

SUMMER 2016



Saint Pius X

CONNECTIONS



Saint Pius X CONNECTIONS

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St. Pius X Connections is published by the St. Pius X High School Advancement Office.

The mission of St. Pius X Connections is to provide alumni and friends of SPX with news, information, and inspiration regarding the school and each other.



Dear Friends,

Congratulations to the St. Pius X High School Class of 2016. These 154 students earned \$11.45 million in college scholarship offers and over their senior year provided almost 9,000 hours of service to their community. We are proud to launch these exceptional young men and women into the wider world and pray for their continued success.

At our May 23 baccalaureate mass and May 24 graduation ceremony we were happy to hear addresses from Archbishop John C. Wester. From John 13, "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another," Wester encouraged our graduates to love and treasure all their friends, especially their greatest friend Jesus Christ.

Along with honoring the Class of 2016 and its accomplishments, we devote this issue of Connections and the coming school year to celebrating 60 years of St. Pius X High School. Beginning with our Diamond Jubilee Gala in April and continuing throughout the 2016-2017 school year, St. Pius X will mark our start in the basement of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School in 1956 to the successes of today. We hope you will join us as we host events celebrating each decade of our 60-year history beginning with the '60s in September. See page 12 for details. Additionally we feature "60 Things We Love About St. Pius X", and we hope everyone finds something to love on the list.

Sincerely,

Barbara M. Rothweiler, PhD

Principal

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- What do you love about St. Pius X High School? Here's a list we hope you will enjoy and even add to!*

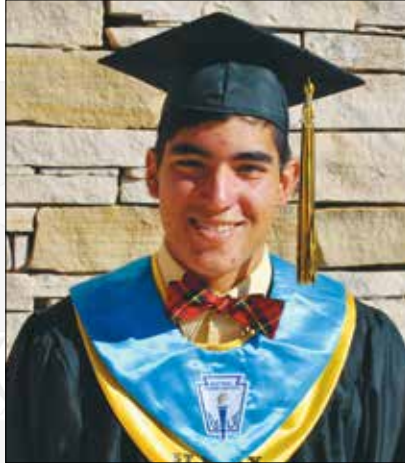
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ON THE COVER

Snapshots from six decades of learning, service and friendship make our cover collage a celebration of St. Pius X High School's 60-year history.



Outstanding Graduate: **Matthew Sluder**

Matthew Sluder is the Outstanding Graduate of the Class of 2016, the highest award presented by St. Pius X High School. The faculty chooses the recipient of this award through a voting process that involves several steps to find just one outstanding graduate whose life truly embodies the school motto of "Teach me goodness, discipline and knowledge."

Sluder also received the Principal's Leadership Award for his integrity and leadership. Dr. Barbara Rothweiler selected Sluder for being a person of strong character who has been an instrumental member of the Campus Ministry Team, Retreat Ministry Team, and Track and Field Team. Sluder also led the student body in a successful blanket drive in his senior year.

Senior Choice:

Madison Baca *and* Jacob Carpenter

The 2016 SPX Senior Class chose Madison Baca and Jacob Carpenter as its Senior Choice Award winners. Each year, seniors are asked to consider the following qualities in nominating a boy and a girl from their class who represent the all-around ideal St. Pius X student: intellectual integrity, respect and caring for his or her peers, sensitivity, congeniality, and leadership. The seniors are asked to vote for the two students whom they most respect and admire as good people and as good Christians. Words and phrases like "role model, always smiling, always helpful, selfless, passionate and diligent" are phrases used to describe Baca and Carpenter. They have been active in student council, campus ministry, sports, and other student activities. They are committed to their Catholic faith, to St. Pius X, and are held in the highest esteem by their classmates.



Valedictorian: **Clayton Bliss**

Clayton Bliss is the St. Pius X High School 2016 Valedictorian. He plans to study mechanical engineering at Arizona State University. His future plans include traveling whenever he can and exploring the world. Bliss's favorite SPX teacher is Ms. Barbara Ducaj '79. "She always says hi in the halls and has the best/worst jokes," he says.

Bliss is the son of Nancy Missert and David Bliss, a graduate of Holy Ghost Catholic School, and a member of Holy Child Parish. Asked what it takes to be valedictorian at SPX, he answered tongue-in-cheek (we hope): "Picture yourself in the Hunger Games and it's basically the same."

GRADUATION 2016

The Class of 2016

Eloy G. Abeyta
 Naomi Lauren Abeyta
 Sofia R. Alderete
 Arielle M. Aragon
 Emilio Tomas Arellano
 Jonathan Matthew Arnett
 Shanelle F. Arviso
 Lauren Claire Atencio
 Hannah M. Baca
 Madison Sue Baca
 Kristen Marie Baker
 Caryn Bernal
 Clayton Forest Bliss
 Emily Eve Marie Brown
 Isabella R. Bruzzese
 Emily Ann Burford
 Alexandra Mia Campa
 Joshua Michael Campbell
 Jacob Isaac Carpenter
 Andrea Lee Cordova de Chavez
 Christopher John Chavez
 Cassidy Jay Cheshire
 Kanisha Kateri Chinana
 Nicholas Allan Christman
 Ryan Michael Coe
 Janelle Rae Cote
 Natasha Gira Dark
 Luke H. Denoyer
 Danmay Diep
 Donald Francis Dilenno Jr.
 Aryanna Alexis Dominguez
 Jacob Lee Drury
 Savanah J. Duran
 Steven Malone Duran
 Augustin Antonio Eichwald
 Madison R. Esparza
 Ciana Rose Faulkner
 Rebecca Leigh Fiedler
 Thomas KyooMin Filner
 David Y. Gallegos II
 Gabriella Nicholl Gallegos
 Joseph Alvaro Gallegos
 Guy Jody Garcia
 Jordan Marie Garcia
 Taylor Renee Garcia
 Alicia Nicole Gavaldon
 Kasey Nicole Givens
 Esquipula Kean Gonzales-Stocks
 Kulani Sol Gonzales-Stocks
 Gabrielle Nicole Gonzalez
 Brianna Nicole Guggino
 Jared Joseph Gurule
 Juliana M. Gurule
 Brad Scott Gutierrez
 Carlos Mateo Gutierrez
 William Austin Hammond
 Angelo Francisco Hausner-Cavanas
 Mitchell Diego Hayden
 Elena Teresa Heiss
 Jennifer Anne Hernandez
 Vanessa Natalie Hernandez
 Nichole Marilyn Hill
 Miles Phillip Hilton
 Alayna Marissa Holcomb
 Kayla Marie Ielacqua
 Michael William Johnson
 Haydn Thomas Jones
 Emma Yvette Klein
 Taquala Minoka-Jean Konico
 Madison Elizabeth Lash
 Roxanne Marie Lester
 Marek M.A. Listy
 Andrew Joseph Lobato
 Justin Daniel Lotz
 Gabrielle Lyndon Lucero
 Mercedes A. Lucero
 Veronica N. Lucero

St. Pius X High School awarded 154 diplomas to the Class of 2016 on May 24 at graduation ceremonies held at Sandia Resort Amphitheater. These students contributed almost 9,000 hours of community service and were awarded \$11.45 million in college scholarships. SPX also honored its senior class with an awards presentation after the Robing Ceremony and Baccalaureate Mass on May 23 at the SPX gym.

Service Awards

Kulani Gonzales-Stocks received the Marcita Marek Award, given yearly to a young lady who embodies the qualities of athletic leadership and service that former SPX P.E. teacher Marcita Marek valued.



Kulani Gonzales-Stocks

Gonzales-Stocks and Jacob Carpenter received the Primo Contreras Awards, presented by the Theology Department to students who have demonstrated joy in serving others outside our school community, a love of St. Pius X High School, and an exemplary character.



Jacob Carpenter

Art Awards

The Renaissance Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Fine Arts department, is presented to **Amelia Mascolo** and **Anelisa Montoya**, students who have excelled in multiple areas of the Visual and Performing Arts.



Amelia Mascolo

Mandalay Osborn is the 2016 recipient of the \$1,000 Art Has Heart College Scholarship presented by the Art Has Heart Foundation. The scholarship is supported by Legacy Art Albuquerque, an annual fine art auction organized by St. Pius X High School and Art Has Heart.



Anelisa Montoya



Mandalay Osborn

Class of 2016 College Acceptances

Adams State University
 Arizona State University
 Baylor University
 Benedictine University
 Boise State University
 Butler University
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Central College
 Central New Mexico College
 Clemson University
 Colby-Sawyer University
 Colorado School of Mines
 Colorado State University
 Concordia University
 Cornell University
 Creighton University
 Eastern New Mexico University
 Eckerd College
 Emerson University
 Florida Southern College

Fordham University
 Fort Lewis University
 Gonzaga University
 Grand Canyon University
 Gustavus Adolphus College
 Hawaii Pacific University
 Hofstra University
 Johnson & Wales University
 Judson University
 Loyola University-Chicago
 Loyola University-Los Angeles
 Loyola University-New Orleans
 Manhattanville College
 Marquette University
 Massachusetts Maritime Academy
 Missouri Western State University
 New Mexico Highlands University
 New Mexico State University
 New Mexico Tech University
 Northern Arizona University
 Oberlin Conservatory
 Old Dominion University

Oral Roberts University
 Oregon State University
 Pace University
 Pennsylvania State University
 Pepperdine University
 Purdue University
 Quincy University
 Regis University
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Rockford University
 Santa Clara University
 Seattle University
 St. Edward's University
 St. John's University
 St. Mary's University
 Texas A&M University
 Texas Tech University
 The New College of Florida
 Trinity University
 University of Arizona
 University of Colorado Boulder
 University of Connecticut

University of Dallas
 University of Dayton
 University of Denver
 University of Hartford
 University of Hawaii-Manoa
 University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
 University of Massachusetts
 University of Miami
 University of New Mexico
 University of Northern Colorado
 University of Notre Dame
 University of Portland
 University of San Diego
 University of South Carolina
 University of Southern Florida
 University of the Southwest
 University of Tulsa
 University of Utah
 Vanderbilt University
 Wells College
 Western New Mexico University
 Xavier University

Athletic Awards

The SPX Athletic Department named diver **Natasha Dark** and football player **Alexander Sais** the St. Pius X Scholar-Athletes of the Year for excelling in both academics and athletics. Dark is a two-time state diving champion. Sais is a First Team All-State defensive end. Both are members of the school's state champion Academic Decathlon team and in the Senior Class Top Ten.

Taylor Garcia is the Danny McKay Memorial Manager of the Year and **Jenna Ramirez** is the Outstanding Sports Medicine Student of the Year. Garcia and Ramirez have given generously of their time to the athletic department in support of SPX athletic teams.

Named Athletes of the Year are baseball and football player **Miles Hilton** and soccer player **Lourdes Padilla** for demonstrating the highest skills, leadership, teamwork, coachability and work ethic.



Natasha Dark



Alexander Sais



Miles Hilton



Lourdes Padilla

Academic Awards

Christopher Monjaras is the Saint Pius X Excellence in Social Studies Award winner for showing his passion for history and law throughout his four years at St. Pius X High School.

In the the National Merit Scholarship Program, **Michaela Resta** was named Certificate of Merit, Finalist, and **Grace Stotzer** was recognized as Commended, Semifinalist. Each year more than one million students take the PSAT examination to compete for these prestigious awards.

The National Hispanic Recognition Program named eight St. Pius students as National Hispanic Scholars: **Emilio Arellano, Madison Baca, Mitchell Hayden, Gabriel Maestas, Arianna Marquez, Christopher Monjaras, Micaela Resta,** and **Matthew Torres.**



Christopher Monjaras



Grace Stotzer



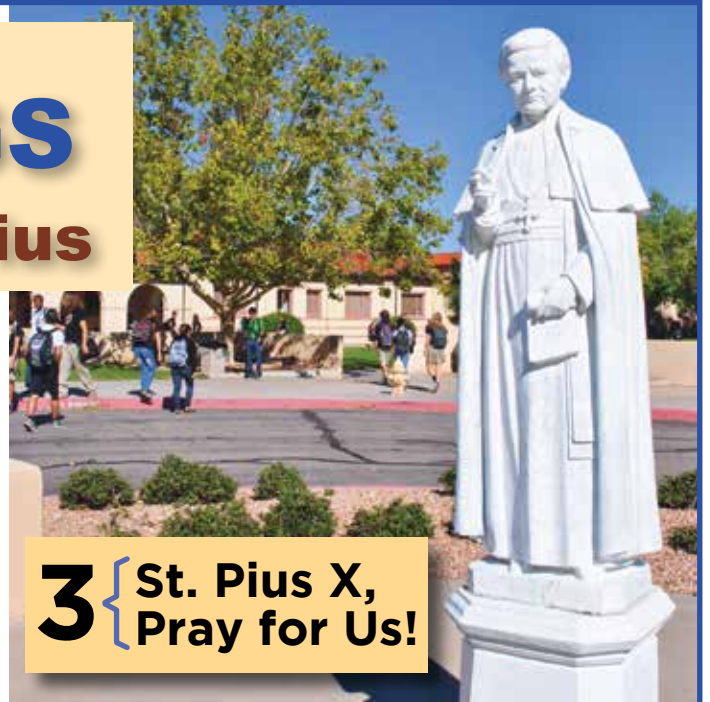
The Class of 2016

Danae M. Maes
 Gabriel D. Maestas
 LaShay Irene Marks
 Arianna G. Marquez
 Arturo Hipolito Martinez Jr.
 Jacob Andrew Martinez
 Amelia R. Mascolo
 Jamal E. Mayhew
 Patrick David McCarthy
 Marianna Isabella Medina
 Justyce Millan-Martinez
 Mariam Victoria Mohagheghi
 Christopher Edward Monjaras
 Anelisa Claire Montoya
 Carly Adrianna Montoya
 Amy Elizabeth Moore
 Gabriela R. Mora
 Zachary James Morrison
 Jason Matthew Muller
 Sampson Roberto Musser
 Christopher Thomas Nigg
 Taylor Marie O'Connell
 Angeline R. Ortiz
 Brandon Kyle Ortiz
 Isaac J. Ortiz
 Mandalay Shyanne Osborn
 Lourdes Elena Padilla
 Benjamin Ali Parmoon
 Frank E. Perea
 Tatiana Jordan Perry
 Lesley A. Pettit
 Quentin Isaiah Pino
 Maya Mei Pinon
 JennaMarie J. Ramirez
 Micaela M. Resta
 Dominique Breann Rivera
 Jesse Michael Rivera
 Jacqueline C. Robledo
 Vanessa Renee Mary Rocco
 Jenna Mariah Romero
 Jordyn Teresa Romero
 Justin Jerome Rosenthal
 Alexander David Sais
 Alexis Maria Salas
 Megan Kay Samora
 Annie Noel Sanchez
 Jean Marie Sanchez
 Luke C. Sanchez
 Marisa Luisa Sanchez
 Sammy F. Sanchez
 Jaeden Raquelle Sandoval
 Tatiana Sophia Sarracino
 Ravn Michela Senti
 Thomas Scott Silva
 Jonathan Brent Skroch
 Joshua Ray Slatton
 Matthew G. Sluder
 Giovanna M. Snow
 Olivia Chantal Sotelo
 Grace Louise Stotzer
 Nayo Gracia Suarez
 Juan Antonio Terrazas
 Matthew Robert Torres
 Marisa S. Trujillo
 Alyssa M. Valdez
 Monique Jacquelynn Valdez
 Teresa M. Valdez
 Aritza Valles
 Brenden N. Vigil
 Austin Robert Waterman
 James Owen Weingartner
 Parker Miles Willis
 Jakob Stanley Wojtowicz
 Isaac Paul Woodhouse
 Elijah Earl Wyckoff
 Jordan Keith Wylie
 Eduardo Ybarra

X 60 THINGS

We Love About St. Pius

We all love St. Pius X High School for our own reasons. In honor of our 60-year celebration, we offer 60 things we have found to love about SPX. These are purposely not numbered by importance and not listed in numbered order. We hope you have fun exploring this list. If you have items to add, send them to us at spxeditor@outlook.com. We may continue the list in our next issue.



3 { St. Pius X,
Pray for Us!

1 { Our Faith

55 { The Basilian
Fathers
1968-2000

8 { School Mass



17 { Homecoming
Parade

36 { Benefactors

St. Pius X family is a generous group supporting Mardi Gras, the SPX Golf Classic, Legacy Art, the Sartan Fund and endowments.

23 { Our Ever-Changing
Home Football Field



From the Dukes' Albuquerque Sports Stadium to UNM's University Stadium, we've played and watched football in some interesting places.



46 { The Hall
of Honor

48

**The Pius
Community**

"One of the many things I love about Pie High is how many different folks come together in times of need to both celebrate and sympathize with each other," says Lonny Hurley '77.



19 { Sarto the Winged Lion

Sarto, the winged lion pulled from our school's own crest to represent our school spirit, debuted at the senior baccalaureate mass in 2014.

4 { Love Stories

Your most important memory? "The day I met my future wife, Barbara," says Lonny Hurley '77. "It changed everything to come."



24 { Homecoming Winter Ball Prom

14 { The X

30 { Academics

With 15 state championships in Academic Decathlon, state qualifying awards in VEX Robotics challenges, International Thespian Society national invitations, and DECA's award-winning future business leaders, St. Pius students compete nationally in top academic competitions every year. With 15 Advanced Placement courses, St. Pius offers as deep and wide an education a high-achieving student could want.

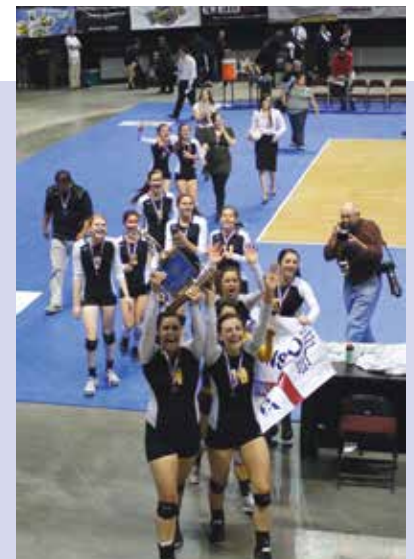
20 { Defending Our Name

What is a Sartan? It's a question we will forever be answering.

11 { The Fight Song

29 { Senior Pranks

31 { Deacon Rene's Sports Prayer



35 { Championships

Boys Soccer (17), Baseball (9), Girls Soccer (8), Boys Basketball (7), Boys Tennis (6), Volleyball (6), Cheer (5), Boys Water Polo (4), Drill/Dance Team (4), Girls Basketball (4), Boys Golf (2), Football (2), Girls Water Polo (2), Girls Tennis (1), Softball (1).



52 { Coach Tybor's Slide Shows

37 { Legacy Families



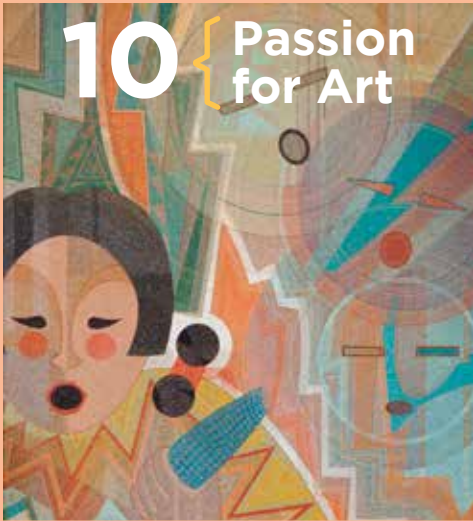
Two and three-generation Pius families are common as the school celebrates 60 years. Dalia Delgado-Baca '91 now has two sons, Joey '17 and J.J. '19, at St. Pius. "I love that my sons are enjoying St. Pius as much as I did," she says. Leonard Sanchez writes that his wife Anne '63, daughter Lori Eix '87, sons Greg '91 and David '85 and wife Cathy '85, and granddaughter Emily Eix, the Class of 2015's valedictorian, are proud to be three generation Sartans.

49 { Community Service



Over the course of four years at St. Pius, each student provides a minimum of 115 hours of service in the church, school and community. Many go above and beyond to earn a varsity letter in community service by providing a total of 120 hours of service in a single year.

10 { Passion for Art



The late Helen Hardin '61, a renowned painter of abstract Native art, took drafting class with the boys when she ran out of art classes to take. Today students' opportunities extend to Advanced Placement studio art and A.P. art history classes widening their knowledge and experience.

39 { Chi Rho Yearbook

51

Performances: Plays, Coffee Houses, Concerts, Art Shows

50 { Robotics Lab



59

SPX Spirit

2 { Our View



57 { The Quad

44 { Letter Jackets

13 { Senior Hill

ABQ Uptown } 7

This shopping center will always hold a special place in our hearts.



45

The Sartan Snack Shack



21

The Class of '63's Victory Bell

27 { Teachers



Every Pius era has its list of teachers who impacted the lives of students. Fr. Falbo is a perennial favorite. Today's students mention Mr. Penn and Mr. Zuber, among many others. Chuck Reynolds '64 remembers Fr. Eggert: "During my freshman year at UNM I was doing very well in my biology class, and the professor approached me and asked where I went to high school. I answered, 'St. Pius,' and he nodded his head and said, 'You're doing so well in my class, you must have taken biology from Frank Eggert.' It was strange to hear Fr. Eggert referred to as 'Frank'. The biology faculty at UNM certainly knew who he was."



60 { The Freshman Class of 1956

The 116 students who pioneered a high school tradition without the benefit of upper class mentors, launched all that we love about St. Pius X High School today. Thanks for paving the way!



32 { Fr. Chike and the "Our Father"

47 { Grandparents Day

6 { We Bleed Black and Gold



41 { Powder Puff Game

12 { Alma Mater

33 { The Ray G Bowl



Established in memory of legendary Coach Ray Giannini, the faculty and staff versus students flag football game is played each year.



Coach Giannini

38 { Coaches

The coaches we love may never know the full impact they have on their players. Michael Olivas '68 says, "I have loved and admired Coach Leon Palmisano, who singled me out for leadership and service as a young boy; not a day goes by that I do not try to repay this debt of nearly one half century."



Coach Palmisano

9 { Friendships

40 { Senior Week

5 { Senior Retreat



54

58 { St. Charles Elementary School Basement where classes began in 1956.

The Most Reverend Archbishop Edwin Vincent Byrne and the nearly 700 volunteer campaign workers who launched the effort in 1957 to build St. Pius X High School on Louisiana Boulevard. Archbishop Byrne turned the first spade of earth on March 2, 1958.



43 { Signing Day

22 { Rivalry Games



Packing the stands for an Academy game is a tradition we deeply enjoy!

15 { Our College Prep Education

Students across the decades universally say they were well prepared for the colleges they have attended across the country. Today, with the English department's writing program along with new and advanced classes added each year in science and math, St. Pius X students enter the nation's top universities every year.

26 { Teach Me Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge



42 { Graduation

56

Fifty-Six Graduating Classes Sent Out to Take on the World

16 { Involved Alumni



From our Alumni Council to support at athletic and arts events, Sartans stay involved with each other and with their school. The Class of '64 contributes to its own endowment every year to ensure that Catholic education is available to as many students as possible.

34 { Pioneering Students



18 { Tug of War

25 { Life-Long Relationships

Jessica Montano '05 still sees and travels with her very best friends from St. Pius. "These are life-long connections we make at Pius," she says. "It's so unique that the Pius community still ties us together and that we can rely on that."



28 { Dress Code

53 { 23 Alumni Doubling as Faculty and Staff



Mascot Memories

1956-1959

St. Pius X Panthers prowled the city, even celebrating Pantherama, until the basketball team moves to District 1A. There the Menaul Panthers have dibs on the cat and the state activities association requires a change.



1960

The Sartans — coined from Pope Pius X's given name, Giuseppe Sarto — take the field and begin to answer the ever asked question, "What is a Sartan?" Some from the era question the validity of the student election held to select the Sartan symbol, but the name sticks.

1995

In a school-wide contest to design a Sartan, Beth Fernandez '99 and Adrian Infante '99 draw on the idea of the word "sarto" as Italian for "tailor." In their combined designs the Sartan wields a tailor's needle and wears a mitre.



2013

The Winged Lion roared out from St. Pius X High School's own crest as an obvious symbol of faith, power, history and mystique. The symbol of St. Mark the Evangelist and patron of Venice, the Winged Lion appears in Pope St. Pius X's coat of arms as a symbol of his city and is represented in the lower right panel of the school's crest.



A Tradition of Excellence

From 116 freshmen who met in temporary quarters in the basement of St. Charles Borromeo Elementary School to the 2016 graduating class of 154 Sartans who distinguished themselves by contributing almost 9,000 hours of community service and receiving \$11.45 million in college scholarship offers, St. Pius X High School has created a tradition of excellence as a college preparatory school focused on values-based education.

Since 1956 St. Pius X has educated national, state and local leaders in government, business, service, science, education and the arts. This year St. Pius X celebrates 60 years of rich tradition and friendship, challenging academics, and athletic success.

Over 60 years St. Pius X has lived the changes of the times. In 1959 boys and girls were allowed to attend some science classes together, diverging from the completely separate classes they had taken since 1956. It was not until 1967 when boys and girls attended all classes together. St. Pius X students also saw their campus move from an elementary school basement to what the

New Mexico Register called one of "the most impressive high school structures in the Archdiocese," built at Louisiana Boulevard and Indian School Road with the sacrificial giving of families of the parishes of the Northeast Heights. In 1984 the Archdiocese announced plans to move St. Pius X to the University of Albuquerque campus on Coors Boulevard overlooking the Rio Grande and the city. In the fall of 1988 Sartans stepped onto the revamped campus, which they've called home ever since.

The yearlong celebration of 60 years of St. Pius began with the Diamond Jubilee Gala on April 22. Groups of classmates, parents, teammates and friends gathered together to relive memories and celebrate the future. Additional events are planned throughout the year to bring together Sartans and to celebrate St. Pius X and its impact on our community and our world. Sartan Socials throughout the summer, Homecoming gatherings, celebrations of the six decades of St. Pius X graduates, and an Alumni Mass are some of the events planned. See pages 12 and 13 for details.

The X

Drive any major street in Albuquerque and you're likely to catch sight of a gold X on a vehicle's back window. Head down Coors Boulevard and you'll see multiple Xs. Take the freeways extending from the city and the X shines from the cars of students commuting considerable distances to receive our college-prep, Catholic education. The X ties our Sartan community together in a special way.

Jeff Turcotte, activities director, says this show-of-pride and mobile marketing tool originated in the early '90s when the football team received X decals to place on their helmets. The players each received a packet of two X decals, but the team chose to use the X on only one side of the helmets. Football players began to put the extra X they received on their cars.

Turcotte saw the opportunity to show the strength of our school in the community. "I decided, I'm just going to start giving them out," he says. When he began providing them at the annual ice cream social held to welcome incoming freshman, their use expanded with new students proud to show their St. Pius X affiliation. Recently the decals have been customized to feature various sports, activities or even the word "alumni" superimposed on the center of the X.

"It became our logo, our Nike swoosh," Turcotte says. "It's subtle, but very recognizable."

You can sometimes still spot those original football helmet decals on cars around town. They fade to black after years in the sun.



What is it about SPX?

Alumni From Across the Decades Answer **4** Questions

1 Share one of your most important St. Pius X memories?

Studying with Frs. Eggert, Falbo, and the many other wonderful and dedicated lay teachers, priests, and nuns. All taught me many academic subjects and life lessons, for which I will always be grateful. **Michael Olivas '68**

I remember getting on the bus for a Senior Week event and thinking about what an amazing four years I had.

Dalia Delgado-Baca '91

The late morning of November 22, 1963, our senior year, leaving the St. George classroom building and encountering Sr. Ann Rosaire overcome with tears and hearing from her the news of the assassination of President Kennedy. The student body came together quickly to mourn that tragedy in a beautiful way. **Chuck Reynolds '64**

As a teacher, it was a recent moment when a student I had the pleasure of teaching three times throughout his career received a massive scholarship to help make his dreams come true. Witnessing his growth and maturity from a social and intellectual perspective ultimately come to fruition in receiving that scholarship was amazing.

Anytime I get to see a student achieve their goals it imprints in my mind and reminds me why I returned to SPX. As a student, I often turn to the athletic achievements I was fortunate to be a part of. Winning state my senior year and going undefeated was an awesome memory. I'm still close with my teammates and despite the fact that we don't see each other often, when we do, we pick up where we left off.

Sheilah Jennings '04



Dalia Delgado-Baca



Sheilah Jennings

2 How did St. Pius prepare you for the future?

It prepared me by teaching me goodness, discipline and knowledge. That's instilled in me today. Add to that servitude, and always being a servant to your community and your family.

Jessica Montano '05

St. Pius taught me the importance of self-discipline in the pursuit of success.

Lonny Hurley '77

Having challenging coursework prepared me for future study and instilled in me the academic work habits I have practiced for more than 40 years of college teaching.

Michael Olivas

St. Pius prepared me for the future in so many ways, academically, socially, spiritually. I'm forever grateful for the commitment of our lay and religious faculty to give us a quality education. **Chuck Reynolds**

I credit St. Pius with my ability to problem solve and understand accountability. As a busy student who spent most of her time on campus rather than at home, it was easy to get lost in the shuffle of the extracurricular stuff. However, the standards and expectations at SPX demanded I manage my time well and prioritize appropriately. Similarly, I was encouraged and motivated to be my best by my teachers and peers. (This still holds true as a teacher on staff.) While I sometimes fell short, the journey in reaching for this goal is one I'll never forget. **Sheilah Jennings**

3 Why is St. Pius important to our community today?

SPX teaches discipline, tolerance and compassion. All things society could use much more of. **Lonny Hurley**

SPX has been in three different campuses over time, and a school community transcends its facilities, as important as those are. Seeing many family members and generations of SPX



Lonny Hurley

graduates shows how important the school is in the city and state. **Michael Olivas**

St. Pius X produces excellent, faith based young minds that have made us and will continue to make us proud. **Dalia Delgado-Baca**

St. Pius is important to our community today because it gives its students the greatest gift of all: high academic expectations with a values education. The high expectations extend to its entire diverse student population, with no exceptions. **Chuck Reynolds**

St. Pius is a family. To have such a large family to turn to in times of need, happiness, celebration, and comfort is an amazing cornerstone to have in a community. SPX doesn't just house the school community, but embraces the larger Albuquerque community as an integral part of our lives. **Sheilah Jennings**

St. Pius X is the only Catholic high school in the greater Albuquerque area and as such has a mission and obligation to educate young men and women to be leaders of faith and character wherever they live. Our country, our world need people of faith to stand up for what is right and just for everyone. Being open to being taught Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge not only during high school but throughout life makes a St. Pius education not only an education for life but also a way of life.

Rev. Ronald G. Schwenzer, CSB, SPX principal from 1990 to 1998

4 What is something you love or loved about St. Pius?

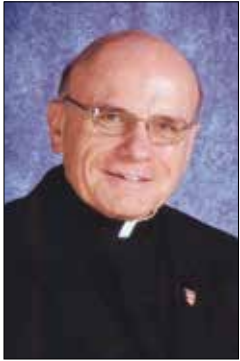
One thing I loved about St. Pius in the '60s was that they allowed the boys to wear bolo ties to fulfill the "boys must wear ties" dress code at the time. That definitely gave the campus a distinctly New Mexico flavor at the time.

Chuck Reynolds

I love that the community transcends the boundaries of the time you spent at SPX. I am good friends with fellow SPX grads who attended both before and after me. That immediate bond in common is something that brings together our community.

Sheilah Jennings

Schwenzer Receives Principal's Leadership Award



St. Pius X High School honored Rev. Ronald G. Schwenzer, CSB, with the Principal's Leadership Award at the Diamond Jubilee Gala on April 22. Selected for his leadership and service to St. Pius X High School as its principal from 1990 to 1998, Father Schwenzer says the award is about more than just him.

"As a member of the Congregation of St. Basil, I feel I am accepting this honor not just for me but as a part of a community of priests who worked all those years dedicated to Catholic education teaching goodness, discipline and knowledge," Schwenzer says. The Basilian Fathers led the school from 1968 to 2000, when they had to withdraw from St. Pius X due to lack of priests.

During Schwenzer's tenure at St. Pius X he facilitated agreements with the Archdiocese and the city; led campaigns to construct facilities for classrooms, fine arts and athletics; expanded the fine arts department; and oversaw enrollment growth at the school of about 25 percent.

"Something that took place while I was at Pius, that I am proud of and that I have not seen in the other three high schools that I led, was that staff members and not just faculty members were involved in co- and extra-curricular activities," Schwenzer says. He names Evelyn Olguin, the administration's communications coordinator and school mass liturgist, and David Sullivan, state champion girls varsity soccer coach and facilities/maintenance supervisor, as examples. "I think that said so much about the SPX community."

Schwenzer is pleased that many people he hired during his tenure continue to serve at St. Pius X. "There are many faculty members that I hired during the '90s that are still on the faculty, which speaks volumes to me about their dedication to the sacred mission of Catholic education," he says.

In 1998 Schwenzer was reassigned to St. Thomas High School in Houston where he was principal from 1998 to 2006 and became the first president from 2006 until he retired in 2012. He continues to live in the Basilian Fathers' residence located on the school campus running the kitchen and caring for part of the school grounds, assisting a local parish at least three days a week, and overseeing the construction of a new Basilian residence for 20 on the campus of the University of St. Thomas in Houston.



Celebrate 6 Decades of SPX

St. Pius X High School marks six decades this year! The fun begins in September as alumni from the '60s gather to celebrate.

Sept. 12, 8 a.m.: Participation at a regular student Mass at St. Pius. Deceased members of classes of the '60s will be remembered.

Sept. 23, 7-9 p.m.: "Sock Hop Social" at the St. Pius gym. Bring yourself and your '60s classmates for a ready-made reunion. (Light refreshments)

Sept. 24, 11:00 a.m., Homecoming Football Game, Milne Stadium. Complimentary Alumni tailgate before the game. Class of '66 to be honored at halftime.

The decades will continue to celebrate over the fall and winter with the '70s in October, the '80s in November, the 2000s in January and the '90s in February.



Featured artist
James Tsoodle



The 16th Annual Legacy Art Albuquerque Fine Art Auction celebrated art and artists on May 14 while benefiting students through scholarships and financial assistance. This year's Art Has Heart scholarship recipient is **Mandalay Osborn '16** who plans to major in business and fine art at UNM this fall. More than 150 pieces of art, jewelry and clothing were donated to make this year's event a success.

2016 Homecoming Events

Monday, Sept. 19

- Homecoming Parade, 2:30 p.m., Ben Rios Field

Thursday, Sept. 22

- Coronation, 8 - 9:30 a.m., Main Gym
- Alumni Art Show, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Fine Arts Center
- Bonfire, 6-9 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 23

- Powder Puff Game, 1:30-3 p.m., Ben Rios Field
- '60s Decade Sock Hop, 7-9 p.m., Main Gym

Saturday, Sept. 24

- Homecoming Game, 11 a.m., Community Stadium
- Pre-game Alumni Tailgate
- Class of 1966 to be honored at Halftime



Dan Martinez, Ann Grummer Sims, Phyllis Schubert and John Casey celebrate the Class of 1966 and kick off its 50th reunion year as honored guests the St. Pius X graduation ceremonies May 24.

Diamond Jubilee

Launches 60th Celebration

The Diamond Jubilee Gala on April 22 gathered 500 people to mark 60 years of St. Pius X High School and to launch the yearlong 60th celebration. The event raised more than \$57,000 for the St. Pius X Foundation to provide tuition assistance and support for the school. Special thanks to our generous sponsors!

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2016 Reunions

For detailed information on all 2016 SPX reunions, visit saintpiusx.com/alumni/reunions.

Class of 2006

10-Year Reunion • Dec. 21-23

Contact: SPX06Reunion@googlegroups.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/spx06reunion

Class of 1996

20th Reunion • July 22-24

Contact: Chris Chavez at

chrischaveznm@gmail.com

Website: spx96.com

Class of 1986

30th Reunion • Aug. 5-6

Contact: Myra Gattas at

dine@slatestreetcafe.com

or Josie Gallegos at josie.gallegos@msn.com

Tickets: Search "St. Pius X Class of 86

Reunion" at www.eventbrite.com

Class of 1976

40th Reunion • Aug. 19 - 20

Contact: Kathleen Daut Crawford at

mrcrawford9681@aol.com

Class of 1966

50th Reunion • Sept. 23-25

Contact: Phyllis at stpius1966@gmail.com

70%
of faculty members
hold advanced
degrees



Student-Teacher ratio
11:1

8,600
Community Service
Hours Performed
by the Class of
2016



38
Students recognized
by the National
Hispanic Recognition
Program and the
National Merit
Scholarship Program
over the past
four years

15 AP classes offered

577
Student-Athletes

24
Athletic Teams
including the
2015-2016
Girls Soccer,
Girls Water Polo
and Boys Golf
State Champions



36 TEACHERS
with more than 10 years
of experience at SPX



99% of SPX graduates
attend college

**RECENT ACCEPTANCES
INCLUDE:**

Arizona State University
Benedictine College
Carnegie Mellon University
Cornell University
Fordham University
Marquette University
Princeton University
St. Mary's College of California
Stanford University
Texas A&M
U.S. Air Force Academy
Vanderbilt University
University of San Diego
Yale University



1/3 OF STUDENTS
RECEIVE
FINANCIAL AID

45 Catholic
parishes represented

**\$11.45
MILLION**
Scholarships Awarded
to the Class of 2016



280 STUDENTS
participating
in Fine Arts
including
music, drama and
art programs



Class of 2016 Top Ten

The St. Pius X High School 2016 Top Ten Students worked hard to earn the best grade point averages in their class and took advantage of all that SPX has to offer. They represent nine parishes, six Catholic middle schools and one public middle school.

Valedictorian Clayton Bliss of Holy Child Parish and Holy Ghost Catholic School will study mechanical engineering at Arizona State University. "I loved seeing everyone come together this senior year," he says.

Salutatorian Grace Stotzer of Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish and School says the most important thing she learned at SPX was time management. She will attend Benedictine College in Kansas in the fall.

Emily Brown of Prince of Peace Parish and Holy Ghost Catholic School will attend Seattle University. She loves the community at SPX and says: "It's truly a family who can't wait to see you succeed."

Natasha Dark of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish and School says it takes dedication and discipline to be Top Ten at SPX. She plans to study biology with an eye towards going to medical school.

Jacob Drury of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish and School will study petroleum engineering at Texas Tech University. He says it took tears and sleep deprivation to be Top Ten at SPX.

Mariam Mohagheghi of Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish and School plans to attend Georgetown University to study biochemistry and attend medical school. She says the most important thing she learned at SPX was the value of hard work and a continued dedication in pursuit of goals.

Christopher Monjaras of Our Lady of Fatima Parish and School will attend Cornell University to study economics and labor relations with entering politics as the ultimate goal. "By far the biggest lesson SPX had to teach me was how to be a loyal and empathetic friend," he says.

Micaela Resta of St. Joseph on the Rio Grande Parish and Lyndon B. Johnson Middle School values the people she has met at St. Pius X: "I have been lucky enough to meet some of the most amazing teachers, students and staff here at Pius." She will attend the University of New Mexico to major in biochemistry and minor in music and plans to attend medical school.

Justin Rosenthal of Holy Ghost Parish and School will major in chemical engineering at Texas Tech University with a goal of attending medical school to become an orthopedic surgeon. He says to be Top Ten at SPX requires a strong work ethic and a demand for perfection.

Alexander Sais of Our Lady of Belen Parish and St. Mary's Catholic School (Belen) says the most important thing he learned at SPX is that the world is full of different and interesting people who all have something to contribute. He will study economics and play football at St. John's University in Minnesota.



SPX 2016 Top Ten (from left) Clayton Bliss, Emily Brown, Natasha Dark, Jacob Drury, Mariam Mohagheghi, Christopher Monjaras, Justin Rosenthal, Alexander Sais, Micaela Resta and Grace Stotzer.

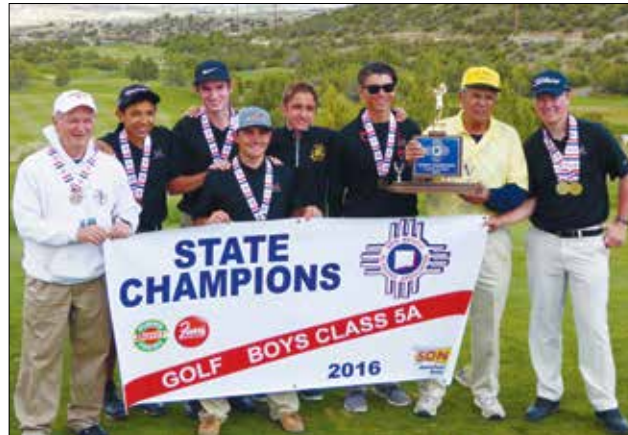
Golf and Water Polo Earn Championships

The **Boys Golf** team defeated Artesia by four strokes to bring home the 5A State Championship, its first since 1981. The win was Coach Jorge Tristani's 16th state title, his first in golf added to 15 in soccer. Patrick McCarthy was the low medalist by two strokes for the tourney held at Piñon Hills Golf Course in Farmington and was a medalist seven times this year. The team also earned the District Championship for the fourth year in a row and the Metro Championship for the first time ever.

Girls Water Polo brought home the state championship and secured a season record of 6-1. In boys water polo, Noah Howard won State Most Valuable Goalie. Howard and Grant Van Winkle were named to the All-State Team.

Girls Golf is the 5A State Runner-Up after a tiebreaker against Artesia in the State Championship at Piñon Hills Golf Course. Ashlee Garrett finished fourth at the state tourney and second in the district championship, which the team won.

Baseball advanced to the semi-final game in the state tournament, posting a 19-9 record for the season. The team finished as district and regional champions. Miles Hilton was named District Player of the Year and First Team All-District



Boys Class 5A State Golf Champions (left to right) Coach Jorge Tristani, Aidan Thomas, Elijah Wyckoff, Parker Willis, Tyler Garrett, Jason Muller, Coach Bobby Baca, and Patrick McCarthy.

third baseman and utility. Other First Team All-District awards included Dylan DiLorenzo, outfielder; Isaiah Chavez, pitcher; CJ Bachechi, second baseman; and Ryan McGaha, pitcher and outfielder.

The **Girls Track & Field** team won its 10th straight district title and placed fourth at the state meet. State champions include Arianna Martinez in the high jump and Haley Rizek in both the 100m and 300m hurdles. The two also claimed school records in each of their events. Jacque Pinon set the school record in the 3200m earlier in the season.

In **Boys Track & Field**, Steven Duran won the 800m for the fourth straight year in state record time of 1:53.05. Jacob Drury, Ben Parmoon and Justin Rosenthal joined Duran to win the medley relay setting school and state records with a 3:32.20. The boys team placed second at district and eighth at state.

Twelve Sartans signed their letters of intent to continue their athletic pursuits in NCAA competition at a school assembly on April 27. They are, back row from left, Patrick McCarthy, golf (Missouri Western State); Justin Lotz, baseball (University of the Southwest); Eduardo Ybarra, soccer (Concordia University, Wis.); Matthew Sluder, track and field (Benedictine College, Kan.); Miles Hilton, baseball (Cochise, Ariz., JC); Zachary Morrison, football (Massachusetts Maritime Academy); front row from left, Steven Duran, track and field (Texas Tech); Juliana Gurule, basketball (N.M. Highlands); Naomi Abeyta, soccer (Eastern New Mexico); Lourdes Padilla, soccer (Adams State, Colo.); Madison Lash, swimming (University of New Mexico); and, not pictured, Alex Sais, football (St. John's University, Minn.).

Boys Basketball ended the season with a record of 17-12. Emilio Arellano earned First Team All-State, All-Metro Defensive Player of the Year and All-Academic awards, First Team All-District, and a spot on the North-South All-Star team.

The **Sartan Swimming/Diving** team sent 19 Athletes to the State Championships this year where Nick Christman won the Bronze Medal in the 50 Freestyle. The girls team broke three school records with Madison Lash, Marina Guzman, Makayla Davidson and Davin Ruggles setting new marks in the 200 Medley and 400 Freestyle relays. Lash also claimed the record in the 100 Freestyle. Lash, Natasha Dark, Guzman and Ruggles all made finals at State Championships. The girls team finished ninth overall in the state.

Rugby played in the new Boys 10's division this year and put up a 2-1-8 record, with many of the losses occurring in the final minutes of play. With 10 of 14 players new to the game this year, the team looks forward to a seasoned group next season.

Softball earned a 6-20 record and was second in district play with a 4-5 record. Justyce Millan, Juliet Kelly and Dominique Sandoval were honored with First Team All-District awards. Kasey Givens, Tatiana Perry and Sara Roach were honored with Second Team awards. Millan and Roach will play in Italy on America's Team this summer.

The 2016 5-5A All-District **Girls Basketball** team included Sartans Maya Trujillo, Ariana Martinez, Veronica Lucero and Annie Sanchez. The team finished the season with record of 6-21.



SPX 2015-2016 First Team All-State Athletes

Emilio Arellano, *basketball*; North-South All-Star
Hannah Baca, *cross country*

Emily Burford, *volleyball, middle hitter*;
North-South All-Star

Jacob Drury, *track & field, medley relay*
Steven Duran, *track & field, 800m and medley relay*

Ciana Faulkner, *soccer, midfielder*
Tatiana Limon, *soccer, forward*; 5A New Mexico
Player of the Year

Ariana Martinez, *track & field, high jump*
Patrick McCarthy, *golf*

Lourdes Padilla, *soccer, midfielder*
Ben Parmoon, *track & field, medley relay*

Jacqueline Pinon, *cross country*
Haley Rizek, *track & field, 100m hurdles and 300m hurdles*

Justin Rosenthal, *track & field, medley relay*
Alex Sais, *football, defensive end*;

North-South All-Star
Victoria Sanchez, *soccer, defender*

Tatiana Sarracino, *soccer, goal keeper*
Juliana Zamora, *volleyball, left side/right side hitter*

In Memory

Mary Margaret “Peggy” Armijo ’64, age 70 of Albuquerque, died May 24, 2016. She pursued a master’s degree in Guidance and Counseling and served as a teacher and counselor for 21 years. Her survivors include her son Stephen Armijo ’07; her stepchildren Carmela, Gerard, and Mary; as well as her numerous grandchildren.

Michael Douglas Barfield, age 61 of Albuquerque, died Dec. 2, 2015. He is survived by his daughter **Heather ’94**, son Danny and one grandson.

Patricia Clarice McCanna Beller, age 82 of Albuquerque, died April 8, 2016. Her survivors include her husband, George; daughter Georganne Harsham; son **Thomas Beller ’83**; and five grandchildren.

Deacon Donald G. Bruckner, LTC (Ret) USAF, age 82 of Albuquerque, died in February 2016. His survivors include his wife, Elizabeth; children **Donald George Jr. ’79**, Geri Elizabeth, Thomas Joseph, and Karen Maria; and six grandchildren including **Margaret Bruckner ’11**, **Joseph Bruckner ’15** and **Katherine Bruckner ’17**.

Patricia Ann (Brothers) Chiado (“Patsy”) ’73, age 61 of Albuquerque, died March 7, 2016. Her survivors include husband Pat Chiado; children **Raquela Chiado ’04**, Cinzia Chiado and Kurt Chiado; and three grandchildren.

Barbara Ann O’Brien Curran, age 87 and formerly of Albuquerque, died Nov. 18, 2015. She is survived by her daughters, **Colleen Curran ’75** and **Tracy Curran Jonsson ’80**, and her son, **Jim Curran ’77**.

Jeff Helak ’81, age 52 formerly of Albuquerque, died Dec. 13, 2015, at his home in Elk Grove, Calif. A graduate of St. Pius, NMSU, & Ok. City Univ. Law School, Jeff was a software engineer in Davis, Calif. He was predeceased by his parents, Joseph and Barbara Helak, and brother **John ’76**. His survivors include wife Martha; daughter Gracie Helak; sons Nicholas Helak, Daniel Dobleman and James Dobleman; siblings **Laura Warden ’74**, **Joseph Helak ’79**, **Linda Schenkel ’80**, **Lisa Drapeau ’83**, **Lois Brakenhoff ’84**, Leigh Schierloh, **Lynn Jeffries ’89** and James Helak; and nieces and nephews **Jessica Warden Schlachter ’00**,

Jerod Sparks ’01, **Allison Warden Sizemore ’01**, **Elizabeth Warden Taylor ’03**, **Elena Warden ’05**, **Jens Brakenhoff ’14**, and **Joseph Brakenhoff ’17**.

Richard (Dick) W. Heim, age 90 of Albuquerque, died May 8, 2015. He is survived by his wife Audrey Heim; nine children, **Mary Heim Barnes ’71**, **Susan Heim Chiado ’72**, **Lori Heim Forseth ’73**, **Tom Heim ’76**, **Rick Heim ’77**, **Stephanie Heim Glover ’78**, Theresa Heim Smith, Jerry Heim, and **Anne Marie Heim Dunton ’86**; 34 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Christina Eve Jillson, age 94 of Albuquerque, died May 4, 2016. She was preceded in death by her spouse; and sons, Edwin and **Kevin ’73**. She is survived by her three sons, **Christopher ’69**, **Brian ’70** and **Gregory ’75**; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Mary Inez Lipinski, age 95 of Albuquerque, died March 20, 2016. Her survivors include her son, **Rev. Vincent A. Lipinski ’79**.

Jacque Lujan ’02 died in May 2016.

Eberhard “Lou” M.W. Lubitz, age 72 of Albuquerque, died Nov. 27, 2015. His survivors include his wife Valerie of 32 years; sons **Richard ’86**, Albert and Max; and nine grandchildren.

Presciliano “Percy” Mares of Albuquerque died Jan. 2, 2016. He is survived by his wife Ascencion “Chona” Mares; his sons, **Gary Patrick Mares, D.D.S. ’74**, **Frank James Mares, M.D. ’69**; and five grandchildren including **Michael Mares ’05** and **Michelle Mares ’06**.

Pete (Pietro) Matteucci, age 91 of Albuquerque, died Dec. 16, 2015. His survivors include children Julie Andrews, Linda Matteucci, John Matteucci, and **Rita Matteucci ’86**; five grandchildren including **Giovanna Snow ’16**; and three great-grandchildren.

David Anthony Padilla ’65, age 69 of Pojoaque, died March 31, 2016. David earned an engineering degree from the University of New Mexico and had a 40-year career in Los Alamos at LANL, DOE and ZIA. His survivors include his wife Debi Padilla; four children and 11 grandchildren.

Margaret J. (Peg) Purtell, age 91 of Albuquerque, died Dec. 22, 2015. She is survived by her children, Kate Prasek, **Pat Purtell ’66**, **Peg Moser ’67**, **Nancy Purtell ’69**, **Kevin Purtell ’73** and **Tim Purtell ’77**; 21 grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren.

Benjamin Kenneth Rivera ’08, age 27 of Rio Rancho, died May 30, 2016. He attended UNM for a degree in mathematics where he was a tutor in the C.A.P.S. program. He was employed by Bank of America as a teller. His survivors include his father, Dr. Louis Raul Rivera, stepmother, Julia Rivera; siblings **Louis Christopher ’91**, **Alexander Raul ’02**, **Natalie LouAnn ’05**, Dominic Robert Richard; and step-siblings, Quentin, **Olivia ’09**, and **Elliott Romo ’13**.

Father Edward Arthur Roberts, C.S.B., age 88 of Houston, Texas, died Dec. 2, 2015. He was a teacher at St. Pius X High School in the mid- to late-1970s. He is survived by his brothers Bill, Tom, George, Walter “Butch”, and James “Jimmy.”

William Loyd “Bill” Slimp ’73, age 60 of Albuquerque, died Nov. 16, 2015. He was a proud member of the basketball team that made it to the state finals under Coach Ron Tybor and for the last 18 years worked at GCC Rio Grande. His survivors include his daughter, Jolene; mother, Dorothy; siblings R. James Slimp, **Mark Slimp ’67**, Joni Bakken, **Leslie Monette ’76**, **Sam Slimp ’85**, and one grandson.

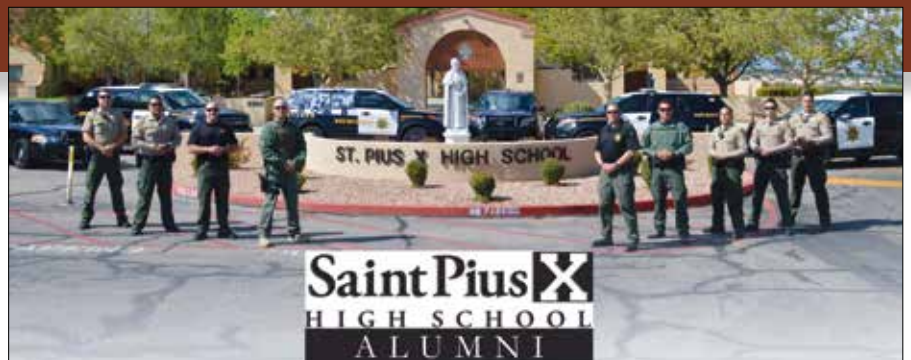
Rosemary Vaio of Albuquerque died Dec. 25, 2015. She is survived by her husband Aldo Vaio; children, **Bruce ’78**, **Beth ’79**, **Lynn ’80**, and the memory of her youngest son, **Robert ’83**; 11 grandchildren; and 1 great-granddaughter.

Helen Wondzell (Reis) of Albuquerque died in March 2016. She is survived by her husband, John; sons, **John ’75**, **Steve ’77**, and **Mark ’79**; daughters, **Jane ’81**, **Karen ’85**, **Sharon ’85**; six grandchildren including **Rachel ’08**.

Editor’s Note: Due to space constraints, beginning with the Winter 2016 issue, In Memory will be limited to notices of the passing of St. Pius X High School alumni.

Alumni Notes

The Bernalillo County Sheriff’s Department proudly boasts St. Pius X High School alumni within its ranks. They are pictured on the SPX campus (from left) **Anthony Szurek ’05**, **Andrew Limon ’09**, **Luke Edwards ’04**, **Van Eldredge ’83**, **Anton Maltby ’95**, **Ryan Zamora ’07**, **Justin Roybal ’04**, **Paul Jessen ’08**, and **Aaron Schwartz ’07**.



Miss New Mexico is a Sartan

Miss New Mexico USA **Naomie Germain '11** was scheduled to compete in the Miss USA pageant in June. Germain is a political science major at the University of New Mexico and a member of Emerge New Mexico, an organization committed to encouraging women to run for political office.

Germain entered her first pageant last year at the urging of her mother and after some self-directed research, won the local title of Miss Rio Grande in the Miss America system. She decided to continue competing and this year won the local Miss Paradise Hills title in the Miss USA system and then went on to win the Miss New Mexico USA crown.

Germain says her inexperience may have been her biggest advantage. "Everything I said was straight from my heart," she says. "I want to hold on to that."

Germain plans to carry her political science degree into a master's degree in business administration with an eye towards working as a political campaign manager. "My interest is in getting women involved in as many fields as possible," she says. "We need more women in elected office, that's where the real changes happen."



SPX Coach **Jeff Turcotte** was named 2015 Coach of the Year for Girls Cross Country and Boys Track by the New Mexico Coaches Association.

1980s

Coach **Wally Salata '82** and his Rio Rancho High School boys basketball team won the New Mexico High School 6A State Championship by beating Carlsbad 56-54. Salata won a state title as a player with St. Pius X in 1982.

2000s

Matt Gonzales '05 and **Colleen Canfield '07** were married Oct. 10, 2015.



Sheilah A. Jennings '04, a teacher in the social studies department at St. Pius X High School, was one of 51 teachers from across the country to receive a fellowship last summer from the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Alexandria, Va., which she used to study at Georgetown University. The fellowship funds up to \$24,000 of each Fellow's course of study towards a master's degree with a concentration of courses on the history and principles of the United States Constitution. The award is intended to recognize promising and distinguished teachers, to strengthen their knowledge of the origins and development of American constitutional government, and thus to expose the nation's secondary school students to accurate knowledge of the nation's constitutional heritage.

Gabriel Sanchez '01 is co-founder and CEO of Zebra Medical Technologies, a new biomedical research company disseminating wearable microscope technology for medical research and clinical imaging of muscular tissue. The company's new device, which takes the microscope to a person's living tissue through a needle the size of a flu shot, could provide unique insights into treating muscular degenerative diseases like ALS and muscular dystrophy. Sanchez prototyped the device while earning his doctorate at Stanford University.

2010s

Jacob DeRusha '12 received the Order of St. Louis IX Medallion from the Archdiocese of New Orleans for his dedication and service. He graduated in May from Loyola University and is a keynote performer at many retreats in his archdiocese. The award is one of the highest and most cherished honors bestowed by the archdiocese on members of the laity who have given unselfishly of their time and talent to the work of the Church.

Hopkins Awarded Golden Apple



Agapita "Pita" (Jacques) Hopkins '72 received the 2016 Golden Apple Excellence in Teaching Award in April. Hopkins is an adapted physical education teacher at Chaparral Elementary and Painted Sky Elementary in Albuquerque.

Children in Hopkins's classes are special education students who need varying degrees of modifications, assistance and adaptations for successful participation in P.E.

"My students are going to need some level of support throughout their lives," Hopkins says. "My position gives me the opportunity to provide parents resources and activities to help make their children's lives meaningful and productive into adulthood."

Hopkins cherishes the lasting relationships she forms with both her students and their families. "And I love proving to these kids, 'You can do this!'," she says. "There's so much more there than people see."

Hopkins discovered the potential of special education students through her own son, Marcus, a child with special needs. "Through him I learned you have to have high

expectations for these kids," she says. "I love bringing my students to their potential. Marcus helped me to see that." Marcus passed away in 2014 at age 29.

After graduating from the University of New Mexico, Hopkins began her teaching career at Menaul School in Albuquerque and also taught in Shonto, Ariz. She began teaching in Albuquerque Public Schools in 1992 and has taught adapted P.E. since 1999. She planned to retire at the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

The Golden Apple Excellence in Teaching Award has been given to New Mexico's most outstanding teachers since 1996.



Pictured on the far right, **Andrew Leon '08** and **Elizabeth Williams '11** commissioned from New Mexico State University as Army 2nd Lieutenants on May 13.

For alumni, donors and friends of St. Pius X High School

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SPX Jamie Tinnin **Memorial Shootout**

Save the date

Saturday, October 22, 2016

Tinnin Hunt Club, Bernardo, NM

8 a.m. Shotgun Start

*For information or to sponsor, please contact the
SPX Advancement and Alumni Office
at 505-831-8406*