

Class of 2028 Inductee(s):

Greyson Sluzewski • Gabriel Tangen • Dresden Washington • Nathan Majors

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, and participate in work (volunteer or paid).

Opportunities to Visit



FALL CAMPUS TOUR

September 30th | 6-7:30pm

Whether you're a prospective student, parent, or just curious about what we have to offer, the campus tour is perfect for you!



FALL OPEN HOUSE

November 1st | 11am-1pm (Mass at 10)

Join us for a fun and informative day! Explore our campus, meet our faculty and staff, and learn more about our programs.



HSPT TEST

October 10 | November 11 | December 5

The HSPT is a 3-hour exam that is one part of the admissions process for students applying to Benedictine High School.

SPRING SPORTS RECAP



Baseball

The Benedictine Baseball Team had a season of ups and downs, finishing 8-16 on the year. The signature win of the season was likely a 5-0 win against Padua Franciscan, who went on to a state semi-finalist finish. The Bengals split their series with the Bruins and many of their other North Coast Conference opponents.

The Bengals finished their season at Hawken, losing 3-2 in a heartbreaker. **Ben Scheer** pitched well in that game and had both of the Bengals RBIs. He will continue his baseball career at The University of Mount Union.

Thank you to the Senior Class of 2026, including **Max Loeser** (Student Manager), **Michael Grobelny**, **Ben Scheer**, **Elliot Traben**, **Jeremy Ade**, **Daniel Joyce**, and **Shepard Charlton** (pictured from left to right).



Lacrosse

Benedictine Lacrosse finished 2-11 on the season but ended with decent momentum under first year head coach **Jonathan Cobb '19**.

Their wins over Westlake and Cleveland Heights gave them some cause for celebration. **Dresden Washington '28** led the way for the Bengals in that Westlake win with 5 goals.

Thanks to seniors **Terence Johnson** and **Peter Dalton** on your contributions to Benedictine Lacrosse.



Dresden Washington carries the ball forward

Track and Field

Benedictine Track competed well in their first year as part of the North Coast Conference. The Bengals had very high participation with many athletes from other seasons choosing to train and compete with the track squad.



Ryan Huggins '28 in the 4x800m Relay at Bay

At the District Meet at Bay High School, the 4x100 and 4x200 Relay Teams had some good results but ended just outside of advancing, finishing 5th. **Earl Jackson '28**, **Corde Blair '27**, and **Glenn Hughes '27** were on both of those relays with **Gio Iacampo '27** on the 4x1 and **Kellen Whaley '29** on the 4x2, respectively. Corde Blair also finished 5th in the 100m Final.

This was a young squad with a lot of potential for next season. Many of these athletes play a fall sport and we'll have the opportunity to see them compete after a successful spring season of training.

Class of 1971/1992/2024/2026

Enjoying a pizza at Marrotta's on Lee are **Mr. Mark Francioli '71, Dan Winterich '92, his son Ryan Winterich '26, and Frank Tegel.** Dan and Ryan were both taught by Mr. Francioli and mentored in the Senior Scholar program by Mr. Tegel, a historian and former college classmate of Mr. Francioli.



The Senior Scholars Program, begun in 1986, offers seniors an opportunity for independent study of a course, at college level intensity, not normally offered in the Benedictine curriculum. Each student is assigned a mentor who is a scholar in the field who oversees the progress of the course, answers questions and offers guidance.



Pictured separately are **Dan, Ryan and Dan's other son Danny '24,** who all won the Fr. James Award for Outstanding Student in the Senior Scholars program during their respective times at Benedictine.

Class of 1993

Joseph Marra '93, was honored to build a new home for **Ralph Thomas '62,** and his wife Ann, after they lost their home in a house fire. The new home was built on the same property they know and love in Geauga County.



Joe is the president of MJ Builders Inc. and has been building custom homes for over 25 years. Ralph served as a Cleveland police officer for many years before retiring and now cares for all the wildlife on his many acres.

Class of 1971

Members of the **Class of 1971** gathered for their 5th Annual golf outing on June 6th at Gleneagle Golf Course. They enjoyed a day of fun and brotherhood and wrapped up the day with dinner at Mavis Winkle in Twinsburg.



Left to right sitting: Bob Cervany, Cardell Parker-Nunery, Carl Barile, Bob Speroff, Joe Oriti, Tom Armelli. **Standing:** Bob Hopko, Tom Fink, Wally Mieskoski, Steve Labonte, Kevin Burke, Paul Sobczyk, Joe Gambates, Jack Siemen, Jessie Veneri, Mike Veneri

Class of 1979

NOTABLE SPOTLIGHT with Jeffery Molchan



Since founding INTEK Construction Products in 1995, Jeffery Molchan has earned a reputation for his in-depth product knowledge and technical expertise. As president and CEO, Molchan has helped transform the construction industry by advancing the fire and life safety through stronger design, engineering and construction practices as well as code enforcement. He has served as past president of Builders Exchange of Ohio and past chairman of the Cleveland Engineering Society, Design and Construction Division, and continues to provide AIA training for architects. He has been recognized by the Ohio Board of Building Standards for his work with the inspection community throughout the state.

Building a new standard for fire and life safety

What was your vision for founding INTEK 21 years ago? What gap in the industry were you trying to fill?

INTEK was founded to fill a gap in technical codes for the building design and construction markets. Our initial focus was firestopping – required by building codes since the 1960s – yet consistently overlooked in design and construction, even in health care facilities where life safety is critical.

Over time, we recognized that passive fire protection was broadly misunderstood, which led us to expand our expertise. Today, we provide a comprehensive building solution covering all aspects of passive fire protection, including fireproofing, firestopping, and fire-rated assemblies.

How have you seen the industry change over the last four decades, and how has your leadership evolved as a result?

Our society has become more rigorous, and all of the firestop liability code law was written by Ohio courts. Federal standards, including the Life Safety Code followed later, brought firestop to the forefront of the building industry. As codes evolved, our mission has remained focused on education and support – training architects, engineers and contractors to properly specify and install materials while working closely with inspectors on the job site to deliver to code compliance.

What were the biggest hurdles in meeting the safety from a product-lit claim to a critical incident? What helped overcome them?

The biggest challenge was changing long-held attitudes. A turning point came through partnerships with health care organizations, where life safety is paramount. Hospital compliance officers became strong advocates, and together we launched training that educated thousands of professionals on proper installation – elevating firestopping to the same standard as plumbing and electrical. These efforts became a nationwide model.

Our partnerships with leading manufacturers like Specified Technologies Inc. (STI) and installation experts like Superior Insulation Inc. have also been instrumental in helping us shape the industry through their innovation and best-in-class products.

Can you share a project that represents your proudest achievement?

The foundation was built through long-standing partnerships among Cleveland's highest-profile firms. Tom Dales, president and CEO of Superior Insulation Inc., and INTEK, working together, we identified firestopping deficiencies across campus and developed a sustainable solution through standards, education and collaboration.

In 2013, I was tasked by Cleveland Clinic to develop their Passive Fire Protection and Life Safety Design standards, incorporating 2015 state-of-the-art firestop methods and giving the Clinic a framework that improved compliance, reduced risk and enhanced patient safety.

The Neurological Institute is the first large-scale health care project to formally include a dedicated firestopping contractor as a key design team member. Construction selected Superior Insulation Inc. to implement the Clinic's standards. Close collaboration ensured passive fire protection was addressed early and effectively, ensuring long-term partnerships improve safety and protect property – demonstrating how long-term partnerships improve safety and protect property.

What is a key lesson you have to impart when mentoring young leaders or "boots on the ground"?

The key lesson is that many fire tragedies are preventable through proper design and construction. Engineers in design and construction share responsibility for life safety. As we build better structures and connect existing buildings for new uses, occupant safety must be a top priority on every project.



Jeffery Molchan '79 was recently featured in Crain's Cleveland Business as a Notable Leader. As President and CEO of Intek Construction Products Inc., Molchan has helped transform the construction industry by advancing fire and life safety through stronger design, engineering, and

Class of 2025

Bennet editors from the class of 2025 devoted an entire vacation day to finish a project they began as juniors, filing extra Bennets. **Lex Herr, Shane Hopkins, Ryan Kehres and Jacob Shean** filed, sorted and processed approximately 22,000 issues from the last 50 years. Some copies were tossed out, but enough were kept and organized to greatly enhance the school archives. While no visual evidence was obtained, Mr. Francioli assured that it was a job well done!

SUMMER CAMPS



3D Design and Manufacturing Camp

June 15-18

Matt Falk, our Director of Innovation and Career Technical Education, ran the inaugural 3D Design and Manufacturing Camp over the course of a week in early June. Attendees were able to learn about using 3D Design Software for designing and manufacturing individual pieces intended to work in larger machines.

This was a great opportunity for grade school students to be able to get introduced to the capabilities of the new Student Experience Center!

Football Combine Camp JUNE 22



5th and 6th grade athletes and their 7th and 8th grade counterparts participated in two separate combine camps, working on measurables and immeasurables with Benedictine coaches and players. They worked on long jump, 40 yard dashes, and shuffle and cone drills.

There were some terrific athletes who got in-depth and attentive coaching from our staff and Men of Benedictine. Most of these athletes came back and participated in the Jerome Baker Camp.



Jerome Baker Camp JULY 10

Jerome Baker '15 has been a Benedictine Bengal, an Ohio State Buckeye, and a member of the Dolphins, Seahawks, Titans, and the Cleveland Browns. His annual camp has always drawn a lot of great and enthusiastic football hopefuls from all over the area.

Jerome, Benedictine coaches, players, and alumni volunteers ran multiple stations where campers got to work on and showcase their skills. They were divided into their age group for two hand touch scrimmages, where Jerome got to show off some of the QB skills that helped drive the Bengals to the 2014 State Championship.

Jerome stayed back for everyone who wanted a photo and/or an autograph on a beautiful Friday evening from Bossu Field.

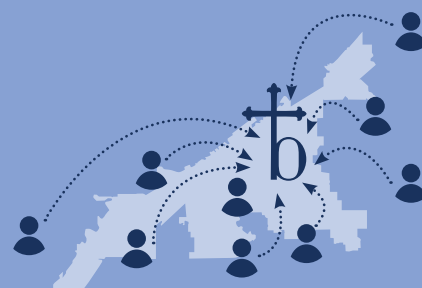
INCOMING FRESHMAN UPDATE

93
Incoming
Freshman

From **63**
Different
Schools

Farthest
West From
Elyria

Farthest
East From
Kirtland





In Memoriam

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



Rudolph Lavrenchik, 93, of the Class of 1951 died on June 1, 2026. He came from a Benedictine family with his late wife Marilyn working in the BHS bookstore and his sons James '75 (deceased) and David '79 and grandson Kurt '05 also alumni. Rudy was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and a member of the Knights of Columbus. He had a career as a professional electrical-mechanical designer. His funeral Mass was celebrated at Saint Ambrose Church in Brunswick.

Ronald Kaczmarek, 83, of the Class of 1960 entered Eternal Life on June 17, 2026.

He graduated from Case Institute of Technology in 1964 and later earned a master's degree in engineering from Cleveland State University. He retired as Manager of Strategic Planning from Northrop Grumman in Annapolis, Maryland. He is survived by Marilyn, his wife of 62 years, daughter Jennifer Ann Blaut, son Daniel Leo (BHS Class of '91), and five grandchildren. His funeral Mass was celebrated at Holy Angels Catholic Church in Chagrin Falls.



Lawrence Forgach, 79, of the Class of 1965 passed away on May 7, 2026. He began his career as a tool and die maker before dedicating the majority of his career as a detective for the City of Cleveland Police Department. Larry served honorably for 33 years as a detective and retired with the rank of Sergeant in 2006. His was preceded in death by Lynn, his wife of 52 years and his son Mark. He is survived by his

sons, Jeffrey and Brian; his daughter-in-law, Julie; and his eight grandchildren.

Ronald Kwiatkowski, 78, of the Class of 1966, entered Eternal Life on May 12, 2026. Ron was the owner of Maryann Candles in Brecksville for 40 years. He was a United States Army Veteran who fought in Vietnam and an active member of the Brecksville American Legion Post 196. He is survived by Carol, his wife of 52 years and three children and nine grandchildren. His funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Columbkille Church.



Raymond Sadd, 75, of the Class of 1968, passed away on May 12, 2026. He is survived by Donna, his wife of 53 years and children Ryan, Erin Lewis, and Allison Jehling and 11 grandchildren. Ray played football at Benedictine for Augie Bossu and continued his education at Cleveland State University.

For decades he dedicated himself to building his own malpractice insurance agency. He loved his Lebanese culture and coaching his children's athletics. He attended Mass regularly at Holy Angels Church in Chagrin Falls where his funeral Mass was celebrated after a six year battle with cancer.



Frank Petruziello, 73, of the Class of 1970 passed away on April 8, 2026 in Tampa, Florida. Frank, at only 5'8" 155lbs, started as varsity QB in the middle of his sophomore year for the Bengals. He was the starting QB his junior year and senior years. He

culminated his football career leading the Bengals to a 18-7 victory over St. Ignatius in the City Championship Charity Game. He also played on varsity basketball teams as a guard his junior and seniors years. His memorial Mass was at St. Clare's Church in Lyndhurst. Burial was in Clearwater, Florida.

Raymond Smiley, 99, Friend of Benedictine High School passed away peacefully on June 30, 2026 surrounded by family. Ray lived a life devoted to faith, family, outdoor conservation, service, and philanthropy. Ray served in the U.S. Navy near the end of World War II before graduating from the College of Business at John Carroll University in 1951. He was a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and enjoyed a distinguished career in finance and accounting, culminating as Chief Financial Officer of Bearings, Inc. Ray and his late wife, Eleanor, established the Smiley Family Charitable Foundation, which supports educational, conservation, and faith-based organizations primarily located in Northeast Ohio. Burial Mass was celebrated at Church of the Resurrection in Solon and con-celebrated by Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB '74.



RECENTLY DECEASED

The following members of our Benedictine Community have gone on to Eternal Rest between April 7 and June 30, 2026. May they rest in peace

Class Of	Name	Deceased
1970	Frank Petruziello	4/8/2026
1966	John Calvey	4/22/2026
1968	Jerome Cajka	5/4/2026
1965	Lawrence Forgach	5/7/2026
1966	Ronald Kwiatkowski	5/12/2026
1968	Raymond Sadd	5/12/2026
1951	Rudolph Lavrenchik	6/1/2026
1953	Frank Skully	6/12/2026
1985	Steven Zabak	6/8/2026
1960	Ron Kaczmarek	6/18/2026
BHS friend	Susan Kirwan	6/30/2026
BHS friend	Ray Smiley	6/30/2026

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**.

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, OCT 22



CHAMPIONS DAY OUR DAY OF GIVING

is a chance to provide support to the Men of Benedictine & the Annual Fund, specific to academics, athletics, extra-curriculars, programming, and most importantly, tuition assistance & scholarships. Our students need your generosity to provide them with the opportunity to succeed in life and grow in mind, body, and spirit.

The brotherhood is strong and, thanks to your help, the tradition continues in our 100th year!

Blue & White GALA

AN EVENING OF ELEGANCE COMMEMORATING **100 YEARS**

SATURDAY
MAR **20** 2027

SAVE
THE
DATE

Hotel Cleveland

24 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



The Marino Golf Outing was a great success this year with fantastic weather!

Over 160 participants took part and classmates Pete Germano and Andy Smith ended the day with inspirational stories about Joe Marino '78. Benedictine principal Dominic Fanelli then introduced attendees to some of our Marino Scholars.

The 8 Marino Scholars at Benedictine receive \$1250 yearly, thanks to the generous support of the attendees of this event.

The Marino Scholarship celebrates the inspiring life and never-quit spirit of Joe Marino. This scholarship is awarded by Benedictine High School to incoming and currently enrolled Benedictine students who meet the criteria outlined in The Joseph A. Marino '78 – High Top Memorial Scholarship Fund. The scholarship fund was created to help talented and deserving Men of Benedictine by providing financial support for their Benedictine education.

Thank you to all of our participants!



Allison, Nino & Ally Marino

SAVE THE DATE

REUNION WEEKEND 2027

June 11-12, 2027

We look forward to celebrating the **2's and 7's** at **Stag Night** on **Friday, June 11** and the **Halls of Excellence** on **Saturday, June 12**. To assist in the planning for your respective class, please contact alumni@cbhs.edu

2022

2017

2012

2007

2002

1997

1992

1987

1982

1977

1972

1967

1962

1957

1952

1947

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As Benedictine High School celebrates its 100th year, we reflect with gratitude on the generations of students, families, faculty, alumni, and benefactors who have shaped our special history! For a century, Benedictine has prepared young men to lead with faith, integrity, and purpose. While we proudly honor this milestone, we are equally focused on the opportunities that lie ahead and the responsibility we share to ensure the strength of our mission for the next 100 years.

The success of Benedictine High School has always depended on individuals, families, corporations, and foundations who believe in the value of a Catholic, Benedictine education. Today, your support makes it possible for us to continue transforming lives and expanding opportunities for current and future Bengals. Gifts of every size make a meaningful difference and can be directed toward areas that align with your passions and philanthropic goals, including:

- » **Tuition assistance, gap funding, and scholarships for deserving students**
- » **Capital improvements that enhance classrooms, athletic facilities, and campus spaces**
- » **Academic, leadership, and extracurricular programming opportunities**
- » **Faculty support and professional development**
- » **Technology and Innovation initiatives**
- » **Investments in the Benedictine High School Endowment**

This centennial year presents a unique opportunity for all of us to come together in gratitude and support the mission that has impacted generations of young men. Participation at every level is meaningful because it demonstrates a collective commitment to the values and traditions that have defined Benedictine for a century.

A gift today helps provide tuition assistance, strengthen academic and extracurricular programs, enhance our campus, and ensure that current students have access to the same life-changing opportunities that have benefited so many before them.

At the same time, our 100th year invites us to think beyond today and consider the legacy we will leave for the future. Through endowment support and planned giving opportunities, benefactors can make a lasting investment that will sustain Benedictine's mission for generations to come. These gifts create permanent resources that help secure scholarships, programs, and educational excellence long into the future.

We are blessed to have your commitment and value the support you provide during this monumental 100th year!

Yours in St. Benedict,



Mr. Chris Lorber '04
Chief Operating Officer



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Ora et Labora: A publication of **Benedictine High School** and **Saint Andrew Abbey**

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Turn Taxes Into Tuition

by directing your tax dollars to our Men of Benedictine – SGO money goes directly to scholarships and tuition assistance

- ▶ **NO COST** way of supporting Catholic education – every dollar comes back to you
- ▶ Anyone who pays Ohio state taxes is eligible to participate, every individual can redirect up to \$750
- ▶ Last year we raised over \$200,000 from 215 donors – our goal this year is \$300,000

Ask your family and friends to participate!

Find out more at:

cbhs.edu/bengalsgo

