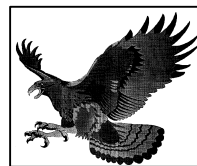


# *Albertus Magnus High School*

## *Newsletter*



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

**January, 2012**  
**Volume 52, Number 4**

### **STATEMENT OF CARDINAL-DESIGNATE DOLAN**

On this “Twelfth Day of Christmas” the traditional celebration of the *Epiphany*, I have received a gift from Pope Benedict XVI, as he announced just a couple of hours ago at the end of Mass in Saint Peter’s Basilica that I would be among those to become a cardinal in Rome at the consistory of February 18<sup>th</sup>.

Yes, I am honored, humbled, and grateful, ...but, let’s be frank: this is not about Timothy Dolan; this is an honor from the Holy Father to the Archdiocese of New York, and to all our cherished friends and neighbors who call this great community home.

It’s as if Pope Benedict is putting the *red hat* on top of the Empire State Building, or the Statue of Liberty, or on home plate at Yankee Stadium; or on the spires of Saint Patrick’s Cathedral or any of our other parish churches; this is the successor of Saint Peter saying to the clergy, sisters, brothers, lay faithful of this archdiocese, and to all of our friends and neighbors of New York: Thank you! Keep up the good work! You are a leader, an inspiration, to the Church and to the world.

Over the Christmas holy days I finished a biography of President Kennedy, and recalled his reply to someone who sincerely congratulated him on the honor of the presidency.

“Thanks,” John Kennedy replied, “but I don’t look at it so much as an honor as a call to higher service.”

My sentiments exactly. This is not about privilege, change of colors, hats, new clothes, places of honor, or a different title. Jesus warned us about all that stuff.

No: this is about an affirmation of love from the Pope to a celebrated archdiocese and community, and a summons to its unworthy archbishop to serve Jesus, His Church universal, His vicar on earth, and His people better.

I’ll try to do that...but I sure need your prayers.

Adding to our sense of joy, is the news that another native New Yorker, my brother bishop and good friend, Archbishop Edwin O’Brien, until recently Archbishop of Baltimore and now the Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher, has also been elevated to the cardinalate. The Cardinal-designate was ordained a priest for this Archdiocese in 1965, and he is still warmly remembered for his service here as a priest, secretary to Cardinals Cooke and O’Connor, Rector of Saint Joseph’s Seminary, and auxiliary bishop.



Thanks so much for your good wishes.

# HONOR ROLL

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

## **FRESHMAN**

Maxx Annunziata  
Ronald Arvanites  
Griffin Favre  
Allison Fisher  
Samantha Giuliano  
Jacqueline Hennelly  
Kelly Houlihan  
Kevin Leddy  
Madison McGrath  
Elisabeth Pappalardo  
Matthew Peterson  
Kiera Townsend  
Gabrielle Valdez  
Michael Waldron



## **SOPHOMORE**

Terence Amonica  
Caroline Bartholomew  
Kristin Burns  
Fiona Egan  
Bridget Gallione  
Annemarie Hahnenfeld  
Hailey Hoffmann  
Madison Kandoth  
Jessie Kay  
Luke Kern  
Megan Mearian  
Raymond Mosquea  
Maureen O'Dowd  
Courtney Olsen  
Grace Ostolozaga  
Matthew Raggi  
Brian Reardon  
Katie Solesky  
Megan Townsend  
Kiana White  
Tracy Xiao

## **JUNIOR**

Callie Bailey-Wickins  
Jennifer Bases  
Monica Branca  
Sara Chivelly  
Ashley Columbia  
Jessica Dominianni  
Shannon Donohue  
Salvatore Florio  
Lauren Gruffi  
Brian McFadden  
Jack Sullivan

## **SENIOR**

Chloe DeEntremont  
Eugene Fallon  
Alexis Jiminez  
Nathaniel Lecorps  
Christian Musngi  
Victoria Slowik  
Ryan M. Smith  
Jonathan Soriano  
Sri Stewart  
Anthony Tantillo  
Rachel Thanasoulis



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## **Accreditation for Growth**

On April 24-27, 2012, our high school will be evaluated by five educators for the purpose of Re-Accreditation with the Commission on Secondary Schools. The first AFG accreditation took place in March 1999 and the second AFG took place in April 2005. Since the turn of the century, accreditation has had a major impact on the field of American education. Accreditation responds to the public's demands for improved quality and greater accountability for institutions serving society's needs. Accreditation bodies enjoy a unique "public trust" role in the United States. In other words, accredited schools can be trusted by the public to be what they claim they are and to do what they claim to do. Whatever an accredited school says about itself has both the sanction and confidence of the profession.

AFG stands for "Accreditation for Growth". It depends on the continuous growth of student achievement. As part of the AFG protocol, a school is required to have a Planning Team of administrators, teachers, parents and students that look at the Mission Statement and the Belief Statements of the school. The school is also required to have two to four student achievement objectives that it plans to achieve in the next seven years.

## HONOR ROLL

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

### **FRESHMAN**

Edward Amaba  
Catherine Cain  
Christian Conklin  
Thomas Crowley  
Joseph Denise  
Andrew Discenza  
Emily Ferretti  
Carli Festa  
Andrew Gallagher  
Leanna Gallagher  
Michael Goff  
Claire Hatala  
Kevin Hayes  
Sean Healey  
Daniela Herrera  
Kaitlyn Joong  
Kelly Kozar  
Michael Lang  
Ashley Lara  
Anthony Lettieri  
Maria Maguire  
Shayna Meehan  
Maylan Nguyen  
Anita Oolut  
Jade Ortiz  
Shyanne Ottosi  
Amber Pandya  
Anthony Parisi, Jr.  
Gianna Pisano  
Honora Reilly  
Emily Roff  
Emily Ryan  
Kimberly Sano  
Arianna Simon  
Sean Teneyck  
Allyson Tierney  
Joanna Todd  
Brendan Valentine  
Feda Yacoub  
Caroline Zemsky

### **SOPHOMORE**

Georgette Afriyie  
Zachary Agosto  
Michel Aurellano  
Marisa Blanco  
Jenna Braca  
Laura Clinton  
Anthony Colucci  
Megan Confrey  
Mikaela Connell  
Michelle Coppola  
Mary Czerwinski  
Bridget Dineen  
Ryan Doherty  
Heather Durkin  
Bailey Fiscus  
Brianna Flores  
Sabrina Francois  
Brianna Gallagher  
Alessandra Garcia  
Charles Giordano  
James Gizzi  
Connor Hayes  
Janine Kennelly  
Felicia Long  
Cristina Magistra  
Dana McLaughlin  
Kaitlyn McNamara  
Emily Minkowitz  
Savannah Moore  
Brendan Nolan  
Ryan O'Grady  
Christine O'Riordan  
Jacqueline Parker  
Tabitha Salci  
Sania Solon  
Brianna Untener  
Patrick Ward  
Allison White  
Carter Whitmore

### **JUNIOR**

Alyson Benoit  
Michael Catania  
Elizabeth Czerwinski  
Stephanie DeCoro  
LeslieAnne Des-  
sources  
Dylan Discenza  
Jordan Galindo  
Marissa Grieco  
Cassie Jacob  
Shannon Kiown  
Jeewon Khil  
Thomas McConnell  
John Nyemchek  
Casey O'Brien  
Christine Ottaviano  
Jessica Paciello  
Karn Pandya  
Meghan Reilly  
Giselle Rodriguez  
Stephanie Ruppen  
Andrew Schweitzer  
Jessica Silva  
Michael Strack  
Chrystal Thomas  
Daniel VanHise

### **SENIOR**

Shawnette Afriyie  
Kaylin Brady  
Matthew Brenner  
Alejandra Chalco  
Tara Condon  
Jonah DeLucia  
Denise DeRosa  
Tashnee Desrivieres  
Jessica Fallon  
Mairead Fallon  
Emma Gavin  
Ashley Gorman  
Erin Hanley  
Joseph Hennessy  
Jourdan Henry  
Conor Horan  
James Huber  
Bridget Humphrey  
Amanda Jaen  
Hye Won Khil  
Rivkha Laguerre  
Steven Leo  
Katlynn Ludwig  
James Mackey  
Joseph Marinucci  
Julia McClarnon  
James McEntee  
Michael Montengro  
Ashley Mosquea  
Alex Pavon  
Kristin Pelatti  
Brielle Pereira  
Colleen Power  
Charlotte Rodriguez  
Tyler Sayre  
Delia Shankey  
Diana Siclari  
Casey Silvestri  
Arianna Sotos  
Kaitlyn Sullivan  
James Tafuri  
Michael Tionson  
Limer Vieluf  
Ashley Ward  
Glynnis Widmer  
Dong Jun Woo  
Kimberly Yano



## BOYS SOCCER AWARDS



### ALL-LEAGUE:

James Huber  
Timmy Kelly  
Matt Dale  
Karl Jamiolkowski

### ALL-LEAGUE HONORABLE MENTION:

Arnell Dandridge  
Eric Babiartz

### ALL-SECTION:

James Huber

### ALL-SECTION HONORABLE MENTION:

Timmy Kelly

### 1st Team ALL-COUNTY:

James Huber

### 2nd Team ALL-COUNTY:

Timmy Kelly



### Honorable Mention ALL-COUNTY:

Matt Dale  
Karl Jamiolkowski

**Rockland Journal News Scholar Athlete of the Week: James Huber**

### **TEAM AWARDS:**

MVP: James Huber  
Coaches Award: Timmy Kelly & Arnell Dandridge  
MIP: Ryan Smith



## BASKETBALL UPDATE

The boys and girls basketball teams are off to good starts. The boys are 5-1 and won the prestigious Slam Dunk tournament at the Westchester County Center. **Tyler Sayre** was named MVP of the tournament. The boys beat White Plains in the semi finals and last years class A champion Byram Hills team in the Finals.

The Girls are undefeated having won their first 5 games of the season and beating Notre Dame HS from Utica in the finals of the McNichols tournament. **Colleen Power** was selected all tournament and **Maeve Parahus** was the MVP of the tournament

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## Girls Lacrosse Garage Sale Fundraiser

*It will soon be time for: Spring Cleaning*

Clean out your closets, basements, and garages and DONATE all your unwanted "junk" to the Girls Lacrosse Fundraising Garage Sale

"One man's junk is another man's treasure."

Contact Missi Holland to drop off any items you may have to Donate.  
mholland@albertusmagnus.net



**Garage Sale is set for Sunday March 11, 2012**

## FROM THE OFFICE OF CAMPUS MINISTRY



December was a busy month. On December 9<sup>th</sup>, 23 Seniors and 4 volunteer parents, joined Mr. Troy and Sr. Nancy on a **Midnight Run** into Manhattan to reach out to the homeless at four different locations. Our Seniors distributed food, clothes and blankets to their sisters and brothers in need but most importantly took time to converse and listen to their stories and offered encouragement and hope to the people they encountered. All members of the Senior class supported this project by helping sort and prepare donations to be used that night. On January 20<sup>th</sup>, the Junior class students will have their Midnight Run experience.

All classes participated in the **“Forget Yourself – Be An Elf” Toy Drive**. Each year “adopted and agency to collect toys to help make Christmas special for those in need. Four charities benefited from the generosity of our AM students – One To One Learning, Nyack, NY, St. Dominic’s Home, Blauvelt, NY, Toys for Tots and Rockland Psychiatric Children’s Hospital, Orangetown, NY. All were most appreciative as expressed in the various letters of appreciation received. “Your generosity to our children is truly a reflection of the Gospel values that have been instilled in you at Albertus” –Sr. Cecilia LaPietra, Executive Director One To One Learning and former Campus Minister at Albertus; “Your gifts will warm the hearts of children and young adults who will not be with their families for a variety of reasons” –Sr. Francis McLean, Special Services Coordinator, St. Dominic’s Home.

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, Five Seniors volunteered their time to help in a variety of ways at a **Christmas** dinner and celebration for several persons with developmental disabilities from the Susan Lane group home of Cardinal McCloskey Services of White Plains, NY. The event was held at Albertus Magnus Convent. These students generously gave of their time as they responded to an invitation from Sr. Jeanne Shary. O.P. herself an Albertus alumna. From all reports it was a great evening. As one student said: “Let me know when they are doing that again. It was great! I’d go back in a minute!”

As we begin this new year, we are looking forward to many other special opportunities for our Albertus students to be the hands and hearts of Christ in various ways. For more information on our Campus Ministry efforts feel free to contact Sr. Nancy any time at: (845) 623-8842 ext 204.

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### Great Fun (and Success!!) at Christmas Boutique, 2011

On Saturday, December 3, 2011, the Falcons Parents’ Club, led by Mrs. Kim Gruffi, Mrs. Mary Jane Michalak and Mrs. Cheryl Ward, hosted our first (in what we hope will be an annual celebration!) **Christmas Boutique** with close to 50 vendors in attendance offering unique and beautiful holiday gifts to the general public. This special event fund-raiser was held on the first Saturday (12/3/11) of December from 10AM to 4PM in the cafeteria and outer hallway and kicked off the Yuletide with a very spirited gathering that was a community-wide affair with the participation of students, faculty/staff, alumni and parents.

The shopping bazaar not only offered guests a special gift-buying opportunity but it also provided everyone in the family a chance to ‘Celebrate the Season’, as baby-sitting services were offered to the young ones by our students dressed as elves. AM scholars helped the visiting children draft their Christmas letters for delivery to the North Pole in time for December 25<sup>th</sup>! Santa Claus was also in attendance for the entire event and picture-taking with Kris Kringle was the “order of the day” for many of the families who stopped by Albertus!

AMHS student-athletes also assisted the artisans/merchants bring their products and display cases into the building and served various concessions to the Boutique’s attendees over the course of the six-hour revelry. Mrs. Nadia Rizzo, AM Music Director, led Veritas Honors Chorus with Christmas carols sung in the revamped dining hall to further brighten this festive happening.

The Christmas Boutique’s net proceeds of almost \$4,500 will be used by the Falcon Parents’ Club as more capital for our Springtime Dinner/Auction in April, 2012. We are most grateful to the Boutique’s leadership and all the moms who did a tremendous job in transforming a portion of our campus into a Christmas Wonderland for all our guests! We hope and believe it’s the start of something great!

## Music Notes



The Annual **Christmas Concert** was held on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Chorus, Band & VERITAS performed. The concert was well attended and put everyone in the Christmas spirit.

On Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 40 Albertus students were among the 325 that attended the 25<sup>th</sup> annual **PAWS** (Performing Arts Workshops) held at SUNY Purchase. PAWS is a great opportunity in which students select workshops in various areas of performing arts, including singing, acting, and dancing. It gives students an opportunity to attend classes not traditionally offered in their high school programs such as Irish Step Dancing, Gospel Singing, and Stage Combat.

Three Albertus Magnus HS music students will represent AMHS at the **All County Concert** at Nanuet High School in February. Students become eligible to be “all county” based on their NYSSMA (New York State School Music Association) festival scores from May of the previous year. Each spring, students prepare a solo on their primary instrument, and are critiqued at a festival.

**Finn Titland**, freshman, will play trombone in the All County Band.

**Katherine Bonikos**, junior, will sing Soprano 1 in the Women’s All County Chorus.

**Stephanie Ruppen**, junior, will sing Soprano 1 in the Mixed All County Chorus.

We are very proud of them – Congratulations!!

On Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, members of **VERITAS** traveled to the Sparkill Dominican Convent to sing for the sisters. Students performed works from their Christmas Concert, as well as having a sing-along. A great time was had by all!

This year’s NYSSMA festival will take place on Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Any student involved in band or chorus is eligible to participate. See Mrs. Rizzo for more information.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The Albertus Magus High School Performing Arts Department will present: **HAIRSPRAY!** **Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup>.** Over 90 students are involved in this production—we look forward to seeing you there!!

*Submitted by Mrs. Nadia Rizzo*

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The **Ski & Snowboard Club** took their first trip on Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.

Additional trips are planned for January 13<sup>th</sup>, January 20<sup>th</sup> and February 3<sup>rd</sup>



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## 2012 Parents’ Club Dinner/Auction Fundraiser

Please note that our 2012 major fundraiser, **The Parents’ Club Dinner/Auction**, is scheduled for **Saturday evening, April 14, 2012, at the New York Country Club in New Hempstead, NY**. We ask all our families to participate in this very special event where funds raised will benefit the continued rehabilitation of our suite of science classrooms.

This celebration is our most important “money-maker” on the Academic Calendar and brings together current parents, faculty, administrators, students, alumni and friends for an evening of fellowship and fun.

A formal invitation will be mailed to you by the last week in January. Please support us with your attendance, a journal ad, a donation of an auction item or by asking others to donate funds, sponsorships or gifts-in-kind. Come to our meetings and learn how you can help! Please call Marty Moran in the AM Alumni Office (845)623-8842 x229 with any questions or e-mail him at: [mmoran@albertusmagnus.net](mailto:mmoran@albertusmagnus.net)

## Guidance Notes

### FAFSA Assistance Workshop:

As a public service, SUNY Rockland Community College is offering a Student Financial Aid Day: **February 11, 2012 at 12:00**. At this event, prospective students and families will receive assistance from SUNY financial aid professionals in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

These workshops are offered free of charge. Pre-registration for SUNY's Statewide Student Financial Aid Day is available at [www.suny.edu/studentevents](http://www.suny.edu/studentevents) or by contacting the SUNY Recruitment Response Center at 800.342.3811.

### College Planning:

Parents of Juniors are encouraged to contact Guidance to make appointments to meet with your child's counselors to discuss the college planning and application process.

**Casey Ehrie**, Director of Counseling - Students grades 10-12 last names A-K

Tel#: 845-623-8842 ext.233

Email: [cehrie@albertusmagnus.net](mailto:cehrie@albertusmagnus.net)

**Missi Holland**, Counselor - Students grades 10-12 last names L-Z

Tel#: 845-623-8842 ext.232

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

### SAT Practice Test:

Albertus has an opportunity for Juniors to take a practice SAT test on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Guidance at 845-623-8842 ext 202 to sign up or email us at [vmcghee@albertusmagnus.net](mailto:vmcghee@albertusmagnus.net)

### Upcoming SAT Dates:

Please visit [www.collegeboard](http://www.collegeboard) to register.

January 28, 2012

March 10, 2012

May 5, 2012 (test given at Albertus)

June 2, 2012

### Upcoming ACT dates:

Please visit [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) to register.

April 4, 2012

June 9, 2012

September 8, 2012

October 27, 2012

December 8, 2012

### Naviance:

Guidance counselors have visited with Juniors and Sophomores to inform them about Naviance Succeed. Students were given their password and the Naviance link <https://succeed.naviance.com>. Counselors will be meeting with Freshmen in January. Naviance Succeed is a complete solution that provides support and guidance to students, families and school staff to promote student achievement and post-secondary success.

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## **YOUTH COURT**

Three AMHS students have graduated from The Town of Orangetown Youth Court. **Taylor Mormile**, **Kaitlyn Solesky** and **Megan Townsend** graduated from Youth Court on Tuesday, December 6, 2011. We applaud these students!

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

- |                        |   |  |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Monday, January 16     | - | Martin Luther King Day—School Closed             |
| Friday, January 20     | - | Second Quarter Ends<br>Midnight Run—Junior Class |
| Monday, January 23     | - | March For Life—Washington D.C.                   |
| January 24—27          | - | School Exams                                     |
| Thursday, January 26   | - | Accepted Students Night—7:00 pm                  |
| Thursday, February 2   | - | Registration—Class of 2016                       |
| Friday, February 3     | - | Report Cards Mailed                              |
| Friday, February 10    | - | Tuition Payment Preference Forms Due             |
| Friday, February 17    | - | 28th Annual Rockland Read-In                     |
| February 20—24         | - | Mid-Winter Recess—School Closed                  |
| Wednesday, February 22 | - | Ash Wednesday                                    |

