

ALUMNI ARROW

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2026

SCHOOL BIDS FAREWELL TO VETERAN EDUCATORS

Scott Mason

Ten years ago, Scott Mason was hired as school band director, but before long he added many other roles, including Director of the Academy of Culture & Arts, school librarian, lunchroom/recess monitor, and coordinator of the parish's Brick Street Jazz & Wine Festival. Mr. Mason steadily built up the school band program in both size and reputation as one of the best elementary school bands in Akron. Along the way, he had a lasting impact on hundreds of students. He also composed the original music for the school fight song, "Terriers of St. Sebastian," that includes a spot during the chorus for the audience to cheer, "St. Sebastian," which is a highlight of school assemblies. He will be remembered for his enthusiasm for music, his dedication to students, and his delight in their discoveries and successes. Mr. Mason is retiring after an incredible 44 years overall in teaching.



Anthony Rohr

After 21 years at St. Sebastian Parish School, Anthony Rohr is moving to Georgia and will be the principal of Blessed Sacrament Catholic School in Savannah. He was a 6th-grade teacher at St. Sebastian for 12 years before he took the helm as principal in 2017. In his nine years as principal, Mr. Rohr provided stable leadership and fostered a strong Catholic culture. He also focused on educating the whole child, with key initiatives including the "Friendly" program that works to build relationships, the expansion of the buddy program that brings together different grade levels, and the addition of his dog Weller, a certified therapy dog, who quickly became a valued and beloved member of our community. Also under his leadership, in 2023 St. Sebastian Parish School was named a National Blue Ribbon School.



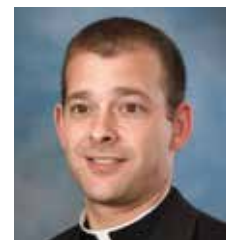
Allyn Rose

Allyn Rose taught junior high social studies and religion at St. Sebastian Parish School for 20 years. Known for his love of history and deep faith, Mr. Rose was also a consistent chaperone of the 8th-grade trips to Washington, D.C. and the Flight 93 National Memorial. He supervised many student council cohorts over the years, and he was moderator of the school's Drone Club and Geography Club. He served as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and trained student ushers for Masses. Mr. Rose was also instrumental in the spiritual preparation of hundreds of students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation as 8th-grade students. Mr. Rose was beloved by students for his sincere desire for them to grow, both intellectually and in their relationship to Jesus.



Additional Goodbyes: Fr. Michael Marcelli, Bonnie MacKay

Fr. Marcelli's gentle spirit has been a calming and stabilizing presence during his two years as the parish's parochial vicar. In addition to his many parish duties, Fr. Marcelli was a constant presence interacting with students in our school hallways and welcoming students during morning drop off. His next assignment is as parochial vicar at St. Gabriel Parish in Concord. Bonnie McKay leaves after serving as the school's art teacher for almost three years. As a long-time educator and practicing artist, she shared her love of the arts with our students.



ALUMNI UPDATES

CLASS OF 1952

John “Jack” Goodman is retired and has moved from Harris County, Texas, to Sanger, Texas.

CLASS OF 1966

Chris Vassel Auer wrote a book about her sister, Ruth Anne. Chris notes that the book could be a help for those who have family or friends who struggle with mental health. The book, “Teetering: The Ripple Effect of My Sister’s Mental Health Struggles,” is available on Amazon.

CLASS OF 1970

Jim Kelley marked 40 years of service with the Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, North Carolina, where he serves as the Director of Development. Jim was lauded in a February issue of the diocesan newsletter, which celebrated his “four decades of faith, fun and compassion as the force behind helping raise more than \$750 million for the mission and ministry of the Church in western North Carolina.”

PLEASE SEND US YOUR MEMORIES!

We love to hear from our alumni!
Do you have a story about your school days?

Email us at alumni@stsebastian.org or contact Kathy Holaday at 330-836-2233 x113.

CLASS OF 1976 – 50TH REUNION – OCTOBER 3, 2026

The Class of 1976 continues to plan a 50th reunion for October 3, 2026, to be held at Zwisler Hall. The evening will include food, drinks, a school tour, and plenty of time for reminiscing with old friends. More details will be shared as plans are finalized. Save the date and spread the word. We have been actively contacting our class from the information the St. Sebastian Alumni Association has available. Contact **Kathy Madigan Hager** (khager911@hotmail.com) (651) 336-9877), **Jim Pinalto** (jimpinalto@gmail.com) or **Jim Meadows** (jmeadows@lakemetroparks.com) with any questions or current contact information.

CLASS OF 1987

Joe Thomas was appointed to the board of the Akron Roundtable in early 2026. The Akron Roundtable is a community forum/speaker series that was established in 1976. Joe has worked in news media for nearly 25 years. Currently he is the senior news director for content at the Akron Beacon Journal, where he has worked since 1998 in roles including metro editor, deputy metro editor, national editor, and copy editor. He also contributes occasional columns to the Beacon Journal as the “Average Joe.”



CLASS OF 1992

Brian Windhorst, Senior NBA Reporter for ESPN, was the speaker at the Akron Roundtable on February 19, 2026. His talk was entitled, “There’s Always Time: Lessons learned after two decades immersed in the NBA.” Brian is in his 16th year covering the NBA for ESPN. For the last 10 years, he has hosted The Hoop Collective, ESPN’s signature podcast, which was recently acquired by Payton and Eli Manning’s Omaha Productions. Brian lives in Omaha, NE, with his wife, Maureen, and his son, Dane.

Do you have class pictures or memorabilia to share? Contributions to the parish archives are always welcome! Please contact the Archive Team at archives@stsebastian.org.

CLASS OF 2001 – 25TH REUNION – SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

Save the date and plan to join us for our 25th Reunion on September 12, 2026 at St. Sebastian's Zwisler Hall! Doors open at 4:30 p.m., with a school tour at 5:00 p.m. and a picnic-style meal to follow. Please make sure to update your contact information with the Alumni Association (stsebastian.org/school/alumni/update-info). Details will be sent by mail and email to everyone with contact information on file. If you have questions or would like to help with planning, please contact **Robert Gandy** (robertgandy00@gmail.com) or **Betsy Mason** (330-310-9058).

CLASS OF 2015

Maria Dobson was a featured speaker for the "Life After Sports Summit" held by Ladies First Akron, a local girls youth organization that uses sports to teach life skills. Maria is a former Division II basketball athlete who recently earned her degree as a doctor of physical therapy from Walsh University.

Brianna Foster works as a second assistant at The Country Club in Pepper Pike, OH. She recently had the opportunity to volunteer at the U.S. Women's Open at the Riviera Country Club in Pacific Palisades, CA.

CLASS OF 2019

Ethan Wyszynski (pictured lower right) is a member of the Ohio State University club volleyball team that won the national championship! Ethan's team won the 2026 NCVF (National Collegiate Volleyball Federation) National Title for Men's D1 Collegiate Club Volleyball after four days of competition in Kansas City, MO, from April 1-4. This is the second year in a row the team made it to the finals. They finished as runner's up last year.



CLASS OF 2020

Mia Ross is a reporter for Ohio State University's student newspaper, The Lantern. Mia also recently had her article about the "throwback" market day hosted by Akron's House Three Thirty published by the Akron Beacon Journal.

TERRIER PRIDE ON DISPLAY AT 2026 ST. SEBASTIAN SPECTACULAR

This year's St. Sebastian Spectacular, the school's largest annual fundraiser, boasted over twenty-five alumni in attendance! The event, which was chaired by **Emily Buehrle Boarman '01** and Kelsey Casano, raised more than \$225,000. Alumni attendees pictured here are: (front row) **Lauren Buehrle Junk '01**, **Kathryn Ball Finley '01**, **Emily Buehrle Boarman '01**, **Lauren O'Neill '01**, **Kristin Beck Clark '86**, **Martha Freeman Halley '71**, **Patricia Freeman Irvin '68**, **Barbara Freeman Fralish '66**, **Karen McCusker Spangler '78**, **Molly Karg Burns '04**, **Katie Demeter Danzy '02**, **Patti Tschantz '74**, **Nick DelMedico '01**, **Earl Hamlin**; (middle row) **Peggy Baumgardner Contrera '72**, **Marcy Smith '82**, **Sharon Altier Fournier '74**, **Angela Morabito-Conrad '89**, **Tom Karg '73**, **Mary Kay Riccardi Wyatt '99**, **Max Bedell '01**, **Tim Marks '00**, **Sam Olsen '03**; and (back row) **Jill Brownfield Lang '05**, **Robert Brownfield '99**, **Tim DelMedico '70**, **Aron Hanlon '84**, **Paul Hummel '86**, **Ryan Arman '01**, **Annie Ochsenhirt McFadden '96**.



CLASS OF 2022

Isabella Incorvia was a featured speaker at the March session of the First Friday Club of Greater Akron. Bella, who is pictured here with Fr. Norm Douglas from St. Vincent de Paul Parish, recently graduated from St. Vincent-St. Mary High School. She spoke on the topic of “How God has Walked With Me Through High School.”



Class of 2022 alumni earned numerous senior year and graduation honors, including:

Archbishop Hoban High School: **Colin DiNicola** (Academic Hall of Honor),

Kathleen Jones (OHSAA Scholar Athlete Award, Academic Knight-3rd Quarter), **Alex Krohn** (Chivalrous Knight-1st Quarter, Ohio Scholastic Media Association Award-Excellent), **Timothy Sullivan** (Chivalrous Knight-4th Quarter), **Sophia Burgoyne** and **Catie Bordenkircher** (Ohio Scholastic Media Association Awards-Hon. Mention); **Zach Karhoff** (signed to play baseball at West Virginia State University).

National Inventors Hall of Fame STEM High School: **Grace Mahaney** (Womanhood Award, Summa Cum Laude Award, STEM Honors Diploma).

St. Vincent-St. Mary High School: **Jude Rothkopf** (Knights of Columbus Manhood Award, Top Ten Senior Class GPA), **Isabella Incorvia** and **Owen Schlueter** (Celtic High Cross Award for exemplary servant leadership); **Isabella Incorvia** (Daughters of the American Revolution Award); **Isabella Incorvia, Jude Rothkopf, Nathan Sparhawk, Susan Thomas, Quinn Yori, Zoey Zachardy** (President’s Excellence Award for 3.5+ GPA and 85+ percentile on ACT or SAT); **Isabella Incorvia, Dietrich Loyed, and Susan Thomas** (Performing Arts Excellence Award); **Isabella Incorvia, Jude Rothkopf** (Servant Leadership Medal); **Lucille Langen** (Marianist Service Award).

Walsh Jesuit High School: **Suzana Borges, Max Sinsley** (First Honors) **Suzana Borges** (Mathematics Award, Outstanding Senior Award), **James Brewer III** (Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award).

CLASS OF 2023



Andrew Gerstenmaier qualified for the state swimming meet as a member of Walsh Jesuit’s team in two events: the 100m backstroke and the 100m butterfly. He placed 3rd in the state in the 100m backstroke with a time of 48.99, a personal best! Andrew is pictured here with Walsh’s Head Coach for Swimming & Diving, Michael McDonald, who taught at St. Sebastian from 2001-2014.

Nicholas Paxton and **Julia Rea**, students at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, were chosen to participate in Junior Leadership Akron, a leadership development program focused on civic engagement.

CLASS OF 2024

Students at Archbishop Hoban High School earning honors include **Abigail Coleman** and **Claire Jopperi** (state qualifiers for the Just Write competition), **Hunter Jopperi** (Academic Knight-4th Quarter), and **Ben McDonald** (Chivalrous Knight-1st Quarter). **Claire Jopperi** was one of 10 Hoban students to have her artwork selected for the 2026 Hoban Purchase Prize, for which her work was purchased and will be framed and displayed in the school.

Jonathan Schnurr, a student at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, was selected to participate in the Ohio Band Director’s Conference All Star Honor Band. He performed at the conference at the University of Akron after two days of rehearsing with conductor Dr. Daniel Neuenschwander.

Henry Thomas received honorable mention in the 38th annual Akron-Summit Holocaust Arts and Writing Contest, Writing Division 2: 9th-12 grade, for his poem “Hymn for the Wind.” Henry also earned honors as part of STVM’s nationally-ranked Model UN team. At the spring Case Western Reserve University conference, he earned a Superior Delegate award; at the American University conference, he earned a Best Delegate award (gavel); and at the Ohio State Model United Nations Conference, he earned an Honorable Mention award.

THIRTY-SIX GRADUATES JOIN RANKS OF ALUMNI

St. Sebastian Parish School's Alumni Association welcomed 36 new members this May: **Akanfa Agambila, Simon Borges, Benjamin Boville, Nevaeh Brunson, Ava Burgoyne, Mia Byard, Parker Chapin, Victoria Childers, Jack Clymire, Aubrey Coates, Grant Coleman, Molly Conley, Gabriella Deagan, Joan Ereth, Alexander Frank, Abigail Gilbride, Emma Gilbride, Peyton Jennings, Amelia Kilker, Grady Kimmell, Avery Leffler, Sammyullah Malik, Apollo Parke, Liam Parsons, Savannah Peoples, Benjamin Roberts, Christian Schaffner, Catherine Schlueter, Reagan Schumacher, J'Ashtin Sommerville, Davell Sutton, Teagan Taffi, Ethan Tate, Elizabeth Tober, Connor Whitney, and Noah Wojnicz.** They will be attending the following schools: Archbishop Hoban High School (9), Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy (1), Revere High School (1), St. Vincent-St. Mary High School (16), Walsh Jesuit High School (8), and Akron Career Tech High School (1). These students earned over \$500,000 in scholarships to local Catholic high schools. Congratulations, and good luck to our newest alumni!

FAMILY LEGACIES, CLASS OF 2026

The Class of 2026 includes six children and/or grandchildren of alumni: Mia Byard (daughter of **Tara Boswell, Class of 1998**), Jack Clymire (grandson of **Maureen McDonald Jonozzo, Class of 1971**), Peyton Jennings (daughter of **Jodie Johnson Jennings, Class of 1989**), Ethan Tate (son of **Dan Tate, Class of 1996**), Elizabeth Tober (daughter of **Melissa Johnson Tober, Class of 1995**), and Connor Whitney (son of **Ben Whitney, Class of 1996**).



Stay Connected Online

SCHOOL Facebook: St. Sebastian Parish School; Instagram: @st.sebastianschool

PARISH Facebook: St. Sebastian Parish; Instagram: @st.sebastianparish

YouTube: youtube.com/@StSebastianParish/videos

✦✦ *We Will Remember ...* ✦✦

The Alumni Association extends our sincerest sympathy to the families and friends of our deceased alumni (approx. Feb. 1, 2026-May 31, 2026). If you learn of the passing of a St. Sebastian alumnus, please contact us by phone at 330-836-2233 x113 or by email at alumni@stsebastian.org.

Charlene Herman Wilson '41, May 6, 2026
Lawrence H. Halter '43, March 25, 2026
Marilyn Cahill Skacevic '48, April 1, 2026
Carol Ann Lombardi '54, March 31, 2026
Fr. David J. Halaiko '55, March 4, 2026

Patrick R. Meadows '55, April 2, 2026
Brother John McMuldren, C.S.C. '56, February 6, 2026
John M. Heising, Sr. '64, February 17, 2026
Christopher J. Hardt '69, May 22, 2026

SCHOLARSHIPS TOTALING \$63,000 AWARDED FOR 2026-27

The St. Sebastian Parish Foundation proudly hosted the annual Foundation Scholarship Mass on March 26, 2026, to recognize the following students, who earned a combined 73 scholarships worth over \$63,000! Thank you to all the generous donors and organizations who made these scholarships possible. These awards will be applied to tuition for the 2026-27 school year at St. Sebastian Parish School, or in the case of eighth-grade students, at a local Catholic high school. Additional eighth-grade scholarships were announced at graduation in May.

Scholarships Funded Through the St. Sebastian Parish Foundation

Michael R. Beck III Memorial Scholarship: Simon Borges, Gabriella Deagan, Alexander Frank, Avery Leffler, Apollo Parke, Reagan Schumacher, Ethan Tate, Noah Wojnicz
Mary Ley Burke and Thomas Edward Burke Memorial Scholarship: Adeline Bodnar, Laura Frank, Anna Lang, Lola Neumann, Beatrice Simonson, Luke Spisak
Chesterton Academy of Akron Wonder Scholarship: Alexandra Husak
Christopher James Consilio Memorial Scholarship: Aubrey Coates, Emma Gilbride, Elizabeth Tober
Dayspring Opportunity Scholarship: Madisyn Brewer, McKynzie Brewer, Sophia Fraire Musgrave, Rhys Nevins, Ryland Nevins, Myra Singh
Doucet Family Scholarship: Nevaeh Brunson, Ava Burgoyne, Joan Ereth
Denise Maroon Finley Memorial Scholarship: Ava Burgoyne
Lynn Frey-Steward Organ Scholarship: George Knauer
Gerstenmaier Family Scholarship: Simon Borges, Gabriella Deagan, Alexander Frank, Avery Leffler, Apollo Parke, Reagan Schumacher, Ethan Tate, Noah Wojnicz
GOAL Scholarship (Graves O'Neill Academic Leaders): Isabella Brdarski, David Dunn, George Knauer, Anastasia Wittler
Hanlon Family Scholarship: Elodie Brady, Angela Marino, Zoe Obringer, Gavin Redovian
Karg Family Scholarship: Louisa Murray
Tom and Jeanne LaRose Family Memorial Scholarship: Sadie Boarman, Jacob Bratton, Sloane Busey, Francesca DelMedico, Angelina Gerbick, Lincoln Lawson, Thomas Myers, Rose Naples, Stanley Ndunagu, Liam Tripp
William and Mildred Loftus Memorial Scholarship: Peyton Jennings
Stephen & Generose Marks Memorial Scholarship: Azura Heyman, Evelyn Quinlan
Frances L. Sharp Scholarship: Evelyn Bradshaw, Maximilian Hickey, Graham Rea, Nolan Taray, Gianna Wilgus
John A. Trecaso Scholarship: Abigail Gilbride, Benjamin Roberts

Scholarships Funded Through St. Sebastian Parish School/Parish Related Groups

HASA Youth Christian Service Scholarship: Nevaeh Brunson, Elizabeth Tober
Knights of Columbus Council #14255 Deacon Terry Peacock Memorial Scholarship: Simon Borges, Ava Burgoyne
Sanctuary Society Service Scholarship: Alexandra Husak
St. Irene Principal's Scholarship: Elizabeth Tober, Liam Tripp

