



THE **CRUSADER**  
HOLY NAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
Escanaba, Michigan JMJ Spring 2024



## Holy Name Catholic School Hires New Principal



**Nathan Vande Hey**  
Principal

ESCANABA—Holy Name Catholic School would like to announce the hiring of Mr. Nathan Vande Hey as Principal beginning in the 2024-25 school year. Mr. Vande Hey is currently serving as Head of School and System President at St. Ignatius Catholic School in Kaukauna, Wisconsin, where he has served since 2019, and has twenty-four years' experience teaching in the Kaukauna Area School District.

Mr. Vande Hey will officially assume the principal position on July 1 but, in the interim, will be advising Holy Name leadership on various decisions that will affect the upcoming school year, including the budget, hiring, and curriculum. In addition to being principal of Holy Name, Mr. Vande Hey will oversee Holy Name High School—A Chesterton Academy.

Mr. Vande Hey and his wife, Nancy, will be moving to the Escanaba area with their four school-aged children. They have eleven children in total, ranging in age from 9 to 27. Four of their children will be attending Holy Name, two at HNHS—A Chesterton Academy, and two at the lower school.

Describing what he is looking forward to in his new role, Mr. Vande Hey says, “We want to share the love of Jesus and help build disciples with the families in Escanaba. I believe this school forms virtuous students who will be influential leaders in the community. I look forward to joining the Holy Name School family.” Among his priorities will be enhancing Holy Name’s classical curriculum and faith instruction, increasing student enrollment, and supporting teachers and staff in their professional development.”

Holy Name’s pastoral delegate, Very Rev. Tim Ferguson, says he looks forward to working with Mr. Vande Hey in helping Holy Name thrive. “We’re thrilled to welcome Nathan and his family to Holy Name. Nathan brings to the principal position a wealth of experience both as a teacher and as a head of school, and he is passionate about our classical Catholic curriculum and faith-filled instruction. His exceptional communication and team-building abilities will further unite the school community and strengthen its educational and spiritual mission.”

*Holy Name Catholic School, located at 409 So. 22nd Street, Escanaba, is currently accepting new students for the 2024-2025 school year. For more information, call (906) 786-7550 or search “Holy Name Catholic School Escanaba” on Facebook or visit [holynamecrusaders.com](http://holynamecrusaders.com).*

# God had a plan—at HNHS and with music—for Dr. Sharon Shafer

by Victoria LaFave



**Holy Name High School 1961 graduate Dr. Sharon (Guertin) Shafer at her piano.**

Holy Name High School 1961 graduate Dr. Sharon (Guertin) Shafer has spent much of her life studying and teaching music or performing in concerts. Now, as a retired college music department chair in Washington, D.C., she enjoys composing music and performing as a piano accompanist in concerts.

## **Music—her first love**

Sharon says that, from a very early age, she knew that she wanted to be a musician.

“I begged my parents for piano lessons,” she smiled. Her parents gave in at age 7, when she took her first lessons. “My first teacher was one of the Dominican sisters who taught CCD classes in Garden where my family lived,” Sharon remembered. At age 9, she began playing the organ for Masses at St. John the Baptist Church.

At that time, Sharon’s older brother Gary was a student at St. Joseph High School in Escanaba. He stayed with her older sister who lived there with her husband and children.

“I wanted to attend a Catholic high school as well and planned to live with my sister when I started high school. Gary’s graduation marked the closing of St. Joe’s High School in 1954 but, fortunately, Holy Name High School was scheduled to open that fall.”

Looking forward to being accepted as a freshman in 1957, Sharon says she spent more time on her academic studies to prepare.

“The value that my family placed on this academic choice, along with my own experiences at Holy Name, has resonated with me in my work as an educator and into my retirement years.”

In 1965, Sharon graduated from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music. A vocal performance major, Sharon also completed two minors: one in religious studies and one in philosophy.

Sharon says Holy Name piqued her interest in religious studies and music.

“My interest in both of those disciplines is directly related to the education I received at Holy Name High School. I remember the teachers encouraging us to grow intellectually and spiritually,” she said. “At Holy Name, I was taught by incredibly gifted, dedicated teachers from the Dominican, Franciscan, and Notre Dame Order of Religious Sisters.”

Sharon says some of the fondest memories that stand out for her are the many opportunities Holy Name High School provided her with band and dramatic productions each semester.

## **Furthering her study of music**

After graduating from HNHS and Catholic University of America, she went on to study vocal performance, receiving a Master of Music degree in 1970 and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in 1973 from The University of Maryland.

After completing graduate studies, Sharon held a number of part-time music jobs including solo singing engagements, teaching piano and voice lessons, directing church choirs, and teaching music classes in a Catholic elementary school in Washington, D.C.

In 1974, she was appointed to a full-time position as Music Department Chair at Trinity College—now Trinity Washington University, a Catholic institution in Washington, D.C. This 35-year career required Sharon to do both teaching and administrative work.

“The values and formation of faith that I developed at Holy Name served me well in a challenging environment,” she said. “Respect for others and commitment to service were instilled in us, along with an openness to the knowledge of God’s love for each of us. I developed a desire to offer students the dedication to teaching and learning that I experienced from the religious sisters at Holy Name.”

### Financially supporting her alma mater

Sharon says she began supporting Holy Name Catholic School with financial contributions because she believes—in her own words—“that Catholic education offers the best preparation for life.”

“A challenging academic curriculum is provided while fostering spiritual growth in our Catholic faith. When I saw the plans for maintenance and renovation of the facilities that I had been privileged to enjoy for four years, I wanted to contribute to those needs. As planning began for reopening the high school, I wanted to be a part of the campaign and offer my support through prayer and financial contributions.”

### Music is in Sharon’s family

Sharon and her husband of 56 years, Robert, have spent their lives working in the field of music. In fact, they met in college when they were both majoring in music. Though they are both retired from full-time music careers, both continue to work on various projects such as composing music and performing in concerts.

Their son Rob teaches kindergarten at a Catholic school in Virginia; he is married to Sarah, a singer who is a musician and music director at St. Michael Catholic Church in Annandale, VA. They have three children—Anastasia, 20, a member of Virginia National Ballet Company; Katerina, 16, a high school junior planning to attend Christendom College; and Raphael, 9, who is in 3rd grade.

### Her Catholic Faith has helped in her daily life

“Every decision and choice I have made at work or in family life comes from a firm belief in the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and trust that God has a plan for each of us. This faith was modeled for us every day at Holy Name High School.”

*For more information on Holy Name Catholic Elementary or High School, please call the school at (906) 786-7550 or visit [holynamecrusaders.com](http://holynamecrusaders.com)*



## Crusader Connections

Our alumni, spread throughout the world, share a common bond when it comes to Holy Name High School and Holy Name Catholic School. We want to hear your stories, special anniversaries, births, marriages and reunion dates. Please email **Michelle Bink, Alumni/Development Director** at [alumni@holynamecrusaders.com](mailto:alumni@holynamecrusaders.com) to be featured in upcoming newsletters.



# Holy Name Preschoolers have fun; Jesus part of every school day

Jesus is central to Holy Name students' school day, which is apparent in the center photo as students process outside of the HNCS chapel. Preschool students also had fun making gingerbread houses with their families recently at a Family Gingerbread House Social.



## Entrepreneur Day at Holy Name

Holy Name students enjoy Entrepreneur Day during Catholic Schools Week. Each class was responsible for planning, making, promoting, and selling their goods. The proceeds of this event are sent to Sirvientes de Cristo, a Mission which helps those in need in Honduras.



## 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](mailto:alumni@holynamecrusaders.com)

# Scholarships available for Holy Name High School grads

Holy Name Catholic School is pleased to announce three new scholarships available to HNHS graduates this spring! Our HNHS alumni have generously provided scholarships in the amount of \$14,000 for our six students graduating on May 31, 2024.

The following are the scholarship donors and details:

**Kenneth & Patricia Gartland Holy Name College Scholarship:** \$10,000 in scholarships will be given out to those graduates attending a college/university or trade school, which includes a \$2,500 scholarship to the top academic boy and \$2,500 to the top academic girl. This is an endowment that will continue with similar amounts for years to come. Ken is a 1958 HNHS graduate. (Fund held by the Community Foundation for Delta County.)

**The BJ Stupak Memorial Scholarship:** \$3,000 scholarship in honor of Bart Stupak, Jr. (BJ), late son of Bart and Laurie Stupak. Laurie attended HNHS until the closure of the high school and would have graduated in 1973. The scholarship will be given to a student with a GPA of 2.25 or higher who demonstrates leadership skills and community service. This will be a one-time gift and will be re-evaluated. (Fund held by the M&M Area Community Foundation.)

**Donna Richer Donor Advised Fund:** This is a one-time gift for a Holy Name High School graduate attending a college/university or trade school in the amount of \$1,000 dedicated in memory of Dale Richer 1958. This will be a one-time gift. (Fund held by the Community Foundation for Delta County.)

There is still time to donate to the Holy Name High School College Scholarship Endowment Fund through the Upper Peninsula Catholic Foundation. We are getting close to reaching the \$50,000 amount, which, once reached, will allow us to begin dispersing 4% from the interest of the fund. So, hopefully, the class of 2025 will benefit from the generosity of those who donate to this fund.

Holy Name has a continued tradition of success, thanks to support from our alumni, their families, students, and our supporting parishes. Holy Name has seen more families who are seeking not only a strong academic foundation for their children, but also a faith-based education where God is at the center of the school day.

“Thank you to our alumni for their support, financial generosity, and their prayers for our school,” said Very Rev. Timothy Ferguson, pastoral delegate for Holy Name Catholic School. “None of this would be possible without God, who is and will continue to be the reason for this school, and the generous provider of all of these blessings.”

All are welcome to attend the graduation event (of our first graduates since the original high school closed in 1971) on Friday, May 31 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Anne’s Parish in Escanaba. Also, a reminder to those who would have graduated in the HNHS Classes of 1972, 1973 and 1974: We will be providing you with honorary diplomas.



## Honorary Diploma RSVP

You can use the link below to RSVP to the event and the details of your honorary diploma, or scan the QR Code to the left.

<https://www.holynamecrusaders.com/zlandinginvite/>

## Event RSVP

For anyone who would like to attend the event, please RSVP by using the link below or scan the QR Code to the right.

<https://www.holynamecrusaders.com/zlandinginvite2/>



*If you are interested in changing a life forever by donating toward the Holy Name High School College Scholarship Endowment Fund, or by creating your own scholarship, please contact HNCS Alumni/Development Director Michelle Bink at [alumni@holynamecrusaders.com](mailto:alumni@holynamecrusaders.com). Holy Name Catholic School welcomes students of all faiths to be a part of their future growth. For more information, contact HNCS at (906) 786-7550. There are monetary incentives for registering now for Holy Name. Families of any new student are eligible to receive a \$1,000 Welcome Scholarship. Tuition scholarship applications are also available at the school office.*



# Holy Name High School Graduates Then & Now



MARY BETH  
LIPFOLD



RICK  
HEMES



BOB  
BLAKE



PAT  
SAYKLLY



KRIS  
SANKOVITCH

## THEN

These are the Top 10 Academic Graduates from the HNHS Class of 1971, the last class to graduate from the original Holy Name High School. These top 5 highest girls, academically, and top 5 boys, academically, received certificates from the HNHS Scholarship Committee at commencement, which took place Sunday, May 30, 1971.



BOB  
RUSCH



CONNIE  
JACOBS



MIKE  
LEWIS



MARK  
PRINISKI



LOREENE  
ZENO

## NOW

Below are our six students graduating May 30 & 31, 2024; they are the first graduates since HNHS closed 53 years ago. You can change a life forever by sharing the gift of a higher education or technical/trades training not only for these six graduates, but also for graduates for years to come. Pictured (from left to right in front of HNHS—A Chesterton Academy) are: Katelyn Rexford, Lindsay Maloney, Piper Burrows, Helen McBroom, Roman Zeise, and Nicholas Mitchell.



# A Glance at the Graduates



**Piper Burrows** of Escanaba earned our top academic honors each year with a 4.0 GPA. She was the student leader (prefect) of House Augustine, leading her group to back-to-back years of victory in the White Horse Cup. She also coordinated efforts for our school yearbook, and had some of her own work published in local and regional newspapers. She was a member of the Delta County Youth Advisory Committee, and remained active in other faith and community service projects during her time at Holy Name. During the summer months, she worked with the Skerbeck Entertainment Group, traveling to destinations around the Midwest while bringing joy to a diverse array of communities. Piper will be attending the University of Michigan next fall to study political science and philosophy of literature.



**Helen McBroom** of Waucedah earned our top academic honors each year. She was the student leader (prefect) of House Athanasius. Helen participated in a wide variety of school and extracurricular activities during her years in school. She ran Track and Cross Country for Holy Name; remained very active in 4-H, including participation in regional fairs; sang, played flute and created a puppet ministry at her church; joined Holy Name's first-ever quiz bowl team; completed an ROTC challenge day; and participated in Girl's State as a county treasurer. In addition to all of this, she worked tirelessly at her family's dairy farm

completing daily tasks, assisting with operations, maintaining livestock data and records, and problem solving issues. Helen is pursuing a degree in Biology with the long-term goal of achieving a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine.



**Lindsay Maloney** of Gladstone earned our top academic honors each year. She helped lead Holy Name's first-ever quiz bowl team. She was a committed, all-around scholar, achieving Magna Cum Laude on the National Latin Exam. Lindsay remained active in school volunteering for events like bake sales, the All Saints Festival, and can drives. In her leisure time, she is a piano player and dancer. Lindsay adores young children and stays busy in the summer volunteering at Little Light of Mine Childcare Center. She plans to attend Bay College and Northern Michigan University to pursue a degree in Elementary Education.



**Nicholas Mitchell** of Escanaba earned an attendance award and was recognized for his untiring commitment to his faith and personal development while at Holy Name. He was a member of our inaugural cross country team, and remained active with sports in his spare time, even hosting a youth athletics night at the YMCA for his service capstone class. Nic is a crucial staff member of his family's restaurant business, Ferdinand's. His duties have ranged from server, dish washer, facilities maintenance, and cook. Nic was a leader among our altar serving boys and would regularly assist with Mass and

devotionals at St. Anne's Church during the school year and beyond. Nic plans to serve his community in one of the trades after high school.



**Katelyn Rexford** of Gladstone earned our top academic honors each year. She was the student leader (prefect) of House Chrysostom. She remained very involved with drama and the fine arts during her time at Holy Name. She served in lead roles for not only our own school productions, but also for several productions put on by Players de Noc. She was a committed member of our school service team and helped raise money for herself and other students attending the Rome pilgrimage in March 2024. She is a passionate believer in the value and dignity of life and gave powerful testimony of her experiences with

Turner's Syndrome. She is a service-minded young lady and wants to serve others by studying speech language pathology. She plans to pursue a career in this field starting at Bay College next fall.



**Roman Zeise** of Escanaba earned our first and second academic honors each year. He was the student leader (prefect) of House Ambrose. Roman continuously stretched himself at Holy Name, taking on leadership roles and growth opportunities as they presented themselves. He was an outstanding athlete on our Track and Field team; he served on the Youth Advisory Committee; and he also spent his summers traveling with the Skerbeck Entertainment Group, traveling to destinations around the Midwest while bringing joy to a diverse array of communities. When he wasn't working, he pursued new academic

opportunities, namely being selected for the Ashbrook Academy Summer Experience and the Thomas Aquinas College High School Great Books Program. Roman hopes to continue pursuing his love of books and knowledge, with plans to attend Northern Michigan University to study education.



# Holy Name students, staff, parents and supporters travel to Washington, D.C. March for Life

On January 17, 2024, 53 people traveled from Holy Name High School—A Chesterton Academy to Washington, D.C. for the Annual March for Life. These photos show them taking part in the annual March, and some of their other many adventures.

Students and adults who attended were inspired by the event and motivated to advocate for the pro-life cause.

Of the massive crowd of pro-life supporters he witnessed, HNHS Junior Patton Nyquist said, “It’s really something to see how many people believe the same way you believe. It’s really inspiring.”

Former HNCS student Abigail Rexford said of the pilgrimage: “I was forever changed. This trip taught me that we really do have the ability to make a change.” She gave the following advice to current HNCS and HNHS students: “Don’t stop advocating for the pro-life cause, and no matter what other people say, stick up for what you believe in.”

Holy Name Athletic Director and chaperone Tony Derkos said the following about the March and the students he traveled with: “I am so very proud to know all of these students. I see all of them in different activities, and they are all wonderful people,” Derkos said. “I told them that they all have influence with their peers, and now can confidently witness the beliefs that they saw many other youth outwardly proclaiming.”



**Part of the group of Holy Name students, staff, parents, supporters, and chaperones stand on the steps of The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., on the day before the annual March for Life. The group toured the Basilica, attended Mass, and were given an opportunity to go to Confession.**



**Holy Name Catholic School students Peter Hook, Isaac Lambert, Mara Anderson, Sarah LeMire, Abby Derkos, Emma Parlato, Dana Bittner, and Hunter Sierpien (in back holding up two signs), show their support for Life at the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.**



# Photos from the March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 19, 2024



HNHS Student Melody McBroom, Pilgrimage organizer/Holy Name Catholic School Head Cook and Catechesis of Good Shepherd teacher Julie Rexford, HNHS student Katelyn Rexford, former HNCS student Abigail Rexford, HNCS Aide Grace Rexford, and Holy Name Athletic Director Tony Derkos show support for the Pro-Life Cause in Washington, D.C., at March for Life.



The following students and chaperone stand near The White House during their recent pilgrimage to Washington, D.C., to take part in March for Life and tour the city. From left to right: Isaac Lambert, Sarah LeMire, Abby Derkos, Mara Anderson, Dr. Bill Hook, Peter Hook, Piper Burrows, and Brooklyn Pendergraft.



Holy Name Catholic School and Holy Name High School Students, parents, teachers, staff members and other supporters, including Father Romeo Capella (far left), stand outside of the U.S. Supreme Court building at the end of the March for Life.



# Holy Name Girls and Boys' Basketball Both Little Cedar River Conference Champs

Holy Name Catholic School eighth grade girls' and boys' basketball teams both won the Little Cedar River Conference this year. Congratulations, Crusaders!



Boys team, left to right: Logan Kamerschen, Henry Burrows, Henry Trottier, Kyle Smith, Eli Englund, Andrew Hamlin, Isaac Lambert, Hunter Sierpien, Evan King, Peter Hook, and Coach Matthew Dykema



Girls team, left to right: Front Row - Kinsley Williams, Ava Ryno, AnnaLise Cooper, Back Row - Coach Lori Jurek, Mara Anderson, Sarah LeMire, Abby Derkos, Emma Parlato, Koeller Hayes, Mara Bradfield, and Anna Renner

## Holy Name Science Olympiad Team Earns Regional Awards



Congratulations to Holy Name's Middle School Science Olympiad team for earning five medals (including two 1st place medals) at the Regional competition in February at Northern Michigan University! Pictured (left to right) are: Front row: Science Olympiad Coach Miss Ashley Kling, Thompson Vertz, Vanessa Mabie, Henry Trottier, and Hadley Sargent, 2nd row: Charlotte Koenig, Camille Richer, Gracie Clausen, and Samuel Chouinard, 3rd row: Grace Polley, Kaylyn Rahn, Anna Renner, Rowen Wyckoff, and in the back top, Kinley Hastings. Not pictured is Coach JoEllen Hadel.



# Financial Review

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

## REVENUE

Tuition and Fees.....	\$1,019,184
Tuition Assistance.....	211,391
Parish Subsidies.....	418,133
Diocesan Revenue.....	109,635
Donations and Fundraising.....	1,130,208
Rental and Investment Income.....	157,340
Other Income.....	845
Hot Lunch Revenue.....	134,250
<b>Total Revenue.....</b>	<b>\$3,180,986</b>

## EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits.....	\$2,058,370
Instruction.....	107,504
Student Transportation and Activities.....	16,827
Administration.....	460,061
Occupancy.....	133,324
Capital Outlay.....	273,279
Hot Lunch Expenses.....	145,043
<b>Total Expenses.....</b>	<b>\$3,194,408</b>

**Year End Fund Balance.....\$536,133**

Total school revenues exceeded budgeted amounts, driven by greater than budgeted scholarship income, donations and development funding activities, and positive investment performance. Expenses exceeded revenues overall and the school also transferred \$500,000 of its fund balance to the Crusader Loyalty Endowment for investment, contributing to the decline in the school's fund balance by \$392,380 from the prior year. Expenditures exceeding budgeted amounts for Instruction, Administration and Capital Outlays were the drivers of expenses exceeding revenues overall.

## Did you know?

The actual cost to educate an elementary student for the 2023/24 school year is **\$11,815**

Rate for Catholic families is **\$3,495**

Rate for Non-Catholic families is **\$6,885**

The actual cost to educate a high school student for the 2023/24 school year is **\$18,213**

Rate for Catholic families is **\$4,235**

Rate for Non-Catholic families is **\$5,400**

**HELP KEEP TUITION COSTS LOW AND  
SUPPORT THE CRUSADER CASH RAFFLE**



**CRUSADER CASH**  
**HOLY NAME**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
**RAFFLE**



**Tickets:** \$25 each or 5 for \$100

**Drawing**

April 13, 2024 @ 8 pm est (Spring Fling)

**1<sup>st</sup> place: \$5,000**

**2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> places: \$1,000 each**

**Tickets available online at**

**<https://www.holynamecrusaders.com/donations/>  
and at the School Office**

## THE WILD WEST IS COMING!

**SPRING FLING 2024**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH**

4:30 Doors Open/Registration Silent Auction/Bucket Raffle/Games/50/50  
6:00 Western Style Dinner  
8:00 Crusader Cash Raffle Winners Drawn  
9:00 Live Entertainment with the Jam Band

**SADDLE UP AND PUT ON YOUR BOOTS (OR COME AS YOU ARE)**  
**HOLYNAMESPRINGFLING.MAXGIVING.BID**





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