



THE CRUSADER

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL

ESCANABA, MICHIGAN

MARCH 2019



JMJ

PRIEST SPOTLIGHT

FATHER FRAN DEGROOT, FORMER HNHS STUDENT, CELEBRATES HIS 25-YEAR ANNIVERSARY AS A PRIEST

By Victoria LaFave

Though Father Francis DeGroot attended Holy Name Catholic High School, he missed being a HNHS graduate by just one year. In 1971, HNHS closed—the year Father DeGroot would've entered his senior year. He finished his high school career at Gwinn High School, graduating in 1972. This past December 2018, Father Fran, as he is affectionately called by his parishioners, celebrated his 25-year Silver Jubilee, having been ordained a Catholic priest in December 1993.

Father Fran was born and raised in the tiny U.P. town of Northland (in rural Marquette County), the son of Joseph and Mary (Guntlisbergen) DeGroot. Being the youngest of seven children, he learned about hard work and self-sacrifice from working on his family's dairy, beef, and potato farm, along with seasonal logging. He remembers the long strenuous days that kept him busy during the 15 years he worked on the family farm with his dad and brothers after graduating from high school.

"Though farming was labor intensive, I could always look back and see my accomplishments," he remembers. "The farm taught me the value of being close to nature, working with nature, and being a good steward of God's creation, which also led me and my family to be close to the Church."

Father Fran learned about hard work from his parents, who he says both sacrificed a great deal to send him and his six older siblings to HNHS. Though the 45-mile trip to and from HNHS every school day was very challenging, he says his parents wouldn't have had it any other way. Missing Mass on Sundays and Holy Days was not an option, Father Fran says. He and his family also prayed the rosary together every evening.

Father Fran began attending HNHS during his freshmen year, but during his sophomore year, he went to St. Lawrence Seminary in Mount Calvary, Wisconsin. Not liking the seminary life at that time, he returned to Holy Name for his junior year, finishing his high school career at Gwinn High School.

The religious life ran deep in Father Fran's family. For example, his uncle, Father John DeGroot, was a priest of the Salvatorian Community based in St. Nazianz, Wis., and his two aunts, Sisters Alma and Oda Marie DeGroot, were members of the Racine Dominicans based in Racine, Wis. They

hoped and prayed that someday their nephew would enter the seminary and become a priest. But due to academic struggles and his desire to help his father and brothers on the family farm, the thought of going to college and entering the seminary didn't take root for Father Fran until he was in his mid-30's, and after enduring two back surgeries.

"My hard-working farming background and strong religious upbringing were certainly factors that kept me focused and motivated to tackle the academic requirements and formation needed to achieve the end goal of becoming a priest for our diocese," he says.

After serving as a priest for 25 years, Fr. Fran says he became a priest to carry on the Lord's call to St. Peter: "Feed my Sheep, Feed my Lambs." This, he says, is why he offers Mass every day of the week at St. Anne's and also on scheduled days at the area nursing homes and at Holy Name Catholic School.

(continued on next page...)



Father Fran DeGroot

Since he was ordained in 1993, Father Fran served as associate pastor for two and a half years at St. Michael's Church in Marquette, along with St. Mary Mission in Big Bay. In 1996, he was assigned as pastor of St. Joseph's in Rudyard, where he served for seven and a half years, along with Holy Family Mission in Barbeau and St. Mary Mission in Trout Lake, and the Correctional Facility in Kinross. In 2003, he was assigned to Resurrection Parish in Menominee for four and a

half years, before coming to St. Anne's in Escanaba in 2008.

Throughout his life, Father Fran has believed in the power of prayer and the importance of being open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. He has some advice for those wanting spiritual guidance: "For anyone who is not sure of where God is calling them to serve Him, I recommend this prayer: 'Lord, guide me in this life to do what is most pleasing to you. Let not my will, but yours, be done.'"



Natalie Williams
7th grade student at Holy Name

HOLY NAME STUDENTS EAGERLY AWAIT THE REOPENING OF THE HIGH SCHOOL

"What I think is so important about reopening Holy Name Catholic High School is that I do not want my Catholic education to end in 8th grade. I want to continue my journey with Jesus. I want to be close to him all week long.

I want to be able to learn about my faith along with my other studies. I like that I can talk openly about my faith and when I go to school every morning, I know I'm going to be with my school family."

REOPENING OF HOLY NAME CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

In the middle of the Polar Vortex during Catholic Schools Week, God provided one day of school, the day of a long scheduled press conference to announce the official launch of the Holy Name High School Capital Campaign to reopen the high school. Tuesday, January 29, 2019 marked the first official day of the campaign and the excitement has continued to grow since then. Every day the school has inquires from people looking for ways to get involved with the effort, and many donations have already been received. One of the best ways those interested can get involved is by contributing to the Bishop's \$100,000.00 Challenge Matching Gift! The Diocese will match up to \$5,000 of a donation from each individual up to a total of \$100,000.00. Please prayerfully consider how you can help with the effort to give the children of the Upper Peninsula the chance of a Catholic high school education. A donation envelope is included in the newsletter. Check out our website www.NowIsTheTimeHNHS.com for our campaign video and for more information on the campaign. Like and follow us on Facebook! Feel free to contact Michelle Bink - Alumni/Development Director at alumni@holynamecrusaders.com or (906) 786-7550. Now Is The Time!

Tickets are still available!

Contact Michelle Bink at alumni@holynamecrusaders.com or 906.786.7550.

We can mail tickets and/or accept credit cards over the phone.

Tickets cost \$100.00 and only 500 will be sold.

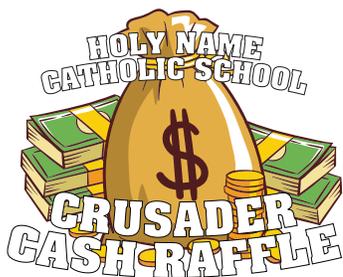
1st Prize - \$10,000 • 2nd Prize - \$5,000 • 3rd Prize - \$2,500

4th Prize - \$1,500 • 5th Prize - \$1,000

Winners will be drawn at the Spring Fling on April 27th at 8:00 p.m.

*If 500 tickets are not sold, prizes will be based on percentages below on total tickets sold:

1st Prize - 20% • 2nd Prize - 10% • 3rd Prize - 5% • 4th Prize - 3% • 5th Prize - 2%



Are you getting multiple mailings? Has your address changed?

Would you like to add someone to our mailing list?

If so, please contact Michelle Bink - Alumni/Development Director @ alumni@holynamecrusaders.com

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: HOLY NAME HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNUS TO RIDE HIS BIKE FROM MILWAUKEE TO ESCANABA TO RAISE FUNDS FOR NEW HNHS

By Victoria LaFave

Dan "Butch" Paterick (known now as Joe Paterick), 1969 Holy Name High School graduate, has quite a lofty—and challenging—goal. His plan is to ride his bike from his home in Milwaukee to Holy Name Catholic School this summer to help raise funds for the new Holy Name Catholic High School.

To a "regular Joe," this might seem daunting, but Joe Paterick has completed his share of daunting tasks—52 marathons, to be exact. Being a triathlete for 24 years, (His first triathlon was at Bayfest in Gladstone in 1994), Joe is a natural competitor and athlete. His interest in athletics started at Holy Name High, having earned letters for varsity football, basketball and track.

Joe says he's been planning on traveling to Escanaba on the weekend of August 17 for his 50th HNHS Class Reunion, so when he heard about the **Now Is The Time** HNHS Capital Campaign, he thought it would be a great idea to combine his trip with a fundraising drive for the new HNHS.

This August, when Joe plans to complete his 220 mile ride, he'll be two months away from turning 69 years old, but he doesn't let his age slow him down.

"I'm proud of my age, and hope this helps to inspire people to stay healthy and active – and to give to the Holy Name High campaign," he smiled. "My plan is to finish the ride – from my doorstep in Milwaukee to Holy Name – in seventeen hours, but of course, I'm going to have to train pretty hard to do that."

Joe, who works as a freelance grant/proposal writer, also does volunteer work with a Milwaukee homeless shelter, and works with a Catholic Church-sponsored meal program for families and individuals in need.

Holy Name Catholic School would like to support Joe in this challenging endeavor. Details on how families can get involved in pledging funds for Joe's ride to Escanaba will be forthcoming, so stay tuned to Holy Name's website (www.holynamecrusaders.com) and Facebook page for more details. Holy Name Catholic School will be organizing a welcome reception to celebrate Joe's incredible venture.

"I have fond memories of Holy Name High School," Joe reminisced. "The great student camaraderie and the togetherness of the school family really stuck with me, and I am looking forward to my ride this summer when I can hopefully help in some small way to bring the high school back."

He continued: "In looking back, the staff at Holy Name High School provided us a family-like supportive, structured learning environment within education, school activities and athletics (taught at the teenage level, the understanding that the winning values gained through athletic sportsmanship outlast the memories of competitive wins and losses). Though, most importantly, as the school song lyrics of *Hail Holy Name High* taught then, and continue to teach, an indisputable faith in the *God Divine - God Within* all of us —to serve, to feel, to care and do for others. This, I truly believe, is the Holy Name way."



Dan "Joe" Paterick (senior year)



Joe Paterick, Waupaca Triathlon, August 2018.

Joe said of his bikeride from Milwaukee to Escanaba: "I never thought that, while riding back one time as a kid from Milwaukee to Escanaba with my sister (who became a well-respected Escanaba elementary school teacher), I would one day ride the same entire distance on my bike."

THEN & NOW

HOLY NAME ALUMNI WHO ARE IN ACTIVE PRIESTLY MINISTRY



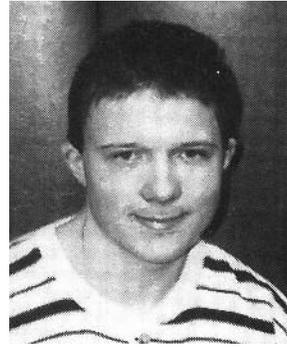
**Father
Glenn Theoret**
Class of 1970



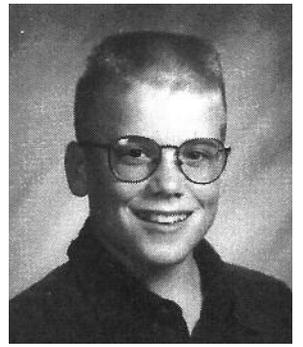
**Father
Fran DeGroot**
Class of 1972



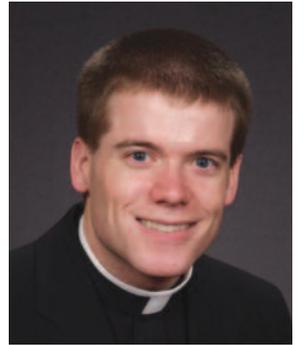
**Father
Al Mott**
Class of 1989



**Father
Eddie Dwyer**
Class of 1997



**Father
Ryan Ford**
Class of 1998



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CRUSADER

My school, Holy Name, is focused on good education, great teachers, and most importantly, our religion.

Every single day the school starts off with convocation, a time where our principal talks about events, updates us, and prays with us. In my opinion the best part about going to Holy Name is that every day is different.

An average day includes basic classes and even religion classes, but our day can be filled with so much more. In the past there have been hot chocolate and Popsicle breaks, visits from important figures like Sister Eden, working with kindergarten classes, and much more. Certain days have certain events. For example, Tuesdays offer Latin classes and Thursdays include Mass. Our school's electives, such as computer, art, and gym classes vary every day.

Some of my favorite days have been during Catholic school's week, where every day is diverse and special. There are days where we dress according to the themes and days where there are exciting competitions, such as crazy olympics.

Holy Name has always had amazing teachers. I can always depend on their help every day. My principal, Mr. Carlson, always goes above and beyond to reach the needs of each and every student.

I look forward to going to this school, never knowing what the day will hold, and over the years of going to Holy Name, I can definitely say, "It's more than a school. It's a way of life."



Kamryn Patmythes
7th grade

CORRECTION

The financial review that was published in the September 2018 newsletter mistakenly reported the school's fund balance to be \$1,947,823 as of June 30, 2018. Fund balance represents the school's assets in excess of its liabilities. The actual year end fund balance as of June 30, 2018 was \$526,041.

CLASS OF 1969 - REUNION

Class of 1969 50th Reunion August 16 & 17th contact Patti Benetti (906) 399-0297, Loretta DeChristopher (906) 399-4907 or Chris & Pete Ross (906) 420-8440.

ARE YOU PLANNING A HIGH SCHOOL REUNION?
CONTACT Michelle Bink Alumni/Development Director for help!

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL WELCOMED FIVE NEW TEACHERS THIS SCHOOL YEAR

Holy Name Catholic School (HNCS) welcomed five new teachers this school year – Mrs. Angie LaBay, Miss Brigette Hartges, Mr. Michael Lepisto, Mrs. Michelle Fox, and Mr. Tim Barron.

Mrs. Angie LaBay is Holy Name's new Developmental Kindergarten (DK) teacher; Miss Brigette Hartges is the new third grade teacher; Mr. Mike Lepisto is the new fourth grade teacher, while Mrs. Michelle Fox and Mr. Tim Barron are teaching middle school.

"It was necessary to hire additional teachers for kindergarten, third and fourth grades, and also middle school classes to make sure the students were receiving the individual attention that they deserve," Holy Name Catholic School Principal Joseph Carlson explained.

MRS. ANGIE LABAY

Mrs. LaBay, Holy Name's new developmental kindergarten teacher, has a master's degree in education from Michigan State University. She says she feels like she has been at Holy Name "forever" because, in her words, "Everyone has been helpful, welcoming, and lots of fun."

Mrs. LaBay says teaching kindergarten provides a new adventure every day. "Watching the kids learn, mature, and become independent learners is very rewarding," she smiled. "At the same time, they need a welcoming, reassuring high five, fist bump or hug to get their day started."

Before joining Holy Name, Mrs. LaBay taught preschool for five years and also worked as a childcare director for nine years. She has been married for eighteen years to her husband Brad, and they have two children, Cassidy and Keedan. In her free time, Mrs. LaBay enjoys reading, watching her kids' sports activities, and riding side-by-sides.



MISS BRIGETTE HARTGES

Miss Hartges, Holy Name's new third grade teacher, has a bachelor's degree in elementary education from St. Norbert College. She enjoys working in the supportive, faith-filled environment of Holy Name, and feels blessed to be a part of the family.

Prior to joining Holy Name, Miss Hartges worked at The Pines Catholic Camp as a year-round missionary, and taught second grade at St. Joseph Catholic School in Richardson, Texas. Her favorite saints are St. Clare of Assisi and Blessed Chiara Badano, because they are great examples of being servant leaders, as well as having true joy, even through suffering. In her free time, Miss Hartges enjoys the great outdoors.

MR. MICHAEL LEPISTO

Mr. Lepisto, Holy Name's new fourth grade teacher, has a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Northern Michigan University. He also attended Emmaus Bible College for one year and has a master's degree from Central Michigan University.

He retired from Bark River-Harris School in spring 2017, but found that he missed teaching, so he applied for a teaching position at Holy Name. He says he'd always heard great things about Holy Name, and since his faith is very important to him and has always wanted to work at a school where the Christian faith is encouraged and demonstrated, he decided to apply. Mike really enjoys the staff, administration and overall environment at HNCS. He worked at Wells Township School in Arnold, teaching sixth through eighth grades for 11 years, and then at Bark River-Harris for 19 years, where he taught fourth and sixth grades and junior high science. He also taught Driver's Education for 15 years, and farmed, logged and worked road construction. His wife Kathy also works as an aide for Holy Name, and they have two daughters, each married with children. In his free time, he helps his wife with her bakery business, volunteers at his church, and enjoys farming, making maple syrup, hunting, spending time at his cottage in Little Lake, time with his family, and being in the woods.

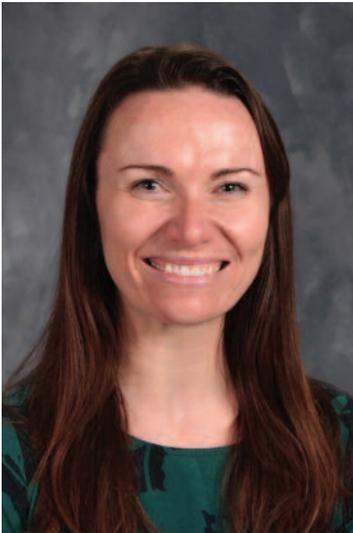


MRS. MICHELLE FOX

Mrs. Fox, Holy Name's new Middle School Language Arts teacher, earned her Master of Education Degree in Multicultural Education from Eastern University and a Master of Arts in Translation and Interpretation from La Salle University. Mrs. Fox has worked in many different educational settings - public, vocational, university, and international - but she deeply appreciates the freedom to incorporate Christian faith into her expectations for academic excellence.

Prior to joining Holy Name, Mrs. Fox served as a youth musical theater director, a professor and teacher in China, a Spanish teacher and freelance interpreter in Pennsylvania, and an English Language Development teacher in Colorado. While Mrs. Fox revels in travel and global exploration, she tends toward introversion. When she and her husband, Jeff, are not serving internationally, she enjoys curling up with a good book, spending time with family over a meal and a game, or watching "something frivolously girly or geeky on Netflix."

Mrs. Fox says the more she sees of the world, the more inspired she is to hear other people's stories. "I believe we live in a world that is full of diversity and opportunity," she said. "I look forward to learning more about this particular corner of it."



MR. TIMOTHY BARRON

Mr. Barron, Holy Name's new Middle School Science teacher, has a bachelor's degree in biology from Northern Michigan University and a master's degree in science education, also from NMU. Prior to joining Holy Name, he taught science for 25 years at Mid Pen and Gladstone Schools. Mr. Barron says he enjoys the family atmosphere at Holy Name. His favorite saint is Saint Michael because he says he's always liked the prayer of St. Michael about fighting the wickedness and snares of the devil, a prayer they pray at the conclusion of every Mass at St. Joseph's Church in Perkins.

He and his wife of twenty-nine years, Renee, have two sons - Ty (24) and Mitch (19). Tim has also coached the M-DOT balsa wood bridge building contest for ten years and has brought it to Holy Name. In addition, he has coached Science Olympiad for twenty years, including at Holy Name. In his free time, he enjoys hunting, watching football (especially the Steelers), gardening, and eating tomatoes.

According to Mr. Carlson, he could tell right away in their interviews that all the new teachers were highly qualified to teach at Holy Name.

"It was apparent in all of their résumés, as well as throughout their interviews, that they are all highly qualified for their respective positions," Mr. Carlson said. "I have found already that our new teachers have been great additions to our school family."

For more information on Holy Name Catholic School or for a tour of the school, please call (906) 786-7550, visit www.holynamecrusaders.com, or visit the school at 409 South 22nd Street, Escanaba.



HOLY NAME SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM QUALIFIES FOR THE STATE TOURNAMENT

At Northern Michigan University on February 23rd fifteen HNCS students in grades 6th through 8th, competed against 10 middle school teams throughout the Upper Peninsula. The students competed in twenty-three events, working in groups of 2-3. Holy Name Catholic School placed third, qualifying them for the State tournament to be held at Michigan State

University on April 27th. They will be competing against forty-seven teams across the state of Michigan. The top two teams at the State tournament will qualify for the National tournament to be held at Cornell University in New York. Congratulations and good luck to our Crusaders!



Pictured left to right back row: Samantha Korpi, Samantha Manninen, Cierra Scott, Grace Sviland, Zach Barron, Logan Fields, Ian Loper, Coach Tim Barron **front row left to right:** Mary Hook, Sophia Weaver, Katelyn Rexford, Piper Burrows, Roman Zeise, Gabe Mantela & Brent Mayes. Missing is Natalie Beauchamp

HOLY NAME STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR MDOT BRIDGE STATE FINALS

Fifteen students in grades 7 and 8 have qualified for the 2019 MDOT Bridge State Finals. The 2019 Michigan Design & Build A Bridge Challenge will be held on Tuesday, April 16th at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids. Congratulations to our Crusader!



Pictured back row left to right: Carney Salo, Mari Bink, Katelyn Stalboeger, Lily Derkos, Grace Livingston, Emma Hughes, Tyler Smith, Nick Hamlin, Lucas Weaver. **Pictured front row left to right:** Carter Beversluis, Mara Liss, Ella Boney, Annabelle Neumeier, Kamryn Patmythes and Thomas Benoit.



www.holynamecrusaders.com
906-786-7550



409 South 22nd Street
Escanaba, Michigan 49829
Address Service Requested



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT NO. 40
Escanaba, MI
49829