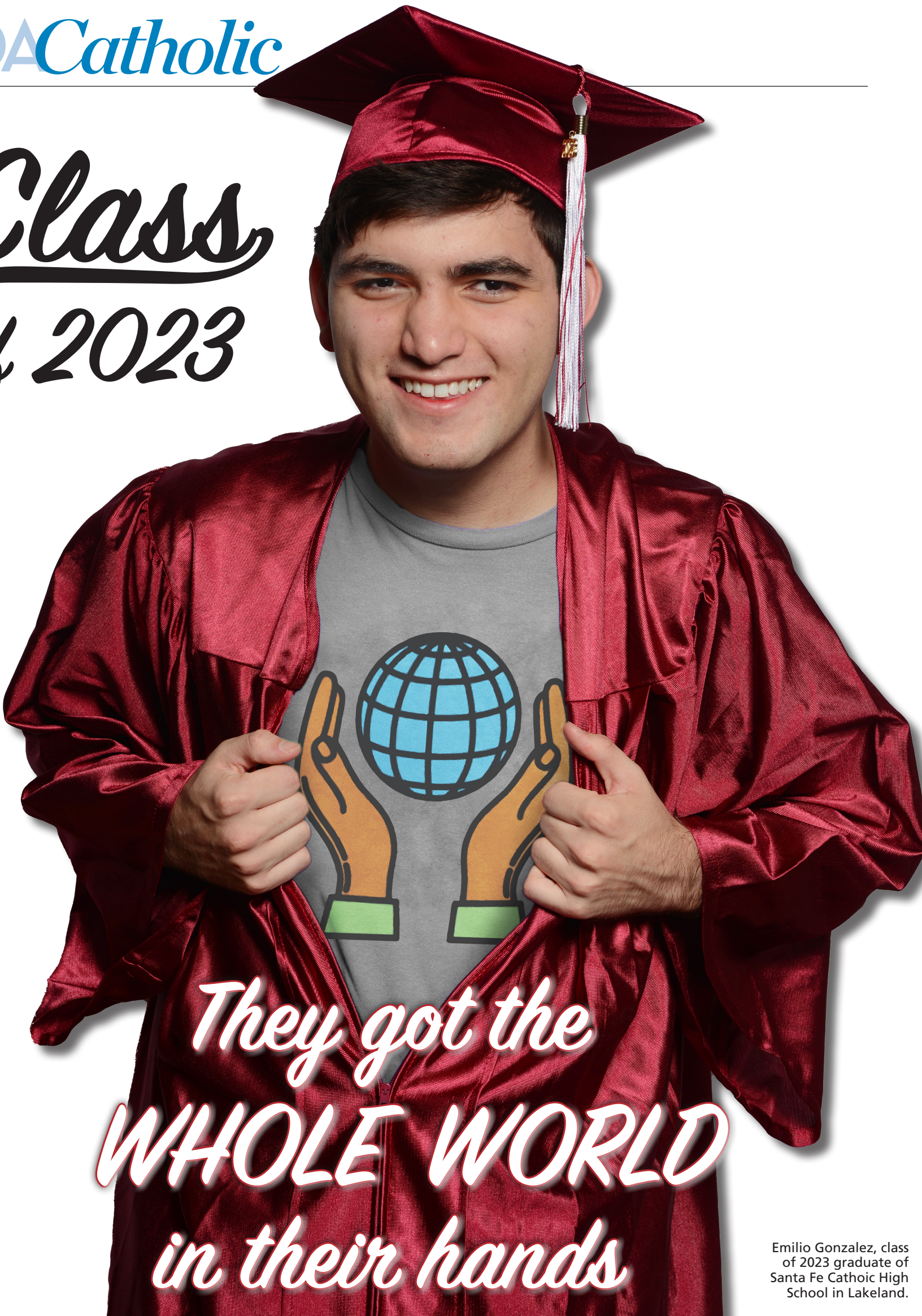
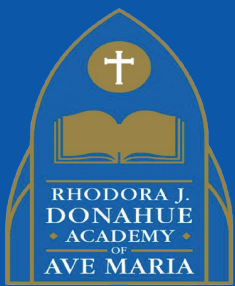
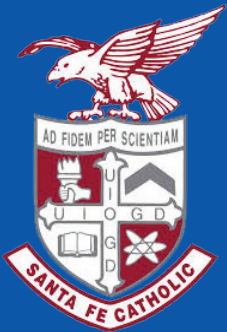


Class
of 2023



Emilio Gonzalez, class
of 2023 graduate of
Santa Fe Catholic High
School in Lakeland.



Trust in her legs, trust in God

Grad trusts in the Lord on her journey of hope and healing

LINDA REEVES

Florida Catholic correspondent

FORT PIERCE | Grace Reed, one of the Treasure Coast's leading athletes, was running along and on top of the world, when bam!

"I was riding in a side-by-side vehicle when it flipped over and fell on me," said Grace, an 18-year-old graduate at John Carroll High School in Fort Pierce. The accident on the all-terrain vehicle happened during her junior year on Feb. 21, 2022, in western Fort Pierce. "My hip bone was shattered in half. My femur was broken, and both of my legs were broken. ... When I woke up, I thought, 'Will I be able to run again?' I couldn't feel my legs."

Running was first the first thing that popped in her mind because Grace was on both the varsity track and field and cross-country teams at her school has been an avid runner since she was a child. She has been a standout runner throughout her school years catching the eye of coaches.

But the accident itself is a blur. She scarcely recalls the police arriving, and she barely remembers her father, Ryan Reed, and a family friend praying over her. The emergency rescue ambulance came with

its red flashing light and siren.

But Grace distinctly remembers the Trauma Hawk helicopter that landed at the small airport near the accident site. The Trauma Hawk team carefully airlifted her to Lawnwood Regional Medical Center in Fort Pierce.

"I felt no pain," she said. "I was not afraid. I knew that God would protect me. I knew that God would keep me safe."

Next, came the emergency room, doctor exams, x-rays and gloomy reports. Grace's injuries were severe. Her comeback would require the help of good surgeons, doctors and therapy. She was in her own personal race to get back on her feet.

"Everyone was supportive," said Grace. "People were praying for me."

Over the next three weeks, Grace endured three surgeries. Surgeons implanted a plate to help repair her pelvis. A steel rod was inserted in her leg. Prayers continued for her healing.

After the surgeries, she was transferred to Palm Beach Children's Hospital at St. Mary Medical Center in West Palm Beach for recovery and rehabilitation.

"They got me to be more mobile so I could use a wheelchair," she recalled. "I could move my legs a

little."

Grace's friends, family members, teachers and coaches checked in on her, sent cards and flowers. Classmates visited lifting up her spirits.

"Grace is very kind to others," said Michael Bryk, assistant principal at John Carroll, who mentioned Grace's outreach mentoring students in the sports program. "She has helped the younger students. She is very passionate about her sport."

During hospital stays, Grace, a member of the National Honor Society, kept up with studies. "My teachers would have me do assignments. I had been making straight A's the whole year."

Her goal was not only to pass with flying colors, but to come back to school before her junior year ended.

"I came back to school on the last week," she said. "I was using a walker."

Her classmates, teachers and coaches welcomed her as she made her school entrance finding new found strength in the comradery.

"Some people were staring," she said about the students surprised to see the strong runner struggling to move. "My body was swollen, and I had lost all the muscle in my legs because I hadn't been using them."

Grace continued classes that week finishing with her classmates and getting all As on her report card. "I was strong enough by the last day to use crutches."

During the summer break, her



Grace Reed, a class of 2023 John Carroll High School graduate, warms up before a track and field competition. (COURTESY)

goal was to walk again without using any aids. Her rehabilitation over the summer months was a slow but constant journey requiring patience, determination and dedication. She stayed the course entering a physical therapy program for athletes at a local center.

"I am a positive person," she said. "I knew God would help me. He gave me the skills to run. I wanted to work hard to get back."

Headstrong Grace walked every day with the help of her crutches, adding on a street block or two each

day finally getting up to a mile and then three miles. She began biking and cross-training to improve her overall performance and muscle tone.

In July, five months after her accident Grace crossed a major hurdle — she got the OK from her doctors to start jogging. She was slow at the start, but determined to improve her time. She continued to get stronger and build muscle. The season began. She continued to prog-

PLEASE SEE **GRACE, B7**

Scholarship empowers teen to excel at Catholic schools

STAFF REPORT

LAKELAND | Emilio Gonzalez experienced an unexpected consequence as a recipient of a Florida Empowerment Scholarship. He started to enjoy knock-knock jokes.

It didn't happen right away. But every day in his history class, his teacher, William Dickerson, would begin with prayer and the open the class with a joke.

"It was a knock-knock joke or a dad joke, something really corny," said Emilio a class of 2023 graduate of Santa Fe High School in Lakeland. "After prayer Mr. Dickerson would open up with a dad joke or a corny joke. At first, I wasn't crazy about them, but eventually it really grew on me, and it gave him a charm. I'm actually going to miss the jokes."

Emilio was able to attend Santa Fe, Polk County's only Catholic high school, thanks to the Family Empowerment Scholarship

(which became an umbrella of scholarships previous under different names). Diagnosed with autism at the age of 2, Emilio had attended public school where he received excellent personal attention, including time with special needs teachers and language therapy. By fifth grade, the youngster who had not spoken much up to the age of 5, was able to transition into the mainstream classroom.

When he reached middle school, his parents learned about the availability of special needs scholarships, which at the time included the McKay and Gardiner scholarships. Emilio qualified for the scholarships because of his autism diagnosis and was awarded the McKay. So, his parents toured different schools — both private and public — to see what was the best fit for their son. Once they got on the campus of St. Anthony School in north Lakeland, they felt that was the place

for their son.

"It was an immediate reaction," said Jean Gonzalez, Emilio's mother. "The classroom size was small, the campus was not sprawling, and the staff and administration, which at the time was headed by Janet Peddecord, understood what Emilio needed."

After a successful three years Emilio graduated with 11 other classmates ready to head to high school. His parents had to make another decision. Emilio's two older brothers had attended public high school — the 3,000-plus Bartow High School. While academically Emilio was mainstreamed, he had yet to experience a large campus. Emilio had attended events, including orientations and open houses with his brothers at Bartow High, and had to admit it the environment was intimidating.

"I didn't want to hold him back, but I didn't want him to retreat into a shell," said Emilio's moth-



Emilio Gonzalez celebrates as a graduate of Santa Fe Catholic High School in Lakeland. At far right is Matt Franzino, president of the school and principal Camille Jowanna. (TAHNEE MAREA PHOTOGRAPHY)

er. "It was a difficult decision to forecast where he should attend high school."

Again, there was touring of campuses and then the extra issue of does the family stay with the McKay Scholarship or apply to the Gardiner Scholarship, which might offer more funds. There was a lot of different decisions and avenues to take, but

thankfully there was someone to help talk about alternatives and offer advice — Matt Franzino, then principal and now president of Santa Fe.

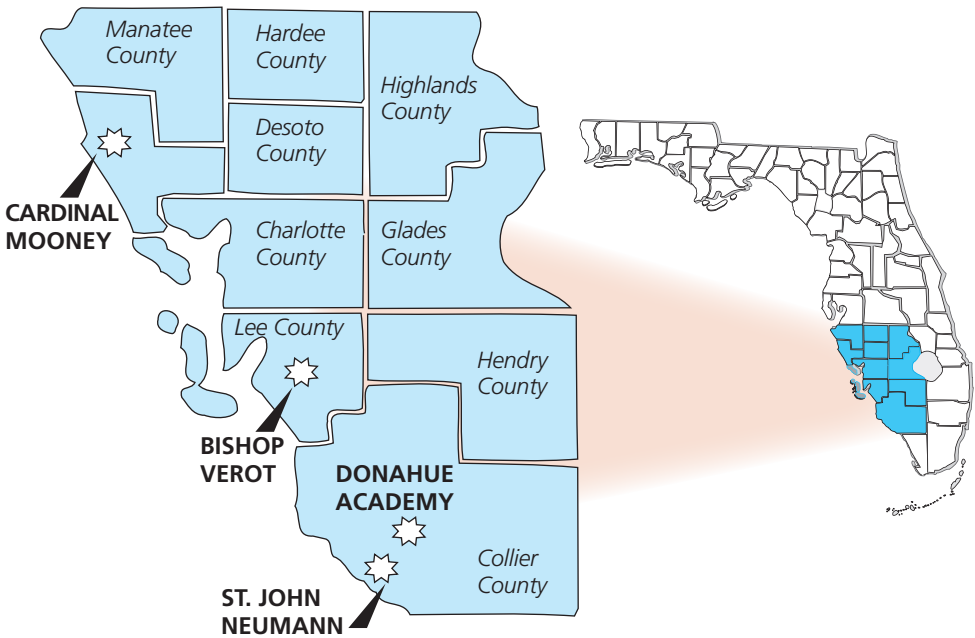
"He walked us through what to do with the scholarships and how to navigate Step-Up for Students. And throughout the four years,

PLEASE SEE **EMILIO, B7**

Venice Diocese

School listings

- *Bishop Verot, Fort Myers, B3-B4*
- *Cardinal Mooney, Sarasota, B5*
- *Donahue Academy of Ave Maria, B5*
- *St. John Neumann, Naples, B6*



TOP 16 GRADUATES WHO ACHIEVED SUMMA CUM LAUDE HIGHEST HONORS



Sophia Albrecht



Cameron Caangay



Samantha Joanne Ciuni



Christyan Fevrier Sildor



Sierra Hajek



Andrew Hanlon



Monika Martinez



Caroline O'Halloran



Riley Peplinski



Maren Pfleger



Stephen Prendiville



Julia Reitz



Ana Rodriguez



Emily Romero



Alexander Smith



Grayson Tubbs

Bishop Verot High School, Fort Myers

182 graduates

- Sophia Elizabeth Albrecht
- Christian Michael Allen
- Fidel Alviar IV
- Luke Antonelli
- Victoria Rae Ash
- Trinity Kaitlynn Babcock
- Alix Elise Baccardax
- Jordyn Hannah Bain
- Cooper Davis Banks
- Adam Lewis Belof
- Taylor Marie Benaitis
- Michael Bevins
- Jason Allen Bishop
- Emily Anne Boddison

- Evangeline Bolgiano
- Riley Brian Bowe
- Lazaro Thomas Bravo
- Zachary Brown
- Nico Brunoli
- Julia Emma Phoebe Bucknavage
- Cameron Richmond Caangay
- Almudena Calderon
- Lucas Hernan Campero
- Deaglan Dane Camron
- Mia Grace Castiano
- Mackenzie Cerniglia
- Samantha Joanne Schenkel Ciuni
- Joshua Logan Comisar

- Avery Lauren Comisar
- Tyler Stefan Contorno
- Christopher James Cooper
- Micah Cooper
- Isabella Coquis
- Annabeth Corrigan
- Janelis Criollo
- Jack Thomas Cronin
- Salvatore Joseph Cross
- Shannon Elizabeth Dahl
- Dakota Paige Dalton
- Brooke Ann Daniels
- Christopher Michael Davis
- Ignatius Shomrat Dcosta
- Bryce Cameron Dean

- Paul Dedaj
- Mitchell Destaven
- Ella Suzanne Dinkel
- Ron Domeier
- Cameron Grace Doyle
- Reagan J. Duby De Los Santos
- Jacob Andrew Engelbrecht
- Chloe Payton Engh
- Camryn A. Feast
- Aiden Arthur Feeney
- Mackenzie Rose Fennell
- Christyan Raymond Fevrier Sildor
- Jackalyn Margaret Schubert Flynn
- Maddox Michael Freshwaters

- Natalie Ann Fritsch
- Reese Lynn Fry
- Raven Alise Gadson
- Carley Ann Gannon
- Gabrielle Hope Gear
- Josephine Marie Goertz
- Camila Jasmine Gonzalez
- Megan Joanne Graves
- Ethan William Green
- Quinn M. Greer
- Sierra Kelsey Hajek
- Leah Ann Hall
- Preston Kearney Hall
- Andrew Robert Plante Hanlon

PLEASE SEE VEROT, B4

VEROT: Bishop Verot High School in Fort Myers celebrates the 182 graduates of the class of 2023

FROM B2

Madeline Eve Harkness	Hayden Angel Leslie	Cornelia A. Ovren	Adam F. Rue	
Gavin Q. Hart	Edward Todd Long	Vincent Paluck	Grace Layne Ryan	
Jenna Rio Hartig	Zachary Joseph Loninger	Connor Patrick Patterson	Elijah Michael Sander	
Ava Francesca Hemann	Samantha Jo Lutz	Dalton J. Payne	Antonio Carmelo Santos	
Geraldine Elizabeth Herrera	Hailey Paige Mader	Riley James Peplinski	Ava Emily Schropp	
Robert Phillip Hildebrand	Abraham Magallanes	Alexander J. Perez	Logan Scott Schwartz	
Abigail Kristine Holleran	Georgiana Mary Malik	Thomas Xavier Petersen	Spencer Shovlin	
Ethan Andrew Holter	Elizabeth Neal Manibo	Maren Margaret Pflieger	Vincenzo Simonetti	
Gregory Steven Holzhauer	Grace Ella Mann	Lauren Nicole Pieretti	Kendal Morgan Skinner	
Harrison Paul Housler	Olivia Marsh	Antonio Manuel Portes	Alexander L. Smith	
Natasha Jagadhish	Monika Isabel Martinez	Stephen Shail Prendiville	Isabella Julianne Smith	
Stephen Vincent Joslin	Amara Bliss Martinez	Anthony Carlo Racioppi	Matthew Francis Spencer	
Elven Jumalon	Jasmin Lola Matchett	Phoebe Marie Rando	Ave Marie Spinazze	
Giovina Katherine Karp	Madison Rose Meyers	Emma Madison Rathur	Ryan Springer	
Kevin J. Kelly	Kierston B. Mikolajski	Lukas Lloyd Rehtin	Liam Stephen Stanley	
Tyler Joseph Kelly	Jackson Edwin Miller	Julia Frances Reitz	Vincent Mclane Stefanacci	
Katrina Grace Kiszka	Keagan J. Morrisroe	Carissa Repetto	McKenzie R. Taylor	
Aidan Robert Knaak	Andrew Logan Muench	Emmaline L. Risley	Kylie Alise Thomas	
David A. Kusienski	Liam J. Murphy	Jacob Roberts	Mason Thomas	Grayson Blaine Tubbs
Audriana Grace Larrea	Yesenia Lizbeth Murray	Ana Carolina Rodriguez	Ethan R. Tipton	Ashlynn Nicole Marie Ulm
Francis Paul Leckler	Matthew Cole Nelson	Alejandro X. Romero	Brayden Tooley	Nathan David Vittur
Anthony Thomas Lee	Caroline Elizabeth O'Halloran	Emily Gabriela Romero	Francheska Dannyellies Torres	Severin Vogt
	Gavin Michael Orme	Daniel Michener Romulus	Addison Kate Trottier	Trevontay Deshun Watts
	Anders Johan Ovren	James Patrick Rose	Morgan Ashe Troyer	Trevor Henry Welch
				Wyatt Joseph Whalen
				Emily Marie White
				Henry George Whitman
				Thomas Wierenko
				Tristen M. Wilbourne
				Molly Clare Wilson
				Jack Thomas Wilson
				Mandy Christine Wiltshire
				Garrett Michael Wronski
				Sarah C. Yamrick
				Michaela Lesley Zingel



Congratulations to our 8th Grade
CLASS OF 2023

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Cardinal Mooney High School, Sarasota

141 graduates

Joseph Fredrick Antonelli-Pike

David Lamar Bailey

Maria Paula Ballesteros

Ashley Michelle Balot

Valentina Maria Baretta

Sage Naomi Barger

Rachel Elizabeth Benson

Lance Blackwell

Rebekah Renee Bourque

Jacob Michael Burns

Addie Flynn Marie Butler

Jordyn Amari Byrd

Peter Francis Carlo

Joseph Michael Carlo

Madeline Grace Carson

Andrew James Carter

Jacob Andrew Charles

Aidan Michael Cheperka

Ownen Roger Clough

Micaela Lillian Coluzzi

Matthew Reagan Compa

Kyle Asher Cooke

Blakeley Lauren Coyne

Cameron Alexander Curran

Ella McKay Curran

Marc Dalmou

Taylor Lynn Daly

Madelyn Ann Davenport

Olivia Marie Davis

Cameron Maxwell de Boer

Brennan Elisha Dearing

Mallory Marie DeBlauw

Matthew Hugo Delzer

Kayla Madison DesJardins

Sawyer Geneva DeYoung

Abigail Monaco Duplissey

Anna Hanrahan Farley

Abigail Marie Fayette

Cooper Blake Flerlage

Kendall Nicole Flury

Trinity Nicole Forg t

Erin Kathleen Galvin

Hayden Colby Garriott

Noah Gabriel Gregory

Bryanna Maia Gropo

Luke Owen Halfpenny

Zoe Jane Halfpenny

Leah Alcinda Hamilton

Mason Gregory Handloser

Chloe Mary Harpsoe

Celeste Elizabeth Harrell

Gage McWhir Hassler

George Hassler

Terry Christopher Higgins

Jonathan Corin Todd Howard

Isabella Rose Iglesias

Dylan Thomas Ittig

Nathan Michael Johnson

Gabrielle Niccole Joyce

Paige Marie Judson

Joseph Sears Jurgielewicz

Charles Holden Justus

Jessica Nicole Kaszubski

Kate Nicole Kochis

Sally Elizabeth Koscho

Amy Kurinets

Carter Olivia Lambert

Sean Thomas Laureano

Justina Lekaj

Alexander Michael Liebel

Finley Mary Linehan

Ophelia Gates Linger

Mallory Ann Lumpkin

Jack Thomas MacKinnon

Matthew James Maloni

Scott Thomas Martz Jr.

Luca Frank Anthony Mascaro

Thomas Paul Matt

Michaela Aida Mattes

Simon Philip Maun

Cooper Joseph McCoy

Erin Ainsley McCusker

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
Michael Ramsamooj



Salutatorian
Michael Yancik



Liam Francis McDonough

Sofia Matilde McFadden

Stuart Canning McFall

Andrew James Mellon

Macy Olivia Meshad

Pearson Van Ess Miller

Taylor Ann Milligan

Annika Truth Miltenberger

Allie Elizabeth Moore

Christina Joy Mroczkowski

Luke Carroll Nelson

Cade James Norman

Austin Matthew Olander

Easton Walker Olthoff

Sydney Luna Opstal

Anna Grace Page

Malcolm Michael Paine

Christopher George Arthur Palmer

Ian Nathaniel Parker

Mary Caitlyn Patterson

Perla Maciel Pelegrin-Santos

Alyssa Rose Prima

Michael Allen Ramsamooj

Zachary Ryan Redgrave

Connor Michael Reindel

Niti Alexander Romeri

James Frederick Rosenberg

Mariclare Liza Ruben

Katherine Grace Ruona

Taden Roy Russell

Giulia Sacconi

Cecilia Lee Sanchez

Ella Grace Schaefer

Kalvin Christopher Schultz

Norah Renee Secord

Aiden Patrick Shea

Ava Leigh Shields

Gracie Mae Simons

Bianca Emmanuelle Smith

Grace Marie Smith

Rhian Susan Soucek

Tyler John Stonebridge

Peyton Dale Strand

Nathan Parker Sutthoff

Daniel John Taylor

Caroline Grace Teto

Garrett Ian Towsley

Leah Caroline Troiano

Sierra Anne Van Pelt

Madison Lin Vavra

Mariela Zory Via-Reque

Caryn Elena Violette

Keller Harrington Waldrip

Nathan Alan Weitzner

Peyton Eva White

Ryon Alexander White

Randy Wilson Jr.

Piper Marie Yeagley

Michael Colin Yencik

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023!



Best of luck to our 38 Saint Ann Catholic School 8th grade graduates. We know they are ready to go boldly and take on the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed." Psalm 20:4

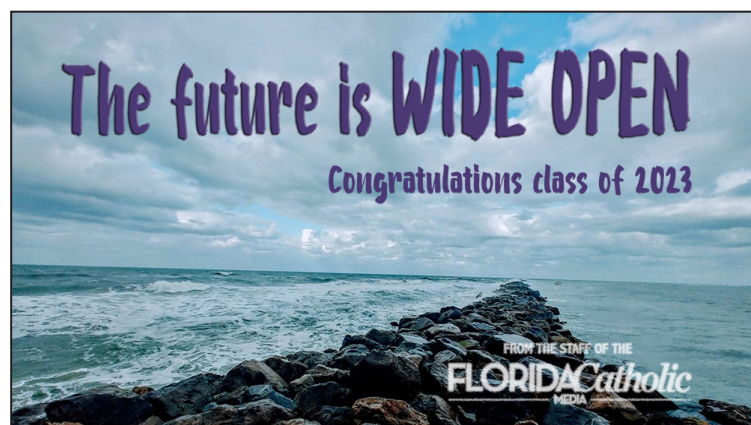


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Congratulations class of 2023



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Date of Birth: _____ Highest level of education completed: _____

St. John Neumann, Naples

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
David Schummer



Salutatorian
Isabella Fernandez

73 graduates

Anna Rose Alaimo
Michael Joseph Anderson
Serene Estela Aviles
Chiara Avolio
Zoe Ann Bartels
Jaina Marie Barth
Saniya Libertie Bass
Nora Judith Beard
Alexandra Ann Blose
Sophie Ann Boos
Mia Brewer
Victoria Casella
Sophia Marie Castillo
Alexa Marie Dahl
Giana Lucia DiPietro
Marina Daniela Dreyfuss
Nicholas Philip Ellington
Jack Henry Estes
Isabella Uria Fernandez
Lucas Andres Fink
Elise Flannery
Madison Jade Floyd
Ashlynn Sophia Forsyth
Erven Francois
Cole Fritzam
Bryan G. Frydenlund
Taylor Renee Hamet
Emily Lynn Henry
Gavin Scott Holderman
Melissa Lynne Jacoby
Alysson Marie Jaen
Faith Nayiva Jimenez
Patrick Nara Kirk
Ralph Cameron Klaas
Shawn Tyler Kozera
Caitlin Marie LoVerde

Catherine Ann Lund

Benjamin James Lysiak
Tyler Jared Marsico
Michael Xavier Martinez
Lucas Michael Marzucco
David Guillermo Matias
Jose-Manuel Mejia Barbery
Valentina Montes Ariza
Eric John Morgan
Annika Louise Nerney
Samantha Anne Nero
Gabriele Oddenino
Eleanor Claire Olson
Catarina Anne Petrovic
Tye Paul-Thomas Phoenix
Esteban Pinilla
Brayden Timothy Reites
Giana Rose Rizzo
Noah Mason Ross
Javier Garcia Sarabia
Colten Chase Schaeffer
Nicholas William Schoonover
David Schummer
Shenandoah Lee Sedio
Stephen Louis Sedio Jr.
Robert Dewson Summers III
Marisa Christine Tolu
Dominick Joseph Trapani
John Phillip Tsikitas
Ava Leigh Tufo
Camilo Jesús Valenzuela
Maggie D' Voll
Lily Sophia Wahlfeld
Saoirse Adare Welch
Mario Christopher Werab
Carter Patrick White
Sophia Madison Whitt

EMILIO

FROM B2

Melanie Townsend was always on top of how to deal with the Step-Up website and challenges," Jean recalled. "But more what really sealed the deal with enrolling Emilio at Santa Fe was how Mr. Franzino shared his personal experience with autism. He let us

know that Emilio's needs would be met, and he could flourish at Santa Fe. And Emilio did."

But while his parents felt confident about Santa Fe, Emilio wasn't so sure. He describes himself as an introvert, and making friends hadn't been easy up to that point. And when COVID hit, he felt isolated, as so many teens did.

Then he returned to classes, and the teen, who struggled not to mumble when he spoke, started a

conversation with classmate, Ian, about superhero movies. Slowly, the introverted teen found a set of friends who accepted him. And when Emilio speaks about his friends, he describes them in a detail that includes so many positive traits, such as how Ian is into video games but always gets all of his work done. How Claudio and Alex work extremely hard and impress him with their advanced classes.

"I'll always remember how Alex used to talk with me and mentor me during P.E. class about taking SAT and ACT tests and what colleges I should think about," Emilio said. "I really appreciated how Alex took the time to talk with me."

Emilio described his friend Astrid as "incredibly hard-working" and is the comic of the group who enjoys Mexican music. Chris is very into computers and it's impressive how he already does IT for a local chiropractic office. To Emilio, Liam is "probably the chilliest in our group" and is an "incredibly nice person and when I mean nice, I mean nice around everyone he sees." Liam plays guitar, as does Dylan, who writes songs and hangs out with his girlfriend, Astrid.

"I definitely will remember how during my junior and senior years we would eat together. Seeing Dylan and Astrid talk would make my day," Emilio said. "Her flirting with Dylan is cute and hilarious."

His friendships opened up Emilio socially. He attended parties and school events, such as homecoming and prom, two events he didn't think he might ever enjoy. Emilio said a highlight of his senior year was the senior retreat.

"Honestly at first I didn't really look forward to it, but I weirdly enjoyed it," Emilio said. "I got to talk to my friends. And I even got to talk to people I didn't get to usually talk to, like Jackson, Harley and Aidan. It was interesting to hear what other people wanted to do with their life."

Academically, Emilio was

challenged and worked hard to maintain good grades. Along with Dickerson's classes, he expressed how much he enjoyed classes with Paola Bernal and Glenda Pierce. On May 26, Emilio graduated Summa Cum Laude, finishing high school with a 4.04 GPA.

But if there was ever evidence that Santa Fe was a good choice, it was during the Senior Mass May 19. Sitting in their graduation gowns in the gym, a slideshow played after Mass. Accompanying the photos were music, including a song that was composed by Dylan and recorded in his bedroom. He and Liam played guitar and sang the original song. It spoke about graduating with their peers and looking forward to living their lives the best they can.

Then one line hit. "We'll miss our friends when we go, especially Emilio... especially Emilio."

Afterwards the teens mingled and took photos and Emilio found Dylan in the crowd, who enthusiastically asked, "Emilio did you hear your name?"

Emilio nodded, gave his friend a big hug and posed for a photo. All big steps for a teen with autism who struggled with speech for many years.

"I honestly think if I went to public school, there would have been a good chance I would have been bullied," Emilio said. "It wasn't until my sophomore year when I found my friends. It was easy to come back to Santa Fe because I had a reason to come back. Honestly, it was a good decision to go there. I'll miss my friends, but I hope we all keep in touch." ■



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GRACE

FROM B2

ress, pick up speed and confidence.

Finally qualifying for the 2022 cross country championships held Nov. 5 in Tallahassee, she was ready for state competition.

Entering the competition with a strained calf, she was determined to cross the finish line. With her teammates cheering her and putting trust in the Lord, Grace finished in the girls 5000 M Class 1 A match with a time of 20:51, taking 65th place.

In the eyes of all rooting for Grace, she was top winner deserving of honors for her hard work to come back.

Grace Reed is truly an example to our school community of the virtue of fortitude," said Corey Heroux, principal of John Carroll High School. "Her resilience and grit in the face of adversity are truly admirable, and I think she shows all of us that if we put our faith in God, trust him, and work hard, nothing is impossible. I am proud to call her a

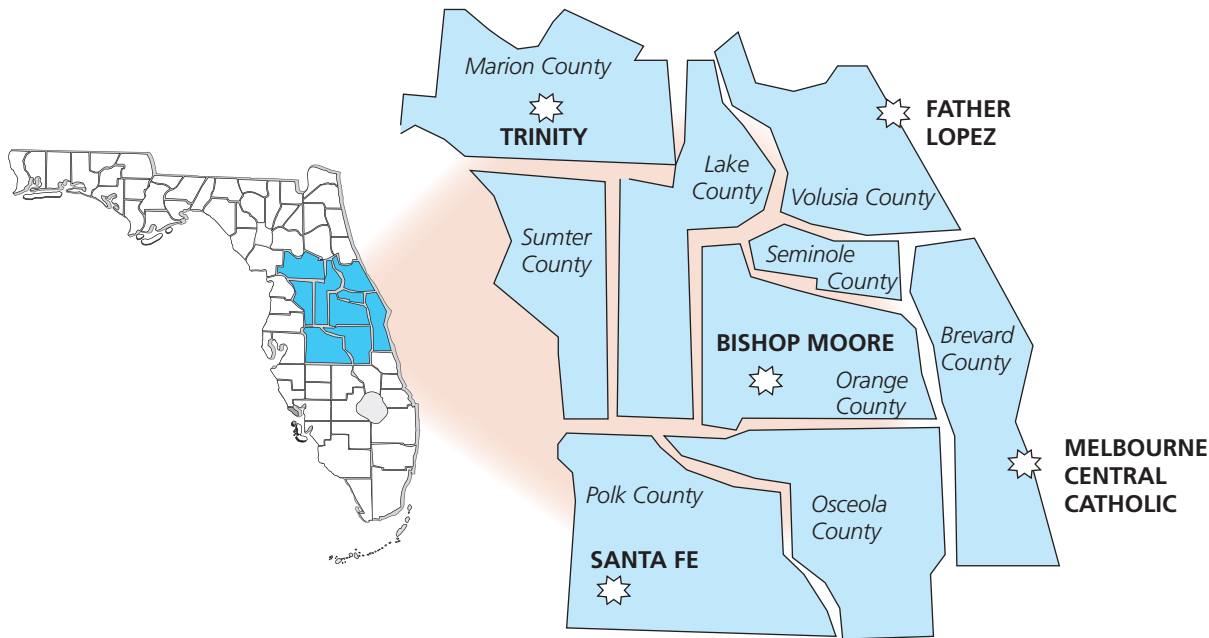
JCHS graduate. ... "Her story is truly an inspiration to our entire community."

The win set the new path for Grace's come back in 2023 season. She made tremendous strides and had good showings. She advanced to state championships for the two-mile run, after taking second place in regional competitions with a time of 11:46.

Grace landed a scholarship at Florida Southern in Lakeland, where she will run both cross-country and track. Now that the fanfare of John Carroll graduation ceremonies has passed, she is ready for more conditioning during the summer break.

"This summer, I will keep training," she said. "I am excited to be competing in college sports and being there on campus. I trust in God's plan for me. I told God that I would do everything I can for him. I trust that he will help me."

Grace's college goal is to earn a degree in Exercise Science to help others. "I want to be a physical therapist," she said. "After the accident, I decided to go into that direction. I think it is God's plan." ■



Orlando Diocese

School listings

Trinity, Ocala, B8

Bishop Moore, Orlando, B9-B10

Melbourne Central Catholic, B11

Santa Fe, Lakeland, B11

Father Lopez, Daytona Beach, B12

Trinity High School, Ocala

122 graduates

David Jaishaud Abate

Kaley Elysse Alava

Wyatt Thomas Amodeo

Justin Alejandro Arroyo

Jade Samantha Atkins

Douglas Allen Bandoske

Joseph Ivahnoll Barbosa Gomez

Isabella Basile

Beauregard Elliot Beard III

Andrew Harrison Beck

Kristina Samaly Berdecia

Ava Adele Berquist

Elizabeth Ann Bianculli

LeAnna Marie Biddle

Brady Collin Boone

Ariana Jade Brasiliano

Ashleigh Leanne Brennan

Alexander Joseph Brooks

Aiden Conner Chittum

Amelia Anne Christiano

Chekiya Dyomanese Clements

William Charles Clemons

Yarelix Cora

Natalie Cortez

Jennie Luticia Dingle

Drue Joseph Dumal

Sofia Olivia Eblan

Jacob Charles Engelhardt

Erin Casey Enright

Torie Lamar Fairley Jr.

Ashton Alexander Fernandez

Amelia Claire Fitzpatrick

Halsey Kincaid Fore

Emma Elizabeth Forgette

Mary-Carolina Fuerte

Diana Garcia Casas

Christopher Scott Bowron Glorius

Micaela Gomez Arango

Caylynn Sue Gonzales

Claritze Guadalupe Gonzalez Corpus

Allison Marie Grant

Abigail Rose Harward

Brendan Thomas Held

Dalton ESPN Michael Henry

Cade Joseph Hentz

Brienna Tiana Hernandez

Nathan Alan Hillan

Emily Rose Hirst

Brennan Hadley Holland

Harrison Elton Holland

Briana Alexandra Hudson

Josephine Glendy Huene

Joel Joseph

Yulia Dmitriyevna Karelina

Allison Paige Kay

Maren Grace Kimball

Tommy Lynn Kinsler IV

Andrew Joseph Kruger

Ashlyn Grace Krumm

Justin Jeffrey Kucej

Megan Zsuzsanna Kusmierz

Kiana Paige LaBorde

Donathan Lecorn Jr.

Josephine Brooke Leonard

Omaryon Jerrell Leslie

Kinley Grace Libby

Shyanne Madison Marker

William Andrew Martin

Gabriella Martinez

Kayden David McCarson

Mia Allyanna Mendez

Olivia Adriana Migiano

Eva Mae Villarama Miller

Anthony Dylan Minami

Alessandro Fernando Moncada

Grisbel Guadalupe Nieves Cendejas

Destiny Lillian Nugent-Malcolm

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
Anjali Malia Vassou



Salutatorian
Daniela Villagomez



Rafael Antonio Ortiz Carson

Jacob Anthony Pereira

Jocelyn Justina Perez

Marisol Celeste Perez Figueroa

Patrick Joseph Plunkett Jr.

Brayden Chance Ramey

Isaiah Lee Ratliff

Kaya Kym Renaker

Nicolas I. Repiedad

Sophia Grace Rodriguez

Emanuel Antonio Rodriguez Rivera

Lucas Francisco Rosario

Jordan Mathew Rozier

Brady Clemens Schwartz

DeShawn Derrius Shelton

Madeline Corinne Siemer

Alejandra Isabel Silva Tirado

Tyler Allen Simms

Eleto James Skahill

Jaxson Malcolm Smith

Jacob Willard Smith

Kenyen Javon Smith

Elias Gabriel Stebbins

Brooke Marie Stodghill

Bennett Alejandro Stringfellow

Brice Steven Summerall Jr.

Robert Paul Tempesta

Hunter Joseph Temple

Olivia Reese Tru Tillander

Danielle Antoinette Triola

Nickolas Cole Vadnais

Anjali Malia Vassou

Camila Luz Vicioso

Daniela Sophia Villagomez

Lauren Elizabeth Webber

Alexis Noelle Westgate

Derrick Christopher Williams

Ryland Aubrey Windsor

Brayden Michael Wolgast

Jonah Alan Wolgast

Macy Elese Wood

Ryan Andrew Young

Austin Bronislaus Zamecki

Sarah Zimmerman

Zoe Diana Zinnie



Bishop Moore High School, Orlando

368 graduates

Daniel Ignacio Abril
Benjamin Nathan Abrudescu
Marcello Esteban Acebo-Borrero
Ezekiel Anthony Adams McCoy
Nicholas Moez Adatia
Ana Sophia Aguilar
Amir T. Aharoni
Giancarlo Alfaro
Brooke Marie Allen
Luke Salvatore Allender
Ethan Michael Annexy
Javen Gene Apelado
Samantha Grace Aragona
Bradley Kyle Arca
Mario Andres Arnal
Stanley Henry Asensio III
Paulo Avalos
Claudia Virginia Avila
Christopher Michael Bahr
Liliana Tablante Bajacan
Brooklyn Noell Baker
Levi Christian Baker
Jacob Rafael Ballesteros
Natalie Annabel Balmforth
Isaack Ison Barber
Keila Yaneth Barrera
Natalie Marie Becerra
Nathan Moor Bedell
Sophia Elizabeth Bedoya
Montrell Antonio Bell Jr.
Dominick Anthony Bello
Adrian August Bennett
Adam Jackson Bert
Megan Marie Booker
Hector Alejandro Borjas Anato
Charles Ferris Forbes Bottom
Emersyn Taylor Brashear
Alyssa Anne Brasko
Addison Heinz Brennan
Ethan Jack Brewer
Gavin Michael Brunhofer
Giana Grace Buchanan
Isabella Marie Bundy
Anna Gerise Busbee
Keyvin Cabrera Bautista
Willy Antonio Calcano
Caitlyn Marie Camchong
Ashleigh Leilani Cameron
Keira Ainsley Cameron
May Tong Campagna
Maura Wilnise Campbell
Jillian Elizabeth Canfield

Sinned Celine Carrion-Rodriguez
Lucas Banes Carter
Angelique Marie Carter Jusino
Jose Andres Casillas Zubiria
Santiago Castellano
Jorge Emmanuel Castro
Delaney Marie Centlivre
Lauren Christina Chin
Jeremy Nathaniel Cira
Dillon Kurtz Clapp
Marckel Clermont
Alejandro Conti
Brenden Jack Cooney
Elise Alexandra Cooper
Francisco James Costa
Evan Paul Couvillion
William James Craven
Theron Baltasar Crissey Jr.
Kristen Elizabeth Czapka
Daniel Adam Daccache
Isaiah Hopeton Leon Davis
Victoria Decopin
Cesar Eduardo Delgado Gonzalez
Emily DeMonte
Camila Maria DeOliveira
Maxwell Nicholas DeTardo
Nicholas Andres Diaz
Salvatore Joseph DiBella
Georgia Taggart Diehl
Austin Mathew Dillon
Jack William Dobson
Ryan Christopher Dolan
Julianne Clare Donald
Matthew Anthony Donohue
Nicholas Alton Dorazio
Henry Alexander Doten
Ava Durruthy
Elijah Matthew Dy
Hayden Emily Early
Zachary Daniel Eaton
Ava Maria Eckstein-Schoemann
Ryan Alexander Edwards
Kathryn Veronica Emery
Nicholas Escandon-Ulloa
Dylan Ezra Escobar
Kasey Estrella
Gianna Renee Farina
Margaret Ann Farrell
Christopher Robert Fay Jr
Kyan Anthony Fazio
Christopher Michael Fernandez
Ryann Noel Ferris

Dominick Joseph Fimognari
Jasper Kai Delcamp Fitzgerald
Dylan Kehl Fitzgibbon
Luke Robert Fitzgibbon
Mary Catherine Flatch
Isabella Grace Oliverio Flores
Benjamin Emmett Foerstner
Matthew Formel
Caroline Elizabeth Friloux
Alex Finn Galloway
Gabriella Garcia
Madison Marie Gellner
Caterina Junqueira Giannini
Alexa Natalia Gillette Barrera
Ryan Joseph Girard
Dennis Michael Glasgow
Bryce Nicholas Gluckman
Matthew Gomez
Sophia Gonzalez
Carly Diala Goode
Celine Alita Gordon
Kayla Patrice Gordon
Kenshin Lawrence Gowen
Aidan Douglas Green
Olivia-Giselle Gron
Benjamin Paul Guettler
Adam James Gulde
Jonathan Cole Gullikson
Eve Sophia Hage
Charles Joseph Heagy
Heath Phillip Hedrick
Ryan Michael Helms
Najdria Henry
Tori Carolyn Henson
Vincent Miguel Hernandez
Carlos Luis Hernandez Grisanti
Sofia Isabelle Hernandez Navarro
Gabriel Felipe Hernandez Navarro
Jacob William Herrick
Robert Nathaniel Hilburn
Michelle Diem Ho
Natalia Grace Hoebbel
Nicolas Otero Hoebbel
Mariela Eliza Hooper
Foster Davis Houlton
Taylor Grace Hountz
Gabriela Hudtwalcker
Sydney Michelle Inniss
Ty Joseph Ippolito
Alicia Justine Chimene Isaac
Hannah Nichole Isern
Stephanie Angelica Jaimes
Cameron Diane James

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
Noah Skye Parks



Salutatorian
Carlos Hernandez

Sydney Anne James
Xavier Max Jean
Yahvensky Belot Jean
Mia Kathryn DeVera Jimenez
Celine Carmitta Johary
Ryleigh Elizabeth Johnson
Ivan Ismael Jorro
Cedric Joseph
Sarah Beatrice Jubiz
Peter Nicholas Mortal Kay
Annaliese Christine Kilmer
Andrew Charles King
Matthew Joseph King
Jayden Lee Kirkland
Chandler Kiley Kirven
Aubrey Helen Klausner
Ethan James Klueh
Alexander Thomas Kopitnik
Collette Jessica Kramer
Kate Ryan Krauklis
Peyton Ann Kreul
Glory Saskia Lacroix
Mia Caitlin Lang
Marian Muriel Le
Ava Karynn Lechmaier
Brianna Nicole Lensky
Olivia Elizabeth Lenzen
Nicholas Gustavo Levy
Jade Margaret Lewis
Lundyn Bryonne Lewis
Anna Marie Lieb
Noa Soaya Ashley Lindor
Matthew Alexander Lisman
Sofia Maureen Maddalena
Alexander Madrid
Finn Oliver Magley
Andrew Thrasher Malani
Timothy John Malone III
John Grover Maloney
Veer Harish Manghnani
Anna Grace Si Mantzaris
Maximilian Marino-Chacin

Coleman Dean Markman
Alexander Daniel Marrero
David Alejandro Marrero Najm
Farrell Manuel Martinez
Alejandro Martinez-Luna
Matthew Zane Masten
Erika Z. Mattar
Sophia Charlee Mavrofrides
Lauren Elise McAnally
Matthew Gary McCall Jr.
Paige Chilton McCaul
Rylee Ann McDaid
Brendan Robert McDonald
Zachery TJ McGriff
Clayton Cheek McKee
Eryn Aisling McKinney
Rory Caroline McPherson
Rylee Elizabeth McRorie
Mason Vincent Medina
Jacob Alexander Mejias
Alexandra Anne Merceron
Jackson Paul Merrill
Jeremy Jovan Mesia
Kayla Ayiana Meus
Andrew Gabriel Meyer
Joseph Said Michaels
Davis Cooper Milhausen
Mariana Millan
Olivia Lebra Miller
Brayden Corso Miller
Julia Anne Minotti
Palmer Salem Minton
Oscar Alejandro Montoya
Riley Thomas Morgan
Maxlee Ratanasart Morpew
Lynnelle Therese Mosqueda
Michael Ryan Murphy
Sofia Manubay Nazario
Bella Tram Nguyen
Hanna Gia Han Nguyen
Jada Y Nhu Thanh Nguyen

PLEASE SEE **MOORE, B10**




MOORE: Bishop Moore High School in Orlando celebrates the 368 graduates of the class of 2023

FROM B9

Melissa Van Nguyen	Keninah Nneka Agbokigboro Philips	Caroline Elizabeth Rodriguez	Joshua Thomas Shircliff	Alyssa Rose Urena
Kevin Tuan Nguyen	Rosalinda Aranguren Phipps	Michelle Marie Rodriguez	Isabella Marie Shofner	Sara Maria Useche
Minh Thu Nguyen Vu	Connor David Pierce	Sophia Rodriguez	Christopher Silva Jimenez	Rafael Jesus Vazquez
Diego Nolasco-Troconis	Chloe Anne Pierini	Keity Liyehia Rodríguez Colón	David Romano Simoni II	Sophia Velasco-Osorio
Mark Alexander Nonsant	Lauren Elizabeth Plante	Elayza Rodriguez-Mendoza	Aaron Andrew Sinclair	Christian Yadiel Velazquez
Alessia Notaro-Esposito	Sebastian Osciel Plaza	Gabriel Alan Romano	Simran Namita Rachel Singh	Sophia Maryenique Vernon
Andrea Teresa Nunez	Julia Marie Ploth	Camila Roquett Hernandez	Luke Joseph Singleton	Kimberly Vu
Noah Alexander Oakes	Jack Michael Poling	Fabian Rosado Martinez	Sarina Angela Sioson	Sophia Hague Wadeson
Madeleine Clare Olinger	Alayna Grace Poore	Ethan Edward Ruebusch	Brayden Lewis Spence	Madison Michele Wagner
Santiago Agustin Olivera	Kenndy Morgan Porter	Camila Maria Ruiz Carey	Drew Alexander Spinogatti	Michael Thomas Waldrop Jr
Madeline Sophia Orlando	Victoria Isabel Pou Varona	Pablo Antonio Sabogal	Ralph Roosmile Lemaire Suffrin	Dejalei Aniya Warren
Angela Maria Ortez	Aidan Joseph Quinlivan	Kenneth James Salmieri	Timothy Matthew Sullivan	Sarah Elizabeth Wedekind
Daniel Peter Osterndorf II	Siena Marie Ramirez	Joshua Ross Singson Salva	Melanie Tavarez Estrella	Joseph J Weibel
Grace Ann Paolo	Carlos Uriel Ramirez	Jofrannie Thara Sam	Alysha Mia Thomas	Talley Carson Weinkowitz
Mia Claudia Parker	Michelle Elle Raymond	Sebastian Sanchez Giovannoni	Nicholas Sebastian Bach Thomas	Ja Raida Mariela White
Noah Skye Parks	Joel John Rebeyka	Koralys Thais Santana	Olivia NiCole Thompson	Hannah Faith Williams
Isabella M. Parrado	Shannon Grace Reid	Valentina Santos	Liam Francis Tingley	John Thomas Williams
Maria Isabel Pavon-Madrid	Tanner Scott Reid	Nicholas Andrew Santos	Katrina Catacutan Tiqui	Joshua Christopher Willis
Nicholas Angelo Pecora	Pedro Alejandro Rejon	Ryan Marcine Schefstad	Justin Daniel Tirado Cubas	Riley Christopher Willis
Alexander Robert Pencak	Francesca P. Riccelli	Joseph Michael Scire	Elizabeth Luise Todd	Camryn Teresa Willy
Elisa Cristina Perez Mena	Alexandra Noelle Riga	Ava Elizabeth Scoma	Ivana Darya Tovar Leon	Jaide Ashlyn Wirth
Garrett Vincent Perpich	Robyn Ashlee Rigaud	Benjamin Michael Scotchie	Samantha M. Treadwell	Caitlin Marie Yarber
Brandon Michael Peyton	James William Riney III	Caleb Michael Scott	Lelaine Thanh Trieu	Alyssa Josephine Yoerger
Angelina Nhat-Quyen Phan	Antonio Alejandro Rivera	Sophia Carolina Senior Padula	Bradley Chase Tulchinsky	Michael David Yuska
	Ailani Rivera-Intriago	Fidel Mumuri Sewe	Ugonma Glory Uchegbu	Sofia Isabella Zapico
	Nathaniel Armas Robinson	Keegan Riley Shaw	Veronica Urdaneta	Catalina Zarate Valcarcel


BISHOP MOORE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations, Class of 2023!



"A Catholic education leaves an imprint on your mind, body, and soul."

Adrian Bennett '23



ORLANDOCATHOLICSCHOOLS.ORG

1540-0000

Melbourne Central Catholic High School

97 graduates

Peter Alvarez

Colin Anderson

Emiliano Arriaga Cruz

Benjamin Artley

Matthew Barfield

Liliana Barnes

Carmen Benitez

Timothy Bent

Caitlin Benzler

Brandon Brown

Colin Burns

Yesenia Cambron

Colt Campbell

Hogan Cardile

Ernest Carlson

Kaitlin Carr

Andres Cespedes

Lucca Colucciello

Bowen Crane

Francis Crawley

Alexis Davis

Maria Del Rio

Nicholas Delfino

André DeMont

Ethan DeMont

Marie-Cécile Derbes

Joseph DeSantis

Nicholas DesChenes

Jonathan Dowling

Ashton Dugger

Logan Elkins

Gabriella Escolastico

Nicholas Evans

Lauren Faniel

Andrew Fronk

Andrew Galluzzi

Ethan Gaydos

Cole Gifford

Peter Gleich

Christian Gomez

Cecilia Hadid

Lily-Anne Henry

Dominic Herrera

Ian Herrera

Caleb Hurley

Monica Jarrin Arrivillaga

Kylianne Justin

Michael Kerestes

Adam Kleier

Haley Kolarik

Cole Lacey

Lindsey Lanier

Genevieve Lujan

Brendan MacDonald

Liv Madsen

Molly Martin

Emily Masker

Savannah Masker

William Maze

Romeo McGlothlin

Robert McGovern

Charlene Monroe

Xander Neckerauer

Mary An Nguyen

Leia Otero

Kiernan O'Toole

Mary Paternoster

Felix Pellegrino

Connor Perry

Xavian Pryor

Allie Purtill

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
Eva Sutton



Salutatorian
Anthony Soehnlein

Anthony Recinos

Thomas Ribnick

Isabella Ricart

Sean Rich

Hennessey Rodriguez

Gabriella Salomone

Diego Sanchez

Lauren Schneider

Hannah Shorthouse

Doria Small

Cody Smith

Anthony Soehnlein

Grace Soehnlein

Synnoeve Soerensen

Virginia Stewart

Abigail Stinson

Eva Sutton

Matthew Tecson

Alexander Tessier

Rebecca Thiele

Megan Tierney

Darian Vicioso

Blake Wallace

Michael Weiss

Victoria Wilkie

Mia Yracheta

Santa Fe High School, Lakeland

82 graduates

Mia Julianna Abetrani

Daniel Omar Almonte

Kayla Yulisa Andablo

Blaise Michael Ballard

Astrid Naomi Bautista

Jesse Osei Bonsu

Christopher Broche

Jose Alberto Burey Hernandez

Emma Grace Camerer

Charlton Gillis Carter II

Elvin Chavez Andablo

Sabrina Ruby Chipa-Fuentes

McCambridge Thomas Collany

Camila Sofia Cotto Cotto

Eloy Cruz Garcia

Daniel Rey Cruz

Ashley Danielle Desamours

Dylan Alexander Devine

AnaRosa Marie Dickason

Camille Larae Earl

Hannah Rose Elliott

Trisha Jade Ellis

Kenna Jem Ericson

Jason Gary Esterline

Robert Thomas Estupinan

Kennedy Jace Fellows-Coffey

Justin Thomas Freedland

Alexia Marie Freitas

Alexander Michelain Germilus

Liam Hudson Goff

Emilio Luis Gonzalez

Marlo Alexander Gonzalez

Carmen Angelica Grana

Joshua Kawan Grice

Anthony Albert Griffith III

Emily Caroline Haas

Jaxson Dane Hardwick

Caleb Monroe Harrison

Luke O'Neill Harrison

Dennis Richard Hatzell

Alan Justin Hengesbach

Ethan Matthew Holcomb

Robert A. Hoskins

Aiden Scott Jones

Frank Gabriel Juarez

Blaine L Keller

Aidan Matthew Lausell

Grace Anne Lawhon

Canyon Michael Marcewicz

Sebastian Martinez

Leilah Jean-Gabrielle Masson

Elias Mayorga

Noah Matthew McMann

Ava Grace Mild

Ezequiel Manuel Munoz

Evan Wade Newell

Christian John Nugent

Arabella Sabryna Parker

Colin Alexander Pence

KiMya Nydeja Peterson

Stephanie Ann Peturis

Bailey Nicole Rodriguez

Claudio Isaac Romero Jr

Alonzo Marcelo Santamaria

Nathan Lee Siegel

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
Alan Hengesbach



Salutatorian
Emily Haas

Jessica Linn Sirera

Emma Michele Suldickas

Richard Francis Sweeney III

Nathan Angel Taxson-Burgos

Olivia Marie Teater

Taylor Jean Tidwell

Marvin Jr Toussaint

Alex Van Tran

Kiet Anh Tran

Kristian Jay Trevino

Jane Christine Vecchio

DaMarcus Daymario Vickers

Ian Paul Walker

Steven Alexander Walsh

Montrez LaDale Watson

Harley James Wilson IV

Isabelle Angel Woolever

Father Lopez High School, Daytona

82 graduates

Annabelle Chantelle Abrantes
Violeta Arreola Caballero
Kasia Anna Austin
Aaron Thomas Spivey Baroni
Kylie Shea Bentley
Shivum Manoj Bhoola
Jonathan Russell Brandt Jr.
Ariel Marie Brent
Hailey Carolelyn Bruce
Alyssa Grace Bush
Allison Gray Calvo
Jackson John Calvo
Elizabeth Diane Carvajal
Jemison Taylor Casper
Grace Katherine Cauffman
Kevin Cervantes
Zarek Pio Chavez
Ella Elise Dancsecs
Sofia Lucia Dorcy
Sydney Reese Downey

Chandler Michael Edwards
Juan Pablo Ferrusco
Elizabeth Grace Fitzgerald
Alana Grace Francis
Aubrey Elizabeth Frison
Kaitlin Noelle Fromhold
Henry Winston Fulton
Andrew David Gazzoli
Jonah Christopher Ginocchetti
Noelle Yshabel Godbout
Gabriella Nichole Gomez
Graham Casey Gorman
Gavin Robert Greathouse
Koby Scott Gustin
Chantz Thomas Hansen
David Emanuel Hickey
Cole Douglas Highfield
Talia Maya Jenkins
Donald Isaac Jones II
Camille Louise Kalisz
Shea Elizabeth Keelen

Landon Robert Kennovin-Ingles
Anjali Ella Khanna
Madison Reese Kollar
Anthony Le
Reina Li
Isabella Magda Lisowski
Rachael Criss Longabach
Jerome Ibrahim McDuffie
Owen Trinidad McKinley
Isabella Arianna Mendez
Savannah Rose Morrell
Victor Carcueva Ottaviani
Purav Jay Patel
Allison Grace Peck
Ryland James Pollard
Crysstel Josephine Ramirez
Emily Geeta Rangasammy
Austin Niles Riddle
Madeline Rose Riley
Rylie Susanne Sanders
Christopher Allan Sepe

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
Anjali Khanna



Salutatorian
Annabelle Abrantes

Christian Teotimo Sherman
Julia Jeanne Slayne
Zayne Conner Sotolongo
Kennedy Rain Sposato
Morgan LeAnn Stephens
Spencer Owen Stuzynski
Brady Augustus Taylor
Sophie Anne Thumbek
Emma Elizabeth Tiplady
Eden Erica Tsouklaris

William Wade Tucker
Natalia Tunajek
Brayden Russell Van der Burgt
Alex James Wise
Michael Richard Yadlosky
Kelsey Aron Yarish
Isaiah William Yaryan
Kylan James Tyler Young
Chloe Soleil Zimmerer
Cole Alan Zonca

Speaker to grads: 'Remember life is not a spectator sport'

JULIE ASHER
OSV News

"Serve God, love your neighbor, give service, press forward and fear only God," U.S. Rep. Troy A. Carter Sr., D-La., told graduates of Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans May 27 at commencement exercises for the College of Arts and Sciences.

"If we wish to serve God and love our neighbor well, we must manifest our joy in the service we render to him and them. Let us open wide our hearts," he said, quoting St. Katharine Drexel, foundress of the historically Black Catholic university in New Orleans. Her words are as "true today as they were when she first said them."

Xavier was founded in 1925 by Mother Drexel and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, a Catholic order she established to serve African Americans and other racial minorities. It is the only Catholic institution among the nation's historically Black colleges and universities (HBCU).

The saint, who was an American-born citizen of European descent, was an heiress to a banking fortune but chose religious life and used her inheritance to advocate for those in poverty and to champion the needs of Native Americans and Black Americans.

"Your generation has an incred-

ible opportunity to chart a better course for our world. You must fight bigotry, racism, sexism and the pure hatred that is on the rise in our country," Carter said.

A 1986 graduate of Xavier, he represents Louisiana's 2nd District. Besides several House committee assignments, he also serves as the second vice president of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Carter asked the graduates to keep "a few things in mind" while charting their course and "shaping the way society evolves."

"(H)ave a spirit of inclusion," to love and respect others, to "embrace diversity, inclusion and equality regardless of your party affiliation, your race, your religion, your creed. None of that matters."

"You see, God created one race of people and we fools created the rest," he continued. "God created a human race and we've got to learn to love what God made. ... Be kind to this earth. We only have one. Move this world in (the) direction that best sustains our environment. Be kind to each other. Talk more to each other and less about each other, and last but not least, give back. To (whom) much is given, much is required."

Carter noted that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said life's "most persistent and urgent question is what are you doing for others."

"As you build your future, build good character, build love into this world, give back to communities and live your life in a way that encourages others to do well," he added. "Pay it forward, help someone that you don't even know and tell no one of it. Do good things, (count) your blessings (and) thank those who help you along. ... We're all products of someone's kindness, in someone's prayers, and I will tell you that I am the product of a lot of prayers ... a lot of forgiveness."

He recalled how hard his mother worked to raise him and his five siblings alone and her "incredible sacrifices." Carter reminded the graduates that their parents, too, have made many sacrifices and that, like them, they must be "that next generation of people who make sacrifices for others, not just yourselves."

"Remember life is not a spectator sport," he said, "You must participate. You have to live out loud, so go forth and go forth boldly make your mark on this world. The future is bright because of you, 2023 Xavier University graduates. I know you will do great things."

At Boston College's Alumni Stadium May 22, the people of Ukraine were on the mind of the commencement speaker, Oksana Markarova, who is that nation's ambassador to the United States. Russia's war against her country,



Reynold Verret, president of Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans, presents U.S. Rep. Troy A. Carter Sr., D-La., with an honorary doctorate May 27, 2023. (OSV NEWS | COURTESY XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA)

which it began with its Feb. 24, 2022, invasion, rages on.

"Freedom is not a given. Opportunities are not a given. Democracy is not a given," Markarova told the graduates. "We all have many battles to fight in, many obstacles to overcome, many challenges to see through. Where will we get the strength? In our responsibility to take action for what we love."

"Choose to do that, and in that moment, you will become truly extraordinary," she added.

In Connecticut, at Jesuit-run Fairfield University, this year's undergraduate commencement speaker and recipient of an honorary doctor of laws degree was Marcela Orvañanos de Rovzar, founder of several social and

humanitarian organizations in Mexico and the U.S. She urged the graduates "to dream beyond what seems reasonable or even possible."

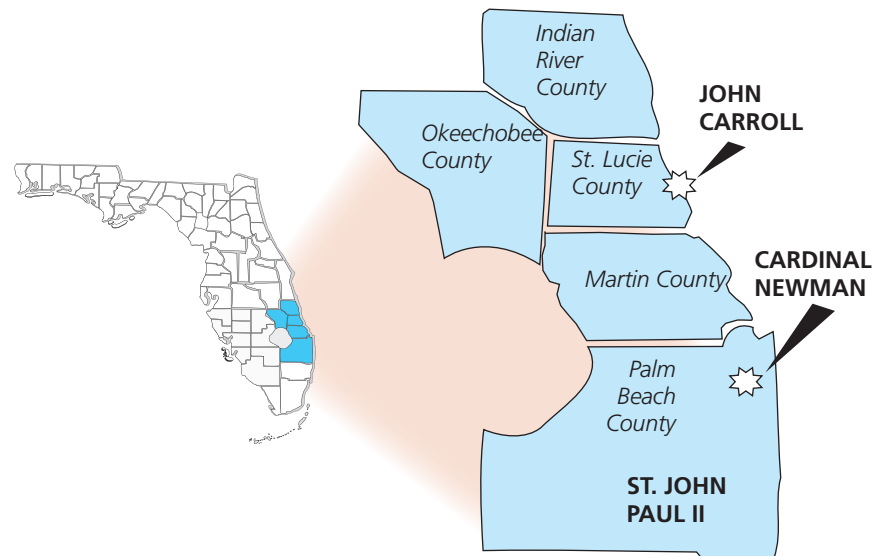
Orvañanos de Rovzar asked them to take a measure of the opportunities they have been given and decide today that they "will not forget or ignore or disdain those who do not have the opportunities to build and share with their loved ones a dignified, secure and hope-filled life."

She also asked that they remember we all make mistakes, "but we learn so much from them and this is what allows us to grow. We learn how to do things better, how to improve. Sometimes we even learn how to let things go." ■

Palm Beach Diocese

School listings

- **Cardinal Newman, West Palm Beach, B13**
- **St. John Paul II Academy, Boca Raton, B14**
- **John Carroll, Fort Pierce, B15**



Cardinal Newman High School, West Palm Beach

130 graduates

Nashely Acosta

Mason Adcock

Jordan Anderson

Gracie Angleton

Alessandro Anzivino

David Barahona

Brooke Belcher

Henry Bennett

Katarina Bessenroth

Sabrina Bessenroth

Andrew Biancardi

Blaise Boisseau

Trinity Bolsch

Checorey Bouie

Joshua Camacho

Miliani Canales

Mario Caniff-Freixas

Daniel Castaneda

Matthew Castro

Sophia Cerbone

Bryson Chase

Conner Cleare

Charles Cleary

Matthew Cohen

Bryce Coleman

Caleigh Coleman

Alyssa Connley

Kendall Cosby

Tucker Cosby

Steven Curtis

Gabrielle-Ange Dantes

Enzo de Cárdenas

Alexys DeRubeis

Michael DeSimone

Michael Desnoyers

Cole Dillon

Madelyn Donnell

Rafael Escoto

Joseph Flynn

Riley Fullerton-Lindstrom

Francesca Gamero-Faggiano

Anthony Garcia

Ethan Gebert

Bruny Georges

Mary Giacoma

Samantha Gilles

Isabel Gonzales

Maverick Gracio

Charles Greco

Thomas Guillen

Margaret Hall

Mark Hanlon

Anthony Hinds

Grayson Honaker

Ava Howell

Gwen Hutchinson

James Hysong

Joseph Ilcus

Walter Jakee

Crede Janson

Deondre Johnson

Angelina Kimaz

Cameron Kimbrell

Reese Kirkpatrick

Angelina Kohlwaies

Maximus Korbely

Abigail Lessard

Derek Lomicky

Johannes Lu

Josue Martinez

Justin Martinez

Sandi Martinez

Katherine McCabe

Madelyn McDonald

Omar Mendez Guzman

Paola Mendez Guzman

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
Isabel Gonzales



Salutatorian
Jordan Anderson

Myriam Menelas

Martin Mennes

Romina Mingenti

Madison Mingo

John Mischke

Jack Monteiro

Erin Mooney

Juan Navarro Torre

Luca Paggetti

Mia Pariseleti

Kyla Paul-Gleason

Kendal Perry

Vinkevus Pierre

Maia Prada

Christopher Presto

Conner Regis

Justin Rivera

Trevor Robb

Kate Rooney

Sydney Runk

Vittorio Sagliocca

Christian Santiago

Alejandro Sardina

Stephen Sayle

Isabella Schiappacasse

Michael Schnaedelbach

Sebastian Scott

Nicholas Scully

Diana Sentowski

Andrew Serraeas

Dylan Sharkey

Brady Shea

Vance Sheahan

Sloane Sheppard

Olivia Shiver

Julian Silvestri

Thomas Sledge

Scott Slider

Grant Straub

Kristian Strong

Gilbert Suarez

Ashley Sumi

Quintin Surles

Dylan Sweet

Theodore Taylor

Taesean Trent

Bo Triggs

Henry Uible

Joseph Uvanile

Marcos Vassilatos

Lilly Visser

Ashley Williams

Lily Wise

Isabella Zanni



Congratulations and Blessings
to our 2023 graduates!

From all at
St. Andrew Catholic
school and parish.



St. John Paul II Academy, Boca Raton

104 graduates

Kaitlyn Adams

Belen Aguirre

Ryan Ahern

Julia Amaral

Lucas Andrade

Alyssa Ashbaugh

Rafael Barrios

Braeden Bartos

Rebecca Bastian

Jacob Battista

Shelby Bianchi

Alexis Bisesto

Jacob Bou

Audrey Brammer

Charles Bublitz

John Burns

Chase Calloway

Kate Carignan

Isabella Celis

Angelica Charles

Andre Chavez

Chase Chiericozzi

Ethan Cohen

Nathan Cohen

Christopher Colella

Anthony Cosentino

Alexis Craig

Tiago Crippa

Anthony Dagher

Lucy Daniele-Coullahan

Kyle Davis

Madison Davy

Raina Demarest

Dietrich DeRenzo

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Nathalia Gonzalez

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Wyatt McGovern

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Bryce McLean Povedano

Cecilia Metzger-Hasey

Marvin Mont

Mariana Motta

Leila Nau

Savanna Paré

Kendall Pavich

Anthony Perdomo

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
Tiago Crippa



Salutatorian
Rafael Barrios

Dean Polimeni

Brooke Power

Giovanna Prece

Emma Ring

Dominic Rivara

Laura Rodriguez

Jett Ronan

Tristan Rucker

Bree Salvato

Maxwell Sanders

Valentina Santos

Sarah Saville

Luis Schrenk

Saahil Schwab

Andrea Segal

Sherwood Sheehan

Ryan Shiflet

Emma Simpson

Nicoletta Spilabotte

Sofia Taylor

Alexis Tirado

James Werner

Morgan West

Braxton Wheelen

Gavin Whitney

Samuel Wooley

Preston Worch

Sebastian Zuloaga



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Tiago Crippa
Valedictorian

National Merit
Finalist

* University of Florida
Honors College
University of Notre Dame



Annaiz Matias
Rutgers University



Charles Bublitz
Florida State University



Kendall Pavich
University of Miami



Tristan Rucker
United States Naval
Academy



Kate Carignan
University of Florida



Rafael Barrios
Salutatorian

* Cornell University
University of Notre Dame
Georgetown University
University of Florida
Rice University

*Congratulations to the 104 Members of the Class of 2023 on over \$9.2 Million in College Scholarships
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Acceptances at Top Florida State Universities: 14 at UF, 18 at FSU, 26 at UCF



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University of Florida



Morgan West
Florida International



Samuel Wooley
Massachusetts Maritime
Academy



Bryce McLean Povedano
University of Massachusetts



Kyle Edison
Three Rivers College



Brooke Power
Clemson University



Alyssa Ashbaugh
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James Bedel
Sabrina Berkun
Kissiah Blake
Benjamin Bobrick
Joshua Boyd
Tracen Cameron
Luke Capezza
Jordan Capraro
Ava Carino
Kendra Chapa
Ryan Chapman
Matthew Correra
Katelyn Cristaldi
John Davis
Ava De Maria
Priscilla delaPaz
Wyatt Dempsey

Wilky Denaud
Vincent Fashona
Anthony Ferraro
Nicholas Fiorelli
Caleb Fontus Jr
Marion Frederick
Gabriella Funderlich
Michael Gernie
Jamar Gibson Jr
Kallie Griffin
Ethan Gunther
Cameron Haughton
Lauren Hoeffner
Philip Hoeffner
Mia Horowitz
Nicolas Kelly
Faith Koepfel
Carson Koomen
Madeline Kozloski
Nicole Langel
Katherine Lewis
Angelina Loffredo
Erick Lopez

Nicholas Lucchese
Maxwell MacDonald
John Maehl
Marie Marcellino
Alexander Martinez
Catherine McGarry
Joshua Meltzer
Finleigh Miller
Joseph Milles Jr
Lita Moore
Gianna Morales
Teresa Newnham
Katelyn Nguyen
Tyler Nugent
Isabella Ochoa
Zain Ogden
Cameron Pantano
Noah Perez
Logan Perrone
Sarah Petersen
Jessie Pfeiffer
Freddie Pittman III
Ethan Priest

TOP HONORS



Valedictorian
Lauren Richards



Salutatorian
Cameron Pantano

Christian Prieto
Zarius Raiford
Molly Rainis
Grace Reed
Sydney Reid
Laura Reynolds
Lauren Richards
Jake Rychter
Guibbsterben Saint-Victor
Morgan Scott
Austin Shevak
Aidan Singleton

Gavin Sleight
Jamilette Suarez
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Joseph Toussaint
Theodore Trybul
Trevin VanName
Gia Villasana
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Congratulations
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Samantha Dorsi

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Eva Furlo
Luca Furlo
Max Griffin
A.J. Herlong
Kenyon King
Caroline Mahoney
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Lesly Moore
Kallan Pasciuto
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Chase Rehm
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