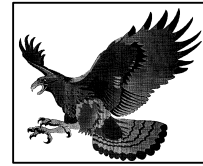


# *Albertus Magnus High School Newsletter*



Joseph T. Troy, President/Principal  
Carl Locatelli, Assistant Principal

December, 2009  
Volume 50, Number 3

## **Remembering and Rehearsing Advent**

There is nostalgia in an old-fashioned Christmas. Our Christmas cards and displays tend to present the holiday in terms of generations gone by. Our Christmas carols and family traditions bring us back to our childhood. But there is a danger to such a backward-looking orientation. We can become entrapped in our memories and imagine that the purpose of this season is simply to provide similar memories for our children and our grandchildren. This is why we are fortunate to have the season of Advent.

Advent is not about the past but the future. The Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent calls us to look forward to the return of Jesus, to stand up straight and await the coming our Salvation. Advent, then, is not about the people we used to be, but the people we can become. It does not direct us to find God in the memories of our childhood, but rather in the promises of the future.

Advent offers us a pattern of remembering and rehearsing. Advent is not afraid to remember. It does not hold us back from reliving what we have experienced and witnessed in our lives. But the remembering of Advent is not a goal in itself. Advent uses our memories as a way to shape a new beginning. Advent invites us to rehearse for the coming of Christ, for the good things which still lie in our future.

Advent is about remembering and rehearsing – remembering the truth of our past so that we can live in the present and rehearsing for the new day and the gifts which God has yet to give us.

*“The Faith Connection”  
November 29, 2009*



## HONOR ROLL

**FIRST HONORS** is awarded to a student who achieves an average of 95% with no failing grade in any subject or examination.

### **FRESHMAN**

Monica Branca  
Jessica Dominianni  
Lauren Gruffi  
Stephanie Ruppen  
Jack Sullivan



### **SOPHOMORE**

Chloe DeEntremont  
James Mackey  
Michaela Murdock  
Ashley Mosquea  
Alex Pavon  
Anthony Tantillo

### **JUNIOR**

Briella Bartholomew  
Deanna Bova  
Cortney Cabillis  
Brooke Castiglione  
Clarissa Flores  
Kassandra Flores  
Kyung Hoon (Rob) Kim  
Brenna Mackey  
Andrew Muckell  
Alison Murphy  
Jessica Muttitt  
Christine Zemsky

### **SENIOR**

Kimberly Amaba  
Alyssa Aurellano  
Amanda DeLaurentiis  
Soul Han  
Michael Vercillo



**SECOND HONORS** is awarded to a student who achieves an average of 90% with no failing grade in any subject or examination.

### **FRESHMAN**

Callie Baily-Wickins  
James Brooks  
Michael Catania  
Sara Chivelly  
Ashley Columbia  
Shannon Donohue  
Salvatore Flores  
Conor Houlihan  
Cassie Jacob  
Shannon Keown  
Jeewon Khil  
Thomas McConnell  
Kelly Mickler  
Kerry Mulcahy  
Heather Murray  
Casey O'Brien  
Karn Pandya  
Giselle Rodriguez  
Andrew Schweitzer  
Jessica Silva  
Michael Strack

### **SOPHOMORE**

Shawnette Afriyie  
Tara Condon  
Denise DeRosa  
Jessica Fallon  
Mairead Fallon  
Adam Gloc  
Stephanie Gutierrez  
Sean Hanlon  
Joseph Hennessy  
Conor Horan  
James Huber  
Alexis Jimenez  
Nathaniel Lecorps  
Michael Montenegro  
Sabyne Nicolas  
Kellie Rellis  
Charlotte Rodriguez  
Tyler Sayre  
Delia Shankey  
Casey Silvestri  
Victoria Slowik  
Ryan M. Smith  
Sri Stewart  
Kaitlyn Sullivan  
Jake Tedesco  
Rachel Thanasoulis  
Michael Tiongson  
Ashley Ward

### **JUNIOR**

Faith Alacar  
Joy Alacar  
Anthony Arcangel  
Michelle Ausejo  
Brandon Ballane  
Andrew Burke  
Ashely Canivel  
Timothy Choi  
Kaylee Conway  
Antonella Cotaj  
Demi Culianos  
Brendan Cummings  
Felicia Dacruz  
Shanice Dessources  
Karen Dietrich  
Sean Egan  
Kevin Fanshawe  
Andrew Festa  
Bridgit Hohlfeld  
Colleen Horan  
Patricia Horan  
Joseph Inoncillo  
Kassandra Kayser  
Shannon Kilbride  
Jong Hoon (Chris) Kim  
Shin Jung (Sophie) Kim  
Daphne Leger  
Ashley Lewis  
Jillian Lugo  
Kerianne McFadden  
Christina Nguyen  
Robert Pearson  
Meghan Perez  
Melissa Place  
Matthew Rubino

### **SENIOR**

Nicholas Biktjorn  
Mallory Branca  
Michelle Chalco  
Christina Connell  
Kaitlyn Cully  
Gina Dacruz  
Maureen Dougherty  
Ciena-Marie Evasco  
Katherine Germain  
Caitlyn Hoffman  
Monica Horan  
Ryan Keenan  
Ashley Kennedy  
Danielle Kennedy  
Cara Lane  
Bethany Leon  
Melanie Lopez  
Julianne Mandara  
Felicia Nicolas  
Kelly Nolan  
Fiona O'Riordan  
Nicole Paciello  
Alexander Pischera  
Gian Luca Pugliese  
Stephanie Rosado  
Jerel Saul  
Heather Shaw  
Elizabeth Spillane  
Amanda Ventola  
Ashley Wales  
Lillian Whelan  
Andrew White  
Madeleine Yakal

### **JUNIOR (cont.)**

Brandon Shadood  
Brielle Smith  
Alexa Sousa  
Kyle Sullivan  
Alyssa Wilson  
Anna Maria Wlodarczak





## Fall Drama Production

### 'Death By Dessert'



On November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, students at Albertus Magnus put on a dinner theater murder mystery, **Death by Dessert**. Well attended on both evenings, everyone involved with the play did an outstanding job and must be commended.

Stephanie Rosado, Sofie Kim, Alexis Jimenez, Brandon Sack, Michael Vercillo, Anthony Mauro, Andrew Muckell, Anthony Tantillo, Jualianne Mandara, Jessica Silva, Alexis Garafola, Scarlett Moore, Taylor Golden, Joseph Inoncillo, Cara Lane, Ashley Columbia, Berlande Millus, Lucy Sanchez, Cathleen Kenny, John Brenner, Faith Alacar, Joy Alacar, Jennifer Bases, Alyson Benoit, Katherine Bonikos, Matthew Brenner, Michelle Chalco, Elizabeth Czerwinski, Kimberly Diaz, Alex Dore, Peter Duffy, Sean Egan, Katherine Germain, Adam Gloc, Stephanie Gutierrez, Brenna Mackey, James Mackey, Shelby Memoli, Jessica Muttitt, Ryan Olori, Stephanie Ruppen, Sri Stewart, Kaitlyn Sullivan, Daniel VanHise, Connor Vazquez, Ashley Kennedy, Strav Sylvian, James Brooks, Dan McConnell, Sal Florio, Brian McNiff, Becky Honor, Ashley Mosquea, Bridget Humphrey, John Nyemchek, Cassie Jacob, Josh Nyemchek, Amanda Jaen, Kristin Pelatti, Alexandra Lane, Delia Shankey, Nathaniel Lecorps, Jimmy Ventola, Katie Ludwig, Alyssa Wilson, Julia McClarnon.

Mrs. Nadia Rizzo, Mr. Dan Valentin and Ms. Jen Wassmer must also be congratulated for directing this superb production. We all look forward to the Spring Drama production!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Fall Sports Awards



### Boys Soccer

#### All League

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Team

Brandon Gruffi  
John Spadaro  
Kevin O'Keefe  
Shane Durkin  
Tim Kelly

#### Honorable Mention

Denis Michalak

#### MVP

Brandon Gruffi  
John Spadaro

#### Coach's Award

Kevin O'Keefe

#### Most Improved Player

Shane Durkin



### Girls Soccer

#### All League

Gina Dacruz  
Clarissa Flores  
Erin Harding

### Cross Country

#### All League

Nick Gregoriades  
Danielle Kennedy  
Brian McNiff  
Christian Musngi  
Richard Cant



### Volleyball

#### All League

Katie Guarino  
Kelly Nolan  
Marie Lang

#### MVP

Katie Guarino

#### Coach's Award

Marie Lang

#### Most Improved Player

Kelly Nolan



### Tennis

#### All League

Ali Horn  
Erin Hanley  
Maddie Yakal  
Kim Amaba



### Football

#### All League

Ryan McLaughlin  
Kieran Brennan  
Michael Celenza

Nick Biktjorn

Corey Lopez

#### Honorable Mention

Desmond Brennan

Rich Fray

Dan Alacar

Jeremy Sosa

Kyle Sullivan



## Midnight Run Junior Run – December 7, 2009

AMHS students, faculty and families collect clothing, prepare a meal and spend time with the homeless in New York City. The Midnight Run is looking for donations of socks, underwear, sweaters and coats in size XL & XXL, hats, gloves, scarves, toiletries and blankets.

Donations may be delivered to the main office. If families would like to get involved, we are always looking for drivers to accompany us. Contact the main office if you are interested.

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The following students have been awarded the **2010 Scholarship for Academic Excellence** by the New York State Education Department:



**Kimberly Amaba  
Alyssa Aurellano  
Felicia Nicolas  
Michael Vercillo**



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## MUSIC NOTES

Greetings from the music department! Here are a few important reminders:

Our Cookie Dough Fundraiser was a success!! We raised \$2000 for the music department, and are planning to use that money to help defray costs for the upcoming spring musical. The cookie dough will be in on December 3rd, right in time for Christmas baking!

**Our annual Christmas concert will take place on Thursday, December 17th at 7pm in the gym. A number of groups will perform, including the Chorus, Pep Band, VERITAS, and Phenomenon--the new a cappella group at AMHS. Save the date and come celebrate the Christmas season with music!**



On November 6th and 7th, more than 60 students were involved in the Fall Drama "Death By Dessert." This murder-mystery dinner theater was a first for Albertus, and it was well received by all! The drama club played to a sold out crowd on Saturday night, and served over 400 dinners between the two nights. The students did an outstanding job--I'm so proud of all that we have accomplished thus far! Mark your calendars: "Back To The 80's: The Totally Awesome Musical will open on March 26th. Any student still interested in being a member of the ensemble will have an opportunity to audition on Wed. December 2nd after school. Hope to see you there!

*Musically,*

*Mrs. Nadia Rizzo*

\*\*\*\*\*

## ART NEWS

For the first time ever, the Art Department hosted an Alumni Art Show in September and October. Fourteen artists participated with a showing of over 25 works of art. Students, parents, faculty and the visitors at our two Open House events expressed numerous compliments about the art on display. Congratulations to all!

*Jen Wassmer '90, Michael Tedesco '05, Matthew Ziehnert '05, Chris Wiley '06, Christine Etienne '07, Caroline Amaba '08, Nicole Caggiano '08, Jessica Deyne '08, Kelsea Dineen '08, Jesse Inoncillo '08, Jamie Nyemchek '08, Caitlin McMenamin '09, Chris Tow '09, Christina Conceicao '09.*

The Art Department is very proud of senior artists **Amanda DeLaurentiis, Maureen Dougherty, and Maddie Yakal** for their participation in the 16th Annual High School Women Artists Exhibition at the College of New Rochelle. Their art was on display from October 24-November 8. Albertus Magnus has been a proud participant of this show for the past eight years.



*Jen Wassmer, Art Department*

*Alumni Art Show Project Coordinator and Gallery Curator - Class of 1990*



## Teacher Christmas Gifts



A long standing Parents' Club tradition at Albertus Magnus High School is to provide our faculty and staff with a Christmas gift to recognize their hard work and efforts. Donations may be sent to the main office to Sr. Rita's attention until December 21<sup>st</sup>. Thank you for your generosity.

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### 2009 Albertus Magnus High School McNichols Christmas Tournament

Tuesday, December 29, 2009  
Wednesday, December 30, 2009



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## ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division 2 is looking for new members to join their organization. The AOH has been a tremendous supporter of Albertus Magnus having offered scholarships to incoming freshman students since the mid-1990's as well as supporting important functions of Albertus such as Project Graduation, the annual Auction, and our general fund. Anyone interested in joining this organization, please contact the President, Dennis Flannery at (845) 623-2956.

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## HALL OF FAME



The Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Carl Locatelli, Asst. Principal, was welcomed into the Albertus Magnus Hall of Fame as a member of the 2009 Class.

We salute Mr. Locatelli for this recognition as the school's longest serving educator (AMHS teacher & administrator since 1966) and also applaud his '09 HOF Classmates: Brother Tom Leto '70 (Special Award); Diane McCrudden O'Brien '82 (Female Athlete); Brendan Gorman '92 (Male Athlete). The Ceremony & Commemorative Journal were held and published this year in memory of the late Phillip Esposito '92, Captain, U.S. Army. The proceeds from this year's ceremony will support a scholarship fund established in Captain Esposito's name.

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## 2010 Parents' Club Auction

The 2010 auction is scheduled for **Saturday, March 20, 2010, 7:00 PM**, at the New York Country Club. We need all of our families to support this fundraising event, our largest and most important fundraiser to benefit the Science Lab project. It is a wonderful evening of **good food, great fun, friendship, for a great cause---our students of today and tomorrow!**

There are many opportunities for families to get involved. Our next Auction Meeting will be held on **Monday, December 14, 2009** at 9:30 AM. We welcome your "time, talent and/or treasure" for solicitation of sponsors or gifts, donating a gift or service, decorating and/or creating baskets for the silent auction. If you have any questions call Lynda Spadaro (845) 429-5523 or email [general823@aol.com](mailto:general823@aol.com).

## ADAPP facts of the month: Tobacco

Tobacco-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and snuff- damages your health. Smoking is particularly harmful for teens because their body is still changing and growing. The 200 known poisons in cigarette smoke can affect your normal development and can cause life-threatening diseases (chronic bronchitis, heart disease, stroke).

Cigarettes contain nicotine-a powerfully addictive substance. The younger a person starts smoking, the more likely he is to become strongly addicted to nicotine. The poisons in cigarettes can affect your appearance. Tobacco stains teeth, nails, dulls skin and hair. Research confirms smoking even causes skin to age prematurely.

It can be hard for individuals to play sports if they use tobacco. Smoking causes shortness of breath and dizziness. Chewing tobacco causes dehydration.

Myths: Smoking helps you relax

Fact: Smoking increases feelings of stress and nervousness. Drug-free strategies: exercise, talking with friends etc.

Myth: Smokeless tobacco is safe

Fact: Even a little smokeless tobacco can lead to many types of health problems as well as cause cancer.

**The bottom line:** *If you know someone who is using tobacco, urge them to quit. If you are using-stop. The longer you ignore the real facts, the more chances you take with your health and well-being.*

SAMHSA's National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information

<http://ncadi.samhsa.gov>

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# Indoor Multi Family Garage Sale

Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at

Albertus Magnus High School

in the Cafeteria

from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Donate** your stuff and we'll sell it to benefit the *Girl's Lacrosse Team*.


(Please drop off at the Main Office by December 11<sup>th</sup>)

if you have questions, please contact:

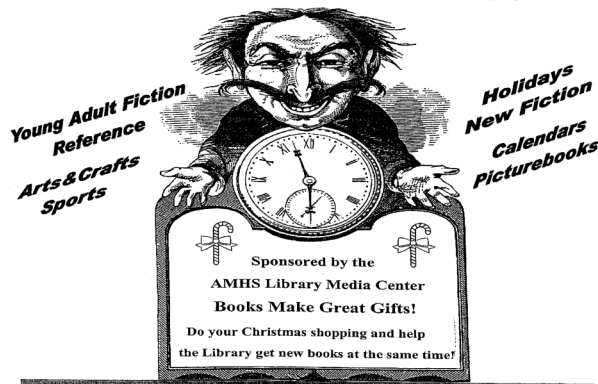
Missi Holland: 845 623-8842 x 232

[mholland@albertusmagnus.net](mailto:mholland@albertusmagnus.net)

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

- |                        |   |  |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Friday, December 4     | - | Freshman/Sophomore Christmas Dance—8:00—11:00 PM |
| Monday, December 7     | - | Midnight Run—Junior Class                        |
| Tuesday, December 8    | - | No School—Feast of the Immaculate Conception     |
| Friday, December 11    | - | Junior/Senior Christmas Dance—8:00-12:00 AM      |
| Wednesday, December 16 | - | Progress Reports Mailed                          |
| Thursday, December 17  | - | Christmas Concert—7:00 PM                        |
| Wednesday, December 23 | - | Christmas Liturgy—9:00 AM—Dismissal-10:00 AM     |
| December 24-January 1  | - | Christmas Recess                                 |
| December 29 & 30       | - | McNichols Christmas Tournament                   |
| Monday, December 28    | - | Alumni Game—12:00 PM—3:00 PM                     |
| Monday, January 4      | - | Classes Resume                                   |



**ALBERTUS MAGNUS  
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