



THE CRUSADER

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL

ESCANABA, MICHIGAN

SEPTEMBER 2019



JMJ



Joseph L. Carlson - PRINCIPAL

It is certainly an exciting time to be a Crusader at Holy Name Catholic School! We are so grateful to God for a wonderful summer in the Upper Peninsula!

Things this year will be a little different without Fr. Eric Olson, who has faithfully served the parish of St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's and the school these past 13 years. Fr. Eric had such a strong commitment to the school, ensuring first and foremost that it maintained a strong Catholic identity. Let us pray that he is blessed with good health as he enjoys his retirement.

With that being said, we also welcome Fr. Timothy Ferguson. Father Tim's most recent assignment before coming to St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Parish was the rector at the

Marygrove Retreat Center in Garden, MI. Fr. Tim also shares a strong love and support for Catholic education. I know that he will be welcomed and enjoyed by all students, staff and parents.

As we continue our efforts to re-open Holy Name High School, please continue to pray about your role in this effort. I'm thrilled that we have already surpassed Bishop John Doerfler's matching gift of \$100,000 to kick off the campaign. Thank you to those who have contributed so generously.

Anything you can do to help and encourage this effort is appreciated. For example, recently, an alumnus grant writer has come to our aid assisting us in applying to foundations across the country. Others have committed to praying for this endeavor. Joe Paterick (HN Class of 1969) recently rode from Milwaukee to Escanaba for his 50th class reunion to raise awareness and funds. One of his classmates, Joe Lasnoski, challenged his class with a matching gift of \$10,000 in honor of their 50th class reunion to re-open their beloved high school.

We certainly appreciate all of the high school alumni support! You have been tremendous! We have much more to do. With God all things are possible and He needs your help. We need your help! Together by God's grace, we can re-open Holy Name High School! Now is the time!

Humbly yours in Christ,

Joseph L. Carlson

www.holynamecrusaders.com/highschool

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL THANKFUL FOR FATHER ERIC OLSON'S SERVICE



Father Eric thanks his parishioners for their support and kind words.

Students and staff would like to thank Father Eric Olson for serving as pastoral delegate to Holy Name Catholic School for the past nine years. Father Eric retired this past July 1, after serving St. Joseph and St. Patrick Parish as pastor for 13 years.

His educational and spiritually-inspiring sermons will be missed by his parish community and Holy Name students and staff.

"Father Eric will be greatly missed," HNCS Principal Joseph Carlson said. "He has been such a strong supporter of Holy Name. The kids love him! He was a great mentor and leader to all of us. He will always be an important part of our school family. Once a Crusader, always a Crusader!"

Father Eric Olson was honored on June 22 with a farewell dinner in the St. Joseph and St. Patrick Parish Hall.

2013 HOLY NAME GRADUATE LAURA HALLFRISCH LIVES GOD'S PLAN FOR HER LIFE BY WORKING WITH NET MINISTRIES

By Victoria LaFave

Holy Name Catholic School 2013 Graduate Laura Hallfrisch says the idea to give up nine months of her life to travel across the country with ten other young adults to teach teenagers about their faith started to take root when she was a middle school student at Holy Name.

"I remember being excited to attend the NET Retreats when I was at Holy Name," Laura said. "Seeing the NET Retreat team leaders do their job really impacted me, and I thought, 'It would be cool to do that.' At that time, I promised myself that I would look into it someday."

Her 'someday' came years later – in 2018 – when Laura was finishing her freshman year at Bay College. "I started looking into possibly working with NET Ministries. I really liked the simplicity of living out of a suitcase, and also the really intense Catholic community."

NET (National Evangelization Teams) Ministries are part of a Catholic charity committed to challenging young Catholics to love Christ and to embrace the life of the Church.

Laura applied to the NET Ministries team and was accepted. In August 2018, she moved to West St. Paul, Minnesota to train for five weeks at the NET Center. She was assigned to a NET Retreat Team, which required her to travel to spread the word of Christ to teens in various dioceses as far east as Pennsylvania, and as far west as California and Washington.

The next step for Laura was fundraising. To help pay for part of her travel expenses, Laura had to raise \$6,000. The professionals on the NET Team helped her send letters to family members and friends asking for their financial support.

At the beginning, Laura was a bit apprehensive to start this new adventure.

"At first, I thought it was kind of crazy— basically living

out of a van with complete strangers—but I continued with it, and I'm glad I did."

Her job had her putting on retreats with other NET Retreat Team members, and encouraging the youth to become active in their faith. And they did it a lot. In all, Laura's team put on 123 retreats and ministered to more than 5,500 young people in 11 states. Hers was one of 16 teams in the U.S. that reached over 100,000 young people this past school year. In all, they traveled approximately 19,000 miles by 15-passenger van and trailer.

As one of the 11 small group leaders on the NET Retreat Team, Laura's job was to get the students to share their thoughts and learn about their Catholic faith. Being that teenagers are sometimes quite private and closed off, this often presented a challenge.

"To keep them engaged, we led fun games, did silly skits, sang songs, and led talks about the theme of the retreat," she explained. "We closed our retreats with prayer ministry in the church [or in the space dedicated to prayer], and explained to them that we are all sinners, and therefore need to accept God's forgiveness, using verses from Scripture."

At the end of the retreats, Laura and the other team members encouraged the students to dive into prayer, sacraments, fellowship, and service—basically, to live out their faith.

While teaching the Catholic faith to other young people, a wonderful thing happened: Laura learned about herself and her faith.

"I had really expected NET to be all about the retreats," she said, "and in a lot of ways it was, but I also learned a lot about how to live in community with people – ten other people to be exact – and the beauty of letting others love you, and loving them back."

During her nine months with NET Ministries, Laura said her faith life was also strengthened.

"I also deepened my prayer a lot. On the road, we were required to pray for half an hour a day, and we also prayed for an hour as a team every day. Now, after returning home, I continue to pray personally, and I know how important it is."

Being away from her family for nine months with just one two-week break at Christmastime was tough at times.

"It was definitely difficult, but it was well worth it," she recalled. "Most often, we would stay with host families, but at times when host families were not available, we stayed where we could – rectories, an abandoned convent, and once, I even slept on a cafeteria floor."

She said the time she spent as a Holy Name student helped her remain strong in her Catholic faith. "The Catholic atmosphere at Holy Name – specifically, going to Mass every



Laura Hallfrisch

Thursday and praying the Angelus every day – really instilled the importance of having faith and living that out in my daily life.”

This fall, Laura began her first year of studies at the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, where she is majoring in Catholic studies and Spanish. When she is home from college, Laura attends Mass at All Saints Church, where she and her family are members.

As far as her advice for students trying to decide which

career path to take after high school or college, Laura advised: “Pay attention to your desires. I really desired to join NET, but I didn’t think I could do it; I kept pursuing it though, and it was better than I imagined.”

For more information on Holy Name, contact the school at (906) 786-7550, visit www.holynamecrusaders.com or find Holy Name Catholic School on Facebook. To find out more about applying to work with NET Ministries, visit www.netusa.org/apply.

LONGTIME FOOTBALL COACH CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF COACHING AT HOLY NAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL

By Victoria LaFave

Bob Lehouillier started coaching at Holy Name Catholic School when disco was king and bell bottoms were all the rage—in the year 1979.

Forty years later, though music and fashions have changed, the Holy Name football team is still going strong, as is Coach Lehouillier. Lehouillier returned to coach HNCS’s football team this past school year—his 40th year. He will be recognized at the last Crusaders’ home football game on October 15 at 5:45 pm, when former players, staff, and friends of Coach Lehouillier will gather together at the Holy Name football field to honor him.

“I couldn’t ask for a better place to coach – at Holy Name,” Coach Lehouillier said. “I’ve been asked by people to coach high school, but I tell them I’d rather stay at the junior high level. This is where they learn, where you can work with them easily, and the kids – I’ve never had a bad one.”

Coach Lehouillier says he can’t pick his favorite player – or his favorite team. “Each team was my favorite. I’m not going to compare the teams,” he smiled.

“My best memory is that I never had a problem with parents, and I got along great with the kids.”

Part of this positive relationship with his players and their parents is due to Coach Lehouillier’s philosophy of football – teaching, and no one sits out a game. “They all should get to play,” he stressed.

“I like playing everybody, no matter their skill level,” he said. “At the junior high level, you don’t worry about skill levels because by the time a player gets to high school, he can be your best player.”

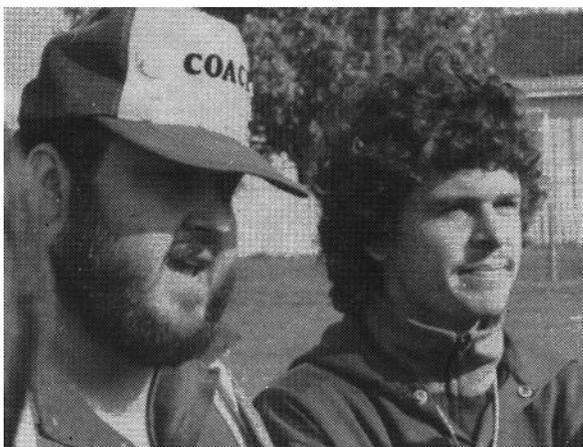
Most of Coach Lehouillier’s former players still recognize him and say “hello” when he sees them.

“I’ve had four or five kids I coached way back in the late 70s—when they were working with me at the paper mill, they still called me ‘Coach.’ That shows respect and honor, and I really appreciate that.”

Lehouillier has devoted his life to kids, whether it was coaching, or being president of Escanaba Little League—a post he has held from 1989 through last year – nearly 30 years.

But that all stopped last year. “I decided to take one year off this past year to recover. I miss it though,” he added.

Coach Lehouillier went into the hospital on the same day



Coaches Bob Lehouillier and Pat Gannon, 1982-83



HNCS football team praying, 2010

his wife died – July 23, 2018. He suffered from an infection in his foot. After a long stint in hospitals and other health care facilities, and a long recovery, his health is improving greatly. “I’m back to walking by myself again,” he smiled.

Happy to be coming back to coaching, Coach Lehouillier is planning on making the football season enjoyable for his players—another one of strategies.

Not surprisingly, some of his greatest memories involve more than football games.

“I made sure it was fun for the kids. After the father-son game – and some practices – we’d have pizza, pop, and even candy bars, cookies, you name it. And when we had an undefeated season, that team got plaques. Even the athletic director got one.”

He says some more of his happiest memories are when parents worked along with him. “I hated to see them go,” he said. “We were like one big happy family.”

Back when he started, Coach Lehouillier first worked under then-Athletic Director Greg Veese, then later with former Coach Pat Gannon, and also with former Athletic Director Dick Rusha. “Greg, Pat and Dick were all good. I got along with every one of them,” he said.

During his time with Coach Pat Gannon, Holy Name had so many football players that Gannon coached one team and he coached the other. Lehouillier also coached basketball for

a while. “I got talked into that,” he smiled.

Coach Lehouillier took great pride in the accomplishments of the Holy Name football team, particularly since the Crusaders went undefeated for many years.

According to Pat Gannon, who coached with Lehouillier in the 1970s and 1980s, Coach Lehouillier was very dedicated and he enjoyed working with him. “Bob was always coming up with ‘trick plays,’ such as reverses, double-reverses, you name it, and more often than not, they worked. It was fun for the kids to use these plays and then see how successfully they worked,” Gannon smiled.

“His dedication went above and beyond,” Gannon added. “Coaching Holy Name football with him was a lot of fun and something that I look back on with fond memories. My thoughts and prayers go out to Coach Lehouillier to have a successful return to coaching Holy Name football this fall.”

One thing is for sure: Coach Lehouillier’s football team will always be found praying together on the football field. That’s because another part of Lehouillier’s coaching philosophy is teaching respect and praying.

“We say prayer before and after practices and before and after games,” he said. “We do this for two reasons: First, we pray because we’re a Catholic school, and second, we pray so we don’t get hurt. It’s something I’ve done since day one, and something I’ll do until the day I die.”



Enclosed in the newsletter is a Dinero & Destination raffle ticket. If you would like to purchase this ticket, please send ticket with payment made out to Holy Name Catholic School and mail to 409 South 22nd Street Escanaba, MI 49829. The first drawing is December 16th. Tickets are \$25 or 5 for \$100. If you would like additional tickets contact the office at (906) 786-7550 or visit our website <https://www.holynamecrusaders.com/donations/> and scroll down. Thank you for all you do to support Holy Name. Go Crusaders!



HELP US STAY CURRENT

If you are on the move, changed your name or updated your relationship status, we would love to hear from you. Help us save costs and stay current by emailing updates to **Michelle Bink, Alumni/Development Director** at alumni@holynamecrusaders.com

HOLY NAME WELCOMES FATHER TIM

I'm Father Tim Ferguson, pastor of St. Joseph and St. Patrick Parish in Escanaba since July 5, 2019.

I was born and raised in Saginaw, Michigan, and entered the seminary right out of high school, in 1985. After seven years of seminary formation, I left, and drifted through a couple of different jobs at a retreat center, in restaurants, a publishing company, and a gold mining company before settling in as a parish secretary at St. Dominic's Parish in San



Father Tim

Francisco. From there, I returned to studies in the field of canon law and worked on the Tribunal for the Archdiocese of Detroit for about ten years, as well as doing some adjunct teaching at Sacred Heart Seminary.

In 2013, Bishop Alexander Sample invited me to return to priestly formation, and the diocese sent me to Mount Angel Seminary in Oregon to complete my final two years of preparation for ordination. I was ordained to the priesthood in 2015 and served for a few months at St. Peter Cathedral in Marquette before going to Marygrove Retreat Center in Garden, where I served as director for four years. While I enjoyed my time at Marygrove, I am delighted to be in parish ministry and am looking forward to many years here in Escanaba. In addition to my parish ministry, I also serve as Chaplain for the Bishop Baraga Association, and Prior for the diocesan members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre.

As a student of 28 years of Catholic education, I am excited to be able to be a part of Holy Name Catholic School. A good education, rooted in Jesus Christ, with the moral and theological teachings of the Catholic Church as a framework, provides a solid foundation for a good life. I take seriously the spiritual formation of both the students and the faculty and am eager to be able to assist with the sacramental life of Holy Name.

CLASS OF 1969 CELEBRATES ITS 50TH CLASS REUNION



CLASS OF 1959 CELEBRATES ITS 60TH CLASS REUNION

THEN & NOW - CHEERLEADING



1956 Holy Name Cheerleaders
(photo courtesy of John Young, husband of
Alumna Joan (Bougie) Young class of 1956)



2019 HNCS Cheerleaders in their new uniforms

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL CELEBRATES CLASS OF 2019 WITH MASS AND GRADUATION CEREMONY

By Victoria LaFave

ESCANABA – Holy Name Catholic School celebrated the eighth grade Class of 2019 on Tuesday evening, June 4 with a special Mass at St. Anne’s Church celebrated by Father Fran DeGroot and concelebrated by Father Rick Courier, Father Eric Olson, Father Jamie Ziminski, and assisted by Deacon Terry Saunders. Following Mass, a graduation ceremony was held in the Holy Name Catholic School Gymnasium.

At the ceremony, Class Valedictorian Grace Sviland gave the commencement address, sharing memories and advice for her fellow classmates. Sviland also thanked family members and friends for their support. HNCS Principal Joseph Carlson also addressed the class, telling them: “This class has been given the

gift of faith. In the end, it is faith and family that matter.”

Father Eric Olson, who had been pastor of St. Joseph and St. Patrick’s Parish in Escanaba for 13 years, gave the final blessing at the graduation ceremony, and was honored for his nine years of service as Pastoral Delegate to Holy Name Catholic School. Father Olson retired this past July 1.

At the graduation ceremony, all of the graduates were given Holy Bibles as graduation gifts with their class Bible verse bookmarked: “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” – Joshua 1:9.



The 20 graduates in the Class of 2019: Top row (left to right): **Mari Bink, Julian Cashen, Lily Derkos, Matthew Dykema, Nick Hamlin, Emma Hughes, Christina Kane, Olivia LeMire, Grace Livingston, and Cody Nelson.** Bottom row (left to right) are: **Jacob Polishak, Salutatorian Carney Salo, Cierra Scott, Tyler Smith, Veronica Spreitzer, Evan St. Peter, Katelyn Stalboerger, Valedictorian Grace Sviland, Lukas Weaver, and Dawson Williams.**

HOLY NAME CLASS OF 2015 VISITED FORMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

By Victoria LaFave

ESCANABA – The 22 members of Holy Name Catholic School's Class of 2015 graduated this spring from area high schools, including Escanaba Area High School, one (Brooke Bink) from Shattuck-St. Mary's School in Faribault, Minnesota, one (Skylar LaPine) from Mid Peninsula High School, and one (David Villahermosa) from Wylie East High School in Wylie, Texas. The group visited Holy Name on Thursday, April 11, and attended a special Mass celebrated by Father Fran DeGroot of St. Anne Parish. Students then played the current HNCS eighth grade Class of 2019 in several games of volleyball, basketball and a rousing game of dodgeball.

The students were then treated to a lunch of one of their favorites, nachos with all the fixings, along with cookies made just for them. After graduating from high school this year, most of the students will attend college, while one student, Brooke Bink, will be attending The Ohio State University to play on the women's hockey team, while three others, Isaac Cooper, Terence Hirn, and Gabriella Stalboerger, have enlisted in the military.

Students also took an anonymous survey via www.surveymonkey.com during their visit. The results overwhelmingly showed that the students found that their time at Holy Name Catholic School prepared them well for their

rigorous high school curriculum. Some of the comments to the question of how HNCS prepared them for high school, included: "I was able to take more advanced classes because I had a better education," and "It allowed me to excel faster than the other kids did, allowing me to develop better studying habits."

Students also commented in their surveys that Holy Name helped them spiritually: "Going to Holy Name made me connected with God deeply, which I carried into high school." Another comment: "I have never once thought about leaving the Catholic faith, and I can thank everyone who helped me here." Finally: "Holy Name gave me a basis for a strong faith in God that I hope will grow even stronger as time goes on."

Holy Name Principal Joseph Carlson spoke to the graduates after Mass, reminiscing with them about their time at Holy Name, including their eighth grade class trip, and also reminded them of their votes for class favorites. Two of the students are in the top 11, academically, (11 due to a tie) at Escanaba High School: Kaitlyn Lord and Brianna O'Driscoll. Carlson assured the students that he is proud of all of their achievements, and encouraged the graduates to always remember Holy Name as they go on in their futures.





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For by me your days will be multiplied,
and years will be added to your life.

- Proverbs 9:11



www.holynamecrusaders.com

906-786-7550



Greg Johnson
23 years
(Maintenance)



Debra Casey
33 years
(3rd grade teacher)



Rhonda Bernson
25 years
(8th grade teacher)



Kim Bessonon
34 years
(2nd grade teacher)



Judy LaMarch
19 years
(RK teacher)



THANK YOU

TO OUR FACULTY AND STAFF WHO
HAVE SERVED OVER 15 YEARS!